The first drive-in theater I snuck into in San Diego was also the first one built here, the Midway, on the northwest corner of Mission Bay Drive and Sports Arena Boulevard. It was December 1979, and I was already camping out for concert tix in the nearby arena parking lot (Frank Zappa, well worth the cold ‘n’ cramps). Friends held our spots while three of us went down the road to attempt sneaking into the single-screen Midway to see Star Trek: The Motion Picture, with no plan as to what we’d do once inside (I guess we assumed we could sit near a speaker pole and not be noticed).
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**Tough love**

Bay-front developer Doug Manchester, who has taken to calling himself Papa Doug, “has made a big chunk of his multimillion-dollar fortune doing deals with the Port of San Diego. The one-time life insurance salesman found his lifetime holy grail when he got the lease on the site that became the downtown Marriott Hotel on the bay. Then he backed Roger Hedgecock for mayor and was rewarded with Hedgecock’s support for a new convention center next door to the Marriott. Manchester also put up the nearby Hyatt Regency and later expanded it; thanks to yet more leases provided by the port. Now, the developer has wrangled negotiating rights for two other prime waterfront parcels. One is the big piece of Navy-owned property at the corner of Broadway and Harbor Drive, presently the subject of a raging controversy about how much park space the developer might be willing to provide as part of a new office project proposed for the location. The other is the old Lane Field site — currently a parking lot — on the north side of Broadway at the same intersection. That land is owned by the port, and Manchester has gotten together with the Viejas Indian tribe in an attempt to cut a deal with port commissioners to develop yet another hotel and a new cruise-ship terminal there. And judging from a letter by Karen Jane Weymann, the port’s assistant real estate director, Manchester is up to his usual game of hardball.

“At its May 6 meeting, the Board of Port Commissioners authorized District staff to enter into an Exclusive Negotiating Agreement (ENA) with the Manchester Viejas team for ninety days,” Weymann wrote Manchester Financial Group’s Perry Dealy on June 7. “Although you agreed to the terms of the ENA at our May 22 meeting, we still have not received the executed documents. Further, the response you sent on June 6 to our draft Term Sheet is inconsistent with the ENA and proposes to substantially change the Board’s direction.

“You proposed to reduce the option consideration from a non-refundable $4.5 million to a refundable $800,000; remove the requirement to acquire the 1220 Pacific Highway leasehold from the U.S. Navy and, delay negotiations of the economic terms of each of the development transactions to a later date. Manchester’s obligation to advance predevelopment costs for the Cruise Ship Terminal and work proactively with the Port to obtain financing has also been revised.” With the fate of the project seemingly hanging in the balance, Weymann is tight-lipped, saying only that negotiations have been “inadvertently included in a packet of project updates provided to port commissioners.

Meanwhile, a threat by Princess Cruises to discontinue calling on San Diego next year because of inadequate terminal facilities has been rescinded. In a June 6 e-mail to port marketing director Rita Vandergaw, Princess’s “Director of Shore Operations-Europe and Exotics” Bruce Krumrine wrote, “I’m afraid I have some disappointing news for you. Our plans to homeport a ship in San Diego for the 2007-2008 season have now changed and we will not be going forward with this deployment.” The dispute, says Vandergaw, arose because two of Princess’s 23 scheduled calls conflict with visits by other cruise ships, a situation that will force Princess to process their passengers in a temporary tent on the B Street pier rather than inside the permanent terminal building. But two weeks later, Vandergaw says, the company changed its mind and agreed to use the tent in one case and the Broadway Pier in another.

**Ethical fruits**

San Diego’s city ethics commission and staff have filed their annual statement of economic interest for 2005, revealing a raft of gifts. Executive director Stacey Fulhorst reports getting “2 invites to a party” from San Diego Magazine in February that she said were worth $100. Criterion Co., a New York firm whose business activity is listed as “film production & distribution,” gave $75 for an April dinner, and San Diego lawyer Jeffrey Krinkow paid $325 for “Tickets ticket & pkg” in September. Commissioner Charles H. Dick, Jr., a lawyer at Baker & McKenzie, got “Dinner and Tix to Wins” worth $194 in October. The giver was Virginia C. Nelson, another attorney. Lawyer Robert Teaff kicked in a “Wine Gift” worth $15 in December. Commissioner Guillermo Cabrera, another lawyer, got a $56 ticket to California Adventure from the Walt Disney Company in October. San Diego Magazine provided him with two tickets to February’s “50 to Watch Party,” which he valued at $140. Real estate agent Darren Schneider gave a $250 Home Depot gift certificate.

**Arnold’s swells**

While Democratic candidates for governor were blooding themselves in their bitter spring primary battle, GOP incumbent Arnold Schwarzenegger was quietly building up his campaign war chest. As usual, San Diego Republicans, along with some Democrats, were more than happy to oblige. There were the usual donors, including Liberty Station developer Mark D. McMillin ($22,300); Mission Bay hotel mogul Ann Ivanov ($11,150) and son-in-law David Cherashore ($5000); retired S & L kingpin Pete Wilson ($5000); retired S & L kingpin Peter Wilson ($5000); retired S & L kingpin Kim Fletcher ($22,300) and wife Marilyn ($22,300); car dealer Jim Crowley ($22,300); ex-University of California regent and Pete Wilson insider John Davis ($11,150; and downtown real estate man Malin Burnham ($22,300).

— Matt Potter

**Surprise? Peregrine Was Pioneer in Backdating Scam**

By Don Bauder

You’d love to place a bet on a horse after the race is over and collect your winnings without getting caught and fitted for cement boots. Don’t laugh: almost daily we’re finding out that top corporate executives have been pulling off such chi-chi deals.

Early this year, the Wall Street Journal did a series of stories exposing options backdating. But one of San Diego’s examples actually came to light three years ago in the 1990s and into the early 2000s, it appears to have been one more way for greedy executives to screw their stockholders. The practice seems to have abated sharply in 2002 after Congress passed the tough Sarbanes-Oxley Act, which business lobbying organizations now want to emasculate.

Stock options give executives the future privilege of buying shares in their company at the price they were trading for when the board of directors approved the arrangement. Presumably, good management would cause the stock price to rise, netting the execs a nice profit and tying their performance to the stock’s price.

But criminal and civil investigators are looking into a repugnant practice: secretly backdating that stock option to the lowest possible price. The executives then get a double-martini effect: the backdated option, whose original price was artificially low, is cashed in. But the practice can be legal if it is disclosed in corporate filings (as is typical, many smelly activities are technically legal if disclosed in legal Latin in fine print).

Early this year, the Wall Street Journal did a series of stories exposing options backdating. But one of San Diego’s examples actually came to light three years ago in the...
Nearby Residents See Red Over Nightly Fireworks

By Ernie Grimm

Frustation with the noise from SeaWorld's fireworks has long simmered in the neighborhoods near the theme park. In May, the pot began to boil over when a local newspaper, the Peninsula Beacon, printed a letter written by Ocean Beach resident Karl Korhum. "SeaWorld's nightly fireworks are the owners of two beautiful greyhounds. They are quiet, obedient, and a pleasure to have around, except when the fireworks go off. They become nervous, anxious, and apprehensive… In order to keep them calm, we have to close all windows and doors no matter how hot it is in the house. Some people, as well as small children we know in this area, have early bedtimes because of work or school schedules, and I'm sure they find the explosions disruptive as well." Brinkman and Gutierrez added, "From 1965 to 1988, we owned a house near Saint Brigid's Catholic Church in Pacific Beach. Sometime prior to 1988, a few neighbors complained about the beautiful church bells we so enjoyed on Sunday mornings, and they were quieted…. The noise generated by SeaWorld's fireworks is by far not as pleasant as the church bells in Pacific Beach, yet no one seems to have enough clout to quiet them."

Picking up on Korhum's theme, the Loma Portal couple closed their letter asking "that SeaWorld consider converting to pressurized air to launch the fireworks in an effort to be a better neighbor."

At the end of his letter, Korhum exhorted readers to "convince him that SeaWorld could also become a 'good neighbor' by converting to pressurized air to launch their fireworks."

At least one of his readers, 62-year-old legal secretary Barrie Smith, took the suggestion. Sitting on the couch in her nine-by-nine-foot living room of the Sports Arena apartment she shares with a couple of cats, she says, "I wrote the letter, and I said I thought it would be a good idea if they at least went to pressurized air. It would still give them their fireworks, but it would also give peace and quiet to the neighborhood. Because if you come home from work tired, and you want to go to bed early, at ten o'clock at night, when those things go off, it doesn't matter how tired you are, you are wide awake." Smith's apartment sits across the San Diego River and Interstate 8 from SeaWorld. It's 9:35 on the night of Friday, June 23. On a coffee table in front of her lie a pair of hard plastic earmuffs, the type worn by gardeners practicing at the firing range. "I bought that headset so I can block the fireworks out," she says. "If I want to go to sleep before ten, I wear earplugs. I have no problem with fireworks, I like fireworks, but after a while it just gets to the point where you are sick and tired of them. For a special occasion, to emphasize something, they're great. But every single night of the week, no."

And every summer, for about 90 consecutive days starting in mid-June, SeaWorld signals closing time with a six-minute fireworks display. Between 9:50 and 9:55, a loud pop breaks the silence in Smith's apartment complex. "There they go," she says.

Though they color the fog rolling upriver from the ocean, you can't see them burst. You can hear them though, and the percussive pops are loud enough to make you jump. "With a pressurized-air system," Smith says, "you'd still..."
charges by the Securities and Exchange Commission said that Peregrine had thereby understated its expenses by approximately $90 million during the period of the fraud.

The company that backdates stock options may use other backdating techniques to rig its books. As criminal and civil charges have revealed, Peregrine was an expert at fraudulent backdating. It usually used backdating rules to overstate sales, not understate expenses. Repeatedly, it used these tricks to shift sales from the quarter in which they had taken place back to the previous quarter, so the company could meet Wall Street’s expectations.

The U.S. Attorney’s indictment of Peregrine officers in January 2003 listed several of those backdating bunco games. The defendants “would backdate, white-out, and remove fax headers from sales documentation in order to fraudulently conceal the fact that these deals had actually closed after the end of the fiscal quarter,” charged the grand jury. Peregrine had a fax machine “that magically time-stamped any contract as having arrived before the end of the fiscal quarter.”

Peregrine executives joked that contracts were signed on the 37th day of the month. One of the indicted executives, Douglas Powanda, joked that he wanted to start a company, "End of Quarter.com," that would "specialize in signing sham deals for public companies in exchange for money," said the grand jury. (Powanda had a knack for accumulating money. He sold $25 million of Peregrine stock before the collapse. He also sold his Rancho Santa Fe digs to none other than former representative Randy "Duke" Cunningham for $2.55 million.)

Many of the companies under backdating investigation behave the way Peregrine did: execs and board members are more interested in running up the stock than in running a reputable company. The Securities and Exchange Commission and U.S. Attorneys’ offices in both Northern and Southern California are looking into past practices at Applied Micro Circuits, which just recently moved its headquarters from San Diego to the Silicon Valley but still has a big plant here. This company’s stock peaked at $110 in 2000 and now trades below $3.

Former chief executive David Rickey was known for his rich compensation. From early 1998 to early 2000, he reduced his number of shares from 3.5 million to 604,000 when the stock was zooming toward $100. He had paid 7 cents apiece for his initial shares. In addition, by early 2000, he was sitting on options worth $220 million. In early 2001, the New York Times reported that Rickey had amassed $170 million by dumping 99 percent of his stock beginning in 1999. Rickey attacked the paper and said he still had options on 5.7 million shares.

Applied Micro Circuits named a new management team last year. It has delayed filing its annual report while it investigates options backdating over a seven-year period. It is not known whether the investigation involves shares granted Rickey.

Some prominent companies known for excessive executive pay are being probed for backdating. William McGuire, chief executive of Minnesota-based UnitedHealth Group, holds options worth $1.6 billion that are exercisable. He also is in line to get $100 million in pension benefits. The chief financial officer could cash in $663 million of options today. The state attorney general is looking into the company’s option policies. So are the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York and the Internal Revenue Service.

The Securities and Exchange Commission is looking into home-improvement retailer Home Depot, which is looking into the company’s option policies. So are the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York and the Internal Revenue Service.

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Insiders at Peregrine have continued to benefit those who received the stock option exercise price, against Peregrine Systems, the stock option. That is where Peregrine set board meetings to find the ket price of Peregrine’s stock tradator looked back at the mar-

To the previous quarter, so the company could meet Wall Street’s expectations.

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Peregrine executives joked that contracts were signed on the 37th day of the month. One of the indicted executives, Douglas Powanda, joked that he wanted to start a company, “End of Quarter.com,” that would “specialize in signing sham deals for public companies in exchange for money,” said the grand jury. (Powanda had a knack for accumulating money. He sold $25 million of Peregrine stock before the collapse. He also sold his Rancho Santa Fe digs to none other than former representative Randy “Duke” Cunningham for $2.55 million.)

Many of the companies under backdating investigation behave the way Peregrine did: execs and board members are more interested in running up the stock than in running a reputable company. The Securities and Exchange Commission and U.S. Attorneys’ offices in both Northern and Southern California are looking into past practices at Applied Micro Circuits, which just recently moved its headquarters from San Diego to the Silicon Valley but still has a big plant here. This company’s stock peaked at $110 in 2000 and now trades below $3.

Former chief executive David Rickey was known for his rich compensation. From early 1998 to early 2000, he reduced his number of shares from 3.5 million to 604,000 when the stock was zooming toward $100. He had paid 7 cents apiece for his initial shares. In addition, by early 2000, he was sitting on options worth $220 million. In early 2001, the New York Times reported that Rickey had amassed $170 million by dumping 99 percent of his stock beginning in 1999. Rickey attacked the paper and said he still had options on 5.7 million shares.

Applied Micro Circuits named a new management team last year. It has delayed filing its annual report while it investigates options backdating over a seven-year period. It is not known whether the investigation involves shares granted Rickey.
Backdating scam
continued from page 8

board were appalled — at the $140 million, as well as at Grasso’s desire to grab it before he retired. Not Langone, who as chairman of the compensation committee rooted for Grasso, whom he had put on the Home Depot board. Grasso was worth that kind of money, said Langone. He belonged in the Hall of Fame “with Babe Ruth, Joe DiMaggio, and Mickey Mantle,” he said.

Yes, in the Greed Hall of Fame, with countless other ejecutives. Some have nowhere else to go: top executives of Camarillo’s Vitesse Semiconductor, Mountain View’s Mercury Interactive, and New York’s Converse Technology are out of jobs as a result of probes into options backdating.

Nightly fireworks
continued from page 7

get the colorful display, but you wouldn’t have that concussion.”

Not true, says Pete Gillenberg, operations manager of Fireworks America, the Lakeside company that runs SeaWorld's pyrotechnic shows. Almost all of the noise, he says, “comes from the break of the shell up in the air. The launch makes a 'foof' noise, which isn’t very loud.”

A source (who asked not to be named) at another local fireworks company, Pyro Spectaculars, confirmed Gillenberg’s contention. “People who think a pressurized-air-launch system will reduce noise are completely mistaken. You get a little bit of noise from the launch, but 99 percent of the noise is in the break at the top of the rise, 300 to 500 feet up in the air. What you get with the pressurized-air launch is less smoke.”

Gillenberg agrees, “That system [at Disneyland],” he says, “was developed to reduce smoke, not noise. With the pressurized-air launch, there’s no smoke at ground level, only up in the atmosphere.”

The July 7, 2004 Associated Press article by Tim Molloy on the Disneyland system confirms that point. “The move,” Molloy wrote, “comes partly in response to about seven complaints since 1991 by some of the park’s neighbors in Anaheim to the South Coast Air Quality Management District, which regulates air quality in the Los Angeles area.”

Molloy went on to quote Sam Atwood, spokesman for the air quality district, saying, “What they’re doing now has reduced the smoke at the ground level, and that’s probably the most effective place to reduce it, because that’s where people are going to breathe it.”

“That’s a $7 million system up there,” Gillenberg says. “We’d be happy to use it, but it’s cost-prohibitive.”

Gillenberg insists Fireworks America has taken steps to reduce noise at the SeaWorld displays. “We don’t use any salutes — those are the shells that make a flash and a loud bang — and we don’t use any shells larger than six inches.”

Fireworks shells, he says, can be as big as 24 inches in diameter. The bigger the shell, the more explosive powder it contains and the louder the bang it makes. By limiting the approximately 300 shells that are fired off each summer night at SeaWorld to six inches and smaller, Fireworks America limits the noise. Still, the source at Pyro Spectaculars says, “I’ve seen the SeaWorld show, and it’s a little obnoxious. They have bigger shells than they really need. They could be more artistic and use fewer big shells, that’s for sure. They could move the display in-park — SeaWorld’s fireworks are launched from a barge floating on Hidden Cove, between the park and Fiesta Island — and go for smaller shells and a more artistic presentation instead of just lobbing big shells up there.”

Reached by phone, David Koontz, communications director at SeaWorld, says there isn’t room within the park for an in-park launch. And he stresses that the theme park complies with the city’s regulations and Coastal Commission stipulations. Asked why the late hour for the display, he says, “The park is open in the summertime until 10:00 on weekends, and it is open until 11:00 on Fridays and Saturdays. So the fireworks are basically the conclusion of our day, like at many parks. We are allowed to do fireworks no later than 10:00 on a day that precedes a workday. And then you can actually do them until 11:00 on a day that precedes a weekend day or a holiday. But all our fireworks are done by 10:00, whether it is a weekend day or a weekday.”

As for Gutierrez and Brinkman’s skittish greyhounds, SeaWorld has a solution to offer. “Because there are some people that say that fireworks frighten their pets,” Koontz says, “a couple of years ago, we worked with a local guy who is sort of a dog-behavior expert and put together a CD, which is basically fireworks noise. You play it at home for your pet and you start to increase the volume. It is basically a desensitizing process.”

Koontz says “anybody that asks for one” can obtain the compact disc by calling SeaWorld’s PR department.

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Letter

As someone who likes to find out about what is going on in the dining world of San Diego, I often read the restaurant reviews. I have never been a huge fan of Naomi Wise’s style of reviewing, but I feel that she reached a new low with her June 15 review of Samba Grill (“Samba Grill” in “Rio”). She quoted the owner of Samba Grill as saying that “another” Brazilian steakhouse in town is owned by Koreans and does not have Brazilian chefs. The owner then goes on to imply that for this reason it cannot possibly have the authenticity, spirit, and creativity of the Brazilian culture.

First, this is incorrect. As a lover of Brazilian food, I have eaten at Rei do Gado (the other Brazilian steakhouse) many times. I always enjoy the food but also love the way the staff is so friendly and the atmosphere is so much fun. Because I have been at most of the staff by now, I can attest to the fact that most of them are Brazilian. I have met some of the chefs, and most of them are Brazilian too. It is true that the owners are Korean, but they had been in Brazil for many, many years before moving to San Diego to open Rei do Gado. Anyone who questions if Rei do Gado has the authenticity, spirit, and creativity of the Brazilian culture has not been there during a Brazilian soccer game when the place is packed with not only Brazilian workers but also Brazilian patrons. On the many occasions that I have been to Rei do Gado, it has been clear that the spirit of Brazil is alive and well in San Diego.

Secondly, how does this completely negative slander of Rei do Gado help the review of Samba Grill as a restaurant? How is it relevant? It strikes me as totally irresponsible to include it in the article.

Richard Fenton
San Diego

Indian Immigrants Float

Thomas Larson writes interesting and informative articles. The piece on immigration patterns of those from India, “The Guest is Like God,” June 29 (Cover Story), unfortunately, is about ten years too late. Since the mid-90s, the “ethnic niche” for most of the immigrants from India has been computer programming. Coupled with outsourcing of white-collar jobs to India, the influx of programmers and engineers has had a far-reaching effect on the American economy and the white-collar job market, and it continues to this day. Also, these immigrants have had a telling effect on the growth of Indian businesses, mainly Indian grocery stores and restaurants. Ironically, the motel industry is the least affected by this influx.

Contrary to Larson’s claim, few Americans identify this ethnic group with hotel ownership and management. I have been in this country for more than 30 years, and nobody has ever asked me whether I am a hotelier. On the contrary, quite often I am asked which computer company I work for.

Larson uses the term “Indian-American” very loosely. I think the term applies only to those Indian immigrants who are also citizens of this country. Larson, however, is successful in bringing out the struggle that Indian immigrants like Dr. Barry Lall have to deal with: adhering to the expectations of the Indian tradition on the one hand and, on the other, finding self-fulfillment from what they personally like to do. In a subtle way, Larson points out that Indian immigrants float above the mainstream American society, keeping intact their cultural values, customs, and religion, but making use of the economic opportunities that America offers. The not-so-subtle, gaudy caricature of a Hindu goddess on the cover attests to the chasm that exists between these two cultures.

Poonam Murugesan via e-mail

Letters

Dog Beach Zone

I agree with some of the comments from the Imperial Beach residents quoted in the article, “Ruff, Ruff, Ruff in Imperial Beach” (“City Lights,” June 29). There is a problem with dog crap and dogs running wild on the beach in IB. It is about time for IB to designate an official dog beach with enforced laws and rules. My pit bull companion and I recently discovered the “Dog Beach Zone” in Long Beach, a leash-free dog beach providing a clean and safe haven for canines and their humans to socialize and play. Any pet parents and community activists looking to solve IB’s dog issues should take note of the efforts and achievements of the Haute Dogs organization of Long Beach. Check out their website, www.hautedogs.org.

Kimberly Z and Ace of Spades via e-mail

Five Sleepless Neighbors

My brother and I had the same problem with a neighbor whose rottweilers never stopped barking (“City Lights,” “Ruff, Ruff, Ruff in Imperial Beach,” June 29). San Diego Noise Abatement suggested the following: Sue. Five sleepless neighbors all threatened to file in small claims at $5000 each. We gave the owner of the inconsiderately barking dogs a letter signed by all. A $25,000 lawsuit convinced the offender to move away. Immediately. Problem solved. I hope this helps.

W.G. Johnson via e-mail

Panama’s Example

I propose a solution to the problem illuminated by Don Baurer in “Napoleon III Could Unclog Freeways” (“City Lights,” June 29). As an expatriate living in Panama for the last year and a half, I traveled using only their public transit system and can report that San Diego County and city could learn from Panama’s example. Theirs is not an expensive, high-tech creation from on high, but simply letting the free market dictate the terms of fulfillment of public policy. As a result, I was able to conveniently travel anywhere in the urban corridor (Panama City-Colon; about the size of the city of San Diego) by either bus or taxi and never missed my car. In addition, I was able to use the same system (bus and taxi in tandem) to get to anywhere in the country, despite the lack of paved roads in the remote rural areas. Sure, the carriers were regulated and fares were standardized, but unlike here, carriers to entry were not oppressive and confiscatory. As a result, economical transit services moved the vast majority of workers, homemakers, and seniors to their destinations.

This is a “bottom-up” solution, in contrast to the USA’s “top-down” remedies. The liberal approach here appears to involve tormenting the automobile driver until he/she surrenders the wheel to an inadequate alternative. The conservatives seem to be working for the old-money families who own extensive lands and development concerns (as well as the political machine). To satisfy the desires of citizens from all four points of the political compass: (1) I suggest the Libertarian approach of letting Napoleon III, in the form of a free-market dictator over our servant bureaucrats, fill the freeways and streets with large and small carriers-for-hire who would attract the drivers out of their cars with good delivery times and significant savings (due to minimal carrier fees/taxes). (2) Authoritarians would be appeased by a blanket requirement that all carrier-for-hire be powered by alternatives to petrochemicals, beginning with existing carriers. Believe me, if you could smell the air in Panama City, you would agree to this restriction. (3) Liberals should be satisfied with an economic incentive for carriers such as access to wholesale-priced, tax-free volume purchasing of alternative fuels/power, facilitated by local government — all in service to reduced fares to the public. In addition, freeway lanes would be dedicated to these carriers. (4) Conservatives would enjoy the elimination of driver torrent via restricted parking laws and clogged roads and freeways. And I expect that they would applaud this program’s support for small-business entrepreneurs.

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Hey, Matt:

I have a special talent that nobody else I know has. I can write backwards without even thinking about it, with all the letters reversed. My friend says there might be something wrong with me, but I don’t think so. What do you say? — seleman, San Diego

This question might set off a small shoving match among brain-science types with varying answers to why you can do this, but I’d say it’s a left brain/right brain switch you have cultivated and you reinforce each time you bore your friends with the trick. Writing is ordinarily thought of as a left-brain-dominated activity: orderly, disciplined, plodding along, following certain rules. Turn the right brain loose in this environment and it can produce a mirror image of your usual writing style. Some left-handed kids’ first writing is a form of mirror writing, and they have to be trained to grasp the left-to-right tradition. Actually, just about anyone could develop this talent, though why they want to, I can’t say. A little practice to release the left-brain stranglehold should do it.

Hey, Matt:

When I recently drove through Utah, I noticed that “regular”-grade gasoline (in addition to costing a lot less) is 85 octane, not 87 like it is here. I thought this was maybe some odd Mormon custom, perhaps to discourage wasteful consumption, until I saw the same thing in Colorado. What gives with these lower-octane, lower-octane fuels? My car runs fine on them. Why can’t we get them here in California and maybe save a few pennies at the pump? — Robert Sheaffer, East County

Your 85-octane trail must have gone through high-altitude locations — Salt Lake City, Denver, right? The lower atmospheric pressure and oxygen levels at these spots require a different gas blend so your carburetor has the right mix of air and fuel for proper combustion. Octane is a measure of combustibility of the fuel. If we used 85 octane here at sea level, or anywhere below about 5000 feet, we’d hack and cough our way down the road and eventually chug to a halt. True, 85 octane gas will be cheaper than 87, but the difference won’t be huge. Any big cost differences you saw are more likely a result of the always-mysterious gas company pricing patterns you see around the country.

Hey, Matt:

What makes sauce lumpy? Or better yet, what is a guaranteed way to mix something like flour and water and never have lumps? — Jerry in San Diego

Grandma is teary eyed. Someone out there actually makes gravy from scratch instead of buying that crap-in-a-bag powder or wimping out with mushroom soup! Between sobs, Grandma sez what makes sauce lumpy is when hot liquid hits flour, the little flour molecules burst free and form a gooey web that congeals into lumps. A mixture of fat and flour will help prevent this. Try flour smooshed with butter and olive oil, add flour to pan drippings, cook and stir until they’re smooth, then add liquid. Or use Grandma’s technique: find a jar, put in your flour, add cold water, screw on the lid, shake the heck out of it until the flour’s suspended, then pour it into the pan. Make sure you cook away the raw flour taste, though. Grandma sends kisses.

Hey, Matt:

I was watching the NY Yankees vs. the Atlanta Braves this Wednesday, and one of the graphics had mistakenly placed a player’s name with all of the injuries, but it was listed twice. All right, who and/or what the heck is Tommy John? It sounds like a type of wrench to me. Hey, Matt: Frank Jobe surgery, but no such luck. — Jay, the net

I was watching the NY Yankees vs. the Atlanta Braves this Wednesday, and one of the graphics had mistakenly placed a player’s name with all of the injuries, but it was listed twice. All right, who and/or what the heck is Tommy John? It sounds like a type of wrench to me. Hey, Matt: Frank Jobe surgery, but no such luck. — Jay, the net

Frank Jobe surgery, but no such luck.

It’s acquired the nickname Tommy John surgery. I assume the doctor hoped it would be called by that name. Through the 1970s he was one of the top pitchers in the majors. He retired in 1989, not exactly ancient history. Anyway, in 1974, when pitching for the Dodgers, John tore the ulnar (or medial) collateral ligament in his left elbow, his pitching arm. The UCL connects the lower arm bone (humerus) to one of the upper arm bones (ulna). It’s critical to stabilizing the joint, and in the mid-70s a UCL tear was considered a career ender. Not willing to take that for an answer, John had a skilled orthopedic surgeon, strung out his elbow, and said, “Fix it.” Dr. Frank Jobe took on the challenge and invented a new surgical technique to replace the UCL. He took a tendon from John’s right wrist, drilled holes in the left humerus and ulna, and threaded the tendon, figure-8 style, through the holes. After rehab, John pitched for another 13 years.

The procedure today is done slightly differently, but it is so common and so successful it’s acquired the nickname Tommy John surgery. I assume the doctor hoped it would be called Frank Jobe surgery, but no such luck.

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Iron Butts

By Patrick Daugherty

T his was supposed to be a Tour de France drug-bust column. I wanted to talk to a knowledgeable San Diego bike rider about the sport and its habits. There are at least 18 bicycle clubs in and around San Diego. I chose Knickerbikers of San Diego County because they have a self-description: “A bicycle touring club without formal organization, but with a website.”

I think the toughest day was out of Pine Valley,” King laughs. Pine Valley is 44 miles east of San Diego. “It was April 27th, and it was raining and blowing, a cold rain coming in from the north. We took off anyway because we were excited about the trip. We stopped in La Posta for hot chocolate, stopped in Jacumba for lunch, and then went down the freeway into the desert. We didn’t get off the freeway when we were supposed to and a highway patrol guy pulled us over, made us climb through a barbed wire fence and walk along a dirt road. It was a 90-mile day. We finally finished in Brawley.

I cannot imagine self on bike riding into Brawley. “How many Knickerbikers tour?”

Eight started, six finished. Mostly, we rode on old federal highways, going through dying towns. We must be losing 100 towns a year. Places that used to be thriving, all they have now is a railroad track, grain elevator, a bar, and a post office. Saw a lot of those,” King says sadly. “from Boulder through Julesburg, Colorado, and then through Nebraska. All of those places have dried up.”

It’s an interesting topic surfaces. “What’s the longest tour you’ve been on?”

“Pine Valley was 44 miles east of San Diego. It was April 27th, and it was raining and blowing, a cold rain coming in from the north. We took off anyway because we were excited about the trip. We stopped in La Posta for hot chocolate, stopped in Jacumba for lunch, and then went down the freeway into the desert. We didn’t get off the freeway when we were supposed to and a highway patrol guy pulled us over, made us climb through a barbed wire fence and walk along a dirt road. It was a 90-mile day. We finally finished in Brawley.

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Making progress. I can imagine self dressed in a bicyclist’s uniform. Black tights, red jersey. “How did you work the food and lodging?”

“We camped a good deal of the time, so we were in a motel 50 times or so. We’d cruise into a town, like Central City, Nebraska. There are two ma-and-pa motels, and they were both full. We talk to a policeman and he says, ‘Hey, spend the night in the city park. I’ll watch out, and it’s perfectly safe.’ Worked out great, except, in the middle of the night, the sprinklers went on.”

Having trouble mounting the bike, but my tights look great. “Did locals fall in love with your group?”

“Oh, yeah, in the Midwest, particularly. They’d look at us suspiciously, but if you said, ‘Hi,’ they’d inundate you with questions. They’d ask, ‘Where did you come from?’ We’d say, ‘Denison,’ which is 30 miles back. They’d say, ‘That’s great. What a long ride! Are you from Denison?’ No, we started in San Diego. King laughs. “That really blew them away.

“Every once in a while we’d find a cyclist. There was one guy in New York who was all excited. He said, ‘Hold on just a second, I want to show you my bike.’ And he ran out to his car and got his bike. ‘Yeah, every Saturday I try to ride 80 or 100 miles.’ And we’re admiring his bike. He says, ‘I want to do a cross-country, but my wife would never let me.’ A few minutes later his wife came up and we said, ‘He says he’d like to go, but you won’t let him.’ ‘Oh, that’s nonsense,’ she says, ‘go for it!’”

Poor bastard. But, I’ve got my own problems, my bike won’t move. “What did you do for yourself that last day? You’re in Bar Harbor, you’ve made it, the trip is over. Did you celebrate?”

“It was a cold, miserable day, but when we got to the ocean we celebrated a little bit, and then went into a bar that was right on the waterfront and had a big lobster feed. We had our picture taken, and the guy who owned the place said he would post the picture. We certainly looked happy and tanned and fit. We ate and then spent most of the day looking around for somebody to transport us and our bikes 45 miles back to Bangor, to meet our plane. We didn’t want to ride one more mile.”

For club particulars, click over to www.knickerbikers.com or call King at 858-450-0373.

The Vegas Line

U.S. Politics • Proposition Bets

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SHEEP AND GOATS

Places of Worship Reviewed

Denomination: Pentecostal
Address: 125 Palm Avenue, National City, 619-474-5643
Founded locally: 1961
Senior pastor: Misael Zaragoza
Congregation size: 540
Sunday school enrollment: 225
Annual budget: $700,000 — covers church, charter school, and senior center
Weekly giving around $13,500
Singles program: no
Dress: Dressy — lots of suits and ties and dresses. Nearly all women wore mantillas, "as a symbol of respect."

Diversity: 80 percent Hispanic, some African-American, a smattering of others

Sunday worship: English service, 9 a.m.; Traditional service, 11:30 a.m.; Spanish service, 1:30 p.m.

Length of reviewed service: 2 hours, 15 minutes
Website: http://apostolicassemblync.org

Apostolic Assembly of National City National City

Sermon content: ★★★★/delivery: ★★★

Liturgy: ★★★

Music: ★★★

congregational band: ★★★

Snacks: ★★★

Architecture: Friendliness: ★★★★★

Poor to satisfactory: (none)

Good: ★★★★★

Very good: ★★★★★

Excellent: ★★★★★

Extraordinary: ★★★★★

Then he said, "Today we're celebrating...men and women...who have given their lives for this thing we call freedom. But I'll tell you one thing: unless God has set you free on the inside, then there is something binding you. Today, you are in the best place because the greatest liberator is here. The word of God says if you are free in Him, you are free indeed."

Co-pastor Esekkiel Rodriguez stepped up and told the congregation, "I received an email from an evangelist in China, and they had to hide in a basement so that 50 people could have the liberty to worship God. We're here to celebrate that we live in a country where we have the liberty to lift our hands to the Lord."

Five gray men in olive uniforms and burgundy berets marched in half-step down the aisle. Two bore rifles, one an American flag, the other the flag of the Airborne Honor Guard. The fifth man marched behind and carried a bugle. At the head of the group, the honor guard turned, faced the congregation, and presented arms. A children's choir — about 40 strong and dressed in various combinations of red, white, and blue — filed onto the stage and sang the National Anthem.

The guard parted, and two drill sergeants marched up the aisle, carrying the flags of the U.S. and California. One led the congregation in the Pledge of Allegiance, the other in the Pledge of Christian Allegiance: "I pledge allegiance to the Christian flag, and to the Savior for whom its kingdom it stands, one Savior, crucified, risen, and coming again, with life and liberty to all who believe."

The choir depar, and as the bugler played taps, a sailor in dress whites carried a red, white, and blue wreath up to the stage. Behind him processed three women, two of them carrying flags in triangular cases. The sailor prayed: "When all the answers we are offered fail the questions that death asks each of us, we believe that you will provide for us.... Blessed are those who are mourning, for they are comforted. Lord God, hold our troops in your loving arms... Bless them and their families for the selfless act they perform for us in a time of need." After the guard marched back down the aisle, a slideshow displayed images of soldiers from the congregation, past and present.

A younger man offered a prayer that thanked God for the Founding Fathers' fears of the Lord, apologized for national sins (racial prejudice, gender biases), thanked God for earthly blessings and the Pentecostal movement, and promised to fight against "the degeneration of society through worldly practices and selfish ambitions... We choose one nation, under God, with liberty and justice for all. Let Thy will be done in America as it is in heaven.

Pastor Zaragoza's sermon praised "unknown heroes" — military and otherwise religious and otherwise — that we often "neglect to mention." He mentioned them, and the congregation applauded as he did so. "I believe God is raising up America to be a light among the nations," he proclaimed, "because we were founded on biblical principles, and we still believe in God Almighty. God will always bless this country, as long as we don't deviate from the principles. He has given us the Bible, the book of truth. "And he exhorted the young: 'Who will be the heroes of tomorrow?... I want a free country for my children! I want my grandkids to be able to preach the Gospel!"

What happens when we die?

"When you die, you are responsible for your choices," says Zaragoza. "God made man to have a relationship with Him," but also, "he gave him the privilege of choice. You either receive the blessings of your choices or the consequence of your choices. We are on this earth to choose one of two things: to live eternally or to love eternally, Jesus said, 'He that believeth in me, though he die, he shall live, for I am the way, the life, and the resurrection.'"

— Matthew Lickona

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- bicycles
- computer
- electronics
- free
- furniture
- garage sales
- miscellaneous
- pets/supplies
- photo
- sports
- tickets
- tools
- wanted/trade

Musician
- available/wanted
- equipment/instruments
- instruction
- services
- plug the band

Rentals
- apartments/condos
- commercial
- houses
- rentals wanted
- roommates
- vacation

Real Estate
- commercial
- condos/townhomes
- financing
- houses
- land for sale
- miscellaneous
- open houses
- wanted

Employment
- accounting/finance
- call centers
- career training
- computer/technical
- customer service
- domestics
- driver/delivery
- education
- health care
- jobs wanted/resumes
- management/professional
- miscellaneous
- office/administrative
- part-time jobs
- research studies
- restaurant/hotel/club
- retail
- sales/marketing
- salons
- security
- trades/labor

Services
- business
- computer
- financial
- health/wellness
- home
- legal
- therapeutic massage
- personal
- travel
- wedding
Crasher

ON THE BUS

by Josh Board

Months ago, I decided to go to an art party in North Park after a racquetball game. It wasn't the best idea. It was a weekend night and I would be all sweaty. I planned to stay for an hour before going to see Johnny Winter at the Belly Up Tavern.

I couldn't find a place to park and circled the art school on Park Boulevard a few times. I found a spot a mile away, in a residential area, and hiked over. People who were leaving talked about the live models whom the students were painting. I glanced through the glass window, only to see they weren't nudes.

I felt underdressed in my San Diego Siege T-shirt; most of the men wore ties, dress shirts, sweaters, and slacks. Of course, the models who were being painted had nicer clothes on than me. One wore Victorian attire. I always thought models would feel weird posing nude for artists; but I had met one at a party years ago and she had no problem with it.

At the party, a guy played classical guitar. Later in the evening, musicians played mandolins and flutes, which went well at this type of party. It was fun to sip wine and watch artists at work. A few molded clay. Occasionally, an employee (usually Christine) would come over and tell me about this school, the Athenaeum School of the Arts.

This wasn't a party that conducive to mingling. There were lots of couples, and everyone was quiet so as to not disturb the artists. When a song would finish, there often wasn't applause.

"Take it easy, dude. Johnny ain't going anywhere."

I met a guy named Mark, who had just turned 21. I asked him what he did, and he said, "I'm an everything guy. I do everything." I asked what he didn't do, and he replied, "I don't do windows."

I met a documentary filmmaker named Tony. He asked about my basketball shirt, whether the Siege was an ABA team. I told him they were a female basketball team. He said he made a documentary on minor league baseball. I said, "So, you're the Ken Burns of minor league baseball." He laughed and said, "I wish. It's nothing that elaborate. I just followed a few teams around."

We ended up talking about my basketball shirt. She answered a few of my questions regarding rules. I asked her if it was hard to get respect from the male players, and she said, "Yeah, but so what? I don't get into that. Sometimes I have to get into a player's face."

She was on her way out the door when we met, so I didn't have a lot of time with her. I met an interesting couple near the desserts. The guy was named Gary, and he used to work at 91X. We talked about the local music scene and DJs we both knew. His girlfriend and I kept munching the chocolate, including huge M&Ms. They started cutting the cake, and I grabbed a piece of that, too. So much for the calories I burned off hours earlier while playing racquetball.

I told the woman who'd invited me that I had to leave after the cake because of the Johnny Winter concert. She said, "It's sold out, so you better have a ticket." I couldn't believe that; the last time I saw him, the place was half full. He was in bad shape, had to be walked onstage. I was bummed I would be missing him until she said, "I work at the Belly Up. Let me see if I can get you in." She made a phone call outside and told me to head up there, since he was already onstage.

I threw my half-eaten cake away, thinking about the poor children in China who would've loved it. I ran the mile to my car, turning my
now-dry T-shirt a little damp again.

I got to the Belly Up as Winter was finishing. I talked to the manager for a bit, seeing if I could sneak backstage. He talked to the tour manager, who came over and said, “I’ll let you hang out with them on the bus. But you can’t write about anything crazy you see on there. Is that a deal?” I agreed.

And, it’s really a shame I agreed to that. The party on that bus ranks high up there on parties I’ve been to (and I’ve been to hundreds). Since Johnny was sitting at one of the tables, talking with two gorgeous women, I sat down next to the bass player. We talked a lot about other good bass players. I brought up Flea, Les Claypool, and Bootsy Collins. He was getting into the conversation. I wondered what it must be like for a band who’s been famous since the ‘60s, with fans rarely bothering to talk to them.

The women went to a different part of the bus, and I sat down with Winter. I told him I loved the show, although I only saw him perform half a song. I started to talk to him about Muddy Waters, since they did an album together. Just then, a young guy burst in the door with three guitars and pictures for Winter to sign. I stood up, saying I’d talk to him later. The guy pushed me out of the way, and I told him, “Take it easy, dude. Johnny ain’t going anywhere.”

I told the other band members I enjoyed talking to them and walked back into the club. A guy grabbed me and said, “What happened back there? What do rock stars do after the show?” I smiled and said, “What happens on the tour bus, stays on the tour bus.”

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Nine out of Ten

by Barbaraella

As my sister declared how fed up she was with someone who seemed unwilling to return her calls, I watched with a mixture of fascination and fear as a furry black spider suspended itself on a silky strand from the screen door. At least it’s on the other side, I thought.

“At least everything else is going great,” Jenny said, her verbal echo of my thoughts freaking me out more than the eight-legged furry thing had with its taunting demonstration of mobility. As if she’d been asked to recite a poem of which she was fond, Jenny listed everything that was going well in her life: “Brad and I just celebrated our fourth anniversary, and one of my photos was selected to hang at the Del Mar Fair, and I’ve been spending time with Jane, Heather, and the kids at Mom’s, as Dad would say, ‘It’s a nine-out-of-ten day.’

When I’m home, I average one phone conversation per family member per day. David and I had been on the road for nearly two weeks, and I was starving for some family phone time. I had been listening to Jenny with empathy and was ready to jump in and offer her solace, but she beat me to it.

“Nine out of ten, huh! Are you just saying that, or is it really a nine-out-of-ten day for you?”

“That’s what the Post-It said,” Jenny answered. “I woke up stupid-early this morning to watch the soccer game and then realized we didn’t get that channel. Then I went to the bathroom and there was a Post-It on the mirror that said, ‘Nine out of ten, woo hoo!’”

Jenny lives with my father, who refuses to pay for the most basic cable. When I lived with Dad, I learned how to use my limbs to assist an old pair of metal rabbit ears in pulling in the local television stations; sitting side-by-side in chairs four feet away from the screen, Dad and I would slowly move our arms and legs until Seinfeld’s face became clear. On more than one occasion, with one leg held in the air, I would emulate the Karate Kid from my seat; holding this strange and awkward position for the duration of the program became a matter of mind over static.

Despite life’s little annoyances, my father maintains a cheerful disposition. Because of his persistence to see the glass filled with even one miraculous drop, we, his daughters, have learned it is not easy for us to suffer a foul mood, even when we really, really want to. Regardless of Jenny’s frustration, the “nine out of ten” factor was indisputable — she was having a good day, period.

Each morning, Dad calls a toll-free number. When a recorded voice answers, he says, “Weather,” and listens to the day’s forecast. He then says, “Horoscope. Taurus.” As soon as he states his sign, a flirtatious female voice intones, “Hello, Taurus!” Then, her voice dripping with saccharine, she prognosticates, “It’s an eight-out-of-ten day. The more you study, the more you find you’ve barely scratched the surface. You love it when this happens, so indulge your curiosity. Your compatible sign today is Aries.”

After listening to his daily fortune, Dad will check a few other signs, including mine: “Hello, Virgo! It’s a seven-out-of-ten day. Gather with associates to set priorities. Once you agree upon your goals, achieving them will be a snap. Your compatible sign today is Cancer.”

On the rare occasion when the woman coos, “ten out of ten,” Dad is beside himself with optimism and excitement. But when he hears the equally rare “three out of ten,” he remains undaunted. Through Dad’s eyes, bad times are just a grand setup for better times.

I talked to Dad yesterday morning as he was driving to an airport in Virginia from the remote place he’d been working for the week. “Will you say a little prayer for me?” he asked. When I agreed, he said, in a serious voice, “Pray that I find a Waffle House on the way to the airport. I’d really like a fluffy three-egg omelet.” When I suggested Denny’s, one of his favorite breakfast haunts, Dad responded in an offended tone, ‘It’s not the same.’

Later, as David and I ran errands that took us all over the island of Martha’s Vineyard in his father’s jeep, I checked the message my father must have left on my cell phone while we were in the store: “Hey, Barb, guess what, I got upgraded to first class, woo-hoo! Not only that, but I didn’t find a Waffle House, but everything worked out perfectly because if I had found one, I’d be stuffed, but...”
now I’m still hungry and I can enjoy all the food in first class! No need to call me back. I just wanted to share the good news. See? Everything always works out. Love you, baby, if I don’t talk to you, tell David I hope he has a great show. Bye!”

Not that I look for the downside of things, but if he has a great show. Bye!”

I have made my calls to my family and gotten my fix, for it will be more than a week before I can speak with them again. Now it is late and I am tired. I can barely breathe because of my allergies, so I probably won’t sleep well. David just informed me that the Zurich gallery bumped his show up a day, meaning we will arrive after a full night’s travel on Wednesday morning and must rush to get to our hotel, check in, shower and ready ourselves for David’s first European show, which will take place early that evening. We have absurd amounts of luggage to check, collect, and recheck during our 19-hour journey. We are riding coach across the Atlantic Ocean.

I can’t wait. I bet it’s going to be a nine-out-of-ten day.

My sister Jane sums it up best: “Whatever it is, if I’m just in a funk, or I wish I had gotten to the gym, he throws a freakin’ Make-a-Wish kid at me. I’ll say how tired I am, that Bella’s been sick and keeping me awake, and he’ll say, ‘Did I tell you about my most recent wish?’

This young girl has cancer and all she wanted was a pillow, until I’m in tears over how fucking selfish I am.”

My sisters and I know that Dad doesn’t intend to make us feel selfish; he just wants us to have some perspective. Heather recently told me she’d been having a tough day, that work was difficult and her boys were cranky, but that, when she opened her wallet to pay for the groceries, she saw the tiny slip of paper Dad had given her on Thanksgiving that demands, “Be Grateful!”

“Each time I see it, it helps me keep things in perspective and makes me realize my problems are so insignificant in the grand scheme of things,” she said. “And, you know, it just makes me feel so fucking selfish.”

Dad tells us, whenever he thinks we need to hear it, that “You cannot be bitchy and grateful at the same time. So you have a bad day, you feel lonely, you feel down or uncertain, these days are bittersweet to me. I use them as a reference point, like when I travel from California. People who live in California all the time don’t realize how lucky they are to live here. When I’m having a bad day, I know it will go away, just like I know the sun is above the clouds. Where you focus your energy is what increases in your life, and I want mine to be happy.”

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Continued from front page

Dusty-yellow and surrounded by palm trees, the Midway’s sloping hollow wall proved easy enough to scale, but it made the damnedest noise as we slid down the other side, and it was obvious that half the lot was staring at us. As soon as our feet hit the pavement, some guys rolled up in a beach-buggy-style cart and hauled us off the premises to the sound of paying patrons laughing as we were wheeled past their comfy, warm cars and dropped outside the exit gate. I vowed to return as soon as I owned a car, and before long I did have a vehicle (of sorts, an old Rambler) and I was frequenting every outdoor movie screen I could find within safe driving distance of downtown (about 45 miles, given my dicey wheels). I had become a so-called “ozoner.”

The Midway Drive-In was constructed in late 1947 at the intersection of Midway Drive and Sports Arena Boulevard, back for 400 cars, there were also bleacher-style benches for up to 200 walk-ins. The first screen was a canvas-style flat that rolled open over a scaffolding tower, and there were no individual car speakers, only bullhorn-style broadcast speakers designed by RCA Victor, a system called “Directional Sound,” where three loudspeakers were mounted near the screen. By late 1948, individual car speakers on poles protruded from cement islands sprinkling the lot.

The snack bar sat a few feet below the rest of the graded property, with the projection booth on top of the concession building.

The screen tower was anchored by large poles sunk into what had once been swamp grounds. It was an enclosed structure that included storage rooms and a small efficiency apartment briefly occupied by various theater employees. Early gimmicks used to get patrons parking included free baby bottle warmers, a real-cloth diaper service, in-car heaters, a free car wash.
By the late ’70s, the hollow walls surrounding the lot were infested with feral cats who thrived on an even larger colony of rats who did battle with employees over edible, drinkable, and sometimes smokable leftovers dropped all over the lot by customers.

In 1953, theater operators Sero Amusements Company purchased 30,000 of the 110,000 outstanding shares of common stock in the Midway Drive-In Theatre Corporation. At that time, it was one of 60 Midway Drive-Ins operating in the U.S. Sero took over management and expanded the lot to fit around 700 cars. The company would also run the nearby Frontier Drive-In (later the Frontier Twin), the Rancho Drive-In (at Federal and Euclid), Chula Vista’s Big Sky Drive-In, and other local ozones. In 1958, with Midway’s stock averaging $2.82 per share, Sero had a falling out with partners at Shure and purchased most of the remaining stake in the theater. This eventually led to a dispute regarding dividends paid and whether they were applicable to a franchise tax assessment of $2,652.19 for the income year ending June 30, 1960. The matter was settled in May 1968 when the State Board of Equalization agreed to modify the franchise tax amount due by $1,249.

(continued on page 28)
In the early ’60s, the Midway enlarged its screen to 75 feet by 120 feet to better display widescreen CinemaScope features. Around the same time, the projection booth was outfitted for 70-millimeter film presentation (5-perforation wide gauge, with an aspect ratio of 2.35). The first 70mm screening was King of Kings, starring Jeffrey Hunter as Jesus, beginning April 11, 1962, and shown in "Super Technirama 70." A 70mm reissue of Oklahoma! ran at the Midway beginning April 25 and attracted big crowds but, by the time Spartacus debuted in 70mm at the Midway on May 23, the city’s third drive-in theater, the Rancho (opened January 1948), was also equipped for 70mm and was showing the same feature.

When M*A*S*H was screened in late June 1970, management apparently attempted a political statement by having the projectionist briefly turn off the film and instead run the audio from Lyndon Johnson’s speech of March 3, 1968, in which he stated that “I shall not seek, and I will not accept, the nomination of my party for another term as your President.” Customers leaning on their car horns may have been honking either in approval or complaint. The paved lot began seeing daytime use when Monte Kobey brought his San Diego Swap Meet to the locale in 1976. The graduate of Arizona State University (with degrees in advertising and marketing) had spent nine years working for radio and television stations before being named general manager of his father-in-law’s Phoenix company, Park & Swap. Reportedly, a mere 13 sellers and around 200 buyers showed up for Kobey’s inaugural swap meet on the Midway lot, though it eventually grew to be the third-largest outdoor market on the West Coast, attracting around 1000 sellers and over 30,000 shoppers each week. In 1979, Kobey’s Swap...
Meet moved to the Sports Arena parking lot, and for a time a farmer’s market was run in its stead at the drive-in.

By the late ’70s, the hollow walls surrounding the lot were infested with feral cats, who thrived on an even larger colony of rats, who did battle with employees over edible, drinkable, and sometimes smokable leftovers dropped all over the lot by customers. The Midway showed its last films in September 1981; Chariots of Fire and Mommie Dearest. The Midway Drive-In Corporation was officially dissolved in February 1987. After being torn down, the site became home to a shopping center with a Longs Drugs, a Ralpah, and a Denny’s. The area behind where the screen once stood housed a drive-through Heavenly Donuts for a while and later a Salazar’s Mexican restaurant.

The Lemon Bowl Cinema Dine opened at the beginning of 1948, San Diego’s second drive-in theater. Located on Federal Boulevard in Lemon Grove, the 1948–49 Theatre Catalog lists its original owners as C.E. Norcross, Suburban Theatres Inc. of Loma Linda, California. The lot included a restaurant, where everything from grilled-cheese sandwiches to seafood dinners was served, as well as prewarmed bottles of baby formula. The Cinema Dine’s characteristic red-and-white speakers frequently disappeared, either stolen or torn from poles by accidental drive-offs, and now traded for $50 and up on eBay and elsewhere. The speakers originally had a gold-colored button that summoned a waitress to your car so you could order a meal to be delivered on a tray attached to the window.

The Cinema Dine was apparently one of the first area drive-ins to experiment with Broadcasting film sound through AM radios in 1972, and an on-site miniature golf course was briefly advertised. This ozone was torn down even before the nationwide atrophy of drive-ins began, to make room for access to the 94 freeway.

San Diego’s third outdoor theater, the Ranch Drive-In, at the corner of Euclid and Federal, opened Wednesday, January 28, 1948, with a double feature of The Fabulous Texan and Exposed. Touted in ads as “America’s Most Beautiful Drive-In Theatre,” it accommodated 600 cars on 13 acres, with bench seats for around 300 walk-ins. Its 60–x 50-foot screen was at the time one of the largest in the country, requiring 30 cubic yards of concrete to support. Over 1000 tons of rock were used to grade the property, and it took nearly seven miles of cables to furnish sound to the...
speakers. The lower level of the screen building housed offices and storage rooms.

The mural on the back of the Rancho's green screen tower depicted a Mexican village, cacti, and a campesino with his ox cart. Animated at night by neon, the ox's head moved up and down as the cart's wheel turned, drawing motorists like moths toward the lights. The neon portion of the mural remained in service until being condemned as a fire hazard by the city in June 1976 (due to the hot neon being too close to aging wooden signage).

In 1955, there were seven Rancho Drive-Ins in the U.S. San Diego's Rancho was operated by the Oldknow family, whose history in film exhibition dates back to 1909. It was, in fact, the first business venture of William Oldknow, who went on to run theaters across the country (his family still runs the South Bay Drive-In, Atlanta's Starlight Drive-In, and others). William Oldknow's grandfather had opened the third- ever U.S. movie theater. William began as an usher at L.A.'s Beverly Theatre, later becoming a doorman at the nearby Westlake before changing courses to attend Harvard Military Academy and do a tour of duty as a Navy ensign.

"When I got out of the Navy in 1946, I got into the business, too," he told the San Diego Union in October 1978. "Euclid and Federal at that time was in county territory, and one of the reasons I built there was because the city had an amusement tax on theater tickets of, I think, five percent. We didn't want to charge that. Later, the tax was repealed, so we petitioned for annexation to the city in order to get city water. Our water came from a well, and it tasted awful."

After building the Rancho, Oldknow partnered with Sero Amusements, which owned the land the Frontier Drive-In would be built on. Before long, Sero hired Oldknow as company president. "As Sero went through some restructuring, and as various partners were bought out in the '50s, he came to own the company," says William's daughter Teri Oldknow, operations manager for De Anza Land & Leisure Corporation (as Sero came to be known after 1968). From the late '50s onward, Oldknow oversaw other local Sero properties, like the Frontier and Midway, the South Bay, the Del Mar, and Big Sky. Sero also held leases on area outdoor screens like the Aero Drive-In in El Cajon, plus Oldknow was running ozones in Pomona, Riverside, Ontario, L.A., Beaumont, Salt Lake City, and Tucson.

In 1957, the Rancho was the first local ozone to enlarge its original screen to 70' x 130', in order to show Cinema-Scope and other wide-screen films (the Midway Drive-In near Sports Arena soon followed). It was also the first area drive-in to display a 70mm film, with Madame debuting March 6, 1962 (Midway didn't show its first 70mm until April 11). On May 23, it "competed" with the Midway for Spartacus viewers interested in 70mm, though in reality both theaters were overseen by Oldknow and Sero.

"Cinema-Scope was really a creation of 20th Century Fox," says Teri Oldknow, "and my father's uncle-in-law was Spyros Skouras, the president of Fox, so I'm sure he talked my father into enlarging that screen and the Midway's. It was his job to convince us that Cinema-Scope and 70mm would be the next big thing." This would not prove to be the case. In 1978, Oldknow sold the Rancho Drive-In for just over $1 million to a La Mesa company, Alessio Leasing Inc., which had been renting part of the
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property for a used truck lot (Standard Oil leased another triangular corner of the lot for a filling station that partially obscured the neon screen mural). "That really breaks my heart," his daughter Teri says. "The Rancho was the first in a whole circuit of drive-ins we ran in California, Utah, Nevada, Arizona, and Atlanta, Georgia. I understand that, from a land-value aspect, the property was worth more to developers, but it still makes me sad."

She lays blame for the closure on several factors. "Gas prices went up in 1973, cars were getting smaller, and you had the decline of the urban single-screen theaters in favor of multiplex multiscreen theaters in the suburbs, in malls. Meanwhile, drive-ins built as cheaply as possible, 20 to 30 years ago, they’re getting more and more run down. Even the elaborate old screen murals and neon, these things weren’t built to last long."

William Oldknow is still alive and in the drive-in business. "Families are now watching the new shows on television," he said back in 1978, just before the Rancho was shut down. "So we decided to close. We never played X-rated films and tried to keep away from R-rated movies, although the last pictures at the Rancho are R-rated — Cinderella and Let’s Make a Dirty Movie — because not many family motion pictures are being produced." The Rancho Drive-In’s screen last flickered October 17, 1978. The property was later occupied by a Chevron station, a McDonald’s, and a Cox Communications building.

During intermissions, “Speedometer Bingo” numbers were announced over the speakers, with patrons winning snack-bar prizes when the last three digits on their speedometer matched the numbers called.

The Campus Drive-In at the corner of El Cajon Boulevard and College Avenue, and stretching to 61st Street, was a single-screen ozone originally built for 700 cars and 200 walk-ins (the seats were later removed, making room for up to 900 cars). The Campus Drive-In Corporation was formed August 7, 1947, and the theater itself opened the following year, charging 50 cents admission and giving out free popcorn during opening week. Sam J. Russo and Co-Op Theatres Inc. were listed as chief operators.

At the time, the Campus was one of the largest drive-in theaters on the West Coast. Signage on the back of the screen featured a 50- x 80-foot mural. Lit up at night by 1900 feet of piping installed by California Neon, it depicted a 46-foot-tall marching majorette, wearing an Indian headdress and spinning a baton that...
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appeared to twirl as she strutted in front of a depiction of SDSU’s old main building and bell-tower quadrangle, football goalposts, and mountains (one with a white S on it). The majorette was designed by Austin Linn Gray and Joe Schmidt, two San Diegans said to have based her on a photograph of Marion Caster Heatherly Baker, head drum majorette at San Diego High School in 1943 and later a majorette for the Los Angeles Rams.

A killing took place at the Campus on December 2, 1961. Snack-bar employee Tom O’Leary got into an argument with patron Dennis O’Conner. Things got increasingly heated, and O’Leary ended up pulling a knife on the patron and stabbing him to death. O’Leary was charged with unlawful killing and was found guilty of involuntary manslaughter. This didn’t satisfy O’Conner’s family, who filed a lawsuit against the Campus Drive-In Corporation, seeking damages for corporate negligence by maintaining that O’Leary committed the assault while acting in the course of his employment. The court eventually ruled that the Campus wasn’t a party to the manslaughter and thus shouldn’t be held liable, though appeals and motions regarding the judgment continued through 1967.

The original Campus Drive-In Corporation dissolved July 8, 1975, and soon the locale was being run by Eldorado Theatres, the same corporation that had opened the Ace Drive-In in Lemon Grove during the late ’60s. From the ’70s onward, screenings opened with a short film that featured a rippling American flag set to “The Star-Spangled Banner.” During intermissions, “Speedometer Bingo” numbers were announced over the speakers, with patrons winning snack-bar prizes when the last three digits on their speedometer matched the numbers called.

The Campus Drive-In closed in February 1983; the final two features were The Dark Crystal and a retread print (a second- or third-run film) of Dragonslayer. Before the drive-in’s demolition, the majorette portion of the screen mural was donated to the Save Our Neon Organization, which packed the sign in crates to store in a downtown warehouse. In 1985, the majorette was purchased for $4000 by William J. Stone and Associates, operators of Marketplace at the Grove, off Highway 94. The neon was restored at a cost of around $200,000 by El Cajon-based Integrated Sign Associates, and the majorette was reinstalled at the Marketplace, near the Mann Theatre. After the shopping center was renovated as College Grove Center, a relighting cer-
A ceremony was held March 10, 2000, reportedly attended by over 8000 people and covered by several local TV news crews. On July 2, 2001, the operators of College Grove Center, Vestar Development Company, donated the neon landmark to a company called SOHO (Save Our Heritage Organisation). Vestar has agreed to remain responsible for financial and physical maintenance of the sign and for keeping it lit at night in the shopping center. SOHO has an easement for access and the right to remove the majorette, although there are no plans to abandon the Center. The Campus majorette has been featured in photo spreads in *Time* and *Life*, as well as in numerous books and calendars. The shopping center that replaced the drive-in uses small reproductions of the majorette in building signage.

**The Del Mar Drive-In**

On Via de la Valle, across the street from the Del Mar Fairgrounds, opened in 1953 with space for 700 cars. Operated independently for its first two years, it was eventually run by William Oldknow and Sero Amusements, a company that hired him as president but which he'd come to own. "The Del Mar had a giant tiki sign on the entranceway that went right across the driveway," recalls Teri Oldknow, "with a giant catamaran painted with sort of tiki hatching. It was really cool."

From the start, the Del Mar decided to remain open seven nights a week, since many film studios at the time refused to provide new first-run films to theaters open weekends only. During most of the '50s, admission was $1 per carload on weekdays and 50 cents per person on weekends (children were free) — the real profits, as at most ozoens, were in the concession stand. As patron perks, they offered free baby-bottle warmers, and for a time, a "live monkey house" was advertised as being on the playground.

Sero was operating so many drive-ins that the speakers at the Del Mar and elsewhere were actually manufactured specifically for Sero and carried the company's imprint on the front of their metal casings. "We made them in Pomona with a company called Bevelite from the mid-'50s through about the late '60s," recalls Teri Oldknow. "They made the speakers for the Pacific Theatres, too." She says few of those audio relics remain in the company's possession, though they frequently turn up on eBay and elsewhere (fetching anywhere from $10 to $100 and up for wired kits, including stand-alone poles). "You'd think, of all companies, we would have realized how just plain cool the speakers were and would have kept them," she says.

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The Frontier Drive-In at 3601 Midway Drive, on the southwest corner of Midway and Kemper Street (between Rosecrans and West Point Loma Boulevard), was named for nearby Frontier Street (later Sports Arena Boulevard). Though opened in 1957, owner Sero Amusements actually bought the Frontier’s land in 1941, intending to build the city’s first ozone. An architect was commissioned, plans drawn, supplies purchased, and in early 1942 a building-permit application was in the works. Then the city, facing an acute housing shortage, condemned the land in order to put up the Frontier Housing Project, subsidized in part by the U.S. government. “Sero Amusement Company expected the land to be returned immediately after the war in 1946 and started drafting new plans,” William Oldknow said in an opening-day article about the Frontier in the Sentinel, a newspaper-style promo given out to opening-night attendees. “The government, however, did not release the property until May 1956.”

Construction finally began that summer on a lot intended to hold up to 1600 cars, but work couldn’t be completed until after August — a local Little League team was using a school fence still remaining on the property as a batting cage backdrop. After 16 years of waiting to use his land, Sero owner William Oldknow knew better than to engender bad local PR and agreed to delay building until baseball season was over. Meanwhile, construction superintendent Bill Post had to figure out a way to tear out the huge cement slabs that had been the housing project’s floors, as well as how to dismantle the more problematic cement-encased fuel tanks. There was also an overpopulation of gophers tearing up the land, resulting in Post jokingly offering company gardener Nito Chavez a 25-cent-per-gopher bounty. Chavez came up with around 100 critter corpses, and Post had to pay $25 out of pocket for the unbudgeted expense.

Local firm Haydock Construction, with offices on Meade Avenue, graded the land to gradually rise 16 feet in elevation from the front to the rear of the theater. Capital Electric Company installed the 20 miles of underground wiring needed to power small electric lights and speakers.
placed on each of the 750 posts scattered over the lot, requiring over 10,000 splices and connections. An underground transformer vault in the middle channeled 12,000 volts of electric power supplied by SDG&E. The all-metal screen structure was 75 feet high, with the screen itself measuring 121 feet wide and 52 feet high, painted with a polyvinyl plastic-based paint specially designed for ultra-white ozone screens (the job required around 100 gallons, over four coats).

With two box-office entrances (“No lines!”), the Frontier Drive-In opened Wednesday, April 10, 1957, with a first-run double feature: War Drums (“Their love sparked the west’s bloodiest massacre!”) and Revolt at Fort Laramie (“Screaming Sioux outside…soldier killing soldier inside!”). Opening-night admission was 90 cents for adults, 50 cents for juniors (12–15), and kids under 12 were admitted free.

Movie stars Robert Wagner and Natalie Wood made opening-night appearances on a makeshift stage in front of the snack bar, alongside actor/singer James Brown (not the Godfather of Soul, but rather Lt. Rip Masters on the kids’ TV show Rin Tin Tin), and Playboy’s Miss January 1957, June Blair (a former Miss Huntington Beach). Second-tier stars also on-site included Karen Sharpe, May Wynn, Jack Kelly, Beverly Tyler, Joanne Barnes, and Chet Marshall. Sero records show the celebs were flown in to Lindbergh Field, arriving at 4:30 p.m.; they later attended a post-appearance dinner party at the Mission Valley Inn. Robert Wagner, who’d made fewer than a dozen films and was working under a seven-year contract with 20th Century Fox, was presumably invited because he starred in The True Story of Jesse James, due to play the Frontier a week later, on April 17 (along with Alan Ladd’s Big Land).

At the time of its launch, there were around a half-dozen Frontier Drive-Ins in the U.S. This one was planned as direct competition for the nearby Midway Drive-In, though Sero eventually bought into that theater as well. Ads touted the Frontier’s CinemaScope screen (“Giant!”) and excellent sound (“Adjust volume yourself”), and patron perks included a bottle-warming service, free windshield towels, and a “mechanic on duty.” The Half Way House Restaurant, directly across the street, often shared advertising space with the theater.

Initially, the snack bar (built by Mission Valley’s R.E. Hazard Contracting and featuring 60 feet of Formica counter space) had an exclusive cola arrangement with Coke. Early ads promised quality...
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Both of the Big Sky’s exit paths were booby-trapped with a device called “Traffic-Trol.” This featured spring-loaded spikes that retracted when driven over by exiting cars but shredded the tires of larcenous gate-crashers attempting to enter the lot via the exit gates.

Ice cream and candy, pizza, XLNT brand tamales, chili dishes and toppings, and hot dogs that, as per Sero’s chainwide policy, were always “broiled, to give them that extra special flavor.” One offbeat item was described in ads as “new to San Diego… Tater Dogs, they are called, wiener wrapped in mashed potatoes and French fried. Delicious!”

A large kiddy playground with swings and slides was erected in front of the original screen, though the play-sets were later taken down and replaced with hand-spun merry-go-rounds, which seemed to fall quickly into dis-repair. “I think they had one of those mini-trains that kids could ride around in,” recalls Teri Oldknow. Several twilight talent shows were held on the property in the mid-60s, including one contest advertised as “The Search for Miss Loma Portal,” with a promised prize of “music lessons and gifts valued at over $100.”

By 1978, Sero had added a second screen and renamed it “the Frontier Twin Drive-In,” cutting capacity to around 750 cars per side. This second screen was often visible to moviegoers parked up the street at the Midway. “The Twin was really successful, so not too long after that they added a third and a fourth screen, both at the same time,” says Teri Oldknow. “Flexing to quads was really common then; it helped keep drive-ins competitive with the new multiplex mall theaters.” Double and triple features were (and remain) another lure usually offered only at oozes.

Around this period, multi-feature theme shows often ran from dusk till dawn, such as all-night Planet of the Apes marathons and back-to-back horror movies. Cult movies attracted cult crowds. I recall a late-’70s showing of Roller Boogie with countless paraders attempting to navigate the lot on roller skates, finding the graded hills fairly deadly to the knees and shins, much to the hysteria of my companions and me seated in theater-style chairs. The apartment complex was to pay the theater $500 a month for this privilege, but it’s unclear if construction on the movie room was ever completed before the Frontier shut down in September 1985. “That sounds like something De Anza would do,” laughs Teri Oldknow, “and, really, all they had to do was point the FM sound at the apartment building. There were always little side deals being made to squeeze a few extra dollars somehow.”

A December 3, 1985, city council meeting presided over by Mayor Roger Hedgecock detailed the rezoning of what was then referred to as “Midway Mall,” covering 15 acres of the Frontier Drive-In’s former property. The lot was eventually occupied by a shopping center.
1955 at 2245 Main Street in Chula Vista, its car capacity of 2000 made it one of the four largest ozone re-creation zones in the U.S. (Los Aitos in Long Beach held 2100 while the 41 Twin in Franklin, Wisconsin, and the Twin Open Air in Oak Lawn, Illinois, were the same size as the Big Sky.) One 1967 showing at this Sero Amusements property of The Undertaker and His Pals (motorcyclists device called “Traffic-Trol.” This featured spring-loaded spikes that retracted when driven over by exiting cars but shredded the tires of larcenous gate-crashers attempting to enter the lot via the exit gates. These indiscriminate car-killers became staples at most area ozone re-creation zones, though more than one enterprising miscreant figured out that short plywood ramps placed over the where at least one violent sexual assault occurred. An industrial park was eventually built on the property.

The Alvarado Drive-In at 7910 El Cajon Boulevard in La Mesa was located near Interstate 8, west of Baltimore Drive, with its entrance on the Boulevard. It seems to have opened in the early ’60s, though advertising for this ozone is scarce and details are hard to confirm. Its first appearance in the annual Theatre Guide books is 1961, listed as being operated by “Lanford & Long,” with a car capacity of 900. Early on, members and supporters of the Motion Picture Projectionist Local 297 picketed the Alvarado lot because non-union help was said to be running the booth equipment. Owners eventually agreed to switch to union projectionists. In July 1969, operators formed Alvarado Drive-In Theatre Inc. In January 1972, the business was purchased by Syfy Century Theatres Inc. of San Francisco, which ran several other indoor and outdoor California screens.

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Mann Theatres chain came to run this drive-in, if it didn’t outright own it. In the late ’70s, daytime Sunday church services were being held on the lot. The Alvarado appears to have closed around 1980, to be replaced by a Best market, a Godfather’s Pizza, an El Torito, and other strip-mall shops.

The Tu-Vu Drive-In at 5535 Kearny Villa Road, as its name implies, featured two screens and a total car capacity of 650. When the Tu-Vu opened in 1958, the snack bar had 80 feet of counter space, and two large picture windows on either side allowed patrons to keep an eye on both screens while lining up for snacks and drinks.

The lot was originally run by Empire Drive-In Theatres, who leased the property and purchased the equipment. On September 30, 1958, all the drive-in’s assets were transferred to the Tu-Vu Drive-In Corporation (incorporated September 22, 1958), owned by William D. Russo (listed as company president), along with a woman named Della M. Ashkins and a third party. Tu-Vu agreed to assume and pay the rental prescribed by the master lease; to assume and pay the equipment sales contract obligation, which amounted to $58,652.10; to pay into escrow the sum of $23,840, which was to be used to pay Empire’s creditors in full; and to pay $6160 toward additional construction work. Tu-Vu took possession of the theater, operated it and paid the prescribed rental (amounting to approximately $32,000); it paid between $30,000 and $35,000 on the conditional sales contract, and deposited about $30,000 into escrow.

By 1961, the Tu-Vu’s partnership dissolved into several lawsuits. At the time of Tu-Vu Drive-In Corp. v. Ashkins (61 C2d 283), plaintiff Russo owned 34 percent of the Tu-Vu Drive-In Corporation stock, defendant Ashkins owned 39 percent, and a third party owned 7 percent. The corporation, by the written consent of Russo as majority stockholder, had adopted a bylaw in 1960 stipulating that Tu-Vu shares could only be transferred to an outsider if the owner of those shares first offered them to the other shareholders, at the same price and under the same terms.

On December 7, 1960, Russo obtained an option to purchase Ashkins’ stock. Russo relinquished the option on January 7, 1961. Tu-Vu issued new stock certificates containing the new bylaw restriction, placing the certificates in escrow on January 31 with the commissioner of corporations. Apparently, neither Russo nor the corporation ever gave Ashkins actual notice of the new bylaw. Ashkins then went out shopping for an outside buyer for her shares, apparently unaware of the new requirement to...
first offer the stock to Russo and their other partner. On May 1, 1961, Ashkins granted an option to purchase her Tu-Vu stock to Sero Amusements, a competitor running several local drive-ins. Russo was upset and initiated a lawsuit against Ashkins July 20, 1961, seeking a declaratory judgment sustaining the validity of the bylaw that regulated the transfer of Tu-Vu shares. The trial court entered a judgment that Ashkins possessed a vested right to retain her shares free of restrictions upon alienation, i.e., she could sell her stock to whomever she wanted, whether or not she first offered it to fellow shareholders.

Unfortunately for Ashkins, the sale to Sero never did go through, as Sero chose not to exercise its purchase option and it expired April 30, 1963. The judgment in Ashkins’ favor was later reversed, and the trial court was directed to enter judgment declaring that the bylaw in question was valid and enforceable against defendant Ashkins.

During its final few years, the Tu-Vu held a flea market on its grounds during daylight hours before closing for good around 1978. The Tu-Vu Drive-In Corporation was officially dissolved November 25, 1981. A Denny’s and an industrial park later took up the drive-in’s former acreage.

The Aero Drive-In at 1470 E. Broadway in El Cajon opened in 1954, independently owned by D. Johnson. The equipment was leased from Sero Amusements and William Oldknow, who operated the drive-in for a time. Designed to fit just under 500 cars, the projection booth was built onto the snack bar and was located fairly close to the single screen, providing one of the brighter outdoor pictures in the area. For years, the Aero gave out raffle tickets with admission, distributing prizes (usually food) during intermissions, and it was among the first area theaters outfitted for AM radio sound in early 1973. Usually open only in the summer, a swap meet was run year-round on the premises beginning in the late ‘70s.

In 1990, Regan Myles and his Regan Group Inc. began running the Aero. The Vista-based company (which also operated the Harbor Drive-In in National City) was sued by the San Diego Union-Tribune over unpaid advertising, losing a judgment of $8645 in August 1992. The Aero lost another civil judgment in March 1993 over an unpaid loan and was required to pay $2264 to the San Diego Wholesale Credit Association.

In early 1999, after the drive-in’s original owner died, new owners decided the damaged screen (hit hard by the previous winter’s storms) wasn’t worth replacing. In June, a crane completed dismantling the screen, though the lot was still used for swap meets. In 2003, around 90 condo-style homes were built on the property.

The Harbor Drive-In at 3150 National Avenue (i.e., National...
City Avenue, near Highway 54) opened in 1949 with a single screen and built to hold 500 cars. It was operated independently for years by T.P. Huntington, whose firm Harbor Drive-In Theatres Inc. was launched January 15, 1948. The lot at 32nd and D Avenue was open through all seasons, and fables were a popular theater tradition beginning in the late '70s. The Harbor eventually broadcast with FM sound, and the speakers were removed, causing a steady stream of complaints from neighborhood drivers claiming that movie soundtracks hijacked their car speakers while soundtracks hijacked causing a steady stream of complaints from patrons with no FM sound in their cars, forcing them to rent a radio from the snack bar.

I first went to the Harbor on Christmas Eve, 1979, to see Steve Martin in The Jerk, though I was still carless (and essentially homeless) at the time. I recall it as a fairly easy drive-in to sneak into, and I managed to go unmolested for about a third of the film before a theater employee noticed me sitting and shivering up against a pole in a corner of the lot. I was making myself a peanut butter and jelly sandwich from supplies carried in a paper bag when the kid stepped up to me and started to ask me to leave. I must have looked particularly pitiful; no place to go and no family to be with on Christmas Eve, just me and my PB&J on a cold cement lot. He shook his head like a guy who’d just seen the ghosts of his own potential Christmases past, present, and future and decided not to kick me out. “Never mind. Merry Christmas,” he said and walked away, leaving me to enjoy the rest of The Jerk (which I did enjoy — this is a more fond than maudlin memory for me, such is my passion for ozones).

By the '90s, attendance at area ozones was rapidly declining, and the Harbor was hit particularly hard. In 1993, it was assessed a state tax lien of $1272, and its parent firm in Vista was eventually outvalues by the Harbor or its sister drive-in screenings long after the movies stopped generating profits. Little or nothing was put into upkeep in and around the theater lot, however, as it had become what outdoor screen operators refer to as a “land bank,” i.e., a way of keeping a piece of property extant, with minimal expenditure and for as long as possible, for the sole purpose of maximum sales value. The land itself eventually outvalues any business the owners care or can afford to launch. By 2000, the Harbor had become one of the shabbier California ozones among an often-motley cadre of scarred survivors.

In 2001, a new marquee was built to replace the increasingly tattered original. Though Tuesday nights usually boomed thanks to a $7-per-carload special, the Harbor eventually lost a long-running battle against the nearby South Bay Drive-In and went dark around 2003. A flea market still runs on the property, for which the old drive-in space is used as a parking lot.

The South Bay Drive-
In, open since 1958 at 2170 Coronado Avenue, is one of only two San Diego drive-ins remaining in operation today. One mile north of the border and with space for up to 1500 cars, it was another William Oldknow/Sero Amusements venture (still run by Oldknow’s company, now called De Anza Land & Leisure Corporation). Originally called the Bayview and sporting a single screen, in the mid-’70s the South Bay added two more screens. Most of the speaker poles were phased out for AM sound in 1972, and then FM beginning in the early ’80s (movies are currently broadcast in stereo, via FM only). The snack bar has been renovated a few times, most recently sporting a nautical theme, with the entire concession building painted blue and white and designed to resemble a ship, portholes and all.

Local legend has it that actor Matthew Modine used to work at the South Bay. “Actually, that was his father, Mark Modine, who worked for us,” laughs De Anza operations manager Teri Oldknow. “That was in the ’70s, and they had, like, eight kids who all grew up at the drive-in. His sister still works there to this day.”

When I mention to Oldknow my recollection of how run-down this drive-in got in the early ’80s — with frequent gang activity, drug trade, and other scary goings-on — she says, “I know it was bad. There were plans to sell around that time. I wasn’t with the company then, but the attitude was kind of like ‘We’ll just let it go long enough to get a good offer and then sell it.’ I started here in 1996, and that was one of my big pushes, to revive places like that and make them better than ever. If you manage a drive-in properly, you keep it fun, keep it clean, keep it safe, there’ll be so much business you’ll have to turn customers away.” The company also runs the six-screen Redwood in Salt Lake City, the four-screen Mission in Pomona, the four-screen De Anza in Tucson, and the three-screen Van Buren and three-screen Rubidoux in Riverside, California.

The De Anza company really goes all out for the Starlight Drive-In near Atlanta. This well-advertised ozone regularly hosts pop-culture conventions and car shows on its lot during the day, and frequent “Drive-In Madness” theme-athons (often with live band performances) run all night long. “We had [exploitation filmmaker] Dave Friedman there last year for Blood Feast,” Oldknow says.

“He’s offices used to be across the street from ours in L.A., and we’d share the same screening room. We can get away with that at the Starlight because it’s an industrial area with no neighbors but a ceme-
tery and a landfill. We can’t do adventurous stuff like that at the South Bay because we’re surrounded by residential properties. Neighborhood people are going to complain no matter what you do, so we’re reluctant to have that kind of pro-

gramming there. I’d like to, though, maybe timed around the Comic-Con.”

A swap meet has run on the lot since April 1977, operated by the drive-in’s owners rather than being leased out as at other area ozoens. It appears to have been the area’s third drive-in swap meet (Midway began leasing to Monte Kobey’s swap meet the previous summer, and the Valley Drive-In held an Oceanside flea market as far back as 1971). “That’s why the South Bay survived,” says Old-

know. “There was that early recognition of how to turn daytime use into profits on the property. There’s no overhead for a swap meet, whereas we’re paying 50 percent of our box office take to the studio for movies. Swap meets were the only thing enabling most drive-ins to survive the ’80s. We’re charging money for parking spaces and keeping all the proceeds…this was so profitable that it would be difficult for other businesses to compete for the property.”

The main screen number one at the South Bay blew down during the early 2003 winter storms and had to be replaced that spring, at a cost of around $60,000. In summer 2005, a new T&lchnalight installation was done on the projectors for all three South Bay screens. “That increased the picture brightness from five to nine times brighter,” says Oldknow, “so it’s as bright as any indoor screen now.” Open seven nights a week, 52 weeks a year (admission $6 per person, children

nine and under free), it may be the only drive-

in in the U.S. to serve menuدو.

The Santee Drive-In at 10990 North Woodside Avenue remains open today, still operated by the same family that built it in 1958, James and Patti Henry, along with sometime partner Joe Crowder (who has also owned drive-ins in Escondido and Oceanside). With two 1.85:1 ratio screens facing each other and room for 700 cars, it’s open seven nights a week and at this writing charges $6 per person.

### INTERMISSION

**1982:** Around 2130 drive-ins still standing.

**1987:** Around 1000 drive-ins operating.

**1990:** Only about 900 drive-ins remain open.

**December 1997:** 815 outdoor screens remain.

**1999:** United Drive-In Theatre Owners association formed.

**June 2005:** 419 drive-ins operate nationwide.

**Present:** In the past 15 years, around 40 drive-in theaters have reopened and about two dozen new ones have been built. At this writing, California has 21 drive-ins operating with a total of 50 screens. The owners of the South Bay Drive-In, De Anza, will have a 50th-anniversary reopening ceremony August 5 for their four-screen Mission Drive-In in Pomona (now the Mission Tiki), with live bands, a hot rod show, vendor booths, and all-night cult movies. “The theater got very run down, but I completely redesigned it and refurbished the marquee to reflect the same tiki theme as the old Del Mar Drive-In,” says Teri Oldknow. “I really loved that place. It totally inspired me to make over the one in Pomona, with the same great ’50s patio-culture theme.”

— Jay Allen Sanford

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**MISSING ENDANGERED ADULT Rachael Bowers Bennett**

**San Diego, CA**

**Found April 7, 2006**

- **Missing Since:** 3/7/2006
- **Height:** 5’6”
- **Weight:** 110 lbs.
- **Age Missing:** 41
- **Eye Color:** Blue
- **Hair Color:** Blonde
- **Race:** White
- **Sex:** Female

Rachael was last seen on 3/7/06 by an in-law in University City. According to this in-law, who does not want her name mentioned, Rachael was wearing a blue sweater and khaki pants. Rachael’s vehicle was found at a parking lot in the 3800 block of Santa Claus Lane, at a beach in Carpenito (Santa Barbara County) approximately 200 miles from where she disappeared. Her purse, keys, cell phone and other personal belongings were found in the vehicle.

Update: Rachael’s partial remains were found on April 7, 2006 approximately 30 days after she disappeared in the water off a beach in Carpenito, not too far from where her vehicle was found. Rachael was the mother of three very precious children. Rachael’s parents are concerned about the questionable circumstances surrounding Rachael’s disappearance and subsequent death. Rachael’s parents say their daughter would never have gone willingly into the frigid waters the day she disappeared, and they are offering a reward for information concerning Rachael’s questionable disappearance and death.

$5,000 reward for information regarding the questionable circumstances surrounding Rachael’s disappearance and subsequent death. An additional $10,000 reward is being offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of any suspects who may have been involved in Rachael’s disappearance and death.

You can call the anonymous tips hotline at 817-501-9296 or e-mail tips to unrartips@ relacion.com.

**E-mail:** unrartips@unrarteam.org • **Website:** www.unrarteam.org

**Prepared by United Response Search and Rescue Team

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**Prepared by United Response Search and Rescue Team**
The last time I attended, there were still two rows of speakers on poles, and films were also broadcast in FM sound, though I understand the speakers have now been removed. The orange-painted bathrooms can be a little dicey, but their snack-bar food is surprisingly edible and affordable. A daytime swap meet has run on the lot since July 1982 (at the time, the Henrys formed a separate corporation to run this endeavor, but it’s now owned by a separate unconnected party). The swap meet’s current operators feature monthly shows themed for ham-radio enthusiasts and sports-equipment traders.

Santee employees say they still have to be vigilant about gate-crashers. “When we see them going over a fence, we wait until they get to a car and kick them all out,” says assistant manager Matt Jarbo. “Nobody comes in the trunk anymore. From the ticket booth, I call in the license numbers of any cars with a single driver. We’ll have a security guard walk past, see if the driver’s the only one in there. If not, we walk up and talk to them. Sometimes they’ll say, ‘I lost my receipt, we came together’ and get all helligerent. We just step away and say, ‘You’re trespassing, we can call the sheriff,’ and they usually just leave.” Another employee says, “There’s a big dent in the fence from somebody we kicked out. They came around the corner and just rammed the fence and left. They even tried to run me and Little Jeff over. We jumped up on the curb as they zoomed on past. I think they did more damage to their car than the fence.”

I recall arriving early at the Santee on April 20, 1999, I think for a showing of Jawbreaker. The staff was used to seeing me stake out a speaker pole near the front rows, where I’d sit with the convertible top down and usually work on whatever drawing or writing project had been due the previous weekend. It was still daylight, and the speakers near the screen and alongside the snack bar broadcast a local oldies station. Several other early arrivals were playing the music along in their cars, so the whole lot echoed and reverberated to the same sounds, coming from all directions at once, a multisourced auditory experience only attainable on certain drive-in lots, right about at twilight. Suddenly, the music was interrupted by an all-too-detailed breaking news report on the Columbine school shootings.

I remember looking around and seeing everyone on their own individual little auto islands, everybody pale and still, nobody speaking or moving for what seemed like several moments. Then children started crying, a slowly rising cacophony that didn’t seem to be moving as a single entity. It was an extraordi-
Anxiety
doesn't just stress your mind.

We know it can ...  
• Decrease your immune response • Decrease your physical and mental functioning
• Increase fats in the bloodstream • Be mistaken for medical conditions
• Interfere with sleep

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

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

Qualified participants:
• Will receive up to $450 for time and travel.
• Receive no-cost study-related medication and study-related medical care.
• No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.

Depression
steals more than your mood; it robs you of life's pleasures.

Are you over 18 years old and finding life hard to tolerate? Has your energy and motivation to enjoy your life decreased? Do you find even simple pleasures empty?

California Clinical Trials has been assisting the pharmaceutical industry with finding new medications for depression over the past 20 years. Every study conducted by California Clinical Trials is staffed by a team of skilled and experienced, caring 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 $700 for your participation.
• You receive no-cost study-related medication and medical care.
• No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.

I fall asleep, but once I wake up...I am up!

• Restless sleep disturbs the normal rhythms of the body.
• When sleep difficulties become a regular problem it can affect your health.
• If you wake up in the middle of the night and can't go back to sleep, you are not getting a full night of sleep.

If you have chronic problems returning to sleep after waking up in the middle of the night, you may qualify for a research study in our state-of-the-art sleep clinic and receive an investigational medication for poor sleep. Every study conducted by California Clinical Trials is staffed by a team of skilled and experienced physicians and medical professionals trained to place your comfort and well-being first.

Qualified participants:
• Will receive up to $2300 for time and travel.
• Receive study-related medication and study-related medical care at no cost to you.
• No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.

Come Sleep With Us
If you are between the ages of 21 and 50 and in good health, spend 1 night in our sleep lab and be compensated up to $450.

If you are between the ages of 21 and 50, in good health and interested in participating in a sleep research study of an investigational medication for healthy adults with normal sleep, call California Clinical Trials at 858-571-1188 for additional information.

Qualified volunteers will have 2 office visits and 1 overnight visit and be compensated up to $450 depending on level of involvement in the study.
For Men and Women Who Suffer From...

Genital Herpes

A 1-year clinical research study is underway to evaluate an investigational medication for genital herpes. Approximately 22% of adults in the United States are positive for genital herpes. Genital herpes is one of the most common sexually transmitted diseases in the world. If you are a male or female suffering at least 4 episodes a year, over the age of 18 and in good health, you may be eligible.

To qualify you must:
• Have had 4 or more episodes of genital herpes in the past year (or 4 or more in the year before you started suppressive therapy in the past)
• Be a healthy adult 18 years or older

Qualified participants will receive:
• Examination and consultation with a board-certified physician
• All study-related medications, labs and cultures
• Compensation for your time and travel

The Medical Center for Clinical Research
Call 619-521-2841

R E S E A R C H S T U D I E S

Trouble staying asleep?
Don’t feel rested when you wake up?

A research study is currently being conducted by Pacific Sleep Medicine Services for individuals who are experiencing sleep problems throughout the night.

If you are at least 18 years old, you can be considered to participate in a clinical research trial on insomnia.

Study-related care is provided at no charge to participants. This includes a physical exam, sleep exams, laboratory services and study medication.

Qualified participants will also receive up to $1,350 for completion of the study.

For more information, please contact:

Pacific Sleep Medicine Services
1-877-92-SLEEP
1-877-927-5337
Do you have trouble sleeping?

Are you:
- 18 years of age or older?
- History of insomnia for at least 4 weeks?
- Having difficulty staying asleep?
- Sleeping less than 6.5 hours at least 4 nights per week?
- In good general health?

Synergy Clinical Research is looking for volunteers for a medical research study of an investigational medication for insomnia.

Qualified participants may receive investigational medication, study-related physical exams and compensation for time and travel.

If interested, please contact:
Synergy Clinical Research Center
619-327-0155

Are you suffering from Schizophrenia?

If you have been diagnosed with Schizophrenia and your current medication is not helping you, you may qualify to participate in a research study being conducted by doctors in your area.

To participate, you must be willing to switch from your current therapy to an FDA-approved study drug.

What is Schizophrenia?
A disorder of the brain that can cause abnormal thinking, hallucinations (seeing things or hearing voices), emotional withdrawal, and other symptoms.

What can I expect if I participate?
You will receive the following at no charge: professional medical examinations and study drug, lab results, and other information about your health.

To learn more, call:
Synergy Research
1-888-619-7272 or 619-327-0155

Depression Research Study

If you have been previously diagnosed and treated for depression and in recent months you are experiencing a recurrence of similar or increased symptoms, you may be eligible to participate in a clinical research study.

Those symptoms may include feeling sad or empty, feeling worthless or guilty, decreased interest in activities you once enjoyed, difficulty concentrating, weight loss, difficulty sleeping or lack of energy.

Call
Synergy Research
1-888-619-7272

BIPOLAR DEPRESSION

Do you...
- Feel sad or anxious
- Have feelings of hopelessness
- Feel tired, lack energy or are unmotivated
- Have difficulty concentrating or making decisions
- Feel restless or irritable
- No longer have interest in once pleasurable activities

If you are experiencing some of these, you may be eligible for a research study.

Some qualifications are:
- Aged 18-65 years
- Non substance/alcohol dependent
- Using reliable contraceptive
- Not pregnant or lactating
- Non diabetic

For more information, please contact:
Synergy Clinical Research
1-888-619-7272

Listen to “Tomorrow’s Health Today Show” on CASH 1700 AM Radio every Saturday morning from 11 am to 12 noon, sponsored by Synergy Clinical Research Center.
Do You Have Diabetes and Pain in Your Arms or Legs?

Diabetic Peripheral Neuropathy can affect the nerves in the arms, hands, feet, and legs.

Symptoms of Peripheral Neuropathy include:
- Numbness or insensitivity to pain or temperature
- A tingling, burning or prickling sensation
- Sharp pains
- Extreme sensitivity to touch
- Loss of balance and coordination

Pacific Sleep Medicine is conducting a research study to evaluate the effectiveness of an investigational medication for the treatment of painful peripheral neuropathy. All study-related exams, tests, labs, and an investigational formulation of a currently marketed medication will be provided at no cost. Subjects will be paid for their travel expenses.

If you have Type 1 or Type 2 Diabetes and have pain in your arms, hands, feet, or legs, ask your doctor about joining this study.

For more information on these and other clinical studies, call (toll-free): 877-927-5337

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

"You mean, I may help advance medical research?"

Yes. Covance is seeking healthy volunteers to participate in clinical research studies. To qualify you must:

- be age 18 to 45
- be a female
- be on oral contraception
- be able to participate in overnight stays

You may be compensated up to $7,400 for your time and travel.

Call Mon-Fri for more information
1.866.818.3253 (English)
1.866.977.8322 (Spanish)
9665 Chesapeake Dr., Suite 200, San Diego, CA
www.radiantresearch.com

Do you find yourself nodding off during the day?

A research study for an investigational medication for insomnia is taking place. You may qualify for this study:

- If you are over 18 years of age

- If you experience difficulty staying asleep and difficulty during the day due to sleepiness

Do you find yourself nodding off during the day? A research study for an investigational medication for insomnia is taking place. You may qualify for this study:

- If you are over 18 years of age

- If you experience difficulty staying asleep and difficulty during the day due to sleepiness

If you qualify for this study, you will receive investigational medication or placebo and study-related physical exam at no charge.
Are you a smoker with diabetes?

We are recruiting smokers with diabetes for a clinical trial of an investigational inhaled insulin. If you were diagnosed with diabetes, taking insulin and have been smoking for at least 5 years, you may be eligible to participate. Transportation and compensation of up to $500 for your time are provided.

To find out more, call toll-free:

1-866-308-7427
San Diego area
We’re trying to get a leg-up on Osteoarthritis

You may be able to help...
If you or someone you know has pain from Osteoarthritis of the Knee, we are currently seeking men and women to participate in an important clinical research study.

Call Synergy Research: 1-888-619-7272
www.arthritisoftheknee.com

Do you or someone you care for suffer from DEPRESSION?
Common symptoms include:

- Sadness and/or irritability
- Loss of pleasure or interest in usual activities
- Changes in sleep patterns, appetite, and energy levels

Optimum Health Services is conducting a clinical research study in depression. If you are between the ages of 18-65 and are experiencing symptoms of depression you may be eligible to participate. Eligible participants will receive:

- All study-related procedures, including psychiatric assessments, physical examinations, laboratory tests, monitoring and ongoing evaluations, and experimental study drug at no cost.
- Compensation for time and travel may be available.

For more information about this clinical research study, please call: 888-290-9255

Research Studies

Morena Care Group
We are an organization specializing in compassionate, discreet assistance to patients in compliance with Health and Safety Code 11362.5 under Prop. 215 and SB 420.

For more info: 619-876-1146
1931 Morena Blvd
San Diego, CA 92110
Visa/MC accepted • ASA approved

Are You Still Experiencing Pain Even Though Your Shingles Have Healed?

Pacific Sleep Medicine Services is conducting a research study of an investigational medication for the treatment of pain following shingles (post herpetic neuralgia).

Qualified participants receive:

- Study medication and examinations
- Reimbursement for time and travel.

For more information, please contact:
877-927-5337

Pacific Sleep Medicine Services
Bridging the paths of medicine and science™
equipment wasn’t being made anymore that allowed for a nice, bright picture on outdoor screens.”

He says the swap-meet business has proved too lucrative for him to give up the property. “They call us Little Tijuana. The old drive-in lot is pretty much the main gathering place for Hispanics on the weekends up here.” Beginning in late 2004, the locale underwent around $10 million worth of improvements, including a large children’s playground and picnic areas near the “food court,” which consists of around 15 vendors on any given weekend afternoon. The swap meet (incorporated October 1999) has been periodically raided by immigration officials rounding up suspected undocumented workers.

The Mission Drive-In at 30002 Del Obispo Street in San Juan Capistrano was owned by William Foreman’s Pacific Theatres and featured a mural of a mission on the back of its screen, visible from the highway. It appears to have opened in the early ’60s and closed around 1985.

The Vista Drive-In on Thunder Drive at Highway 78 in Vista, operated by Western Amusement Company, originally had booths on the speakers that summoned a carhop so you could order food. It appeared to have been periodically raided by immigration officials rounding up suspected undocumented workers.

Bipolar Disorder/Manic Depression Study

Affiliated Research Institute is currently seeking volunteers for a clinical research study of an investigational medication for the treatment of Bipolar illness (Manic/Depression).

Qualifications include:
- At least 18 years old
- Currently experiencing a “manic” or “mixed” (depression and manic symptoms at the same time) episode of your illness

Qualified participants:
- Receive all medication and study related medical care at no cost.

To learn more about this study or to schedule an appointment with our staff, call us today:
(619) 688-6565
See our website: www.ari-inc.com

ANXIETY STUDY

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

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.

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

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?
If you or someone you know is experiencing any of these symptoms, you may be suffering from Bipolar Disorder (also known as Manic Depression) and Alcoholism.

Qualified participants:
- Receive all medication and study related medical care at no cost.

For more information or to schedule an appointment with our staff, call us today:
(619) 688-6565
See our website: www.ari-inc.com

Social Anxiety Disorder?

Affiliated Research Institute is evaluating an investigational medication for Social Anxiety Disorder. Affiliated Research Institute has 25 years of experience in managing clinical studies. To qualify for this research study, you need to be at least 18 years of age. If you qualify, you will receive study-related medical care at no cost. You may be compensated for time and travel as well.

Are you sad due to Bipolar Disorder?

We are currently seeking volunteers for a clinical research study of an approved medication 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
- Be experiencing symptoms of depression

Qualified participants will receive at no cost:
- Monitoring of bipolar and depressive symptoms
- Medical and lab exams
- Study medication

For more information or to schedule an interview to see if you qualify, please contact:
(619) 688-6565
See our website: www.ari-inc.com
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.

**RESOURCES**

**Opiates**

Desperate to find the help you need? Have you failed at opiate treatment before? We feel your frustration!

Opiate dependency is a condition that is treatable.

We will help you develop a plan to achieve the life you envision, always with respect and dignity.

Call us today for your free analysis.

**Progressive Medical Specialists**
4974 El Cajon Boulevard, Suite A, San Diego
Call: 877-338-4600
www.pms911.com

**ARE YOU TOO SHY?**

- Do you get VERY NERVOUS around new people?
- Do you often WORRY about embarrassing yourself?
- Do you AVOID going to social events and speaking in front of people?
- Do you think that shyness causes PROBLEMS for you at home, work or school?

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 (877) UCSD-SHY (877-827-3749) or e-mail veryshy@ucsd.edu.

Clinical care will be provided and you may receive monetary compensation.
all kinds of crazy things, and then there would be homeless people jumping over the fence too.” Regarding owners John and Robert Siegel, he says, “At one time, they had a theater in Coronado and they owned almost every theater in Oceanside and Escondido. The Crest, the Paramount, the Cinema Plaza; they ran any place that showed movies.”

The Valley went to weekends-only in the mid-‘90s, becoming increasingly run-down. Especially scary was the urinal trough of indeterminate color (shudder). The Valley stopped screening movies altogether after the 1999 season, with the last admission price $4.50 per person. All four screens were left standing, and the snack bar remains today, with the original popcorn and ice machines still intact. “We used to have the posters, the ones we didn’t have to send back to Hollywood,” says Ramirez, “but somebody broke in and stole them all.” A successful swap meet has been held on the site since 1971, eventually growing to over 1000 vendors. In the early ‘90s, the owners, the

RESEARCH STUDIES

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Siegel Brothers, were working with a developer to turn the parcel into a $150 million shopping center. However, the project never passed muster at City Hall, mostly because City planners were focused on redeveloping the downtown area.

The Valley lot and surrounding property owned by the Siegels totaled 145 acres. Around summer 2004, the City of Oceanside apparently decided the drive-in property was indeed desirable. City agencies were accused by the swap-meet company of applying pressure to break their lease and abandon the property. Sellers were required to use fire retardant canopies and to refrain from parking vehicles in the sales area unless their gas tanks had less than five gallons of gas and their batteries were disconnected. Even the IRS got in on the action, levying a $72,062 tax lien on Oceanside Drive-In Swap Meet operators.

In December 2004, the Oceanside City Council reported that the Siegels had agreed to sell the city a five-acre parcel of the Valley property for $3.3 million, to put up a fire station and drill wells. This small land plot was isolated from the larger theater lot by construction of the state Route 76 expressway. In January 2005, the Siegels reportedly sold the remaining Valley property for commercial development.

— Jay Allen Sanford

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The whole idea of “a neighborhood” is an enchanting one. It elicits thoughts of comfort and familiarity, an unaltering netting for the act of growing up. But when I tell people I grew up in Ocean Beach, they gasp and say, “I didn’t know anyone was from Ocean Beach.” I just know they’re envisioning that I was a child of hash-smoking parents living in a squalid shanty, being warned of bad trips and the draft and that I’ve survived well that prison of alternative lifestyles. Not so. Not even close.

The southwest corner of Brighton Avenue and Venice in Ocean Beach was less a slice of my neighborhood than it was the pivot of my entire universe when I was growing up. Like other neighborhoods, we had a gang, but unlike the menacing neighborhood armies of today, our gang was devoted to bugging each other instead of other people.

At its peak, there were nine girls: me, my sister Gail, Lisa (who was always going to be my best friend), Janice (the tomboy), Cory (the old child), Michelle (who was forever practicing to be a cheerleader for Sacred Heart Academy), Joanie, and Steve (who were brothers), another Mark, Stevie (who was Lisa’s little brother), and Tommy (Joanie’s little brother who had muscular dystrophy and could only come out on his good days).

Holly and Vickie (who moved early on in the gang’s formation). There were also eight boys: my brothers Tim and Tom (the twins), and Ted, Mark, and Steve (who were brothers), another Mark, Stevie (who was Lisa’s little brother), and Tommy (Joanie’s little brother who had muscular dystrophy and could only come out on his good days).

There were more of us Griswolds than any other kids, and though there were the ongoing attempts at adolescent sarcasm and sibling violence, we tended to enjoy each other’s company. At the time when Griswolds ruled the neighborhood, in 1970, none of us was older than 14. And none of the kids in the gang lived farther than a block away.

We used to hang out at that corner in the summer, and in the evening during daylight savings time, and practice the most potent delinquency we could muster, which mostly included trying to inhale cigarettes in the Catalina canyon and stealing plums from Mrs. Thompson’s tree that hung over the alley.

In those days, there was a canyon that existed behind the houses along Venice and extended down to Catalina. The canyon was our private playground, with bike trails and gopher holes, and on the south end of the huge lot there was a real live donkey in a rickety wooden pen.

We’d pick tar out of the repaired...
cracks of the white concrete streets and chew on it. If we weren’t waiting for Mr. Lucas, the ice cream man with the aloha shirts, we’d be sneaking off to Speedee Mart for a Slurpee and the collector’s button that came with it.

In 1970, my brothers put Rat Fink decals on their model cars, while my sister and I put Rikki-Tikki-Stikki daisies on everything.

All of this could’ve happened in Clairemont, for God’s sake. But it didn’t. It was in Ocean Beach.

Nineteen seventy was the year my father was elected president of the Ocean Beach Town Council. Shortly after gaining the post, he resigned from office. The reason, as quoted in the beach area’s semimonthly newspaper, The Peninsula, was his “five little demands.” Specifically, me, my three brothers, and my sister. We were his five little demands that prevented him from taking reins of a simmering liberal community on the edge of boiling over into full radicalism.

I was ten years old in 1970. My parents fully understood the responsibility of being parents to five children (ages 10, 11, 13, 13, and 14) in Ocean Beach at such an intense time and rose to the occasion — a rare blend of the Zappas and the Cleavers. They did volunteer work for the In-Between, a storefront outreach center on Newport Avenue for the refugees of the San Diego Nixon years — the strung out, the poor and pregnant, the unemployed, the homeless, and the battered. My parents led protests and risked getting arrested when the Army Corps of Engineers seized the part of the flood-control channel frequented by Ocean Beach families. (Families used to call it “The Mushy Place” where toddlers could play in the ocean far from the crush of the waves. The Army Corps of Engineers was sent to build a jetty to facilitate flood control, a problem that hadn’t plagued this area in some time.)
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My parents took us to walk precincts for the candidates who confirmed a sense of integrity and a grasp on human values. One of the candidates that my parents held up as a symbol of what could (at that time) be good with government was Maureen O’Connor, who demonstrated her sincerity by placing a single-digit ceiling on campaign donations. Another was Jack Walsh, continually called a “maverick” by the local press, which we thought was cool.

In that year, in 1970, our family took a trip up the coast in our camper to Canada. On the way, we stopped in San Francisco. I can remember my parents driving by the Haight-Ashbury Free Clinic and yelling for us kids to look out the window, that this was a symbol of great history.

My parents were as devoted to raising responsible kids as they were to preserving a free society within the boundaries of Ocean Beach. Mom was a room mother for all five of us kids at one time or another. She was a volunteer at O.B. Elementary’s Learning Center. Among other offices, she was president of the PTA, which later earned her the equivalent of a PTA lifetime achievement award. She tutored slow readers and taught back-yard swim. Until we became brand-conscious and protested, Mom even made all of our clothes. (There’s a favorite picture of mine that my Dad took around 1966, when we’re all dressed up in Mom-made clothes. The boys have their hair smoothed back in Brylcreem waves better than McGarrett ever had. Tom is harassing Ted, Tim is making a goofy face, and my sister, with her Gidget flip, is pretending she liked me. We’re in front of our house, and Mom looks a little flustered and a little amused. That’s how we always looked growing up, and even today in family pictures.)

Dad was on the founding committee of the Peninsula YMCA, principally started when the city denied Ocean Beach a municipal swimming pool and directed inquiries to the Plunge instead. He was a Little League coach who routinely pissed off parents with his democratic approach to managing the team (if John Gates, who tried really hard in 60 San Diego Reader July 6, 2006

HEALTH AND BEAUTY

They both held firmly to the white-picket-fence dream and were hell-bent on raising an outstanding, if not well-rounded, American family.
right field, wanted to take a crack at pitching, then by all means, he should be given the chance. He used to take us to hear Sam Hinton sing, and he even attended lectures by authors like Scott O’Dell at the downtown library. We went to Zoo classes every summer, and I even enrolled us all, for a time, in the Scripps Junior Oceanographic Corps.

I'm not sure why my parents pursued such an ecclectic upbringing for us. It could be because they were both products of the beach area, too, and saw the potential for a perfect childhood there. Mom's family was from Ocean Beach from Michigan when she was four. She made her first Communion at Sacred Heart on Sunset Cliffs Boulevard, the same church where she and my Dad were married and where all of us kids were baptized, made our first Communion, and were confirmed. In 1970, there was a cool priest at Sacred Heart, Father Sproul from Wales, who chain-smoked and spoke with a dreamy accent. With Father Sproul, anonymity during confession was out of the question because he knew us all by the sound of our voice. We were hustled with each sin, but then again, instead of assigning the parroting of prayers for penance, he'd tell us to do something nice and thoughtful for someone in our family. My dad’s family came out from Chicago and moved to Mission Beach when he was under two years old. He was a street-wise, skinny beach punk who was just the fodder to be one of the first members of OMBAC. He played pee-wee basketball and dated older girls until my Mom came along.

How my parents met was no ordinary story, friends of friends, love at first sight, all at a bowling alley on Garnet in Pacific Beach. The important thing is they both held firmly to the white-picket-fence dream and were hell-bent on raising an outstanding, if not well-rounded, American family. That we were, and that we are still trying to be.

My parents moved the family to Ocean Beach in 1961, into a five-bedroom split-level house with a view to Mt. Soledad that cost them what they thought was a lifetime of fortunes: $18,000. It was on the south side of Brighton Avenue. It took me until 1970 to understand that when my Dad said we were going to “Sunny-Two-Thousand-Pounds,” he meant we were going home to Brighton Avenue. They moved us to Ocean Beach because they wanted their kids to be exposed to a variety of people and ages, rather than the virtually identical families my mother said surrounded us in tract housing.

In our neighborhood, there was a house on our block where a purported suicide by hanging took place. It gave it wide berth when we passed. And two doors down from the hanging house was this great three-storied structure where crazy Old Lady May lived. We heard her husband was trying to sell the house and put her in...
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A rest home. He locked her in the cellar when the real estate people came by for the papers to be signed. When he let her out, she went berserk and beat him so badly she broke his arm.

In 1970, my brothers dominated the Ocean Beach paper-route circuit for blocks and blocks. They all had morning routes, so they got up at 5:30 to fold and deliver the papers on their Stingray bikes. On Christmas morning that year, Tim dressed up as Santa Claus, hoping to keep a fantasy alive for a few early-rising kids. He delivered his papers pulled behind him in a red wagon rather than on his Stingray. He only caught the eye of a few sleepy kids up on Santa Barbara Street, but there was one lady on Santa Monica who was curious by his efforts and took his picture and gave him a good tip that month.

The next year, Tom and Ted traded their early paper routes for early-morning surfing, and Tim discovered his talent as a guitar player.

Meanwhile, Gail, who was the oldest, got a job working at the bakery next to Paras Book Shop. It was actually both a bar and grill and a bakery. Gail used to bring home a dozen of their wonderful Angel Cookies as a bribe to get me to clean her side of the room before Mom and Dad’s frequent deadlines ran out. The bakery is now a florist shop, and no one has been able to duplicate the recipe for the wonderful Angel Cookies.

I inherited a few of Gail’s babysitting jobs (with my Mom’s rules: only on weekends, only during the day, and only if the kids were older than four), and I had a little money of my own. I remember the first big purchase I made with my hard-earned (50 cents an hour) money was Ray Stevens’s album Every-thing Is Beautiful. I bought it at Soundsville Records, on the last block of Newport, where every album was $3.33. My brothers cursed Tower Records, which they claimed later drove Soundsville out of business. After Tower came to town, there was nowhere they were allowed to go alone, within Stingray distance, to get the latest Creedence albums. Curbed independence was a traumatic blow to kids in 1970.

Since then, the world’s scope of the five little demands has broadened far beyond where a Stingray might venture, as has the appeal of Ocean Beach.

Ocean Beach was once an area feared and ridiculed by the sadly ignorant who knew nothing of the rich, albeit motley, history and community within. Though the community has changed little — it’s still a haven for alternative lifestyles that are now just
slightly more accepted and enjoyed by the mainstream — it’s slowly becoming a hip place to visit and live. In fact, who would’ve guessed that the O.B. Christmas Parade — a mid-’80s revival of O.B. pride that has become an annual occurrence — would become a media event?

The tide has turned. The same Point Loma kids whose parents wouldn’t allow them to go to the Strand Theater in high school are asking their parents for down payments on view lots in O.B.

All of us Griswold kids have moved out of the area, only to return shortly thereafter; Gail lived in Burlingame, near San Francisco; Tim lived in Los Angeles; Tom tried San Francisco and New York; Ted was in New Hampshire; and I lived in Palm Desert. We all moved back, to see the O.B. Christmas Parade (where the mail carriers get more appreciative applause than the Geriatric Surf and Drill Team), to see the O.B. Street Fair (where my sister always works one of the O.B. Elementary PTA game booths to show support for her two kids who attend school there), to walk on the pier (again) and see where my Grandma used to catch fish. As I said, Soundsville is gone. So is the rolled taco place on Abbott Street and Walt’s Malts, across from the pier. The Black is still there — we used to be forbidden to go to the Black when we were kids. Now even my Mom goes there to buy beads and Christmas presents. Homer’s has changed, but Comet hasn’t, nor has George’s Shoe Hospital. Blue Pacific Aquarium is gone, and so are Lowens’s and Veda Moss, where my Grandma used to buy all her clothes. She lived in the same house on Santa Cruz for more than 40 years. She died last year at 90, but then, that’s another story.

— Gretchen Griswold
A freeway runs through it. The freeway starts in San Diego. God and Rand McNally know where it ends. If you want to go to Rainbow, you have to get off either before you get there or after you’ve passed it by. There are no exits in between.

The highway used to run right through town. It was US 395 then. Rainbow was the center point in the stretch from State 76 to the county line that they used to call the “Bloody Gap.” Drunks, tourists, high school kids, Mexicans, Marines, locals, whole families all crashed and burned on the Gap. A lot of ghosts are wandering around out there, wondering why they never made it to Vegas. Or even Temecula.

It took over two years to blow up the Bloody Gap and lay I-15 down on the rubble.

“Opening up the inland corridor,” they called it. They worked like coolies bringing the railroad to the settlers. But the train doesn’t stop here. And the settlers couldn’t care less.

Rainbow doesn’t even exist. It’s on some maps, it even has some CalTrans population signs out on the freeway. But it doesn’t have a post office. Fallbrook is the bottom line on everybody’s address. That’s where the post office is. All Rainbow has is a name. Rainbow was originally a man. That was his name. A Union Army officer, he came here after the war to homestead and named the place after himself. He has rug rash now from turning over in his grave every time someone drives by on I-15 and speculates that the hippies must have named it, back in the ’60s.

The hippie theory gets reinforced every time someone gets off the freeway and drives through on the old highway. The ’60s got ahold of Rainbow and never let go. A building moratorium has been in effect since early in that decade. No new houses have been built in the middle of the valley for 25 years. The water table is too high to safely accept any more septic tanks. There is no sewer. No toilets, no new homes, time stands still. It’s like when they build a new dam and the little village behind the new dam gets covered by a new lake. And years later, when the drought comes, the water recedes, and the little village slowly emerges from the muck, and the people who had to leave come back to look at the place where they used to live. It’s the same thing here, only the dam never got built and the people never left.

Of course, the moratorium only exists on the valley floor in metropolitan Rainbow, as it were. Up on the crest there is no water table, and anybody can build whatever he wants as long as he has the money. When you drive north on I-15 and look over to the right, that ridge over there is the crest. Rainbow Heights. You can drive up there during a Santa Ana and see San Clemente Island and everything in between. At night you can see the light blinking on top of the SDG&E plant in Carlsbad and muzzle flashes from the big guns on Camp Pendleton.

*   *   *

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*   *   *

Rainbow is where the rich Rainbowians reside. They pass behind tinted windows in foreign luxury cars, gliding without a pause through the four-way stop at the corner of Eighth Street and Camino Rainbow. If they stop at all, it’s usually at the video rental place to pick something up for after dinner. In the old days, driving up to the Heights at night, they might have passed a hitchhiker in prison blues with a case of Bud under his arm. That would have been an inmate from the Rainbow Conservation Camp risking a six-month extension to come down to the valley after hours to snag some cold ones. The honor camp is tucked away in an
THE METH-HEADS come down from the Heights to buy Marlboros, to rent the occasional video, to have a drink at The Oaks.

Rainbow is Shangri-La compared to Frontera, and no one wants to go back over a case of beer. They’re happy to fight fires, pick up trash, and wile away their bad-time, elbow to elbow with their Republican neighbors on the Heights.

On the eastern slope of the ridge, in the sage and rocks between Rainbow and the Pala Indian Reservation, the big houses slowly dissolve, and the older stucco and wood two-bedroom homes begin to appear. Most are occupied by the same sort of retired and middle-class folks who live in the valley, people who want nothing more than to live out their lives in rural semi-isolation. The rest are meth labs. Nobody knows how many. Maybe two, maybe 20. The numbers go up and down as the speeders get busted, and their cookers get broken, and their Rainbow Red Hair gets chopped down and hauled off to the substation in Fallbrook, piled to the headliner in the back of a green-and-white Blazer. The meth-heads come down from the Heights to buy Marlboros, to rent the occasional video, to have a drink at The Oaks. They keep to themselves and vacillate between pretending that no one suspects a walking skeleton with bad teeth and long hair is not a legitimate farmer and wild paranoid despair that maybe they do. When times are tough they steal, mostly avocados (money grows on trees in Rainbow), but a quiet B&E isn’t out of the question, particularly with so many nice homes within striking distance and so few of their residents home during the day. They steal the same household items that dopers in the city do.

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but particularly covet auto mechanics’ tools. The crystal people love to work on their cars and have a deep primal need for removing their dashboards. A county deputy who lives in Fallbrook says that when he pulls over a long-hair driving an old car without a dash, he knows he’s got a keeper. Rainbow’s other major industry is ornamental plants. Nurseries are everywhere. Thousands of plants are grown here every year and shipped all over the world. Growing plants is labor intensive, and the labor comes from Mexico and the rest of Central America. Most of the workers live in the bushes along Rainbow Creek, their encampments identified by the plastic jugs and beer bottles that litter the perimeters. The number of homeless per capita in Rainbow must surely rival that of San Diego, the only difference being that these guys have jobs.

Like the nurseries themselves, the workers are everywhere: riding their bikes, hanging out in front of the No Loitering sign in front of Sommerville’s Market, cooking their dinners over open fires, crowding around the step vans whose drivers hawk Mexican comic books, Walkmans, tortillas, and whole chickens. On Sundays you can drive up in the hills west of the freeway and see scores of them lined up beside an old sedan, waiting for their turn to fornicate in the brush with one of the pimply prostitutes imported from Tecate or Tijuana. They are more Indian than Mexican, many of them looking like they just hiked out of the jungle, with their white straw cowboy hats, plaid polyester pants, and cast-off imitation Nikes.

Like the speeders, they mind their own business, despite the fact that they are collectively blamed for every major and minor local crime. From time to time, the pale green cars of la migra cruise through to pick up the stragglers, either the ones on foot or those slowly driving around in 20-year-old Pintos and Plymouths. It’s always a quick stop, everybody out of the truck, into the border patrol car, and off to the station in Temecula. Everybody knows his role. Even the car gets whisked away, a border patrol guy behind the wheel, cautiously edging back on the road to follow the patrol car back to HQ.

La migra is by far the most visible law-enforcement agency in Rainbow. County deputies and the CHP are rarely encountered off the freeway, With the border patrol checkpoint guarding the freeway, most migrants are forced to hike the hills to the old San Diego Freeway to avoid being chased or not. It’s the den glare, they’ll make a snap decision whether to chase you or not. It’s the price you pay for not taking the freeway, a trade-off for not sitting in the line of cars backed up behind the checkpoint on a busy night.

**GUNSHOTS are not uncommon. Sometimes they sound far away, like a distant battle. Other times they sound closer.**

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distant battle. Other times they sound closer, and you wonder if maybe the neighbors aren’t killing each other in the front yard. Usually it’s three or four blasts followed by a short pause and three or four more. Laughing, screaming, shouted threats weave through the night up and down the valley floor. High school kids in pickups and Hyundais park on building pads up in the hills, pull out their speakers, crank up their stereos, and dance in the dirt, while the heavy bass lines of Metallica and Iron Maiden echo through the brush. Helicopters rumble over on their way back to Camp Pendleton, and in the summer, the dull thud of exploding artillery rounds on the base make the ‘Nam vets reach for another Winston. From time to time the air-raid siren will start to howl, and all across the valley volunteer firemen will know that somebody crashed out on the freeway. The siren screams, the dogs howl, the volunteers rush to their cars and race to the station. Once assembled they ride their fire truck out to the freeway, lights flashing, off to the rescue. If it’s a bad wreck, the next sound you hear will be the steady drone of the Life Flight chopper, churning through the sky, ready to pluck some hapless soul off the pavement and back to civilization, back through the night.

There’s no 7-Eleven in Rainbow. No McDonald’s, no banks, no libraries, no Safeways, no strip malls. There’s a bar, a café, a gas station, two markets, a video place, a satellite-dish store, and a detective agency. Ten minutes up the freeway and over the county line is every franchise in the world. Temecula the old cattle town is now Temecula the new Irvine and Knott’s Berry Farm rolled into one. Thanks to the freeway, it’s now possible to get to Escondido in about the same amount of time it takes to get to Fallbrook. It’s 45 minutes to the Belly Up Tavern in Solana Beach, if there isn’t too much traffic on the Del Dios Highway. You can leave Rainbow and be watching a film at the Ken in less than an hour. Rainbowians go to San Diego all the time. San Diegans think Rainbow is on the edge of the earth, if they know it exists at all. Rainbow can’t compete with Temecula or San Marcos in the franchise department, but it does have a landmark or two and the odd quirk that makes it what it is. The valley is home to one of the oldest active chapters of the Grange in the state. The Grange was founded in the last century as sort of an Elks Club for farmers. The chapter in Rainbow has its own meeting hall and from time to time stages pancake breakfasts on Sundays. And like a few other rural enclaves scattered around the county, Rainbow sports a flock of parrots. It consists entirely of escaped pets and roosts in a grove of eucalyptus trees south of town. Despite their emancipation, several of the fugitives still speak the foreign tongue of their ex-masters. Sometimes in the late after-
noon, you can hear them squawking at each other, both in English and parrot. It can be somewhat unsettling when you first hear it, but not unpleasant.

At the entrance to Rice Canyon sits an old, whitewashed, wooden two-story structure that looks like Rapunzel's tower as envisioned by the Army Corps of Engineers. It was built during the war (the big war) as a lookout post for civilian aircraft spotters. In the early '40s, its inside walls covered with silhouettes of Japanese Zeros and Betty bombers, the tower was home to local volunteers who scanned the skies for enemy activity. Why the enemy would fly to Rainbow is lost to time, but the tower remains, its current owner periodically threatening to tear it down, someday.

Farther down Rice Canyon Road, you can look up into the Heights and see what's left of the Keith House. It used to be the dream house of a man named Keith, who built it on the sheer rock wall high above the valley floor. It was a huge modern mansion until it burned down one night a few months back. The rumor is that it was underinsured and will never be rebuilt. Mr. Keith and his family allegedly fled to Hawaii, and what's left of the dream house is slowly returning to the elements.

*   *   *

I live here; it's been my home for nine years. I reside in a small house on five acres and still pay the same rent I did the day I moved in: $200 a month. The house used to be part of a tourist court that was built behind a gas station on old Highway 395 sometime in the '20s. The gas station, the main house, and my cottage are all that's left. If I'd grown up here instead of in Fallbrook, I would have gone
from kindergarten through the eighth grade at Vallecitos School, in the center of the valley. For high school, I would have been bused to Fallbrook to spend four years hanging out with the rest of the Rainbow boys over by the corner of the library, with my hands in my pockets, laughing, sneering, telling secrets, sneaking smokes, talking about the bikes we had or the bikes we were gonna get. But I didn’t grow up here. I showed up in my middle 20s, and now I’m in my mid-30s, and nothing much has changed. The freeway is here. The Keith house burned down. That’s about it.

It’s a great place to be alienated. When I went to my high school reunion, I discovered that more graduates from my class live on my street in Rainbow than any other street in the world. I see them drive by once in a while and we wave. I know all of them, knew ’em in school, but I haven’t said more than five words to any of them since I’ve lived here.

It’s a great place to drive around fast late at night and wonder what happened, wonder why I’ve stayed so long. When I get done with that, I can go home and put Neil Young on the stereo and play it so loud the walls shake and no one cares, no one calls the cops, the cops wouldn’t come if they did. There aren’t any cops, just La migra, and La migra leaves me alone. I can stash my old cars out in the yard and no one cares, no one even notices. In the late summer, when the big thunderclouds roll in off of Palomar at three in the morning, and the hot rain comes down like bullets on the barn’s metal roof, I can drink bourbon and stand naked next to the dog through the mud and shoo the owls out of the barn into the night. I can sit under the olive tree and smoke and watch the steam rise off an old trunk lid and listen to the cars sizzle by out on the road, and nobody cares, nobody sees, nobody knows but me.

When my friends from the city come to visit, they always say they’d give anything to live like this; this is the old California, this is the way it used to be before Temecula turned into Irvine and there wasn’t any freeway and there weren’t any yuppies and condos and tracts and strip malls and this is it, this is where the old California came to die, where it’s still the ‘60s. We can’t leave our jobs, they say, we don’t want to commute, we don’t want to drive for 45 minutes to see a band, we can’t live in a 300-square-foot house. So get a satellite dish, build a house in the Heights, go to work at the detective agency. It’s right around here somewhere. I was looking through the Yellow Pages one day and I saw it, under Investigators, Lewis Detective Agency. It’s on Rice Canyon Road. I’m gonna get a job there myself. I’ll walk to work.

I’ll sit in my office all day and throw cards in my fedora. I’ll hang out at The Oaks and drink and smoke, and it will always be the ‘60s. And I’ll always get my man.

— Jamo Jackson
Unforgettable

LONG-AGO SAN DIEGO

THE SEVEN SISTERS

One of the seven wonders of San Diego County, the “Impossibly Beautiful Railroad” spans 11 miles of Carrizo Gorge: 17 tunnels and 14 side-hill trestles — made from pine, spruce, and heart redwood — wind north–south. The trestles visible from Sacaton Overlook. Three miles behind iron-gray clouds, six Sisters of Carondelet gazed in awe from Sacaton Overlook. Three miles east, on terrain bleak as in Sinai, railroad trestles perch 1000 feet above Carrizo Gorge. The wooden structures look out of place: a jagged brown incision across forsaken ground. Seen through binoculars, they become delicate, sculpted webs that appear suspended from above.

Last March, as the sun fractured behind iron-gray clouds, six Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet gazed in awe from Sacaton Overlook. Three miles east, on terrain bleak as in Sinai, railroad trestles perch 1000 feet above Carrizo Gorge. The wooden structures look out of place: a jagged brown incision across forsaken ground. Seen through binoculars, they become delicate, sculpted webs that appear suspended from above.

by Smith

Last March 28, as the sun fractured behind iron-gray clouds, six Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet gazed in awe from Sacaton Overlook. Three miles east, on terrain bleak as in Sinai, railroad trestles perch 1000 feet above Carrizo Gorge. The wooden structures look out of place: a jagged brown incision across forsaken ground. Seen through binoculars, they become delicate, sculpted webs that appear suspended from above.

One of the seven wonders of San Diego County, the “Impossibly Beautiful Railroad” spans 11 miles of Carrizo Gorge: 17 tunnels and 14 side-hill trestles — made from pine, spruce, and heart redwood — wind north–south. The trestles visible from Sacaton, over the chasm’s deepest stretch, are called the “Seven Sisters.” The name doesn’t refer to the Pleiades, or the “sister” colleges of New England, but to seven courageous women who journeyed by wagon from San Diego to Tucson in 1870.

Last March the six sisters made the trek. In a light rain, they marveled at the wooden latticework and the rugged Jacumba Mountains and desert beyond. Sacaton gave them their first glimpse of the barren expanse their forebears crossed 136 years ago. “They feared they’d die in the wilderness,” guide Sister Mary Murphy told her companions, “as had so many others. Sister Maxime Croissat called it ‘the abomination of desolation.’”

In 1868, Tucson was a lawless frontier town. It had almost 3000 residents, half of them Catholic, but no school. Bishop Jean Baptiste Salpointe (the legendary “Apostle of New Mexico” in Willa Cather’s Death Comes for the Archbishop) sent urgent letters to Carondelet, Missouri, where the Sisters of St. Joseph had a congregation. The letters were in French, native tongue of the order from Le Puy, France. The Mother Superior’s replies were polite, but she could spare no teachers.

“Now,” Salpointe insisted on June 5, “how many Sisters can you let me have? If it were possible I should like a sufficient number for two houses.”

On his return from a trip to France, Salpointe stopped at Carondelet, in south St. Louis. Mother St. John finally agreed, but couldn’t send anyone until March 1870, at the earliest.

When he brought no teachers, Salpointe’s parishioners became angry. His journey taught him something, though: a direct route from St. Louis to Arizona was too hazardous. For many who fought it, the Civil War didn’t end in 1865. Renegades robbed wagon trains and strangers. And Chiricahua Apaches — led by Cochise, and later Geronimo — were uprising in New Mexico and Arizona.

“As to the route for your Sisters to take,” Salpointe wrote in January, “I abstain from saying today.”

On May 10, 1869, a golden spike joined the transcontinental railroad lines at Promontory, Utah. Travelers no longer took 30-plus days to cross the U.S. They could make it in seven. To avoid Apache territory, Salpointe devised a roundabout plan and promised to raise $800 for expenses.

The trip cut against the grain: women weren’t supposed to venture into the wild west in 1870; also, their journey would become increasingly primitive: by rail from St. Louis to San Francisco, then steamer to San Diego, then a two-horse-drawn wagon to Tucson — and often, it turned out, on foot up and down mountains and across alluvial wastes.

Though most had never heard of Arizona, Carondelet’s nuns welcomed the “Far West Mission.” Five of the seven chosen came from Moutiers, the Mont Blanc area of France; mother Emmerentia Bonnefoy, and sisters Euphrasia Suchet, Maxime Croissat, Ambrosia Arnichaud, and Hyacinthe Blanc. Martha Peters was a lay sister from Ireland.

The seventh was born in Hemmingford, Canada, in 1843. Annie Taggert became a university math teacher. She fell in love with John Corrigan, a Catholic. But she was Anglican, and their parents were against a marriage. Undaunted, Annie and John eloped to Independence, Missouri, where they began a family during the Civil War. In 1866, a plague of black diphtheria took the lives of John and their young son and daughter.

As she struggled with the unthinkable, Annie taught math at a Kansas City boarding school and converted to Catholicism. She joined the Carondelet congregation in 1867. When she became a nun, she took the name Monica.

QUOTATIONS:

1. Willa Cather: “Those early missionaries threw themselves naked upon the hard heart of a country calculated to try the endurance of giants.”

2. Sister Mary Murphy, C.S.J.: “We had goosebumps when we discovered the ‘white post that marks the southwest boundary of the United States’; we knew that they passed that way!”

3. Sister Davida Conlon: “Was it fright or humor that drove them on/Or promises to keep?”

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“She was as much at home,” writes Sister Thomas Marie McMahon, “begging alms in the rough mining camps of Arizona and Mexico, or settling gang wars in Kansas City, as in the quiet halls of a convent.”

“She was known to stand in saloon doorways on payday,” says Leo W. Banks, “ordering thirsty miners home to their families.” Sister Monica was 27 when the trek began. Her diary is its only record.

On April 20, 1870, the seven sisters boarded a train at the Pacific Railroad Depot in St. Louis. “Sad hearts” tinged their sense of adventure. “It is quite probable,” wrote Monica, “we may never again meet here below.” The transcontinental railroad was just a year old, and their first train had few passengers. Polished seats and polite, well-groomed stewards made it feel brand new. That night they changed trains, and boarded a havoc of emigrants, crying babies, and squawking chickens — reeking of stale cigars and rotting eggs.

The sisters couldn’t afford berths. Also, the cars were so full of strangers, they had to keep constant watch on their carpetbags. As a result, they rarely slept. To their surprise, most of the passengers were ministers, of various denominations, headed west to preach. Their quibbles often turned into debates, then heated, theological harangues. Every

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San Diego in 1870 was splitting in two. Residents of Old Town began moving south to (Alonzo) Horton’s Addition, which formed its Chamber of Commerce on January 1, and would become today’s San Diego. New structures dotted wide, dusty streets. Wooden frames rose behind them. Horton’s Hall, a red-brick building on the corner of Sixth and F, was almost completed as the sisters arrived. It opened six days later: a 400-seat theater upstairs; a roller-skating rink on the ground floor. The theater doubled as a church for Catholics and Presbyterians. New Town swelled with prospectors on their way inland. Gold had been discovered near Julian.

The seven sisters were the first nuns in San Diego. During their stay, they met Father Antonio Ubach — whose parish, he said, ranged “from 16th Street to the Col-

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San Diego Reader July 6, 2006
rado River.” Impressed by their courage, Ubach told the women to forget Tucson: begin a school in Old Town. Later, he traveled to Carondelet and begged for teachers. But the Reverend Mother said San Diego was too distant. In 1882, four Sisters of St. Joseph came west and founded the Academy of Our Lady of Peace. And in 1887, Ubach got his wish: Sisters of Carondelet established St. Anthony’s Indian School in Old Town.

The seven sisters remained in San Diego four days, in part to recover from train- and sea-sickness, but also to wait for their escort. It never came. They learned much later that a message from Carondelet to the Bishop, announcing their plans, had been delayed. They had no escort, no idea which route to take through the wild west. What to do?

Go anyway.

On Saturday, May 7, 1870, they hired a driver and covered wagon, and set forth for the sun-scorched Arizona Territory wearing heavy black wool habits, a wide white, bib-like guimpe, and black veils. Some had sturdy shoes.

The driver, whom Monica never names, was a thin, educated young man who’d made the trip before. His vehicle was a carriage-type wagon with a canvas, sun-shade canopy, two bench seats behind the driver’s, and leather straps for suspension. Every bump and rut — especially in May, after winter rains carved deep rills — jerked riders side-to-side/forward-and-back. The constant spine-jouncing, said a prairie-schooner driver, was “hardly comfortable.”

Two horses pulled the wagon. At least one of them wore a cowbell. Its dull, metallic rattle signaled the arrival of a solitary, wooden-wheeled carriage to coyotes, mountain lions, and rattlesnakes.

The vehicle averaged four miles an hour on good trails. Because it only seated six, Sister Ambrosia volunteered to sit with the driver. “It is beyond description,” writes Monica, “what she suffered riding 200 miles without protection from the rays of a tropical sun. Yet poor Sister did this.”

As day dawned over the hills to their left, the driver packed provisions and “thumped water barrels for a full sound.” Then the wagon headed south on a well-traveled, often tide-washed, dirt road. At 10:00 a.m. they passed the white post that still marks the southwest boundary of the United States (at Border Field State Park).

They crossed the Tia Juana River, just a trickle in May, and entered Mexico.

The driver chose the Old San Diego Trail, a 195-mile, former military mail route from San Diego to Tecate, and on to Fort Yuma. For 50 miles, the trail runs south of the border, up the broad Tia Juana River Valley, studded with cottonwoods and autumn oaks, then hooks north-east into the high country.

At noon, they stopped at a stable for lunch. While the others rested, Monica and Maxime inspected flecks, bright as sunshine, on nearby boulders. With the fever of Julian prospectors, they skipped from rock to rock pecking samples, dreaming big — “Just think,” Monica shouted with worldly glee, “a sack of gold!” — only to learn “that all that glitters.”

After recrossing the border at the adobe customs house near Rancho Puerta Tecate, they spent their first night outdoors.
They camped beneath Tecate Peak (not knowing that, according to Kumeyaay legend, it’s where the world was born). Since there wasn’t enough room, Mother Emmerentia and two sisters bunked under the wagon; two others reclined on the seat-bunkers; Monica and Euphrasia had to sleep sitting up, in a corner. White sage scented the cool night air.

“We had scarcely closed our eyes when wolves began to howl. We feared they would consume our little store of provisions and thus let us perish in the wilderness.”

The driver calmed them.

“Be sociable, is all.”

Mother Emmerentia led them down the wind trail, the sisters imagined themselves “in Egypt with Joseph” — their patron saint — leading them.

At noon, they came to a “cool, shady place” in the high desert: the 900-acre settlement of Campo, a general store/cantina, mill, large home, and blacksmith shop owned by Silas and Luman Gaskill. Five years later, these raw-boned, raven-eyed brothers would fight a famous shoot-out with banditos. The Gaskills ran the most important way-station in the region, providing food, stable-feed, and shelter for stagecoaches and mule-drawn freight wagons that had struggled up steep slopes to the west and east.

As the sisters ate dinner, they noticed “several ranch-men here from the neighboring stations, but no women. There are few women in this country.”

After the meal, the sisters adjourned to the stable to rest. The men followed. “The driver — the women’s ‘only protector’” — held up a hand. What did they want?

“Be sociable, is all.”

Later, Euphrasia woke up screaming. Wolves! No. One of the horses licking her face. Happy to see the new day, the sisters celebrated by forming a procession ahead of the wagon. Mother Emmerentia led them, holding a Spanish lily like a torch. As they sang hymns and trudged up and down the winding trail, the sisters imagined themselves “in Egypt with Joseph” — their patron saint — leading them.

The simplicity and earnsethness with which they spoke,” writes Monica, “put incarnation out of the question, as it was evident they meant no insult.”

“Some proposed marriage. Even got on their knees. They gave the sisters two choices: accept their proposals, or ‘be massacred by Indians’ before reaching Tucson.”

Having had “amusement enough,” the sisters continued on. Between today’s Boulevard and Jacumba, they prepared for their second night in “a very damp place.”

As she pulled it, “unearthly yell.” She had a large stick among the dry leaves. As she pulled it, “unearthly yell.”

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Euphrasia to take a sketch of it then, but she said it would not be necessary, as she would never forget its appearance.”

If a model were needed for the road to hell, the original trail from Mountain Springs to the desert floor would serve. Devil’s Canyon Grade, a narrow gauntlet snaking through red-rock outcroppings, plummeted 1000 feet, often with 30-degree slopes. Sparse vegetation along the way included California barrel cactus, brickellbush, and crucifixion thorns.

Frequent earthquakes caused rock- and boulder-slides. The trail was so steep, so strewn with rubble, travelers often had to dismantle their wagons, carry them down, and reassemble them at the bottom.

It was too dangerous for the sisters to ride. Though their aching limbs felt “dislocated,” they descended Devil’s Canyon on foot. Sun-bleached bones of horses and cattle cluttered the sides of the trail. “At one place we counted fourteen oxen which had apparently died at the same time. When Mother beheld so many dead ani-

mals, she wept, fearing we might share their fate.”

The last two miles, steepest of the grade, felt like a vertical pitch. To keep from stumbling, the exhausted sisters joined hands, “two-by-two,” and ran.

They reached the desert floor. Hands on knees and gasping for air, everyone uttered amazed relief. Sister Maxime looked back up the grade, and the mountains behind, and said “the abomination of desolation.”

“Almost dead from thirst” and pelted by a sudden sandstorm, the sisters went part way on foot to the next station, Hall’s Wells. Gists threatened to overturn the wagon.

A ranch on the west side of Coyote Wash, just southeast of today’s Ocotillo, Hall’s Wells had been a Butterfield Over-land stage station. It joined the Old San Diego Trail to the north and east mail routes, and remained a crucial stop for wagon trains.

Somehow the sisters made it — and drank what must have been the coldest, wettest, purest ladies of water they would ever know. At last, they could relax. As the wind blasted adobe buildings, the women realized they’d left one hell for another. Hall’s Wells became “an ugly place.”
June 6, 2006

Reader

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LETTERS
continued from page 12

demand for service is demonstrated and fulfilled by this low-tech, low-cost, efficient system, then a more sophisticated and efficient train system will naturally replace many of the buses. Costs for alternative power conversions and volume discounting of fuels (plus co-op purchasing infrastructure) would be offset by the subsequently unnecessary freeway expansion money. Such a reversal of fortune seems to be impossible, but I’ve witnessed it and it works, even in a poorly equipped area; just think of how much better it would work here.

Finally, if, after being petitioned by the citizenry, our local legislators fail to respond and enable this kind of solution (or any other sensible one), then the supreme executive power within this county, the sheriff (he/she trumps the state and the feds), could elect to not enforce the barriers-to-entry into the transit industry and allow the free market to fill the carrier-for-hire gap. This emergency decision would facilitate the process of satisfying demand for cheaper alternatives to the expensive one-car-one-passenger model that is choking our county. 

Pat Palmer
Golden Hill

Very Clever
This is only the second time I’ve participated in the crossword puzzle. Last week I also sent an entry (faxing it comfortably before 9:00 a.m.), and I see from the solved puzzle in this week’s issue that it was filled in correctly. Since mine was not among those listed, I assume there were more than five correct entries and I was among those not drawn in the lottery.

In case I do this again, I just want to clarify that it doesn’t disqualify an entry if there are letters printed in heavily over earlier letters from words tried and then changed. Both the one I sent last week as well as this one contain strikeouts of that kind, though I don’t think there’s any confusion about what the final letter is. Is this okay? Also, even though you only list the five drawn “winners,” it would be interesting if, along with listing the number of entrants, you mentioned the number of correct entries. Or is it usually the case that virtually all the entries are correct, since who’d bother sending it in if they weren’t pretty sure they had figured it out?

By the way, the theme-line special entries have been very clever.

— Cathy Pearson
Point Loma

Legible entries qualify for winning the prize. On average, 90 percent of entries are correct. — Editor

Strange Kiwi Fruit
I was confused as to why Katie and her family were so rude ("Diary of a Diva," "Dana and Goliath," June 29), and then amused. I have been to New Zealand many times and have always found the people so kind and friendly, but on this last trip, I met up with some ex-pat Americans who said the Kiwis (as they’re called) are typically very nice to your face but many do not like Americans. Hearing that and then reading the article makes me...
start to believe that New Zealand is not all it's cracked up to be!!

Name Withheld
by Request
via e-mail

**Masters Of The Curriculum**
Dr. Walter Doyle, one of my education professors at the University of Arizona, taught us that testing and textbooks are industries who have become the masters of the curriculum rather than their servants. Larson’s article (“A Tenth Grader’s History of the World,” Cover Story, June 22) supports Dr. Doyle’s claim. Dr. Doyle also argues that there is a triangular relationship between test scores, property value, and school funding; I’d like to see Mr. Larson explore this topic as well.

John Middleton
Language Arts Teacher
University City High School

**Conflicting Narrative**
I enjoyed the article on high school history (“A Tenth Grader’s History of the World,” Cover Story, June 22). I came across it at an interesting time in my career. I am teaching a course at San Diego City College this summer, U.S. history from a Chicano perspective. If you know anything about the discipline of Chicano studies, you will know our work is sometimes identified as a “conflicting narrative.” I enjoyed the article because I am constantly on the search for new information and research about our past. This is ironic since I, like many others, thought high school history was boring. Once I entered college I fell in love with history, mainly because I realized that there was this vast landscape of history that was being left out of high school history texts.

On the issue of cost of books; wouldn’t it make more sense for the state to publish its own books? Then the books would align exactly with the standards, and we could stop fooling ourselves and others that the committees that approve these books care anything about creativity, controversy, research, and other areas of knowledge. I mean, shouldn’t the test makers make the books that the students will be tested on? This would also save us a lot of money. Oh, and make those books smaller — they weigh a ton! This would also save us money, which could go to supplemental material that teachers pay for out of their own pocket.

Today, as a college instructor, I work to fill in the areas about the people history leaves out. I encourage students to question what is written in everything they read, to develop critical thinking skills to be applied to all material they read and especially see on television. It is not that history books are being overburdened with multicultural views (they still lack in substance), but that they lack critical examinations of our past. If your readers are interested in learning more about what I am writing about, they should check out a great book, Lies My Teacher Told Me, by James W. Loewen. Also check out A People’s History of the United States, by Howard Zinn. I’m actually surprised the author failed to mention either of these books.

One area I found lacking was the author’s failure to address the issue of how Columbus is portrayed in our children’s history books. I mean, since religion was mentioned, I think it is only fair that readers know how he and other Europeans used the spread of Christianity to justify their enslavement and brutality of indigenous communities. Perhaps this upsets the dominant paradigm of U.S. history. I challenge your readers and the author to look into this and other areas of Eurocentric versions of our past.

Thanks for making an attempt at bringing light to this subject, because in the end students in public schools miss out, and that leads to uneducated and uncritical citizens.

Abel Macias
Chicano Studies
Instructor
San Diego City College

**Teachers Are Part Of Problem**
Two letters that responded to Thomas Larson’s story (“A Tenth Grader’s History of the World,” Cover Story, June 22) about the insipid textbooks used in public schools provide new opportunities to laugh — not only at public schools but also at the silly letter writers themselves, Leif Fearn and Brian Grady (Letters, June 29).

Leif Fearn (real name!) provides the first chuckle by asking us not to “take the cheap road” and “blame the teachers” for what he admits are “content-thin textbooks.” Well, if you read Mr. Larson’s article, you discover that teachers are part of the problem by participating in textbook-selection committees. Even worse, while they claim to hate the books they use, they use them anyway on the students. One teacher even admits, “We’ve created a monster.” If teachers are not responsible for their role in dumbing down students to the point that 73 percent are not proficient in history, then the soldiers in Iraq are not responsible for the innocent victims they murder and call “collateral damage.”

Mr. Fearn at least has it partly right when he blames the public — which I read as “parents.” Since most parents know more about their SUVS and wide-screen TVs than they do about the school curriculum, they deserve what they get. They have shirked their personal financial responsibility for paying for their kids’ “free” schooling. Is it any wonder that this schooling is, indeed, nearly worthless? You get what you pay for.

When your own money — not someone else’s — is at stake, you try to get your money’s worth (back to the SUVs and TVs, eh?).

As for teachers, the honest ones should quit and set up their own schools or join private ones. But, oops, that means getting the approval of politicians in Sacramento and Washington, D.C., doesn’t it? All drains seem to lead there.

The best belly laugh, however, comes from Brian Grady. In his first sentence, he bewails the fearsome “monopolies” of the “megapublishing dynasties.” He claims we would have an easier time taking down Exxon than these monsters. But if you read Larson’s article, the horrible textbooks — and they are awful — must comply with adoption guidelines established by Cali-
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Raving Reporter
Your June 22 article, “Free Speech and Fair Parking” (“City Lights”), should have been titled “Free Parking and Bodybuilding.” The story was a subtle and clever hit piece on La Mesa mayor Art Madrid.

Your reporter raved about Craig Maxwell’s physique as his most important qualification. The size of his muscular chest and shoulders and buff biceps. Wow! With those pecs he should be running for governor, since many think that’s all it takes these days.

Where was the hook?

Grady’s one bright spot was in mentioning the meeting between President Bush and the CEO of McGraw-Hill. Maybe Dubya just wanted to get a replacement copy of My Pet Goat. After all, he never did finish reading that story on 9/11.

The parking meter increase is a red herring, and free speech isn’t free when you knowingly misrepresent the facts and then attempt to hide behind the First Amendment when asked for proof of the allegations.

The vacant parking spaces noted were formerly occupied by the employees of the same merchants who demanded that the city have full-time parking-meter enforcement officers so that customers, and not merchant employees, parked in front of their shops.

This campaign will certainly become more interesting as time goes on. On one hand, you have a candidate, Maxwell, who claims to be a free-enterprise advocate but demands that the City and its residents subsidize his customer’s parking-meter fees. On the other hand, you have the incumbent mayor, Art Madrid, whose leadership, vision, and hard work helped transform La Mesa from a nice village to one of the most desirable communities in which to live in the entire region.

Do your readers a favor next time: send a reporter who will focus on the issues and candidates’ qualifications and not on the percent of body fat, size of one’s neck, or color of hair.

Don Wood
La Mesa

Starbucks Is Definitely Moving In
Re “Free Speech and Fair Parking,” “City Lights,” June 22.

I want to commend the Reader for fairly reporting the reasons Craig Maxwell is challenging Art Madrid for mayor of La Mesa.

The mayor’s disdain for citizens’ rights is reason enough to remove him from office, but as a small business owner in the Village, the parking problem hits much closer to home for me.

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Last Tuesday, June 20, I attended a Merchant Association meeting where it was announced that Starbucks is definitely moving into a building across the street from Jitters Coffee Shop. Naturally I was surprised on Thursday to read in the Reader the mayor’s assurance that this “rumor” is unfounded.

The mayor’s statement that business hasn’t been hampered by the parking-fee increases is another example of his being out of touch with the everyday reality of business owners in the Village. The only comments included in the article were from two business owners who had previously supported the increases, and both appear to have had a dramatic change of heart.

If any of the business owners who opposed the increases from the beginning were interviewed, they could have commented on how the Parking Commission, and most of the council, led by the mayor, pushed those proposals through in spite of two petitions signed by the majority of business owners and repeated efforts by the business owners to come to a reasonable compromise.

The sole concession by the council was to delay the meter increase until May 2006 to give the merchants time to “educate the public” (whatever that means) that the meter rates had been tripled. The other proposals went into effect in January, except for the elimination of the Courtesy Citation Program, which took effect October 18, 2003. I guess they wanted to get started on recouping that $200,000 ASAP.

One thing needs to be clarified: parking violators were only allowed one courtesy citation a year. Our parking-control officers carried a device that allowed them to check the records. The mayor’s complaint that “people weren’t paying meters at all” brings up images of people checking their calendars and rushing off to La Mesa to get a free parking ticket as soon as the opportunity presented itself.

The facts are, we have already lost several great businesses over the parking issues: Yellow Book Road, La Torta, Wishing Well Cottage. I can recall several days in the past month when sales were so low it would have made better sense to close and save operating costs. The problem is the lack of customers; once you run them off by tripling meter fees and ticketing aggressively, how are you going to get them back? The mayor can promise to look into getting the meter fees lowered if he’s reelected till hell freezes over — the damage is already done!

Madrid’s remark that “We don’t have paupers and people exclusively on welfare buying and stopping at the Village. They are pretty wealthy people” is just more of the ridiculous rhetoric we have heard from him before, but what does it have to do with the issues? My customer base comes from all over the county and encompasses every economic level. We don’t all drive expensive cars either, but perhaps we would if we, too, received a car allowance of $400 a month from the City!

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Madrid Has Done Well
Your article on La Mesa and Mr. Madrid (“Free Speech and Fair Parking,” “City Lights,” June 22) has to be an insult to the intelligence of every La Mesa citizen. First of all, just because Mr. Madrid works out at a gym and has big muscles has nothing at all to do with his abilities to become mayor. He runs a bookstore; that’s all he’s done all of his life — he’s been a bookstore owner and has a degree or two. That’s fine, we respect that. He runs a great bookstore. Then you portray him with Churchill looking over his shoulder and all this dramatic pose. This is typical Reader behavior.

Okay, so Mr. Madrid is an older man. He answered some grandstanding citizen, and it became a big issue of free speech. Okay, so that’s over. What else is new? You’ve run that into the ground. Then there’s the issue of the parking. The merchants don’t like it. Mr. Maxwell is one of the merchants; he doesn’t like it. Okay, so what else is new after that? Does this city have to get revenue or not? Why don’t you look at yourselves and the trash that you advertise to get revenue? I mean, you’re about the most corrupt piece of s— going.

Now in terms of the issues. Madrid has no overall managerial powers over the city. This has a city manager form of government, as you correctly say. The mayor is one of five votes, but he has done well. His leadership has been good. He takes an interest in people. He’s not a dictator as you try to portray. You’re full of s—— One would hope that experience counts. Just because he’s been mayor for a long time doesn’t mean you have to remove him. We don’t have any term limits in La Mesa. In fact, this city has done well under Madrid. It’s better than the lousy city of San Diego. That’s why La Mesa was created, to separate us from the crap city of San Diego, which is garbage, and you too. So get with it, Reader.

So you’re going to glorify one guy and you’re going to try to rip apart the mayor. Okay, so you tried. So you got this guy, Ernie Grimm, to do a hatchet job on the mayor. So what else? Any more news? Are there any more issues in this campaign other than that Maxwell doesn’t like the parking situation and the worn-out issue of the city council and this other character who came in? I’ve been to city council meetings. I’ve been able to speak all I want, even when I criticized the mayor. I’ve criticized him all the time. He hasn’t had me arrested. In fact, we’re friends. So what else you want?

Name Withheld

Lil Susie’s Horror
Regarding “Barbie in Bondage” (“City Lights,” June 15), perhaps upset Mommy and lil Susie should not venture outside their white-picket-fenced yard and allow themselves to be exposed to such open-mindedness and artistic expression.

From what I had seen, ArtWalk was advertised as a venue for local artists to display their art to the public. I don’t recall seeing anything stating that only noncontroversial, happy little depictions would be on display.

De Mello’s art may not be everyone’s cup of tea, but it did stand out amongst the other_booth upon booth of florals and landscapes. It was refreshing to find such a character so truly enthusiastic about his art, reaffirming that the San Diego art world is capable of more than just pretty depictions of La Jolla beaches.

Rather than chomping at the bit to get home and file a complaint, perhaps Mommy and lil Susie could’ve talked to the artist, inquired upon its meaning and merit to alleviate lil Susie’s horror, and maybe even gain some insight into a creative process.

Ah no, that idea could’ve talked to the artist, inquired upon its meaning and merit to alleviate lil Susie’s horror, and maybe even gain some insight into a creative process.

What a surprise it might be for her to know that there are parents out there who enjoy current events, reading, films, wine, cheese, and whatever other accessory she measures her depth by. Some of us can stretch our selfishness thin for that brief period of time it takes for our children to become the fabulous adults we all love to hang out with. Bird-watching is an enriching pastime; one only has to open their minds and eyes to see and enjoy something new, no matter how important their own needs are.

Name Withheld by Request via e-mail

Becoming Fabulous Adults
Barbarella has made an eloquent art of disguising her self-righteous perception of children and those who choose to bring them into this world (“Diary of a Diva,” June 15). What a surprise it might be for her to know that there are parents out there who enjoy current events, reading, films, wine, cheese, and whatever other accessory she measures her depth by. Some of us can stretch our selfishness thin for that brief period of time it takes for our children to become the fabulous adults we all love to hang out with. Bird-watching is an enriching pastime; one only has to open their minds and eyes to see and enjoy something new, no matter how important their own needs are.

Name Withheld via e-mail

Review Review
In response to your recent publication in “Hometown CDs” on Tefllo (June 15): I was very disappointed to read such an amateur review on a band that actually has talent. If you don’t get it, then you should be reviewing hip-hop instead, due to the more direct and matter-of-fact nature, no thinking required. Tefllo is one of the few bands I’ve heard that restore the ambiguity music should have in order to relate to all listeners, including mainstream pop-culture fans. The lyrics complement the instruments and should have been acknowledged for doing so. And just so you do get it, “Calgon” was advertised to women as an escape from daily hardships, and the reflection and repetition from everything surrounding is a reminder of how difficult it is to do so. That’s just one interpretation and probably the simplest one, so you can comprehend it. Writing reviews like that will only invite your readers to dismiss your opinion. I suggest you put more thought into the music you review; maybe you will get it then.

Natalie via e-mail

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"If someone had told me that I would be hiking to work and loving it, I never would have believed the person."
—Marcus Pless
Losing Record: 125 Pounds

We would definitely not want that! Instead, play it straight. This is typical Reader behavior.

About the author:
Stephanie Garcia
Name Withheld
Via e-mail
Behind the Joke

Stand-Up Comedy Workshop

A joke is about shattering assumptions,” says San Francisco Comedy College founder Kurtis Matthews. “Horror has the same structure of comedy, but the result or surprise [horror hopes to achieve] is fear, pain, or confusion. 

To give an example of the structural similarities between horror and comedy, Matthews says, “If you go home tonight, and you walk into your bathroom and there’s somebody you don’t know in your shower with a knife, the reason that’s not funny is because it creates fear of pain, ‘Is this gonna hurt?’ and confusion, ‘What’s going on?’ Whereas if you walk into the shower tonight, and somebody you know and love and trust is there, and they’re covered in whipped cream, maybe playing a kazoo, you’re going to laugh because there’s no fear of pain.”

On Friday, July 7, Matthews will appear at the San Diego Comedy Co-op to discuss technical aspects of comedy in an introductory workshop for aspiring comedians. In the workshop, Matthews will discuss the Joke Diagram, a schematic structure of jokes.

“Anywhere that we laugh, we have an assumption that is unspoken. Harpo Marx would open his overcoat, and you’d have an assumption of what goes underneath an overcoat — is the same freaking joke, and people laugh at it over and over. According to Matthews, every joke has two stories. “The first story can be assumed. The second story is the reinterpretation.” For his course, Matthews uses the text Step by Step to Stand-Up Comedy by Greg Dean. In this book, Dean explains the difference between a “setup” and a “first story”: “As the first part of the joke, the setup is the words and/or actions used to get the audience to expect something — then, based on the setup, the first story is the detailed scene imagined by the audience of what they expect to be true.”

Dean continues, “Let me illustrate with an old, standard joke: ‘For 40 years I’ve been married and in love with the same woman. If my wife ever finds out she’ll kill me.’ When the comic says, ‘For 40 years I’ve been married and in love with the same woman,’ that — and only that — is the setup. Then, from hearing this setup, the audience imagines a much more elaborate first story.” The first story may vary because it is created in an individual’s mind, but most people think, “Here is a man bragging about his wife,” only to find out he is cheating on his wife and bragging about his mistress.

In the first chapter of his book, Dean explains, “In order to work, a joke has to surprise you. The trick is that you cannot be surprised unless you’re expecting something else first.” He gives a joke by Steve Martin as an example: “Sex is one of the most beautiful, wholesome, and natural things…that money can buy.”

“If you do not have one thing that can be perceived in two different ways, you do not have a joke,” says Matthews. “If I get on the bus the other day, and there was this crazy person picking fleas off of their head and calling me a wombab, I have only created one story; you only have one image in your head. I haven’t shattered any of your assumptions. ‘Crazy person, big deal.'” If I add a second story, like ‘I can’t believe he was the mayor,’ that shatters your assumption because I went from ‘crazy guy’ to ‘person of responsibility.’”

Matthews cites Zsa Zsa Gabor’s famous quip, “I’m an excellent housekeeper — every time I get divorced I keep the house,” as a good example of a shattered assumption because the word “housekeeper” is assumed to mean one thing but is reinterpreted to mean something else that is unexpected. Another example is a one-liner by Bob Smith, who said, “My Aunt Lorraine said, ‘Bob, you’re gay. Are you seeing a psychiatrist?’ I said, ‘No, I’m seeing a lieutenant in the Navy.’”

Matthews insists that every person is, to some degree, a comedian. “We’ve all been at a party; we’ve all told stories that make people laugh. If you show the world a point of view that is different than theirs, they’ll laugh at it. Iraq is not funny, but Jon Stewart said, ‘Iraq is terrible, we all agree with that, but how else are we going to teach kids world geography?’ The assumption is Iraq is bad. The reinterpretation is Iraq is good for this reason.” — Barbarella

Intro to Stand-Up Workshop
Friday, July 7
6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Comedy Co-op
11211 Sorrento Valley Road, Suite M
Sorrento Valley
Cost: Free
Info: 858-669-5687 or www.comedycoop.org

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Some English History? Learn about community of Kensington with Walkabout explorers, Saturday, July 8. Flat, casual walk starts at 9 a.m. on south side of Kensington sign. Free. Optional lunch follows (bring money). 619-231-7463. [KENSINGTON]

Tend California Native Plants, remove invasive interlopers, pick up litter with Friends of Famosa Slough around treatment ponds of urban wetland, Saturday, July 8, 9 a.m.–noon. Meet at corner of West Point Loma Boulevard and Famosa Boulevard with work clothes, bring work gloves and tools if you have them. 619-224-4591. Free. [POINT LOMA]

Volunteer Work Day at Audubon Nature Preserve is Saturday, July 8, 9 a.m.–noon. Help make property safe for wildfire season, remove non-native plants, rake, sweep, accomplish all manner of tasks at "preserve in the making." Free. Supplies, directions, required reservations: 619-682-7200. [VISTA]

"Safety Survival — Our Families, Ourselves, Our Natural Habitats" led by naturalist Dorothy Kitzing, Saturday, July 8, in Daley Ranch. Moderate 2.1-mile hike focuses on safety, sheltering, fire-safe landscaping, community resources. Adventure starts at 8:30 a.m. in main parking lot on La Honda Drive. Free. Requested reservations: 760-839-4680. [ESCONDIDO]

Let It Rot, master composters lead composting workshop Saturday, July 8, 8 a.m., at Escondido Community Garden. Instruction and demonstrations in building and maintenance of backyard compost piles, worm bins. Free. Garden is just north of Highway 78 on Centre City Parkway; park behind garden in cul-de-sac at Morning View Drive and Lincoln Avenue. Free. Registration: 619-341-1746. [CUYAMACA RANCHO STATE PARK]

Explore San Diego Audubon Society’s Silverwood Sanctuary, which was burned extensively during 2003 wildfires, during guided walks offered by reservation on Sundays, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. (619-682-7200). Sanctuary is located at 13003 Wildcat Canyon Road (five miles from Ashwood-Mapleview turn). Free. [LAKESIDE]

July’s Full Moon on Monday, the 10th, rises into a dusky southeastern sky at 8:20 p.m., about one-half hour after the sun sets. The moon is currently near the southermost position it can ever get on the celestial sphere. Consequently, it rises close to the southeast point on the horizon, transits the celestial meridian in the south only 30 degrees above the horizon at around 1 a.m., and sets close to the southwest point on the horizon at dawn.

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Bands are subject to change. Green Flash concerts will take place rain or shine. Reservations are encouraged as space is limited.
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Coastwalk Hike and Camp focusing on lagoons of north San Diego County, July 15–21. Each day includes day hike, docent talk, dinner, and overnight camping at Guadalupe County Park. Join group for a day or for whole week. Fee: $60 per day, $360 per week. Registration: 858-722-2115.

DANCE
Noche de Flamenco, Rafael Aragon, Gabriela Garza, Kambiz Pakandam, Marco Emitteah, Briseida Zarate, Rocio Ponce in concert, Thursday, July 6, 8 p.m., in Sherwood Auditorium Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (700 Prospect Street). Tickets: $30 in advance, $35 at door: 858-679-8133, (LA JOLLA)

String Theory makes music, Graham Hempel calls for contradance on Friday, July 7, 8 p.m., at Trinity United Methodist Church (3030 Thorn Street). Beginner’s dance workshop: 7:30 p.m. $7. Wear soft-soled shoes. 619-283-8550.

T-Broussard and the Zydeco Hustle San Diego Club (2264 Fern Street), Thursday, July 6, 7 p.m., at Balboa Park (BALBOA PARK)

FILM
The Night the Bar Stood Still! Trailers for classic (and not-so-classic) sci-fi and horror movies presented at Whistle Stop Bar (2226 Fern Street), Thursday, July 6, 9 p.m. “Trailer treats from Invasion of the Badd-Snatchers, Invaders from Mars, minisubmit to Roger Corman and David Cronenberg. Two hours of best and worst intergalactic nightmares.” Free. 619-281-3456.


“Cinema under the Stars,” Alfred Hitchcock’s Rope, with Jimmy Stewart and Farley Granger, screens Thursday and Friday, July 6 and 7, 8:30 p.m. at Tops (4040 Goldfish Street). Next up: Paul Newman and Robert Redford in The Sting, Saturday and Sunday, July 8 and 9, 8:30 p.m. $12. 619-295-4221.

Movies before the Mast, during July and August, selected Fridays are date nights, Saturdays are family nights on Star of India. Guests may compete in scavenger hunt aboard the 39-foot Russian submarine and then see E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial on Fridays, July 7, 14, and 21. Mister Roberts (1955) showcased on family nights, Saturdays, July 8, 15, 22. Films are projected on special ship sails.

Gates open at 7 p.m., with movie commencing just after sun- down (around 8:30 p.m.). Tickets: $13 general, $6 for children 12 and younger. Find the Star at 1306 North Harbor Drive. Reservations: 619-234-9133.

Truth is Stranger Than Fiction! See The Fall of Fujimori when this documentary screens for Sunday Matinee on July 9, 7:30 p.m., at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Ellen Perry’s film explains why fugitive Peruvian president returned to South America and is now fighting extradition. 619-236-5800. Free. (DOWNTOWN)

Up for a “Haunting Vision of Childhood?” Victor Eric’s Spirit of the Rechenburg, the tale of a young girl’s inner life, is “regarded as Spain’s greatest film to emerge during the 1970s.” See Rechenburg when summer film series gets underway, Thursday, July 13, 7 p.m., at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (700 Prospect Street). $7. 858-454-3541. (LA JOLLA)
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Basketmaking Traditions of Panama and Southern California explored during basketmaking event July 10 and 11, at the San Diego Museum of Man. Monday’s activities include discussion, meeting with visiting basketmakers, basketmaking demonstrations, more; 2–4 p.m. Included in regular museum admission ($6).

Activities resume at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, with workshop-exploring steps involved in preparation, creation of baskets from the two regions, basketmaking by participants. Admission on Tuesday: $5, plus $20 for basketmaking and materials. Registration: 619-239-2001. (balboa parc)

“Extinction Threats to Carnivorous Plants” explored by Jim Bosman when San Diego Horticultural Society gathers, Monday, July 10, 6 p.m., in Surfside Race Place at Del Mar Fairgrounds. Slides-illustrated lecture showcases the plants, their habitat, good steps taken by some commercial growers. Talk followed by plant forum. Free. 760-295-7089. (del mar)

“The Line Islands Expedition: Journey to a Prehistoric Coral Reef” is topic when Enric Sala speaks for ongoing “Perspectives on Ocean Science” series, Monday, July 10, 6:30 p.m., at Birch Aquarium-Museum (2300 Expedition Way). Sala focuses on “quest for a pristine coral reef” to “supply the ecological baseline needed to understand and potentially remedy mankind’s impact on these fragile

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

On the scrub-covered slopes overlooking eastern Chula Vista’s Rice Canyon, hardy coast chollas raise their asymmetrical arms in what seems a posture of defiance against the surrounding phanerophytes of cookie-cutter, pue- do-Spanish-style homes. The yellow-centered, magenta blossoms at their tips are opening now — though much of the remainder of the vegetation in the canyon is beginning its summer-dormant phase.

Throughout the San Diego region, from Oceanside to Otay Mesa, thin strips of canyon open space like this break the symmetry of the urban and suburban continuum. Sometimes, as in the case of Chula Vista’s newer planned communities, shreds of natural landscape survival by design. In many older neighborhoods, the canyons separating the mesas were, and still are, too steep and narrow to have been developed.

What remains of the formerly obscure Rice Canyon (now called Rice Canyon Open Space Preserve) stretches some two miles west from Discovery Park off East H Street, west of Southwest College. From a small parking/staging area across from the park, a wide, sandy, mostly flat trail runs for a total of two miles down the canyon to a point on East H Street about one mile east of Interstate 805. At the trailhead itself, and at a mailbox about midway down the canyon, you may find a free, color-photo-illustrated leaflet (produced by Southwestern College) describing the canyon’s native vegetation. The largest bushes in sight on the canyon slopes are lemonade berry shrubs, with sticky fruit that Native Americans once prepared to produce a beverage similar to lemonade.

As you make your inland from south San Diego Bay. The shriveling California sagebrush plants coating the canyons exude a spicy fragrance. Bird, cricket, and cicada songs waft on the breeze. White and yellow butterflies flit amid the late blossoming weeds and wildflowers.

A ROAM-OMA A ROAM-OMA:

Visit Chula Vista’s Rice Canyon for an instructive look at South Bay’s native vegetation.

Distance from downtown San Diego: 12 miles

Hiking difficulty: Easy

way down the canyon on a typical early summer morning, the marine-layer clouds begin to part and salt-tinted air pushes

Canyon, hardy coast chollas raise their asymmetrical arms in what seems a posture of defiance against the surrounding phanerophytes of cookie-cutter, pseudo-Spanish-style homes. The yellow-centered, magenta blossoms at their tips are opening now — though much of the remainder of the vegetation in the canyon is beginning its summer-dormant phase.

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performed by Ric Henry and Eileen Bowman, Sunday, July 9, 5–8 p.m. $35 tickets include light buffet dinner at 5 p.m. Find gardens at 230 Quail Gardens Drive. Reservations: 760-436-3036 x206.

Sundays at Six, Celtic music by Strange Woods, July 9, 6 p.m., at Harry Griffen Park Amphitheatre (9550 Milden Street). Free. 619-667-1300.

Life Interpreted Through Music, Words, Silence, Dance — Performance Art Show, Sunday, July 9, 7:30 p.m., at North Park Vaudeville and Candy Shoppe (2031 El Cajon Boulevard). $5. 619-647-4958.


Truth and Irreverence Reign, San Diego Poetry Slam, Monday, July 10, at Voz Alta (1544 Broadway). Perform, judge, or just observe. Signups for poets at 8 p.m., slampaign 8:30 p.m. Competitors: $5. 619-230-1869.

Twilight in the Park summer concert series showcases Bi-National Mambo Orchestra on Tuesday, July 11; Finest City Jazz Band on Wednesday, July 12; San Diego Banjo Band takes stage on Thursday, July 13. Concerts run from 6:15–7:15 p.m. in Spreckels Organ Pavilion. Free. 619-239-0512.

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*Certain restrictions apply. Tax and gratuity not included. Not valid with other discounts.

Surfing Twins and Free Spirits Michael Willis and Milton Willis sign and discuss Discover the Greatness in You, Wednesday, July 12, 7 p.m., at Borders Books and Music (1905 Calle Barcelona, 760-479-0242).


The Odyssey, one-on-one and two-on-two B-boy/girl battles, Wednesday, July 12, 8 p.m., at Arts and Entertainment Center (3026 University Avenue). Prizes for top dancer. Cover: $5. 619-260-1731.

The Post-4th Big-Bang Show with Wally Wang, Tim Begley, and sketch comedy by Comedy Under Construction, Tuesday, July 11, 8 p.m., for Comedy Grill at Rosie and Joe’s Grill and Cantina (7986 Armour Street). Cover: $5. For those 18 and older. 858-350-8088.

Norway’s “Queen of Crime,” Kern Fossum, signs and discusses When the Devil Holds the Candle, Wednesday, July 12, 7 p.m., Mysterious Galaxy Books (7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard). Free. 858-268-4747.

James Darren and Orchestra

The actor, the director, the songwriter, the singer ... with his Tony Bennett-like voice performing his hit singles.

Saturday, July 8 • 7:30 pm
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LOCAL EVENTS

“Face-to-Face Mask,” seek garibaldi, lobsters, and octopuses when Birch Aquarium-Museum hosts snorkeling at La Jolla Cove — part of La Jolla-San Diego Underwater Park and Ecological Reserve — Saturday, July 8, 8–10 a.m. $30. For those ten and older. Reservations: 858-534-7336.

Join Knickerbikers Bicyclists for a jaunt from Target in Mission Valley to Mimmo’s Italian Village, Saturday, July 8. The 25- or 30-mile ride starts at 9:30 a.m., includes SDSU area, Kensington, Hillcrest. Bring money for lunch (try a grilled feta sandwich). 858-453-3687.

Carlsbad Triathlon, Sunday, July 9, at Tamarack State Beach. Race starts 1k swim, 25k bike ride, 5k run. 760-602-7515. (CARLSBAD)

America’s Cup Finals at San Diego Polo Club, Sunday, July 9. Preliminary matches begin at 1:30 p.m., feature match at 3 p.m. General admission is $5, as is parking. The club meets at 14555 El Camino Real. 858-481-9217. (RANCHO SAN DIEGO)

Racing Without Brakes! Tuesday-night bicycle racing season continues on July 11, 6:30–9 p.m., at San Diego Velodrome. Free for spectators. 858-273-1200. (MIRAMAR)

Bicycle Through Fairbanks Ranch and Rancho Santa Fe area with Sierra Club bicyclists, Thursday, July 13. Ride with moderate hills, brisk pace, starts at 6:45 p.m. at Wave Records (at Del Mar Heights Road and El Camino Real). Bring money for food after ride. 760-436-2352. (RANCHO PEASQUItos)

Nightly Dinner Cruises
Escape from the ordinary on one of our finest dining yachts with a boarding glass of champagne, three-course seated dinner prepared fresh in our galley and dancing under the stars.

Sunday Champagne Brunch
Cruise in style with unlimited champagne, an elaborate brunch buffet and breathtaking views.

$5.00 OFF with this ad on any Dinner Cruise, Brunch Cruise or Harbor Tour. Good on up to six adult fare tickets. Not valid with any other discounts, on special event or holiday cruises. Expires 7/17/06.

SOUTH COUNTY EVENTS

San Diego Padres are in Philadelphia for game against Phillies, Thursday, July 6, 4:05 p.m. Road trip continues with games in Washington against Nationals, July 7–9, at 4:05 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, 11:05 a.m. on Sunday. All-star game is Tuesday, July 11. Tickets for future home games: 877-374-2784.

The San Diego Surf Dawgs baseball team hosts Chico Outlaws, Friday-Sunday, July 7–9, at 7:05 p.m. each night, in Tony Gwynn Stadium at San Diego State University (15500 Campanile Drive). 619-282-4487.

Flow Rider Competition, Saturday, July 8, 9 a.m., at Wave Waterpark (105 Wave Drive). Team competition, stand-up competition, drop-knee division, masters, more. 619-282-4487. (CARLSBAD)

Bazaar del Mundo Shops (4133 Forbes Ave, San Diego) presents the Multicultural Festival, Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. $20. Locations: 818-252-5655.

Parade of Ponds annual self-guided tour of many ponds and water gardens, Saturday and Sunday, July 8 and 9, 9 a.m.–3 p.m. $20. Locations: 818-252-5655. (SAN DIEGO)

San Diego’s Premier Bay Cruise
First-class service and spectacular views from the only tour company that’s been serving San Diego for over 90 years.

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Cruise or Harbor Tour.
Witness Real Cannon Fire, demonstrations, period costumes, and live battles during Civil War reenactment, July 8 and 9, at Antique Gas and Steam Museum, 2040 North Santa Fe Avenue. Camp boasts historians, entertainers, food vendors, merchants, hundreds of Civil War re-enactors. Hours: 10 a.m.–5 p.m.; battles at noon and 3 p.m. on Saturday, noon and 2:30 p.m. on Sunday. $10 general; $5 kids 5 to 11 years old. 760-941-1791.

“Art of Archery — The Art of Backbending,” yoga workshop led by Dana Pare, Saturday, July 8, 9 a.m., at MBS Studio (2971 India Street). “Strengthen your back while opening your heart.” $35. 619-682-7115.

Psychic Fair and Metaphysical Conference, Saturday and Sunday, July 8 and 9, noon–6 p.m., at Alexandra’s BookStore (3545 Midway Drive, suite G). Tarot, palmistry, numerology, other psychic arts featured. $20 per reading. 619-298-3422.

Explore Scripps Pier by the Light of a Full Moon when the pier, normally closed to public, is open for exploration on Sunday, July 9, 7–9:30 p.m. Participants learn of structure’s history, take water samples, collect plankton, observe ocean conditions, and study nocturnal habits of marine life. Fee: $20 for adults, $17 for those 9–13. Required reservations: 858-534-7336.

Celebrate Bastille Day (early) when House of France hosts lawn program with native dances, music, and costumes at International Cottages, Sunday, July 9, 2 p.m. Free. 619-234-0739.

Del Mar Wine and food festival, Tuesday, July 11, 5:30 p.m., at Del Mar Plaza (1555 Camino del Mar). Wine and food from local restaurants. $60. 858-755-4844.

Does the Executive Branch Hold Too Much Power? Present your view during discussion on Wednesday, July 12, 7 p.m., at Living Room Coffeehouse (1417 University Avenue). Free. 619-295-7911.

It’s PT Cruiser Night! Cajon Classic Cruise, the weekly classic car show featuring “more than 500 classic, custom, and hot-rod cars,” is Wednesday, July 12, 5–8 p.m. on Main Street. Free. 619-401-8858.

Taste of Leucadia: Food for Thought, Thursday, July 13, 6 p.m., on Highway 101, from El Portal to Glacius Streets. Tickets ($17) include samples of cuisine on offer in Leucadia, as well as live music. 760-436-2320.

“Beyond Superheroes and Sidekicks,” offbeat worlds created by artist/writer Donna Barr are on exhibit through Friday, August 18, in Special Collections and University Archives at San Diego State University Library. Exhibition includes works by Robert Gregory, Chynna Clugston-Major, others. Free. 619-594-4991.

Calligraphy and Lacquer Objects created by Ayako Stott are on exhibit through Sunday, August 27, at Japanese Friendship Garden. Gardens open at 10 a.m. each day, close at 5 p.m. Monday–Friday; 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. General admission: $3. 619-232-2721.

San Diego’s #1 Bridal Show
Sunday • July 16
San Diego Convention Center

Over 200 exhibitors with everything you need to plan the wedding of your dreams! Spectacular fashion shows at 11:30 am, 1 pm & 2:45 pm.

$2 OFF ADMISSION
Bridal Bazaar
Sunday, July 16 • 10 am–4 pm
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One admission per coupon. Cannot be combined with other offers. Visit www.bridalbazaar.com for discount coupons.

San Diego Reader July 6, 2006
**OUT & ABOUT**

**FOUR-TIME GOLD MEDAL**

Olympic diving champion Greg Louganis, Claire de Lune Coffeehouse, Thursday, July 6. (SEE IN PERSON)

**BANCROFT RANCH HOUSE MUSEUM**

houses indigenous Indian artifacts and memorabilia of early settlers in the area, run by the Spring Valley Historical Society. The home, built in 1863, was registered as a National Historic Landmark in 1962 and is on a spot where Kumeyaay Indians camped more than 1000 years ago beside the spring that later gave the area its name. The museum is found at 9050 Memory Lane; 619-469-1480. (SPRING VALLEY)

**BARONA CULTURAL CENTER AND MUSEUM**

is located at 1095 Barona Road; 619-443-7003 x2. (SPRING VALLEY)

**BONITA MUSEUM AND CULTURAL CENTER**

the museum highlights the history of the Sweetwater Valley from the mid-1880s, with historical photographs; artifacts; tools, and farming implements; the district’s 1953 fire engine; and bound copies back to the 1930s of the Chula Vista Star News. Find the museum at 4355 Bonita Road; 619-267-5141. (BONITA)

**CALIFORNIA SURF MUSEUM**, “The Surfer-Shapeurs,” on exhibit through 2006, showcases several surfers whose conceptual abilities and crafting talent radically altered surfboard design. The search has always been for lighter, faster, more maneuverable boards, from Duke Kahanamoku in early 1900s to Tom Blake in 1920s to Simon Anderson in early 1980s.

The museum features surfing artifacts and memorabilia — such as surfboards and clothing — of local legends Phil Edwards, John “L1” Richards, and Peter Johnson, and Duke Kahanamoku. The museum is located at 223 North Coast Highway; 760-721-6876. (OCEANSIDE)

**Campo Railroad Museum**, showcasing more than 130 years of American railroad history and technology through static and operating exhibits, the museum includes cabooses, steam and diesel locomotives, track motorcars, 1890s “Jim Crow” segregated passenger cars. Interpretive 1.5-hour train rides offered each weekend. 619-232-3821. (BONITA)

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$125 Tandem

$25 Off Daily Jet Ski Rentals

San diego reader July 6, 2006

**FOR KIDS**

“My Emperor’s New Clothes” presented by actors and crew of San Diego Junior Theater through July 16 in Casa del Prado Theater. For all ages. Curtain rises at 7 p.m. on Fridays, 2 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Performance on July 15 is ASL interpreted. Tickets: $9–$12 per show. (DOWNTOWN)

“Big Joe’s Fireworks” by Big Joe Productions continues through Sunday, July 9, in Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theater. Next up: Puppet Express performs Pepperr’s First Favorites, July 12–16. Showtimes: 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Find theater near Aerospace Museum. Admission: $5 for children, $8 seniors, $5 general. 619-544-9203. (BALBOA PARK)

“Seussical the Musical!” presented by Moonlight Stage Productions, Thursdays–Sundays through July 9, at Moonlight Amphitheatre in frente Terrace Park (1200 Vale Terrace Drive). Imagina...
Creation Museum, a museum that contrasts the evolution and creation views. It's located at 6046 Woodside Avenue North. For more information, call 619-488-0920 x231.

Flying Leatherneck Museum, dedicated to the Marine Corps who provided air support. The museum is located at 5345 Armanda Drive. For reservations: 800-421-7250 x411.

George White and Anna Gunn Marston House, historic home sits on five acres of landscaped grounds with a formal English Roman garden. The museum is located at 5345 Armanda Drive. For reservations: 800-421-7250 x411.

Heritage of the Americas Museum, more than 100 Chinese jades of the Late Neolithic (4500–2500 B.C.) through the Ming periods (1368–1644) are included in "The Stone of Heaven: The Enduring Art of Jade China." From ancient times, jades in China were treasured as talismans, worn on the body either as final adornments in death or as ornaments in life. See a rare and valuable jade burial suit of the Han dynasty (206 B.C.–A.D. 221), one of only about two dozen that have been excavated in China. The suits were made of more than 2000 square and rectangular plates of jade sewn together with threads of gold, silver, or bronze (depending upon the status of the wearer). Ongoing.

The museum features art and artifacts from South and North America, concentrating on the utilitarian and decorative artistry of crafts workers from ancient cultures. The museum also features wings dedicated to natural history, archaeology, education, anthropology, and fine art. Find the museum on the Escondido campus, 12100 San Diego State Drive West, 619-677-5194. (ESCONDIDO)

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

House of Pacific Relations, International Cottages are open every Sunday, noon–4 p.m., presenting history and traditions of 30 ethnic groups. On fourth Tuesday of each month, Children Around the World video shows in Hall of Nations, select cottages open. 619-538-4069. (LABADIA PARK)

J.A. Cooley Museum, an eclectic collection of items — including displays on phonographs, clocks, electric trains, and 20 other types — is featured at the museum. The current feature attraction is an "Industrial Product Collection," with examples of the historical progression of automation from 1806–1915, "some classics and a concept car." Find the museum at 4233 Park Boulevard, 619-296-3112. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

John DeWitt Historic Museum and Library, operated by the Alpine Historical Society, is located in the 1897 home/offce of Dr. Sophronia Nichols. She was the first doctor in Alpine and the first female doctor in the East County. Indian artifacts from the Kingery family on exhibit. The museum is located at 2116 Tavern Road; 619-659-9740. (LA MESA)

Leo Carrillo Ranch Historic Park, old adobe buildings were once vacation retreat and working ranch of actor Leo Carrillo. Tours on Saturdays (11 a.m., 1 p.m.) and Sundays (noon, 2 p.m.). Find Rancho de Los Quiotos at 6200 Flying LC Lane. 760-476-1042. (CARLSBAD)

Mago House Museum, built in 1887 and surrounded by rose gardens, the site includes "one of the last barns still standing in Carlsbad." Docent and self-guided tours of historic house and gardens. Find Mago House at 258 Beech Street, 760-434-9189. (CARLSBAD)

Marine Corps Recruit Depot Museum, housed in a historic building, the museum features five
The Few and the Proud: Marine Corps Drill Instructors in Their Own Words

by Larry Smith
W.W. Norton, 2006, $26.95, 325 pages

FROM THE DUST JACKET: The Few and the Proud examines how Marines are made and the drill instructors mandated to make them. From callow civilian to disciplined Marine, the transformation is conducted under the demanding guidance of the drill instructor — the emblematic DI at the heart of the Corps.

WHAT THE CRITICS SAY: “Veterans tell what it takes to train Marines for Iraq today.” — Publishers Weekly

“A superb job of describing how the Corps creates a brand of warrior whose very mention puts the fear of God into their enemies...first-hand accounts from Marine drill sergeants, whose tales include everything from training recruits to the hell of combat.” — Military Book Club

About the Author: Larry Smith, editor with Parade Magazine and the New York Times, is also the author of Beyond Glory: Medal of Honor Heroes in Their Own Words.

A CONVERSATION WITH THE AUTHOR: The Few and the Proud made an impressive appearance at #31 on the extended New York Times bestseller list, and I meant to congratulate the touring author personally. But I left town before Larry Smith’s appearance in Las Vegas at D. C. Wills Books on Memorial Day Weekend, along with 2 of the 28 legendary Marines he profiles: “Iron Mike” Merovich and Bill Paxton. Two nights earlier he had been at Barnes & Noble, with Sergeants Christine Henning and Rudy Rodriguez. I caught up with Larry many days later, at home in Connecticut.

“Larry, Camp Pendleton is the base of the first Marine Division and plays a large role in the oral history of the Marine Corps’ drill instructors. Pendleton’s 125,000 acres were originally bought for $4 million – quite a bargain – and dedicated by FDR. But another president’s footsteps are preserved there: Jack Kennedy’s.”

Larry says, “After JFK visited there in 1963, his footprints were cast in bronze, right where he’d stood outside receiving, and some unsung genius got the idea of painting footprints next to them to show new recruits where to stand. However, Marines on both coasts lay claim to them. One side says Parris Island originated the idea, the other says San Diego. No one seems to know when the opera so fondly, or who came up with it. I talked to former drill instructor Chuck Talano at the museum on Parris Island and with Parker Jackson at the Marine Corps. Recruit Depot Museum in San Diego. The only consensus is that the paint was undoubtedly scoured from road maintenance and is yellow by sheer coincidence. Anyway, the footprints became an icon. They’ve got doormats with yellow footprints, shirts, etc.” Larry laughs. “I’ve even got a tie with footprints all over it.”

“So,” I interrupt, “the operating principle for the DI is that, if you’re going to break under stress, you should be in boot camp rather than in combat. You quote a drill instructor saying, ‘The more we sweat in peacetime, the less we bleed in war.’ The drill instructors of old were totally dedicated, working 100-hour weeks, 4 a.m. to midnight, forging future jarheads. The training was so fierce that civilian workers were forbidden to leave keys in the ignition lest a recruit jump in and drive away. How rugged was rugged?”

“Veterans tell what it takes to train Marines for Iraq today.” — Publishers Weekly

“The primary function of a Marine is to locate, close with, and kill the enemy. That’s their first job: becoming a trained killer.”

About the Author: Larry Smith, editor with Parade Magazine and the New York Times, is also the author of Beyond Glory: Medal of Honor Heroes in Their Own Words.
Rolls-Royce liquid-cooled Merlin V-12 that powered the Spitfire and P-51 Mustang fighters, and a rare German Junkers Ju-88, one of the world’s first operational jet models, 10,000 aviation-related items, and memorabilia from the San Diego Air & Space Museum’s permanent collection. Find the museum near the Starlight Bowl. 619-231-2886.

**San Diego Electric Railway Museum** is dedicated to promoting, and preserving athletic achievement — is located at 2131 Pan American Plaza. 619-234-2544. (BALBOA PARK)

**San Diego Archaeological Center** is located in the museum near the Starlight Bowl. 619-231-2886. (BALBOA PARK)

**Sand Flea** and the movie. The San Diego Aircraft Car-

**San Diego Automotive Carrier Museum** is dedicated to “curation of archaeological pro-

**San Diego County Sheriff’s Museum** is dedicated to promoting, and preserving athletic achievement — is located at 2131 Pan American Plaza. 619-234-2544. (BALBOA PARK)
many pushups you can make a
guy do. And you can’t go over
that.”

“I like a Miranda warning,”
I suggest.

“You’re right, except it applies
to the drill instructor. Somehow,
deeply, despite this, the Marines
have managed to sustain their atti-
tude, their demeanor, their
perturbation.”

“Everyone seems to
acknowledge the success of the
training, but, on the downside,
you can also create some char-
acters like the Texas Tower Sniper
and Larry Harvey Oswald.”

Larry laughs. “Everyone
likes to say there’s no such thing
as an ex-Marine... except for Lee
Harvey Oswald.”

“Your quote Eleanor
Roosevelt as follows: ‘The Marines
I have seen around the world
have the cleanest bodies, the
finest minds, the highest morale,
and the lowest morals of any
group of animals I have ever seen. Thank
God for the United States Marine
Corps!’ She was kidding, but then,
during the Vietnam War, the stand-
ards really were lowered.”

“Yeah... the government
was pouring such numbers into
Vietnam that training was down
to eight weeks, and they got
a lot of really bottom-of-the-bar-
rel recruits in the Marine Corps
and across the military. The
mil-
cracy and recruiting were in a
diastrophus. Some officers said
that we couldn’t continue to prose-
cute the war and that this was
a big reason for the war ending.
It wasn’t just because of politics,
but because our forces were no
longer effective. A Marine instal-
lation in Vietnam, called LZ Ross,
was actually overrun by these
malcontents. And there was an
extraordinary riot on a base in
Okinawa. Huge efforts were made
to keep this out of the press, and
they mostly succeeded. Even the
Marines could barely function
with these guys in their ranks; a
lot of them apparently were asso-
ciated with gangs. And what they
finally did was hold massive
inspections throughout the Corps.
Anybody who had a gang tattoo
or something incriminating in his
locker, they shipped him to San
Diego and gave him an admin-
istrative discharge. That’s when
they came up with the ruling that
you had to be a high school grad-
uate. No more drags of society.”

“And now you have bat-
talions of women at Paris Island.”

“Okay. Larry corrects. “It’s the Fourth
Recruit Training Battalion.”

“In 1942, LeJeune was opened as a segregated
training camp for African-American
Marines. Nine years later, seg-
regation in the service was ended
by Truman, well ahead of the
civilian world. When service was
refused to a black in uniform in
the town near Parris Island, sen-
tries showed up. Instead of tak-
ing him away, they told the restau-
 rant owner that if he didn’t serve
the black Marine, he wouldn’t be
serving ‘any of us.’ When a bar-
er on base refused to cut the
hair of black Marines, he was
fired and the commanding offi-
cer personally apologized.”

“Yes. All Marines bleed
green, is the saying.”

“San Diego Historical Society
Museum, “Romp! Children Dis-
cover Balboa Park” focuses on why
Balboa Park exists, examines the
1915–16 and 1935–36 Expositions,
and includes exhibits, attractions,
and “marvels that were found in
the monumental buildings created
to showcase the West.” Historic
film footage allows visitors to tour
the Ford Building as it existed in
1935 and see displays and machin-
ey that were there. The museum is
located in the Casa de Balboa building, 619-232-6203. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Maritime Museum,
“Taming the Pacific Swell: The
Evolution of Surfing” continues
through January, tracing history of
modern surfing from its Hawaiian
beginnings to billion-dollar indus-
try it is today. Changes in surf-
board design used to illustrate evol-
ution of the sport.

The museum features perma-
nent exhibits documenting the his-
tory of San Diego’s waterfront
and the building of the West Coast by
sea, the old San Diego-Coronado
ferriesboat, the tuna fishing indus-
try, and the military. The museum
fleet consists of the 1863 bark
Star of India, the 1898 San Francisco
ferryboat Berkeley, and the 1904
Scottish steam yacht Medea. The
H.M.S. Surprise, used in film Mas-
ter and Commander, is perma-
nently on exhibit; see artifacts, cos-
tumes, props used in making of
the flick. Also open for touring: a
B-39 Soviet attack submarine,
among the largest conventionally
powered submarines ever built.
This Project 641/Foxtrot class
diesel-powered submarine was de-
signed to track U.S. and NATO
warships worldwide throughout the
Earth’s oceans. There are also nautical
exhibits, ship carpenters, model
building, ships in bottles, wood-
carvers, and a complete research
library.

The museum is located at 1306
North Harbor Drive, along the
Embarcadero at corner of North
Harbor Drive and Ash Street; 619-234-9153. (EAST SAN DIEGO)

San Diego Model Railroad
Museum, the museum celebrates
American railroads with “the
largest permanent operating model
railroad and toy train ex-
hibit” in North America. Four
scale-model railroads of the South-
west, the “San Diego County Relief
Map” exhibit, and an interactive
toy train. There is a multimedia
presentation on railroading, an op-
crating railroad semaphore signal,
and interpretive displays on rail-
roads and model railroading.

The museum is downstairs in the
Casa de Balboa building, 619-496-0199. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Museum of Man,
“Body Ornamentation: Artistic
Representation of Self,” contin-
ing through Tuesday, March 27, ex-
amines this enduring art form.
Exhibit focuses on many different
types of body art in a variety of cul-
tures around the world, as well as
underlying reasons behind the or-
nomination. See examples of body
painting, tattooing, scarification,
piercing, documentary videos,
photo murals.

“Reflections” showcases rare
and significant objects representing
90 years of the museum’s collection;
some of the objects have never
been displayed for public display.
Items include a Seri woodcarving of
a scalp, a Kuna layered painting by
Alan Houser; more. Through Saturday,
March 24.

“Passage to Panama: Past to
Present” continues through Thurs-
day, January 25. Exhibit documents
culture of Embera, Wounaan, and
Ngobe with ethnographic materi-
al, cultural items, photographs.

“The Art of Being Kuna: Layers of
Meaning Among the Kuna of
Panama” centers on importance of
form and beauty for Kuna in every-
day life, narratives, ritual and heal-
ing, and visual arts. Display includes
nadan, colorful and richly decorated
appliqué fabrics. Closes Monday,
September 4.

Permanent anthropology ex-
hibit “Footsteps through Time:
Four Million Years of Human Evo-
lution” features “more than a hun-
dred touchable replicas of early hu-
mans, primates, and futuristic
cyborgs (part human, part ma-
chine),” 619-239-2001. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Natural History
Museum, “Dinosaurs: Real and
Robotic,” on view through De-
cember, demonstrates how di-
obosaurs first came to life in movies,
follows their transformation over
the years through artistic portrayal
and advances in scientific infor-
maton and technology. Exhibit
includes original movie memora-
abilia, posters, models, dino dig
giant robotic dinosaurs.

Fossil Mysteries,” a perma-
nent exhibit, showcases last 75 mil-
lion years in Southern California
and Baja California region, a time
known for its rich fossil record.
Highlights include life-size mod-
els of Allosaurus, Lambdolorus,
as a cow, megadonshark, more.

“Visions of the Natural World
through the Lens of the Masters,”
continuing through Sunday, Feb-
uary 25, 2006, is this collaborative
effort between museum and Or-
dover Gallery, with variety of na-
ture-based photography. Also on
view and for sale: sculpture and
art.

“Earth, Wind, and Wildfire!”
continues through September, ex-
ploring powerful forces (such as
fire, nature, people) shaping the
landscape of Southern California.
The exhibit is “designed to raise
awareness of the history and in-
evitality of fire in Southern Cal-
ifornia’s arid and diverse wild-
lands.”

Current “giant-screen films”
include: Visions: Journey to New
Worlds and Ocean Oasis, 619-232-
3821. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Tag Boat Museum,
a 100-foot retired Korean War-era
tug boat built in 1951 is open for
visits at museum. Boat is docked
along Harbor Drive, between
Grape Street and Broadway; 619-200-7417. (GARDEN GROVE)

San Diegoroots Heritage Museum,
the museum offers informative
displays on the North County
coastal history including Native
Americans, early homesteaders,
and recent times, as well as photo-
graphic collections and archives.
Find the museum 561 South Vul-
can Avenue; 760-632-9711. (ENCINITAS)

Yes, All Marines bleed green, is
the saying.”

“The yellow footprints are
identified with the Marines,” he
says, “but for me the icon of the
Corps is definitely the DI.”

“Yes, the mystique of the
Marine Corps is really embod-
ied in the drill instructor. These
men are really special. All this
hard-guy stuff they play with
recruits is not to drive people out
but to make them succeed. They’re
breaking recruits down to try to
get them to submerge their iden-
tity in the group. There is no talk-
ing back, ‘I, me, and my, are forbid-
end words. They’re expected to
eat, sleep, and work as a team.

The drill instructors will take a
shapeless adolescent who’s had
a life of self-indulgence and not
much in the way of prospects and
in 12 weeks they turn that kid’s
life around. And they do it in a
way that stays with that young
man forever. It all happens through
the drill instructor. They can’t get
sick, they stand out there at all
hours, fit and immaculate, star-
ing down these recruits, and the
sand fleas are biting the shit out
of the DIs and they’re not even
finching. The kids see this and say,
‘Wow, I want to be like that guy.’”

— Juris Jurjevics

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Civic Organist Carol Williams in concert, Sunday, July 15, 7 p.m., in Spreckels Organ Pavilion. Free.


Tickets: $29 or $34 per concert, $119 or $125 for series. Find Neurosciences Institute at 106160 John Hopkins Drives Reserve: (858) 454-5872. (L.A.Jolla)

Civic Organist Carol Williams in concert, Sunday, July 15, 7 p.m., in Spreckels Organ Pavilion. Free.

The First Annual Chamber Music Festival at University of San Diego commences with faculty concert on Sunday, July 7, 7:30 p.m., in French Parlor, Founders Hall; and on Monday, July 16, 10 a.m., in University Center Foyer.

Student concerts begin at noon in University Center Foyer. Tuesdays-Thursday, July 12-13. Grand final concert with faculty and students is Saturday, July 15, 7 p.m., in French Parlor, Founders Hall.

Admission to all concerts is by donation. USD, 4998 Alcala Park; 619-260-4106. (USD) free

Four Hands and Four Feet! Colin Andrews and Janette Fishell perform selections from Holst's "The Planets" and "Samson and Delilah" by Saint-Saëns for 19th annual International Summer Organ Festival, Monday, July 10, 7:30 p.m., at Spreckels Organ Pavilion. Free. 619-702-8138. (Balboa Park)

Art Listings

Events that are underlined occur after July 13.

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 619-881-2201. You may also submit information online at SandiegoReader.com by clicking on the events section.

Classical

Frankie Valli and the 4 Seasons join San Diego Symphony for Summer Pops concerts, Friday and Saturday, July 7 and 8. Group numbers include "Big Girls Don't Cry," "Oh What a Night." Evenings conclude with fireworks.

Concerts begin at 7:30 p.m. (gates open at 6) at Embarcadero Marina Park South (206 Marina Park Way). Single tickets: $16-$87, available by calling 619-233-0804. (Balboa Park)

The Short Attention Span Chamber Music Series gets underway with concert by Geisel Library Bassoon Quartet, Wednesday, July 12. Musicians pull favorite chamber music scores from music shelves; audience invited to ask questions between selections. Concert begins at 12:30 p.m. on lower level of UCSD's Geisel Library. Admission is free, parking is not. 619-534-8074. (La Jolla)

Faculty Exhibition with work in a variety of media showcased in exhibit opening with reception, Friday, July 7, 6 p.m., in Art Academy of San Diego (13804 S. St. Street). Classes Friday, August 23-21-301. (Toronado)

Ray at Night, over 20 art venues showcase local art on second Saturday of each month, including July 6-10 p.m., centered at Bay Street and University Avenue. Live music, food, 619-546-9546. Free. (DOWNTOWN)

"A Daydream Journey" by Claire-Lise Matthey Anderegg and "Destinations: A Photographic Narrative" by Jack B. Sah featured through Sunday, July 30, at San Diego Art Institute, Museum of the Living Art (1399 El Prado). Juror was Lisa Dominguez. Also on view:"Outstanding Visual Artists" of region. Meet artists during reception on Sunday, July 7, 6 p.m. 619-236-0011. (Balboa Park)

"Artspiration," members' show with work in variety of media continues through Sunday, July 23, at La Jolla Art Association Village Gallery (7932 Ivanhoe Avenue). Show runs through Saturday, August 5, 6-10 p.m. 619-584-4448. (Embarcadero)

Dance for $30

Classes Still Open

Monday 
Argentine Tango

Tuesday

Latin/Ballroom* • Nightclub 2-step • Hustle

Wednesday

Jitterbug & Swing*

Thursday

Lindy Hop* • West Coast Swing

Friday

Salsa* • West Coast Swing

Saturday

Country-Western Two-step* 
Social Dance Specialists

Dances

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Every Saturday: Latin & Ballroom
Every Sunday: Jitterbug/Swing

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*Classes in bold with this ad, first-time student. Introductory classes.

Contact: (619) 584-1201. You may also submit information online at SandiegoReader.com by clicking on the events section.

Galleries

Contemporary Anime Paintings by Mark Richmond, digital collages by Cathy Carey, sculpture by Jerry Mallen on exhibit through Wednesday, August 30, at Shiva Artistic Collections (115 West Grand Avenue). Opening reception: Saturday, July 8, 6-9:30 p.m., 6-9:30 p.m. 619-414-3900. (Toronado)

"Below Sea Level," exhibit of new works and installation by Ben Horton opens with reception, Friday, July 7, 4 p.m., at Voice (1136 11th Street). Through Friday, July 28, 619-235-6922. (Toronado)

Figures and Silhouettes, display of multimedia figural paintings by feel Sharp and oil painting silhouettes by BK Simpson open with reception in conjunction with Ray at Night on Saturday, July 8, 6 p.m., at Sharp Gallery (3807 Rose Street; 619-546-9346). Closes Thursday, August 10. (North Park)

"Free Spirit," juried awards show of 90 water-media paintings is on exhibit through Saturday, July 29, at San Diego Watercolor Society's Showcase Gallery (Studio Building, 2400 Ketmere Boulevard). Juror was Linda Doll. Reception for artists: Friday, July 7, 7 p.m. 619-338-0502. (Little Italy)

"Halfholds," May-lin Martinez exhibits mixed-media collages, sculpture, and installation through Sunday, August 6. Art Academy of San Diego (3139 University Avenue). Show opens with reception for artists: Saturday, July 8, 6-30 p.m. 619-584-4448. (Embarcadero)

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~ CHORUS BREVIARII ~
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JULY 2006 EVENTS
Saturday Morning, July 8, 9:30 am
LADYMASS
The Mass of Our Lady on Saturdays “Salve Sancta Parens”
Celebrated according to the Novus Ordo, in Latin, Ad Orientem,
music to include Gregorian Mass VI,
sung propers and antiphon “Salve Regina”
Fr. Rex Defore, C.S.S.P., Celebrant

Sunday Afternoon, July 16, 3:30 pm
SOLEMN SUNDAY VESPERS
Office of Evening Prayer for the 6th Sunday after Pentecost
and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
(Approximate length of service: 45 minutes)

St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church
1638 Polk Ave.
(Intersection of Park Blvd. and Washington St., Normal Heights.
Off-street parking beside church.)

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SAN DIEGO
JULY 2006 EVENTS

FRIDAY, JULY 7
Gymnastics at the Mission
7-8 pm

SATURDAY, JULY 8
8-10 pm
Gymnastics at the Villa

SUNDAY, JULY 9
9:15 am
Sunday Masses

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MUSEUM SUNDAY VESPERS
Office of Evening Prayer for the 6th Sunday after Pentecost
and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
(Approximate length of service: 45 minutes)

St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church
1638 Polk Ave.
(Intersection of Park Blvd. and Washington St., Normal Heights.
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September 27 7:30pm
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**SMOKEY ROBINSON**
August 24 7:30pm
$45/$55/$65

**DAVID LEE ROTH**
July 21 7:30pm
$25/$35/$45

**NATALIE COLE**
July 28 7:30pm
$65/$75/$85

**MICHAEL BOLTON**
August 3 7:30pm
$50/$60/$70

**MARCO ANTONIO SOLIS**
August 27 7:30pm
$70/$80/$90

**KENNY G**
September 22 7:30pm
$65/$75/$85

**SMOKEY ROBINSON**
August 24 7:30pm
$45/$55/$65

**ENGELBERT HUMPERDINCK**
September 27 7:30pm
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**ENGELBERT HUMPERDINCK**
September 27 7:30pm
$35/$45/$55

For other new shows, visit palacasino.com
recent Arbitron ratings indicate she was doing well. For the past two months, among listeners aged 18–34, Hilary’s ratings beat competitor FM-94/9’s by a ratio of about 3 to 2.

A request for comment was not answered by 91X program director Kevin Stapleford. Observers theorize that Finest City Broadcasting (which operates 91X, Z90, and Magic 92.5) may be cutting costs. The rights to operate these three Mexican stations were purchased by Finest City from Clear Channel last year for a reported $113 million. Insiders suggest that the debt for a reported $113 million. From a music-licensing perspective, the service on that loan may be squeezing Finest City.

In recent months, Finest City has fired its director of sales and two other sales people. Last week, Todd “T-Shi” Romano, a 90s midday DJ, was let go.

Meanwhile, both 91X and FM-94/9 are receiving favorable press. Last month, in a Union-Tribune article titled “Good Re-vibrations,” Karla Peterson wrote that 91X was undergoing a “rebirth” as it reconnects with its ’80s glory years.

In the new issue of Rolling Stone, an article titled “Rock Radio’s Last Stand” identifies the inside track that “have managed to beat the odds” by not failing. Nationwide, rock radio has lost about one-third of its audience in the past eight years. The article gives a nod to 94/9 for its willingness to regularly play a song from an album issued by the independent Helicat label (the Aggrolites “Time to Get Tough”). — Ken Leighton.

HILARY BROUGHT RATINGS five modern-rock stations that “have managed to beat the odds” by not failing. (Nationwide, rock radio has lost about one-third of its Arbitron ratings over the past eight years.) The article gives a nod to 94/9 for its willingness to regularly play a song from an album issued by the independent Helicat label (the Aggrolites “Time to Get Tough”). — Ken Leighton.

Message from Rudies
Rolling Stone’s April 7, 2005, “Children of Rock” cover story mentioned the Fabulous Rudies, a North County band with ska roots. The issue included short articles and photos of 15 rock-star kids (Sean Lennon, Ben Taylor, Kelly Osbourne…) and their parents. In the blur on Sebastian Robertson (son of the Band singer/guitarist Robbie Robertson), it noted that Sebastian was producing an album for the Rudies.

Tom Voris, an Oceanide economics teacher and founder of the Fabulous Rudies, says the 2003 radio success of their song “Forget It” drew the attention of Jeff Gordon, who worked in artist development at the now-defunct Dreamstreet Records.

“He had his own management company,” Voris says about Gordon. Robbie Robertson had been a Dreamstreet vice president. The plan was to have the younger Robertson produce the Rudies’ record. So, Voris borrowed $30,000 against his North County home to hire Sebastian Robertson to produce the record. Voris’s $30,000 payment to Gordon covered Robertson’s producer fees and studio time at the Village recording studio in Santa Monica. Voris says the elder Robertson showed up at Rudies recording sessions.

“Voris says Gordon is not acting in any official capacity with his band and that 1000 copies of the Robertson-produced record have been sold since May of 2005.

Besides playing today at the Van’s Warped Tour’s stop at Coors Amphitheatre, the Fabulous Rudies’ CD-release party for their third self-produced album will be held on July 22 at the Belly Up Tavern. — Ken Leighton.

Gods Need Their Space
Benedictum played Italy’s Gods of Metal festival over the first weekend of June. Def Leppard, Whitesnake, and Guns N’ Roses were the bigger acts on the bill.

“Oh on the first days, each band had their own trailer and we had to wait on the tracking from the airlines… Our gig in Spain was canceled, but I’d already used my credit card on nonrefundable flights for eight people. Then the Swiss show got canceled, and we kept getting charged for every kilogram overweight on our equipment and luggage. In London, we paid 675 Euros, which is about $800 U.S., just to get our stuff in.”

Freeman says her German boyfriend came along, and he left his wallet in a cab.

“I went with him to the consulate in Berlin to get his letter of transportation. I’m taking this seven-hour train ride, which was beautiful but the schedule was already off the chain.”

— Jay Allen Sanford

“He keeps asking for a new brain,” says Joaquin Torres, guitarist for San Diego band Frogsbreath. Torres speaks of his band’s bass player, Brian McClure, who is in the University of Utah’s medical center with brain damage.

On the band’s May 17 MySpace blog entry, Joaquin wrote: “We were coming back from a music conference in Utah and we

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gotten in a serious car accident on the freeway. Our SUV rolled about five complete times and Brian was thrown from the vehicle. Two days ago the doctors told us that Brian was with his girlfriend and squeezed her hand, which to me was a sign of ----

They’re giving him drugs they give people with Alzheimer’s,” says Torres. “His short-term memory is bad. He doesn’t remember conversations we had the day before. He can’t walk yet, but he pushes himself around in a wheelchair.”

Will the band go on if Brian doesn’t recover?

“We’re not playing now and not planning to go on without him,” says Torres.

A benefit show to help with McClure’s medical bills will be held at Soma on July 14.

— Michael Hemmington

Warped, Green

Mark McLarry, a Point Loma resident, co-owns a solar-powered stage that is being used on this summer’s Warped Tour. His company, Sustainable Wavest, rents out the stage for other events throughout the year. Though McLarry lives in San Diego, the stage is stored in Austin, Texas, where McLarry’s business partner, Neal Turley, resides.

Turley says, “The bottom line is you need to design your sound system and everything that you utilize to run as energy efficient as possible because the bottom line is a solar does not create that much electricity.”

Turley constructed an energy-efficient PA system by building his own PA cabinets; cables and mixing boards were chosen based on how much electricity they draw.

“The reality is the solar system charges the batteries. If we are in a full-sun day in California or Texas, we can potentially float with the electricity we generate and not use any stored battery at all. But most of the time, shows are two or three days long, so we end up going into the battery storage. The biggest power concern, says Turley, is how much equipment each band brings onstage.

Turley says the Warped Tour has gone “green” in other ways.

“All the meals that they serve are all vegetarian, they’re fueling all the trucks with bio-diesel, we’ve got the solar stage there, and we’re also running a veggie-oil generator that’s powering a number of the stages.”

— Dyw Ketz

Satana’s Favorite Country Band

Forty to fifty bottles of tequila dominate occupu Whole Hog’s practice room.

We were a Pabst Blue Ribbon and Jack Daniel’s band before Khrys joined,” says guitarist Rich Travers.

“It started with one bottle of Patron,” says Khrys Maxwell, another guitarist.

“Being the compulsive obsessive person that I am, I had to taste and collect all the different types. They can go from real sweet to real peppery. Others have elements of vanilla, grass, or fruit.”

Whole Hog shares their expensive liquor with other bands that practice in their rehearsal complex. What about the problem of driving home after practice?

“Not once in ten years have we had a DUI,” says Travers. “We’re all pretty responsible.”

“Because it costs so much, we sip it; we don’t slam it,” says drummer Scott Taylor.

“I rarely have more than four shots of tequila throughout the whole practice. That’s over three to four hours. I’m practically sober at the end.”

All four Whole Hogs drink tequila except bassist Scott Reedly. “They try to bring me in, but to me it tastes like ass.”

“Unlike some alcohol that makes you sluggish or tired, tequila makes you want to get in a fight,” says Taylor. “For our kind of music, that’s great…”

“We like to call our music ‘Whole Hog rock’ or ‘bull-boar-country,’” says Travers. “We’d like to be Satan’s favorite country band.”

Whole Hog appears July 13 at the Ken Club and July 21 at O’Connell’s.

— Ken Leighton

Bread and Pearl

Jam…MMM… When Pearl Jam appears at Cox Arena tomorrow, July 7, they’ll allow “no signage on, around or about the stage [including] any corporate sponsored venues, radio and TV stations, etc.” And, “There is to be no sales of chips, sodas, and three quarts of fruit juices (“fresh squeezed”), The band carries their own juicer, so they request celery, beets, tomatoes, apples, oranges, grapefruit, bananas, pieces of ginger and gingseng root, and six pounds of carrots (“no stems”). Required smokes include a carton each of Old Gold Reds and Camel Lights, and the band wants a case of beer waiting for them on the bus (“no Budweiser”). (from themakingofjam.com)

— Jay Allen Sanford

CONTRIBUTORS
William Crain, Dave Good, Jeremiah Goffey, Larry Harmon, Michael Hemmingson, Ken Leighton, Ryan Lesko, Derek Plank, Eric Rife, Jay Allen Sanford
Always a Rush

“Not every venue is perfect, but the spaces are never the problem, people are.”

“I’ve never been kicked out of Winstons in Ocean Beach on a rowdy night when a popular reggae or blues act is onstage, chances are you were bounced by Ted Washington, front man for Pruitt Igoe. “Formed in June 2004, from combining the acts that I had working at the time,” says Ted. “Before, it was always Ted Washington with ‘fill in the blank.’ I had a gig at the Knitting Factory in Hollywood and had all the different components set up. While I stayed onstage, everyone else would come up, play their part, and leave. Then the next person would come up. It was a circus of activity and lacked an overall cohesion. That’s when I knew it had to change, so Pruitt Igoe was born.”

Pruitt Igoe (the name comes from an infamous public-housing project that once existed in St. Louis) plays the Casbah on Thursday, July 6, with the Legendary Pink Dots.

TRICKIEST PROBLEM PLAYING LIVE?

“Sticking to the set list. Our shows involve a lot of acting and improvisation, so we tend to roam through shows. We change what we’re doing to suit our mood, the audience’s mood, or whatever. It’s not that we’re random on- doing to suit our mood, the audience’s mood, we change what we’re doing to suit our mood, the audience’s mood, or whatever. It’s not that we’re random on- doing to suit our mood, the audience’s mood, or whatever. It’s not that we’re random on- doing to suit our mood, the audience’s mood, or whatever. It’s not that we’re random on- doing to suit our mood, the audience’s mood, or whatever. It’s not that we’re random on- doing to suit our mood, the audience’s mood, or whatever. It’s not that we’re random on- doing to suit our mood, the audience’s mood, or whatever. It’s not that we’re random on- doing to suit our mood, the audience’s mood, or whatever. It’s not that we’re random on- doing to suit our mood, the audience’s mood, or whatever. 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San Diego Reader July 6, 2006
THURSDAY
Linda Ronstadt: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, July 6, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.


FRIDAY
The Indigo Girls: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Friday, July 7, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.
Pearl Jam and Sonic Youth: Cox Arena, Friday, July 7, 3305 campus, College Ave. 619-304-0420.
Teena Marie: Spreckles Theatre, Friday, July 7, 121 Broadway, downtown. 619-234-5600.
Brand New: House of Blues, Friday, July 7, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

SUNDAY
“Ozofest”: Cox Amphitheatre, Sunday, July 9, 11 a.m. 2090 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-471-5600.
Malinda Vecindad: House of Blues, Sunday, July 9, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.
Hapa and the Barefoot Natives: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, July 9, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

MONDAY
Blues Traveler: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Monday, July 10, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

TUESDAY
Bode: House of Blues, Tuesday, July 11, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

UPCOMING CONCERTS
JULY
Eddie Money: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, July 13, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.
Chris Isaak: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Friday, July 14, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.
Roy Davies: Spreckles Theatre, Saturday, July 15, 131 Broadway, downtown. 619-235-9300.
Mason Jennings: House of Blues, Saturday, July 15, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.
Venice: Belly Up Tavern, Saturday, July 15, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-461-8140.
Lyle Lovett: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, July 16, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.
The Foo Fighters: San Diego Civic Theatre, Monday, July 17, 110 Third Avenue and B Street, 619-570-1190.
Nils Lofgren: Belly Up Tavern, Monday, July 17, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-461-8140.
The Beach Boys: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Tuesday, July 18, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.
The Beach Boys: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Wednesday, July 19, 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 Church: Belly Up Tavern, Thursday, July 20, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-461-8140.
Bruce Hornsby: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Friday, July 21, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

The Fray: House of Blues, Saturday, July 22, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.
Herman’s Hermits: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, July 23, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.
Duncan Shoel: Belly Up Tavern, Monday, July 24, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-461-8140.
Terri Clark: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, July 27, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.
The Gipsy Kings: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Friday, July 28, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.
Celtic Woman: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Friday, July 28, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.
Kirk Whalum: Spreckles Theatre, Friday, July 28, 121 Broadway, downtown. 619-235-9300.
Al Green: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Saturday, July 29, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

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Lee Greenwood: Del Mar Fairgrounds, Thursday, August 3, 1055 Fifth Avenue, San Diego. 619-299-2835.

Bone Suckin’ Blues: The Casbah, Tuesday, August 1, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-234-4355.

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The Dave Brubeck Quartet: Humphrey’s by the Bay, Sunday, August 20, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.


Jeff Holm: Humphrey’s by the Bay, Sunday, August 20, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

The Neville Brothers: Bayside Concerts at the Embarcadero, Wednesday, August 22, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Ziggy Marley: Humphrey’s by the Bay, Thursday, August 24, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.


Cracker: Belly Up Tavern, Wednesday, August 23, 145 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 760-481-8140.


The Band: House of Blues, Saturday, August 19, 1105 Fifth Avenue, San Diego. 619-226-7662.

The Dave Brubeck Quartet: Humphrey’s by the Bay, Sunday, August 20, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.


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

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


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Street Scene 06

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San Diego Reader July 6, 2006 113
Earth, Wind, and Fire and Chris Botti: Bayside Concerts at the Embarcadero, Tuesday, August 22, Embarcadero Park South, 619-445-5400.

Big Head Todd & the Monsters are Tossing the Wet Sprocket: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Wednesday, August 23, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.


Air Supply and Christopher Cross: Humphrey’s Concerts by 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.

Randy Travis: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Friday, August 25, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine, 619-445-5400.

Big Bad Voodoo Daddy: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Friday, August 25, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.


Gordon Lightfoot: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, August 27, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Roseanne Cash: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Monday, August 28, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

The Doobie Brothers: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Tuesday, August 29, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

John Fogerty: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Tuesday, August 29, 3005 Willows Road, Alpine, 619-445-5400.

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

SEPTEMBER

Ozomatli: Coors, Friday, September 1, 5005 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-481-1781.

Ozomatli: Coors, Saturday, September 2, 5005 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-481-1781.


Steve Poltz: Belly Up Tavern, Saturday, September 2, 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.

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

Brian Howes: Belly Up Tavern, Thursday, September 7, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

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, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine, 619-445-5400.

Linda Eder: Coors Amphitheatre, Saturday, September 9, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.


Ricardo Arjona: Coors Amphitheatre, Sunday, September 10, 2010

Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600.

Southside Johnny & the Asbury Jukes and The Fabulous Thunderbirds: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, September 10, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Matías Yach: Viejas Casino Concerts at the Embarcadero, Tuesday, September 12, Embarcadero Park South, 619-445-5400.

Bonnie Raitt and Keb’ Mo’ Bayside Concerts at the Embarcadero, Wednesday, September 13, Embarcadero Park South, 619-445-5400.

Dwight Yoakam: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Thursday, September 14, 5005 Willows 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.


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

Dilferance: Cosby Symphony Hall, Friday, September 22, 1245 Seventh Avenue, downtown, 619-235-0984.


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


Venice: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Thursday, September 8, 9:00, 4650 Manfield Street, Normal Heights, 619-303-8140.

Snow Patrol: House of Blues, Thursday, September 28, 10:05, 4650 Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-299-2383.

Na Leo: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Friday, September 29, 2411 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Ellis Paul: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, September 29, 4650 Manfield Street, Normal Heights, 619-303-8140.

OCTOBER

Emmylou Harris: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Friday, September 29, 2411 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Celctic Frost: House of Blues, Wednesday, October 4, 10:05, 4650 Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-299-2383.

Queensrÿche: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Wednesday, October 4, 2411 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Marilyn Carey: San Diego Sports Arena, Wednesday, October 4, 5:00, Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-220-4777.

The Young Dublins: Belly Up Tavern, Friday, October 6, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach, 858-481-8140.

Bobby Caldwell: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Friday, October 6, 2411 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Cecilio & Kapono: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Saturday, October 7, 2411 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

The Larry Carlton Blues Project: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Saturday, October 7, 2411 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.


The Average White Band: Vicas Casino Dreamcatcher Show Room, Saturday, October 7, 2000 Wiliker Road, Alpine, 619-420-5499.

NOVEMBER

The Blue Man Group: Cox Arena, Saturday, November 4, 7:00 pm, SDCCU stadium, College Ave, 619-394-0429.

Aerosmith and Mötley Crüe: Cox Amphitheatre, Saturday, November 11, 2010 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista, 619-671-3040.

DECEMBER


Club de Sade: Third Saturday of the month, gore, leather, and EDM. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m, San Diego Sports Club, 1277 University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-209-7372.

Club Rhythm: Thursdays, new wave, Brit pop, and an evening of Brit pop. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m., 21 and up. Showroom, 1015 30th Street, North Park, 619-394-0429.

Club Fashion Whores: Second and fourth Saturday of the month, underground, Brit pop, indie dance, and breaks. No cover. The Star Bar, 858 4th Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-516-4746.

Darkwave Garden: Wednesdays, new wave, gothic, industrial, and dark. No cover. The Star Bar, 858 4th Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-516-4746.

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San Diego CA 92186-5803. You may sellis@nethere.com; fax to 760-788-1309 or mail schedules, fax to 760-729-6951. Friday, Saturday, Sunday, 9 p.m., 10 p.m., 1:30 a.m., DJ event. Friday, 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m., DJ event. Longshot Saloon, 3313 Mission Boulevard, San Diego. 619-791-2609. Friday, Sunday, 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., the Chris Klich Block 5. mel Vickery & the Jazz Doctors, reggae. Sunday, the Steamers, acoustic. Saturday, 8 p.m., the Chris Klich Block 5.

**COACH** | **BLINDE** | **FOX** | **JUICY COUTURE** | **GINAFRANCO FERRE**
---|---|---|---|---
**KIO YAMATO** | **MARIO KORS** | **GIORGIO ARMANI** | **ROBERTO CAVALLI** | **PRODESIGN DENMARK** | **SPY** | **MAUI JIM** | **VON ZIPPER** | **IC BERLIN** | **KAENON** | **GUCCI** | **OAKLEY** | **TOM FORD** | **PAUL FRANK**

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**Sports Arena** | 619-291-4810 | 3450 Kurtz St., Ste. D. (Opposite Dixie Line) | 705 50th Street, San Diego, CA 92102 | 619-795-7000. Tuesday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., the Floor, surf roof. **La Jolla Village Square** | 858-622-9190 | 8657 Villa La Jolla Dr. (Next to Starbucks) | www.sunglassoptical.com | **GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE**

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**San Diego Reader** | Voted best in San Diego | www.sunglassoptical.com | **5 Note**
---|---|---|---
**By Dave Good**

It’s a pity that grunge rock died. It served as an antidepressant for those of us who suffered through ’80s rock. Today, none of grunge’s Big Four sound remotely as interesting as they did back in the day. Soundgarden’s Chris Cornell made his deal with the devil of pop radio. The once brilliant Alice in Chains failed to survive the excesses (and death) of Layne Staley. Nirvana’s Dave Grohl made a number of records with the Foo Fighters — which originally sounded like a band designed by a corporate record label — before the band settled into its own sound and began to make great rock.

After Vitalogy, Pearl Jam lost cohesion. For years, their output ranged from brilliant to incoherent and was nothing like the hard-rocking dark themes from the haunted Pacific Northwest that originally caught my ear. Even though some of Pearl Jam’s earliest lyrics were visualized while Eddie Vedder was bopping off our coast on a surfboard (in the ‘80s he fronted a San Diego band called Bad Radio), the entire package was a fit with the punk/ metal rock coming out of Seattle. Vedder lobbied hard to become rock’s Everyman (I heard him give his home phone number on the syndicated radio show Rooline one night), and the band took on causes like the high price of concert tickets, battling Ticketmaster in an antitrust dispute that Ticketmaster eventually won.

But this year’s eponymous release is Pearl Jam in rare form. It rocks as hard as ever while fighting the good fight. Vedder seems less jittery than usual, relaxed and focused on a mission to make a solid record. Minus any corporate windmills to joust, Pearl Jam sounds enough like Pearl Jam that it may earn space on the shelf with Ten and Vs. and the rest of grunge rock’s past.

**Sonny Youth** also performs. (To hear a sample of Pearl Jam, call 619-233-9797, wait for the prompt, then punch in ext. 4303.)

**Pearl Jam**

**Anklebone Rok**

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**Pearl Jam**
**Kicking K8 Evolocity SIX**

**SUN**

5:30-10 PM
Blind Melons Blues Jam
Hosted by Zach Cole

**TUES**

8-10 PM
Big Backyard

**WED**

8-10 PM
KARAOKE Blind Melons Style
Hosted by Amy from Blue Jeans and Black Tie Entertainment

**THUR**

8-10 PM
The Husky Boy All-Stars
Free cover • $2 UCCAs All Night

**FRI**

8-10 PM
One Theory: A Race Called Man Dive Bomber Six Reasons

**SAT**

4:30-8 PM
Drunk Poets Society Hosted by the Lovely Lulu
Celebrating the music of the Grateful Dead for over 14 years.

**SUNDAY**

4:30-8 PM
**ELECTRIC WASTE BAND**

**BEACHES**

Bahia Resort Hotel, 998 West Mission Bay Drive, Mission Beach. 858-483-8000. The Colony Bar, 123 West Plaza Street, La Jolla. 858-459-2768. Saturday, live music. Sunday, salsa.

**BULLY'S**, 3775 La Jolla Boulevard, La Jolla. 858-483-2585. Thursday, 9 p.m. or evening, Grogan, Gretchen Michael, Motown, blues/rock.

**CANAAN**, 1279 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1870. Friday, Jerriff, Way Cool, Jr., 70's metal rock. Saturday, 9 p.m. or evening, Spectrum, 90's tribute. Wednesday, 9 p.m., Galdy.

**Chateau Orleans**, 1228 Torrey Pines Street, Pacific Beach. 858-486-6744. Thursday, 7 p.m. or evening, Tomcat Courtyard, south bay, Friday, Charles Burton, blues. Saturday, Tomcat Courtyard or J.J. Slyde.

**Club 710 Beach Club** (formerly Blind Melons), 720 Gamez Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-483-8000. Thursday, Spoken Gorilla and Missle, alternative. Friday, Dead Man Friday, Stone Tooth, and Syrup, rock. Saturday, Kicking K8 and Evolution, rock. Sunday, The Husky Boy All-Stars. Monday, open mike. Tuesday, Blues Jam. Wednesday, No Barens, Open Bar, Forever Tainted, and One Theory.

**Coaster Saloon**, 744 Ventura Place, Mission Beach. 858-486-6538. Friday, 9 p.m., Big Rockford, rock. Saturday, 9 p.m., The Anti-Bad Band, rock.

**Dreamstreet**, 2228 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach. 858-483-8012. Monday, 9 p.m., Aminé, rock/alternative unless otherwise noted. Thursday, 9 p.m., Jiminy Cricket, rock.

**Excellor**, 1012 Prospect Street #201 (second floor), La Jolla. 858-454-8892. Thursday, call club for information. Friday, hip-hop. Saturday, DJ event, call club for information. Wednesday, Silver Candelos, jazz.

**Hippo Beach**, 1225 Pacific Beach. 858-459-6058. Friday, 9 p.m., Blind Melons, rock.

**KARAOKE** Blind Melons Style
Hosted by Amy from Blue Jeans and Black Tie Entertainment

**MOTHER MACE**, 3775 La Jolla Boulevard, La Jolla. 858-483-2585. Thursday, 9 p.m. or evening, Grogan, Gretchen Michael, Motown, blues/rock.

**OCEAN HOUSE**, 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad. 760-430-4351. Thursday, 9 p.m. or evening, The Clay Colton Band, pub rock.

**Rancho Bernardo Inn**, 7758 Rancho Bernardo Drive, Rancho Bernardo. 858-672-8500. El Ranchero Restaurant, Friday, 5-10 p.m. or evening, and Saturday, 6 p.m. or evening, Jerry Moteck and Tire Milk, jazz.

**Robby's Roadhouse**, 710 North Highway 101, Encinitas. 760-434-2565. Wednesday, 7 p.m. or evening, The Husslers, acoustic/craft rock.

**St. Tropez Bistro and Bakery**, 3185 South Coast Highway 101, Encinitas. 760-633-0876. Friday, 9 p.m., B.B. & The Allstars, blues.

**Tangier Lounge**, 1010 Mission Bay Drive, Mission Beach. 858-488-4438. Friday, 9 p.m., Tom Bishop, standards.

**The Cliffs** (formerly North Bar Sports and Spirits), 200 West El Norte Parkway, Escondido. 760-803-6238. Thursday, 4 p.m. or evening, Mike Gardner, acoustic rock/blues.

**The Husky Boy All-Stars**

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FRESH Seafood Restaurant and Bar, 1044 Wall Street, La Jolla. 858-551-7707. Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.; Advanced Dine & Drink Web site, global site.

Hard Rock Cafe (La Jolla), 989 Prospect Street, La Jolla. 858-436-7263. Live rock, call club for information.

Hennesey’s Tavern (PB), 4650 Mission Boulevard, Pacific Beach. 858-483-8867. Friday and Saturday, live rock.

Hornblower Cruises, 1066 North Harbor Drive, San Diego Bay. 619-688-8772. Boat loads at 2:30 p.m., leaves at 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., 9:30 p.m., and 10:30 p.m. Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., and 9 p.m. to 11 p.m.

La Valencia Hotel, 1152 Prospect Street, La Jolla. 858-454-0771. Thursday, 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m.; Berry Lewis, jazz; Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Wednesday, Rick Rice, jazz.

The Lodge at Torrey Pines, 11490 N. Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla. 858-455-4420. The Grill: Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Wednesday, 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.; Jim Popala, solo jazz guitar. Ales, Friday and Saturday, 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.; Mike Olson, solo jazz guitar.

Manhattan Restaurant, 7766 Fay Avenue, La Jolla. 858-450-0700. Thursday and Wednesday, 5 p.m., Joe Merillo, jazz.

Mission Bay Boat and Ski Club, 2606 North Mission Bay Drive, San Diego. 858-459-0700. Thursday and Wednesday, 8 p.m., Joe Merillo, jazz.

Moondoggies, 832 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-483-6550. Call club for information.

Pacific Beach Bar and Grill, 980 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-272-7278. Sunday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., live reggae.

Pescoula on Prospect, 3210 Prospect Street, La Jolla. 858-456-7272. Thursday, 7:30 p.m. to 11 p.m.; P. Fray Anderson, Como Browns, James East, and Israel Malekova, Latin/south.

Mission Bay Boat and Ski Club, 2606 North Mission Bay Drive, San Diego. 858-270-0481. Friday, 9:30 p.m., Jim Thompson, acoustic punk.

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The Old Bear and the Sailor, 420 Blackbirdz, Tuesday, 9:30 p.m., DJ event, house/techno/electro.

Humphrey’s, 1123 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-271-9794. Thursday, 9 p.m., Vintage Honey, indie rock; Friday, Rock House, rock; Saturday, the Red Chameleon Rose and the Adopted Prophet, alternative rock; Sunday, open mike.

Tuesday, Superb, rock; Wednesday, 420 Blackbirdz, blues.

Tiki House, 1152 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-281-9794. Thursday, 9 p.m., Vintage Honey, indie rock; Friday, Rock House, rock; Saturday, the Red Chameleon Rose and the Adopted Prophet, alternative rock; Sunday, open mike.

Tuesday, Superb, rock; Wednesday, 420 Blackbirdz, blues.

Turquoise Cafe, 873 Turquoise Street, La Jolla. 858-488-4200. Friday, call club for information. Tuesday and Wednesday, 8:30 p.m., Former Destiny & the Blue Pinwheels, blues.

Wavesound, 3125 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-228-6235. Sunday, 4 p.m., Polynesian Party, rock.

Winstons, 1921 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach. 619-227-0811. Tuesday, Chris Berry and Poppa, Tuesday. Allison Howard @ the E255 Orchestra and Underworld Orchestra, jazz. Saturday, 8 p.m. to 10 p.m., the Bajillionaires, punk, hip, the Darkness and Ginger Maker, reggae, Sunday, Wise Monkeys, groove, Monday, the Electric Waste Bin, classic rock, Tuesday, Straight Up, tropical rock, Big Backyard, rock.

SAN DIEGO

The Aero Club, 1365 India Street, San Diego. 858-205-7221. Tuesday, 7 p.m., the San Diego Blues Duo.


The Bahia Belle Cruise, the Bahia Belle, 1401 West Pacific Market Drive, Mission Bay. 858-359-7779. Departures 6:30 p.m. Friday, 5 Natural, Top 40, Saturday, Nudie Blu, classic rock.

Blarney Stone Pub, 5617 Balboa Avenue, Clairemont. 858-278-1035. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, Clive & Izard, Irish rock, Monday, Pop & Ave and Allerton Glick, folk, Tuesday, Irish jam session, Wednesday, call club for information.

The Bar (La Jolla), 809 Prospect Street, La Jolla. 858-451-1220. Erica Thompson, solo jazz guitar. Ales, Friday and Saturday, 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.; Mike Olson, solo jazz guitar.

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**Lexus presents Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay**

**MONDAY!**

**Bruce Hornsby**
Tues. & Wed., July 18 & 19

**The Beach Boys**

**Tues. & Weds., July 18 & 19**

**Blues Traveler**
with special guest
Eddie Money

**Lyle Lovett**

**Friday, July 21**

**presented by**

**Hapa/Barefoot Natives: Willie K & Eric Gilliom**
with very special guest
Ledward Kaapana
Sunday, July 9

**Eddie Money**
with special guest
Ikona

**Monday, July 10**

**Blues Traveler**
with special guest
Ikona

**Monday, July 10**

**Eddie Money**
with special guest
Ikona

**Saturday, July 16**

**The Beach Boys**
Tues. & Weds., July 18 & 19

**Hootie & The Blowfish**
with special guest
Kai Brown

**Lyle Lovett**
Sunday, July 16

**The Beach Boys**
Tues. & Weds., July 18 & 19

**Bruce Hornsby & The Noisemakers**
Sunday, July 23

**Celtic Woman**
Friday, July 28

** Cancelled**

**July 19: Miranda Lambert**
CANCELLED

**Tonight!**

**Linda Ronstadt**
with special guest
Wendy Waldman

**Thursday, July 6**

**August**

**Boz Scaggs**
with special guest
James Honey
Tuesday, August 1

**The Rippingtons**
with special guest
Russ Freeman
Friday, August 4

**David Bromberg**
with special guest
Angel Band
Thursday, August 3

**Foreigner**
with special guest
Joe Bonamassa
Sunday, August 6

**Olivia Newton-John**
Sunday, August 6

**Ian Anderson**
plays *Jethro Tull Forge*

**Randy Newman**
Wednesday, August 9

**Yolanda Adams**
with special guest
Ledisi
Friday, August 11

**Lonestar**
with special guest
Nick Ashton
Friday, August 18

**Dennis DeYoung**
with special guest
Sophie Milman
Friday, August 24

**Joe Cocker**
with special guest
Billy Thompson & Daryl Johnson
Tuesday, September 5

**Jesse Cook**
with special guest
Sophie Milman
Thursday, September 7

**Los Lobos**
with special guest
Ivan Neville’s Dumpstaphunk
Thursday, September 14

**Joe Bonamassa**
with special guest
Frankie Ballard
Tuesday, September 26

**Steve Tyrell**
Thursday, September 29

**SUNDAY!**

**Hapa/ Barefoot Natives: Willie K & Eric Gilliom**
with very special guest
Ledward Kaapana
Sunday, July 9

**Lexus Premium Packages**

Packages include: 2 premium-seat concert tickets (center section, rows 1-4), 2 dinners at Humphrey’s Restaurant and one suite, jr. suite or guest room at Humphrey’s Half Moon Inn & Suites. Packages are limited. Visit our website for details: www.humphreysconcerts.com. Premium Packages not available at TicketMaster outlet locations.

**Lexus Dinner Show Packages**

Tickets required for all ages. Dates subject to change or cancellation. Additional acts will be added periodically throughout the summer. Please check our website for updates.

**Humphrey’s Box Office Hours**
Tuesday-Saturday 11:30 am-6:30 pm

**241 Shelter Island Drive**
WWW.HUMPHREYSCONCERTS.COM

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**San Diego Reader** July 6, 2006 119
LIVE ON STAGE
Pat Benatar & Neil Giraldo
ALMOST
BENATAR & GIRALDO
TUESDAY JULY 11

THE GIPSY KINGS
THU & FRI JULY 27 & 28
AL GREEN
SATURDAY JULY 29
JULIO IGLESIAS
FRIDAY AUGUST 4
ROOTS, ROCK, REGGAE
ZIGGY MARLEY :: STEPHEN MARLEY
BUNNY WAILER
THURSDAY AUGUST 10 6:30PM
BILL MAHER
FRIDAY AUGUST 11
CREEDENCE CLEARWATER
REVISITED
SATURDAY AUGUST 12
BUDDY GUY
ROBERT CRAY
WEDNESDAY AUGUST 16 7:30PM
GEORGE BENSON
AL JARREAU
RAUL MIRON
THURSDAY AUGUST 24
RANDY TRAVIS
FRIDAY AUGUST 25
REGGAE SUNSPLASH
UB40 :: TOOTS & THE MAYTALS
MAXI PRIEST :: THIRD WORLD
RIK ROK :: TOMMY COWAN
WEDNESDAY AUGUST 30 6:00PM
JAMES GANG RIDES AGAIN
JIMMY FOX, DALE PETERS & JOE WALSH
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 9
DWIGHT YOAKAM
THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 14

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IN THE PARK

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For complete information, go to ViejasEntertainment.com.
midnight, the Bill Magee Blues Band, Chicago blues.

O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub, 1100 Morena Boulevard, Bay Park. 619-276-5637. Friday, 8:30 p.m., Wise Monkey and Compass Rose, funk/jazz/rock. Saturday, 8:30 p.m., the Citizen Band, Gully, and Grand Canyon Sundown, rock. Sunday, 9 p.m., the Jimmy Ruelas Band, alternative/folk/rock.

The Ould Sod, 3373 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-284-6594. Friday, Brax, folk/country. Tuesday, traditional Irish jam session.

Pal Joey’s, 5417 Waring Road, Allied Gardens. 619-286-7873. Friday and Saturday, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., Nite Life, blues/swing.

Riley’s, 2901 Nimitz Boulevard, Point Loma. 619-255-8635. Friday and Saturday, live music, Wednesday, swing.

Rosie & Joe’s, 7986 Armour Street, San Diego. 858-277-5777. Friday, 8 p.m. to midnight, Hugh Garden, rockabilly/blues.

Rosie O’Grady’s, 5482 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-284-7666. Friday and Saturday, live rock.

Second Wind, 8515 Navajo Road, San Carlos. 619-685-1731. Friday and Saturday, live rock/alternative.


TAKING BACK SUNDAY
ANGELS & AIRWAVES
HEAD AUTOMATICA :: THE SUBWAYS
SUNDAY JULY 23

STEELY DAN
MONDAY JULY 24

DEATH CAB FOR CUTIE
SPOON :: MATES OF STATE
TUESDAY AUGUST 15

LOS LONELY BOYS
LIFEHOUSE
WEDNESDAY AUGUST 16

EARTH WIND & FIRE
CHRIS BOTTI
TUESDAY AUGUST 22

MATSYAHU
& ROOTS TONIC
GOMES :: STREET DRUM CORPS
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KER’ MO’
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Friday, 9:30 p.m., the Tombstones, alternative rock.

DOWNTOWN

Belo, 319 Fourth Street, Gaslamp, 619-231-0200. Call club for information.

Blamey Stone Pub, 502 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-233-8519. Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Wednesday, Steve Brown, acoustic.

Borders Books and Music (Gaslamp), 454 Fourth Avenue, San Diego, 619-702-4200. Friday, 8 p.m., Turner, folk, Saturday, 8 p.m., Jan Coyle, folk.

The Cashah, 2151 Ketter Boulevard, midtown, 619-232-4111. Music is rock unless otherwise noted.

The Casbah, 2151 Ketter Boulevard, midtown, 619-232-4111. Music is rock unless otherwise noted.

The Celtic Ensemble, 385 Third Avenue, downtown, 619-235-9559. Music is Irish folk.

Croce’s Jazz Bar, 402 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-233-8559. All music is jazz unless otherwise noted.

Dyezy’s, 144 Seventh Avenue, downtown, 619-230-7467. Friday, 8 p.m., Orjona Brucialdo & Mambito, Latin jazz. Saturday, 8 p.m., Lui Bli, Ron Santamaria, and Kevin Kost, jazz. Sunday, 7 p.m., Tower, jazz.

Downtown Johnny Brown’s, 1220 Third Avenue, San Diego, 619-232-9414. Saturday, 8 p.m. to midnight. Four Minutes ’til Midnight, heavy rock.

Dublin Squares, 304 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-239-9818. Traditional Irish folk.

For more information call (619) 235-4014.

The Honey Bee Hive, 1401 C Street, downtown, 619-299-9010. Call club for information.

Man, Bad Wizard, the Midas Touch, Saturday, live rock. Monday, San Diego. 619-284-0158. Friday and Wednesday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., Griesgraber, Abby, Amanda Mosher, Tio Leo’s, Henkel, 7088. Thursday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., Terra, the Celtic Ensemble, Jimmy Patton. Club for information. Friday, unless otherwise noted. Thursday, call Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company, 1188. Monday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., Tutto Mare, swing/blues. Friday, (at Morena Boulevard), Bay Park. Monday, tango. Friday, and Saturday, Steve Brown, classical music.

Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, 6:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m., Mesa. 858-695-1461. Thursday, 9:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., Vesuvio Gourmet Restaurant, 1101 Fourth Avenue, downtown, 619-233-3077. Music is blues/soul unless otherwise noted.

Friday, 8 p.m., Turner, folk. Saturday, 8 p.m., Jan Coyle, folk. Sunday, 8 p.m., Lee Cooker, folk.

Saturday, 8 p.m. to midnight, Four Minutes ‘til Midnight, heavy rock.

Sunday, July 9 • 1-4 pm

Saturday, July 23 • 1-4 pm

Wednesday, 7 p.m., Saturday, 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., Bar and Cafe on Broadway, 6th Avenue, downtown, 619-235-6699. Call club for information.

Patrick & the Unit, 430 F Street, downtown, 619-233-3077. Music is blues unless otherwise noted.

Sunday, July 23 • 1-4 pm

Wednesday, 7 p.m., Saturday, 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., Bar and Cafe on Broadway, 6th Avenue, downtown, 619-235-6699. Call club for information.

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July 8
9pm – 1am

VIETNAMESE NIGHT
July 20
8pm – 1am

WINGS OF VICTORY
July 9
4pm – 8pm

RHYTHM NATION
July 21 & July 22
9pm – 1am

PRIVATE DOMAIN
July 11
8pm – 1am

SWINGTIME ORCHESTRA
July 23
4pm – 8pm

THE METRO BAND
July 14
9pm – 1am

MAKAI
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BANDSHE
July 15
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July 30
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BY WILLIAM CRAIN

Considering the enormity of what Hurricane Katrina did to the people of New Orleans, I suppose it’s insensitive of me to write this, but I keep thinking, “What will happen to all the freaks?” I mean, New Orleans is a deep strange city that attracts deeply strange people like nowhere else. What will happen to all those only-in-New Orleans characters?

Look at all those wonderful websites and see how the website’s offices were destroyed, its irreplaceable archives ruined. One of the characters you’ll see profiled there is Quintanarch, who, with his partner, Miss Pussycat, has produced some of the most endearingly weird recordings and performances of recent years. In a unique hybrid of retro and techno, Quintanarch plays a modified Hammond organ and his own invention, a sort of light-activated drum machine and electronic noisemaker that he calls the Drum Buddy. Miss Pussycat joins in with percussion and untrained vocals and puts on bizarre puppet shows.

Quintanarch and Miss Pussycat live upstairs from their own club, the Spell-Caster Lodge. When the levee breaks, the lodge is flooded and rendered useless, though the duo still live upstairs.

When I sent an email to their record company, someone—presumably Quintanarch himself—answered my dumb questions, saying: “We have no insurance, so we were totally dependent on benefits and FEMA and stuff like that…. New Orleans sucks right now and we can’t wait to get the fuck out of here.”

Fortunately he has friends and fans in the rest of the country. San Diego’s 31G Records pitched in, and UCSD’s Che Cafe held a benefit. “We didn’t even know about it,” Quintanarch said. “They just sent us a check.”

QUINTANARCH, Che Cafe, Friday, July 7, 8 p.m. 858/534-2312. $7.

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**SOUTH BAY/CORONADO**

**Buon Giorno Restaurant, 4111 Business Street, Kearny Mesa, 619-475-2868.** Thursday, Saturday, and Wednesday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

**The Butcher Shop, 3566 Broadway, Chula Vista, 619-496-4440.** Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Wednesday, 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.

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**EAST COUNTY**

**Borders Books and Music, 1125 Palomar Plaza Drive, El Cajon, 619-447-5119.** Sunday, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

**Don’s Cocktail Lounge, 3132 Business Highway 8, El Cajon, 619-485-4444.** Friday and Saturday, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.

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**SECOND WIND, 8528 Magnolia Avenue, Sabre, 858-506-0700. Friday and Saturday, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.**

**67 Bar and Grill, 10109 Main Avenue, Lakeside, 858-507-3725.** Friday, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.

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Ex Machina: The Casbah
Facing New York: Epicentre
Fifty on Their Heels: The Casbah
Flying Other Brothers: Belly Up Tavern
The Focus Group: The Casbah
Forever Taken: Club 710 Beach Club
Four Minutes 'til Midnight: Downtown Johnny Brown’s
Gone to Oblivion: Dreamstreet
Heathen Culture: Dreamstreet
Hellfire Trigger: The Jumping Turtle
Human Television: The Casbah
The Ignorant: The Jumping Turtle
The Infants: Dreamstreet
Jezabel: The Casbah
Kaddisfly: Epicentre
Kicking K8: Club 710 Beach Club
Kommunity FK: The Casbah
The Legendary Pink Dots: The Casbah
L Nigeria: Epicentre
The Lies: The Casbah
The Long and Short of It: The Casbah
Lost and Easy Company: Belly Up Tavern
Love Motor: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub
Mainflow: Belly Up Tavern
Me vs. Nixon: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub
The Miles Touch: Soma
Misery Signals: Epicentre
Mother Mae & Brick By Brick
Need to Breathe: Soma
The Neon Maniacs: The Jumping Turtle
Nights Like These: Soma
October Fall: Soma
One: Brick By Brick
One Theory: San Diego Bar and Grill, Club 710 Beach Club
Optimus: Club 710 Beach Club
The Panic Division: Epicentre
Patient Zero: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub
The Poison Boys: The Jumping Turtle
The Prey: The Jumping Turtle
Prima Donna: The Jumping Turtle
Provocative Whiskey: Dreamstreet
Pruiti Ignor: The Casbah
Radio Diary: Epicentre
Raw Power: The Jumping Turtle
Rookie Card: Belly Up Tavern, The Casbah
The Savoir: Brick By Brick
Secret Apostle: The Casbah
The See Girls: The Jumping Turtle
Sight Unseen: The Jumping Turtle
Since by Man: Epicentre
Six Foot Deathtrap: Brick By Brick
Six Reasons: Club 710 Beach Club
Skendal: Dreamstreet
Society!: The Casbah
The Someday Assassins: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub
Soul Asylum: Belly Up Tavern
Spoken Gun: Club 710 Beach Club
Squidoo: The Casbah
The Stranger Site: Epicentre
Sweet Tooth: Club 710 Beach Club
The Sword: Brick By Brick
Sworn Enemy: Soma
Syph: Club 710 Beach Club
Three Inches of Blood: Soma
The Tomatobens: The Zombie Lounge
Tower 4: Dreamstreet
Vintage Honey: Tiki House

San Diego Reader July 6, 2006

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THURS, AUGUST 31
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**Calendar BANDS**

- **The Voodoo Glow Skulls**: House of Blues
- **The Wages of War**: Soma
- **The Winds Ride Electric**: Dreamstreet
- **Wise Monkey**: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub, Winstons
- **The World/Inferno Friendship Society**: The Casbah

**ROCK**

- **Chris Berry**: Winstons
- **Big Backyard**: Greater Saloon, Winstons
- **Big D & the Kid’s Table**: House of Blues
- **Big Rig Deluxe**: Leal’s Coffee House
- **The Biggfishas**: Winstons
- **Bonfire**: Winstons
- **The Mitch Budd Band**: Greater Saloon
- **The Cullome Family**: The Jumping Turtle
- **Catch 22**: House of Blues
- **The Citizen Band**: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub
- **The Clay Colton Band**: Tom Giblin’s Irish Pub and Restaurant
- **Compass Rose**: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub
- **Deadline Friday**: Club 710 Beach Club
- **Discord**: Sassy 7 Bar and Grill, Brick by Brick
- **The 80’s**: Dick’s Last Resort
- **The Electric Waste Band**: Winstons
- **The Elevators**: McP’s Irish Pub and Grill
- **The Filthy Crooks**: Fannie’s Nightclub
- **Mike Gardner**: North Bar Sports and Sports, Mini Fina Cantina
- **The Ghost of Sada**: Dick’s Last Resort
- **Great Canyon Sundowners**: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub
- **Gully**: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub
- **Illlicit Behavior**: Surf N’Saddle
- **Zach Jones & the Tomes**: Surf N’Saddle
- **Jurassic Rock**: Brick by Brick
- **Red Lane**: Patrick’s II
- **Loadstone**: Dick’s Nightclub
- **Los Abandoned Prophets**: House of Blues
- **Maldiva Vecindada**: House of Blues
- **Mother Mae & the Nemesis**: Second Wind (San Carlos)
- **Nitehawks**: Carvers
- **Nitro Express**: Whiskey Girl
- **The Noise God**: Fannie’s Nightclub
- **Northstar**: Coyote Bar and Grill
- **Nude Blues**: Bahia Belle Cruise
- **Phenomenon**: Bally Up Tavern
- **Pickford’s Party**: Whiskey Girl, Warehouse
- **Private Domain**: Dick’s Last Resort
- **Purple Rising**: Brick by Brick
- **The Red Channel Review**: Tiki House
- **The Restless Natives**: Coyote Bar and Grill
- **Reo**: Brick by Brick
- **Riot House**: Tiki House
- **Ron’s Garage**: Dick’s Last Resort
- **The Jimmy Ruelas Band**: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub
- **Melvin Seals & JGB**: Bally Up Tavern
- **Serious Guise**: The Kronen

**JAZZ / BIG BAND**

- **Burnett Anderson**: Cafe LaMaze
- **The Ray Barrie Big Band**: The German American Society
- **Gil Barron**: Pasqua on Prospect
- **Lori Bell**: Danny’s
- **Tom Bishop**: Ranch Bernardo Inn
- **Ray Brown**: Hotel del Coronado
- **The Lee Brown Perspective**: Thursday’s
- **The Caballeros Latin Jam**: Chicago Park Cafe & Culture
- **Sammy Canoizade**: Cafe LaMaze
- **Gilbert Castellanos**: Encidure
- **Sandy Chappell**: Cafe LaMaze
- **Chini & Camberos**: La Playa Cantina & Grill

**POPO / TOP 40**

- **8 Natural**: Bahia Bella Cruise
- **The Disco Pimps**: Dick’s Last Resort
- **Heartland**: La Playa Cantina & Grill
- **The Love Rangers**: The Alley
- **Rick Lyon**: The Imperial House
- **The Reagianomics**: Jimmy Lee’s
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Mower is heavy metal with all of the trappings. Most tracks on Not for You have dueling vocals, one a higher pitch than the other, but both are the angry growling common to the genre — the sound is similar to Drowning Pool’s popular single, “Let the Bodies Hit the Floor.”

Even though it’s guttural, the growling isn’t unintelligible. The lyrics can be followed, but they don’t strike me as inspired. As you can imagine, “Road Rage” is an angry account of traffic frustration. Nothing deep or revealing about the lyrics, but they paint the picture and lend to the theme and image the band is trying to portray: they are modern, angry, and dark. Track 12 has typical lyrics: “I decide to take your life / because in a minute you’d take mine,” and “pick up a knife and show what that’s for / this is war.”

On the third track, the pace slows a bit, but they funk it up more, making the song the most danceable on the CD. In places, the bassist does slappity-poppy thing that good bass players can do. The guitarist is competent, although his instrument is not prominent; this is a drum aficionado’s group. Often, the rest of the players seem to be trying to keep up with the drummer’s machine-gun speed. But, each member is talented. The changes in tempo and all beats and notes are hammered with precision.

I usually say of heavy music that it’s a shame such a talented band will never get much airplay, but I think Not for You has a radio favorite; yes, track 15 is the Mamas and the Papas classic, so退化 heavy metal standards, and it’s hilarious and fantastic.

Mower

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Mower as a drum aficionado’s group. Often, the rest of the players seem to be trying to keep up with the

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Mower

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Mower
Throaty Bluff

“The worst thing Russia ever did to the United States was go out of business.”

Y ears ago, self-appointed Brecht Police cas-tigated attempts to stage his plays. This one sniff’d the “alienation effect”; that one was acted, not “performed”; those courted the audi-ence’s emotion rather than alert their reason.

Then two things happened. People began to realize that dur-ing his life Brecht softened some of his early theories, especially when he re-directed plays like Mother Courage. Also, drama departments across America began using his techniques for all kinds of texts. What was often called “postmodern” theater wasn’t; it was Brechtian: no attempt to cre ate illusions (or “hypnotize” the audience); no acted emotion; non sequitur collages of music, burlesque, and dance. Brecht’s attempt to “de-fa-Ilusions (or “hypnotize” the audience): no attempt to cre ate illusions (or “hypnotize” the audience); no acted emotion; non sequitur collages of music, burlesque, and dance. Brecht’s attempt to “de-fa-

During 12 years at the front, Mother Courage doesn’t grow or change. Her credo remains the same: “Your books must balance.” Instead she loses one child after another and trudges on, to some an indomitable spirit, to others the “hvena” of the battlefield.

Emotions are permitted when I say they are permitted,” Brecht dictated. He didn’t want a sympathetic Anna, even cut lines that made her so. She was supposed to show that people don’t learn from misfortune: “Its pupils learn hunger and thirst but seldom hunger for truth or thirst for knowledge.”

In her opening-night performance, Ivonne Coll was neither intrepid nor savage as Mother Courage. Nor was she, it seemed, off book. She tripped over lines and gave others a throaty bluff.

Call was neither intrepid nor savage as Mother Courage. Nor was she, it seemed, off book. She tripped over lines and gave others a throaty bluff.

The role, one of the most complex in theater, evaded her. She was trying to be unsympathetic but couldn’t pull it off (throughout she com-municated the sense of a walk-through: here’s how I might do this scene in the future). It’s hard to tell if she was underdirected, underrehearsed, or if some theory wedged between her and the char-acter. Maybe all of the above.

The designers opted for a war-is-universal look. The costumes range from Victorian sprawl to Courage’s anti-fashion ensembles (whatever fits works) to the ubiquitous drab of the poor. Courage’s signature vehicle is part mud-splat-ted Willy’s jeep, part covered wagon. Soldiers carry rifles and spears. Some wear WWI doughboy helmets and, at one point, 17th-century chest armor. And since Brecht keeps the battles offstage, the muffled sounds we hear could be 16-pounders or RPGs.

In an imaginative move — Brechtian “tag-ironing” — actors chalk dates, locations, and slogans on the black walls and floor. Like the wars that come and go in Mother Courage, the graffiti fades, replaced by more. This regeneration italicizes one of David Hate’s most acerbic lines in his down-to-earth translation, “There’s always more heroes.”

The plodding production comes to life dur-ing its carnival interludes. Gina Leibman, who wrote the music for the San Diego Rep’s immortal Red Noses, composed the cabaret score, accom-panied by piano, accordion, and (a Leibman twist) tuba. Katie Barrett’s singing of “The Frat-ernization Song” — about how Yvette both fell in love and became a prostitute — and Patrick Kerr’s “Song of the Hours,” in which the Chap-lain recalls the crucifixion of Jesus, are highlights.

Many of Brecht’s characters and situations combine extremes (when a war ends, for exam-ple, Courage is both miserable and joyous: she’ll be ruined financially but still has her children). Like the props and David Zinn’s costumes, Barrett and Kerr are adept at this double-ness. Yvette and the Chaplain resemble spinning coins: down-home realists but with flickers of optimism peeking through.

When he created Kattrin, Brecht boot ed his theories out the door. Abused by a soldier, Mother Courage’s daughter is mute, scarred, and elo-quent. Brecht called her the “good” Kattrin and said “spectators are permitted to identify” with her “and note with pleasure that they have such...
powers even within themselves” (this comes as a relief, since it’s impossible not to identify with Hilary Ward’s Kattrin, a marvel of gestures and movements, especially when she puts on Yvette’s aqua boots and imitates a hooker’s strut).

Brecht referred, specifically, to the famous “drum scene,” one of the most surefire in all of theater. It’s the one time the war comes onstage. In another Brechtian double-bind, Kattrin climbs to a roof and bangs a drum, warning the city of Halle that the enemy is at hand — at the cost of her life.

There’s been a long debate whether Brecht was anti- war or not. And whether Brecht was antiwar or not, then his fear for the innocent, with whom he wanted to identify, even little martyrs get crucified.

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. SUNDAY AT 4:00 P.M. AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-437-0600.

The Chairs
Ion Theatre premieres its new space with Eugene Ionesco’s absurdist drama. Claudio Raygoza directed.
ION THEATRE, NEW WORLD STAGE, 917 NINTH AVENUE, DOWNTOWN, THROUGH JULY 9. THE CHAIRS RUNS IN REPERTORY WITH MARRY’S LAST TAPE AND NOT! FOR DAYS AND TIMES OF EACH. CALL 619-374-0894.

Christmas on Mars
Some ties bind with concertina wire. A part of you would hope that pregnant Audrey, her beau Bruno, her mother Ingrid, and his gay roommate, Nissim, could live together harmoniously in a newly available NYC apartment. But playwright Harry Kondoleon, who wrote comedies about dysfunction before it became fashionable, gives birth and takes away in various combinations, the quartet is toxicity personified. But then again, none has an attitude for living alone! (Nick Fruh’s bare, eloquent set tells the story on the floor: footprints of old furniture. Actors stretch, double over, and roll on the floor, as if the script were a foreign language needing visual translation. But what Kondoleon’s needy managers says is bizarre enough. And the actors work best when their characters try simply to explain themselves — in funny and moving ways — and stake their claim for inclusion in the new home. For David Furr’s puppy, narcissistic Bruno (who never meets a mirror he didn’t adore), Sarah Grace Wilson’s cold Audrey, Colette Kilroy’s daffy Ingrid, and Jack Ferver’s Nissim — and sometimes over-) the-top Nissim, trying to sum up who they are becomes an exercise in subtraction. Worth a try.
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Fall Diversionary and Moonie Theatres present Bridget Carpenter’s comedy about a rebellious 14-year-old “navigating the muddled waters of adolescence, relationships,” and swing-dance camp. Jennifer Eve Thoren directed.

DIVERSIONARY THEATRE, 4545 PARK BOULEVARD, UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS, THROUGH JULY 16; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-220-0097.

Fully Committed

Air traffic controllers, at least, have each other. Not Sam Polkowski. He must make all the reservations for a posh New York restaurant. Joss-Patrick Stalter says, “Hell is other people.” Nah. Hell is other people demanding all-vegan cuisine for 15 at a 7:30 p.m. seating, while five other callers blink on hold. Cygnet Theatre is reprising David McBean’s Noel Award-winning Fully Committed. (a friend of mine, who books for a local hotel, refers to the public, off the record, as “the beast”) will em-

Yale Repertory Theatre opens its Shakespeare Festival with the Bard’s comedy about mistaken identities and a mischievous Puck. Daroo Trenjak directed.

LAWRENCE WELK DRIVE, ESCONDIDO, THROUGH JULY 8; THURSDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-688-9210.

The Mousetrap


PATIO PLAYHOUSE, 201 EAST GRAND AVENUE, SUITE 1D, ESCONDIDO, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 13; THURSDAY, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 760-746-6669.

My Fair Lady

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WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8860 LAWRENCE WELK DRIVE, ESCONDIDO, THROUGH JULY 2; THURSDAY, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 760-746-6669.

Moms in America

J. Marcus Newman (the erstwhile Nannie Violer) stages the world premiere of his drama about three generations of Jewish men: “one family, perhaps.” Newman directed.

2700 LYTON STREET, OMA Portal (across from Liberty Station), THURSDAY, JULY 6, THROUGH JULY 30; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-683-2255.

Mother Courage


LAFAYETTE INN AND SUITES, NORTH PARK, OPEN-ENDED RUN. FOR DAYS AND TIMES OF EACH, CALL 619-220-0097.

A Midsummer Night’s Dream

The Old Globe Theatre opens its Shakespeare Festival with the Bard’s comedy about mistaken identities and a mischievous Puck. Daroo Trenjak directed.

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LAWRENCE WELK DRIVE, THROUGH JULY 23; THURSDAY, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 760-746-6669.

My Fair Lady

Lerner and Loewe’s classic about a Cockney flower girl becoming a British society. Jon Eastorg directed.

WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8860 LAWRENCE WELK DRIVE, ESCONDIDO, THROUGH JULY 2; THURSDAY, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 760-746-6669.

Moms in America

J. Marcus Newman (the erstwhile Nannie Violer) stages the world premiere of his drama about three generations of Jewish men: “one family, perhaps.” Newman directed.

2700 LYTON STREET, OMA Portal (across from Liberty Station), THURSDAY, JULY 6, THROUGH JULY 30; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-683-2255.
The Friis Theatre
3003 Park Boulevard, Ocean Beach, (619) 435-4856
www.coronadoplayhouse.com

North Coast Repertory Theatre
1000 Wall Street, La Jolla, (619) 481-1005
www.northcoastrep.org

North Park Playhouse
2209 27th Ave., San Diego, (619) 272-3786
www.northparkplayhouse.com

Oceanside Little Theatre
943 Vista Dr., Oceanside, (760) 459-7773
www.oceansidelittletheatre.org

Pala Playhouse
8067 Pala Mesa Road, Pala, (760) 339-2012
www.palaplayhouse.com

Peninsula Playhouse
421 North Coast Highway, Oceanside, (760) 272-9823
www.peninsulaplayhouse.org

Playhouse San Diego
1000 Pacific Hwy, La Jolla, (858) 480-0773
www.playhousesd.org

The Public Theater
2311 North Dr., La Mesa, (619) 295-4999
www.thepublictheater.org

San Diego Black Ensemble Theatre
9406 Manchester Ave., Santee, (619) 239-5000

Sedona Little Theatre
2311 N Main St., Sedona, (928) 282-8666
www.sedonalittletheatre.org

Shakespeare's Globe
2131 J St., San Diego, (619) 239-2255
www.shakespearesglobe.org

Theater La Jolla
2368 Jewell St., San Diego, (619) 574-2784
www.theatlerlajolla.org

Theater La Mesa
505 Kalmia St., Hillcrest, (858) 561-8673
www.theatrelamesa.com

Theater Orange County
651 E. Orange St., Santa Ana, (714) 548-8367
www.theaterorangecounty.org

Theater Orpheum
4545 Park Blvd., Normal Heights, (619) 235-6135
www.centroraza.com

Theater San Diego
2200 San Diego Ave., Downtown, (619) 685-5990
www.thetheateresan diego.com

Theater Vista
2031 El Cajon Blvd., North Park, (619) 264-3391
www.vistatheatercompany.org

This is an incomplete list of San Diego theaters. This list is not exhaustive and may not include all venues. For more information, please visit the websites of the theaters listed.
The Sound of Music
Christian Community Theater opens its summer season with the popular musical about the Von Trapp family singers and the problematic Maria. MT. HELIX AMPHITHEATRE, THURSDAY, JULY 6, THROUGH JULY 22; THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M., SUNDAY, 2:00 P.M. 619-647-4958.

Snoopy!!! The Musical
Coronado Playhouse stages this sequel to You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown with a big-band, jazz-style score. Daniel Logan directed and choreographed. CORONADO PLAYHOUSE, 1835 STRAND WAY, CORONADO, THROUGH AUGUST 6; SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M., SUNDAY, 2:00 P.M. 619-647-4958.

The Sopranos' Last Supper
Dillstar Productions presents an afternoon with the notorious Sopranos satiric of life and pop culture. "gambling, dinner, dancing, and good old mobster fun." LAFAYETTE INN AND SUITES, NORTH PARK, OPENED RUN, SELECTED DAYS AND SATURDAYS AT 7:30 P.M. AND 10:00 P.M. 619-435-4856.

The Old Globe Theatre stages Shakespeare’s early (and grisly) re-venge tragedy about a high-strung Roman general caught in lethal power struggles. Darko Trennjak directed. LOWELL DAVIES FESTIVAL THEATRE, 500 EDISON CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, BALBOA PARK, SATURDAY, JULY 9, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30. TIX 619-239-2255.

Triple Espresso: A Highly Caffeinated Comedy
Hugh Butternutt’s done his lounge act at the Triple Espresso for days and Sundays at 8:00 P.M. SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M., SUNDAY, 2:00 P.M. 619-647-4958.

Six Women With Brain Death
North Park Vaudeville Theatre stages the popular “take-no-prisoners satire of life and pop culture.” NORTH PARK VAUDEVILLE THEATRE, 2031 EL CAJON BOULEVARD, NORTH PARK, THROUGH JULY 9; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M., SUNDAY, 2:00 P.M. 619-647-4958.

Titus Andronicus
The Old Globe Theatre stages Shakespeare’s early and grisly re-venge tragedy about a high-strung Roman general caught in lethal power struggles. Darko Trennjak directed. LOWELL DAVIES FESTIVAL THEATRE, SISON EDISON CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, BALBOA PARK, SATURDAY, JULY 9, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30. TIX 619-239-2255.

Win, Place, or Die…My Jockeys Are Killing Me!
Mystery Café Dinner Theatre presents James Pascarella and Patricia Harris-Smith’s interactive “race-track romp.” It’s opening weekend at Upson Downs, and the Thoroughbred Club’ll never be the same. Pascarella directed. IMPERIAL HOUSE RESTAURANT, 505 KALMIA STREET, HILLCREST, OPENED RUN, WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY AT 7:30 P.M., FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-546-6500.

Zhvago
Boris Pasternak’s 1955 novel and David Lean’s movie have a majestic sweep. By contrast the La Jolla Playhouse’s musical version, now in its world premiere, feels cramped, truncated, like trailers of Dr. Zhivago performed on a sound stage. Metallic girders dominate the look. No matter where the story goes, from Alexander Gromeko’s New Year’s Eve party in far Varykino, the set always resembles a high-rise under construction. The story feels even more cramped. Michael Weller’s book speed-reads the novel so quickly that the characters have no time to breathe. Although Jessica Burrows tries to suggest depths, her Lara’s little more than a blonde object of male desire. As written (and except for the songs Ivan Hernandez sings beautifully), Yuri comes off as a shallow romantic lead in a melodrama. Moustache-twisting dialogue also makes for melodrama, as do the musical’s facile hero-versus-terrorists opposition (Joe McCarthy would approve this message). The production goes for big effects, including a railroad flaxer turning around, but Lucy Simon’s melodic, Russian-tinted score is a star. When Zhivago breaks into song we get pages of needed backstagey and characters suddenly have inner lives so different from their non-singing selves you wonder if they’re the same person. The music’s of such quality it doesn’t need to be sung — as just about every song is — at full summer blockbuster volume. Worth a try.

La Jolla Playhouse, Mandell Weiss Theatrical, 2031 La Jolla Village Drive, Through July 9, Thursday Through Saturday at 8:00 P.M. Sunday at 2:00 P.M. 858-550-2000.

“Critic’s Pick!”
“Editor’s Pick!”
“Dynamite!”
The Musical Journey of a Nation
San Diego Reader, July 6, 2006

“Critic’s Pick!”
“Editor’s Pick!”
“Dynamite!”

RENT
LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE, MANDELL WEISS THEATRE, 2031 LA JOLLA VILLAGE DRIVE, THROUGH JULY 9, THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 858-550-1010.
Sights on Saigon

Most of San Diego’s Vietnamese restaurants are out in City Heights or up in Linda Vista — and most start their names with “Pho,” North Vietnam’s hearty peasant noodle soup. Nothing wrong with pho, but when a Vietnamese restaurant that emphasizes the sophisticated cuisines of Saigon and Hué opens in the heart of Hillcrest, it’s news.

Owner Patrick Hong Luu designed his Saigon on Fifth as a serenely elegant spot. (It’s no relation to the funky Saigon on El Cajon.) A curvy yellow couch flanks the doorway; a large white Buddha fountain greets entering diners. The airy room is furnished with cherrywood tables with white tablecloths, chairs upholstered in red damask, and comfortable booths for four along the walls. The waiters wear black uniforms, while the impossibly slim waitresses are clad in gold satin ao dai, Mandarin-collared side-slit tunics worn over narrow pants.

Formerly a Rubio’s, the menu at 3900 Fifth Avenue has gone from tacos to tamarind. Now the menu begins with soups, salads, and appetizers and includes the usual list of “classic entrees,” where you choose your protein (tofu, mock-chicken, real chicken, meats, or seafood) and a garnish (red curry, yellow curry, lemon-grass, etc.). What sets the restaurant apart from the typical low-rent Vietnamese restaurant is a separate list of house specialties, including many entrees you won’t find elsewhere in San Diego. Best to concentrate on this section of the menu.

A tamarind soup at our first visit sold us on Saigon and Hué. Reasonably priced, appropriately winetasteful and mild, it was served on large triangular lobster crackers (similar to the more common Indonesian shrimp crackers) — porous and brittle, with their own sweetness here — and it’s sweeter. The mixture about two-thirds,” said Keith. I learned later from Sue, the center of the country. The chopped tiny clams were sautéed with a chili-garlic-mint sauce that came off more sweet than pungent, courtesy of caramelized onions. It had an intriguing salty, funky undertone from nuoc mam (rhymes with “Look, Mom!”), Vietnamese fish sauce. “This would be perfect if they cut the sweetness by about two-thirds,” said Keith. I learned later from the owner that honey is used instead of sugar for sweetness here — and it’s sweeter. The mixture was served on large triangular lobster crackers (similar to the more common Indonesian shrimp crackers) — porous and brittle, with their own sugary undertones.

Sugarcane shrimp is also from Hué, a one-time palace dish. The kitchen does a good job with the texture — the shrimp mixture is soft, not rubbery — but it’s underseasoned. It comes with a sweet nuoc cham, a light, chili-flecked red dipping sauce based on nuoc mam. (You can’t really taste the fermented anchovies.) Missing was the customary pile of leaf lettuce, mint, and basil to wrap the shrimp in. We found the dish a tad dry without these authentic flavors and textures for contrast.

Also disappointing were fresh spring rolls, filled with flavorless overboiled shrimp and pork slices, plus a mass of vermicelli noodles surrounded by romaine and mint leaves strong enough to unbalance the overall flavor. “Guess we should have chosen the fried Imperial Rolls instead,” said Sam. “At least those have a seafood stuffing.” Green papaya salad in chili tamarind dressing with a chopped-peanut topping is bland as well, especially if your mouth is set for the spicy Thai rendition. An alternate version that wasn’t available that evening centers on baked, seasoned Vietnamese beef jerky in a ginger-and-soy dressing — a perfect substitute for fresh water chestnuts when the latter are unavailable.)

Happily, most of the specialty entrees here surpass the hit-and-miss starters. A colonial-era Viet-French smoked-oyster omelet offers juicy, creamy, smoky oysters (canned or packaged, but good) in a well-browned, fluffy omelet studded with ground pork, onions, vermicelli, and dried mushrooms — along with the bivalves. It comes with a thick red dip that looks like American

“Best Thai” — 944 Magazine Editor’s Choice, 2006

★★★★ (Very good) — San Diego Reader, 2006

“Best Thai Restaurant” — San Diego CityBeat, 2004 & 2005

“arly or late, you may be missing out on a treat!”

— Naomi Wise, San Diego Reader, 2006

Lotus Thai

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Squares of tender filet mignon are first grilled, taking on a smoky flavor, then mixed with a wokful of black pepper, garlic, and caramelized onions, plus red and green bell pepper strips and carrot sticks. It’s a highly satisfying dish.

I’ve never encountered anything like Saigon’s coconut shrimp before, but it certainly tastes like a royal dish. (It’s actually a creation of the owner’s mother, who’s the executive chef here.) A whole young coconut with a hinged lid arrives at the table. Baked inside are plump shrimp, first fried in a millimeter-thin tempura batter and set to floating in a slowly thickened sauce of fresh coconut juice, honey, and lime leaves. It’s like shrimp candy—not cloying but devilishly decadent. Order this when you have friends to share it with — a little goes a long way.

Saigon Love Boat is also designed for sharing. It’s a seafood combination served in a glazed ceramic boat-shaped dish with a craning bird for a theme. Inside are shrimp, mussels, dried calamari (looking like baby corncobs), and tlapa, all wrapped inside banana leaves, then rewrapped in aluminum foil. The double “pappilotes” keep the seafood tender in the oven. The sauce is pleasantly fishy, seasoned with Kaffir lime leaf and herbs. It took a bit of work to detect all the morsels in the dark sauce surrounded by layers of insulation — the waitress helped us find the last of them before she cleared the plate: “There’s a mussel — you don’t see it! And a shrimp here!”

“Fish of Hue” is one of our most popular dishes,” said the handsome waiter who served us at our first dinner. You have a choice between sea bass and salmon (we chose bass) that’s been marinated in garlic, ginger, and lemon grass, then battered and pan-fried with red and green peppers and white onion in a light, sweet sauce. Popular, perhaps, but we didn’t find it especially exciting.

Carrying the theme of sweetness to its ultimate, Tamarind Crab consists of a whole crab in its shell sautéed in a thick, sticky sauce of tamarind and honey, then chopped into large pieces for serving. Some pieces were overcooked, most were just right, but the sauce tastes like the standard universal rendition, whether you’re eating in Hong Kong, Lampong, or Haiphong. “Every time I order this dish,” said my partner, “I end up telling myself, ‘I shoulda gotten the garlic crab (or the chili crab, or the black bean crab) instead.’ Next time, remind me to order something else.” It’s also messy eating — between the weighty sweetness and the sticky fingers, none of us managed to consume very much.

But — spicy noodle salad — is indeed a boon, a welcome palate-cleaner after the crab, and also a perfect light dish to start a meal. (You’ll find it listed on the last page of the menu, like an afterthought.) You get a pile of thin white rice vermicelli plus rounds by piles of mint, basil, bean sprouts, cucumber sticks, and tomato quarters. You toss it like a salad and dress it from a separate white onion in a light, sweet-spicy light-red chili sauce. With its clean, healthy flavors, this seems more typical of classic Vietnamese cuisine than the heavily sweetened dishes here.

The theme that runs through the menu is honey, often combined with tamarind into a tropical sweet-sour. This is not a major flaw, but the sameness grows annoying. While most Vietnamese restaurants lack so pronounced a sweet tooth, these dishes aren’t adapted so much to American tastes, says the owner, as to the tastes of the French colonials.

The restaurant offers just two distinctive coconut-fried banana and Vietnamese-French “flan” (crème caramel). We passed. Not only were we full, but we’d had our share of sweetness for an evening. Yet we were also content. The only other local Vietnamese restaurant that I know of to serve the cosmopolitan French-influenced dishes of South Vietnam is Le Bambou in Del Mar. At Saigon on Fifth, you can enjoy a distinctive version of this cuisine without a fraught passage through the 1-5 “Merge of Death.” As the Governor used to say, “I’ll be back.”

**ABOUT THE OWNERS**

Saigon-born Richard Hong Luu comes from a Vietnamese restaurant family. “My uncle owned a restaurant in Saigon that only the upper class could afford — royalty, ambassadors, corporate businessmen. The food was a combination of Vietnamese and French, from the colonial era in the country. He had to charge a lot — $20 per dish! — because the food took a lot of labor and good ingredients.”

Luu’s mother is Vietnamese, his father is Chinese. “We’ve always had Chinese restaurants, but my mother wanted to do a Vietnamese restaurant — more fresh.” In San Diego, he’s been operat- ing restaurants for 20 years, including Taste of Szechwan and Thai Cafe in Kearny Mesa.

“My mom used to cook for one of the royal families in Vietnam. Many of the dishes we do are royal dishes. She used to cook here almost full time, but now she’s cut back to a few hours a week. She’s always cooked for lots of people. Now she’s thinking of teaching cooking and writing a Vietnamese cookbook to expose more people to our authentic flavors — not the simple flavors, but the dishes from the colonial era, when the food became a combination of Vietnamese and French.”
I Love Chorizo

“They liked Mexican girls, too. But since 9/11 they have stayed away.”

G

alambres in the morning. It’s like waking up with this lady you met last night. Then, she was glamorous, funny, dazzling. Now, in the harsh light of dawn, you’re noticing pimples, lines, her raucy voice.

That’s the Gaslamp right now. It’s about ten. People wander dazed past restaurants where waiters clank out heavy tables. Cooks in white tunics shout to each other across the street. Backpackers trudge on, kicked out from some hostel at ten, for sure. A guy outside a Starbucks asks everybody, “Say, could you spare a couple of bucks for a hostel at ten, for sure. A guy out there?”

I trudge on, kicked out from some hotel. Gaslamp Mexican? That’s the Gaslamp right now. While I’m waiting, I suddenly realize how cool it is to be sitting here out on, San Diego’s nearest thing to the Grand Boulevard. You can tell it’s getting nearer lunchtime. More rice-noodle people are appearing. Cucos gal being hauled along by newly shampooned red Irish setters, bodyguard-types trailing yapper dogs as big as your kitten, the cell-phone brigade with regulation two-day-old beards, talking loudly to New York, Paris, El Cajon.

Young guy and his girlfriend turn up at the next table to have breakfast. Peder (his family’s Norwegian-Swedish) talks metalwork art and orders carne asada tacos ($6.75) and orange juice ($2.75). Katie his girlfriend orders a strawberry French toast ($5.00).

“Three the first time,” Peder says. “I came in because I saw crêpes for $5.00, and I wondered what Mexican crêpes would be like. But then I guess I changed my mind.”

This is grilled cheese. “My friend, no problem. That’s what we’re here for.”

“Uh, is it, like, okay,” I say as I pay up, “to just come, buy a coffee or beer, and hang out? Not ebing and flowing here?”

“My friend, no problem. That’s what we’re here for.”

Huh. Suddenly I’m not feeling such a stranger here in the Gaslamp. Now I’ve got somewhere to drop anchor and watch the Avenue turn back into that glittering, saucy gal she was last night.
White or Light
Or Sweet or Pink

“I think we have more of a finger on the pulse of what women really want.”

My background was not in this business,” says Julie Brosterman, founder of Women & Wine. “I was a strategist in the mortgage and real estate industry.” “Strategist” in a business context may mean a lot of things, but for the sake of this discussion, let’s limit it to the strategy of marketing — making a product appealing to a certain demographic. In this case, the product is wine, the demographic is women, and Brosterman is strategizing.

Brosterman says that up to now, there’s been an “excessive marketing of what I call ‘the Virginia Slims of wine.’” As women have been increasingly recognized as a significant wine-buying demographic, “Interesting studies have come out. In the first half of 2005, large wine companies started marketing a lot of wines specifically for women, and they were white or light or sweet or pink — pink being White Zinfandel or something like that. Then, about three-quarters of the way through last year, a study came out, and 57 percent of the women surveyed said they preferred red wine. You just feel there’s this great disconnect between what is being marketed to women and what women really want. I think we have more of a finger on the pulse of what women really want.”

What do women really want? Before we answer that, let’s let Brosterman acknowledge that the large wine companies aren’t totally clueless. Even if they’re wrong about what’s in the bottle, they do seem to be getting a few things right when it comes to supermarket-aisle buyers: “I think there’s a big trend out there to create products that will appeal to women on the shelf by the name, or the bottle, or that sort of thing. It’s such a competitive business that they’re doing whatever they can. I compare it a little bit to the cosmetics industry. When you’re walking through the cosmetics counters and they’re just exploding with product,” you tend to notice “the ones that have the prettier packaging or the bright colors that appeal to you, or something sexy or subtle or whatever. Walking through the wine aisle is the exact same thing. It’s a very visual connection, especially when there’s nobody to give you any guidance. You find that you respond to the labels that are attractive.”

But, thinks Brosterman, just because you respond to that pretty label doesn’t mean you’re happy about it. “We think women are smart,” she says, speaking for her company. “They don’t like to be marketed to. They’re put off by some of these brands, because they suspect that they’re being made by someone who’s not taking women’s interest in wine seriously.” What they do like is “recommendations.” Even at the grab ’n go supermarket level, “We just want to make sure that they know that there are better choices — they may be wines that don’t spend as much on marketing or wines from different countries, like Chile or Spain, where they’re not spending as much money on marketing.”

And how does Women & Wine convince harried shoppers that they have the goods on the better choices? By giving them what they want — by bringing to women the message that “wine is a story about a person and a place that produces it. That makes women connect — the whole idea of buring things based on stories, more than scores or ratings,” Brosterman’s research showed her that “it’s from Robert Parker meant more to a man than it did to a woman.”

Women & Wine stepped into the gap. “We’re in luxury marketing is to tell a story to create a bond between the customer and the brand. I think that’s what we’re especially good at. Let the customer decide if it’s something that appeals to them, but tell it in a way that is not just saying, ‘Buy this,’ but saying, ‘This is quality. And the reason this is quality is because of this painstaking process, or this very limited release.’ Not an advertorial, but a real story, even if it’s about a new wine program in a hotel or a chef that’s doing a wine-pairing dinner. It’s written from a very personal and intimate basis — a look inside.”

It may be a general trend in luxury marketing, but it also seems uniquely suited to wine, with its broad array of storytelling possibilities — winemaker to vineyard to vintage to varietal, and on and on. And it’s working. “We have a lot of respect from people in the wine industry who want to see us succeed and think this is a great message for cultivating the woman customer. The more knowledge and information a woman has,
The greater her comfort level, the greater the chance that she’s going to reach out and try new products."

And, crucially, it’s information of a certain kind. "People reach out to us because they like the messaging and the style of the messaging. I think it really enables them to tell their story in a different way. It’s not about the score or the rating, and we try to showcase wines that are not being heavily marketed to women. The ultimate compliment is that a lot of major companies are re-tooling their websites to be more lifestyle-focused — to tell a story for the purposes of getting people to connect with their brand."

Industry support is helpful, of course, but Women & Wine aspires to be, first and foremost, a trusted consumer source. It aspires to be, first and foremost, a story for the purposes of getting people to connect with their brand.

*Source: Wine Enthusiast*
NORTH INLAND

Abby's Real Mexican BBQ 5901 Main Street, Oceanside, behind Denny's, Miramar, 858-556-5125. The barbecue elements of meat, chicken, turkey, and links that are repeatedly mopped with a mari- nade and cooked in a big cast-iron smoker (rather than grilled over a fire). Here they use mesquite to barbecue the juice quickly and the brisket very, very slowly. In addition to the usual BBQ sides (pasta salad, cole slaw, beans, etc.), they offer a Caesar salad. At the Minature branch the room is large and uncluttered but very clean. Wheelchair accessible. Some menu lunches and dinner. Open daily. Continuous service for lunch and dinner. Nice outdoor seating. Lunch or dinner hours. Inexpensive.

Vega's 9100 Mesa Boulevard, Escondido, 858-987-3846. Open for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Spicy, Mexican cuisine. To accompany the door to door delivery you can buy mesquite and adobo spices. They have several Mexican dishes, including several sushi rolls. Don't fill up too soon: the appetizers are especially the perfect, moist corned beef brisket. Every bite from appetizer to dessert is prepared and presented to delight. Especially, any person on the planet with type 66B. Their crab cake slapping with sun-dried prspector-mango chutney is delicious. 1750 Gaylord Drive, Escondido, 760-480-9722. Excellent Ch.lib. (#52) and seasonable fruit and vegetables. Highlights include chef-owner Vincent’s Sirino’s serves Cape Cod- style fresh fish and other dishes. Live music and entertainment.

Tony’s Jacal 621 Valley Avenue (between Genesee Street and University Avenue) Carlsbad, 760-755-2274. Come here at night, for corned beef and other dishes. Live music Thursday through Saturday, 8 p.m. to midnight. A large, attractive heated patio next to the parking lot offers some afternoon serenity. Open daily, lunch until late, plus Sunday breakfast/brunch. Inexpensive.

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LA JOLLA

La Tavera 987 Siboto Avenue (at Girard Avenue), La Jolla, 858-549-0100. Reservations are a necessity at this tiny trattoria, especially if you’d prefer the relaxed vibe of the sidewalk patio to the din of the cute but cramped dining room. Don’t look for meatballs and mussels and eating them with your hands. (Still, how do they get into the party spirit. There’s a haj a la carte list of appetizers, soups, and mains, and of course the perfect, moist corned beef brisket. Every bite from appetizer to dessert is prepared and presented to delight. Especially, any person on the planet with type 66B. Their crab cake slapping with sun-dried prspector-mango chutney is delicious. 1750 Gaylord Drive, Escondido, 760-480-9722. Excellent Ch.lib. (#52) and seasonable fruit and vegetables. Highlights include chef-owner Vincent’s Sirino’s serves Cape Cod- style fresh fish and other dishes. Live music and entertainment.

Tom Giblin’s Irish Pub 10066 Pacific Heights Boulevard (south of Mira Mesa Boulevard, at Cardiff Canyon Road), San Diego, 858-452-7708. It’s the place to go for a drink. Open for breakfast, lunch, and dinner, partly because of frequent music Thursday through Saturday, for corned beef and other dishes. Live music Thursday through Saturday, 9 p.m. to midnight. A large, attractive heated patio next to the parking lot offers some afternoon serenity. Open daily, lunch until late, plus Sunday breakfast/brunch. Inexpensive.

Abby’s Real Mexican BBQ 5901 Main Street, Oceanside, behind Denny’s, Miramar, 858-556-5125. The barbecue elements of meat, chicken, turkey, and links that are repeatedly mopped with a marinade and cooked in a big cast-iron smoker (rather than grilled over a fire). Here they use mesquite to barbecue the juicy quickly and the brisket very, very slowly. In addition to the usual BBQ sides (pasta salad, cole slaw, beans, etc.), they offer a Caesar salad. At the Minature branch the room is large and uncluttered but very clean. Wheelchair accessible. Some menu lunches and dinner. Open daily. Continuous service for lunch and dinner. Nice outdoor seating. Lunch or dinner hours. Inexpensive.

Califa's Deli & Market 7467 Girard Avenue (at Centre City), Escondido, 760-746-5951. Mexican seafood, along with some other things with rice and beans. Turkey meat is big here, and the (real) crab quasadilla in a corn tortilla is delicious too. Cheapest: probably chicken facts. Turkey meat is big here, and the (real) crab quasadilla in a corn tortilla is delicious too. Cheapest: probably chicken facts.
2-for-1 Dinner
Buy one dinner entree and two beverages and get a second dinner entree of equal or lesser value for only $14.95. Offer valid for dine-in only. Offer expires 8/31/06.
San Diego dishes are dull except for with crisp shrimp heads, atypically Sushi Ota Friday, dinner daily. Disabled access a bar seat when the master’s most likely choices, watching for off-menu ex-
sushi bar to snoop on your neighbors’. 7-11 sign (opposite Rubio’s). Sit at the Fachada is: You can have anything any-
per table. Not valid with any other offer or Happy Hour.

Lucky Star Seafood Restaurant 3895 54th Street (at University Avenue, in Smart Eats Mall), College Area, 619-229-6228. The Hong
style Cantonese menu runs to many dishes, not to mention the dim sum lunches from roving carts bearing goodies. The huge room is perfect for large parties (call ahead to reserve) or banquet. Not to be missed are lobster dishes, steamed whole fish, Dungeness crab in special sauce, and frog’s legs. Open daily, lunch and dinner across the valley. Open seven days, three meals. Inexpensive — E.B. (4/05)

La Fascia 20 25th Street (near Commercial Street), Logan Heights, 619-283-4232. The thing about La Fascia in Logan Height is: You can have anything any-

Since 1967

SAN DIEGO Reader

Central San Diego

San Diego Reader is a nonprofit organization.

Sushi Ota 4101 Mission Blvd (at Sorrento Hill Street), Pacific Beach, 88-270-3760. What becomes a legend most at its best, this renowned sushi bar offers fish of exceptional quality, perfect-sweet rice, light soy sauce, and disciplined creativity. These joys don’t come
coupons

East County & College Area

Sushi Bar 2420 Broadway, 619-283-5878. These guys are way over-

The Omelet Factory 7901 Mission Gorge Road, San Tahoe, 619-448-8994. We’re at the end of the line here, the trolley’s Orange Line. Feels like a saloon (a landmark since 1950, “re-es-
tablished” 1967). The Omelet Factory is a monthly exhibit of happy, well-fed, happy people, and this is the real thing. But the prices are right, it’s your own fault. Every

Growing Day.

The Omelet Factory 7901 Mission Gorge Road, San Tahoe, 619-448-8994. We’re at the end of the line here, the trolley’s Orange Line. Feels like a saloon (a landmark since 1950, “re-established” 1967). The Omelet Factory is a monthly exhibit of happy, well-fed, happy people, and this is the real thing. But the prices are right, it’s your own fault. Every

Ingredients include egg white, whole eggs, cheese, bread crumbs, spices, sour cream, milk, onion, garlic, green onions,

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glad roof with a portico drawing up the basic shingle structure behind. It’s a great sprawling place that’s ideal to bring the kids for a big breakfast. You can’t beat their omelets, all nineteen of them, from the best Jay’s Choice (with Swiss, Jack, Cheddar, or American), to the magnificent Factory Omelet (a build-your-own up to four meats, veggies, or cheese). A Greek family has turned this location, outside Santee, from an abandoned social hall into a regular pit stop for half the community, it seems. For lunch, try the Factory Burger. It has two hamburger patties plus green mayo, two cheeses, and onions. Breakfast and lunch, seven days. Inexpensive. — E.B. (10/05) 

**Taste of African Cuisine** 3241 University Avenue, City Heights, 619-583-3784. This is one of the main gathering places for Somalis in San Diego, but they welcome other patrons to come and sample their food, which is a combination of African, Italian, Arab, and Indian influences. Fish plays a big role in the diet of a country that boasts the longest coastline in Africa, as do soot, goat, and camel meat. Start with a fufa/shoreh, a mixed plate of roasted goat meat, fried fish, banana bread (the Indian influence), and a pile of rice — a combination of their food, which is a combination of rice and lentil stew. It’s a great sprawling place that’s ideal to bring the kids for a big breakfast. You can’t beat their omelets, all nineteen of them, from the best Jay’s Choice (with Swiss, Jack, Cheddar, or American), to the magnificent Factory Omelet (a build-your-own up to four meats, veggies, or cheese). A Greek family has turned this location, outside Santee, from an abandoned social hall into a regular pit stop for half the community, it seems. For lunch, try the Factory Burger. It has two hamburger patties plus green mayo, two cheeses, and onions. Breakfast and lunch, seven days. Inexpensive. — E.B. (10/05)

**UPTOWN & OLD TOWN**

**Adams Avenue Grill** 2201 Adams Avenue. Sunday brunch from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., 619-298-4440. The former Mayfair is now a hot spot with an expanding menu that’s always changing. You’ll find cookies, brownies, and coffee; or eggs with chicken-fried steak or a bundling veggie omelet. Their sourdough cheeseburger with fries or potato salad is big, or delve into a bowl of chili. Folks harrumph about talk about that chili in low, reverent voices. For dinner, the rib eye steak or pork chops is good enough to make city folks frown. Three meals daily. Inexpensive. — E.B. (08/05)

**La Posta** 3233 Old Highway 80, Pine Valley, 619-478-5000. Is the Wild West dead? Not out here. Swagge in past the rocking chairs on the wooden porch by the “NKA meets here, every Wed Wednesday, 7 p.m.,” sign, past boxes and arrows, stream cleaners, levis, and brass pistons, and out into a chair. Now think vintage American food. Heavy any time-breakfast includes two eggs, hash browns, biscuits, and coffee or eggs with chicken-fried steak or a bundling veggie omelet. Their sourdough cheeseburger with fries or potato salad is big, or delve into a bowl of chili. Folks harrumph about talk about that chili in low, reverent voices. For dinner, the rib eye steak or pork chops is good enough to make city folks frown. Three meals daily. Inexpensive. — E.B. (08/05)

**Bread and Clio** 330 University Avenue (at Fourth), Hillcrest, 619-294-1250. This little two-egg special emerges daily from this bakery’s 10,000-square-foot facility. The menu is dense, crusty, and delicious French or Italian peasant breads, including the original organic French bread, and black sesame loaves that are served in many top lofts as a complement to salads. Scones, brownies, muffins, banana bread, and cookies are the usual suspects these days. Frascia pizza or sandwiches (many with thick-iced bread and rather thin fillings) are available to take out or eat on the spot — inside the cafe or on the sidewalk patio. Open daily, breakfast through early dinner. Inexpensive. — N.W. (06/02)

**Cafe on Park** 3831 Park Boulevard (at University), Hillcrest, 619-293-7275. Okay, it’s trendy, from the rusty spoon-and-fork sign at the door to the PC industrial interior (concrete walls, exposed plumbing). But the place is huge and ever changing with fodder. Breakfast scrambles are popular with patrons as are the thick-cut home style hash cakes. Pies — please the chokes hearts, or brie cheese. Health conscious? Order a fresh fruit salad with apples, raisins, and honey. But the prize may be the dish that Placerville, California is famous for in its area. I recently had a bowl of vegetable soup (Alexandre the Great conquered Persia, 332 B.C.): houses a decent mixture of vegetables, including peas and carrots, as well as a real meat hash. The vegetable soup comes in a generous portion and is very filling. If you want to find a place that offers a good variety of options, this is the place to try. The food here is very diverse and offers something for everyone. The kitchen is open from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily. Inexpensive. — T.R. (4/04)

**Khyber Pass** 223 University Avenue (at Fifth Avenue), Hillcrest, 619-294-7579. The room’s very modern, and Afghan cuisine is full of history, carrying echoes of both Persian and Indian eras. As the house was built in 1939, the Khyber Pass is one of the oldest restaurants in Hillcrest. The food here is very diverse and offers something for everyone. The kitchen is open from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily. Inexpensive. — T.R. (4/04)

**Ono Sushi and Pacific Spice** 1216 University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-291-6060. Don’t come here looking for Japanese food. This is a Mexican sushi, from a chain based in Mexico City that’s dedicated to creating rolls for Mexican tastes. Nearly all the party rolls feature creame cheese and avocados and most include a shot of hot sauce and some fake crab (aerapes), too. In their own way, they’re fun, so long as you’re prepared to give up any puristic standards and go with the flow. Don’t bother with the plain rolls — the nicelles lack classic sushi seasonings (and is often dry), and the seafood is too moderate to be appealing in simple preparation. Don’t even think about ordering the tempura rolls, which are often ordered by people who are not familiar with sushi. Instead, choose one of the more than four decades in business, that is, the original Ono Sushi. The menu is a bit similar to what you’d find in a traditional Japanese restaurant, with a few unique items added. The atmosphere is friendly and welcoming, with bright colors and minimalistic decor. The service is quick and efficient. The food is fresh and tasty, and portions are generous. Inexpensive. — E.B. (10/05)

**Pomegranate’s address is serendipity (northeast corner of Louisiana), University Heights, 619-297-4067.** Pomegranate’s address is serendipity, since the food of Deep-South Georgia is the Louisiana cuisine of the Slavic world — alive with fresh herbs, garlic, toughs of hot pepper. This cus- tudio restaurant is situated in the building of a former theater. The menu features a variety of seafood dishes, including grilled fish, shrimp, and octopus, as well as some unique regional dishes. The atmosphere is cozy and inviting, with warm lighting and comfortable seating. The service is friendly and attentive. The food is fresh and tasty, and portions are generous. Inexpensive. — E.B. (10/05)

**Sushi Itto** Sushi Itto, 441 Washington, Hillcrest, 619-291-6666. Don’t come here looking for Japanese food. This is a Mexican sushi, from a chain based in Mexico City that’s dedicated to creating rolls for Mexican tastes. Nearly all the party rolls feature creame cheese and avocados and most include a shot of hot sauce and some fake crab (aerapes), too. In their own way, they’re fun, so long as you’re prepared to give up any puristic standards and go with the flow. Don’t bother with the plain rolls — the nicelles lack classic sushi seasonings (and is often dry), and the seafood is too moderate to be appealing in simple preparation. Don’t even think about ordering the tempura rolls, which are often ordered by people who are not familiar with sushi. Instead, choose one of the more than four decades in business, that is, the original Ono Sushi. The menu is a bit similar to what you’d find in a traditional Japanese restaurant, with a few unique items added. The atmosphere is friendly and welcoming, with bright colors and minimalistic decor. The service is quick and efficient. The food is fresh and tasty, and portions are generous. Inexpensive. — E.B. (10/05)
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Calendar

DOWNTOWN

Athens Market 109 West F Street (between First and Front), 619-340-2847. Athens Market is the new downtown food court featuring 12 vendors with a variety of food, drinks, and pastries (with smoking permitted). Generally used tapas can serve as appetizers or as a sustaining bite before venturing into Trader Joe’s across the street. The dinner menu changes seasonally, featuring barbacoa items during the summer, comforting fare in colder weather, and special dinners on all major holidays. Good wine list with several flights available, full bar with tropical cocktails (Pisco Sours, Capir- inhas, etc.). Reservations advised, especially for weekends, holidays and special events (e.g., Sunday “Blues and Barbecue” during the summer). Sat-urday through Friday, dinner only Saturday, closed Sunday. Moderate. — N.W. (2006)

Kansas City Barbecue 160 West Market Street (at Harbor Drive), downtown, 619-231-9860. Serves up the most golden meatloaf in town, plus daily fin-fish dishes listed on a card plus daily fin-fish dishes listed on a card plus daily fin-fish dishes listed on a card plus daily fin-fish dishes listed on a card plus daily fin-fish dishes listed on a card. Good burgers, too. The appetizer list is mainely small pub grub, but the fry cook does a great job with salads. In fair weather, the lush garden dining area outside is fantastic. Full bar, fairly basic wine list. Casual ambience, above-average wheelchair access from large, free parking lot. Dinner nightly, 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Moderate to inexpensive. — E.B. (10/04)

Fat City Steakhouse 1387 Pacific Highway (at Hawthorn), Little Italy, 619-236-4233. Fat City is the place for authentic Texas-style dining room (romantic but rather noisy) with gracious service; the menu emphasizes seafood, including a signature dish of luscious stuffed Maine lobster. Plenty for meat lovers, too; with fine Black Angus cuts inimitably prepared. But the menu and ingredients have been somewhat compromised over the years to accommodate the “Dude, where’s my taco?” conventions. The choices are more Dude-friendly — that is, less ventilateur than they might be, and execution can be uneven. In the lounge at 10 a.m. on weekends, the music cranks up and the scene goes disco (with a cover charge for non-members is checked). Reservations advised, required on weekends, slightly dressy. Lunch weekdays, dinner nightly until 11 p.m. Interesting but expensive wine list; food expensive or higher. — N.W. (10/04)

Kettner Boulevard 1938 Kettner Boulevard (at Grape, next to the Gaslamp, the Coronado Bridge, a park, etc.). Parking’s intermittently available at retail (frozen and fresh produce, etc.). Parking’s intermittently available at retail (frozen and fresh produce, etc.). Parking’s intermittently available at retail (frozen and fresh produce, etc.). Parking’s intermittently available at retail (frozen and fresh produce, etc.). Parking’s intermittently available at retail (frozen and fresh produce, etc.). Parking’s intermittently available at retail (frozen and fresh produce, etc.). Parking’s intermittently available at retail (frozen and fresh produce, etc.). Parking’s intermittently available at retail (frozen and fresh produce, etc.). Parking’s intermittently available at retail (frozen and fresh produce, etc.). Parking’s intermittently available at retail (frozen and fresh produce, etc.). Parking’s intermittently available at retail (frozen and fresh produce, etc.). 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SOUTH BAY & CORONADO

Clandestino 315-1/2 3rd Avenue, Chula Vista, 619-422-7401. Look in Cristina Guzmán’s kitchen: no ovens, no ovens. Only wok. How theory? Never heat food above 112 degrees or the enzymes in the Symposium? They’re life. They give you energy and do your digestion for you. What’s amazing is how much real-looking and tasting food she can create with raw nuts and veg. And fruit. And especially seeds. She creates tuna wraps using sunflower-pumpkin seed pâté and burritos using flax seeds — both pretty credible and edible. Drinks? The margaritas (green apple with grape, lime, and cinnamon) have to be good. Ms. Guzmán comes from Mexico City. Open lunch and dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Inexpensive. — E.B. (1994)

CORONADO

Da Kine’s Plate Lunches 1635 Sweetwater Road (at Prospect), National City, 619-477-8494. Also at 4120 Mission Boulevard, Pacific Beach, 619-274-8494. You go here for your Pacific Island fix — hundreds of Hawaiians do, every day. You’ll find Hawaiian license plates and surfboards on the walls. “Aloha Maid” Guava Neapolitan ice cream and lychee ice cream. Although the kahula pig here isn’t cooked in an imu — a stone oven — it’s still a good piece of meat, with exotic but oddly comforting flavors. There’s always a potful of milk, with exotic but oddly comforting flavors. There’s always a potful of milk, with exotic but oddly comforting flavors. There’s always a potful of milk, with exotic but oddly comforting flavors. There’s always a potful of milk, with exotic but oddly comforting flavors. There’s always a potful of milk, with exotic but oddly comforting flavors. There’s always a potful of milk, with exotic but oddly comforting flavors. There’s always a potful of milk, with exotic but oddly comforting flavors.

Dinner Buffet. With coupon. $8.99 Sunday $11.50 all day

FREE DINNER Buffet anniversary Thursday all day: 10th birthday (Open 8:00 am weekends)

\$55 per person

CHULA VISTA

Chula Vista, 619-827-7401. Look in Cristina Guzmán’s kitchen: no ovens, no ovens. Only wok. How theory? Never heat food above 112 degrees or the enzymes in the Symposium? They’re life. They give you energy and do your digestion for you. What’s amazing is how much real-looking and tasting food she can create with raw nuts and veg. And fruit. And especially seeds. She creates tuna wraps using sunflower-pumpkin seed pâté and burritos using flax seeds — both pretty credible and edible. Drinks? The margaritas (green apple with grape, lime, and cinnamon) have to be good. Ms. Guzmán comes from Mexico City. Open lunch and dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Inexpensive. — E.B. (1994)
Inexpensive. — E.B. (10/00)

Filipino Desserts Plus 2220-Q East Boulevard, National City, 619-474-5546. Also at 8955-B Mira Mesa Boulevard (inside Seafood City), Mira Mesa. 858-271-3754. Filipinos offer lumpia, diniguan, and plenty of it. The service is good. The specialty is the desserts, from chicken, or sweet-and-sour pork. But the real thing and comes with cabbage, rice, macaroni salad, and kimchee. But it sure tastes like Mira Mesa, 858-271-5754. Filipinos of-}

Del Mar Rendevous
The Beach Club
Las Parrillas
Saska’s
Cereal Port Cafe
Alpine Inn
Sam’s by the Sea
Newbreak
Gringo’s
Great Moon Buffet
French Gourmet
Costa Brava
Atoll at the Catamaran Hotel
Broken Volek $2 off breakfast or lunch
Canes Free wing basket
Chateau Orleans 30% off
Costa Brava Free tapa for lunch
French Gourmet Free dessert
Great Moon Buffet 10% off total bill
Gringo’s $2 off Sunday Brunch
Lamhina Beach House Free breakfast
Newbreak Free breakfast or lunch
Pacific Beach Bar & Grill 2 for 1 entrée
Sam’s by the Sea
Saska’s Free sushi or 25% off bill

East County & State College
Alpine Inn Sunday prime rib $18.95
Cereal Port Cafe Free energy drink Fix Me A Plate Cafe
Greek Town Buffet 50% off dinner buffet
Haban Cuban 1/2 price appetizer
Las Parrillas Free pizza
Lucky Star Buffet 10% off

North County
The Beach Club 50% off entree
Big Jim’s Old South Bar & 10% off entree
The Blvd Free Happy Hour appetizer
Del Mar Renovous 20% off
Greek Village Free saganaki
Jamroc 101 Free island sampler
K’s Restaurant Free appetizer or dessert
Miko Japanese 50% off sushi
Noodles & Company +
Poway Sushi Lounge Free sushi roll
Wild Note Cafe
Zibibbo Free tiramisu

South Bay & Coronado
Lai Thai 50% off entree
Uptown & North Park
A La Francaise B Fried Rice
El Indio 50% off entree
Hob Nob Hill $2 off entree
House of India 50% off dinner
India Princess 50% off dinner
Lips 50% off dinner
Paris’s Italian Free appetizer
Rudford’s $2 off appetizer

Midway Old Town & Mission Valley
The Amigo Spot 35% off bill
Bali 50% off entree
Benning’s Free appetizer or dessert
Chiba Japanese $2 off lunch or dinner
Old Town Mexican Cafe Paradise Yogurt 50% off a smoothie
Pizza Bella Free wine dinner
Plaza del Pasado Free entree
Shanghai Chinese $1 off Mongolian BBQ
Tio Leos’s Dinner combos $8.99 each Todai 10% off lunch or dinner

Clairmont, University City Miramar Rd., Poway, Mira Mesa, Scripps Ranch & Kearny Mesa
Ashoka the Great 30% off lunch or dinner
Bangkok West Thai Cafe Free Thai iced tea
Filling Station Free appetizer
La China
Philadelphia Sandwick Co.
Free sandwich
Thai Cafe $1 off buffet

La Jolla
Cafe Milano Free Comedy Store tickets
Clay’s La Jolla
Ginza-Sushi $15.95* La Jolla Brev House Free lunch or dinner entree
Maro’s 10% off lunch
Su Casa 25% off entire check*

Downtown & Point Loma
Alambres Free soup
Blue Water Seafood 25% off Dublin Square 15% off or free lunch
Embers Grille 50% off entree
The Field Free lunch
Hard Rock Cafe +
Hornblower Cruises
House of Blues 20% off restaurant receipt
Humphrey’s
La Cantina Prime rib, crab, wine $19.95
Lotus Thai Cuisine 50% off entree
McCormick & Schmick’s Seafood Restaurant
Mister Tiki Mai Thai Lounge
Old Madrid 2 for 1 lunch or brunch entree
Puerto La Boca Free Argentine dessert
RA Sushi
Rei do Gado
Rock Bottom
Rockin’ India Lobster
Royal Spices Thai 20% off & free soda
Saimon on Fifth 20% off
Samba Grill Free all-you-can-eat Brazilian feast
The Shout House
St. Tropez Bakery-Bistro 20% off Star of India 50% off entree Sushi Fix $5 off
Thai Town Free fried spring rolls
Visions 25% off sushi
Whiskey Girl
Xavier’s Free appetizer

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Wild Note Cafe

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SAN DIEGO READER

Restaurant Coupons and Menus
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La Fonda

hors d’oeurvre, salad, rice, and coffee, “Sarandeado” (just watch out for the go wrong with the less expensive whole with chipotle and bacon. But you can’t really good. So are “Madrazo” oysters, bass — the baked “Catalina” with fish and oyster dishes are reasonable. See Adrian Pedrin Aramis, 685-3124. Even after four decades, fish-studded with trees. In the middle of Ti-

res are like Star Wars creatures. So no surprise that you get country-town type eating: open-grill chowder, well-

in your main squeeze and order up the prime rib with au jus and horseradish is very sixties. For example, dark,

lstm is very sixties. For example, dark,

order the huge offering of exotic Aztec delicacies, includ-

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Second Coming

Superman’s superpowers have indisputably been enhanced by CGI.

The media drumbeat for Superman Returns — is Superman, like God, dead? is Superman gay? is he Christopher Reeve? is he George Reeves? and who the hell is Brandon Routh? — did not make me think about any of the raised issues so much as it made me think about the drumbeat for Mission: Impossible III, The Da Vinci Code, X-Men: The Last Stand, The Break-Up, The Omen, et al. We are barely halfway through the summer, and already the march of blockbusters is receding into the mists, marcher by marcher. This, too, shall pass, and at the pace of life today it shall pass in a great big hurry.

As you must know by now, Superman Returns is a true sequel, unlike last summer’s Batman Begins, which was a sort of start-over, but very much like the previous Batman movies which simply kept recasting Batman. And even truer than those insofar as the new Superman and his new Clark Kent alter ego, the little-known Brandon Routh, not only bears a creepy physical resemblance to Christopher Reeve (while challenging Colin Farrell for the blackest brows in the business), but he also patterns his performance on Reeve’s so closely as to constitute an “impression,” and so uncanny an impression that he, right up there with the Rich Littles and Frank Gorshins, leaves no room for doubt as to whom he is “doing.” (The movie is expressly dedicated to Reeve “with love and respect.”) Yet it isn’t just the sameness of Superman that forges the link. Even before Routh makes his entrance, we hear the familiar voice of the late Marlon Brando as the superhero’s father, Jor-El, from the 1978 blast-off of the series, and throughout we hear the same Richard Strauss-ian musical themes by John Williams. The line continues.

The hiatus, nineteen years since Reeve’s fourth and final appearance in the part, is put down here as only a five-year break while Superman, getting in touch with his inner existentialist, was chasing through the galaxy after the last remnant of his native planet, Krypton, and finding out once and for all that he is alone in the universe. In his absence, Lois Lane has won a Pulitzer for her editorial, “Why the World Doesn’t Need Superman,” has taken up with a new live-in boyfriend (nephew of the Daily Planet editor, Perry White), and has mothered a five-year-old son, an age that ought to trigger an alarm bell long before the tot shoves a piano across the room. The prize-winning editorial, once he gets the chance to read it, causes the Man of Steel to feel more pain than, say, a point-blank bullet in the eye (“You wrote that the world doesn’t need a savior, but every day I hear people crying out for one”), and regardless of what types of viewers enjoy looking at a well-muscled man in tights, any attempt to fan a Superman-as-gay flame will be snuffed by the central plot thread of the hero mooning over Lois in both of his guises, even resorting to X-ray voyeurism outside her love nest — though of course never sinking to the unchivalrous ogling savored by the mortal hero, for example, of X — the Man with the X-Ray Eyes.

If this latest installment in the series, directed by Bryan Singer of The Usual Suspects and the first two X-

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held. The major advantage of a true sequel,
namely sparing us the necessity of going back to square one, has been somewhat offset by the modern mania for mythic, epic, opus granduer, puffing up and dragging out everything. We still have to sit through a flashback to Superman’s childhood discovery of his powers amid the cornfields and haystacks of the Kent family. (Now occupied solely by Eva Marie Saint, reteamed with Brandon for the first time on screen since On the Waterfront.) And there’s still a wait of three-quarters of an hour until the first quick-change from dumb Clark to Super-Duper. The Lois-and-Clark business remains as absurd and as boring as ever: take away the glasses, curl a forelock, et voilà! And Kevin Spacey’s incarnation of Lex Luthor, though snifter than Gene Hackman’s, is still too campy and condescending to be taken seriously, even when his apocalyptic vision of world domination is enacted on a toy-train set, or even when it’s enacted on a full-scale Metropolis. Nevertheless, the special effects of an ocean-floor shockwave rippling beneath the city are well done, and not overdone, and Superman’s superpowers have indisputably been enhanced by CGI. For people, whover they may be, who might honestly have wanted another Superman movie, this is at most a serviceable one, and at the same time a most inefficient one. The major disadvantage of a true sequel, meanwhile, is that there’s no undoing of the wrong turn when Superman and Lois, like Jesus and Mary Magdalene, bumped uglies. No longer is he capable of generating tremendous tension or personal project, deviating from the archetypal, abstract, imitation-American gangster films with which he is most identi-
ed, veering instead toward his first-hand experience as a Jew in the French Resistance. No matter how large the element of autobiography in it, the actual source of the film is a novel by Joseph Kessel, author of St. John of the Cross, and so detrimental to the director’s reputation for masterful control. Lino Ven-
tura, Paul Meurisse, Simone Signoret, Jean-Pierre Cassel, Claude Mann, Paul Crouzard. 1969.

The Break-Up — Battle of the sexes romantic comedy accurately hews numerous notes of tenderness, nastiness, pain, and joy, and next to none of laughter. More of an unromantic undoing. (The screenwriters, Jeremy Gaerlick and Jay Lavender, and the director, Peyton Reed, are all male, so no equal representation.) Vince Vaughn, Mr. Gib, comes across as too insipid to be truly involved, and in order to convey a sensibility of commitment he must resort to the devices of Burt Lancaster as pointed out by Vincent Canby: he “acts with his hand.” Or in Vaughn’s case, his hairpieces, opening a mild approximation of a 1950s rock-and-roll pompadour for special occasions but favoring otherwise so-called resembling a scoop of hot fudge, creating continuity problems when he huffs out of dinner parties looking like Fabian but a bit later at his favorite watering hole, looking more like Tony Bennett. Jennifer Aniston, Miss Coppertone 2002-06, does better at acting engaged, but the chemistry of the couple, the basis for their relationship, has never been established beyond a pre-credits meet-cute at Wrigley Field and a behind-the-scenes photo montage in which they look as well matched as Scott and Laci Pet-
terson. The least you can say about the rela-
tionship is that it’s beyond super, it’s super-!
the height of his powers and to live out his net, Piston Cup champ from 1951 to '53, having to listen to Owen Wilson is much Main Street, the caution-cone motel cabins, tailed: the single flashing yellow light on different. The town itself is wittily differentiated. The airless, vacuum-sealed, climate-controlled, specimens of this type of animation, the a computer cartoon waxing nostalgic over you can steer around the irony, or (“the Mother Road”), which time and the Christened “Hillbilly Hell”) off Route 66 tion focuses chiefly on a hot-shot rookie sion focusses chiefly on a hot-shot rookie "the smart fat girl." Or to put it more own flesh tone (the best idea cinematically), and so on. The movie ought to be cut some slack for its obsti- nence from pyrotechnics, albeit no obsti- nence from high technology. And some more slack for its stress on the mental as- pects 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 luck for a movie with an acute pre- disposition to hang itself. Paul Bettany, Jean Reno, Alfred Molina. 2006.

The Da Vinci Code — Nonsensical retelling of the Dan Brown best-seller, premised on "the greatest cover-up in hu- man history," namely the murderously guard- ed secret that Jesus Christ and Mary Magdalene married and multiplied. (The guarded secret that the disciples of the secret would have the immediate effect of liberating the oppressed worldwide and bringing about a world of peace and har- mony, and that nothing would please the Catholic Church less, seems dubious in the extreme.) The movie is of course separate matter, and inasmuch as it’s a Ron Howard movie it’s pretty much what we could have predicted, something dorky, diligent, uninspired, overproduced, and crowd-pleasing at least crowd-pondering. The gastron, color-drained 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 af- termath of the Crucifixion, testify to the unwieldiness of the genre. A racy, raunchy, the trajectory of the narrative is an odd, dash-and-dot line of breathless chase interrupted by low-winded discourse on religion, Church history, Renaissance art, etc., a high-speed quest for the Holy Grail broken off for comedic excess of what the Grail actually is. Tom Hanks, even with longer hair, does not make a credible long- hair. Audrey Tautou speaks English 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 obsti- nence from pyrotechnics, albeit no obsti- nence from high technology. And some more slack for its stress on the mental as- pects 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 luck for a movie with an acute pre- disposition to hang itself. Paul Bettany, Jean Reno, Alfred Molina. 2006.

The Devil Wears Prada — Working girl comedy in the vein of, oh, say, Working Girl, the gayer, gentler, undemolished, and undemoralized (a movie that would kill for that job?) and the imperious, capri- cious, queen-bee boss. An ice queen, more descriptively, with snow-white hair, just a bit of dodle shoving through at the neck, and an anemic, cromulent complexion. Meryl Streep, in the last part, is interesting as al- ways, taking in a narcotized, unfuttered effect, and she has no emotion deeper than a sight. But Anne Hathaway, talking with a chilliopin on her nose, doesn’t quite fill the bill as “the girl who can put a more flatteningly, the offensiveness of her weight and her wardrobe are not overstated. Disap- pointingly, the possibilities of the fashion— industry setting, from Lauren Weisberger’s fang-baring novel, largely go by in a blur of montages and a blur of name-dropping. With Stanley Tucci, Emily Blunt, Simon Baker, and Adrien Grenier; directed by David Frankel. 2006.

Goal! The Dream Begins — An illegal Mexican landscape, a one-man wrecking crew in a weekend soccer league in L.A., A., catches the eye of a vacationing Brit and sails through a course of low hurdles (a de- feeted fatalista, asthma, English) to secure a spot on the roster of Newcastle United. Inspired inspirationnal from Dis- ney’s sports department, With Kuno Becker, Stephen Dillane, Alessandro Nivola, and Anna Friel; directed by Danny Cannon. 2006.

An Inconvenient Truth — A documen- tary 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 a less a political issue than a “moral issue,” and laid out, tactically, as a doomsday science-fiction sce- nario (Shakespeare’s plays with a backdrop of a live-globe, “and I feel as if I’ve failed to get the message across.” Thus the movie. A new medium, a new conveyance. Needless to say, the identity of the messenger will be in- self be enough to persuade a large fraction of the public to stay clear, on the presump- tion that all he wants to do is to take away from their annual stock dividends. They will miss an interesting, entertaining, and alarming show. 2006.

I Am Legend — Irrationally romantic remake of a South Korean film with the Italian name of 8,000, set in a Lifetime Channel fantasyland where every romantic hero is an architect (the artistic business- man), every romantic heroine is a doctor (the nurturing career woman), and every dream house is on the water (the boundless homesteader). Into this boilerplate is intro- duced what we must call a time winder, a two-year-time barrier that separates the oc- cupants of a see-through house on stilts — “Le Corbusier meets Frank Lloyd Wright” — who are able to correspond with one another, and fall in love without the risk of actually having to keep com- panry, through the agency of a magic mail- box. Only the most thoroughly enchanted viewer will be able to suppress petty thoughts of stock tips, Super Bowl out- comes, etc., that might have been passed down profitably from the future. And even the most minimally attentive viewer will be able, from far away, to see what is tragically headed, and to wonder whether fate can (or ought to be) altered, and to brace for the sorts of time-traveling trumpet- drums that ultimately seem, well, a waste of time. Still, the initial disclosure and addi- tional development of the situation are smooth and deft, and the glossy photogra- phy makes effective if infrequent use of Chicago’s architectural gems. The Ar- gentine director, Alejandro Agresti, is chiefly known for Valentino, which was chiefly known for schmaltz. He doesn’t struggle against his typecasting. The on-screen cast- ing, meanwhile, has been calculated with an eye for publicity — the Two Speed freaks, Keaun Reeves and Sandra Bullock, together again, at around 12 — rather than an eye for the actual qualities they might bring to their roles. At this point in their lives, forty-two years apart, the foremost quality they bring is middle-age denial. Their chemistry, if any, rarely enters into it. It’s in

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**CENTRAL**

**CLAREMONT**

6493 Claremont Drive (858-274-1234)
The Break-Up (PG-13) Fri., Sun. 12:35, 3:05, 5:20, 7:40, 10:05; Cars (PG) Fri., Sun. 11:55, 1:15, 3:05, 7:25, 10:00; Click (PG-13) Fri., Sat. (11:45, 2:25) 5:10, 8:10, 10:50; EL CAJON

12:25, 2:40, 4:35, 7:30, 9:35, 11:40, 2:00, 4:15, 6:45, 8:30, 10:35, 12:05, 1:40

The Lake House (PG) Fri., Sun. 12:05, 2:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:15; Nacho Libre (PG) Fri., Sat. (11:15, 2:20) 4:25, 7:30, 10:15; Over the Hedge (PG) Fri., Sun. 12:15, 3:35, 7:00, 10:15; A Prairie Home Companion (PG-13) Fri., Sat. (2:00) 5:20, 7:30, 10:20; Santa Monica/Miramar 18

12:10, 12:40, 1:10, 3:20, 4:25, 5:40, 7:50, 10:15, 10:45

Horton Plaza 14

Horton Plaza (619-444-FILM)
The Break-Up (PG-13) Fri., (10:40, 1:20, 5:40) 8:00, 10:00; Cars (PG-13) Fri., Sun. 12:45, 3:45, 7:15, 10:15; Click (PG-13) Fri., Sat. (11:45, 2:25) 5:10, 8:10, 10:50; The Devil Wears Prada (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (12:00, 1:45, 4:05, 7:10, 10:15, 11:15) 4:20, 7:20, 10:20; The Fast and the Furious (PG-13) Fri., Sat. (10:45, 3:20, 6:20) 9:10, 12:00

The Lake House (PG) Fri., Sun. 12:05, 2:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:15; Nacho Libre (PG) Fri., Sat. (11:15, 2:20) 4:25, 7:30, 10:15; Over the Hedge (PG) Fri., Sun. 12:15, 3:35, 7:00, 10:15; A Prairie Home Companion (PG-13) Fri., Sat. (2:00) 5:20, 7:30, 10:20; Santa Monica/Miramar 18

12:10, 12:40, 1:10, 3:20, 4:25, 5:40, 7:50, 10:15, 10:45

The Devil Wears Prada (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (12:00, 1:45, 4:05, 7:10, 10:15, 11:15) 4:20, 7:20, 10:20; The Fast and the Furious (PG-13) Fri., Sat. (10:45, 3:20, 6:20) 9:10, 12:00

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12:10, 12:40, 1:10, 3:20, 4:25, 5:40, 7:50, 10:15, 10:45

**DOWNTOWN**

Gaslamp 15

500 4th Ave (619-220-0400)
Cars (G) Fri., Sun. 11:30, 2:30, 4:25, 7:20, 10:20; The Celestine Prophecy (PG) Fri., Sat. (12:15, 2:30) 4:15, 6:35, 8:45, 10:30

Sun. (12:20, 2:40) 5:20, 7:30, 10:50; The Da Vinci Code (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (12:15, 2:30, 4:15, 6:35, 8:45, 10:30) 3:40, 7:20, 10:35 Sun. (12:30, 1:45, 3:40, 4:45, 9:05, 10:40) 11:00, 11:45, 12:30, 1:15, 2:00, 2:45, 3:30, 4:15, 9:05, 10:30 Sun. (12:30, 1:45, 3:40, 4:45, 9:05, 10:40) 11:00, 11:45, 12:30, 1:15, 2:00, 2:45, 3:30, 4:15, 9:05, 10:30

FISHERMANS WHARF/PIER 39

Fisher Hill 4; Gaslamp 15; La Jolla Village; Town Square 14

Road to Guantanamo — Blend of documentary and dramatization, directed by Michael Winterbottom and Mat Whitecross, detailing the career of the three British Muslims held by the U.S. military. (6:45, 7:20, 8:00, 8:30)

**LENNING**

The Sting — The Butch Cassidy gang, wanted and notable by Newman and director George Roy Hill, resgains for a Mission: Impossible-like caper (you can never be sure that even the best urchin's plot is not open to outside interference), set in the urban 1930s. Retrieval of the period is thoroughly preserved in terms of interior decoration and clothing styles, but in terms of cinematic style it is done absent-mindedly, a dash here, a pinch there. The music, the sets, the script, though, is that you like the stars and pray for them to come through unscathed. Newman by now presumes you like him or no longer cares, while Redford keeps on pushing, pushing. With Robert Shaw. (1973. 2:45) Under the Stars, 7:00, 9:30, 11:00)

Superman Returns — Reviewed this issue. With Brandon Routh, Kate Bosworth, Kevin Spacey, Parker Posey, James Marsden, and Frank Langella; directed by Bryan Singer. (619-444-FILM)

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**Prairie Home Companion — Its tale and its emcee have been taken from Gerri- son (a/k/a Garrolla) Keillor’s weekly public-radio show and its imaginary world of Lake Woebegone, MN. The sole setting is the Fitzgerald The- atre in St. Paul, Minnesota, named after native son, Minnesota. A professional singer, sounds the worst of singers as singers, Meryl Streep, Lily Tom- "The Sting — The Butch Cassidy gang, wanted and notable by Newman and director George Roy Hill, resgains for a Mission: Impossible-like caper (you can never be sure that even the best urchin's plot is not open to outside interference), set in the urban 1930s. Retrieval of the period is thoroughly preserved in terms of interior decoration and clothing styles, but in terms of cinematic style it is done absent-mindedly, a dash here, a pinch there. The music, the sets, the script, though, is that you like the stars and pray for them to come through unscathed. Newman by now presumes you like him or no longer cares, while Redford keeps on pushing, pushing. With Robert Shaw. (1973. 2:45) Under the Stars, 7:00, 9:30, 11:00)
65/96 Click (PG-13) Fri., Sun. (12:00, 2:15, 5:40, 10:15, 10:40, 11:15) Santee Twin #1 (760-945-7469) Call theater for program information

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Aventaja Calderón

El candidato izquierdista Andrés Manuel López Obrador y el oficialista Felipe Calderón no parecen dispuestos a dejar de considerarse los ganadores de la rendición contienda presidencial del pasado domingo.

El postulante del partido oficialista Acción Nacional (PAN) afirmó que hay una tendencia “irreversible” a su favor, mientras el aspirante del partido izquierdista de la Revolución Democrática (PRD) insistió que tiene 300 mil votos de ventaja. Un conteo oficial preliminar que comenzó la noche del domingo daba como ganador a Felipe Calderón con el 33.9% de la votación mientras que López Obrador obtuvo el 35.4%.

El IFE dijo que aunque son conteos preliminares oficiales, el resultado definitivo se conocerá esta semana, que se concluya el conteo de votos por voto de los 300 distritos electorales en México.

En la cuerda floja

Américas Harelón-Feldman

En el Norte del Condado de San Diego, Cirilo Chávez y Eulogio Rosales son dos mexicanos que buscan un toque de vida el sustento para sus familias con trabajos eventuales en el Norte del Condado de San Diego.

Los dos hombres son jornaleros en la ciudad de Vista, Cirilo es de Oaxaca, y Eulogio de Chiapas, tienen entre dos y un año de haber llegado a California en busca de oportunidades para mantener a sus seres queridos.

Aunque diario se parten al aire, al centro comercial de San Diego, las calles de Vista y Chula Vista, tienen entre los dos y un año de haber llegado a California en busca de oportunidades para mantener a sus seres queridos.

En voz alta

Todos los lunes escuche la revista noticiosa de Diario San Diego en Radio Hispana 1470 de 7 a 8 de la noche.

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

¡Escúchanos cada lunes!

Ellos tienen el micrófono... usted tiene la palabra

Malos árbitros

Abraham Nudelsteij

Diario San Diego

Ya ha sido visto que a los árbitros que están trabajando en el Mundial de Fútbol que se desarrolla en Alemania.

El mal trabajo de los jugadores en este evento ha sido evidente, sobre todo en los casos más notables.

Falla pasó a cuartos de final del torneo gracias a los árbitros españoles Luis Medina Cantalejo en el tiempo de compensación marcó un penal inexistente en contra de Australia.

La supuesta falta dentro del área nunca existió pero el oficial se dejó impresionar por la caída del jugador italiano y puso una pena máxima que significó la eliminación de un equipo que había mostrado gran esfuerzo competitivo.

No cabe duda que los árbitros son fuertes "bienvenidos favoritos" a las grandes potencias, pero lo que hizo el señor Cantalejo fue un auténtico robo a mano armada.

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Todos los días

Almuerzo de lunes a domingo de 8 a 9:30 pm

El restaurante ofrece platos "a la carta" y "catering" en el precio de tu plato.

¡Escúchamos cada lunes!
Suena el Mariachi

El Mariachi, una producción de la Cadena Hispana de Comunicación del Condado de San Diego, así como uno de los eventos estrellares de la organización. Los fondos recaudados de este evento se utilizarán para otorgar becas a estudiantes latinos distinguidos del Condado de San Diego.

Por primera vez en su historia, el Festival ¡Viva El Mariachi! se llevó a cabo en los Terrenos de la Feria del Mar Durante la Feria del Condado de San Diego 2006.

Otra novedad fue el concierto en Plazza de Mexico con presentaciones por grupos de El Mariachi!


Pita semifinal

Gracias a sus buenas actuaciones en el Mundial de Fútbol, el árbitro mexicano Araceli Bernal fue seleccionado para dirigir el duelo de semifinales del mundial entre Alemania e Italia. Araceli fue asistida por su compañera de equipo, la canadiense Héctor Vergara.

Este fue el quinto partido que Araceli pitó en la copa del mundo. En la primera ronda estuvo a cargo de los partidos Brasil-Croacia, Francia-Coréa del Sur y República Checa-Italia. También fue el central del Sub-17 en la segunda ronda.

De esta manera, el mexicano se convirtió en el primer árbitro que dirige más de cuatro partidos en un solo mundial.

La condición física de Araceli fue un factor decisivo para poner en alto el nombre del arbitraje mexicano ya que en todo momento estuvo cerca de la jugada.

Además, mostró conocimiento de cómo aplicar el reglamento y superó con éxito momentos difíciles y de presión.

Araceli puede regresar a su país natal con la frente en alto y satisfecho por el gran trabajo realizado.

Con su actuación en la Copa del Mundo realizada en Alemania, Araceli se coloca como uno de los mejores árbitros a nivel internacional.


Sufre mexicano

Manuel Uribe peseaba más de media tonelada (660 kilos) en enero, cuando hizo una supleta desesperada en la televisión mexicana.

Incapaz de pararse de la cama durante cinco años, este mecánico de 41 años de la ciudad noroeste de Monterrey pidió ayuda para recuperar el movimiento y sanar las lesiones en sus piernas, que procuraba mantener separadas para evitar infecciones.

El pedio de Uribe fue atendido por expertos europeos, quienes sugirieron una cirugía de bypass, así como por nutricionistas que diseñaron una llamada dieta “La zona”.

Uribe se decidió por la dieta alta en proteínas y ha perdido más de 90 kilos desde febrero. Las heridas en sus piernas también han sanado.

“Ahora me siento mejor. Puedo caminar y moverme un poco más”, afirmó Uribe, escuchado por el doctor Barry Sears.

El mecánico apenas tiene energía para sentarse y mover las cebollas que usa para centrarse y concentrarse en su cuerpo. Su meta es perder 250 kilos más. Según Sears, Uribe le tomaría tres a cuatro años perder 120 kilos. “Será un proceso lento, pero si él quiere aún 90 kilos podría recuperar la movilidad”, dijo el doctor.
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APPLICANTS NEEDED for various customer service positions to serve our readers. Positions include:

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**WEB: SanDiegoReader.com** **MAIL: P.O. Box 85803, San Diego 92186 (up to 25 words)**

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**Help Wanted**

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**BARTENDER.**

San Diego Reader July 6, 2006.
We’re Soleil Communications, Inc., part of the Welk Group of Companies spanning resorts and hospitality, vacation ownership, real estate, entertainment, record labels, television syndication, and more. We’re hiring now for our highly successful and rapidly expanding Mission Valley telecenter.

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4:15 pm-8:45 pm Mon.-Thurs., or call to set up an appointment:
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Heartland Payment Systems (NYSE: HPY), the 6th largest processor in the country, has available positions:

ROLE RELATIONSHIP to sell payment processing services to the restaurant, hotel and retail industries. Prior success selling in a business-to-business environment, strong consulting and closing skills. Minimum 1st year income $50K+. Microsoft proficiency a must. This position is full-time with long-term income stream. Weekly signing bonuses, monthly residual pay. 401(k), recognition programs, portfolio ownership, and outstanding training are just a few benefits of our company.

TELEMARKETERS Looking for enthusiastic and highly motivated individuals. Must be experienced in 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, 9 am-2 pm Monday-Friday. $10/hour plus commission.

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- Enthusiasm
- Like Different Types of People

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Join the professional vacation ownership sales team at the Walk Resort Group.

Call Tom Trobaugh at: 760-751-3826 or fax résumé to: 760-751-3843

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Come speak with Program Directors from various YMCAs about job opportunities in fields such as Child Care, Aquatics, Administration, Social Services, Facilities and more!

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Or e-mail résumé to: hnm@newalternatives.org

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YMCA JOB FAIR

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- **Knowledge of Home Repair and Light Renovation**: Small business details.
- **Experience with Macintosh Systems**: Minimum of 2 years.
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Heather Lambert
Counselor
Riverdale

I don’t know. I watch movies I like. I’d watch another Bollywood movie. If you like the whole car-
toon thing, I’d say go ahead and see it, but if you want to wait until video, don’t pay ten bucks to go see a movie like
that.

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by Cruz Medina

Mike Stone
Student
E Carlsbad

T he Da Vinci Code. I didn’t read the book, but it was supposed
to be good. It started out interesting and good, but it was
kind of slow towards the end; I just didn’t like it. Everyone said the book was good and it started out good and
I thought it was going to be great. My girlfriend read the book and thought it was good. She told me that the movie
would have been better if I’d read the book. Now I’m really interested in the book. I’d probably see the new Pirates of the Car-
dob. I like Keira Knightley and Johnny Depp.

Sarah Mo
Counselor
College Area

I guess it was Nacho Libre. I thought it’d be kind of funny, but I like a
different style of funny. Some people thought it was hilarious, I knew it was supposed to be funny and that a lot of people thought it was funny. I have more of a Jerry Seinfeld kind of sense of humor. I haven’t seen a lot of movies recently because I’ve been out of the country for a while. I saw a Hollywood film that was pretty entertaining. Hollywood is India’s Hollywood. Bollywood is very colorful
and singing with high-pitched
voices. It was subtitled, and I noticed
that they never kiss. It’s illegal for them to have kissing in their movies, so they come in really close and don’t kiss, but they have really funny gestures and facial expressions. Heavens, yes, I’d watch another Bollywood movie. I’d star in one if they wanted me; they
could get to wear those really colorful outfits.

Clad Foo
Student
College Area

I would have to be Over the Hedge. I like cartoon movies with the animals
but me and my girlfriend decided to go see it on a date; we both thought it was going to be cute, but then it
was a little too cute. Then it wasn’t that entertaining, we’d both college students and don’t really get the whole cartoon thing anymore. I’m probably not going to pay that much money to see a cartoon movie again. I really liked maker. They actually have the sexual innuendo and other stuff like
that, so it’s like a kid’s movie, but there’s stuff in there that kids don’t get. Over the Hedge was strictly for kids. If you’re into the whole cartoon
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that.

Johnson Delgado
Student
City Heights

I don’t know. I watch movies I like. I’d watch another Bollywood movie. It was strictly for
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4. To provide online viewers of your ad with a map of your neighborhood, we need cross-streets and zip code:

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5. The system dictates a mailbox number and security code.

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<th>MAILBOX NUMBER</th>
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7. Deadline for placing voice mail ads is 6 pm Monday; however, print/online ads can be placed until 6 pm Tuesday by calling (619) 235-8200. Voice mail ads will be placed on the Hotline within 24 hours. No cancellations.

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Across
1. An MD might request one
2. Something bad to have
14. Song title that means "Farewell to Thee"
15. "Splish"
16. Piano m.
18. " Fighting"
19. NCAA team
20. Some student needs
22. When MILK Day is celebrated
23. Smile for Alfred E.
26. Carol time
28. Old Navy competitor
29. Kentucky location
30. Naked baybird
31. Watson's crime-solving
teacher
32. Naked baybird
33. "I bid you farewell"
34. "Farewell"
35. Leader of the Pussycats of
town
36. Cyber communications link
37. "All the President's Men"
38. Oscar winner
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The site on the lower left is Charles Lindbergh's plane (flanked by two Army planes) as he left San Diego for St. Louis, May 10, 1927. Many histories mention that he departed San Diego from Dutch Flats, the current site of the post office on Midway Drive. This is not true; Lindbergh flew to North Island's Rockwell Field to fuel up before he pointed his nose eastward.

—Robert Mizrahi
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“How do I do it?” she yelped in cyber panic.

My friend Deb was aghast. “Is it possible she doesn’t know how to lose weight?”

“I didn’t know there was a woman in America who doesn’t know how many calories are in her kitchen countertop!”

I answered.

Then there’s the young woman who regained 200 pounds in 15 months. This is her third go-around at dropping from 400-plus pounds to a size 8. She has a lot of experience with compliments, and I had a frisson of recognition when she described how little they bolstered her maintenance resolve. “People would say, ‘You look so good. I thought to myself, ‘Yeah, but I should have never been fat in the first place, so it really isn’t an accomplishment!’”

Fie! I say. The odds are, “four hunks” (her words), that you were more likely pulled to fat than Paris Hilton would make straight up as a college student.

This is not an excuse. I was also born with weak eyes, but it doesn’t mean I drive without glasses.

All of us who strive against seatbelt extenders have a different relationship with compliments. We adduce our fat to an abomination against nature, while our thin is a false beauty in contrast to how we used to look. There’s not a lot of room for pride in there.

Hunsky is two weeks into her new food plan, while I’m imperfectly 16 weeks into mine. My sponsor says my cheekbones have emerged, that I look just like myself again, an observation I like, despite its similarity to Four Bill’s never-should’ve-been-fat defensive line. I like the idea that by looking more like myself, I’m becoming more myself — a more pronounced face might mean I can pro-nounce on my life as well. And I love it that there are people in my world for whom my obesity is an anomaly.

But comments are dangerous. Yesterday I took two Labs to the dog run for a drizzly hour of fetch. I intended to shower but was still wearing my sweat pants and T-shirt when Liz asked if her dog could come over and hang out. “Sure,” I said. “Just let me walk Hero and Daisy first.”

Halfway home we ran into Mad Mally. “You’re looking great,” Jeanette said as Mally went Cinque de Soleil on us. “Have you gotten fat?”

I’m out for a couple of hours a day with dogs, so it’s possible. “I touched up my roots and had my eyebrows waxed,” I added, and then, stupidly, “I’ve lost some weight.”

Shitshitshit, didya have to say that?

Twenty-four hours later I can’t remember if I’m even a comment from her or not. I’m still cringing at having said it, no matter how quickly I launched into my imitation of the gyrating Mally’s past life as a drunk, very bad Irish poet whom people bought drinks to keep him from reciting his songs of Far Gorta. My performance meant Liz was waiting for us when we got home.

“Oh,” she said as I opened the door. “You really have lost weight!”

I believe there was an exclamation point there.

I mumbled something about just 20 pounds.

I’m pleased and not pleased by the notice. Getting clean days together has been very viciously difficult. Comments are something to show for it. I’m not pleased because one of my several hundred voices says, “They’re gonna start keeping track,” and another whines, “Can we eat now?”

I can’t imagine her to be fat, another blogger writes. Having fat as a lodestone, we are not predestined to have Oreos at our elbows 24/7. Our is a talent for surviving the demise of the wooly mammoth. Paris Hilton would have died, but we would have shrunk to take her skinny-ass place.

Upon consideration, I think I’ll write “thank you” on the palm of my hand to remind myself to be pleasant and shut the hell up. Maybe I need to concentrate on having a body whose changes are not contingent on other people’s comments. Maybe I’ll better live in my body if I keep my eyebrows in order and put on clean clothes.

Because until I blurt “you look great” to myself, nothing I can force or surprise from someone else is going to keep me from wanting to eat, if it comes down to the last resort, the kitchen counter.
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LEAD STORY
Britain's Prince Philip has for at least 30 years accommodated a tribe of 400 "cargo cult" people on the South Sea island of Tanna, who revere him as the human face of an ancestral spirit, according to June revelations by London's Daily Mail. Both sides have been discreet, but the prince has acquiesced by sending the tribe signed photographs, including one in which he is holding the traditional war club (even though a totally authentic pose would require that the prince hold it by the blade). Cargo cults are so named because lore has it, an ancient god forecast that one day wealth would fall from the sky, and then, during World War II, it did, in the form of parachuted supplies for American troops who used the islands as staging areas.

Compelling Explanations
— An Iowa tribunal turned down Chris T. Copinger's demand for unemployment benefits in May, following his firing from a charitable fundraising company in Davenport for various alleged indiscretions. Among the company's charges was that Copinger had had sex on top of his desk with a co-worker, but Copinger argued that this should not be a terminating offense, since many other company employees had had sex on his desk, too.
— New Life Up: Ronald Blankenship, a shoe repairman in Birmingham, Ala., finished second in June's Democratic primary for sheriff and was placed in a run-off, when Birmingham News discovered details of an apparently shady past: faking his death in connection with an insurance policy, assault and passing bad checks. Blankenship's defense, a week later: It must be another Ronald Blankenship (even though "both" men have the same middle name and birth date and coincidentally are married to women with the same first, middle and maiden names).
— Honesty Is the Best Policy? (1) Jonifer Jackson, 20, was arrested in Clarksville, Tenn., in April and charged with reckless endangerment for firing a 9 mm pistol while street-preaching (because, he told police, it was the only way he could get people to listen to him). (2) Phillip Daniels, 42, was arrested in Dallas in April as the one who had set five explosives in the area (which Dallas' KXAS-TV he did believe because he likes the sounds). (3) Yasuha Matsushita, 25, was arrested in Izawa, Japan, in March as the man who had broken into a Nagara Falls, N.Y., and pranced around it in while relieving himself because, he told police, "It felt so good."

The Latest American Right
— In the course of an April ruling that the New York City school system had gone too far by firing Touqui Choudhury for poor work habits, administrative law judge John Spooner declared that city workers have a "right" to surf the Internet for personal use while at work. Choudhuri was expecting reinstatement, but two weeks later Chancellor Joel Klein fired him anyway, citing poor work habits beyond his Web-surfing. (Choudhuri was unable to comment; he was suspected of being on leave in a country on whose tourist Web sites he had been lingering.)

Ironies
— In May, in the midst of the Ford Motor Co.'s "Red, White & Bold" buy-American ad campaign touting its classic Mustangs, the research firm CSM Worldwide (using statistics from the U.S. Department of Transportation) revealed that 35 percent of the 2006 Mustangs came from overseas, and, in fact, five Honda models and seven Toyota models contained more U.S. content than the Mustang, including Toyota's Sienna minivan, which had 90 percent U.S. content.
— More Ironies: (1) The May 10 tornado that hit Highland County, Ohio, touched down in the town of Hillsboro, along Wizard of Oz Drive. (2) In April, the Washington Post, covering outdoor press conferences by Capitol Hill legislators to decry the then-rising pump in gas prices, reported that the vehicle of choice for most of them returning to offices only a few blocks away was a gas-guzzling SUV, and in fact that several senators hopped into idling SUVs even to travel across the street from the Capitol to their offices.

Cliches Come to Life
— (1) The Chicago Sun-Times reported in May that no least six.recent addicts claimed that some-one had paid them $3 each to vote for certain candidates in a recent Chicago school board election (and that a schools spokesman, after consulting the rules, said that he had no reason to believe that school board elections might not even be illegal). (2) London's Guardian reported in April that access to British dentists is becoming so difficult that in a recent week, 6,000 do-it-yourself crown-and-cap replacement kits had been sold to consumers.

Creme de la Weird
— In May, a judge in Reno, Nev., sentenced Raymond Russell George, 58, to five consecutive life sentences for molesting three young girls over a two-year period, but George said he welcomed the prison time because it will give him a chance to use his comprehensive knowledge of the Bible to help inmates find Jesus. George is notoriously also for his inattention to hygiene, which he is said to keep prisoners (his potential victims) from getting too close to him. (Otherwise, he said, "they flap boogers at me and fart in my face.")

Undignified Deaths
— (1) Recent incidents in which people were fatally run over by their own cars: a 62-year-old woman backed into a Wal-Mart parking space at a Wal-Mart in Kahului, Hawaii, in May (she had apparently opened the door to look behind her and fallen out), and a 76-year-old woman vowing to break her husband’s grave at Maple Grove Cemetery in New York City in April (details not reported). (2) A 67-year-old woman was killed in Houston in May when her car went out of control, swerved across a road, and slammed into the lead car of a funeral procession about to depart Guadalupe Funeral Home for the cemetery. The woman’s family later announced that they would just leave the body at Guadalupe for funeral arrangements.

Least Competent Criminals
— Flunking Finance 101: John Faux, 41, was arrested in Niantic, Conn., in April and charged with robbing a Key Bank branch of about $2000; Faux had complained to the teller that he had cleared himself no $200, but "$100 million," and the two were still arguing when the police arrived. And Teke Zigetta, 45, pleaded guilty in Los Angeles in March to trying to smuggle $250 million into the country (which customs agents discovered in the form of 250 oil billion bbls beating the picture of President Grover Cleveland).

Updates
— Veteran New England mobster Anthony St. Laurent, 64, was arrested again in April, in Providence, R.I., on loan-sharking charges. As with previous arrests. St. Laurent tried to convince the judge not to jail him because his colorectal condition required him to take 40 enemas a day, the condition has apparently worsened, in that he now claims to need "to have his stool removed," (twice a month), according to his lawyer.
— Four weeks ago, "News of the Weird" reported that a "side business" of British farmer David Lucas was building bargains for export to Zimbabwe, but Lucas's sometime-business-partner told reporters that Lucas had been joking, that he had built only one bargains and it was not actually in the business. At press time, it is unknown whether Lucas or his partner was telling the truth.

Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 58503, San Diego, CA 92116 or to WeirdNewsTips@yahoo.com.
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MUST SELL! 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with west facing balcony and fireplace. 820 square feet, 6015 El Cajon Boulevard. $279,000. 619-583-1431.

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Thirty Years Ago

Writer Jane Stein will tell you that Golden Hills is the first place where she has ever wanted to live permanently. “I grew up in housing developments and shopping centers. This is the first time since I was a child that I have a sense of community. This is the first time I can go to the grocery and someone knows who I am.”

Freda, the barmaid, who is much older than Jane Stein, takes a cab every night four and a half blocks to her apartment because she is scared of the young blacks who yelling, “Look at the white bitch in the short skirt.” — “GOLD IN THEM HILLS,” Richard Low, July 8, 1976

Twenty-Five Years Ago

The idlers who guzzle beer beside Sam’s Market in Mission Beach aren’t sure whether they should still hang out with Max Manning. Since Manning testified a couple of weeks ago before the federal board considering licensing at San Onofre nuclear power plant, the guys in the alley have wondered if some bit man will come looking for their buddy. “I’m scared, sure,” said Manning. Manning gave testimony about working as a “jumper” repairing steam generators last May in San Onofre’s power plant.


Twenty Years Ago

“Somewhere down the line, in an unguarded moment, Papa Meltz spills it. No, he didn’t exactly enlist to save England from the blitz. It was more like, well, to get away from his own grouchy pop. And no, he didn’t quite battle the nazis. Slept on the ice, tore cartilage in his knee 10–11 months before Pearl. On the grounds of — where was that again? — Fort Ethan Allen, Vermont. Medically discharged, the cock sucker; and here I’ve been haunted by bloodlines, shedding my own psychic blood since close to the crib.”

— “RICHARD MELTZER’S NAVY,” Richard Meltzer, July 10, 1986

Fifteen Years Ago

“I screen lifeguards in San Diego and Solana Beach,” said Mitchell Goldman, M.D., a La Jolla dermatologist. “And of the 150 I saw last year, about 50 — a full one-third — have precancerous lesions. These are areas of the skin that will turn cancerous in the future. We’re talking about kids between the ages of 20 and 30. And to have 50 percent of a population that age with precancerous lesions is horrible and very frightening.”


Ten Years Ago

Personally, I want a lunch-counter cheeseburger, good meet with fried onions, weighty, cooked flat, solid to the grip, with a wedge of pickles, a bun, sweet as a kiss and solid as a high school girl’s femur. It should be dripping moist, undoc- tored by garlic powder, cream, or Worcestershire sauce, and crowned for graduation with a mor- tarboard of yellow American cheese.

— “QUICK TO BUY, EASY TO HOLD, CHEAP AND DELICIOUS,” Alexander Theroux, July 3, 1996

Five Years Ago

I wrote a crossword puzzle when I was 19 years old, and the New York Times published it. The event wasn’t exactly the second coming of a young Mozart (and little Steveie Wonder was little), but I had Lord Byron beat (he pub- lished “Childe Harold” at the ancient age of 24), and I felt ready to answer to triumphant pats-on-the-back and general remarks about my youthful intellect and precociousness.

It was interesting, then, to see people’s real reactions when I gave them the news of my crossword debut. They only had two. If you weren’t a crossword solver, you put forth some expression of benign confusion, such as “Hey! How much does something like that pay?” or “Near — you must be good at math.”

— CITY LIGHTS: “I BECAME A NUT JOB.”

David Levinson Wilk, July 5, 2001

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Dear Saffron,

I'm a middle-aged single man who wonders what I'm supposed to do when I see a woman breastfeeding a baby in public. This has been happening more and more lately—at cafés, parks, bike paths—it was something I never saw growing up, even in my own family. What's the polite thing to do? Should I pretend I don't see the woman and avoid her? Leave the area immediately? If I smile and make eye contact I'm afraid I'll make her embarrassed or she'll think I'm some kind of lecher. But totally avoiding someone who is as constituted as kurban, too, that's not precedent for me here. Any tips on the ideal way to act in this situation?

D o n ' t k n o w w h e r e t o l o o k  i n E l C a j o n

Dear Don't Know Where to Look,

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D o n ' t k n o w w h e r e t o l o o k

Dear Saffron,

I'm a resident of San Diego, and I have been appalled by what I've seen: a mother breastfeeding the baby at Casa Beach in La Jolla. I have observed harassment of the seals on many occasions by people who don't want the seals on the beach. I've talked to some of them to try to understand why they hate the seals and are willing to break a law repeatedly (the Marine Mammal Protection Act). The common thread I found was that they are local residents who don't want a “free SeaWorld” in their back yard and think chassing off the seals will decrease the number of “low class” tourists in their neighborhood. This is their motivation! These mammals have made this cove their nursery, and the city has agreed to take away their protection. Why? Thank God for the volunteers there who are brave enough to put up with these greedy, selfish men who harass them and the seals on a daily basis. Who is it that the lifeguards get away with breaking the law as well? The Bake-a-Line [volunteer seal protection] group is there daily to help educate the public, answering questions about the animals and their habitat as well as giving directions to restaurants and shops in the area. They also keep a daily diary of everything that happens there, and there are entries of the lifeguards ignoring me and walking away. I am saddened and sickened by this. I will volunteer my time to help out the Bake-a-Line group even though I know that seal haters will hate me. This place is the only rookery in California, please reinstate the rope barrier. This will solve the problems of harassment that occur on a daily basis. Please reinstate the Federal Protect Act so the seals may survive. I want without pressures of expensive education. 20 years experience. 2” 24-track/ digital. $30/hour. Ten hour block, $250. Total CD packages. $40/hour. 10-hour

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I came across an odd piece of rounded wood on a stick, and for the life of me, I couldn’t remember its purpose. Looks like a hardboiled egg on a Popsicle stick. It’s smooth, utilitarian, about three or four inches high.

Then it hit me. I took it home from Mom’s in the flurry of activity that was the wrapping up of her life and possessions after her death one year ago.

This object is one of many things I stuffed in my suitcase, not wanting to throw it out and not really knowing what else to do with it, like so much of her stuff. None of it was worth more than its sentimental value, but it was all we had of her and ourselves, her place being the repository for all the detritus of our childhoods and her adulthood.

The object I found myself fondling was for darning socks. Darning socks, a lost art, much like “tatting,” a kind of intricate embroidery-knitting-crocheting. People don’t darn socks anymore, they throw them out and buy new ones.

I felt sad when I saw it, not just because of the reminder of her and all the baggage that that memory entails, but for the fact that I never had her teach me how to use it. I don’t remember her ever using it to darn anyone’s socks, but I know she knew how to do this once-essential task.

There are probably a lot of things I never had her teach me to do.

My relationship with her was so complex — not one interaction clean and forthright, and each dredging up the one just before it and numerous others before that.

I felt a sense of indifference when I saw it, not just because of the reminder of her and all the baggage that that memory entails, but for the fact that I never had her teach me how to use it. I don’t remember her ever using it to darn anyone’s socks, but I know she knew how to do this once-essential task.

There are probably a lot of things I never had her teach me to do.

My relationship with her was so complex — not one interaction clean and forthright, and each dredging up the one just before it and numerous others before that.

I hated her and loved her and hated myself for not being able to evolve beyond my primordial responses to even hearing her voice on my answering machine on the rare occasions she would call.

Each inflection of her distinctive voice was so reminiscent of the hurtful arguments we used to have, how hateful she could be when my budding sexuality in adolescence brought up painful memories of her own in eclipse. The very sight of me would send her off into the dangerous primitive netherworld of thwarted hopes, dashed dreams, disappointment.

She hated me at times because I reminded her of someone in the sea after the Titanic sank, the strength to hold on to the life preserver to stay alive diminishing much like the strength in her legs.

It became difficult for her not to complain and express her misery to anyone and everyone she talked to toward the last years of her life. It was easier just not to reach out to anybody at all. Hence the long periods of being incommunicado, which I took for indifference.

I think there was indifference, the kind that comes from a self-absorption born of the belief that she was due something she never got. Something she was robbed of.

Whatever quality. Could I have tried harder? Maybe. But I was so conflicted about what she had done to my self-esteem that I alternately wanted her to pay for it, pay like the laws of the universe, the “spiritual quantum physics” I was so convinced at the time would ultimately render justice, that I was reduced to screaming vulgarities at her, hoping for justice later.

I could have tried harder, and I knew I would regret not having done more to make her last years more comfortable, less lonely, less wracked with pain. I also knew I wouldn’t be able to.

I would go to visit her with the best of intentions, therapied to the point where I really believed I was beyond all that was between us that made me crazy and inevitably led me home to take to my bed with a crushing depression and hopelessness no other experience with anyone else could engender.

I would sit in her living room trying to figure out what to talk about next, what activity I could do or chore I could accomplish for her that would make the trip worthwhile. I wanted to go home feeling like I had turned a corner in my relationship with her.

But too many times I would leave her apartment and take a walk outside in the neighborhood feeling like I couldn’t breathe, fighting for air, wanting the city of Chicago to restore my breath before I could go back there and try again.

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FREE ADDED VALUE
OFFICER'S REPORT

OFFICER'S REPORT

11:35 p.m., I responded to...the report of a domestic violence.

STATEMENT OF IVONE T.

I went to the Blue Bayou on June 6, 2006. I saw three guys I got into a fight with at the "Blue Bayou" one month prior. R. said that he got

STATEMENT OF R.

I was not unconscious when I woke up. I just woke up with tubes sticking out of me.

STATEMENT OF PABLO S.

I went to the Blue Bayou on June 6, 2006. I saw three guys I got into a fight with at the "Blue Bayou" one month prior. R. said that he got
I HAD NEVER BEEN SO DISAPPOINTED as the day a troupe of Harlem Globetrotters came to town. On TV they were the finest club of ballplayers anyone had ever seen.

Steven Brown and I had gotten into a fight because he said the L.A. Lakers were the best team in history, and before I shoved him and punched him in the ear, I informed him of the spotless record, impeccable dribbling, and shooting prowess of the Globetrotters.

My dad bought me a red, white, and blue basketball that was bigger than my head, and I had a tough time dribbling with one hand. He yelled, “Take that damn thing outside! This is the last time I’m telling you!” when I had my most successful attempt at rolling the ball down one arm, across my shoulders and neck, where it shot off my opposite arm and slammed into a shelf of religious figures his mother had left him.

The day the Globetrotters came to town I wanted to show them I was a basketball player, too, so I put on my green shorts and tank top with the white piping around the arms and legs. Since Sorona was an authentic Western town and I thought I might shoot the breeze with the fellas after their game and maybe show them around, I also wore my cowboy boots and hat.

“That’s what you’re wearing, huh? Shorts and boots?” the ol’ man asked when I climbed out of my room and onto the kitchen tile. “Okay,” he shrugged.

The game was set to take place in Old Towne Sorona, down the block from our house, and we met other neighbors who were walking to the game, and I yelled, “Hey Steve,” at Steven Brown, who still had a purple mark on his neck from where I’d thumped him.

Steve and I took our seats along the handrail on Washington Street, and my dad bought us bags of popcorn from the vendor in the post office parking lot. From a red, white, and blue van, the black shaved head and long slender arms of a player poked out, and I told Steve, “That’s Curly, he’s the best,” but I corrected myself. The man coughing and tossing food wrappers out of the van couldn’t be Curly.

They were all fakes. The real Globetrotters, the ones from TV, weren’t there that day, and their replacements were miserable, and the actor playing Meadowlark Lemon smelled of booze and cigarettes.

A couple of the players did okay, but it seemed that the Columbia Junior College Claimjumper, the local team, might have taken them had they made a couple key defensive moves.

“That wasn’t the real team,” I told Steve, and I rubbed my eyes. “The real guys are thinking, ‘I got to get back to town. On TV they were the finest club of ballplayers anyone had ever seen.’”

Wednesday, July 12

**SUNDAY, JULY 9**

VENGEANCE (1986)

FAM 8:00 P.M.

Through advanced hydraulic nanotechnology, I’ve isolated and overcome the weaknesses in my robotic tail. My tail is now strong enough to punch through a car door while I’m comfortably eight feet away, but it’s also dexterous enough to peel a banana or build a model ship in a bottle. Soon, my army of loyal baboon soldiers will storm the Gateway Arch of St. Louis, carrying the reconstituent ray generators, and we’ll begin phase two of my plan.

**MONDAY, JULY 10**

HELL’S KITCHEN

FOX 8:00 P.M.

I’m going to spice up my time watching this movie by dressing up in my foam crab claws, a spicy little pair of red thong undies, and bouncy pogo shoes. When a shark attacks on screen, I’m thinking I’m going to spring into the courtyard and warn my neighbors that there might be an animal attack going on in my bedroom. I may growl and snap my claws like castanets to get my point across.

**TUESDAY, JULY 11**

WHILE YOU WERE SLEEPING (1995)

FAM 8:00 P.M.

I rubbed my naughty bits on one of your glasses, one of your forks, and one of your bowls. Now that you’re awake, we can start our game of Which Place Setting Will Make Me Giggle. On the table! Dance, fool, dance!
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1714 Garnet Avenue 858-270-9233

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I pondered some more (having brought it up once before) on the fact that — Peter Principle—like — I rather don’t belong in what could be construed as the position of a regular-Joe voice, blue-collar, working stiff with an oppressive job, working for the man every night and day. I only have 800—1200 words once a week to plead the case for my prostrate brothers and sisters. You know — Barton Fink as real-life playwright Clifford Odets, a hard-nosed, myopic editor, rakish heartiness, hearth-dark, heartiness, hearth-dark, and universality for the ages. What a bitch!

The naked fact is (my father, by the way, my only writing teacher, would tell me to throw the word “naked” into the text here and there. It didn’t really matter where. You could say naked greed or naked tumor or even, “the naked joy of a child’s Christmas,” whatever) the naked fact is, I love my job. So to say that, in my case, “Saturday morning is my Friday night and thank God it’s Friday!” would be less than sincere. Saturday morning I am already thinking around for the next thing to write about, or better yet, complain about.

Years ago the column started out with the general idea of documenting things people do or could do, might do, thought of doing, or didn’t do on Friday. And then before long it became the Andy Rooney spin-off where each week I’d begin, more or less, “Ever notice how you can never get just one plastic bag off the rack at the produce section in your supermarket?” Or: “Is it just me, or does it seem like the more expensive a product you might get for your wife after weeks of hinting, the more it smelt like something of insecticide?”

That was a fun period for me and the column, until my friends actually started calling me Andy Rooney. I, in fact, developed wild and maverick white-eye brown-tentacles that cut chinks and finally responded only to curling irons. This accounts for the cosmetic or hirsute Brezhnev effect I seem to be stuck with. How a writing style can affect one’s physical appearance, I don’t know. But that’s how I wrote The Bridges of Madison County. His prose seems a direct by-product of his countenance, to me. And about guys like Harry Crews? He’s not that famous, really, but is certainly a solid cult-figure, and if you could look much less the way you might have expected? I don’t like to bring up Bukowski too much, but...

Then there is the voice of the other columnist — treating them somewhat as multiple personalities. And why not? No one else is ever going to mythologize my life. I feel it’s damn well up to me. Yeah, there’s the hard-bitten, seen-it-all, crusty but benevolent guy with the long view, plays the house odds, odd stranger to whiskey, lipstick, shadows, and the Grim Reaper, like a wannabe buddy always dogging his heels. Yeah, picture me with a butt dangling from my lips against the hard truths out there, but not really because of the emphysema. No stranger to pain, but to avoid showing his feminine, yeah, sure, even sissy playground side when it comes to that. I’ve had my heart cut open (for real, babe), sliced up four ways to Sunday (although the bypass might have been on a Monday), and you did hear me whining about it? Maybe for 36 hours or a few weeks in columns (but the intensive-care nurses said the average was about 41 hours and about 10 weeks of cardio-therapy exercises), and then I clamped up. So, yeah, I’m one of you, okay? Like Clinton, I feel your pain (hey, maybe he really does); and if I said I did not have sex with that woman, the odds are really enormous that I didn’t, and I don’t need to come up with cheap lies about it.

I’m here for you, and when I say “Thank God it’s Friday!” I mean — without exactly blushing in any noticeable way, I hope — I’m still here, alive. You too!