It was touted as an urban village, akin to a combination of Horton Plaza and Point Loma’s Liberty Station, at the doorstep of San Diego State University. One hundred fifty-three thousand square feet of retail, including an Urban Outfitters and a 7-Eleven; a 14-theater multiplex cinema; housing for 1300 students; and 110,000 square feet of university offices, all designed, built, and financed by the San Diego State University Foundation — a nonprofit university auxiliary — at no cost to taxpayers. Estimated price tag: $350 million.

Christened the Paseo, the elaborate development proposal, 18 years in the planning, had the blessing of everyone from neighborhood community groups to the San Diego City Council to San Diego State University president Stephen Weber, who was also president of the SDSU Foundation (renamed the San Diego State University Research Foundation early last year). Because it was part of the City’s College Community Redevelopment Project — part of Mayor Dick Murphy’s City of Villages — the commercial portion of the Paseo’s real estate, which would be subject to property taxes, would provide the neighborhood with new revenue for improvements. It sounded too good to be true, and it was.

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Body fat
Facial aging
Low energy
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Migraine headaches
Osteoporosis

PMS
Mood swings
Heavy periods
Hair loss
Weight gain
Depression
Aggressive behavior
Memory loss

FORGETFULNESS
Anxiety
Dizziness
Hot flashes
Night sweats
Fatigue
Sleep disorders
Excessive sweating

EXCESSIVE IRRITABILITY
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Acne
Swelling
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UNDER 21 (ZERO TOLERANCE)
Hit and Run
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RECENT CASE RESULTS (all results verifiable through San Diego Superior Court records)

DUI Jury Trial
.24% BAC: Not guilty all charges
DUI Jury Trial
.21% BAC: Not guilty all charges
DUI Jury Trial
.20% BAC: Not guilty all charges
DUI Jury Trial
.18% BAC: Not guilty all charges
DUI Jury Trial
.15% BAC: Not guilty all charges
DUI Jury Trial
.10% BAC: Not guilty all charges
DUI Jury Trial
.13% BAC: Not guilty all charges
DUI Jury Trial
.38% BAC: Hung jury
DUI Jury Trial
.24% BAC: Hung jury
DUI Jury Trial
.20% BAC: Hung jury
DUI .25% BAC: Entire case dismissed
DUI .21% BAC: Entire case dismissed

DUI .18% BAC: Reduced to public intoxication—no DUI
DUI .17% BAC: Reduced to public intoxication—no DUI
Vehicle manslaughter DUI: Probation—no jail
Vehicle manslaughter DUI: Reduced to felony DUI—no jail
Felony DUI with Injury: Reduced to misdemeanor
DUI .38% BAC forced blood—Alleged refusal: No licensing suspension
DUI .40% BAC under age 21—Zero tolerance: No licensing suspension
DUI .45% BAC under age 21—Zero tolerance: No licensing suspension
DUI .28% BAC: No licensing suspension
DUI .27% BAC: No licensing suspension
DUI .23% BAC: No licensing suspension
DUI .22% BAC: No licensing suspension

VEHICULAR MANSLAUGHTER

DUI
.25% BAC: Entire case dismissed
DUI
.22% BAC: Entire case dismissed

FELONIES

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MULTIPLE OFFENSES

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MISDEMEANORS

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DUI .27% BAC: No licensing suspension
DUI .23% BAC: No licensing suspension
DUI .22% BAC: No licensing suspension

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Florida Overpays For San Diego’s Cluster Outfits

By Don Bauder

Will San Diego’s vaunted industrial clusters bomb out? Hardly. But one biotech center, Scripps Research Institute, is already setting up a branch in Florida, and another, Burnham Institute for Medical Research, is expected to announce a similar operation this month. These deals represent growth that won’t take place here. Little by little, Florida is paying big bucks to pilfer our clusters.

California, San Diego, would provide cerebral input. Of course, this was already happening; a new ribbon was simply put around an existing phenomenon. The clusters were biotech, telecom, software, computers and electronics, space and defense, financial services, tourism, entertainment, business services, recreational goods (largely golf), environmental technology, horticulture, and fruits and vegetables. The emphasis was to be on the first six — supposedly industries for the new millennium. Biotech and telecom were to produce the high-paying jobs to offset the low-paying jobs in tourism and entertainment.

The industry clusters have slipped a bit, but not as much as they have elsewhere in the post-2000 tech crash. Telecom, which imploded in many locations when the dot-com bubble burst, has reeled only slightly here, largely because Qualcomm has such a good niche in the industry, and San Diego had not gone gaga over dot-coms. Golf equipment has been a disappointment; the baby boomers expected to flood to the links in their retirement find the game too taxing for their attention spans. Software produced San Diego’s largest insider-selling scam, Peregrine Systems, and other public software companies have had problems.

Biotech has been a bonanza for venture capitalists and insurers who take companies public and pile up huge profits dumping stock that they got for 1 cent a share to a gullible public for $50. But in the industry’s 30-year history, very few San Diego biotechs have come up with viable medical products. Buyer beware. Last year, the region’s 37 public biotech companies lost a collective $718 million, the second-worst profit performance in the United States, says accounting firm Ernst and Young.

As the accompanying chart shows, the most-topic clusters provide a very small and declining percentage of San Diego jobs. However, the pay is high in tech.

San Diego’s cluster industries are suffering from a malady that was predicted five years ago. Harvard Business School professor Michael Porter said in 2001 that the clusters were doing well but San Diego had to address the disparity between average wages and the cost of living. He noted that San Diego’s wages were “comparable to the national average,” but the cost of living was 23 percent higher. Would cluster companies expand? With such high living costs, particularly for housing, would companies relocate here?

San Diego family income remains moderately above the U.S. average (about 10 to 15 percent), but the cost of living is now a whopping 50 percent higher, according to the most recent report by the American Chamber of Commerce Research Association. San Diegans’ income/outgo squeeze is worse. The bursting of the housing bubble may bring some price relief, but it will also engender a rash of families in trouble with their risky mortgages. Housing deflation will dent retail activity because people have been borrowing against the inflated equity in their homes to keep consuming.

The city government is dysfunctional, and taxes will have to go up unless city workers’ outsized pension benefits can be brought down. Without higher taxes or benefit cuts, the infrastructure will continue to decay. The dilemma is not conducive to attracting or retaining cluster businesses.

The target: 310 jobs in seven years, of more than $330 million. Burnham can possibly receive $90 million from local governments, for a total of more than $330 million. The target: 310 jobs in seven to ten years, according to Florida media. Once again, the price would be more than $1 million per job at the least; there could be additional large costs, as there will be with Scripps.

Florida media knows this is costly but point to factors such as spin-offs. Technologies will continue on page 8

Matt Potter is on vacation.
New Airport Could Be a Mile High Mess

By Roger Newell

Prior to voting for a new airport, San Diego residents should ask if it's needed, who will benefit, and who has paid for studies conducted over the past 50 years. Airport and ball stadium projects typically get hatched when city government and developers share the same bed. Does anyone doubt that developers cannot wait to get their hands on the land occupied by the current airport?

When former presidential candidate and Massachusetts governor Michael Dukakis became CEO of Amtrak, he spoke at UCSD about the need for a new San Diego airport. He pointed to a study showing that the increased San Diego–to–Los Angeles air traffic was from Los Angeles. Given this, he suggested jointly building an international passenger and freight airport at Camp Pendleton and linking all Southern California airports together with a high-speed train. I got no reply.

One reason now being used to justify a new San Diego airport is that the current airport cannot handle planes like the Airbus A380. What is not reported is that higher fuel costs are causing order cancellations of the four-engine Airbus A380. Airlines are ordering the new two-engine Boeing 787 at twice the rate of the A380. The 787 can be accommodated at the current San Diego airport.

For years I flew to Denver and watched as a new airport was justified and built. I did not believe that moving the airport 15 miles to the east would create an all-weather airport. It did not. The first big winter storm shut it down.

Some of us living in San Diego may identify with what Michael Fumento had to say about the Denver International Airport. He wrote the following in 1996.

"When Federico Peña became mayor of Denver in 1983, he must have smacked his lips and roared: 'Let the good times roll!' Yes, that's a Louisiana expression. But Louisiana's symbol of corruption, Huey 'Kingfish' Long, would have been proud of our current U.S. Secretary of Transportation. This goes especially for his crowning achievement, Denver International Airport (DIA), which just opened 16 months late."

"Peña took over a city wracked by recession, promising that 'Denver is poised for greatness.' Under him, Denver launched one mega-project after another. It hosted a Grand Prix, built a new convention center, and authorized the building of a new baseball stadium. In each case, the pattern was the same. The city government broke its promises, some select businesses gained, and taxpayers ended up footing the bill.

"The Grand Prix tied downtown traffic in knots for two years, then left, with Denver taxpayers holding a $2.5 million bill. The convention center saw a drop in bookings over the predecessor, and the baseball stadium promised at $140 million is coming in at $215 million.

"And then there was DIA. Practically everything Peña ever said about the need for the airport and its cost was a fabrication.

"He said that flight delays at the current airport, Stapleton, were 'an embarrassing bottleneck, both in our national transportation system and our ability to have an efficiently run airport to build a strong, stable economy.' But Stapleton's flight-delay record in years just prior to the building of the airport was among the best in the nation."

"Peña said Stapleton could no longer keep up with increasing demand, predicting that Denver's airport would serve 52 million passengers by 1995. "The actual number is now estimated at 32 million, less than Stapleton served in 1987. (In 2005, DIA had 43.4 million passengers.) Even if traffic had increased, Stapleton could have handled it, since it had just added a new runway and a new concourse."

"Peña said DIA would be the world's second-largest airport, a claim that surely appealed to the vanity of Denverites. But DIA has both less terminal space and fewer gates than Stapleton did. The 'second-largest' claim is only justified by the amount of the land around the terminal and runways, rather like measuring the height of a car by counting from the top of its radio antenna. It is in part because of this surplus land that the airport is farther away from a population center than any metropolitan airport in the nation."

"Peña said the new airport would be essentially cost-free to Denverites."

"But the Charleston (WV) Daily Mail was more accurate when it headlined, 'Denver Airport Great If You Don't continued on page 8"
Cluster outfits
continued from page 6

come along, and new companies will be formed to make and merchandise promising new drugs, Floridians are told. One study indicated that the new Burnham facility could generate 3600 spin-off jobs in 15 years.

Balderdash. San Diego, the nation’s biotech hub, is proof that spin-offs don’t create many jobs.

On its website, Burnham boasts these accomplishments by its scientists: (1) the laboratory technique that forms the basis for the PSA (prostate-specific antigen) test for prostate cancer, (2) the enabling technology for the cancer drug Epogen, and (3) one of the first vitamin-based drugs for cancer, Targetrin.

Nancy J. Beddington, director of institute relations for Burnham, says that Epogen, controlled by Thousand Oaks biotech Amgen, provides no royalty stream to Burnham.

Targetrin throws off a modest royalty. It is controlled by a San Diego biotech, Ligand Pharmaceuticals, which is truly a Burnham spin-off. Ligand has two Targetrin products that serve small niche markets. The company has lost money for 11 straight years, and last year was its worst. Its cumulative deficit is $973.3 million. It has restated its earnings for 2002, 2003, and most of 2004 and just announced it will pay $12.2 million to settle related lawsuits. The Securities and Exchange Commission is investigating the earnings problems. Ligand admits it has faulty internal financial controls. Last week, David Robinson, chief executive since 1991, resigned under pressure from unhappy institutional shareholders.

Another Burnham spin-off was Telos Pharmaceuticals, which went into bankruptcy in the middle 1990s and was later purchased. A third spin-off is Neuro-Molecular Pharmaceuticals, which is privately held and based in Emeryville.

In filling our clusters, Florida will suffer expensive disappointments.

Mile high mess
continued from page 7

Live in Denver.

“Thus cab fare to catch a plane has shot up dramatically because of the new airport’s distance. You could park fairly close to Stapleton for $4; for DIA it’s $10. Because DIA is three times more expensive to run than Stapleton, its landing fees have more than tripled. This forced Continental to drop it as a hub and United, the only hub airline left, to slap an extra $40 on all domestic round-trip fares either departing or entering Denver.

“While construction did provide a short-run boost to the local economy, Aviation Systems Research Corporation President Michael Boyd has estimated the cost to the Denver economy of the new airport at $200 million a year on into perpetuity. The extra cost of flying into town is also guaranteed to stifle tourism and convention business.

“As far as actual construction costs go, Peña told voters who later approved the project it would cost $1.7 billion. But the final cost will be about $5 billion. For all the talk of the infamous baggage handling system, the airport would probably have opened a year late anyway because Peña used a ridiculously low estimate of construction time in order to keep the budget low on paper, "Corruption has bred corruption. About a dozen investigations are underway into various practices at DIA, including shoddy construction.

“But Peña wasn’t the only high government official working to force the world’s largest white elephant down citizens’ throats. Democratic Governor Roy Romer, nice man, threatened to ‘roll over’ and ‘crush any opposition. What’s more, it’s clear that Denver’s daily newspapers, both of which editorialized in favor of the new airport, also greatly ignored the problems of DIA on their news pages. At least until just a few weeks ago. Then they began running stories like the Rocky Mountain continued on page 10.
News's 'Flying Blind into a Mountain of Debt: The Untold Story of How Denver Hitched Its Destiny to DIA and Closed Its Eyes to a Gathering Storm of Doubt.'

"Actually, this ‘untold story’ was the subject of my cover article in the December 1993 American Spectator. Others had attempted to sound the alarm long before I did. Said one of them, Aviation Systems' Boyd, ‘They’ve had this information for years but wouldn’t release it because it might harm the project.’

The Rocky Mountain News reporter assigned to cover DIA, Kevin Flynn, actually ran a series called ‘Myth of the Month’ to counterattack airport criticisms. He once sent an angry letter to the Associated Press after it ran a piece critical of DIA.

"After I sent a draft of the American Spectator article to a News columnist who was critical of DIA, another News staffer leaked it to airport officials who ‘leaned on me,’ as the expression goes, and made an investigation into my background to find dirt.

"As for the Denver Post, in response to a reporter revealing how incredibly far away the new airport was, the newspaper transferred his editor, Al Knight, to writing editorials. This was under a publisher who had already given some $70,000 in political contributions to the airport project. The publisher later departed, but reporting on the airport project remained lax. Says Knight, ‘I think, unconsciously or semi-consciously, the newspaper sort of took some time off.’

"Denver and Colorado, from a government point of view, is one of the most corrupt places in the country, says Boyd. But corruption, like cockroaches, needs dark corners.”

A new airport in San Diego? Maybe the time has come to question authority. Before we vote, I would like to see city hall and the developers roll out of bed and show voters the facts.
Letters

We welcome letters pertaining to the contents of the Reader. Phone them in at 619-235-3000, ext. 460; address them to Letters to the Editor, Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186-5803; fax them to 619-231-0489; or use our web page at SanDiegoReader.com.letters. Include your name, address, and telephone number. Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

They Have Power

I would like to respond to a letter titled “Jell-O Island and Other Bum Ideas” in last week’s Reader (August 3).

Most of what “Name Withheld” wrote about concerning the various sites for relocating Lindbergh Field I’ll have to agree with. It will be a cold day in hell before the military gives up any of their bases, nor should they be expected to, just for an airport that would only bring bigger aircraft and more flights into our fair city. San Diego is on the fast track to becoming another L.A. as it is now, and I don’t think we should rush it along any faster than it’s already moving. The floating-airport idea, besides being costly, might have worked if construction had been started 20 years ago. A few years ago there was some talk about expanding Brown Field in order to use it as a cargo-only airport, to help take some of the load off Lindbergh Field. If I remember correctly, the cities of Coronado, Chula Vista, and National City were totally against that idea, as they were when “they” thought it was a good idea to share Tijuana International Airport. “They” being the ones who decided we need to move the airport from where it is now.

Like I said before, I agree with most of what “Name Withheld” wrote in his/her letter to the Reader, but there is one more bum idea I’d like to add: Brown Field. Thousands of homes have been built down here in the South Bay in the past few years, so a lot of that so-called barren and industrial terrain is no longer barren and industrial. The terrain to the east is just as dangerous for landing and takeoffs as it has always been. Traffic on 5, 805, and 905 has doubled since all those homes have been built, and believe me, there are more homes coming, which means more traffic.

When the South Bay wanted the new ballpark (“they” ruled against it and gave us the county jail and state prison instead. When NASCAR was looking to build a new racetrack in California, “they” decided against it; Riverside got the racetrack, we here in the South Bay get the Tijuana sewage plant. Don’t get me wrong, we did get two nice things added in the South Bay in years past. I’m talking about the Olympic Training Center and the Coors Amphitheatre.

Now, “Name Withheld,” since you didn’t have the testicular fortitude to sign your name to your letter, I’ll have to assume you have something to benefit from having Lindbergh Field moved to Brown Field. Did “they” have you write that letter, or maybe you just own land near Brown Field? Either way, I’m sure you don’t live down here in the South Bay area, or if you do, you’re looking to make a handsome profit when you sell off your land and move away. Maybe to your new high-rise condo that “they” will be building once “they” move Lindbergh Field. With the small aircraft flying in and out of Brown Field now — the highway patrol helicopters, the sheriff helicopters, the San Diego police helicopters, the news/traffic helicopters, and all the Navy helicopters flying in and out of North Island and Ream Field — the South Bay has enough air traffic overhead now, and we surely don’t need any more. Leave Lindbergh Field right where it’s at. As you stated in your letter, tourists and business people love Lindbergh Field just where it sits.

Pete Tancredi
via e-mail

Applied Logic

This letter is in regard to “Stop Mr. Sanford” (Letters, August 3). I just wanted to let Mr. Ashton know that while we’re all very impressed with his B.A. in English and that he graduated summa cum laude, there’s just one thing I can’t figure out. If you don’t like Mr. Sanford’s writings, don’t read them.

Dale Allen
Poway

Lighthearted Piece

In response to “Shirvis at the Drive-in” (Letters, July 13) and “Field of Screens” (Cover Story, July 6),

Thank you, Mr. Sanford, for the compelling article about drive-in theaters. I enjoyed reading about this historic piece of Americana. Your article prompted me to revisit the drive-in for the first time in eight years. My parents took my sister and me to the drive-in as children. We thought it was a great way to spend time together. Last Saturday I took my girlfriend, Lauren, who had never been to a drive-in, to the double feature in Santee, which was packed. There were several families and twentysomethings, contrary to Mr. Ashton’s claim that drive-ins are reserved for old people.

Mr. Sanford, thanks again for writing a light-hearted piece that allowed me to reminisce about my past experiences at the drive-in. Surely there are many other topics that deserve San Diegan’s attention, such as racism, poverty, and the state of our schools, and perhaps Mr. Ashton will be contributing his article soon, but last Saturday for a few hours, I relaxed at the drive-in because of an idea I got from Jay Allen Sanford and the Reader.

Bob Netcoh
via e-mail

Sad, Outrageous

Re: “City Lights” July 6 by Ernie Grimm (“Nearby Residents See Red Over Nightly Fireworks”). It is a sad commentary and an outrage that in our community, commercial interests take precedence over private citizens. It is especially sad to note that the latter include the elderly and young children.

I wish I were smart enough to suggest a remedy to the ubiquitous noise we
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Scheduling, reservations, everything. It's like hiring a personal assistant to handle your dating life for you. Invest a

LETTERS continued from page 12

all have to suffer, but in this case at least, SeaWorld should be asked to investigate the mitigations suggested by the anonymous source at Pyro Spectaculars,
Howard Goldman via e-mail

Convert To Wooshing
Some of the letters in response to Ernie Grimm's "City Light" on July 6, "Nearby Residents See Red Over Nightly Fireworks," display a reading-comprehension problem. The focus of his report is that SeaWorld could do as Disneyland did in July 2004: switch from using explosive powder to using pressurized air to launch their fireworks. Disneyland stated that they did so to "reduce noise, smoke, and safety hazards," that they wanted to be "good neighbors.
This past Tuesday, a San Diegan with a coach full of out-of-state relatives visited DisneyLand. In response to questions about their fireworks display and their launching method, he replied that the display was "great," that there was no "booming," just "wooshing" in launching them.
We do not ask SeaWorld to discontinue their nightly fireworks display. A former mayor's spokesperson stated that they have a permit to do so up to 11:00 p.m. nightly. What we implore SeaWorld to do is to become a good neighbor, to stop "booming" us, and to convert to "wooshing" by launching their fireworks by using pressurized air.
Karl A. Kortum via e-mail

Memories Of Peace And Quiet
Well, let's see if anyone else picked up on this commonality regarding the people who wrote in who like the fireworks at SeaWorld ("Nearby Residents See Red Over Nightly Fireworks," "City Lights," July 6). None of them have been around here long enough to remember a San Diego without it.
Well, I can remember when it wasn't there and folks used to go out there and go camping in the sand dunes, where SeaWorld is now, to get some peace and quiet and get away from it all and go fishing and stuff. And then I believe in '63 or '64 it was announced that a restaurant was going to be built there called SeaWorld. That's right, a restaurant.
Alan Strohlein via e-mail

Easy Archives
I enjoy reading all the articles in the Reader. I've read the Reader for many years. The suggestion that I have is the following. Under the articles "Back When," you give us a tidbit of an article from, for instance, 25 years ago. I would like to see a link to the whole article. Some of these past stories are worth reading. I understand I could go to the library and find them on microfiche, but it would be so much more convenient to just click on the link and read the whole article. I know it is more work, but again, just a suggestion. Keep up the good work. Thank you.
Pedro Escalante via e-mail

Most articles can be searched at www.sdreader.com but only back to 2005.
— Editor

Textbook Failures
Thank you for "A Tenth Grader's History of the World" (Cover Story) by Thomas Larson that appeared in the June 22 issue. I spent more than 30 years teaching world history at Riverside-Brookfield High School, Riverside, Illinois. One of my continuing efforts was trying to compensate for textbook failures, many of which Larson clearly describes.
Brant Abrahamson Illinois Master Teacher, 1986

Farber Helped Serious Addiction
Thank you, Duncan Shephard, for putting your very personal tribute to Manny Farber in print ("Debt," Movie Review, May 25). My own life was changed indelibly at first glimpse of his "Hard Look at the Movies" lectures in 1972. Film, for me, already a serious addiction, would never be the same. And thanks to you, I was privileged to work as one of his teaching assistants for several years. Where would so many of us be now without our brush with Manny Farber? Salut!
Jennifer Kotter via e-mail

Easy Archives
I enjoy reading all the articles in the Reader. I've read the Reader for many years. The suggestion that I have is the following. Under the articles "Back When," you give us a tidbit of an article from, for instance, 25 years ago. I would like to see a link to the whole article. Some of these past stories are worth reading. I understand I could go to the library and find them on microfiche, but it would be so much more convenient to just click on the link and read the whole article. I know it is more work, but again, just a suggestion. Keep up the good work. Thank you.
Pedro Escalante via e-mail

Most articles can be searched at www.sdreader.com but only back to 2005.
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Hi Matt:
Do cats sweat? If not, how do they stay cool in this hot weather?

— Curious of North Park

Ugh. Summer. Under our recent extreme conditions, Grandma and the elves have taken to stripping down to skin and spraying each other with water. Grandma won’t shed her apron, which at least keeps things a little more bearable. All in all, though, it’s not a pretty sight. But it’s a good example of what the science guys would call behavioral thermoregulation. When it gets hot, we seek shade, take a cool shower, sit in front of the AC — do something to take the edge off. All animals take some sort of cooling action to regulate body heat.

As for kitty specifically, she sweats mainly through her paw pads and a little bit around her nose. Sweat glands in heavily furred skin would be more dangerous than useful, since skin-sweating like us human beans do depends on evaporation for its cooling effect. Soggy kitty would eventually expire. If things get really bad, you might see your cat pant to shed heat, though cats also pant from stress and fear, so it’s hard to tell what’s going on. Paw-pad sweat glands are common in the world of fur. Lack of skin sweat glands also conserves water, a real plus on a scorching day. This also explains why we carry around water bottles and cats don’t.

Dogs also sweat through their feet. (You might even see a dog’s or cat’s sweaty footprints on a rugless floor on a hot day.) But their principal heat-shedding system goes straight to the heart of the matter. All thermoregulation is aimed at reducing animals’ core body temperature. We feel the cooling on our skin, but the radiated heat has been pulled via a heat-exchange system out of our internal organs. When dogs pant, they’re exhaling heat more directly from their guts, a very efficient method.

One common behavioral technique for furry animals in hot weather is to flop belly-down on a cold surface. Belly fur is normally not as thick as back or limb fur, which increases the odds of radiating some body heat into the cool floor, dirt, whatever.

Only primates and horses have what we think of as skin sweat glands. So if you’re fond of the old expression “sweating like a pig,” in fact you’re not sweating at all. In spite of the fact that they’re nearly hairless, pigs depend entirely on behavioral thermoregulation. Pigs need shade, cool surfaces, air circulation, and mud or they’ll end up as premature bacon.

Hello there, oh great one:
Where does the phrase “break a leg” come from? One source says it may have come from the whole incident with Abraham Lincoln and John Wilkes Booth. The same source says that that is probably not true. What gives?

— Alison, the net

This is the answer, but don’t believe it. It’s an old know-it-all trick that makes you look as though you’ve done your research but doesn’t put you in the line of fire if somebody out there has better info. We see it all the time here at Matthew Alice’s Fact-o-Rama (LLC). The word nerds are particularly fond of that dodge.

The natural history of a common expression takes some predictable turns. First, it springs up in conversation. Years later it is common enough to appear in print. Then it spreads to the general public and becomes a cliché. The general public, eager to fill the collective brain pan with something other than helium or lithium or whatever fills the average skull, will look at the expression and ask “Why?” Why would anyone say “break a leg”?

The urge to answer his own question is irresistible to Average Joe. He applies what passes for logic to the quandary and comes up with the Lincoln-Booth story, since he vaguely remembers from history class that Booth broke his leg after shooting the prez and leaping onto the stage to make his escape. That’s the only broken-leg/theater link he can think of — proof enough that he’s a sage and has answered his own question. The explanation makes it into print, we slugs buy it, so it passes for fact. The word nerds even have a name for this process: a folk etymology, a goofy explanation fabricated by us folks after the fact.

Other stories from free-lance thinkers are even more preposterous. How about this one:

The pole that holds the stage curtain is called a leg. May you wow the audience and have so logic to the quandary and come up with the Lincoln-Booth story, since he vaguely remembers from history class that Booth broke his leg after shooting the prez and leaping onto the stage to make his escape. That’s the only broken-leg/theater link he can think of — proof enough that he’s a sage and has answered his own question. The explanation makes it into print, we slugs buy it, so it passes for fact. The word nerds even have a name for this process: a folk etymology, a goofy explanation fabricated by us folks after the fact.

Other stories from free-lance thinkers are even more preposterous. How about this one:

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The Centrifugal Protocol

What turned me was the Floyd Landis interview on…pick one, the Today Show, Good Morning America, CBS Live, CNN Live, ESPN News, or Fox News. Landis is answering questions, but he’s speaking mealy-mouth lawyer instead of English. That’s new.

I even remember the sentence that turned me; when Landis said that they — meaning the Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI) — didn’t follow their own protocols.

Protocols sounds so scientific. I picture white-smocked scientists, a vast underground bunker, every wall coated with blinking yellow, green, and red lights. Yes, I see it now; those corrupt scientists are ignoring their protocols, probably the centrifugal protocol and the nuclear-implosion-to-get-the-coffee-going protocol.

Turns out, the protocol Landis was talking about had to do with the UCI releasing his test results to the media before he got a chance to see them.

Just a couple problems with that. The UCI didn’t say Landis failed a doping test; they said “a them.” And it was Floyd’s own team (Phonak) who outed him, not the UCI. Later, the New York Times reported that a UCI source said that some of Floyd’s testosterone was synthetic. Still, leaking Floyd’s test results, while unethical, has nothing to do with the actual test results. The test results remain the same, leaked or no.

The way it works… The French national anti-doping lab does the testing. They are sent urine samples by Tour de France authorities, but do not know which sample belongs to which rider. All the samples are numbered. The UCI holds the master list.

Landis’s urine samples showed that his ratio of testosterone to epitestosterone was 11 to 1, far above the usual ratio of 1 to 1, and way over the allowed ratio of 4 to 1. Worse, his sample showed traces of synthetic testosterone.

Landis is using the standard California DUI defense; namely, attack the tests, attack the methodology of the tests, question the chain of control, and propose alternate theories. (“Somebody rubbed flax seed oil on my knees.”)

The idea is to plant doubt, which is not that hard to do. According to a recent Harris Poll, one out of two Americans still believe there were weapons of mass destruction in Iraq.

Landis also complained that the UCI “made this public before I had a chance to figure out what was going on, and I was forced in the press to make comments before I could get educated on this.”

The problem is the test results, not whether Landis had a chance to figure out what was going on. The press nags and whines and bullies, but I don’t believe they actually forced Landis to make up increasingly desperate stories.

Landis and those around him have said his positive test can be explained by cortisone shots he takes for his hip condition or his thyroid medication or his natural metabolism or drinking beer with some whiskey the night before he was tested or getting dehydrated on the day the test was taken. After each theory was laughed off the table, Landis came out with a denial of his denials, saying, “Number one, the whiskey idea was not mine from the beginning. And the dehydration was a theory from the lawyers, which I must say I hired in Spain to represent me at the opening of the sample — but was not authorized by me to say something like that, and I’m disappointed with that and something has to be done with that.”

UCI president Pat McQuaid sees the predicament. "Of all 300 tests carried out during the tour, there was only one positive test. The problem is that it was the winner.”

Landis started the tour lucky. By the time the race began, the top five finishers from the 2005 tour had either retired or were excluded due to an ongoing Spanish doping investigation. Landis had a good race through the Pyrenees, good enough to take the yellow jersey (by ten seconds) after the 15th stage.

And then, the collapse. He finished the 16th stage 8:08 behind the leader. Nobody makes up that much time. And he looked like dead-man-pedaling. And then, the next day, he flew over five hard climbs, cranked out the last 80 miles alone, and made up all but 38 seconds of what he lost.

You had to love his story. Even the French press got behind him.

Now comes the bust. Here’s what German doctor Kurt Moosburger told cyclingnews.com about recovering after bonking on an Alpine stage:

"To help recover, testosterone and human growth hormone can be used… You put a standard testosterone patch that is used for male hormone replacement therapy on your scrotum and leave it there for about six hours. The small dose is not sufficient to produce a positive urine result in the doping test, but the body actually recovers faster." (Message found on a podiumcafe.com forum, “If this is true, I’m done with it. Just fucking done.”)

The Vegas Line

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HENRY'S
FARMERS MARKET

North Park, 4175 Park Blvd., San Diego, 619-291-8287, henrysmarkets.com
Patrick’s party was followed by a family reunion bash on a cousin’s family farm, complete with a mooing cow, cawing chickens, and a herd of quail bustling after their peacock. I arrived home well after dinner and could see. I arrived home well after dinner and exhausted, so we decided to taste the next day. I needed to find the best shortbread cookies — her favorite — to have with tea.

First stop was All Things Bright and British tea shop in La Mesa. “Shortbread is a Scottish dessert,” the saleslady informed me. She pointed out a shelf of Walkers shortbreads. “I like the Shortbread Petticoat Tails ($4.29 for 5.3 oz.) because they come packaged in a pie shape, cut into triangles, and it is easy to snap off a piece and dunk it in some tea,” I picked up a package and also the Walkers Pure Butter Shortbread ($4.29 for 5.3 oz.) and the Pecan Shortbread ($3.99 for 6.2 oz.). I was curious as to whether the petticoat tails and the butter shortbread would taste different since they had the same ingredients. “Most shortbread is about a third butter, that’s why it tastes so good,” she offered. “Some people say the shortbreads taste the same, but to me, the different-shaped shortbread makes them taste different.”

The saleslady recommended a tea from the myriad of teas on the shelf. “Yorkshire Tea by Taylors of Harrogate is my coworker’s favorite,” she told me. “She’s from England, and to her there is no other tea.” I picked up a box for the party and headed on to Trader Joe’s, Henry’s, Whole Foods, and Vons and bought any shortbread I could see. I arrived home well after dinner and exhausted, so we decided to taste the next day with our morning tea.

Around ten o’clock, I lined up the shortbread boxes on our kitchen counter and sat down with Patrick and my mother. We started with the Yorkshire tea, Patrick enjoyed it, as did my Irish mother, though she remarked with a smile, “I like Barry’s better.” Then we dug into butterdom. We started with the Lorna Doone ($4.29 for 10 oz. at Vons). “Too much like a sugar cookie,” moaned Patrick. “It’s shortbread should be more bread-like, not snappy.” Pamela’s Products Butter Shortbread ($2.99 for 7.25 oz. at Whole Foods) had the opposite problem. “The softness is off-putting,” remarked Mom. “It is like a cookie that has had water spilled on it.” We wondered if the lack of wheat and gluten had something to do with the sogginess. The same brand’s Lemon Shortbread and their Butter Shortbread (each $3.29 for 7.25 oz. at Henry’s) were crumbly, falling apart in our hands. “I am a big fan of shortbread and a big fan of pecans,” Patrick commented, “but I am not a fan of them together.”

No one at the table liked the Safeway’s Pecan Shortbread Cookies (two one-pound packages for $5.00 at Vons), which had an acidic aftertaste. And neither the Sandies Pecan Shortbread ($3.99 for 16 oz. at Vons), which left a greasy film on the top of our mouths, nor the Shortbread Fudge Drops ($2.77 for 9.5 oz. at Wal-Mart) went over well. “This bears no resemblance to shortbread,” said Patrick of the latter, “and its shape calls to mind a toilet seat.”

“What are you saying?” laughed mom, discreetly spitting hers into a napkin.

Finally we tasted a cookie we all loved, the Wild Oats Natural Assorted Shortbread ($6.99 for 8.8 oz. at Henry’s). “A strong buttery taste,” said mom, “[with] perfect thickness and perfect texture.” We set the box aside as a keeper. The 50s-style packaging of the Starr Ridge Shortbread Classic Butter Cookies ($3.99 for 6 oz. at Whole Foods) sent us all reminiscing. The cookie had huge sugar crystals sprinkled on top and the taste, though pleasant, was more sugar than shortbread.

“If you handed me this cookie at a party, I would think it was a sugar cookie,” noted Patrick. The kilt-wearing cartoon ginger root playing the bagpipes on the package of the Ginger People Ginger Shortbread ($3.99 for 6.2 ounces at Whole Foods) also tickled our fancy. “The strong ginger taste appealed to the table, but the cookie was a tad on the soggy side. The bite-sized Trader Joe’s Ginger Shortbread Squares ($2.29 for 5.3 oz.) carried even stronger ginger flavor, though some found the cookies too snappy.

Trader Joe’s also sold All Butter Shortbread Cookies with chocolate filling and another package with apricot and raspberry filling (each $3.99 for 14 oz.). The chocolate-filled cookies had perfect texture and, though dry, retained enough moisture to make it pleasant. “The chocolate is like gilding the lily,” said Patrick. “I prefer it without the chocolate.” The fruit-filled cookies were soggy and flavorless. Patrick went on to wax poetic about shortbread cookies. “If you bite into the cookie and it just snaps, I think ‘Wrong!’ But if you bite into it and it just crumbles around your teeth but doesn’t fall apart, it’s right. And it’s got to have that shortbread bite, which is reminiscent of a sourdough bite. It leaves a ring of flavor in the mouth.”

Island Bakery Short Bread cookies ($4.49 for 5.3 oz. at Whole Foods) was another winner, and the Wholesome & Delicious Heaven Scent Shortbread Fudge Thumbprint Cookies ($2.69 for 6 oz. at Whole Foods), though they had a pleasant taste, the fudge overpowered the shortbread flavor.

Finally we broke into the British teashop cookies. The Walkers Pure Butter Stem Ginger Shortbread was hard to cut and chew. “This bears no resemblance to shortbread,” said Patrick of the latter, “and its shape calls to mind a toilet seat.”

The Walkers Shortbread Petticoat Tails were a favorite, with their creamy butter taste. But the cookie that took the cake was the Walkers Pure Butter Shortbread.

This summer has been filled with parties. There was husband Patrick’s poker party with pals. There was karaoke night with old college friends who have an obsession with Sinatra. An early-July barbecue and bonfire at Mission Bay for Patrick’s birthday. Finally we broke into the British teashop cookies. The Walkers Pure Butter Stem Ginger Shortbread was hard to cut and chew. “This bears no resemblance to shortbread,” said Patrick of the latter, “and its shape calls to mind a toilet seat.”
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a friend called to tell me about a party she was crashing in Mission Valley. Country singer Kenny Chesney was there. (I recognized the name from his two-month marriage to Renée Zellweger.) One of Chesney’s roadies was reluctant to let my friend crash the party as it was Chesney’s birthday, and my friend said she was stared at as she went for the buffet. Since the party was wrapping up, I didn’t head down.

This same friend told me about a private party at the Belly Up Tavern. That party would be attended by actors Ed Begley, Jr. and Geena Davis. I tried to crash it, but was unsuccessful.

As I was driving home dejected, another friend called to berate me. “You write about it.”

This friend is a member of the Old Mission Beach Athletic Club (OMBAC), which organizes the Over the Line softball tournament. After years of avoiding the large crowds with their obnoxious team names, I figured it was time to see what all the hype was about.

At the scoring area, I felt patriotic as I glanced up at the flags. Then I realized that the California Republic flag had two bears mating. The scoreboards displayed the teams that were competing this year. I asked someone about the brackets, and he pointed to a sign that read “No dumb shit questions.” A few organizers had this phrase printed on their shirts.

“Why hydrate when water is $18 a bottle? I’ll just stick to drinking beer.”

It was amusing when the announcer had to introduce the teams by their names. Rod Luck was at the tournament covering the story for KUSI, and I was surprised when the announcer said, “Rod Luck is a dick.” Turned out it was a team’s name.

There was a team called “Attention Please, All Further Games Have Been Cancelled,” which created confusion. Other team names included: “Barry Bonds Flaxseed Oil,” “Claire-monsters,” and “Short Fat & Ugly. But We Can Still Get Some If We Pay.” Perhaps team names shouldn’t be whole sentences.

A few businesses used their company name as their team name with “.com” attached. I didn’t get the joke until I saw a business called “Law Offices of Craven, Moorehead, and Tayle.”

Several OTL teams had topical names, such as “Duke Lacrosse” and, among three different teams with Cheney in their name, “I’d Rather Go Driving with Kennedy,” which won most of its games and advanced to the following week.

There were several team names about drinking: “Our Drinking Team Has an OTL Problem,” “Three Drunk Bastards, But We Can Still Beat the Hawaiian Shirt Guys,” “We Promise Not to Drink this Year so We Can Get a Hit,” and “Beer Is Cheaper than Therapy.”

There were various divisions, including one that was explained to me as the players’ ages adding up to 100.

I would’ve watched more games, but it was windy, causing small sand storms. Also, I had heard that the Tonight Show was filming, with Stuttering John (formerly of Howard Stern) doing stunts with people. A friend and I went searching for him.

While searching for the Tonight Show crew, we ended up in an area for OMBAC members only. My friend and I got free booze and burgers. One of the rules about drinking at OTL is that nothing can be in glass bottles, so people were pouring their drinks into plastic cups.

A few people walked in complaining about a bus driver. The woman told us, “He got lost, and we ended up in the SeaWorld parking lot. It took 15 minutes just...
Thirty minutes later, another group of people came in with similar complaints. Various companies held areas that they paid for. At most of these areas, you could see empty beer cans scattered. The fire fighters’ area, however, had empty water bottles everywhere. A guy walked by and said, “Why hydrate when water is $18 a bottle? I’ll just stick to drinking beer.”

Each booth was hosting a party. A Jimmy Buffet fan club had an elaborate Margaritaville set up. A group of hunters had ammo, camouflage, and sandbags set around them.

I watched a team called the Killer B’s practice before their game. I asked what the B’s stood for and was told, “Beer, blondes, and more beer.”

I overheard one girl complaining that there were photos in the OTL program of women’s breasts. She said, “Why not any photos of men and their private parts?” The OMBAC guy looked at her and said, “We aren’t stupid. We don’t hire female photographers.”

The first woman I asked to take a picture of for this story promptly lifted her shirt. I later saw her dropping her shorts for another photograph. It was as if we were at a Girls Gone Wild video shoot.

I wondered how hard it is to get permits to do this on the beach, and how they go about hiring security for an event where everyone is drinking, carrying baseball bats, and getting naked at the drop of a hat. It seemed like trouble waiting to happen.

But as one OMBAC guy told me, “Like we say at OTL…if you don’t remember it, it didn’t happen.”

Crash your party? Call 619-235-3000 x421 and leave an invitation for Josh Board.

Columns archived at SanDiegoReader.com
Pride and Prejudice

by Barbarella

A great many people think they are thinking when they are merely rearranging their prejudices. — William James

Isn’t it ironic that this thing begins on Normal Street? You gotta love it!” Dad shouted, his voice competing with the revving of motorcycle engines.

“And there’s no group better to kick it off than Dykes on Bikes! Hey, look, there’s an Indian!” Because my father rarely bothers with trivialities like political correctness, I scanned the crowd for a man in a giant feather headdress or a woman sporting a red dot on her forehead. As if in clarification, Dad added, “God, that’s a hot bike!” and it was then that I noticed the blue, white, and chrome beast before us, a giant machine tamed by a petite woman with golden hair flowing down her back like spirals of corn silk.

I insisted that David take a picture of me sandwiched between one particularly sexy couple — a woman wearing thigh-high vinyl boots laced up the front and further secured by an array of straps and buckles, a pink dress just short enough to reveal a glimpse of bare skin above the boots, and a rainbow-colored feather boa; and her partner, an equally stunning creature whose breasts looked dangerous in a bikini top covered by an array of straps and further secured by pointy rubber spikes. The women looked impressed, and my father perplexed, when I correctly guessed the shop, Madame S in San Francisco, where those boots had been purchased.

I returned to the sidewalk by Dad and David as scantily clad lipsticked and leather-swathed butchies straddled their mechanical horses. When the signal was given, dozens of bikes (most of them Harleys) growled to life, creating a deafening roar that resonated through the asphalt, reaching my toes and sending a shudder of anticipation up my legs.

“Don’t you love this? There’s such great energy here!” Dad exclaimed, before giving a whoop of encouragement as the motorcycles slowly proceeded forward in rows of two. Homosexual men and women smiled back at him, unaware that on paper, my father represents everything the gay community hates — he is a straight, middle-class, white male Republican who voted for Bush and has a career in military war-gaming. But, unlike most people I know, my dad is an entity separate from, and impossible to define by, his politics. The sad thing is, not many people are willing or capable of understanding or accepting a man with such a dichotomous system of values.

It’s understandable how one might make assumptions given a few snippets of information. Even my father’s own siblings assumed that if someone goes so far as to march in the parade, they are sending the interests of this community, and that by marching in the parade, they are demonstrating their support for the issues that are important to their constituents.

“Yeah, I can see that,” said Dad.

“Still,” he pointed to two men in dresses with large masks of the president hiding their faces, “you can’t tell me that these guys right here aren’t promoting hatred and negative shit. Why can’t it just be about celebrating diversity? Why evoke negative energy?”

“My father often jokes to his reverend, “I practice what you preach.” The congregation at Midtown Church of Religious Science is reflective of the church’s location in the mostly gay and liberal Hillcrest area. Dad often feels he is more willing to be tolerant of the fact that his fellow churchgoers are Democrats than they are willing to accept his Republicanism.

It’s convenient, even natural, to assume that if someone goes so far as to register with a certain political party, that person embraces all of the planks comprising that party’s platform. But not...
all Republicans are against gay (or what I prefer to call "human") rights. My father, whose views on many issues mirror mine, just attended a "visioning for gay marriage."

"Finally...here comes a club float!" I bobbed my head to the fast beat of techno music blaring from speakers mounted on a flatbed trailer. Hillcrest dance clubs always have the best floats. They’re elaborately designed with vibrant colors and reflective bits that sparkle, and they’re populated by magazine-perfect, nearly naked, energetic dancers in matching Speedos or bikinis. I always have to resist the urge to hop onto these floats when they roll by, to join the party for the rest of the ride.

Dad loved the show, extravagant costumes of the Sisters of the Asylum of the Tortured Heart, which included men in brightly colored, sexy nun ensembles, their faces painted as clowns, geishas, and Mardi Gras revelers. Eye candy and performers aside, Dad’s favorite sign during the parade declared, “When did you CHOOSE to be STRAIGHT?”

“Isn’t that great?” he said as the sign passed by. “People are born how they’re born. Jimmy and Diane didn’t choose to be gay; they just are. Just as we didn’t choose to be straight.”

“Speak for yourself, Dad. I’m more diagonal than straight,” I teased. “Oh, hey, here comes PFLAG!”

“I’d march with them,” Dad said, the sharp edge of the joke made dull by its undercurrent of truth. "I don’t do what I do in order to prove anything to anyone," he said. "I’m here because these people are my friends and because I love the energy and excitement and happiness this parade creates. Not to prove myself to people who will think what they’re going to think of me anyway.”

I almost responded, but then I realized it wasn’t me Dad was really speaking to; it was his younger brother and older sister, both of them gay and living in New York — each of them seeming to struggle unsuccessfully to see their brother any other way but through the lens of his politics, as if they can’t look past the piece of paper labeling him as the enemy to see that the man before them is not judging, but being judged.

The marching members of PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) never fail to bring tears to my eyes — there’s nothing more touching to me than a display of loyalty and love in the face of adversity. An old man marched by holding a sign reading “My Gay Son is a GREAT GUY!” high above his head, his face a poignant reminder of unconditioned love and pride. That’s all it took this year to unlock the fountain of emotion within me, just one person to acknowledge that different does not equal bad, and that tolerance is our only hope for happiness.

DM
Who’s in Charge Here?

FOLLOW THE CONFIDENTIAL E-MAIL TRAIL

(continued from front page)

Until the spring of last year, only a few insiders knew that the Paseo was in trouble, beset by internal criticism and bureaucratic bickering. Records recently disclosed by the university after a request under the state’s Public Records Act reveal that as early as mid-2003, Weber’s bosses in the California State University’s chancellor’s office in Long Beach had voiced serious doubt about the project.

In a June 30, 2003, letter to Richard West, CSU’s executive vice chancellor and chief financial officer, Weber wrote, “We now understand that your key concern is the level of risk engendered by the retail component of the project. As we discussed, we continue to review the retail component of the project and its associated risk, and we will pursue an updated housing demand study. We have also determined to undertake a risk mitigation assessment and develop an exit strategy.

“We support your approach of retaining a consultant to advise you and Chancellor Reed as to the viability of the retail component,” Weber continued. “We ask that this process be initiated as soon as possible. The cliché that ‘time is money’ is probably more true in property development than in most endeavors. It is also difficult to be ‘on hold’ with interest rates at a fifty-year low. Thank you for your reasoned approach to this issue, which is so important to our campus.
Clearly, the project was endangered, if not facing outright demise. Later West and others would make clear that the chancellor’s office would never approve the project if the foundation financed it, claiming that the foundation’s debt, though off university books, would become a de facto obligation of the state.

The foundation had already completed two smaller projects in the redevelopment area, a 66-unit apartment complex costing $8.5 million and the $16 million Fraternity Row. Incorporated in 1943, the foundation has an annual budget of $200 million and over 5800 employees who administer research grants and other funds and manage a large real estate portfolio that includes parking lots, apartment buildings, and a medical facility near Alvarado Hospital.

Neither Weber nor his bosses at CSU went public about their ongoing dispute, even though the foundation had spent millions of dollars on land and architectural designs for Paseo, and City redevelopment officials were spending taxpayer dollars in planning for the project.

The documents reveal that as project delays mounted, Weber lost confidence in his staff and that of the foundation. On July 25, 2003, he fired off a memo regarding development of the school’s master plan to provost Nancy Marlin, Student Affairs vice president James Kitchen, and Sally Roush, his top deputy and the university’s vice president of Business and Financial Affairs.
“You are each superb in your own area of responsibility, but lately I have observed a diminution of collegiality and a loss of focus. Simply put, we can afford neither as we move into the challenging years ahead.

“I recognize the increasing pressures that the budget imposes on us all, but you need each other, and I need you all working together as a team if we are to lead San Diego State through these difficult waters.”

On September 8, Weber sent a memorandum marked “Confidential” to SDSU Foundation chief executive officer Fred Sladek complaining about the foundation’s plans to include a sports bar and a 7-Eleven as part of the Paseo.

“T o be perfectly candid, what is bothering me is that this seems to be driven completely by staff rather than having your endorsement after coordinated conversations with the campus.

“For example, at our last presentation we found the Gerdi [Jerde, the foundation’s architectural firm] folks redesigning the cam-panile. I am not clear why the Foundation is spending its money on redesigns of the cam-panile, but I am clear that it is completely inappropriate.

“Now I am told that Gerdi folks have been asked to design the inter-face between the Paseo and the campus. I want to be very clear that this is going to be the campus’s call rather than the Foundation’s.

“If the Foundation would like to look at the interface between the campus and the Paseo, it should do it in rigorous conversations with Sally.

“Do not misunder-stand me, we are not unwilling to look at the interface — in fact, I do not think the interface has had as much thought directed to it as it should have. It is just that the project has to be a col-laborative project between the university and the Foundation.”

Six months later, on March 30, 2004, Weber dispatched a memo to Roush requesting that she assemble his executive staff. “I want to con-vene a summit with regard to the outstanding issues on the Paseo Project. By outstanding issues I mean those aspects of the project with regard to which you have not been able to reach agreement.”

Despite the meeting, questions about how the university and the foun-dation would collaborate remained unanswered on May 7, when Weber sent another memo to Roush and Sladek. “As we come closer to a ‘go/no-go’ decision on the Paseo, we need to sort out the business relationships between the University and the SDSU Foundation vis-à-vis the Paseo.

“These are issues that have arisen before in tangential ways, such as the university’s request to be held harmless. How-ever, what I am more interested in is a syner-gistic conversation that will ensure that we maxi-mize the opportunities to both parties that this project presents.”

But if Weber truly thought that the Paseo project was ripe with syner-gistic opportunities, some on his staff felt it was ready for the knife. Chief financial officer Roush, in particular, demanded more per-sonal control over the project.

On May 25, 2004, Roush e-mailed Ellene...
Gibbs, the school’s associate vice president of Financial Operations, about an upcoming meeting between university and foundation staffs. “What a way to have the beginning of my vacation ruined,” said Roush. “You, and President Weber, will see that I have added a discussion of the role of the campus chief financial officer. Much of the tension revolves around the failure of the SDSUF organization to acknowledge and work within that construct. “If that does not apply to the Paseo, that needs to get stated up front — to me as well as to them,” wrote Roush, threatening to boycott the gathering. “If the campus CFO role is to be diminished in this project, there is no need for the summit meeting. “My colleague from Portland State University has just accepted the CFO position at the University of Idaho, which is still reeling from their redevelopment scandal. More individuals will be fired before it is all over. I cannot be party to anything that I feel will harm the University’s operating and policy requirements. I hate to sound so negative but from far away this still looks very problematic.” (In 2003, the University of Idaho’s president resigned and the vice president for finance was left with a $26 million debt.)

The next day, Gibbs e-mailed Roush back, denigrating the design of the Paseo. “We do not believe that the project, as scoped, is good for the University and its stu-
dents,” she wrote. “Let’s say it was going to throw off millions: does that change how we expect our students to live, our traffic to flow, the safety we expect, the degree of class we want the front of our campus to have?”

“It’s like the old joke about the lady asked to sleep with someone for $2,000,000. That was OK, but when asked whether she’d do it for 5 cents, asked ‘what do you think I am?’

“I don’t see the need for a summit meeting either. But if it goes, you didn’t call it so you don’t need to lead it. In fact, I’d probably let them be lead speaker on every single agenda item with University only providing responsive comment as to agree/disagree basis in very brief form.

“Time to pick that pocket thread. Sit back and let your staff state their expert opinions one final time. No apologies, no bargaining. (There shouldn’t be any bargaining in front of Fdn board members anyway)”

“Though the e-mails show a virtual revolt of university staff, with Roush leading the charge — demanding to wrest control from the foundation — Weber remained seemingly oblivious to the brewing mutiny.

“Welcome home. I hope Hawaii was great,” he said in an e-mail to Roush dated May 27, 2004. “When you get back I am going to try to put together a meeting which will ask whether we could move for external ownership of this project. I know that would mean less for us — and perhaps fewer controls, but Charlie seems set on screwing this deal up any way he can.”

“Charlie is almost certainly CSU chancellor Charles B. Reed, Weber’s boss. Elsewhere in the same missive, Weber mentions him again, saying, “Charlie is mad at me again (not important why, but I will fill you in when we see each other next week), and has abruptly cancelled (without explanation)” a meeting about the Paseo financing. “He has said it might be possible to schedule a meeting in July!”

“On June 14, in an e-mail to foundation CEO Frea Sladek about disagreements over prepa ration of an environmental impact report for the Paseo, Roush said,”

“‘There is a continuing failure to recognize that for a project that has so much importance for and impact on the University, the University must be the driver.’

“On August 9, Thomas F. Carter, a long-time member of the SDSU Foundation board and an influential alum nus as well as a staunch backer of the Paseo proj ect proposed by the foundation, e-mailed Weber about a meeting Carter had had with CSU’s executive vice chancellor Richard West.

“All in all, I think it was a good meeting and as I told him, we want to work with him to make this happen. My read is that and to use his words ‘if we can show him that our proposed financing is dollar neutral’ he felt he could support it.”

Then Carter alluded to the static that Roush

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and her backers were creating. “Another issue that I took away from our discussion is that he is getting two messages from San Diego. I think it is critical that we have only one person talk to the Chancellor’s office on the Paseo.”

Replied Weber: “Yes, there is the rub. What single person can represent us to best advantage? Sally is most knowledgeable and most respected by Richard, but is skeptical and less than enthusiastic about the project as it now stands. “Frea is not knowledgeable about the project.

“Steve Bloom and Fred do not have the standing and have proven themselves to be ‘true believers’ — which is to say, I doubt they have much credibility.

“I am supportive — but technically deficient.”

Four months later, with the Paseo status still unresolved, Carter again e-mailed Weber, this time to say that he had contacted Bob White, an influential SDSU alumnus and Sacramento insider who is a longtime advisor to ex-governor Pete Wilson and has also worked for Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger.

“I have discussed the Paseo financing issue with Bob White,” wrote Carter, in the e-mail dated December 5.

“Interesting,” responded Weber.

“He said he would represent us for free as long as I am not making any money on this. I am sure you can clarify that for him,” Carter wrote.

“Of course,” said Weber.

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well from the days when Dennis was in the state Department of Finance. Bob talked about how the Paseo project has been underway for years, much has been spent to date, etc. He talked as though the [chancellor’s office] is blocking the campus from proceeding with the project. Dennis was much taken aback. Dennis, a generally mild mannered individual, was very displeased that we had in essence raised the stakes by having Bob White lobby him.

“I think it is a bad idea to have this kind of outside lobbying on an issue such as this,” she continued. “I hope I am wrong. What is it we want to occur as a result of the lobbying by Bob White? We already have approval from the Chancellor himself to move forward with the project. It is the debt-capacity problem that we are struggling to manage, and the likelihood of an exception is non-existent. I’m afraid we are using a contact for no useful outcome.”

On February 11, with the Paseo still alive, if limping along, SDSU Facilities Planning and Management director Tony Fulton e-mailed Roush with his criticisms of its design. “They are still proposing a pedestrian bridge crossing College at Lindo Paseo,” said Fulton. “And it’s the ugliest bridge I’ve seen in some time. Reminds me of a railroad trestle.” He added that the project “will barely meet the proposed energy standards and guidelines that even the City of SD is adopting. This won’t sell well with the Trustees but I’m sure it can be faked.”

On March 17, a worried Tom Carter again e-mailed Weber, “I understand that Sally Roush or her staff is proposing that SDSU could acquire the Foundation position and develop the Paseo. This would never be accepted by the city.”

Replied Weber: “In the best of all possible worlds, that would not be our preference. If it is on our credit no matter what, then we would be better off to do it ourselves and at least have the control we would otherwise lose to a third party.”

As to possible opposition to the takeover by the City, Weber responded: “They would block the state from undertaking a development they want to see?? How does a city trump the state of California?”

Weber then forwarded Carter’s message to Roush and proposed that Carter be “briefed” by her about the takeover, but she quickly demurred.

“I think it would be difficult and likely unproductive for me to talk to Tom absent you,” she wrote on March 17. “His comments regarding me sound increasingly critical, and I don’t think it is appropriate for me to be involved in a ‘spat’ with a community member and an alum.”

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Roush singled out Fred Pierce, the consultant/developer in charge of the Paseo, as an unwelcome source of opposition. Pierce was lobbying heavily to complete the Paseo under control of the foundation. (Pierce is a former president of the troubled San Diego pension board. This April, his offices at the foundation were raided by FBI agents, who hauled off computers and piles of records. He has not been charged with wrongdoing.)

“The Foundation or Fred is presenting this as the Foundation and City vs. the University. In my position, I cannot cajole, require, or otherwise get them to stop. As long as that is the position that Tom and other community board members believe in, the whole mess is just that much worse.”

Then she threw down the gauntlet to the wavering Weber: “It is really only presidential authority and direction that can get things going in a different direction, if that is even possible.”

The next day Weber fired off a terse memo to the foundation’s Frea Sladek: “It seems to me more and more likely that the only way in which the Paseo Project can be done is if it is done by the university using university credit. Have you reached that conclusion as well? If not, why not? Assuming you have reached the same conclusion, I think it is time to direct our energies to that end.”

But that was not the end of Weber’s dallying. In early April 2005, Carter came up with a proposal to sell the project to a real estate investment group from the East. Roush had a quick response. “Bond counsel refers to this group as ’shady,’ ” she told Weber in an April e-mail. “They have no construction, project management or...
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“Steve, sooner rather than later we need to make a decision on this project,” she continued. “I don’t think you have the confidence you need to have in the project management team (Pierce, Bloom) for a project of this magnitude. Each day we delay a decision, it gets more difficult to bring the project to a successful conclusion.

“If you are ultimately going to assign this project over to the University, the sooner it is done the better for all. If you choose to leave the project with the Foundation, again the sooner we all know that the better.”

But Weber still continued to wait. On April 27, he sent a letter to Chancellor Charles Reed asking him to consider “an option that would entail the sale of the project to a third party non-profit corporation and provide off-credit treatment for most of the project’s components.”

The next day, Roush e-mailed a staff member. “This is going to overwhelm us sooner than later, I now think.” On April 29, Tony Fulton, the university’s director of Facilities Planning and Management, sent an e-mail to Roush. “I’m starting to draft some items for our discussion of the Paseo takeover next week.”

Finally, on May 3, Weber sent a memo to the board of the SDSU Research Foundation announcing that the chancellor’s office had spurned his latest proposal. Roush, he said, “has been working with the Chancellor’s Office to design a credit plan which would give San Diego State access to sufficient credit to devote up to $350,000,000 to the development of the Paseo project.”

On May 9, Roush e-mailed Jim Kitchen, SDSU vice president of Student Affairs. “I think there may be some big changes in the near future regarding the Paseo.” On May 11, Weber e-mailed the foundation’s Frea Sladek. “I am eager to move forward with or without the cooperation of the foundation,” he wrote.

“Regrettably, we do not have a great record of clear and unambiguous communication either with the system office or among ourselves.

“Given recent events, I am less optimistic about our working together, but no less optimistic about bringing the project to a successful completion.”

On May 17, Ellene Gibbs, the university’s associate vice president of Financial Operations, sent an e-mail to seven SDSU staffers, including Roush and CSU attorney Steven Raskovich, announcing “a high-level strategic meeting, expected to be followed up by meetings that are more tactical” about the

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Though it was clear that Weber was moving to take the Paseo away from the foundation, the foundation’s board had taken no official action to authorize the move. Weber was behaving as if he alone controlled the foundation and the board were merely window dressing. But for seven months, no one on the board would speak out.

Then in February of this year, Tom Carter, who last month died of colon cancer, stood up at a foundation board meeting and quit. “First I have to say I am going to resign from the board today,” he announced. “I have served on almost any kind of board you can imagine. I take it very seriously when I’m on a board of directors. The word ‘fiduciary’ is always something you must remember. What I have seen happen here in the past year is foreign to the kind of operations I have been accustomed to.”

Though Weber had promised to make the foundation “whole,” Carter didn’t believe that would happen. The foundation had plowed at least $12 million into the Paseo, and now it was being forced to divest its real estate in a fire sale to the university to raise cash to pay off its massive debt.

“We are starting a downward spiral,” Carter warned. “This foundation is the largest contributor annually to the university — $2.5 million. That’s not going to be there anymore. When we start selling real estate, that money won’t be there in the future. I see a downward spiral that will be very difficult to turn around. I don’t want to be fighting with President Weber. He knows where I stand on these matters.”

Ten days later, on March 6, foundation chief executive officer Freda Sladek and chief operating officer Steve Bloom retired. Chief financial officer Leslie Levinson had departed a few days before. “Steve, Leslie and I realize that it is unusual for three of the top four leaders to leave an organization within a relatively short time period,” Sladek wrote in a statement, claiming the joint exodus was just a coincidence.

If it hews to the road that Weber has outlined during recent board meetings, the foundation will have to live without a big chunk of its real estate development business. Based on the evidence, Sally Roush is in charge of the Paseo project’s direction. Tom Shepard, political consultant to Mayor Jerry Sanders, was hired by Steve Weber for $10,000 a month to spin the Paseo story. The City’s Redevelopment Agency rescinded a threat to take over the Paseo property and put the project up for bid. At last word, Roush was negotiating with the City’s Real Estate Assets Department and Mayor Jerry Sanders for a new Paseo redevelopment deal.

Details won’t be revealed until the fall. — Matt Potter
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Summary Notice of Proposed Class Action Settlement and Settlement Hearing

To: All persons or entities who paid Darkside Productions, Inc. dba Eros Guide for advertising services provided by Darkside Productions, Inc. through the escorts or massage sections of any California portion of the Eros Guide website from March 21, 2001 through April 5, 2005

READ THIS NOTICE CAREFULLY. YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS MAY BE AFFECTED.

In the class action identified above, the Plaintiffs allege that Defendants, in violation of the Gender Tax Repeal Act (codified at Civil Code §51.6) and the Unfair Competition Law (codified at Business & Professions Code §17200 et seq.) required individuals and entities to pay to advertise massage and escort services provided by women on Darkside’s Eros Guide website but not individuals or entities that advertised massage and escort services provided by men. Defendant denies any liability. A proposed settlement has been reached in the class action on behalf of all Settlement Class. If you are a member of the Settlement Class, then you are entitled to participate in the settlement.

In order to participate in the Settlement, you must be a member of the Settlement Class and you must submit a Claim Form on or before Sept 19, 2006. Each Class Member who returns a Valid Claim indicating that such Class Member paid Darkside Productions, Inc. for advertising services through the escorts or massage sections of any California portion of the Eros Guide website, other than through Visiting Ads, is eligible to receive a check in the amount of $30.00 per account. In addition, each Class Member who returns a Valid Claim indicating that such Class Member purchased a Visiting Ad for advertising services through the escorts or massage sections of any California portion of the Eros Guide website is eligible to receive a check in the amount of $30.00 per account. If you do not wish to be included in the Settlement Class and do not wish to participate in the settlement, then you must send the Settlement Administrator a written request to be excluded from the Settlement Class no later than September 5, 2006.

You may obtain a more detailed notice summarizing the terms of the settlement and describing the Settlement Class, as well as a Claim Form, by: (a) writing to the court-appointed Settlement Administrator at the following address: Darkside Settlement Administrator c/o Domond, Marcille & Amann, P.O. Box 451999, Los Angeles, CA 90045; (b) calling the following toll free number: (800) 789-0683 and requesting a copy be mailed to you; or (c) accessing the following Internet website: www.dmaclassaction.com.

A hearing will be held at 9:30 a.m. on September 5, 2006 in Department 301 of the San Francisco Superior Court, located at 400 McAllister St., San Francisco, California 94102, to decide whether to approve the proposed settlement as fair and reasonable, to award attorneys’ fees and expenses, and to address other matters. Any class member is permitted to attend the hearing and object to the settlement, but it is not necessary to attend the hearing in order to be eligible to receive benefits under the settlement. If the proposed settlement is approved by the Court, then all members of the Settlement Class who do not exclude themselves will be bound by the settlement. If you have questions, you may call the Settlement Administrator at the above address.

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Last night I woke up to find my cat Zorro hogging the bed next to me…and not just lying on the bed, he was under the covers! As I went to move him so that I could roll over, I whispered, “Sorry, Zorro, but you have to move.”

“But I’m comfortable!” replied a sleepy voice. It startled me so much that I almost fell off the bed!

“Zorro?!” I asked, sure my parents had dropped me one too many times as a child.

Zorro planted himself in his spot on my bed and declared, “You always seem so determined to prevent me from living my life to its fullest.”

“Oh, really?” I replied.

“Yes, really,” continued Zorro. “Whenever I find a sunny place to nap, you always move me.”

“Well, I wouldn’t have to if that sunny place wasn’t on top of the jeans that I need to wear.”

Zorro continued to talk. “Whenever I find a mouse to play with, you always take it away from me before I’ve even had a chance to play with it.”

“And I have good reason to do so! If I want to have presents left for me, you always move me.”

“And whenever I see something fun to play with in the dark, you scream.”

“That’s because the ‘something’ is my foot!” I retorted.

“‘How was I supposed to know that?’ defended Zorro.

“And don’t even get me started on you not constantly rubbing my tummy!”

Slightly frustrated yet still amused, I replied, “You’re not the boss around here!”

“Now, wait a second. Let’s think about this for a minute,” he suggested. “You pick up my poop, you feed me when I’m hungry, you take care of me when I’m sick, and shower me with attention. Explain to me again, please, how I’m not in charge of you.”

“Oh… What else could I say? He had an excellent point. I mean, I do cater to every one of his kitty needs, and if I don’t, I always feel guilty. Like, if I go on vacation, I always feel a twinge of guilt upon returning because he looks at me as though I’ve abandoned him.

In an attempt to create peace, I told Zorro, “I agree to let you sleep on my bed as long as you don’t sleep on my face anymore or hog the bed.”

“Agreed,” said Zorro. “Can I have my catnip back now? I promise not to act spazzy and race around the house in the ungodly hours of the morning like I did last night.”

“Sorry, I value my sleep too much to allow that to happen again! But I will guarantee a daily pat on the head and food.”

“Fair enough. Good night.”

— Emma Seemann, Carlsbad H.S.

I’m the only person who has heard the sweet voice of a female ladybug. The creature landed on my index finger this afternoon and I adored her for her petite size and lovely look. As I stared, I heard her sing a tune that’s never reached my ears before. I thought to myself, Hmm… she must be able to talk if she can sing such a song. I asked her, “How are you so small and still alive in this dangerous world?” The singing stopped and she flew to my shoulder, next to my ear.

“For many years my kind flew about in a timid way, afraid of the viciousness this world has to offer. We feared everything — from fierce snakes to a tiny flea, and large elephants to the stinging bee.”

“I understand how these things must be scary to you and your kind, but, again, how do you flee from these things? This I still do not see.”

“Well, eventually it came to pass that fear was the only thing to blame. The harmful creatures of the world sense insecurity in anything that lives. This gives them the motivation to harm us. However, if we stand strong and live with dignity, this

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intimidates even the largest of animals and keeps them away from us. Our newly attained senses of courage and pride override those feelings of hunger and fierceness normally directed toward our kind.

I pondered that this tiny creature stays alive by something no one can see; it survives because of its pride, strength, and dignity. Then, another thought planted itself in my mind…

"Do you know how much joy you provide the smallest of children and the oldest of men when you land on them and allow them to gaze upon your beauty?"

"Why, yes," she responded, "indeed I do. Their smiles and laughs are what keeps our hearts beating, our wings pulsing. Without the true beauty of the world — the joy of others — our beauty would never be able to shine through. And I want to give you a message to inform mankind: it is simply 'Thank you.' Without you, my kind would never have attained our positive state of mind."

And with that, she beat her wings as gracefully as ever and flew off into the distance, leaving the world with more light and happiness than the human eye could ever see.

— Lexie Sebring, Carlsbad H.S.

I think every "animal person" has at one time or another wished they could find out what their pet was thinking. I often find myself questioning my dog's strange behavior and wish that we could somehow communicate. Therefore, if I had the option to talk to any animal on earth I wouldn't look past my own home; I would want to talk to my golden retriever, Sandy.

One question I would immediately ask would be, "Why do you find it necessary to steal every sock and shoe from my room and put them where I'd never think to look?"

Sandy's response would probably be simple. Something along the lines of, "I get bored at night when everyone's asleep. I sleep all day and have nothing to do at night, so I keep myself busy and hope that in the morning this will help get me more attention."

To understand the next question I would ask, you have to understand Sandy's personality. She is scared to death of other dogs. I will never forget the time she — all 70 pounds of her — was intimidated by a 20-pound Yorkshire terrier. So, I would ask Sandy, "Why are you so scared of other dogs, even little dogs?"

Her response would probably be, "Ever since I was a puppy, my personality was very timid. I often got pushed around and soon grew to let other dogs have their way. I don't like to cause trouble."

I would try to convince Sandy to "Stand up for yourself. Don't let other dogs push you around. You need to gain respect and confidence."

One part of being able to communicate with Sandy would be the hassle at meal times. With the way she begs at the table already, I can't imagine how annoying she would be if she could talk to us. She'd say, "I don't find it fair that everyone else gets spaghetti while I get stuck with this hard, dried-out dog food. At least give me the wet dog food!"

While I'd love to know what's going on in Sandy's mind, it's nice to have someone mellow and quiet in the house that I can turn to when I'm sick of my sisters complaining.

— Bryanna Schwartz, Westview H.S.
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I can talk to insects. In fact, I was about to talk to an ant...no, not the kind that squeezes your cheeks every Thanksgiving. I’m talking about those six-legged creepy crawlers with the antennae and icy-bitsy fur.

“So, uh, Mr. Ant, describe to me an average day in your six shoes.”

“It’s terrible. I spend 99 percent of the time marching. Marching where? Nowhere. All we do is march. Us freaking ants, we’re always marching. No one ever asked me if I wanted to march, though. No one ever asked me if I’d prefer parading or even treading. My entire existence has turned into one giant game of follow the leader.”

“Well, yes, uh, I’m very sorry about that. But, living in a hill, that must be nice, right?”

“Are you kidding me? I’ve got to deal with stupid kids sticking a hose down my hole. And then, if we try to run, they attack us with a giant magnifying glass. Now, where I want to live is on one of those farms, those ant farms. I’m not exactly sure what I’d be growing or even if I’d raise animals, but a quiet life in a glass case, that’s definitely for me.”

“Well, I’m sure life can’t be all that bad...what about picnics? Ever invade one of those?”

“I’ve never been to a picnic. I’ve never seen a picnic in a photograph. I’ve never even heard of someone talk about a picture of a picnic they once saw. All a big lie. A giant hoax. Something the queen made up to keep us working hard. The most adventurous place I’ve ever been was inside of someone’s pants. And, believe me, having ants in your pants is as bad for the ant as it is for the human.”

“Well, it certainly sounds like you’ve got a pretty hard life.”

“Hard? HARD?!?! For God sakes, ever heard of an antateater? There’s an animal out there whose sole purpose is to eat me! Between Raid and the constant firecrackers in my hill, life sucks. Life, for me, is for the birds.”

— Andres Perez, Valhalla H.S.

F

rom the day we brought her home, Abby and I hadn’t had a good relationship. Almost the instant she was out of her cage, she walked over and bit me. One day, Abby stared up at me, her nose wiggling wildly, her whiskers twitching. Her little bunny eyes seemed more intelligent than they normally did. Because she was looking rather philosophical, I decided to ask her about it, as pet owners and crazy people tend to do.

“What made you hate me? Because I like you. ”

“Nothing like that. You never let me get a word in edgewise—all that ‘ooooh, fuzzy little bunny’ stuff!”

“Hmmmm...I never really thought of it that way,” I said. “Well, I must ask, how do you like carrots?”

“Don’t even get me started, buddy. If I had a dollar for every carrot I’ve eaten...Well, let’s just say I wouldn’t eat carrots anymore.”

“Well, I guess I’ve always just pestered you. I really had no idea that you were a smart critter.” As I said this, I recalled how I had thought she had no brain at all. “Huh, well now that I’m talking to a rabbit, I have nothing to say... Eh, what’s up doc?”

“Is that the best you can do?”

— Grant Barba, La Jolla H.S.
The strangers didn’t feel the quake, but the people did. Now another raft. More sick men. More unburned dead. Why did they choose to die here, like beached whales?

The second boat, San Carlos, arrived on April 29, its crew in a similar state. Of the 90 men who came by sea, only 16 were mobile. They dug new graves every day. The site came to be known as Punto de Los Muertos — “dead man’s point.”

We showed them a sign: stuck the points of our bows in the ground, grabbed the tips, and danced around the bows with whirling speed. This did not stop the strangers. Surely they are witches. But is their power positive or negative? We must observe and understand.

On May 14, the first land party from Loreto, led by Captain Fernando Rivera y Moncada, came to San Diego: 25 men on horseback and a herd of cattle. “A day of great merriment and rejoicing” turned to sorrow, writes Miguel Costanso, the expedition’s engineer. When they reached the camp, newcomers found “nearly all the soldiers and sailors perishing.”

On July 14, 1769, Portola, Fages, Costanso, Rivera, and Pedro Fages decided to move to a site halfway up a hillside, overlooking the river and the native village of Cosoy. Soldiers carefully transported the sick to the new camp. Don Pedro Prat, the ship’s French surgeon, who also suffered their symptoms, labored day and night to heal the afflicted.

More strangers from the south. Leather men ride the large animals. A hairless man in brown, no taller than a bow. Piercing smile. Walks with a limp. Is he their Kuseyaay, their shaman? Why has he come? Why won’t they leave?

The second land party, led by Don Gaspar de Portola and Father Junipero Serra, arrived in San Diego around noon, July 1, 1769. With them were at least ten soldiers, plus servants, muleteers, and a pack train with 163 mules loaded with provisions.

On July 16, 1769, Serra founded Mission San Diego de Alcala at the foot of Presidio Hill: a rustic shed for a chapel, huts encircled by a brush barrier. A wooden cross faced the harbor. Serra wanted his mission apart from the camp on the hill: as an accessible place of worship for all; and to keep soldiers from the natives — especially native women.

Serra didn’t know his chapel stood north to find Monterey. They left behind “an escort as seemed sufficient for the guard of the mission and the sick”: eight soldiers, who also kept watch on the livestock and escorted parties to and from the San Carlos.

Less than a month later, the natives attacked.

Their curiosity decreased as the intruders’ health improved. They mocked the blasts of rifles and, wrote Zephyrin Englehardt, “since the fathers could not understand their language, the Indians would accept gifts then try to steal whatever came within their reach.”

To the Kuseyaay, who assumed that everything on their land was common property, this was sharing, not theft. Nor to recall with unhappiness to his dying day that he had not been the one to perform it.”

3. Michael Connolly Miskwish: “Gradually the missions attracted a few converts. While some were curious to acquire Spanish knowledge, others became genuinely devout followers of the Catholic Church.”
was it theft, their rowing out to the San Carlos on tule rafts and cutting a rope, and later one of its sails.  
At night, however, they shot arrows at the castle.  
More and more natives drifted into camp. Convinced it was poisoning the intruders, they refused to eat Spanish food. They also became confused by mixed messages: the men in brown robes embraced them; the men in long leather jackets turned them away. 
On August 12, 1769, a handful of natives stalked the camp. Cries of anger filled the air. One shot an arrow. Then another. Then a volley pelted the tule-roofed huts. Ordered not to, Spanish soldiers didn’t return fire that day—or the next, when the small band briefly attacked again.  
On August 15, 1769, to celebrate the fiesta of the Assumption, Father Fer- 
nando Parron went out to the San Carlos to give the mass. Two soldiers escorted him to the ship.  
During Serra’s mass at the chapel, Kumeyaay began to appear in groups. Many were armed with longbows and quivers of arrows. To guarantee Parron’s safe return, Serra sent four more soldiers to the San Carlos. That left Serra, Father Juan Vizcaino, Corporal Mariano Carillo, and another soldier, Chacón (the ship’s blacksmith), a carpenter, eight neophytes, sick men in the infirmary, and José María Vergerano, Serra’s 20-year-old servant, at the mission.  
Serra: “When these natives noticed how small our numbers were, and that we continued to bury so many…they imagined they could kill us all very easily.”  
Twenty Kumeyaay stormed the mission. They ripped sheets from hospital beds and took everything they could lift. Amid war cries and the screams of sick men, Corporal Carillo shouted “To arms!” He and the other soldier donned their cuera—a sleeveless, arrowproof leather jacket—grabbed thick cowhide shields and muskets, and charged into the fray. Chacón, the carpenter, and the few sick soldiers able to walk also fought hand-to-hand with the attackers.  
The natives withdrew. Then they stopped, turned, and began firing volleys of arrows and hurling stones and curved macana clubs into the compound.  
Serra and Vizcaino hid in a makeshift hut by the chapel. For a brief spell, the shouts died down. Vizcaino wanted to see if the natives had left. He lifted the hut’s door, a maguey curtain. A covey of arrows ripped past. Stones thumped the walls of willow leaves. An arrow struck Vizcaino’s hand. He fell back in shock. Staring at his crimson fingers, he “recommended himself to God.”  
So did Serra. He clutched statues of Jesus and the Vir- 
gin Mary. “With such defensive armor I was in good hands. Either I could be spared death, or I would die well.”  
Outside, the Spanish opened fire. For the first time in San Diego, muskets made more than smoking
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Carlos Vera would see convicts and guards working in tandem again and again during his stay in prison. This particular beating was just the first of many he witnessed, and just one of various ways guards and prisoners regularly blurred the distinction between the keepers and the kept. “I was speechless,” he says. “I didn’t say anything. I just stood off in a corner trying not to attract attention, trying to not show my fear. I was really scared, terrified to be honest. I did not know what was going to happen next. I thought they were going to kill the guy. I don’t know whatever happened to him. That night they came back and took him out of the cell. I never saw him again.”

Carlos was new to the prison when he witnessed that first beating, and it left an enduring impression on him, what he calls “a great fear.” His legal status had just changed from the “under investigation” to the “probably guilty” category in the Mexican judicial process. That is when he was moved from a temporary jail at the Ministerio Público (state prosecutor’s office) in Zona Rio to the state prison, where, at 26, in the midst of building what appeared to be a bright future, he was instead being held without bail on charges of rape, pandering, and battery. Carlos was still sick at heart from the news that he would not be released. He had been certain that, after a review of the facts, after hearing from a few witnesses, he would be freed quickly. When he saw the beating, it had been only a few hours since he had been notified that he would remain behind bars indefinitely. Carlos was devastated. “I felt wounded,” he says. “I was in a deep, deep depression. You don’t know what’s going to happen, how long you will be there, how long this suffering will last. Especially being accused of rape…I felt so frustrated, so angry — frustrated because I knew I was innocent, angry at the woman who had done this to me. Why? Why did she do this to me? It is such a painful experience, such anguish. You don’t know why this is happening to you. And there is nothing to comfort you; there is no escape from it. You feel hopeless.”

At the time, Carlos was being held in a 15-by-12-foot holding area with 200 other prisoners. He describes it as an over-crowded chicken coop. “You sleep curled into a ball because there is no space. The floor is wet and smelly — no pillow, no blanket — just the stinking wooden floor. There is mud and dirt, lots of fleas and other bugs. It smells horrible, like urine and excrement. There is no bathroom, just a hole in the floor. When the hole was full, we used a 20-liter pail. Can you imagine the smell? It made me gag. Guys were always sick — fevers, vomiting, diarrhea, fainting.”

As the weeks passed, says Carlos, he realized that the liaison between guards and prisoners was at the core of the prison’s political and economic subculture. One of the first examples he witnessed was when a young, well-to-do inmate in a nearby cell — “hijos de papi” (daddy’s boys) they are called — pointed to a pair of expensive tennis shoes worn by a newly-arrived
prisoner. “Two guys held him down, and another guy takes off his shoes and hands them to the guard,” Carlos recalled. “The guard takes the shoes to the hijo de papi in the other cell. He paid a tip to the guard, but I didn’t see how much.”

The corruption extends beyond the confines of the prison, according to Carlos. “You can even be outside, and if you pay the right people, you can finger somebody inside,” says Carlos. “If you have money, you can buy all kinds of favors from the guards. Twenty pesos to see a dentist — twenty dollars if you want to see the dentist right away. Fifty pesos [around five dollars], and some guards will let you out of the cell to use the phone. Every little thing costs you something. The more money you had, the better off you were. You could pay 100 pesos to get listed as a diabetic so you got better food.”

Serious transactions that require cash must be arranged outside — and frequently are.

Prison policy prohibits the possession of cash by inmates. "All such transactions that are conducted in what are called "sales," scrip issued by prison authorities in exchange for hard currency.

Bipolar?

Affiliated Research Institute is currently looking for men and women diagnosed with bipolar disorder. Volunteers must be at least 18 years of age and unhappy with their current medications due to unpleasant side effects and/or weight gain. Patients suffering from bipolar disorder must be currently experiencing a major depressive episode and be willing to change their current medications. All necessary office visits, medical evaluations and study medication will be provided at no cost to qualified patients.

For more information about this study, please contact:
(619) 688-6565
See our website: www.ari-inc.com

Combined Inpatient/Outpatient

Bipolar Disorder/Manic Depression Research Study

We are currently seeking volunteers for a clinical research study of an investigational medication for the treatment of Bipolar Illness (Manic/Depression). To qualify for this study you must be at least 18 years old and currently experiencing a “manic” or “mixed” episode of your illness. Symptoms include: irritability/agitation, euphoria, sleep disturbance, racing thoughts, concentration difficulty, changes in energy level and feeling more talkative. Compensation will be provided for time and travel as part of your participation in this study. In addition, all medication and study-related medical care is offered at no cost to those who qualify.

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?

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

Social Anxiety Disorder?

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

Affiliated Research Institute is 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.

For more information about how the study works please contact:
(619) 688-6565
See our website: www.ari-inc.com

Are you sad due to Bipolar Disorder?

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

To qualify, you must:
• be at least 18 years old
• have been diagnosed with Bipolar Disorder
• 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

Booster Vaccine?

Accelovance is participating in a national medical research study to evaluate the investigational use of an FDA approved tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis booster vaccination.

To participate/qualify, you must be between the ages of 19-64 and in general good health.

Participants will receive study-related medical evaluations and study vaccination at no cost. Up to $120 compensation for time and travel is provided. If interested, call:
619.291.2845

For more information about the study works please contact:
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RESEARCH STUDIES

Do you suffer from stress-related disorders?

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
It is estimated that 70-80% of all illnesses are either caused by or made worse by stress. These can include anxiety, hypertension, migraine and tension headaches, arthritis, ulcers, colitis,ordinate disorders and some types of cancer. Scientists are investigating the possible positive impact of drug-free chiropractic on stress-related disorders. If you suspect that you may be suffering from any stress-related disorder, you may be eligible to participate. As a participant, you will receive, at absolutely no cost, a:

■ Physical evaluation by an authorized chiropractic RCS researcher. This may include the use of brain imaging techniques. To receive more information, call 24 Hours: 619-442-4215 or e-mail: shy@ucsd.edu
■ Customized Vitality Wellness Index™ report comparing the results of your wellness evaluation with those of the larger population. A follow-up appointment is needed to review the results of the evaluation and receive the Vitality Wellness Index™. Participants are under no obligation to accept any health care services and may withdraw from the study at any time.

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Are You Currently Diagnosed with Bipolar Disorder?

Do you currently have a combination of the following symptoms?
• Unusual periods of “highs and lows” • Racing thoughts • Poor attention span
• Excessive involvement in activities • Unusually elevated mood
• Changes in appetite • Irritability

You may qualify to try an investigational medication while participating in a research study and be reimbursed $50 for each inpatient hospitalization day and $100 for each outpatient visit. Total reimbursement will not exceed $3050.

Call (858) 566-8222 for more information.
The California Neuropsychopharmacology Clinical Research Institute, LLC “CNR1, LLC”

Do you get nervous in social situations?

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

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

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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.
Carlos says drug use remains widespread inside La Mesa, mostly heroin and crystal methamphetamine, sometimes a mixture of both at once: “I saw as many as a dozen guys use the same syringe. I know they say they inspect everyone and everything coming inside, but that’s a lie. They don’t check the guards. The guards are the ones selling the drugs.”

The prison has seen several violent and daring escapes in recent years, a measure of the level of corruption inside, and the impotence of the government to do anything about it. In April 2004, five men escaped from La Mesa in a shootout with guards — including a reputed drug-trafficker accused of participating in the 1998 execution of 19 people in Ensenada, among them seven children, two newborns, and a pregnant teenager. During their escape, the fleeing prisoners seriously wounded one guard while running to a getaway car awaiting them outside the prison’s gates. The prison director, the commander of the guards, and the director of medical services were all later arrested on charges of “permitting an escape.”

The so-called “reforms” instituted in the last few years did not include meeting a prisoner’s basic human needs. “They give you nothing — nothing,” says Carlos. Prisoners must provide their own shoes, clothes, toilet paper, soap, toothpaste — even a dish if they want to eat. The poorest, those who can’t count on help from family or friends outside, craft bowls from used plastic milk cartons. “That’s what they eat from,” says Carlos. The food is ladled out of big aluminum pots carried from cell to cell by large handles, and if a prisoner has no bowl, he goes hungry.

“Breakfast was some powdered eggs and beans — one ladle of each — and four corn tortillas, and water. Lunch was usually a few pieces of fatback, some rice or beans, and water. At 6:30 they brought hot tea and a piece of bread. And that was it. That was all there was. And they did not use any salt, or any sugar. They did not use any seasoning at all. The food made me sick. I began to eat only what I needed to survive.”

Carlos was tall and thin to begin with, a product of a high metabolism and skinny genes. During his 10-month stay at the Centro de Readaptación Social, he would lose 20 pounds — dropping from 130 pounds to 110 pounds. Carlos also developed a scaly, red rash on his arms and legs, a persistent dry cough, and a severe case of athlete’s foot. More striking, though, was his change in temperament. As soon as he set foot inside La Mesa, the “great fear” began taking its toll, triggering nearly constant fight-or-flight alerts emanating from the most primitive regions of his brain. Stress hormones poured into his body, and in a cascading reaction, his limbic system went awry. He came out of La Mesa rewired, always ready for a fight, always on guard, even though the dan-

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**Do you have Leg Pain while walking that goes away when you rest?**

If so, the problem might be due to intermittent claudication, a symptom of peripheral arterial disease (P.A.D.). People with intermittent claudication have leg pain due to poor circulation and may qualify for a research study to test an investigational medication to see if it relieves leg pain.

Siddig, Inc. is currently looking for **Men and Women ages 40-80** who have leg pain while walking to participate in a research study.

**If you qualify you will receive at no cost:**
- Study medication
- Study-related medical care
- Compensation for time and travel

**For more information call:**
619-407-1197

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**BIPOLAR DISORDER**
**DEPRESSION**
**SCHIZOPHRENIA**

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

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

---

**Insomnia**

Sleepless Nights
Exhausted Days

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

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

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

Qualified participants could receive compensation for incidental costs and travel.

**For more information, call (toll-free):**
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A Clinical Study for People with Schizophrenia

Seeking balance every step along the way

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

A clinical study is seeking volunteers diagnosed with schizophrenia. In order to participate, study volunteers should be:

- Between ages 18 and 65
- Diagnosed with schizophrenia
- Able to be treated in an outpatient setting

Participation in the study includes:

- 28 outpatient visits over 2 years, including visits every 6 months to an ophthalmologist
- FDA-approved investigational study medication
- Study-related examinations and health assessments

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

PCSD - Feighner Research
877-FOR-INFO (877-367-4636)

Asthma

Do you have both?

To find out about a clinical trial of an investigational inhaled insulin, call 619.409.1257

Transportation and compensation of up to $2,500 for your time are provided.
"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

Ger had passed.

"I learned how to fight right away, " he says."In the months I was there, I must have been in 20 or 30 fights. I had no choice. They will steal anything if they think they can get away with it. I saw them steal shoes right off the feet of other guys. They will try to push you around, or worse. And people fight all the time, and for any reason. You can get punched for giving somebody a bad look, for brushing against someone by accident, things like that. I didn’t go looking for fights, I didn’t have to. There was always somebody who wanted to fight.”

When it came time for Carlos to leave the holding cell, he had already figured out from conversations with other inmates that, if he did not want to live in abject misery, he needed to “make arrangements with the guards.” That meant he would need to pay “rent” for a “good” cell. In his case, the “good” cell included a 19-inch color television set with rabbit-ears antenna, a small refrigerator, and a fan — all items he says were leftovers from when El Puéblito was destroyed. “Fortunately for me, I was lucky,” Carlos explains. “Everyone, including the guards, knew I was innocent. They believed me.” That was an important factor in acquiring a “good” cell: murderers are okay, as are drug dealers and armed robbers — but rapists and child molesters are untouchables, condemned to the most wretched of circumstances.

Carlos arranged for his “rent” payment by telephoning his brother and giving him the cellular phone number of a guard, and a specific day and time to call him. His brother called the number at the appointed time, and he and the guard agreed to rendezvous at a Burger King just a few blocks from the prison on Boulevard Diaz Ordaz. His brother paid the guard the one-time rent of $100, and Carlos was “assigned” to Building H-1, Second Floor, Cell 226.

It was in that 12-by-9-foot windowless cell with lime-colored walls and a concrete floor that Carlos would spend the rest of his time at La Mesa. The cell had nine bunks, stacked three high, one atop the other along three walls, like berths on a submarine — and 15 inmates. Six prisoners slept on the floor. Beds were assigned by seniority, so Carlos had to wait several weeks before getting one. “I spent most nights scratching from the fleas,” he recalls. “The first few days, I scratched so much that in the mornings my arms and neck were bloody.” When he finally got a bed, he says, he had to “rent” a mattress from the guards — which was really just a large rectangle of foam rubber. Bed linens and blankets were provided by family members who visited him on Sundays.

On his first day in the cell Carlos was introduced to “El Cabo,” (“the chief”), a convicted drug-trafficker named Abel. Abel, 47, was serving a sentence of seven years. Police said they had found more than 600 pounds of marijuana in Abel’s truck. El Cabo arbitrated disputes.

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
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Turn Grief Into Gold!

We need you for our research examining investigational medications for sleep. Volunteers sleep in our private, modern rooms, “wired” to our recording equipment (not much fun!), but are fairly compensated (the fun part!). We really recognize the value of volunteers. Our range of studies provide programs that vary in length and number of sleepovers; usually, for each study, the more frequently you sleep in a lab the more you are compensated. You cannot be a drinker or use drugs – we test. Call us now to complete a short phone or e-mail survey, and get listed as a compensated volunteer.

Call: 619-294-4302 • www.prnbsd.com
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Well-known pharmaceutical companies are conducting important research studies for a limited number of qualified participants.

Schizophrenia

Outpatient Research Study

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made the rules — and enforced them. “First he tells me, ‘This is a rented cell, and we can kick you out anytime. Remember that.’ Then he explained the rules: Don’t get caught stealing. Everyone has to bathe at least once a day. No talking during his favorite TV shows. Break the rules and they will punish you or kick you out. Then he says, ‘Go take a shower.’

Carlos says the tiny bathroom in his “rented” cell was only a small improvement over what he had experienced in the holding cell. “It was about three-feet-wide by one-foot-deep, with a faucet. The toilet bowl was made of cement, and you flushed it with a pail of water. There was no shower, no hot water. We used 20-liter buckets. We filled them up and dumped them over our heads. There was no privacy, and you had to hurry. No more than three minutes to bathe. There was water for only about three hours in the mornings, from around seven to ten, so we filled up as many buckets as we could before they turned off the water.”

The television, a luxury item found only in a few cells, was on from 6 in the morning until lights out, around 11:00 p.m. Among the favorite programs of the hardened criminals inside, according to Carlos, were two novelas, or Mexican soap operas — El Rebelde (“The Rebel”) and La Madrastra (“The Stepmother”). Following the destruction of El Pueblo, one of the “reforms” instituted at La Mesa requires prisoners remain in their cells all day — except twice a week one week and once a week the following week. During these alternating periods outside their cells, which last about two hours, prisoners are allowed to roam the prison’s dirt courtyard, where there are public telephones and a handful of vendors selling tortas (Mexican-style sandwiches), flautas (rolled tacos), and soft drinks. “The food was so-so, but compared to what we were fed every day, it was excellent. A torta cost 25 pesos; a soda 10 pesos.”

For 15 pesos, says Carlos, prisoners could get a haircut. Once a week, in Carlos’s case on Sundays, prisoners were allowed outside the cell to see visitors — if they had any. “Guys who did not have visitors were the worst off,” he says. “They had no money, no way to get the stuff they need to survive.”

Carlos’s family and friends provided him with about 20 dollars a week in vales, which he says put him in the upper-middle class in the prison’s economic hierarchy. “I was really pretty well off compared to the other guys,” he says. “I had my own cha-cha (an insulting term derived from the word muchacha — girl — but without sexual connotations. A cha-cha in normal circumstances refers to a woman hired to do housework). He watched my back, took care of my things when I left the cell, looked out for me. I paid him 25 pesos a week and brought him a pack of cigarettes every Sunday, sometimes toothpaste or soap or toilet paper.”

His new roommates

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were unlike anyone he had ever associated with before in his life, says Carlos, who until his arrest, had never had any run-ins with the law, not even so much as a traffic ticket. Inside La Mesa, prisoners are not segregated based on those who have been convicted and those who are awaiting trial, nor by seriousness of offense or whether the charges are federal or state crimes. “I met a lot of really bad people in there,” he says. “Fernando planned a bank robbery and got caught. He had a shootout with the cops, and was convicted of murder because a passerby was killed. José Luis was in for 25 years for kidnapping, drug-trafficking, and killing people for money. He said he made as much as $20,000 a killing. Of the 16 guys in my cell, I would say six or seven of us were innocent; the rest, no. You had to be very careful with these guys. If you were not in your bunk, you had to step over people on the floor. There was not a minute of peace. There was always noise. You had to stay on the lookout; had to sleep with one eye open. You never get any rest.”

After a month or so of being cooped up in the cell, Carlos discovered he could also “make arrangements” with the guards to get a prison job that would allow him to get out of the cell every day. Again, his brother met a guard — this time outside a movie theatre in Plaza Carrousel, a shopping mall about a mile from the prison — and paid another $100 “fee.” The following week, Carlos received his “orange vest,” which identified him as a trusty. He was put to work as a servidor — a “servant” — whose job was to sweep, mop, empty trash, paint, and do minor construction work. After a short time, Carlos was promoted to the position of notificador (notifier), responsible for notifying other prisoners of court hearings, visits by their lawyers, and serving court papers. He was paid with “a thank you,” he says, and the privilege of not being confined to his cell every day.

Eventually, however, Carlos decided the relative safety of the cell was a better option. “People are constantly asking you for favors,” he says. “One time I had to go to Cell 126, the one where they put all the gays. When I opened the door, this one gay guy — a real queen — jumps past me and runs out of the cell. I ran after him and caught up with him at cell 104. He is already inside and I see him go up to this big cholo — this guy had tattoos all over his body, big muscles, super-macho —
and this queen plants a big kiss right on his lips. The other prisoners in the cell just acted like everything was normal. I took the gay guy back to his cell. I didn’t say anything to him, but I realized how dangerous it was to have keys to the cells. If you refused to do favors for some guys, they wanted to fight or they would say they were going to have you killed. I saw a lot of people shooting heroin or crystal, or smoking pot. The guards sold it to them. I always had this feeling that something was going to go wrong any minute, and I was going to be in even more trouble. I didn’t like it. I decided to turn my vest in and go back to the cell. I didn’t want to take any chances.”

Carlos began to read to pass the time. He says he read the Bible in its entirety, and an odd collection of other material he said was passed from inmate to inmate: The Diary of Anne Frank, Chicken Soup for the Soul, Think Like a Millionaire, and Who Moved My Cheese? He also began to pray the same words quietly over and over while lying on his back: “Help me God, help me,” and to wear a white, plastic rosary around his neck that had been given to him by a nun his first day in prison.

Carlos’s journey to La Mesa began on Halloween Night 2003 on Avenida Revolución in downtown Tijuana, although he did not know it at the time. A strikingly handsome woman caught his eye—a “real Barbie,” he says — and he struck up a conversation with her. She was in her early 20s, thin, with black hair that fell just below her shoulders. Three weeks earlier, his wife of six years had left him, taking their four-year-old daughter with her to live at her mother’s house near the Otay Mesa border crossing. Carlos turned his life around in the one-bedroom apartment he rented for $30 a month in Colonia Hidalgo, a lower-middle-class neighborhood not far from downtown. “We just didn’t love each other anymore,” Carlos of the breakup. “We didn’t hate each other. It was more like indifference. That’s what it was: indifference. We just didn’t care about each other anymore.”

When Carlos spotted the sexy young woman on Avenida Revolución, he was on the prowl for female companionship — and she was available. He and the young woman flirted, exchanging suggestive glances and come-hither smiles. Soon, Carlos approached and introduced himself, and they sat down together on a street-side bench. “We just sat there and talked, maybe for an hour or so. She told me she was a waitress at a bar; her name was Sonia.” Later that night, in a coincidence he later came to believe was “the wheel of fortune turning downward on me,” Carlos found himself waiting at a collective taxi stop for a route taxi home — along with the “waitress” he had met earlier that night. He lived in Hidalgo, she in La Cima. The neighborhoods were on the same taxi route.

They talked some more, laughing at the chance second encounter. She told him that she lived with her mother, and that she, too, had just ended a long-term relationship.

Long story short, Carlos ended up inviting her to live with him two weeks later. She told him that she did not get along with her mother, that her father had crossed into the US years earlier, his wife, Braces, Bonding, Whitening, Veneers, Crowns, Root Canals, Dentures, Implants, Oral Surgery. Strict OSHA sterilization. USA laboratory and materials. English spoken. Insurance, credit cards accepted. Free checkup and X-rays. Less than 1 minute from border. Next to Costco Rio Zone. Free secured parking. 619-446-6345; 011-52-664-685-7020 www.dentistatijuana.com


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She did things my wife would have left her, “ says Carlos. “But at first I didn’t care. I was an idiot. Friends told me not to mess with that kind of woman, but I didn’t listen. By the time I realized how bad the situation was, it was too late: I was in love with her. I told her I would get out. And I slapped her across the face. But I swear to you, that was the only time I ever touched her. We had arguments, a lot of them, always about the same thing, and she left me a couple of times. But she always came back. The week before she had me arrested, I told her she had to go — that she was never going to change. The next thing I know she was in the bathroom, slitting her wrists with a razor. Me and a neighbor had to take her to a clinic. "The doctor told Carlos that the self-inflicted injuries were superficial.

During the course of his ill-fated love affair, Carlos shared his problems with a priest and a friend from work — but otherwise kept the relationship a secret. Both, who would later testify on his behalf, told him to get out of the relationship immediately. But as one witness said in court, “He did not listen. He was really sweet on her.” Sonia — who also used the aliases Erica, Jennifer, and Marisol — quickly became jealous of his continuing relationship with his estranged wife. Carlos made it a point to visit his daughter every weekend, often spending hours in the park on Sunday afternoons with his little girl and his ex-wife. He called his daughter every day, and gave his wife $50 a week in child support. His wife called him often — whenever a problem arose with his little girl, or to arrange the details of his next visit. According to the testimony of his ex-wife, she began receiving calls on her cellular phone a few months into Carlos’s relationship with the prostitute: “She said, ‘I am his wife now; you better leave us alone.’ Three days before his arrest, Carlos’s prostitute girlfriend called his ex-wife again, this time with a threat: “If you don’t stop calling him, if you don’t leave us alone, you will see what I am capable of.” Neither Carlos nor his ex-wife took the threat seriously. They should have.

On the morning of June 10, 2004, at about 9:00 a.m., Carlos received a call on his cellular phone from his now-estranged girlfriend. They had not seen or talked to each other for three or four days. She asked him to meet her at Sanborns Restaurant at 8th Street and Avenida Revolucion in downtown Tijuana. “She told me she was going back to Sonora, that she wanted a final goodbye,” he recalls. Carlos agreed to meet her. Moments after
pulling into the parking lot outside the restaurant, he says he was started by someone knocking hard on his car window. “This guy was pointing a gun right at my head,” says Carlos. “He says, Get out of the car, I thought I was being hijacked or kidnapped. But as soon as I got out, I was handcuffed. There was something like six guys. They put me in the back of a black Suburban and took me to the Ministerio Publico. I kept asking, What did I do? What did I do? They just told me to shut up. You can’t imagine the panic I was feeling.”

At the Ministerio Publico, Carlos was placed in a small interrogation room with white walls and bright florescent lighting, where he says he underwent “questioning” at the hands of the state judicial police, well known in Tijuana for their brutal techniques. A 2002 report by the Baja California state attorney general for human rights listed some of the most common techniques employed by Mexican police officers during interrogations: covering a suspect’s head with a plastic bag until he almost stops breathing; electrical shock; pulling out chest hairs and; tic bag until he almost stops; putting a plastic bag over suspect’s head with a plastic bag until he almost stops; and; slapping the suspect over the face, bam! They asked me, How long have you forced me, you can’t believe what was happening. This is just a nightmare.

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Carlos says he could not believe what was happening to him: “I kept thinking, this is just a nightmare.”
August 10, 2006

Reader

Taken before a judge at the interrogation, Carlos was true. None of it. “She was crazy,” said Carlos’s lawyer. “She told them that I kept her under constant surveil-ance. She told them that I kept her to be a prostitute, forced her over and over, that I had forced him watching her. Why not even go to the store with-out him watching her. Why was Carlos years to acquire. Later, when she was asked by defense attorneys about the robbery, she tes-tified that they were “gifts.” She also said that, when she was finished, she returned her set of keys to the apartment to the landlady. “How odd,” said Carlos’s lawyer. “She claims she was under con-stant vigilance, that she could not even go to the store with-out him watching her. Why to look into the matter. He reported back by telephone: “If you want to resolve the matter immediately, we need $10,000 tonight.” The money, he explained, would be used to pay off the police. Unfortu-nately, neither his family nor his friends could come up with that amount of money on such short notice. It was a crucial mistake: by the time the process was over, the cost of his “defense” would exceed $60,000, and Carlos would spend a long time behind bars.

“Well, it is a good thing he did not confess,” said the first lawyer his family hired. Obtaining a lawyer was not easy. Many Tijuana attor-neys have a policy of not accepting rape cases. As one lawyer said in turning down the case, “We all have daugh-ters or sisters.” The first attor-ney was dismissed by the family after only a few months. Although he was an expert in civil law, the family was not satisfied with his criminal work. The attor-neys finally retained to re-present Carlos were recom-mended by a prominent and successful Tijuana surgeon. “That’s the way things work in Mexico,” explains a fam-ily friend. “You need con-nexions. You need to know somebody who knows some-body. That’s the only way to be sure.” The new attorneys said they took the case because, after reviewing evidence and talking to Car-los, they were convinced of his innocence. Now they had to persuade a judge to share their view.

The criminal justice sys-tem in Mexico is very unlike that of the US. There is no right to a jury trial. Evidence is taken in a series of hear-ings in which the judge is not even present. The judge decides the case following the hearings, based on writ-ten transcripts. Although both the state and federal constitutions provide for a presumption of innocence, the truth is that the accused must prove he didn’t do it. As one of his attorneys said when asked about the con-stitutional guarantee: “Those are just pretty words on a piece of paper. They don’t mean anything.” The law also provides that prosecu-tors may drop the charges if it is clear that the defendant is innocent. “But they never do, they never do,” said the attorney. “It just doesn’t work that way in Mexico.”

During the hearings, the accused is brought from the prison next door with other inmates who also have hearings before the same court. They sit on a bench awaiting a turn, walled in
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HEALTH AND BEAUTY

It is a question of who the judge is going to believe.”

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I typically work weekends, when the gringos come in droves. There is an entire section of the city (in the neighborhood known as la Zona Norte) devoted to sex tourism.

At one of the bars where Sonia worked before she knew Carlos, “service” was provided on site in cuartitos (little rooms) equipped with a bed. Customers are given a condom and a towel, and can bathe afterwards in a shower down the hall. At the bar where Sonia worked at the time of Carlos’s arrest, prostitutes take their clients from the bar to an adjoining hotel. Clients are handed a towel and a condom at the reception desk, and pay $11 for the room. After 20 minutes, hotel workers come pouding on the door indicating that time is up. It is customary to leave a small tip — around $2 — to the person who will clean the room afterwards. The women also receive a small commission on the room rental, as well as whatever “fee” they arranged with their client — usually between $40 and $80, which goes in their pocket. “Living off the proceeds of prostitution” is big business in Tijuana, no matter what the law says.

Also entered into evidence on Carlos’s behalf were a series of letters. His employer wrote that Carlos regularly attended on weeknights from 7:00–9:00 p.m. until mid-April. Character references were provided by three Catholic priests, two journalists, and the director of a woman’s shelter. Carlos was cool to have a prostitute as a lover, to live a forbidden life. I surrendered to that evil inside myself. It was my own fault. It was my own choices that led me to prison. "It was the sex. Plus I thought you know somebody. Carlos is a very peaceful man. And he did not want me to work. He was the provider, and he was a good one, a good father.”

Gabriela attended every hearing, and, every Sunday without fail for ten months she visited Carlos. It meant leaving her mother’s house around 3 a.m. and waiting hours in line outside the prison, sometimes in the rain. She was the one who brought the $20 Carlos got from family and friends each week. She brought him clean clothes, water, and orange juice, too. She stayed with Carlos the entire day, from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. He would rent a space in the shade for them inside La Mesa, but, during their visits, they were provided by three Catholic priests, two journalists, and the director of a woman’s shelter. Carlos was my fault. It was my own choices that led me to prison.”

From the outset, Carlos’s lawyer. “These are not bribes. These told his family.” Only a nerd his attorney told his family.”

During those visits, she would talk much about what happened between them inside La Mesa, but, after Carlos’s release, they got back together again.

Months began to pass with no action in Carlos’s case. A gringo friend for whom Carlos worked part-time was funding his

We do not pay bribes,” said the lawyer. “These are not bribes. These are gratificaciones — bonuses.” I was cool to have a prostitute lover, to live a forbidden and secret life. I surrendered to that evil inside myself. It was my own fault. It was my own choices that led me to prison.”

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Months began to pass with no action in Carlos’s case. A gringo friend for whom Carlos worked part-time was funding his
defense — Carlos calls him el señor del cielo (the man from heaven) — but the gringo was becoming unpleasantly impatient with Mexican justice, and began to balk at paying the skyrocketing legal expenses. About every two weeks the lawyers would call the gringo saying they needed to meet with him immediately, that there had been an important development. It always meant, “Bring us more money.” The lawyers were not at all clear about what the money was paying for, but after the gringo threatened to throw in the towel and to turn off the money spigot, the lawyers gave him a written guarantee that they would spring Carlos from prison. “We do not pay bribes,” said the lawyer. “These are not bribes. These are gratificaciones — bonuses.”

Finally, in April 2004 — more than nine months after his arrest — Carlos was notified that no more testimony would be taken in his case. His last hearing was scheduled for April 28 at 11:30 a.m., at which time the prosecution and the defense would offer their “conclusions” to the judge — in writing. The only thing that happened at the hearing was that Carlos was asked to sign the transcript of the defense’s closing arguments. That was it. The case was now before the judge, who, by law, had to render his decision by May 9. There was nothing to do but wait. The defense attorneys said they were “100 percent sure” that Carlos would prevail.

And prevail he did. The judge acted quickly, rendering his decision shortly before 5:00 p.m. on May 3, 2004: not guilty of rape; not guilty of living off the proceeds of prostitution; guilty of simple battery, because Carlos had admitted in court to slapping Sonia. Carlos received a sentence of four months, but since he had already served ten months, the judge ordered his immediate release. But it was still not over. It took prison officials nearly 24 hours to comply with the judge’s order. They cited spelling errors in the release document and sent it back to the judge’s clerk. She corrected the errors and sent it back to the prison.

There was also the five-day period in which the prosecution could appeal the judge’s decision (in Mexico, the prosecution can appeal an acquittal). If the prosecutor filed an appeal within the five-day period, Carlos would be re-arrested. After five nervous days, the ordeal ended. The prosecutor did not appeal, and Carlos is a free man. He and his wife live together with his daughter, now 5, who just started kindergarten. Carlos put her in a private, Catholic school. In addition to working full-time, Carlos is taking an evening computer class. It took a while, but Carlos seems to have almost completely recovered from the trauma of prison. He says he has forgiven Sonia for what she did to him, but still is struggling to forgive himself: “Before all this, I was a very conceited person. I lived by my own rules. After I had been locked up for a while, after I had been pushed to the ground and humiliated, I began to search my soul for answers, to see if I could figure out how I had ended up in this hell. What I found was a battle between good and evil inside myself. It is the evil within us that is our worst enemy. We can choose for ourselves: good or evil. I suffered horribly, but I understand why. This was a lesson sent to me from God.”

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Ropers

“Where is that Carter?” said one of the men in the roping arena behind Jeff Moore’s ranch house in Brawley. Tuesday was a regular practice night for Carter Taylor, Moore, and other team ropers. This week in particular, in early November, they were getting ready for the Cattle Call, the Imperial Valley’s annual rodeo.

“Late,” said another.

“Probably working,” a third one said.

“Yeah, he's working and I'll be going along later,” said Moore. “Hey, somebody open the gate down thar for them steers!”

“Got it,” a woman’s voice came back from the far end of the arena, 100 yards away. Under the lights, one could make out the forms of young cattle waiting in front of the stripping chute to have the ropes taken off their heads and heels. That done, the steers were chivvied back into the starting gate where two ropers, a header and a heeler, would give each one a lead of 12 feet or so, then run it down and rope it, front and back.
Moore can be finicky and has had high words with a few of the ropers who’ve used his arena over the years; but he is generous, too, and genuinely liked for his patronage. Every Cattle Call, the Moore home is open to half a dozen ropers from out of town. He has friends over to the arena nearly every night, has sponsored competitions, and once had a former national champion down to give a roping class.

The national finals are the real payoff — some $2.2 million in prize money this year.

Moore, 52, is also the off-and-on teammate and steady supporter of young Carter Taylor, the local amateur whose goal is to win enough money to qualify for the national finals rodeo and have a shot at the championship. Moore and Taylor are entered to compete at the Cattle Call together as a team.

“That Carter Taylor’s probably about the best abused.

During the workout, the ropers hardly talked among themselves. Two phone calls reached the arena at its outdoor box. Moore’s wife and business manager, Joanie, trotted over to answer them. One of the ropers threw an empty cigarette pack on the dirt in front of Moore, who picked it up and handed it back with a low “Don’t do that.”
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Dr. John Goad, standing by the phone box at the arena. He had taken a break from practice to rest his back and have a smoke. Goad is 64, a retired ranch foreman whose voice seems to emanate from behind his clenched jaw. “Yeah, he damn sure knows how to heel,” said Goad.

“Course, that don’t say how he’s going to do outside. You got some punks out there that’ll outrove damn…”

Goad finished the remark with something I didn’t catch.

“They’re not cowboys anymore, they’re athletes,” he went on. “Punk-bastard’ll rope a steer in four, five seconds. They got timing, reflexes and all like top-conditioned ath-letes you’ll see anywhere. But understand, that’s all they do is rodeo. You take Carter and some of the guys around here, hell, they all got jobs. They’d starve before they beat most of these professionals.”

During this speech, Goad had taken a cigarette from his shirt pocket, put it to his mouth, reached back to the same pocket for the lighter, lit the cigarette, replaced the lighter and taken the cigarette away without interrupting a syllable. He stopped now to watch Moore and another roper gallop after a steer.

Back on the subject of athletes, he said some of the top money winners in rodeo are pretty much removed from ranch work. He recalled a friend who was a respectable saddle-bronc rider but who absolutely fell off a roping horse because he’d never mastered the basics of riding a tame animal.

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doctoring, and almost any ranch hand is familiar with it. That and the fact that roping is relatively safe explain why team ropers far outnumber bull riders. Ropers make less money, which is only right, but also have longer careers. The event attracts real cowboys who have grown up chasing cattle, as well as amateurs and pure athletes who compete for fun or profit.

As foretold, Taylor showed up at the end of the workout. He is of medium height and build, has longish curly hair, and is wearing his usual un-cowboy-like clothes: an old green baseball cap, round-toed boots, and a nonfiligreed belt buckle of ordinary size. At 29, he is married and is working his way into the family business of installing drainage pipes under farmland. Behind roping, his preferred sport is tennis.

Moore, Goad, and the others joined him at the side of the arena in the shadow of a pecan tree.

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He could see the steer in front of him bolting out of the chute, kicking up clods of dirt and making a sharp turn to the left as his partner roped its horns.

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O’Brien Cooper, Dennis Watkins, and David Motes — all among the current top money winners in competitions sanctioned by the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA). Hurley and Gatz had won $61,000 each; Barnes and Cooper $56,000; and Watkins and Motes $36,000. Each was thus on track to qualify for the national finals in December, a competition open only to the top 15 performers in team roping and each of the other rodeo events.

The national finals are the real payoff — some $2.2 million in prize money this year. A roping team can double its winnings for the entire year at one last rodeo. The team with the most winnings at the end is named world champion.

Meanwhile, the top teams travel around, competing with any and all newcomers. From the amateur’s point of view, that’s the beauty of professional rodeo: Any part-timers can test themselves against the best. Most of the teams that Taylor and the others were talking about were expected down for the Cattle Call.

When their mounts had cooled down, Jeff Moore and the others called it a night and walked the horses out of the arena. Taylor said goodbye and left; later, in his commodious ranch house, Moore ruminated on what it takes to be a top roper these days and on Taylor’s chances of making it. “He can rope,” said Moore, glancing at me with very blue eyes and a poker face. “He’s never had the financial backing. It takes money to travel, stay out on the road. And now he’s working for his dad, and that takes time.”

I asked him why he hadn’t tried to become a professional roper himself.

Moore smiled at Joanie, who was across from us in her new 78 San Diego Reader August 10, 2006.

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kitchen, stir-frying some chicken for supper. “I require a higher financial reward,” he said, which got a laugh from her. “I quit roping altogether for ten years when I was getting the business going,” he said. “You can’t do both.” In a while, the subject turned to how Taylor and roping,” he went on, “is that anybody can get hot. You get four, five steers in a row that you can handle. You start winning, get your confidence up, get a leg up on everybody. Of course, the best ropers are going to win by the end of the year. But you can be among the best if you’re patient and lucky. Your born on a cattle ranch. The valley has few ranches to be born onto. With the population boom that followed World War II, beef production in the Southwest was largely taken out of pasture and concentrated on the feedlot, where more cattle could be handled and more pounds added with less labor. Some cattle are still shipped to the Imperial Valley to pasture on sugar beets in the winter and alfalfa in the summer, but, thus, a handful of jobs remains for the herding of loose stock. But all of the other cattle are penned. Ranch-style horsemanship remains an important part of valley culture, but that’s all it is — culture.

Moore got along as a team. “If either one of us misses, the other one won’t say anything,” he said. “We don’t get down on each other. We each just try to do our best, but if that don’t happen, then…” He put his hands up in surrender. “The thing about breaks will come; you gotta be ready.”

Taylor feels he’s been getting ready since he was 14, when he picked up a rope at a horse-riding lesson. For a roper, 14 is late to be learning to ride a horse, but Taylor never had the babe-in-the-saddle training of someone...
started practicing all the time, roping whatever was handy. When he didn’t have a rope in hand, he would practice in his head. “It got so that’s all I would think about, roping,” he said. “I’d be driv-ing down the highway and I could see…" He could see the steer bolting out of the chute, kicking up clods of dirt and making a sharp turn to the left as his partner roped its horns. He could see the head of his horse following the steer, pointing on its hip, feel himself whirling the noose above his head and flinging it roundhouse down at the crook in the steer’s right hind leg. The noose lay like a big trap on the ground for a half-second before the steer stepped into it as he pulled his horse up and drew tight on the nylon rope, winching it on his saddlehorn (wrapped in rubber to...
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Better grip the nylon) and drawing the steer’s hind feet neatly together like a roost on a spit.

Then I’d look out and see the road again,” he said.

When he was 22, Taylor spent four months in Saudi Arabia, making $3500 a month teaching an assistant to cut irrigation trenches. And while his pupil worked the trenching machine, Taylor lay in the track, alternating long periods of reading with smooth and vivid daydreams of roping cattle. “I came back and must have roped 30 steers without missing,” he said.

In the meantime, growing up, he’d had some other interests. He was on the tennis team in high school, played a little baseball, raced a dirt bike. For a time, he thought he wanted to become a working cowboy, before he saw how hard he’d have to work and for how little; and becoming a trucker had intrigued him too. But he always came back to wanting to earn his living with a rope.

The turning point came when he won a few dollars at a roping in Needles and was entered the next day in a dirt-bike race in Riverside. To make the start, he would have to drive half the night back to Brawley, unload his horse, load up the bike and drive another four hours to the track. He decided that night that if he were going to drive anywhere, it would be home to bed or to another roping.

It was clear by then that if he wanted to get ahead in rodeo he’d have to make the commitment to travel. He’d been told as much in a roping class he’d taken in Brawley.

“Get out of the valley,” said Taylor, summarizing the instruction.

In rodeo, as in most endeavors, the successful are blessed with the ability to slog. A local rodeo champion, Ron Crawford of Lakeside, often says of himself: “Even if I had the talent to be one of the best team ropers in the world, I couldn’t have done it. I couldn’t have done all the driving.”

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work week begins on Tuesday night with the preparations to leave early the following morning. He loads his gear in the pickup and horse-trailer and makes a few last calls to the computer at the PRCA in Colorado, confirming when and where he’ll compete. A rodeo heat is called a go-round, and at a major rodeo, the roper might compete in two go-rounds as far apart as Thursday and Sunday. Meanwhile, to make expense money for himself and the horse, he’ll drive day and night to San Diego from Fresno, miss his steer, and make money in his bread-and-butter competition, stopping at local jackpots, he might be able to win two or three times as much money. But he was too successful to compete anymore at the nearby jackpots, where his bankroll could take him. “I was winning lots of ropings, but I couldn’t get a start. It’s like I was just good enough to starve.” Finally, he had a plan to change that, quickly. He got a partner and they booked themselves into a nonsurgical alternative to liposuction.

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the finals of the International Pro Rodeo Association competition in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The IPRA finals is an open event, available to all who can pay their travel and entry fees. It would be like competing in the PRCA’s national finals, with big purses and publicity; and with any luck, Taylor could break through to a championship and perhaps then to the grumb-stake and confidence he would need to reach his goal. For this he risked the plane fare back to Tulsa. In a way, it was the big time. He was headed for a rodeo that was too far to reach by truck and trailer. He would leave his horse in Brawley and fly to the finals, just like a top money-winner. He left in high spirits, having never flown to a rodeo before.

But in the end, it was a bust. In two go-rounds, his partner missed the horns and Taylor missed the heels. They didn’t even get a time, much less any money.

Worse, Taylor had glimpsed how many good ropers are out there, a bare few even beginning to make a living. He’d also come up hard against one of his own limitations, his horsemanship. He’d been unable to handle the horse he’d borrowed. Horsemanship isn’t something you can improve on quickly, as you can a hitch in your throwing motion. Taylor had to face the fact that he if he were going to rope for a living, there would be no shortcuts. He’d have to go back to where he’d left off and work himself out of the bind by winning consistently on the regional circuit.

As the months went by, he won some and lost some and slowly slid into a funk. The insidious thing about sports is that when you’ve lost the best in yourself and are trying to grasp it again, you soon end up taking a pissed-off swipe at every beer you’ve ever drunk, at the stupid, the decent, and the innocent habits you have collected around yourself for amusement and protection. You’ve so beat up inside that after a while, you can’t even open the door without getting your foot in the way. “I just got really screwed up,” said Taylor, talking about his mechanics. “I’ve always had a real good motion. Smooth. No problems. Then all of a sudden, I couldn’t even throw the rope. I’d be missing everything. Then I couldn’t ride. My horse didn’t know what I was doing. And finally I just lost all my confidence. I was…”

He shook his head. He was standing at that moment in the Cattle Call arena where Jeff Moore, Joe Album, and a dozen other men and women were getting ready for the Exceptional Rodeo title the next morning for some 400 handicapped children from all over the Imperial Valley. Cold night air had settled here in the Imperial Valley. Cold...
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to travel to more distant competitions. One of these winters, he might make enough to leave the business for a summer and go to rodeos year-round. That's the year he means to place in the top 15 and go to the finals.

Taylor says his dad and wife are behind him, and he knows a young header in Colorado who might be the ideal partner. They met in March at a jackpot in Arizona, won some money, and went their separate ways. "We roped together real good, communicated good," said Taylor. "I've been meaning to call him up." I asked why he hadn't.

"Well, he lives back in Colorado," Taylor said. "That's kind of far to get together.

But if Taylor wins enough to afford to travel, would he call him then? "Yeah, well, there you go," Taylor said. "Truth is, I'm probably just scared.

This year's winter season began with a rodeo November 10 in Denver, followed the next day by the Cattle Call. Not long before midmorning on November 12, when Taylor and Moore were scheduled to compete, the arena had a hazy, humid feel about it. It was the Sunday slack time before the full-blown rodeo events of the afternoon, when the stands would be full of ticket-holders come to see the action of the clowns and the rough stock events, to listen again to the announcer's jokes, and to hear the cowboy band segue deftly from "Cotton-Eyed Joe" to a commercial for Copenhagen/Skoal tobacco. Now the arena was quiet and empty except for the tractor pulling a leveler around there for the taking. The times of the previous two go-rounds, which had taken place on Saturday afternoon and evening, were abysmal. The best time was 9.5 seconds. You could hear some of the athletes grumbling about the steers all veering to the left and crowding the arena wall before you could rope them, but run-down stock is something that good ropers see a lot of, and this morning's go-round included some of the best teams: Barnes and Cooper, Motes and Watkins among them.

"That leading time ain't gonna last two minutes," said Crawford, the Lakeside champ, who had come out just to see friends and take some pictures. A rodeo official emerged from the trailer...
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time was beaten by the first team to go at it. Then the new best time was beaten by the third team, Motes and Watkins, who put up 6.8 seconds.

The steers were as rough as advertised. Some were fast and outran any header who got a late start; others took off angling left toward the arena wall about 40 yards away so that the header had to beat it to the turn, then rope it, and give his header a shot before it stopped against the wall and stood dead as a sawhorse. On Saturday afternoon, two teams in the go-round had come up with no-times, and in the evening, out of nine teams, no-times were posted by five.

Here, on Sunday, number 19 got the best of Barnes and Cooper. Barnes seemed to have gotten a decent start, put rope on the steer, and turned it, but then it skipped sideways and out of Cooper’s rope. By the time Taylor and Moore came up, the ninth team to run, Motes and Watkins’s time was still the one to beat.

Taylor started to back his horse into the box, then had to wait while the handlers cleared the chute of a steer that had been loaded out of order. Number 2 was loaded up, the lead handler holding its head so the horns would clear the gate. Moore and Taylor settled in.

Number 2 got out fast and took a long lead on Moore, who made a late start. It had started toward the wall when Moore, his hat flying, finally cut it off and turned it down the arena. Maybe ten seconds went by before Moore could get off his shot. Caught, the steer swerved to face Moore while Taylor let fly at the heels coming around. The rope grabbed only one. The time was 15 seconds and 5 seconds added for one-legging. They turned around and left the arena slowly, with the hangdown look of people who feel they’re being watched, where actually they attracted hardly any notice, since they had finished well out of the money.

“Tell you what,” a disgusted Moore could be heard saying as he rode out. “It wasn’t Carter’s fault. I got out of there late. I was off the line by about a foot.” No one disagreed with him.

Taylor, back at the chute, smiled and said it didn’t matter. Moore said, “Well, I’m sorry, partner. He’s got a step on me. I heard that steer ran out an 18.2 on a team last night, and I should have been ready for him.”

“It don’t matter,” Taylor said. “I one-legged him anyway.”

They exchanged a few more words about the run, happy that they hadn’t given up on the steer when they’d known after the start they wouldn’t beat the best time.

Back at his trailer, while Taylor was unsaddling his horse, a fan walked up and reminded him that, technically, he’d done better than Barnes and Cooper.

“Yeah,” said Taylor, his voice flat with disappointment. “And the pay’s the same.”

“Tell you what,” said Moore, a few feet away. “We’re going back to the house and have a workout for some of the fellas who’ll be roping later on this afternoon. You about ready to go?”

Taylor was still handling tack at his trailer but turned around and said firmly, “I’m ready now.”

— Joe Applegate
'W' live in a really lazy society,' says author and photographer Kip Fulbeck. 'We want things to be cut and dried: 'This guy has a suit, so he must be a businessman' or 'This guy has tattoos, so he must be a biker.'

Questionnaires in school [instructed me to] 'check one box only.' I'm Chinese, English, Irish, and Welsh. Essentially, I had to pick either my mother or my father, which is not fair for a five-year-old.'

On Tuesday, August 15, Fulbeck will sign and discuss his new book Part Asian, 100% Hapa at Book Works in Del Mar, 2670 Via de la Valle, Suite A-230, Del Mar. Call 858-755-3735 or visit book-works.com.

Hapa is defined as a person "of mixed racial heritage, with partial roots in Asian and/or Pacific Islander ancestry." Of 1100 portraits taken of Hapas of various ages and ethnicities, 114 were chosen to appear in the book. Each person was asked, "What are you?"

"One kid from an elementary school in Poway asked, 'What do I write?'" Fulbeck recalls. "I said, 'Whatever you want. Whatever you think you are. And don't worry, anything you write is right.' He was Filipino, Mexican, and Irish, and he wrote, 'I'm a very little boy in the fifth grade that has no friends.'"

"One kid from Carlsbad had a hard look on his face. He was 14, but he looked 25. He wrote, 'I care about a girl, and I will never hit one.' You wonder what he's gone through in his life that would make him say something like that without any prompting.'

A girl whose ethnic background includes the Philippines, Yugoslavia, Norway, and Ireland wrote, 'I'm a girl, I'm American. I'm seven, I'm Hannah,' and drew a star. None of the children Fulbeck photographed under age 11 defined themselves by their ethnicity. 'Kids almost never talk about race; they talk about things they like and don't like.'

Fulbeck remembers a woman in Brentwood who had difficulty with the question. "This woman sat there with the blank sheet, and I urged her to start writing something. That didn't matter what it was. Fifteen minutes later she still hadn't written anything, and I said, 'Look, just try to put something down.' Three hours later I was packing up, and I told her I had to leave. She still hadn't written anything. She said, 'I can't do this,' and she was teary, and she put the paper down and left."

Most Hapas, according to Fulbeck, wrestle with their identity, especially when "race is always talked about in terms of black and white." One man wrote to Fulbeck by email: "I struggle between wanting to belong to an ethnic community and wanting to be 'the only one of my kind,' an exotic amongst my black and white friends. Now that Hapa identity and culture is on the rise, I no longer feel as special as I once did. Yet I now feel a new sense of belonging to something that, until recently, did not have a name."

"Some people are used to being the special one," says Fulbeck. "One woman from the Midwest said, 'You need to photograph me; you've never met anyone like me. I'm black and Korean.' She thought she was one of a kind. I said, 'I can't afford to come photograph you, and I have already photographed fifty people who are black-Korean mixes.' If you grow up your whole life thinking you're the only Hapa person around, and then you meet hundreds of others at once [at a photo shoot] — some people get really happy and excited, and some are turned off."

The Hapa community has met with opposition. "One guy sent a pseudoscientific journal about why it's bad for the human species to mix races. If you go back far enough, we're all African." Once, at a truck stop in Los Angeles 15 years ago, waiters would not serve Fulbeck and his girlfriend at the time, a Caucasian. When Fulbeck was the 2000 census that first allowed people to check more than one box [for ethnicity]." 1965 was somewhat illegal," says Fulbeck. "It was the 2000 census that first allowed people to check more than one box [for ethnicity]."

Like the majority of Hapas he has met, Fulbeck prefers the term to other existing labels. "I find the terms 'Eurasian' and 'Afro-Asian' to be offensive — they're so clinical. Saying that Eurasians are a model minority, that they are healthier physically — it's one step away from saying mixed-breed dogs are smarter. 'Hapa' feels a little more down home, a little more family. I learned it here, as a kid growing up in California." — Barbara

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**OUT & ABOUT**

**THE FASCINATING WORLD OF BATS**
Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, August 12
(SEE LECTURES)

**“Barney and Friends,”** children’s play presented Sunday, August 13, at 2, 4, and 6 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, Zona Río).
011-52-664-687-9630. (TIJUANA)

**“Mexico Son Encounter”** by La Chaya Quemaban and Los Caporros, a Mayan music group, presented Saturday, August 12, 8 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, Zona Río).
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011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

**Rock Concert** by Rata Blanca, Saturday, August 12, 9 p.m., at El Foro, Jai Alai Palace (Avenida Revolución).
619-734-2333. (PLAYAS DE TAJUÍA)

**Tijuana Cultural Center,** the center (CECUT) offers guided tours in Spanish and English of the historic building of Baja peninsula, Tuesday through Sunday, 10 a.m.—4 p.m. Cultural and artistic exhibits. Entrance fee is approximately $2 (two-for-one entrance on Tuesdays).

Screening in the CECUT Omnimax: Viaje a la Luna, Bugs, Life, Fauna de la Naturaleza, Oceano Marino.
The center is located at Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, Zona Río. Showtimes and information: 011-53-664-687-9604.$50. (TIJUANA)

**OUTDOORS**

Ocean Water Temperatures have probably peaked for the season, with temperature readings as anomalously high as 80° occurring on some beaches in late July. Continued summer sunshine and gen-

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**Baja**

**Author** Carlos Fabián Sarabia reads from and signs his new book, Las Muchachas Sin Utiles Quieren Diversión, Thursday, August 10, 7 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, in Zona Río).
011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

**Mexican Son Encounter** by La Chaya Quemaban and Los Caporros, a Mayan music group, presented Saturday, August 12, 8 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, Zona Río).
020 U.S.
011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

**Rock Concert** by Rata Blanca, Saturday, August 12, 9 p.m., at El Foro, Jai Alai Palace (Avenida Revolución).
619-734-2333. (PLAYAS DE TAJUÍA)

**“Barney and Friends,”** children’s play presented Sunday, August 13, at 2, 4, and 6 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, Zona Río).
011-52-664-687-9630. (TIJUANA)

**Tijuana Cultural Center,** the center (CECUT) offers guided tours in Spanish and English of the historic building of Baja peninsula, Tuesday through Sunday, 10 a.m.—4 p.m. Cultural and artistic exhibits. Entrance fee is approximately $2 (two-for-one entrance on Tuesdays).

Screening in the CECUT Omnimax: Viaje a la Luna, Bugs, Life, Fauna de la Naturaleza, Oceano Marino.
The center is located at Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, Zona Río. Showtimes and information: 011-53-664-687-9604.$50. (TIJUANA)

**OUTDOORS**

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Rippled, hot-tempered waves crash onto the San Diego shore as night falls. Sometimes on moonless or mist-covered nights, the moon’s pale light masks the sun’s heat, and coastal winds cool the air. Winds from the north- or southward movement of air masses bring on longest days and shortest nights, drying the tundra, but stealing the saúde of plants and animals. Early morning or late afternoon. After about a mile, the trail veers sharply right and emerges from its shaded forest. The Sweetwater Trail is currently best maintained near the Sweetwater Summit Campground, a county facility. This is where you can park your car and start a hike (or a tough mountain-bike ride for some of its stretches) eastward on the Sweetwater Trail. The trail has long been part of a regional trail system that will eventually consist of several linked county-wide paths. Eastward on the Sweetwater Trail. The trail has long been part of a regional trail system that will eventually consist of several linked county-wide paths.

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A Guide to Unexpected San Diego and Beyond | by Jerry Schad

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4pm – 5pm  Meet and Greet with NICK VERREOS
5pm – 6pm  Fashion Show

ALL NEW SEASON EVERY WED @ 10p
**Palm Walk, Offshoot Tours offers its monthly hour-long guided stroll exploring structure, growth habits, landscape value of palm trees, Saturday, August 12, 10 a.m., at visitors’ center. Free. 619-235-2211 (OFFSHOOT).**

**Asian Pacific Historic District Tours offered on second Saturday of each month, including August 12. Tours start at 11 a.m. at Chinese Historical Museum (404 Third Avenue). $2. Required reservations: 619-338-9888.**

**Diverse Plant Populations and Expansive Views, Rick Paul plans “occasionally strenuous” four-mile hike in Daley Ranch, Sunday, August 13, 8:30 a.m. Outing commences at 9 a.m. at Cougar Pass entrance. Bring water, wear hiking boots. Free. Reservations: 760-839-4680. (SECONDFIND)**

**San Diego River Walk hosted by Walkabout, Sunday, August 13. Moderate walk over flat, paved surfaces affords views of river and residences, starts at 4 p.m. at Mission Valley trolley station (behind Sammy’s Woodfired Pizza and Starbucks). Free. 619-231-7463. (SAN DIEGO)**

** discount**

**Ghost Tours led by “ghost hunter” Michael Brown around Old Town, Thursday-Sunday each week, 8-10:30 p.m. Stories “based on research and photos”; sites include Schillers Bookstore, Jolly Boy Saloon, Casa Machado, Whaley House, Seeley Stables, more. $19. 619-297-3100 (OLD TOWN STATE PARK).**

**Beginning Waltz featured at beginner-friendly dance, Friday, August 11, in room 207 of Casa del Prado. Lesson at 7:30 p.m., followed by mixers and open dancing for all ages (until 9:30 p.m.). Partners not required. 619-589-9956. Free. (BALBOA PARK).**

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**DANCE**

**Crossing Borders and culture, Hip-Hop is Everywhere presented by Eveoke Dance Theatre through August 13. Piece “celebrates the value and transformative power of our rich and meaningful urban culture” in Thenth Avenue Theatre (930 Tenth Avenue). Performances begin at 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Sunday matinee at 2 p.m. is one-act kid’s show, suitable for those under 12. Tickets: $20 general, “pay what you can” Thursday and Sunday one hour before curtain. 619-238-1153. (DOWNTOWN)**

**FILM**

**“Secret Machine,” Surf Aid International presents new Globe surf film — featuring pro surfers Taj Burrow, Yadin Nichol, Mark Occhilupo, Nathan Webster, others — Thursday, August 10, 7 and 9 p.m., at La Paloma Theatre (471 5th Avenue). $14. 858-496-6655. (OLD TOWN STATE PARK).**

**Big Red and the Zydeco Playmakers perform for Cajun/city dance hosted by Bon Temps Social Club on Saturday, August 12, at War Memorial Building (3323 Zoo Drive, at Park Boulevard). Lessons at 6:20 p.m., dancing from 7–10:30 p.m. $14. 858-499-0180. (SCOTTISH RITE CENTER).**

**International, Ethnic, open request dance night, Saturday, August 12, 8:30 p.m., at Folk Dance Center (4860 10th Street). $6. Dancing preceded by Mary Marshall and Steve Gould presenting slide show, video of underwater and island adventures at 7:30 p.m. (free). 619-281-5656. (BALBOA PARK, NORTHERN HEIGHTS).**

**English Country Dancing takes place every Sunday, 6-9 p.m., at Jean Hart Academy of Dance (Oak Knoll Plaza, 12227 Poway Road). Janet Arnold calls dances on August 13. Beginners’ instruction at 9 a.m. Free: 619-676-9371. (POWAY).**

**“SECRET MACHINE”**

**Thursday, August 10, La Paloma Theatre.**

**(SEE FILM)**

**“Luncheon Sails,” Sundays 1-4 pm. “Champagne Sunset Sail,” 7 days a week.**

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(Behind HomeTown Buffet)
The Surreal Psychological Thriller *Dopewriter*, starring Lucas Black, Peter Coyote, screens for Film Forum on Monday, August 14, 6:30 p.m., at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Free. 619-238-1083. (DOWNTOWN)


In Pursuit of the Elusive American Dream, Roger Weinberg's documentary *Waging a Living* chronicles day-to-day battles of workers attempting to lift their families from poverty. Observe film screens for Sunday Matinees on August 13, 2 p.m., at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Discussion follows. 619-236-5800. Free. (DOWNTOWN)

Peace Through Music, activist musician Michael Franti and his band in concert through Iraq, Palestine, and Israel documented in *I'm Not Alone*, being shown on Monday, August 14, 6 p.m., at Ocean Beach Recreation Center (4726 Santa Monica Avenue). Free. 619-225-1083. (OCEAN BEACH)

**LOCAL EVENTS**

**LECTURES**

"Andy Warhol's Dream America" examined by Ramon Hernandez for Insight Gallery talks on Thursday, August 10, 6 p.m., and Sunday, August 13, 3 p.m., at San Diego Museum of Art. Included in regular admission. 619-234-9153.

"The Serengeti" will host audience Q & A after "body of work" presentation. Free. (EL CAJON)

"Good Puppy!" San Diego Humane Society and SCPA event for pups "too old for standard puppy training" and for dogs already in the home. $25. Reservations: 619-344-1600. (MISSION VALLEY)

"I Know What Is History of This Art Form," says Cynthia Wright, for 12 O’Clock Scholar program on Monday, August 14, at San Diego Museum of Man. Free. 619-231-1000. (BALBOA PARK)

"New Plant Introductions of All Time" will be the topic when "body ornamentation artist" Cynthia Wright speaks for 12 O’Clock Scholar program on Monday, August 14, at San Diego Museum of Man. Free. 619-231-1000. (BALBOA PARK)

"Stop the Wavy Cycle!" after Walter Holuch speaks on Tuesday, August 15, 6 p.m., at San Diego Humane Society.

**GREEN FLASH**

**OUT & ABOUT**

**Amado**

"Three Books I’m Glad I Read but Wish I’d Written," journalist David Moyer reveals his list — which includes books by Todd Standage, D. P. and N. R. Barash, and Steve Turner — for Humanist Fellowship on Sunday, August 13, 2 p.m., at Reuben H. Fleet Science Center. Free. 619-236-5800. Free. (DOWNTOWN)

"The Fascinating World of Bats" explores bats and bat conservation or to screen for the cinematic Electric Company. Free. 760-602-6500. (CARLSBAD)

"The Life and Times of Marine Cores and Dredged Rocks: More Than a Century of Collecting at Scripps" presented by Richard Norris and Warren Smith for "Perspectives on Ocean Science" series, Monday, August 14, 6:30 p.m., at Birch Aquarium-Museum (2300 Expedition Way). Free. 619-534-7711. (CARLSBAD)

"The Five Greatest Astronomical Discoveries of All Time and the Five Greatest Astronomical Questions Today" illuminated when astronaut Rich Burress speaks, Tuesday, August 15, 2 p.m., in Township Room Escondido Public Library (239 South Kalmia Street). Free. 760-750-4020. (ESCONDIDO)

"Stop the Wavy Cycle!" after Walter Holuch speaks on Tuesday, August 15, 6 p.m., at San Diego Pathway Bookstore (300 Carlsbad Village Drive, suite 107). Free. 760-505-0004. (CARLSBAD)

"Irish Emigration and Passenger Records" discussed by Mary Russell when Irish interest class hosted by British Isles Genealogical Research Association gathers on Wednesday, August 16, 10:30 a.m., at Family History Center (419 Camino del Rio South). Free. 858-455-9053. (CARLSBAD)
“Downtown Summer Sounds,” Skelpin plans free concert, Friday, August 11, 6 p.m., at Trolley Barn Park (1900 Adams Avenue). Bring chairs. Free. 760-414-0347. (EAST HILTON HEAD)

Summer in the Park concert series features oldies by Clyde and the Moonlighters, Friday, August 11, 7 p.m., in amphitheater at Community Reformed Church (777 West Felicita Avenue). Art by local artists on display. Free. 760-746-1322. (EUCLID)

The Backyard, concert series continues with performance by Chris Hobson and Carrie Covell, Friday, August 11, 7 p.m., in amphitheater at Community Reformed Church (777 West Felicita Avenue). Art by local artists on display. Free. 760-746-1322. (EUCLID)

S.W.M., (a.k.a. Song Writers in Motion) convene for open-mike showcase on Friday, August 11, 9 p.m., at Egyptian Tea Room (4844 College Avenue). Free. 619-265-7287. (SANDY)

Luiseño Storyteller Cathleen Chilcote Wallace and tribal flute player Brandon Wallace present traditional Native American stories on Saturday, August 12, noon, at Agua Hedionda Lagoon Discovery Center (1580 Cannon Road). Listens for tales of coyote, raccoon, cottontail, mole. Free. 760-804-1969. (CARLSBAD)

Cross-Genre Romance Author Samantha Sommersby signs her new vampire novel Forbidden: The Claim, and Still of the Night, Saturday, August 12, 2 p.m., at Mystery Galaxy Books (7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard). Free. 858-268-4747. (CLAIREMONT)

The Musical Melodies in the Park, the story of Esther, presented by summer music and drama camp on Saturday, August 12, 4 p.m., at Village Community Presbyterian Church (6225 Paico Delicias). Free. 858-736-2441. (ESCONDIDO)

“Anomas — A Night of Movement and Sound,” Saturday, August 12, 8 p.m., Arts and Entertainment Center (3026 University Avenue). Tickets: $10 before 10 p.m., $15 after, benefiting Umoja City Village: 619-260-1731. (SUN VALLEY)

Author James Christ discusses, signs Mission Raise Hell, Sunday, August 13, 4 p.m., at Adelaide Clark Library (1201 Adelaide Clark Drive). Free. 619-265-7287. (SANDY)

“Art Czar” signed, discussed by author Allice Marquis, Thursday, August 10, 6:30 p.m., at Warwick’s Bookstore (7812 Girard Avenue, 858-454-0347). Free. (LA JOLLA)

Do You Believe in Ghosts? New Village Art Theatre presents Hamlet for its fifth annual Shakespeare in the Park productions, August 11–13 and August 18–20, on lawn at La Costa Canyon High School (3451 Camino de los Coches). Performances begin at 7:30 p.m. Bring blankets, sweaters, picnic. Free. 60-433-3245. (LA COSTA)
Open-Mike Poetry Readings, Monday, August 14, 8 p.m., Twigg Tea and Coffee (4590 Park Boulevard), Free. 619-296-0166. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

“Part Asian, 100% Hapa,” author and photographer Kip Fulbeck dishes up Asian Pacific Rim mixed-heritage. Find shop in Flower Hill Promenade, 2670 Via de la Valle, Free. 858-755-3755. (DEL MAR)

Twilight in the Park summer concert series features Harvey and Street Light Sunday, August 14; Sweet Adelines on Wednesday, August 16; and City Ballet on Thursday, August 17. Concerts run from 6:15–7:15 p.m. in Spreckels Organ Pavilion, Free. 619-239-0152. (BALboa PARK)

Green Flash Seaside Summer Concert Series continues with concert by Eve Sely, Wednesday, August 16, at Birch Aquarium-Museum (2300 Expedition Way). Watch for green flash at 7:41 p.m.; music sets begin at 6:45 and 7:45 p.m. Aquarium docents on hand to answer questions about marine life and exhibits. Food (for sale). $15. For those 21 and older. Reservations: 858-534-4109. (LA Jolla)

Don Your Favorite Luchador Mask and bring your poems and paintings to San Diego Art Institute, Museum of the Living Artist (1439 El Prado) for Poetry and Art open mic and readings. Wednesday, August 16, 6:30 p.m. Expect spontaneous creation of a painting or poem with attendees present. A lucha-nova rehearsal, reading, more. Admission: “Tudos y Tecnicos, Poemas, Paintings, and Filedevers” is $5. 619-957-3264 or 619-239-0152. (BALboa PARK)

“Expression Libre,” literary series continues with reading by Casandra Druger, Wednesday, August 16, 7 p.m., Chicano Park Morgan Street. 616 (National City Boulevard). Open-mike readings follow feature readings. Donations accepted. 619-474-7375. (RIVERSIDE CITY)

Gypsy Jazz! The John Jorgensen Quintet performs for AcousticMusicSanDiego, Wednesday, August 16, 8:30 p.m., at Normal Heights United Methodist Church (4600 Manfeld Street). Tickets: $25, $35. 619-503-8176. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

Pads head back to Petco Park to host San Francisco Giants, August 14–17, at 7:05 p.m. Mondays, Wednesday, Tuesday, 7:05 p.m. at Petco Park. Tickets: 877-374-2784. (EAST VILLAGE)

The San Diego Surf Dawgs baseball team hosts Fullerton Hawks, August 11–13, at games at 7:05 p.m. on Friday, 6:05 on Saturday, 1:05 on Sunday at Tony Gwynn Stadium (San Diego State University). Tickets: $12–$25. 619-303-7500. (EAST VILLAGE)

SPECIAL

“Ilitalia Mia — Real Photos by Real People” continues through September, Saturday, August 16, at Italian Cultural Institute (2300 Expedition Way). Tickets: $12. 619-583-0361. (SAN DIEGO)

The most complete guide for catering! 619-296-4276.

“Myth in the Modern World!” $35. 619-682-7115. (LITTLE ITALY)

“Put 60 Candles on the Cake!” Carvin celebrates 60th anniversary of making musical instruments with factory tours, appearances (P.O.D., Stevie Vai, Allan Holdsworth), performances (Off Track, Social Green, C.A.B., Steve Oliver, Oguz Chagiac, others). Events run 10 a.m.–6 p.m. on Saturday, August 12. Find Carvin at 1240 World Trade Drive; 858-487-1600. Free. (MIRA MESA)

22nd Philippine Cultural Arts Festival, Saturday and Sunday, August 12 and 13, 11 a.m.–7 p.m., at Park Boulevard and President Way. Festival hosted by Sanam Filipina-American Performing Arts and Education Center is showcase for traditional performing arts of Philippines, with folk dances from different regions, folk songs, martial arts, cultural exhibits, food (for sale). Admission: free. 619-444-7528. Free. (SAN DIEGO)

“Five Years, Five Chefs,” Macy’s School of Cooking celebrates fifth anniversary with cooking event, Saturday, August 12, noon. Chef Bernard Guillas, Riko Bartolome, Gain Kaywys, Jason Marcus, and Tony Valdiviezo will participate. Donation: $10. Find Macy’s in Mission Valley shopping center, 1555 Camino de la Reina. 888-424-3663. (MISSION VALLEY)
A Toast to Music, "unlimited tastings" from over 40 wineries, breweries, and restaurants promised, Saturday, August 12, 5–8 p.m., at East County Performing Arts Center (210 East Main Street). $40 per person, $75 per couple. Reservations: 619-401-8858. (EL CAJON)

Panama Family Day celebrated at San Diego Museum of Man — along with museum’s 90th anniversary — during family day activities, Sunday, August 13, 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Tours in Spanish and English of two Panama exhibits; participants make Panama bookmarks, sample “Panama punch” and rainforest cookies. Admission is half-price: $3 for adults, $1.50 for children 6–17. 619-239-2001. (BALBOA PARK)

Art in the Village, 200 booths with “every kind of art imaginable” by artists from all over the region on display, along with live music and food, outdoors in village of Carlsbad (at State and Grand) on Sunday, August 13, 10 a.m.–6 p.m. (CARLSBAD)

CityFest 2006, promising three stages with continuous entertainment, food and beverages (for sale), vendors offering all manner of goods, more — is Sunday, August 13, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. (HILLCREST)

Lemon Festival, Chula Vista celebrates its lemon-growing heritage, Sunday, August 13, 10 a.m.–5 p.m., at Third Avenue (from E to G Streets). Three stages with entertainment, dance, lemon pie-eating contest, children’s fun zone, arts and crafts, food, vendor booths. Free admission. 619-422-1982. (CHULA VISTA)

Sunset Food and Wine experience, Thursday, August 17, 5:30 p.m., at Bernardo Winery (13330 Paseo del Verano Norte). Wine tasting, gourmet foods and desserts, microbrews, chocolatiers. $40. 858-748-0016. (RANCHO BERNARDO)

Annual Taste of MainStreet International Food Festival — over 30 restaurants participate on Thursday, August 17, 6–9 p.m., live music, Rods and Woodies classic car show (on Coast Highway between D and G Streets). Tickets: $20, available at 818 South Coast Highway 101. Reservations: 760-943-1950. (ENCINITAS)

“Beyond Superheroes and Sidekicks: Alternative Comics from SDSU’s Special Collections” continues through Friday, August 18, in Special Collections and University Archives at San Diego State University Library.

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Who can benefit from treatment?

New Treatment Information for People in Early Meth Recovery
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Reading

What It Used to Be Like: A Portrait of My Marriage to Raymond Carver

By Maryann Burk Carver
St. Martin’s Press, 2006, $25.95, 368 pages

The result is a breathtaking memoir of a marriage, replete with an intimacy of detail that fully reveals the talents and failings of this larger-than-life man, his complicated relationships, and his profound loves and losses. What It Used to Be Like brings to light for the first time Raymond Carver’s lost years and the “stories behind the stories” of this most brilliant writer.

WHAT THE CRITICS SAY:
From Kirkus Reviews: A letter-sweet account of the author’s hardscrabble life with her husband, the writer Raymond Carver. Divided into four decades, this memoir opens with her and her future husband’s first meeting in 1955 — she was 15 at the time — and moves on to their secret engagement, their marriage in 1957, and the births of their two children in 1957 and 1958. With a husband in college and two small children to raise, Maryann shelved her plans to become a lawyer and took on the task of ensuring that Carver would honor his talents as a writer. Their young family, she says, was not a burden on Carver, but rather his anchor, and it does seem that she supported him for years, while the circumstances they found themselves in gave the writer material for many of his gritty, realistic stories. In Sacramento, they lived for years on the edge of poverty; she as a waitress and he in mostly menial jobs while he slowly worked his way through college. The ‘60s brought Carver some recognition, but his youthful optimism was fading, as stability and economic security eluded his family. They were constantly on the move, with Carver never content and Maryann struggling to get her own college degree. She divides the ‘70s portion of her memoir into three threads that defined their lives then: teaching, writing, and drinking. Both drank, but for him, the drinking developed into a disease, and his writing died up for several years. The marriage devolved into physical violence, infidelity, separation, reconciliation, and divorce in 1982. Before that decade’s end, Carver was living with the poet Tess Gallagher, later to be his second wife. (He died from cancer two months after their marriage, at the age of 50.) Writing here, his first wife coasts the bad times with matter-of-fact reminiscences, relating her past more by expressions of love for her husband and admiration for his talent. Raymond Carver fans will welcome this up-close, very personal glimpse into the life of the talented but troubled writer.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Maryann Burk Carver married Raymond Carver when she was 16 and he was 19. They were married for 25 years and had two children, Christi and Vance. Maryann Burk Carver is a teacher living on Lummi Island in Washington state.

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Hand, Shadow, and Red Puppets from Asia used when Big Production explores The Wonderful World of Puppets Around the World through August 13 at Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theater. Next up: Rumpelstiltskin by Weaver’s Tales, August 16-20. Showtimes — 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Find theater near Aerospace Museum. Admission: $3 for children, $4 seniors, $5 general. 619-544-9203. (MADERA PARK)

Would You Repeat the Word? Score! Educational Center juggling for children 4-6 years old, Friday, August 11, 6 p.m., at Terrasanta Score! Educational Center, 16615 Terra Santa Boulevard, Regis- tration: 858-278-3316. (TERRASANTA)
Ease On Down the Road! The Wiz is presented by actors and crew of San Diego Junior Theatre through August 13 in Casa del Prado Theatre. Music and lyrics by Charlie Small. For ages ten and up. Curtain rises at 7 p.m. on Friday, 2 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Performance on August 12 is ASL interpreted. Tickets $9-31 adults, $7-30 seniors and children 13 and under. Reservations: 619-239-8358. (BALBOA PARK)

Stories Inspired by Paintings at Timken Museum of Art told by Haylnne Geisler, Saturday, Aug- ust 12, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. For those five and older. 619-239-5548 x15. (BALBOA PARK)

All Aboard! The Chula Vista Live Steam Club provides train rides,
Build an Eagle Glider with adjustable control surfaces during San Diego Aerospace Museum family day workshops, Saturday, August 12, at 12:30, 1:30, and 2:30 p.m. (sessions last 45 minutes). Included in paid admission.

12:30–2:30 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, August 12 and 13, at Balboa Park (4548 Sweetwater Road). Donation: 50 cents. Children under 48” must be accompanied by an adult. 619-421-5227.

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“Part of the reason that people loved Ray was that he dared to expose himself. People are drawn to that kind of honesty.”

1947. During one of the last conversations I had with Ray before he was diagnosed, I said that I was like Scarlet O’Hara. With my second marriage I started a lumber business.

“I waitedressed again from ’67 to ’71, and then, as I said, I did a lot of writing in the ’90s. Right now I work in a health-food store three days a week in Lynden, Washington. I’ve got another book writ-

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Reading
(continued from page 10)
quiet, and Ray said, “I’m just going to turn the car around right here if you’re going to be morose.” I realized that he counted on me to be verbal and enthusiastic. He counted on being entertained, and I wasn’t meeting my part of the bargain, so he was going to turn around and go home.”

“You are very forthright in the book about some difficult times. How did you resist the temptation to make things prettier than they were?”

“Well, Ray was the great example. We used to laugh about the double entendre when we’d discuss it, but part of the reason that people loved Ray was that he dared to expose himself. People are drawn to that kind of honesty. What comes out of it is the real, universal human condition. In a way, all our secrets are the same — as Gargor Lisich once titled a book.

“What are your children doing today?”

Maryann chuckles, “They’re both such good-looking children, if I do say so myself.

“Vance, who was at the reading last night, is heading to Baltimore next week to take a position at a private Catholic boys’ school. He’ll be teaching two classes of German and three classes of French.

“Chris, our daughter, is a happy girl in a lot of ways. She has her dad’s dark humor, though. She can see something funny in even the most god-awful circumstances. It’s just Ray all over again, and it’s delightful.

“She was a single mother with three children when she went to college. I’m so proud of her. She was a year and a half through a human services program at the college near her home in Santa Maria.”

“What in your childhood made you the tenacious 15-year-old we meet in the beginning of your book?”

“It was the women in my family. My grandmother was a teacher — a pioneer with five little children. She was a Victorian lady who never said a negative thing about anyone in the whole town I knew her. My mother and her sister went through college together and were both teachers, too. My father had three sisters, two of whom were teachers and the other was a nurse.

“My Aunt May ran a farm, single-handedly, and wrote five different newspapers for 58 years.

“All the women in my family were well educated at a time when most men didn’t go through the eighth grade. None of these women had money, either. They all worked to put themselves through school.”

“How do other women respond to your having stayed with Ray during the years of drinking and the difficult times?”

“When I did the reading in Portland, a woman made a sad remark about codependency. The fact of the matter is, codependency hadn’t been coined as a term when we were going through all this in the 1970s. The ethos when we were young was that you got married ‘till death do you part.’ I especially felt that way because my own parents had gotten divorced, and it caused such terrific pain in my life. I determined early on that divorce wouldn’t happen to me and my children. And, the truth of it is, they were both through high school before we did finally go our separate ways.

“I didn’t say this to the woman in Portland, but I wanted to, ‘I did finally leave him and claim my own life. Is that good enough for you?’

“When he died, the grief I felt was profound. It was as if I’d gone from a world of Technicolor to a world of black and white. Like I said, those were my glory days. I was young, I was able to always get a job, I was with the man I loved, and I had little kids I adored. Those were my glory days. I’ve had to reinvent myself and heal for many years before I could produce this book.”

— Jerry Miller

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

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ART LISTINGS

Events that are underlined occur after August 17.

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 8803, San Diego CA 92186. Or fax to 619-661-2401. You may also submit information online at SandiegoReader.com by clicking in the events section.

If it’s August, it’s SummerFest Time! La Jolla Music Society’s 2nd annual SummerFest continues through August 20. “Gypsy Songs and Dances” expected, Friday, August 11, 7:30 p.m., in Sherwood Auditorium. Also on tap: pieces by Moszkowski, Dvořák.

Wayne Shorter Quartet plays “Jazz at SummerFest,” Thursday, August 17, 7:30 p.m., at Stephen and Mary Birch North Park Theatre (3895 University Avenue).

Tickets and information: 619-459-3728. [LA JUNA, NORTH PARK]

Redlands Symphony Orchestra plans symphony pops concert for Fallbrook Music Society on Friday, August 11. Co-free Nguyen leads orchestra in pieces by Sousa, Rodgers, Rosini, Bernstein, Rachmaninoff, Wagner, Dvořák, Bizet. Concert on green begins at 7:30 p.m. at Grand Tradition (1062 South Mission Road). Tickets: $25 general, $5 for those under 12, dinner packages available. Reservations: 619-451-8644. [GROVE]

“Mother’s Greatest Hits with the Contours” and “Sinc Nomine” by John Weaver for 19th annual International Summer Organ Festival, Monday, August 14, 7:30 p.m., at Spreckels Organ Pavilion. Free. 619-702-8138. [BALBOA PARK]

GALLERIES

“Drawing (More or Less),” members of San Diego Drawing Group have exhibition of work on display through Friday, September 29, at Art Institute of California-San Diego (7600 Mission Valley Road); Meet artists during reception on Friday, August 11, 5 p.m. 858-598-1200. [MISSION VALLEY]

“15th Annual Juried Exhibition” at Athenaeum and Arts Library (1008 Wall Street) opens with (postponed) reception on Friday, August 11, 6:30 p.m. Jurors Stephanie Hanner and Roman de Sabo selected work by 21 artists who live or work in San Diego County. Closes Saturday, September 2, 8:58-434-5872. [LA JUNA]

“Translating,” with featured artist Alou Munniza continues through Sunday, September 3, at C.O.A.L. Gallery (300 Carlsbad Village Drive #101). Awards reception is Saturday, August 12, 2 p.m. 619-834-8497. [CARLSBAD]

Ray at Night, over 20 art venues showcase local art on second Saturday of each month, including August 12, 6–10 p.m., centered at Ray Street and University Avenue. Live music, food. 619-346-9346. Free. [NORTH PARK]

“Personal Reflections,” an exhibit with paintings by Anthony J. Cuban and Elaine Davis opens on Tuesday, August 15, with reception after August 17.

In the Offing:

“Raykulele Tiki Night,” interpretations of classic Hawaiian ukuleles by San Diego artists working in variety of media are on view at John Stewart Studios (3905 Ray Street) during Ray at Night Arts Walk, Saturday, August 12, 6–10 p.m. “Anything Goes” ukulele benefit auction is Friday, August 18, 6 p.m. 619-374-1135. [BALBOA PARK]

Paintings by Christopher Polenz are on exhibit through Saturday, October 7, at Distinction Artist Studio and Gallery (317 East Grand Avenue). Opening reception Saturday, August 12, 5 p.m. 619-781-5779. [DOWNTOWN]

56th Annual Juried Art Show hosted by Carlsbad Oceanside Art League continues through Sunday, September 3, at C.O.A.L. Gallery (300 Carlsbad Village Drive #101). Awards reception is Saturday, August 12, 2 p.m. 760-434-8497. [CARLSBAD]

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Taylor Hicks & More!
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Shakira
August 28

All games

San Diego Reader August 10, 2006

“Paymant of the Masters”
“Blues Man Group” Nov. 4

“Blue Man Group” Nov. 4

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August 28

All games

San Diego Reader August 10, 2006

“Paymant of the Masters”
“Blues Man Group” Nov. 4

“Blue Man Group” Nov. 4

“Paymant of the Masters”
“Blues Man Group” Nov. 4

“Blue Man Group” Nov. 4
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Finnestad wouldn’t be attending because he couldn’t afford a ticket, but he still saw Killah.

“I got a call that Killah Priest was staying at our friend’s house. They said if we could round up enough money, he’d play for us… My mom let me borrow $200, and another fan gave us $100.”

At 8 p.m. on July 31 (the last night Hot Monkey Love was open at its 5960 El Cajon Boulevard address) a deal was made. Two hours later, Killah Priest appeared and did seven songs over the beats he brought on CD. About 50 kids saw the show. “But there was a core group of about 20 who were really, really stoked on him being there,” says Finnestad.

Despite his affinity for the genre, Finnestad believes hip-hop artists who have ruined it for hip-hop is all about. “The commercial world of hip-hop has really distorted what real hip-hop is all about. It’s really unhealthy for society. A lot of young teenagers are strictly concerned with all the bling. They care more about looking the part of a rapper instead of actually delivering a positive word. They are running it for hip-hop artists who have an open mind. These are people who are more concerned with getting a hit — getting rich instead of helping people.”

After a litigious fight with his neighborhood, Hot Monkey Love owner Alma Felan anticipates her business’s relocation to the 6th and El Cajon Boulevard. The building most recently housed a church but was once a music store called Ozzie’s Music.

“I think Rolando [the neighbor] is much more open-minded…. I hope to be open by August 20. We went from 2000 square feet to 5000 square feet.”

Because parking problems created conflict, has Felan addressed the issue at the new location? “We are trying to negotiate with the Bank of America next door. We also have a couple of neighbors who will help out.” — Ken Leighton

Pacheco and fellow South Bay musician Oze (rhythm guitar) were asked to join P.O.D. as tour support. Though they’re not full-fledged members, they aren’t complaining. They’ve played Times Square on New Year’s Eve, appeared on Jay Leno’s show, traveled to New Zealand, and played the six-week Fall Brawl Tour (Staind, P.O.D., Taproot). The band played the Cornerstone Fest in July.

“It was like the Christian Woodstock in the middle of a [Illinois] cornfield,” says Pacheco. “It was a trip. I’ve played with hippie jam bands (Wise Monkey Orchestra, Psycedel), this was like a hippiefest, but with no drugs or nakedness. Instead they had prayer tents… A lot of Christians can be really hardcore. They can be really extreme. They hang on every word. They take what you say to heart.”

Were there questions about spirituality before Oze and Pacheco could go on the road with P.O.D.? “Yes and no,” says Pacheco. “I have to tell you, I would like to play with people who have standards and morals.” He says before P.O.D. took the stage before each show, “We would huddle up, say a prayer, and give thanks for being there.”

Regarding the forced departure of founding guitarist Marcos Curiel, Pacheco says P.O.D. long-timers “don’t ever talk about it. It’s kind of a touchy thing.”

P.O.D. sold three million copies of Satellite, the last album to feature Curiel. Fewer than a million copies of the follow-up CD (Testify) have been sold.

Pacheco blames Atlantic. “The label kind of dragged its feet on the release date. When it finally did come out, nobody could find it…. They didn’t support it.” Pacheco says that playing for P.O.D. is a lot different than playing with Psycedel.

“I learned there is a lot of red-tape politics with a major label…. When I first started, [lead singer] Sonny had never sung with anyone onstage. I was told by the road manager that I couldn’t stand next to Sonny. I do what they ask me to do.”

Pacheco sings the national anthem at Petco Park on August 19. P.O.D. will play after the Padres game.

— Ken Leighton

Offend in Every Way

“Parkway Plaza’s slightly overzealous mall security apparently thinks there’s something dangerous about guys handing out free CDs and flyers,” says Duff-O-Cide bassist Jay Sassin. “We were giving out our Don’t Munch a Duff EP, and there was no crowd, really. It was about 8:30 [p.m.], and we were walking around handing out for about half an hour. When we stopped to get a drink of water, this security guard asked us if we worked at the mall, and we said ‘no.’ Then he asked if we were selling our CDs, and I said ‘No, they’re free. Do you want one?’ He snapped back with a ‘no’ and then radioed to what he called ‘dispatch.’ … We had to leave the property immediately. He walked behind us as we left, handing out a couple more demos before we got to the door.”
Missourian drummer Alex Organ moved out late last year, the two started Sirhan Sirhan. Since December, Sirhan Sirhan (Blackmore, Organ, and bassist Mike Johnston) have played a Midwestern tour they booked themselves. Locally, they’ve played at the Casbah, Epicentre, Scoler’s Office, the Ken Club, and the Alibi. But the band has been silent for two months.

“One day in the third week of May, I woke up and my hand felt like it does when it falls asleep,” explains Organ. “The numbness and tingling kept progressing. I started moving down my left side. It was obvious something was going on. I went to the hospital. They didn’t know what it was…a stroke…HIV…” After six months, they got the tentative diagnosis. “They were 70 percent sure it was multiple sclerosis,” says Organ. Almost two months later, he got the phone call that confirmed the diagnosis.

“By spreading awareness and educating the people of San Diego about this growing concern,” reads their website, “we hope to decrease the Duff-to-average-male hook-up ratio and eventually eliminate Duff all together.” One angry e-mail response to the posting read: “Your page is hateful and hurtful. Please take some time and really think about this…Something tells me that you mean exactly what you say.” Lyrics to the song “Don’t Munch a Duff”: “Designated Ugly Fat Duff,” says Blackmore. “It’s diagnosed by process of elimination.” “I can pick up the phone, but I can’t tie my shoes,” says Organ, who gives himself shots of Copaxone and is on a healthy diet. “They say [Copaxone] has a 30 percent chance of warding off a relapse.”

Blackmore says the band recently resumed practicing and will eventually play out again. “We’re trying to devise a glove to enable him to hold the stick in his left hand.” Until then, they use duct tape. “That’s punk rock. We had to find special metal and plastic sticks that won’t break because if you break them in the middle of a song, he can’t just pick up a new stick.” — Ken Leighton

The “Waitress” and “Hilary” Correlation

“Give her the song on a Friday and she got carried the next Tuesday,” says Superdo’s singer Christopher Dale of “Hilary,” his musical tribute to the recently fired 91X DJ (sample lyric: “Yeah, you’re the DJ that gets me down the freeway / Now everything is all right, I get to where I’m going and I’m not uptight”). “She was planning on playing it on the air,” says Dale. “Who knows what would have happened? Might have been difficult to fire someone who has a song about them in rotation.” Posted on Superdo’s MySpace page as well as on one headlined “Radio Needs Hilary,” the track has been played over 650 times. Superdo played the song live for the first time at their debut gig in mid-July at the Tiki Bar. Dale says the audience sang along with gutso.” According to Dale, 91X has been playing Superdo’s “Waitress,” but he’s leery that the “Hilary” singalongs could affect the station’s willingness to play it. “It’s hard to say what the impact will be,” says Dale. “We haven’t been using it to trash 91X but rather celebrate Hilary, and we hope it will help her in her job search.” — Jay Allen Sanford

Confessions of a Concierge

“When the Deftones’ White Pony album came out, they played a big show at the Coors Amphitheatre. When the tour manager came in to check them in [to the hotel], they waited outside on the tour bus. The tour manager came to our department, and I proceeded to tell him that rooms were not ready. The tour manager told me that he wasn’t going to be the one to go back to the bus and announce this information to the band. “He was a cool guy in a good mood, so he asked me to come along with him. He took me on the bus, and I announced, ‘Gentlemen, I’m sorry to say that the rooms are not ready yet,’ and they all boooed. Then they went back to the ‘puff, puff, pass,’ because the bus reeked.…For the next two days, I watched those dreadlocked guys walk around the hotel with their chicks. That’s what it’s like, dreadlocked guys hanging out at a resort.” — Larry Harmon

CONTRIBUTORS

William Cramer, Dave Good, Jeromiah Griffin, Larry Harmon, Michael Hemmingson, Ken Leighton, Ryan Levi, Derek Plank, Eric Role, Jay Allen Sanford

SIRHAN SIRHAN GOES SILENT FOR AWHILE

Some things just don’t make sense. Sirhan Sirhan, the motorhead turned pop star, was 70 percent sure it was multiple sclerosis. Almost two months later, he got the phone call that confirmed the diagnosis. After a leg on the last official Lollapalooza tour, one album on Epic, and a Kansas City band that used to be in Molly McGuire, vocalist Jason Blackmore describes Sirhan’s current state: “He was a cool guy in a good mood, so he asked me to come along with him. He took me on the bus, and I announced, ‘Gentlemen, I’m sorry to say that the rooms are not ready yet,’ and they all boooed. Then they went back to the ‘puff, puff, pass,’ because the bus reeked.…For the next two days, I watched those dreadlocked guys walk around the hotel with their chicks. That’s what it’s like, dreadlocked guys hanging out at a resort.” — Larry Harmon

DALE SAYS RADIO NEEDS HILARY

“Hilary,” his musical tribute to the recently fired 91X DJ, has been difficult to fire someone who has a song about them in rotation.” Posted on Superdoo’s MySpace page as well as on one headlined “Radio Needs Hilary,” the track has been played over 650 times. Superdoo played the song live for the first time at their debut gig in mid-July at the Tiki Bar. Dale says the audience sang along with gutso.” According to Dale, 91X has been playing Superdoo’s “Waitress,” but he’s leery that the “Hilary” singalongs could affect the station’s willingness to play it. “It’s hard to say what the impact will be,” says Dale. “We haven’t been using it to trash 91X but rather celebrate Hilary, and we hope it will help her in her job search.” — Jay Allen Sanford

THE DEFTONES COPE WITH INCONVENIENCE

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Billing themselves as “the Jesters of Rock,” Collage Menage has gone through two dozen members since forming in 1988, with identical twins Hans and Fritz Jensen as the constant core. “To fit in with this band, you definitely have to have a strong stage presence and be part of a whole elaborate show,” says bassist Fritz. “It’s like Alice Cooper, Pink Floyd, Kiss, but with a sense of humor. We dress up from head to toe. We have props, TV screens, and videos we shoot for all our songs... sometimes we wear a different hat for every tune. It’s just as important to fit in visually as it is to fit in musically.”

“We build our stage sets, and we make and hand-paint the costumes ourselves,” says singer Hans. “There’s a lot of cardboard, foam rubber, Elmer’s glue, spray paint, and duct tape... we’re going for an elaborate look with a very low-tech budget.” Collage Menage has self-released three CDs. They appear Saturday, August 12 at Desi & Friends in Point Loma.

**WHAT’S IN YOUR CD PLAYER?**

**Hans:**

1. Aerosmith, *Get Your Wings* ("I wore out the vinyl album two times.")
2. Van Halen and Van Halen 2 ("I love the early years.")
3. AC/DC, *Back in Black* ("High school hard rock that’s good for the soul, if you have one.")
4. Pink Floyd, *The Final Cut* ("I like to sit back with a rum and Coke, a smoke, and listen to the sounds and drift away.")
5. Bush, *Razorblade Suitcase* ("I like the lyrics and the guitar a lot.")

**Fritz:**

1. Van Halen, *Diver Down* ("Fun album. I love the mix of styles.")
2. Aerosmith, *Live! Bootleg* ("It all brings me back to when we were young.")
3. Willie Nelson, *Greatest Hits (& Some That Will Be)* ("He ain’t wrong, he’s just different, but his pride won’t let him do things to make you think he’s right.")
4. David Allen Coe, *For the Record: The First Ten Years* ("The original outlaw poet.")
5. Scorpions, *Love at First Sting* ("The guitars work so well together.")

**DESERT ISLAND DVDS?**

**Hans:**

1. *Fast Times at Ridgemont High* ("We used to party like that in high school.")
2. *Kingpin* ("Woody Harrelson is so funny. He’s classic talent.")

**Fritz:**

1. *Lonesome Dove* ("A true cowboy story. When you’re wounded, you’re hurt or dead.")
2. *Willow* ("A cool quest.")

**BEST AND WORST THINGS ABOUT BEING A TWIN?**

**Hans:**

“I had to share everything from my bedroom to my toys, my bike, my car, and my girlfriends.”

**Fritz:**

“You get cheated on birthdays and Christmases, but he’s a permanent partner, and the chicks dig it!”

**WORST GIG?**

**Hans:**

“We went to Mexico, and the federales stopped us at the border to search us and harass us for cash. We didn’t pay, so we went home with no show that night. Bogus.”

**Fritz:**

“At ’Canes, the amateur booker had his PA show up late, and when the show went late, he cut off our set by standing in front of the stage and waving his hands around, shouting, ‘Cut the PA.’ The drummer quit that night. He was a wiener anyway.”

**CHEECH OR CHONG?**

**Hans:**

“Cheech, because he has his cool way, and he’s still 420 [marijuana] friendly. Cheech became a TV cop [on *Nash Bridges*].”

**Fritz:**

“Cheong, though he probably had some downtime when the times changed and their party humor wasn’t selling. He didn’t talk trash about Cheech, but then Cheech became [fictional narcotics officer] Sergeant Stedenko. What a hack.”

---

**LISTS**

**JAY ALLEN SANFORD**

**Elaborate Show**

“There’s a lot of cardboard, foam rubber, Elmer’s glue, spray paint, and duct tape.”

**Lists**

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SEP 29

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ON SALE TOMORROW
AUGUST 11 @ 10AM

SEP 30

MADELEINE SEYDOUX
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Otmar Liebert & Luna Negra: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, August 10, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

“Roots Rock Reggae” w/ Ziggy Marley, Shun O’Connor, Rob & Robbie, & Ozomatli: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Thursday, August 10, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

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

FRIDAY
Yolanda Adams: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Friday, August 11, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

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


“Carvin 60th Anniversary Celebration”*: Carvin San Diego Factory, Saturday, August 12, 12240 World Trade Drive, San Diego.

SUNDAY

Lonestar: Humphrey’s by the Bay, Sunday, August 13, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

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

MONDAY
Justin Timberlake: House of Blues, Monday, August 14, 3055 Fifth Avenue, Mission Beach. 619-299-2183.

TUESDAY
Death Cab for Cutie: Bayside Concerts at the Embarcadero, Tuesday, August 15, Embarcadero Park South, 619-445-5400.

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

UPCOMING CONCERTS
AUGUST
Poco: Humphrey’s by the Bay, Thursday, August 17, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Ben Harper: Bayside Concerts at the Embarcadero, Saturday, August 18, Embarcadero Park South, 619-445-5400.


Circus Diablo: Canes, Sunday, August 20, 1432 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780.

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

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


Earth, Wind, and Fire and Chris Botti: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Tuesday, August 22, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Big Head Todd & the Monsters and Tood the Wet Spot: Humphrey’s by the Bay, Wednesday, August 23, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.


Air Supply and Christopher Cross: Humphrey’s 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 by the Bay, Friday, August 25, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.


The Dave Matthews Band: Viejas Amphitheatre, Saturday, August 26, 2010 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600.

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


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


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

John Fogerty: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Tuesday, August 29, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

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

SEPTEMBER
Ozomatli: Canes, Friday, September 1, 3103 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780.

Ozomatli: Canes, Saturday, September 2, 3103 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach, 858-488-1780.

James Brown: 10th & B, Saturday, September 2, 310 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

Steve Poltz: Belly Up Tavern, Saturday, September 2, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.
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August 23

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WITH SPECIAL GUEST

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Sunday September 10

**Toby Keith**
Joe Nichols
Rushlow Harris
Lindsey Haun
Sunday September 17

**Brooks & Dunn**
Sugarland * Jack Ingram
Saturday October 14 < ON SALE AUG 18 @ 10AM

**Aerosmith**
Motley Crue
Thursday November 9 < ON SALE SEPT 16 @ 10AM

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, Thursday, September 7, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

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

James Gang Rides Again: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Saturday, September 9, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Linda Eder: San Diego Civic Theatre, Saturday, September 9, Third Avenue and B Street, 619-570-1100.

Ryan Adams: House of Blues, Saturday, September 9, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

“SoCo Music Experience” with Flogging Molly, Cowboy Mouth, the Roots, and more: Saturday, September 9, and Sunday, September 10, Seventh Avenue and Market Street, downtown.


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

Matisyahu: Bayside 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, 144 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

The Black Keys: House of Blues, Friday, September 15, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Paulina Rubio: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Friday, September 15, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

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

Massive Attack: Open Air Theatre, Wednesday, September 20, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-594-9437.
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August 10, 2006

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RECUE OLIVER
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Rise Against
THURSDAY

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THURSDAY

THURSDAY

PAGE 12 OF 14
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All ages until 10 pm
Green River presents
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All ages until 10 pm
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Ben Kweller: House of Blues, Wednesday, September 20, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gadsden. 619-399-2583.

Cindy Lauper: Veja Casa on DreamCatcher Show Room, Wednesday, September 27, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-445-5400.

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

Ani DiFranco: Copley Symphony Hall, Friday, September 22, 1245 Seventh Avenue, downtown. 619-325-0888.

Pope Aguilar: Bayside Concerts at the Embarcadero, Saturday, September 23, Embarcadero Park South, 619-445-5400.

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

“Nashville Star Tour”: House of Blues, Sunday, September 24, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gadsden. 619-399-2583.


Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers: Coors Amphitheatre, Wednesday, September 27, 2039 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3000.


Snow Patrol: House of Blues, Thursday, September 28, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gadsden. 619-299-2583.

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

Ellis Paul: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, September 29, 4050 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Wolfmother: Veja Casa in Concerts by the Bay, Friday, September 29, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gadsden. 619-299-2583.

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

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

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

Mariah Carey: iPayOne Center, Wednesday, October 5, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

The Young Dubliners: 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, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Live: Veja Casa Concerts in the Park, Friday, October 6, 2055 Willoos Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Cecilio & Kapono: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Tuesday, October 10, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Larry Carlton Blues Project: Humphry’s Concerts by the Bay, Tuesday, October 10, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.


Jean Barz: Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, Wednesday, October 18, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Galetic: House of Blues, Thursday, October 19, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gadsden. 619-299-2583.

Marta Topferova: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, October 20, 4050 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Susan Werner: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Thursday, October 26, 4050 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

The Average White Band: Veja Casa DreamCatcher Show Room, Saturday, October 28, 2055 Willoos Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

NOVEMBER

The Blue Man Group: Cox Arena, Sunday, November 4, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-394-0249.

Adrian Belew: Belly Up Tavern, Tuesday, November 7, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Acrosmith: Maldy Cleen: Coors Amphitheatre, Thursday, November 9, 2039 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3000.


James Blunt: iPayOne Center, Tuesday, November 14, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.


DECEMBER


JANUARY

Al Kooper: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, January 14, 4050 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.


Wolfmother: Veja Casa in Concerts in the Park, Friday, September 29, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gadsden. 619-399-2583.
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Bunny Wailer
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TODAY AUGUST 10 6:30PM

VIEJAS CONCERTS IN THE PARK

BILL MAHER
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BUDDY GUY
ROBERT CRAY
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EARTH WIND & FIRE
CHRIS BOTTI
TUESDAY AUGUST 22

GEORGE BENSON
AL JARREAU
RAUL MIDON
THURSDAY AUGUST 24

RANDY TRAVIS
FRIDAY AUGUST 25

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UB40 :: TOOTS & THE MAYTALS :: MAXI PRIEST
THIRD WORLD :: RIK ROX :: 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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LIVE
FRIDAY OCTOBER 6

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DJ EVENTS

If you would like to include your DJ event, e-mail saldi@nethere.com or fax information to 619-891-2403 by
5:00 p.m. Friday, the week prior to publication. The listings are free.

Assen: Second Friday of the month, Robyn Roth and Tom King
spin the best in dark underground
dance music. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up.
The Kara Lounge, 2121 Kettner Boulevard, midtown.
619-545-0853.

Borders Collapse v7: Fourth
Saturday of the month, Tuesday
electronic artists and
electroclash/minimal techno with
Mono Momo, Wers, and DJ Sundae.
No cover. Kadan, 4696 30th Street, North Park.
619-640-2100.

BrokenBeat Night: First Saturday
of the month, live electronic, machine funk,
and breaks. No cover. Kadan,
4696 30th Street, North Park.
619-640-2100.

Club de Sade: Third Saturday of
the month, gothic, industrial, and
EBM with DJs Darlem and Creep.
9 p.m. to 2 a.m. San Diego Sports Club,
1271 University Avenue, Hillcrest.
619-299-3752.

Club ‘80s: Thursdays, nuwave,
n reggaeton. Wednesdays,
Bay Area, North Park.

Club Fashion Whore: Second
and Fourth Saturdays of the month,
electroclash, Brit pop, and
indie dance punk with DJs Stone
Sentence, Sex Q, Barry Weaver, and more. 9 p.m. to
2 a.m. San Diego Sports Club, 1271 University Avenue, Hillcrest.
619-299-3752.

Daartware Garden: Wednesdays,
punk, gothic, and ethereal with DJs
Bryan Pollard, Kurt Heilige, and
Grandville. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up.
No cover. Kadan, 4696 30th Street, North Park.
619-640-2100.

Dekad: Thursdays, drum ‘n’ bass with DJs
Wallenstien, Probable Cause, and
Sleeky Mic. 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up.
Honey Bee Hive, 1409 C Street
(corner of 6th Street, across from
City College), downtown.
619-792-6010.

Dilettion: Tuesdays, mashups,
busted pop, and cybertrash. 9 p.m. to
2 a.m.; 21 and up. Kadan, 4696 30th Street, North Park.
619-640-2100.

Friends Chilli: Tuesdays,
downtempo, electronic, and ambient
with DJs Wark Chops, btt, and
guests. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. and up.
No cover. The Whistle Stop, 2236 Fern Street
(corner of 30th and Juniper), North Park.
619-284-6784.

Gimmie Gimmie Gimmie: Fridays,
punk, goth, and rock with DJs
Aizen, Bryan Pollard, and Morgan
Young. Door’s, 9292 30th Street,
North Park. 619-251-3466.

Hot Wax: Thursdays, DJs Vern
Berkman and friends spin underground
and classic hip-hop. No cover. Butler
Diner’s, 312E University Avenue,
North Park. 619-284-2747.

Inferno Young Adult
Nightclub: Fridays and Saturdays,
9 Level 1 spins hip-hop, house,
and reggaton. Wednesdays, Bay Area,
dance and old school with DJ Kool T.
9 p.m. to 11:30 a.m.; high school
sophomores and up. 775 Market Street, Escondido.
760-741-1271.

Liquid: Sundays, liquid funk and
drum ‘n’ bass; 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up.
No cover. Red C Lounge, 706 Fifth Avenue,
downtown. 619-235-2338.

Manic Mondays: Mondays, DJ
Marc Thrasher mixes the best of ‘80s
dance music videos. 9 p.m. to dinner;
21 and up. No cover. Whiskey Girl,
921 J Street, downtown.

Ozomatli
9/1: Delta Noce 9/2: stranger
9/2: ”back to school & MTV reality
party” featuring
Kenny (Vh1-
Fresh Meat)
John
Svetlana
Casey
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Kenny (Vh1- Fresh Meat)
John
Svetlana
Casey
(Guest DJs)

Sundays, liquid funk and
drum ‘n’ bass; 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up.
No cover. Red C Lounge, 706 Fifth Avenue,
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San Diego Reader
August 10, 2006

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TRAVLIN' BAND
UP AROUND THE BEND
LOOKIN' OUT MY BACK DOOR
HAVE YOU EVER SEEN THE RAIN?

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DJs. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up.
Wednesdays, mashups, breaks, and
Mashed-Up Wednesdays:
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hip-hop, R&B, and Top 40. 9 p.m.
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Saturdays, Saturday Night Mix, hip-
Sin Factory:
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City College), downtown,
(corner of 14th Street, across from
underground hip-hop and
CLUBS
SanDiegoReader.com
by clicking on
CLUBS
San Diego Reader
August 10, 2006
18
San Diego Reader
August 10, 2006
Sin Factory: First Friday of the month, flirt, gothic, and industrial with DJs Robe Ruth, Darkman, and guests. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and 29.
Bleed’s Sports Bar, 201 Nimit Boulevard, Point Loma. 619-235-8635.

SONIC CIRCUS: Third Saturday of the month, 20-minute slot by electrohouse and bedhead Clay Elliot on live horns, circuit fuses by local performers.
9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. The Kava Lounge. 2012 Kettner Boulevard, midtown, 619-543-0953.

THEORY: Fridays, indulgent, gothic, and industrial with DJs Bryan Pollard and guest. 8:30 p.m. to 2:30 a.m.; 21 and up. Rock & Roll, 1302 Bourgeois Avenue, Bay Park. 619-275-3463.


Underground Playground: Third Saturday of the month, house, progressive, and break with guest DJ Tony and guest DJs 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. No cover.喀啦, 4009 30th Street, North Park. 619-640-2500.

Underworld: Saturdays, industrial, goth, and dark electic with DJs Bryan Pollard, Cyber, and Baelot. Showtime, 3413 30th Street, North Park. 619-574-0744.

By William Crain

With the release of Plans last fall, Death Cab for Cutie officially went from indie favorite to music label success story. As so often happens in such cases, talk in the circles that used to love the band turned suddenly nasty. One blog tore apart the Plans track “Someday You Will Be Loved” saying that singer Ben Gibbard had turned into a “smug, pretentious, presumptuous [sic], self-obsessed prick.” That strikes me as over the top, especially because the irony in the song—in which Gibbard sings the part of a guy taking pity on an ex—is obvious. (The character is projecting his self pity on the ex.)

This kind of backlash almost always says more about indie fans than it says about formerly indie bands.

Death Cab has long toyed with the notion of what’s cool and what’s not. While his band was still releasing CDs on indie labels and playing in dives, Gibbard’s lyrics were always nakedly sentimental, and his music has increasingly leaned toward the off-center category of soft rock. His phenomenally successful side project, the Postal Service, went so far as to release a cover of a Phil Collins song.

This may be just a matter of Death Cab playing the oldhipster trick of being contrarian just for the sake of it. But the fact is that Gibbard’s smooth voice and wistfully romantic lyrics are better suited to quiet ballads than loud rockers or wildly experimental numbers. What’s more, the more mainstream his music gets, the more he rears in his sprawl-


Rockin’ the House: Saturdays, hip-hop, R&B, and Top 40. 9 p.m. Rocky’s Sports Bar, 2105 30th Street, Pacific Beach. 619-284-4784.

One Nation: Second and fifth Saturday of the month, nerd wave, hip-hop, and bootleg remixes with DJs Blackstone and Atta. The Whistle Stop, 2236 Fern Street (corner of 30th and Juniper). South Park. 619-284-0784.

If you wish to submit a listing, call 619-235-3000, ext. 261; e-mailed to: metal@thereader.com; or faxed to: 760-788-1309 or mailed to: Mojo now pays cash for:

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E Street Cafe, 128 E Street, Encinitas. 760-230-2018. Music is acoustic/folk unless otherwise noted. Thursday, 8 p.m. to 10 p.m., Studio 410, Friday, 9 p.m. to 10 p.m., Frank Leong Sunday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Holly Vernon, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Bluesgrass Blue.

Jack’s La Jolla, 7865 Girard Avenue, La Jolla. 858-486-8111. Sunday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., and Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., Soul Seduction, jazz.

Kt’s Coffee on Top, 2951 South Highway 101, Cardiff. 760-436-2138. Friday, J Lee Adler, jazz.

The Kraken, 2531 Old Highway 101, Cardiff. 760-436-0468. Friday and Saturday, live rock and blues. Sunday, the Blues Brothers Tuesday.

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San Diego Reader August 10, 2006 127
June 24-25, 21st Annual San Diego Jazz Festival, 368 5th Avenue, downtown. 619-234-9303. Friday and Saturday, 7 p.m., Various artists, smooth jazz.

July 27-29, 46th Annual San Diego Blues Festival. 710 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-483-7844. Friday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., Various artists, blues.

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July 20

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Otmar Liebert & Luna Negra

Otmar Liebert & Luna Negra
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Yolanda Adams
with special guest Ledisi
Friday, August 11 • 7:00

Lonestar
with special guest Nick Ashton
Saturday, August 13

Poco/Pure Prairie League
Thursday, August 17 • 7:00

Dennis DeYoung: The Music of Styx
with special guest appearance by Glen Burtnik
Friday, August 18 • 7:30

Dave Brubeck Quartet
Sunday, August 20

Michael Franks
with special guest Willie & Lobo
Monday, August 21 • 7:00

Etta James
Tuesday, August 22 • 7:30

Big Head Todd & The Monsters/
Toad the Wet Sprocket
Wednesday, August 23 • 7:00

Air Supply/Christopher Cross
Thursday, August 24 • 7:00

Big Bad Voodoo Daddy
Friday, August 25 • 7:30

Vernon Brown
with special guest Jimmy Johnson
Saturday, August 26 • 7:00

Brian Wilson
Featuring Al Jardine & Blondie Chaplin
Monday, August 28 • 7:00

Rosanne Cash
& The Monsters/Creedence Clearwater Revival
Tuesday, August 29 • 7:30

The Music of Styx
Wednesday, August 30 • 7:00

Thursday, September 7 • 7:30

Dennis DeYoung: The Music of Styx
with special guest appearance by Glen Burtnik
Friday, September 8 • 7:00

Lonestar
Saturday, September 9 • 7:00

Southside Johnny & The Asbury Jukes/
The Fabulous Thunderbirds
Saturday, September 16 • 7:30

Steve Tyrell
Thursday, September 21 • 7:30

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(continued)

7 p.m., Let’s Roll and Ivan Satterfield, traditional jazz.

Croce’s Jazz Bar, 802 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-230-8355. All music is jazz unless otherwise noted. Thursday, the David Patterson Quartet, Friday, Saturday, Prime, Sunday, the Archtones. Monday, Dave Scott Tuesday, the Shipwreckor, Wednesday, Fuzzy and the Bromine.

Dick’s Last Resort, 345 Fourth Avenue, downtown. 619-231-9100. Music is rock and roll. Thursday and Friday, Private Domain Saturday, Night Shift, classic rock. Sunday, the Dius Pomp. Monday, Traffic Jam. Tuesday, the W.I. Wednesday, the Avenue Cowboys.

Dizay’s, 344 Seventh Avenue, downtown. 619-230-7407. Friday, 9 p.m., Liquid Soul, Funk Jazz. Saturday, 8 p.m., the Great Manforidian Thud, jazz; Sunday, 7 p.m., Anna Tray, Gregory Page, and Bushwicks, folkrock.

4th & B, 345 B Street, downtown. 619-231-0483. Friday, Too Short, rock Saturday, Dory Sner, Doreen Lane, Feno, and Double Cities, rock.

Gaslamp, 619-702-7101. Saturday, 9 p.m., Will Andrews, smooth jazz/R&B.

Henny’s Pub, 618 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-218-2399. Thursday, the Boot Pack, Friday, Good Times Saturday, call club for information. Tuesday, the Sirettas, rock/blues. Wednesday, Lady Deana & the Elements, blues.


Jimmy Love’s, 472 Fifth Avenue (corner of Fifth and G), downtown. 619-595-0123. Thursday and Sunday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. Mystery, jaze/R&B. Friday, 9:45 p.m., the Edge, disco/Top 40. Saturday, 9:45 p.m., Crush, dance/disco: Monday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., Jazz on the Edge, Top 40. Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., Mystery, jazz/R&B Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., the Soul Bar, jazz/blues/Top 40.

The Laurel Restaurant and Bar, 305 Laurel Street (corner of Fifth and Laurel), downtown. 619-239-2222. Friday, 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Toadie at the Ed Kehlmeister Trio, classic jazz.

On Broadway, 615 Broadway Avenue, downtown. 619-231-0111. Thursday and Saturday, 30 events and live music, Friday, 7 p.m. to 1 a.m., Bryan Calhoun at the Kings of Rhythm, also Latin jazz/blues.

Patrick’s II, 3214 F Street, downtown. 619-233-3077. Music is blues unless otherwise noted. Thursday, the 145th Street Delta Blues Band Friday, Bill Magee Blues Saturday and Sunday, the Kings of Pleasure. Monday, Blue Four. Tuesday, the Commodores. Wednesday, Les Runyon & the Midnight Players.

Princess Pub & Grille, 3665 India Street, Little Italy/downtown.

>hometown CDs

**BY UKE**

**Album:** Gone (2006)

**Artist:** Bill Madden

**Label:** Madmuse

**Songs:**
1) Weight of His Words
2) Path of the Heart
3) Might Have Been
4) Friend
5) Gone
6) Dangerous Game
7) What in the World
8) My Old Man
9) Art of Being
10) AWFUL Awful

**Everything and That**


**Band:** Madden

(vocals, guitar, ukulele, piano, melodica, Sean Woolstenhulme (guitar), Charlie Paxson (drums), Jason Halbert (organ), Ludwig Grofeld (violin), Cameron Stone (cello), Jimmy Messer (bass), Edmund Monsef (vocals))

The title Gone works for this album because there’s nothing really here. There are some songs, yes, but after the CD player shuts off there’s no impression left. Oh, sure, the songs are played well — the instruments are strummed in time, each beat is hit expertly, and the voice is okay (a little on the goofy side sometimes) — but not so well that it’s enough to form a memory.

The songs are all of a light-rock type. The vocals and guitar of the first track seem lifted from Tom Petty. Later songs bring in the “60s” revival organ in pseudo-psychadelic pop, and they sound much like every other “goovvy” song since Sgt. Pepper. Nothing out of the ordinary or incredibly original.

The themes vary as well. There isn’t a cohesive motif for the album. A few of the songs are light protest rock. There’s an accusatory tone and descending manner that lends an as on things gone wrong: pollution, war, “anarch in the mail.”

My favorite song is the ballad about a guy who thinks of “what might’ve been.” Bill’s voice sounds like Droopy’s, the cartoon pup, in this one, and the lyrics tell of a woman who moved away to raise a family and a man who stayed behind and, get this, found a girlfriend who “looks like you [the woman who moved away].” CreeEeeeepy!

I know… I wish you could have back the 2 minutes it took you to read this, and I wish I had back that 40 minutes it took me to listen to the CD.

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**THURSDAY**

**LA JOLLA THURSDAYS**

Presented by Corey Biggs & Jason Overell

**FRIDAY**

**HOUSE & HIP-HOP**

A night of house and hip-hop dancing and drinks

Gaslamp, 619-702-7101. Saturday, J.D. Bouchard, piano.

Sally’s Seafood on the Water, at Metropolitan Grand Hyatt San Diego, One Market Place, downtown. 619-212-1234. Saturday, 5 p.m. to 6 p.m., Sally’s Seafood Duos, adophy.

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


Thurday, Prime, Latin jazz/salsa.

Tuesday, Perc by Pure, salsa.

Wednesday, Salas Caliente.

The Westgate Hotel, 1035 Second Avenue, downtown. 619-218-1818. The Plaza Bar: All music in piano. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 8 p.m. to midnight, Franci Lorens and Karen Garpea, jazz/blues/pop. Sunday and Monday, 7 p.m. to midnight, Julio de la Fuente. Tuesday and Wednesday, 7 p.m. to midnight, Faith Page.

Whiskey Girl, 605 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-236-1616. Monday, Thursday, and Friday, DJ Marc Therace and DJ Donny Donad. DJ Donny Donad, 11 p.m. to midnight, DJ Marc Therace, 10 p.m. to midnight.

The Bahia Belle Cruise, the Bahia Hotel, 996 West Mission Bay Drive, Mission Bay, 619-393-2779. Departures 6:30 p.m. Friday, 7 Natural, Top 40. Saturday, Nina Black, classic rock.

The Beauty Bar, 4746 E Cajon Boulevard, San Diego. 619-316-4746. Thursday, 10 p.m., Monitors Are Waiting, indie rock.
SAN DIEGO (continued)


Borders Books and Music (Mission Valley), 1072 Camino Del Rio North, Mission Valley. 619-292-2201. Friday, 8:30 p.m., Turno, acoustic pop.

Brass Rail, 479 Fifth Avenue, San Diego. 619-208-2223. Thursday, 7:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., Monte Mol, Montecristo, Castille, Bobby Fantasy, Papaya Moon, Marcus Santos, Alfonso de la Espriella, MC Puppet, and Alster Aiko, rock on autopilot.

Brick by Brick, 1110 Birrns Avenue, Ray Park, 619-273-LIVE. Thursday, Carisyn Bock, Jervy Hart, Polish NOWhere, Josie Merefield, Marie Zulu, Elsie Board, Marvus Glover, Dino Zik, Erica Mastone, and Chelsea Brown, acoustic/post-alternative. Friday, PM Bebster, Trucking with Strangely, Chuckhole, Ferment, and Drin, Thursday, KRS-One, MC T-Holla, South Poppa Gabe, Super DJ Soke, and True-Mix-Atik, hip-hop. Wednesday, the Cat Off, Like a Weapon, and Plane without a Pilot.

Claire de Lune, 2095 University Avenue, North Park. 619-680-9845. Friday, 9 p.m. to midnight, the Lee Brown Perspective, jazz dance.

Saturday, Chris Klich, jazz.


Epicentre, 4690 Mirna Mesa Boulevard, Mira Mesa 619-871-4000. Music is rock/metal/alternative. Friday, 7 p.m., No Bugging Rights and My Washing Dream. Saturday, call club for information.

The Gordon Biersch Brewery, 3105 Mission Center Road, San Diego. 619-488-1120. Saturday, the San Diego Island Boys, tropical/reggae.

Harney Sushi, 3500 Harney Street, San Diego. 619-319-2572. Thursday, Tribe of Kings, reggae. Friday and Saturday, DJ events, hip-hop/dance/funk/disco. Sunday, call club for information. Tuesday, Boon Beater.

Humphrey’s, 4343 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-283-0085. Tuesday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., the Lee Brown Perspective, jazz. Tuesday, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Willardov, smooth jazz/fov. R&B.

Mission Valley Resort, 1315 Hotel Circle South, Mission Valley. 619-986-9777. The Oasis: Friday, 8 p.m. to midnight, Elder Soul, soul and jazz.

North Park Theater, 2351 University Avenue, North Park. 619-239-8836, Saturday, 10 p.m., the Wild Panda Experience, rock.

O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub, 1310 Morena Boulevard, Bar Park. 619-279-3837. Friday, 9 p.m., the Yeoman Jay Band, R&B and Motown, and Rhythm & the Method, rock. Saturday, 9 p.m., the High Rolling Lawyers, Merle Jagger, the Northern Session, and Tampas & Thieves, rock. Sunday, 9 p.m., Harge, rock/country. Tuesday, 8 p.m., Jer Kinitch, rock/pop. Wednesday, 8 p.m., the High Class Bluesday, reggae/funk.

The Ould Sod, 3335 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-284-6884. Friday, Brax, R&B/concert with Happy Hour.

Padre Pio, 3755 Calle Barcelona, 777 West Felicita Avenue, Escondido. 760-746-7322. Thursday, 9 p.m., El Corazon, bossa nova.

Iggy & the Stooges, 7861 University Avenue, San Diego. 619-277-2577. Friday, 8 p.m. to midnight, Hugh Coskun, rock/blues.

Scallop’s, 1356 30th Street, San Diego. 619-296-3146. Saturday, 9 p.m., Swim Party, MC Flow, and A Week’s Worth, indie rock. Tuesday, 9 p.m., Zitrek, Cautious, Ghost Ship, and One and Seven Souls, alternative rock/metal/jazz.

Second Wind, 6715 Arapahoe Road, San Carson. 619-865-1780. Friday and Saturday, Blind Date, classic rock.

Sham Rocks Shack, 7009 El Cajon Boulevard (half block east of 70th Street), College Area. 619-483-2244. Saturday, DJ events, hip-hop/hip-hop/r&b.

Sogno Di Vino, 1607 India Street, San Diego. 619-296-0887. Thursday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., Mike Nelson, solo jazz.


Saturday, Rove Oliver, This Holiday Life, Barcelona, Drugstore, the New Addictions, and Controlling the Frenso.

Tio Leo’s Lounge, 1302 Napa Street (at Morena Boulevard), Bay Park. 619-442-4462. Thursday, Smoke Sistas, blues. Friday, BHC, the High Grass Band, and the 9 Ball Channel. Saturday, young Suddyk, and the Bossman, swing/blues/Ball. Monday, tango. Tuesday, blues. Wednesday, 7 p.m., the High Society Jazz Band.

Tower Bar, 4757 University Avenue, San Diego. 619-284-0159. Friday and Saturday, call club for information. Monday, Lady Dottie & the Diamonds, blues.

Tutto Marse, 4366 Executive Drive, La Jolla (Golden Triangle area). 858-577-1188. Wednesday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., Jimmie Valve, Craig MacFarland, Bob Magnussen, and Allen Phillips, jazz.

Tiggis Tea and Coffee Company, 6909 Park Boulevard, University Heights. 619-286-0616. Music is acoustic/folk unless otherwise noted. Thursday, Elive Leo and Xero Grant, Friday, Catarina and John Hall. Saturday, Aaron Brown, Alyce Jasey, and Amy Ayres, Sunday, 9 p.m., The Celtic Ensemble. Tuesday, the Great Friends and Jeremy Morris. Wednesday, open mike.

Vesuvio Gourmet Restaurant, 3023 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park. 619-262-7044. Thursday, 9 p.m. to 11 p.m., Willardov, smooth jazz/fov. R&B.

The Zombie Lounge, 3519 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park. 619-284-6880. Saturday, 7-9 p.m., Weth Every Star, metal.

North County

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

The Backyard, 777 West Eulalia Avenue, Encinitas. 760-754-7322. Friday, 7 p.m., Chris Hobson and Corrie Gottell, acoustic.

Beach Grass Cafe, 159 South Highway 101, Solana Beach. 858-509-0632. Friday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., Sawbones, Brazilian jazz.

Belly Up Tavern, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-9022. Thursday, 8 p.m., Aoki at the Wheel and Whiskey Tangos, country. Friday, 9 p.m., Tiros Around the Sun, Goodbye Blue Monday, and Grand Ole Party. Saturday, 9 p.m., Brokastone, Salt Sounds, DJ Sacchi, and the Illusion Crew, hip-hop. Sunday, 8 p.m., Hal Kramon and the Working Cowboy Band, country. Monday, 9 p.m., Sister Caroll & the Yellow Bal D’Dank and Ram t’ousse, reggae. Tuesday, 8 p.m., the Neville Brothers and Billy Thompson, blues. Wednesday, 8 p.m., Cruiser and Campy Van Benthoorn, rock.

The Book Works/Pannikin Cafe, Flower Hill Mall, I-5 at Via de la Val, Del Mar. 858-755-3731. Friday, 8 p.m., Blue Largo, blues/jazz.

Borders Books and Music (Carmel Valley), 1065 Calle Barcelona. Carlsbad. 760-479-0424. Friday, 8 p.m., Lee Couture, pop. Saturday, 8 p.m., Joe Sheehan and DeWayne Cobb, pop.

Borders Books and Music (Carmel Mountain), 1160 Rancho Carmel Drive, Carmel Mountain. 858-618-1814, Friday.
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KENNY G  September 22 7:30pm  $65/$75/$85

ENGELBERT HUMPERDINCK  September 27 7:30pm  $35/$45/$55
JEFF BECK  September 30 7:30pm  $55/$65/$75
JONNY LANG  October 4 7:30pm  $35/$45/$55

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NORTH COUNTY

Friday, 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., rock; 10 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., DJ event.
Saturday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., country. Sunday, 2 p.m. to 6 p.m., rock. Sunday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., Jeff Garber, acoustic rock.

Carvers, 12340 World Trade Drive, Rancho Bernardo. 858-566-5840. Saturday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., the San Diego Jazz Rock Band and roll. Saturday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., rock. Sunday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., DJ Encore, acoustic rock. Wednesday, open mike.

Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad. 858-567-1250. Friday, 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., Live in the Park. DJ event.

South Bay/Coronado

The Ritz, 1550 Avenida Del Mundo, Coronado. 858-486-2133. Friday, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m., DJ event.

The German-American Societies, 1017 South Millenium Avenue, El Cajon. 458-273-2298. Friday, Rocksteady, rock. Saturday, Gospel, rock.

Tommy’s Italian Restaurant, 1190 North Second Street, El Cajon. 619-440-2679. Friday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., the Wire City, swing standards.

East County

Borders Books and Music (El Cajon), 1319 Parkway Plaza, El Cajon. 619-591-5119. Friday, 7 p.m., Kev, pop.

Dirk’s Nitelub, 3762 Broadway, Lemon Grove. 619-468-6344. Friday and Saturday, Zone 4, rock.

Don’s Cocktail Lounge, 13321 Business Highway 8, El Cajon. 619-443-2444. Friday and Saturday, Silver, country.

Rancho Bernardo Estates and Centre City Parkway, Escondido. 760-735-8599. Friday and Saturday, open mike.

Blue Largo, 20154 Laguna, 92015. Friday, 10:30 p.m. to 2 a.m., DJ event.

McCabe’s Beach Club, 1107 Main Street, Encinitas. 760-438-8080. Monday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., open mike.

Hotel del Coronado, 1550 Avenida Del Mundo, Coronado. 858-435-6611. Rock and Scroll: Thursday through Sunday. 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., Roy Biz, Alice, Sunday, noon to 4 p.m., Joy West.

Cafe LaMaze, 616 National City Boulevard, National City. 619-474-7375. Thursday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., open mike.

Phil’s Place, 1270 Main Street, Encinitas. 760-438-8080. Monday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., open mike.

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Dirty Sweet: 4th & B
Discord: Soma, Dreamstreet
Divided by Zero: The Cabash
Dufreign: Dreamstreet
The 80's: Dick's Last Resort
The Electric Waste Band: Winston's
Fono: 4th & B
Gezer: Fannennightclub
The Taylor Harvey Band: Dog's Cocktail Lounge
Harvey Danger: The Cabash
Melvins Trigger: The Jumping Turtle

Calendar

BANDS

ROCK

High Grass Rollers: Tin Lizzies Lounge
High Rolling Lomaxes: O'Connell's Pub & Nightclub
Hoodoo Blues Band: JP's Pub & Nightclub
Island Breeze: Humphrey's
Marie Jagger: O'Connell's Pub & Nightclub
The Jefferson Jay Band: O'Connell's Pub & Nightclub
The Justin Brothers: Group On at the Martina, McP's Irish Pub & Grill
Laguna: Carvers
Led Zeppelin: House of Blues
The Lil' Eftard Band: Pal Joey's
Lil: Carvin
The Lost Disciples: Dreamstreet
Lucky Boy's Confusion: House of Blues
Me, My Bro & a Guy Named Raye: The Cabash
The Mided Touch: Soma
Molettos: House of Blues
Mother Funk: Hanney's Tavern (Carlsbad)
Nemesis: Harrat's Rincon Casino & Resort
The Neon Maniacs: The Jumping Turtle
Night Shift: Dick's Last Resort
Nude Blues: Raha Bella Cruise
Steve Oliver: Carvers
Mick Overman & The Maniacs: Tiki House, The Gypsy Cafe
Paper Moon: Brass Rail
Pound Nowhere: Rock & Brick
Perk the Band: Rancho Cucamonga Estate & Golf Course
Private Domain: Dick's Last Resort
Punchline: House of Blues
The Red Channel Revue: Tia Len's Lounge
Relentless: Dreamstreet
Reseeded: Harrat's Rincon Casino & Resort
Row: 7th Beach Club
Rhythm & the Method: O'Connell's Pub & Nightclub
The Rhythm Method: Coyote Bar and Grill
Rockstreet: Fannennightclub
Ron's Garage: Hotel del Coronado
Roomie: The Cabash
Roundabout: House of Blues
Rum-Soaked Raisins: Hennsey's Tavern (Carlsbad)
Scott & Aimees: Longshot Saloon, Carlsbad
Serious Guise: Second Wind (San Diego)
Shagadelic: McP's Irish Pub and Grill
Genie: Woody's Sports Bar

Second Wind Bars

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San Diego Reader August 10, 2006
**New Daily Happy Hour 4-7 PM**

Power Hour 4-5 pm — $2 U-Call-Its • $1 off drinks till 7 pm

**SATURDAY 8/10**
- Alternative
- Noir Project
- The Harrows
- Rob Deez
- Black & Tan

**WEDNESDAY 8/16**
- Vintage Money
- Orville's Cassini
- The Bumps Brigade
- Anna's Brother
- Phil Talio Project

**THURSDAY 8/17**
- Alternative
- The Mergers
- Aedose
- Campaign for Quiet

Upcoming:
- FRIDAY 8/18 — Battle of the Bands Finale!
- Buckleys Ghost • Rockford • 760 • Apeyga • Trisula
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**MUSIC**

**TUESDAY 8/15**
- **9/11 Presents Gary Numan**
  - Mon 8/14 • 8:00 pm
  - The Little Ones
  - Sat 8/19 • 8:00 pm
  - The Hacienda Brothers
  - Sat 8/26 • 8:00 pm

**UPCOMING SHOWS:**
- **9/28 & 29 — Idan Raichel**
- **10/4 — Doug Waters**
- **10/6 — The Mother Hips**
- **10/8 — Cross Canadian Ragweed**
- **10/10 — Tom's Mother Hips**
- **10/12 — The Meringues**
- **10/14 — Moths To A Flame**
- **10/16 — Lazy Stag & The Chasms**
- **10/18 — Frank Marino & The Mahogany Rush**
- **10/20 — Sassy Star All Stars**
- **10/22 — Ronnie Prince Billy**
- **10/23 — Bob Schneider**

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A Legend Reborn

One of the hottest new spots is Stingaree — a grit-22,000 square feet — disco palace with a serious restaurant on the first floor, under the charge of chef Antonio Friscia (previously at Alfieres at the Sher-aton Harbor Island). Stingaree draws its moniker from an old nickname for the lower Gaslamp Quar-ter. In the Gilded Age, the Stingaree was San Diego’s version of the Barbary Coast — a shady playground for nonstop sin: drinking, gambling, and consort- ing with ladies of the evening. (At least two of these “entertainment enterprises” were owned by the legendary Wyatt Earp, of OK Corral fame.)

To check out the latest Stingaree, two hot blondes accompanied me and my partner — my colleague Provvi, a tall, elegant foodie interested in the decorative arts, and our neighbor Heather, a slight, outspoken interior designer. They both looked over the room with interest, pointing out the combination of old and new trends.

The latest restaurant must-haves include a wa-ter wall behind the bar — the one here extends to the second floor. A wrought-iron staircase rises three floors to the mezzanine-level nightclub and rooftop patio (open free of cover charge on Sun-days as a hangout for the hungover). These mingle with colors and shapes reprising corporate design of the postwar ‘40s — neutral rectangular color blocks (battlehip gray, olive drab, parachute pink) and, framing the booths, patterned mahogany and cream plastic cornices. Nonetheless, we were comfortable at our shiny table for four, which was roomy enough to fit six without crowding.

The evening started quietly with soothing world music, moved on to mellow ’50s jazz, and stays tender. A Sicilian shrimp and crab cake — a stunning contrast of foie gras” — a stunning contrast between an elegant poached tor-chon and a seared slab of fowl liver. The torcher was extraordinary, up there with Tapestries’ benchmark version: an ethereal marshmallow texture that melts in the mouth, plated atop a brioche crostini. The seared piece, on the other hand, was a thinnish slice on an over-toasted slab of bread. It was cooked dark and — to my tastes — dry, reminding me of Aunt Frieda’s real marshmallow texture that melts in the mouth, plated atop a brioche crostini. The seared piece, on the other hand, was a thinnish slice on an over-toasted slab of bread. It was cooked dark and — to my tastes — dry, reminding me of Aunt Frieda’s chopped liver pâté.

Ménage à Trois is a mixed fry of calamari, At- lantic scallops, and prawns, served with a garlicky Meyer lemon aioli. The herbal batter is so airy it’s a real marshmallow texture that melts in the mouth, plated atop a brioche crostini. The seared piece, on the other hand, was a thinnish slice on an over-toasted slab of bread. It was cooked dark and — to my tastes — dry, reminding me of Aunt Frieda’s chopped liver pâté.

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shrimp jangled her taste buds. At the chef’s last outpost, Aliferis, Friscia’s Fried Heaven, a thin-skinned ravioli stuffed with braised short rib meat. “I’ll be on San Diego’s menu in the colder months.” It was a knockout. So is the Porcini Ravioli here — but at the wrong end of the punch. In this version, the ravioli skins were as thin as I expected but... what the heck was in the stuffing? None of us much liked the mild-mannered mushroom mousse that barely plunked out the shell. The sauce combined mortadella, asparagus, and mint in a light, pale broth. While it reads like a roster of champion ingredients, everyone decided the dish was down for the count. The Piu Grande Di Mezzo (entree) choices for summer in- clude six meats, five seafoods, and two birds. Although chef Friscia grew up in a family of San Francisco fishermen (their motto was “Friscia Fresca Fisha”), red meat seems his strong suit. As part owner of Stingaree, he’s got pull in the wholesale fish business in the city of Niman Ranch and Vande Rose. The Kobe Australian ran- ton “steak fries” is a hit. Served with a combination of diced onions and savory fresh shell beans. “I like these a lot,” said my partner, Provvis’ “Winegrier and lettuce,” said the server. Most disappointing was a stuffed half-cauliflower chicken. This small Japanese breed, care- fully raised on natural foods, has become a cornerstone of high-end cabinet food outlets, the poultry equivalent of Kurobuta pork and Kobe beef, so I was eag- er to try it. Last winter, Friscia used these birds for a critically acclaimed ecolar de quin, which he plans to bring back this fall. Here, it was stuffed with wild rice and served with porcini mush- rooms, garnished with truffle (diced vegetables) and served with Madeira jux. There were just two problems, but they were se- rious. Most of the rice, although nicely embellished with diced carrots and onions, was under- done — not al dente but potentially tooth-breaking. And the chicken was overcooked un- til dry. The meat and skin were beautifully suffused with herbs and had a wonderful flavor — but four of us barely made a dent in it. Additional garnishes were roasted yellow Chinese carrots, a small roast red pepper, and a heap of lengthy chive, which earned thumbs-up all around. A harpoon-caught swordfish from local waters was also perfectly cooked, but the tex- ture of the great white slab of fish was mushy. “If this was spear-caught,” said my partner, “they must have used one of those explodng whale harpoons.” It was bedded atop a combination of diced organic celery and savory fresh shell beans. “I like these a lot,” said Provvi, “I wonder where he got these beans?” (The answer: Chicor Farms.) Alongside were cooked sun-dried tomatoes and another handful of trifled fries. Most disappointing was a stuffed half-cauliflower chicken. This small Japanese breed, care- fully raised on natural foods, has become a cornerstone of high-end cabinet food outlets, the poultry equivalent of Kurobuta pork and Kobe beef, so I was eag- er to try it. Last winter, Friscia used these birds for a critically acclaimed ecolar de quin, which he plans to bring back this fall. Here, it was stuffed with wild rice and served with porcini mush- rooms, garnished with truffle (diced vegetables) and served with Madeira jux. There were just two problems, but they were se- rious. Most of the rice, although nicely embellished with diced carrots and onions, was under- done — not al dente but potentially tooth-breaking. And the chicken was overcooked un-
Judas Act

“Things are changing, my friend. All this is gonna be history. Enjoy it while you can.”

Happy birthday to you, cha cha cha, happy birthday to you, cha cha cha!”

What the…?
The guys who’ve been sleeping here on the sidewalk look up. “Happy Birthday” at 6:30 a.m.
Some have hardly moved from their cardboard yet. One guy, already in his wheelchair, rolls around between the Oh! Que Bueno! café on the corner and the entrance to Homequest farther up Tenth. Homequest is a recovery place, and already they have a meeting going inside. Maybe 30 guys and gals are attending.

But the noise comes from round the corner. Raucous singing, female voices. They’re inside Oh! Que Bueno!, working on three cakes and slurping coffee. Now they stand and throw their heads back.

“Happy birthday, dear Naomi, happy birthday to you, ¡Feliz cumpleaños!”

A moment later the roar of diesel engines drowns all the singing. Buses haul up to the stop at Ninth and Broadway.

Naomi doesn’t miss a beat. She’s on her feet and leading all the ladies out, struttin’ like a Pied Piper, balloons bobbing around her wrists. The ladies head out.

“They come in ev-e-ry morning,” says Arturo Lopez from behind the counter. “Then they catch the buses up to jobs in La Jolla.”

Me, I just sit, half awake, trying to remember when I’ve been here before.

“This place” says an old salt in a USS Ranger cap. “It used to be Monty’s. Remember that? But things are changing, my friend. All this is gonna be history. Enjoy it while you can. We’re all going to be shunted out to some hellhole on the edge of town so the rich can claim our city for themselves again. Mark my words.”

Now that he mentions it, I do remember Monty’s. That joint was cheap, and cheery too.

Meantime, I’m here, I’m hungry and desperate for a cuppa joe. Oh! Que Bueno! has the regular panoply of standard breakfast fare, like chilaquiles ($3.99), eggs with chorizo ($3.99), omelets ($3.99). At the bottom of the way-big menu, it says, “Special Breakfast. Choose any 3 items, $2.99. Or chilaquiles con huevos, $2.99.” Hmm. Sounds like a deal. A kind of breakfast buffet steams away in chafing dishes at the counter. Arturo says he’s been open since 5:30 a.m., and already his mom and other family members are back in the kitchen starting to cook for the lunch buffet. That begins at 9:00 and goes right through till 5:30 and includes any one of ten chafing-dish choices, say, fried chicken, with rice and beans, for $3.99. But I can’t wait for lunch. This may not be Breakfast at Tiffany’s, but it’s my favorite meal. And I love discovering it on the street like this, ‘special when it looks to be such a good proposition.

By now, the ladies have disappeared, and the Homequest class is gaining traction next door. Street sanitation guys bump up and down the sidewalks, piloting vacuum cleaners on wheels, chasing papers and cigarette butts.

Here inside it’s kinda bare-bones. Eight tables and a white-tiled counter, where Arturo stands behind his chafing dishes.

Of course, first I have to deal with the guilt. Left Carla sleeping this morning. She’ll be having fat-free biscuits with cottage cheese, and maybe a protein drink. We’re losing weight together. So this will be a Judas act. ‘Specially since I’ve just broken the 200-pound barrier. Down to 198! Don’t want to wreck all that hard work the lovely Carla inspired.

But…such a deal. The ten plates of the breakfast buffet include scrambled eggs, eggs and sausage, eggs and bacon, fríjoles (refried beans), potato patties, sautéed potato chunks with onions. All grease-babies, for sure. I point to the eggs with bacon chips mixed in, then the mess of potatoes and onions, and finally the sausage links. Arturo clips out all three from their steaming dishes.

I hand over the cash, plus $1.25 for a medium coffee, and go find a seat near a security guy who’s chasing papers and cigarette butts. Street sanitation guys bumble up and down the auto-cut spuds and auto-smile staff and higher taxes…Arturo and Josefina and Ernesto Lopez won’t be able to afford this place. Some deep-pocket Chicago chain will appear with auto-cut spuds and auto-smile staff and higher prices and signs saying “Please Wait To Be Seated.” Hey, these folks here are an endangered species. I spike my last potato and the last sausage link. Mmm. Oh! Que bueno! That tastes poignantly good. Grab it while you can, cha cha cha...
A n article in the July 19 edition of the New York Post noted that wine has become a category in “that precocious verbal game known as the snob-off.” It’s a hipster version of old-fashioned one-upmanship, only with “ob- scurity” and “newness” as the trump cards instead of “exclusive- ity” and “expense.” In fact, “for the ultimate battle of yupster wit, the Final Jeopardy category is always wine.” Mackenzie Dawson, the article’s author, recounted a conversation in which a friend needled him for ordering a glass of rosé. “It’s so…1970s. And not in a good way.”

Dawson went into action: “It’s not the same thing as White Zinfandel, and it’s huge in Europe. I said, breaking out the big guns. ‘Americans just don’t get it. When I went to the Dalmatian Coast in June, it was all anyone drank.’ Ten points for mentioning the Dalmatian Coast.”

“I had no idea,” I wrote the friend who e-mailed me the article. “I thought the yupsters thought wine was too bourgeois.” Apparently, I was mistaken. Ed Moore’s wine shop/bistro 3rd Corner has never stocked a White Zinfandel, and, he says, “Three years ago, we wouldn’t have sold a single rosé. But now, we sell the heck out of them. We had a nice little rosé from Italy for $6, and we flew through ten cases.” And it’s the young people who are buying them. Things have changed.

Moore was surprised during his last visit to the restaurants of San Francisco. “I went to Boulevard, and I would say that better than 80 percent of their by-the-glass list was imports, and better than 70 percent of their bottle list. Another place up there — Blue Plate — almost all imported wines, interesting stuff. When San Francisco does that, it’s kind of a wake-up call.” The city is practically surrounded by wine country and yet it’s casting its eye abroad. What’s wrong with California?

Moore may have started his career as a Francophile, but he’s a longtime fan of California wine. He championed plenty of domestic brands when he owned Thee Bungalow, and he recently bought a chunk of a friend’s cellar of ’70s California gems. “I have yet to have a bad bottle of this stuff. The Pedroncelli — I think it’s ’79 — is exquisite; gorgeous fruit, great acidity. If you came to me with anything from Cu- vaison ’75–’79, I’d buy it all. It’s all Philip Togni wine. I’m sure the stuff was nasty upon release because it was so concentrated, but you open one of those wines today and it’s — I want more!”

But you won’t find a great deal of California wine at 3rd Corner. “It’s not that we’re not fans of California,” he explains. “It’s just hard to find what we think are values.” The days when Moore was a fan were the days when “you were paying $10–$14 for the best California wines. You can get the Guigal La Landonne for $197 (and drink it on-site with dinner for another $5). And on the California front, he’s got a bottle of the ’66 Chateau St. Jean Cinq Cepages for $89. What annoys him are wineries that use high prices to enhance their image, charging $60 for a wine that fails to blow every $30 bottle in the marketplace out of the water.

That said, he knows that “we couldn’t make a living if we had nothing but $50–$60 bottles. There are a lot of people who don’t want to spend much more than $15. Find me a $4 or $5 wine that tastes like it’s $10 — and they’re out there — and you’d be amazed how many people will buy that wine.” Especially if they trust the person selling it to them.

Not surprisingly, that tendency is especially pronounced among the young, who usually have less money to spend. (And who, per the Post ar-
### Restaurant Listings

The Reader’s Guide to Restaurants are recommended listings written by our reviewers (Ed Bedford, Barbara David, Ambrose Martin, Stu McCloughlin, Maia Nash, Eleanor Widmer, Naomi Wise). Each issue contains a fraction of over 50 reviews. A complete searchable list is available online at [SanDiegoReader.com](http://SanDiegoReader.com).

#### NORTH COASTAL

- **Beach Grill Cafe**
  - 359 South Coast Highway 101 (one block south of Loma Sanuela St), Solana Beach, 858-509-0832. Formerly a branch of Parkhouse Eateries. Beach Grill has been bought by a mini-chain (with Swami’s Cafe and Honey’s), but still serves the original recipes. You could eat breakfast here daily and never get bored with the creative morning menu, which includes foamy, fresh orange juice and “Beach Benedict” with eggs and housemade hollandaise on a soft, giant crab cake. Uddily, through the “maple” syrup and “butter” spread are both mass-produced and market-blend brands. Lunches and dinners feature multiple “coastal cuisine,” with the best results in seafood dishes like “Moroccan crabcakes” and the fish ’n’ yam chips (with five housemade tart sauces). Vegetable accompagnements are tasty and creative. Reservations recommended for weekend breakfasts. Free parking in track behind store to right of restaurant. Breakfast tomorrow dinner daily $10-$20; slightly expensive.
  - N.W. (6/01)

- **Besta Wan Pizza House**
  - 148 Abalone Drive (off the 510), Cardiff-by-the-Sea, 760-751-6707. This ever-popular North County restaurant opened back in 1963 in a family operation all the way. Their Chorizo-2-Coast-style pizzas are famous locally. Also check for the big pile of spaghetti or lasagna, as specialties of the house you will find up open. Seven days, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — E.R. (11/01)

- **Cafe Zinc**
  - 132 Sando Cattle (at Loma Santa Fe), Solana Beach, 858-789-5436. The Bandoners’ 22nd year! Makes you hang out here in the garden patio with their Pensioners at the cab and their Shea the dog at the tables (dog are welcome). Even for non-doggie people, the Cali- fornia pepper trees and garden sculpture make this indoor-outdoor reataurant a really pleasant kick back place (which gets its name from the zinc-top bar inside). The menu, a mixture of Italian and vegetarian, offers dishes like frittata with cucumber salad, and dressed egg plant “pizzette” (personal-size pizza) with marzoratella, and Parme- sans cheese and fresh vegetables and the Zinc veggie burger (served on a Loma bread roll). From $7 to $15 at 7 p.m. Inexpensive. — E.R. (8/02)

- **En Familia Amici**
  - 304 South Coast Highway 101 (in Leucadia), Encinitas, 760-540-5325. You’ll feel like a guest at an intimate personal place with a very small, 20-man party dinner room. Chef Monica Steeper offers personalized, house-style renditions of South Amer- ican cuisine, including house-made beverages. Be sure to try the house’s chico’s review, a tangy soft drink made from Peruvian purple corn. The fare includes numerous types of em- panadas, tamales-like small plates, and full-size entrees — most from the fam- ily homeland, Peru. Desserts vary nightly and can include a cloud like two-layer cake. Vegetation and allergy re- stricted diets accommodated. Lunch and dinner Tuesday through Saturday. Reservations necessary moderate. — N.W. (5/00)

- **La Especial Norte**
  - 404 North Coast Highway 101 (at Leucadia Boulevard), Encinitas, 760-942-1410. This big, highly lit roadhouse sports highly whimsical decor (take a look at the blue ceramic “pond” in the dining room, complete with cranes) and boasts a five-page menu, including a page of a dozen regional soups and another full page for seafood. The soups are su- per — the authentic Mexican City-style chicken soup is laden with avocados, chicken shole, chilis, and rice, and the seawery eggplant soup includes any little “creatures” of pulled velvty hat- ters. The fresh, interesting seafood entrees outside the relatively ordinary renditions of the standard stuffed to- tilla variations. No wheelchair access to restrooms. Open daily, breakfast through dinner. Inexpensive. — N.W. (10/01)

- **Pacific Del Mar**
  - Del Mar Plaza, 1355 Camino Del Mar (at 13th Street), Del Mar, 858-759-1803. The chic crowd is drawn here by Pacific Rim/ California-fusion cuisine centered on seafood and organic, locally grown veg- etables. It’s quality all the way, but some nights the restaurant is a victim of its own success. The iruress overflows crowds can challenge the kitchen’s ca- pabilities, not to mention diners’ tender- ors. (Best strategy for pleasure: Reserve for early or late on a weeknight, and ask for patio seating or Room 01.) Fun list of low-priced appetizers: “White Russian” blackened oysters, carved scallops, meatball calzone, and house-made rib eye. The award-winning wine list is half price Thursday nights, and the full bar is fully specialized in creative mari- nis. “Paci- fica Dave’s” offers call-in take-out for selected items. Lunch and dinner daily. Early-bird dinner discount. Pacifica Breeze Cafe (a feel-good) offers va- rious dishes for breakfast through late afternoons. Expect to be very expensive. — N.W. (9/01)

- **Potato Shack Cafe**
  - 120 W 10th Street, Pacific Beach, 619-224-6822. Check out the cute potato-tone mural on the side of the building — a sign for spud lovers to load up on portions sized for hum- bers. From The Lambrucks across the street. American fries (served “All you can eat”) French fries, potato-potato- tatoes, and baked potatoes with various toppings are the heart of the menu, along with eggs, omelets, biscuits with sausage gravy, and beer-battered onion rings made from sweet red. If size counts, consider the daunting thick-“manhole” pancake that’s bigger than the plate. Lunch runs to “ski” sandwiches (with potatoes), or a hearty bowl of chili con carne. Arrive early and order. Open daily. Lunch. Inexpensive. — N.W. (10/01)

- **Ruby’s Diner**
  - 1 Prievue Way, Oceanac, 760-438-7629. One thing to watch about Ruby’s: You can build an ap- petizer just getting there. It’s at the end of the 1/3 mile-long rainbow, which features “Ruby’s” pastel-colored, “fruit”-shaped diners: “cherry,” “lemon,” “orange,” “grape” and others, which are finished “outside” (or perhaps “inside”) “diner”: “chick” stretching from LAX to Scottsdale, Arizona. But it’s still fun! Shiny Cherry Corvette-style-style- and “Butter” Spread are both mass- produced and market-blend brands. Lunches and dinners feature multiple “coastal cuisine,” with the best results in seafood dishes like “Moroccan crabcakes” and the fish ’n’ yam chips (with five housemade tart sauces). Vegetable acompañements are tasty and creative. Reservations recommended for weekend breakfasts. Free parking in track behind store to right of restaurant. Breakfast tomorrow dinner daily $10-$20; slightly expensive.
  - N.W. (6/01)

- **Uptown & North Park**
  - A La Francaise B Fried Rice El Indio 50% off all tab Gil Gringo’s 2 off Sunday Brunch Lahaina House Free breakfast Newbreak Free breakfast or lunch Pacific Beach Bar & Grill 2 for 1 entree Sam’s by the Sea Free sushi or 25% off bill

- **South Bay & Coronado**
  - Chilla-Fish 10% off catering Lai Thai 30% off entree

- **Utopia & North Park**
  - A La Francaise B Fried Rice El Indio 50% off all tab Gil Gringo’s 2 off Sunday Brunch Lahaina House Free breakfast Newbreak Free breakfast or lunch Pacific Beach Bar & Grill 2 for 1 entree Sam’s by the Sea 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 Free breakfast or lunch Greek Town Buffet 50% off dinner buffet Habana Cuban 1/2 price appetizer Lucky Star Buffet 50% off dinner

- **North County**
  - The Beach Club 50% off entree Big Jim’s Old South Bar-B-Q 50% off entree The Blvd Free Happy Hour appetizer Del Mar Rendezvous 20% off Greek Village Free sangaraki Jamro’s 10% Free island sampler Kiki’s Restaurant Free appetizer or dessert Mikko Japanese 50% off sushi Noodles & Company * Free sushi roll Wild Note Cafe Zibibbo Free tiramisu

- **Over 400 more restaurant listings at SanDiegoReader.com

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Restaurant Coupons and Menus

Restaurants listed without coupon offers have only menus online. Restaurants with * have multiple locations. See online menu or coupon for all locations.
In 1946, Tony Gonzales’s wife Catalina moved to San Diego. The Gonzaleses run a lively salads, and the house-baked potato pancakes, rarely found in California. One of the dishes, the St. Patrick’s Day special, is the traditional corned beef and cabbage. (If you’re looking for the perfect, moist corned beef — N.W. (5/98) — N.W. (11/98))

Sucrose-Free Wow Cow

Tong’s has several variants, mainly Chinese restaurants feature fresh fruits. “New Style Favorites” of North County Dac Biet Xe Lua, 6947 Linda Vista Road, 858-268-8406). Tripe along with mint and bean sprouts. Their crab cake topped with sun-dried apricot-mango chutney was a combination of loganberry, ase and honey-based sweet-and-sour sauce, making breakfast burrito. For lunch, a mild chicken curry is a nutty treat, and “pan-merch” which includes turmeric, turmeric, and ginger. “Squash lobster,” in fish-sauce, is a house special. (at Centre City), Escondido, 760-746-5951. Mexican seafood, along with the usual dishes, is featured in a small, downtown bistro setting. This is a cuisine of rich dark sauces robing the outside’s the “in” spot, with its brick and mortar atmosphere, and the usual dishes, is a feature of the popular Greek eggs and a filling interesting the popular Greek eggs and a filling

The largest selection – Over 150 items daily. We use 100% vegetable oil. No MSG. 52 FWY

Paradise Yogurt

50% OFF Lunch or dinner

Includes beer and FREE refills. For dinner, you’re in for a treat at this upscale Chinese restaurant. Meals begin with crunchy corn-studded bamboo bread and spicy balsamic dipping sauce, but don’t fill up too soon; the appetizers and salads are tasty and full. All pastas are house-made and paired with lively, unusual sauces. Lemon-butter roasted chicken, wood-fired pizzas, veal pastrami, and bacon — E.B. (2/03)

The Paillin’s Cafe

4767 Girard Avenue (at Pearl), La Jolla, 858-454-5453. Oh sure, the inside of the Rancho Valencia Resort is one of San Diego’s dining gems. They advertise the usual dishes, is featured in a small, downtown bistro setting. This is a cuisine of rich dark sauces robing the outside’s the “in” spot, with its brick and mortar atmosphere, and the usual dishes, is a feature of the popular Greek eggs and a filling interesting the popular Greek eggs and a filling

All You Can Eat

American • Chinese • Japanese Cuisine

The largest selection – Over 150 items daily. We use 100% vegetable oil. No MSG.

Free Milkshake

Lunch $7.79 • Dinner $10.99

Kids: Lunch $2.99 ages 3-5, 4-9 $6 Dinner $3 ages 35, 5-6 $9

10% OFF any catering order

REDEEMABLE ONLY AT CHICK-FIL-A EASTLAKE TERRACES. With this coupon. Expires 9/30/06.

15% OFF FULL BILL – Seniors not with other offers, or to-go orders. Expires 8/24/06.

15% OFF TOTAL BILL – Seniors not with other offers, or to-go orders. Expires 8/24/06.

BUFFET TO GO Lunch $7.99 • Dinner $10.99 per box

Happy Hour 4-7 pm

3024 West Point Loma Blvd. • 619-422-6877
Corner of Sports Anes and West Point Loma Blvd.

Event Catering Available!

Eastlake Terraces.

La Jolla’s Mongolian Festival

Great Khan's 4454 La Jolla Village Drive (Uptown Circle, Rancho Santa Fe, 858-759-6216. Original recipes, wonderful fresh ingredients, such as a huge, flavorful seafood chop (no factory fish), fresh fish, veal, lamb, or chicken. Portions of prime mesquite-grilled steak, fresh

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EXPENSIVE.

His favorite new restaurants include more than a dozen. "I think the food is almost as good as the trophy," he says. "The food is probably worth the price, and I enjoy it."

For more than 20 years, the Tribune has been covering the world of food in San Diego, from the best new restaurants to the most interesting wine lists. We've also been covering the city's food scene and the people who make it happen, from chefs to sommeliers to restaurant owners. Thanks for reading, and we hope you enjoy this edition of the San Diego Tribune Food Guide.

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E.B. (9/05)

**EAST COUNTY & SOUTH BAY**

**San Diego Reader** August 30, 2006
Cafe Pacifica 2424 San Diego Ave. (next to Old Town's Mercado). Old Town, 619-291-6666. The fare here is nominally very fresh seafood, either fish-based or even meats, and there is a variety of excellent soups, including a full-size Angus beef broth. Get a taste of Cafe Pacifica's adventure, and you'll be surprised at how delicious it can be.

Pomaengen Russian-Georgian Restaurant 3203 Casitas Pass Rd. (northeast of downtown). University Heights, 619-293-4007. Pomaengen's address is seriously sensational, a delicious and surprisingly affordable Georgian ingredients served up with a little bit of love. The cuisine is traditional and authentic, and the staff is incredibly friendly and welcoming.

Terras 3900 Vermont Street, Uptown Shopping Center, Hillcrest, 619-293-7506. Co-owner Jill Klement, formally in charge of the front of the house, has moved into the kitchen to serve as chef at this fabulous neighborhood spot, serving great food, unfussy, tropical-influenced American cuisine. You can settle in a spacious southwest-spired dining room or people-watch from a sheltered outdoor patio (with smoking permitted). Generously sized 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 barbecue items during the summer, comforting fare in colder weather, and specials on all major holidays. Good wine list with several flights available, full bar with tropical cocktails (Pisco Sours, Caipirinhas, etc.). Reservations advised, especially for weekends and holidays. Lunch and dinner nightly. Moderate. — N.W. (6/01)

DOWNTOWN

Athens Market 109 West Street, Gaslamp, 619-234-1953. Alex Spanos and his sons have a talent for bringing the best of traditional Greek food to your table. "I like to think of our restaurant as a small, family-owned business," says the chef. "We try to provide the best service possible for our customers."

Sevilla 555 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-233-5797. The food here is a mix of Mediterranean and Latin American flavors, with a focus on the Spanish and Mexican cuisines. The restaurant offers a variety of dishes, including tapas, grilled meats, seafood, and vegetarian options. Sevilla is known for its friendly and attentive service, making it a popular spot for both locals and visitors.

Like Visiting Spain without the Airfare

McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant

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SEVILLE

11/22 Bottle of Wine

11/22 Happy Hours

11/22 Cabo Cafe & Grill 808 West Cedar St., Gaslamp, 619-557-3100. The food here is a mix of Mexican and American flavors, with a focus on the seafood and beef dishes. The restaurant offers a variety of dishes, including seafood, steak, and chicken options. Seville is known for its friendly and attentive service, making it a popular spot for both locals and visitors.
San Diego Reader Calendar

Restaurant

Fat City Steakhouse

148
San Diego Restaurant

Fat City Steakhouse

access to terrace. Open daily, breakfast
dinner. Moderate to higher.

Food at Fat City is "casually luxurious,"

the menu includes a variety of meats and

poultry. At each table there's
dessert options advisable for weekends. Full bar
available after midnight. Inexpensive. — E.B. (11/01)

Seafood, grilled steaks, pastas (most

delicately cooked over mesquite

USDA Choice steaks (and one velvety

Prime cut) are cooked over mesquite

charcoal, which lends them a deli-

like quality, made with top ingredients

and offers Thai cuisine fit for roy-

alty, made with unsmoked bacon. Soups

and stews, served with various sa-

crushed and fried vegetables. There's excellent

Hakka dishes, a style developed by

cartoonish with a hint of spice. This isn't a

restaurant, it's a legend. The

the same Estudillo family has been serving

for three generations — seventy years.

This isn't a restaurant, it's a legend. The

restaurant and entrées at the bar, and

after seven. The place reeks of gentility.

Minimal entree £. Good for up to 2 people.

Not valid on weekends or holidays or with other offers.

Offer good through 8/24/06.

Min. $17 at 9 pm • 7 days a week

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sauce with coconut milk. The juicy moist beef tenderloin is USDA Prime

(translates to "melt in your mouth")

and even the desserts offer some old-fa-

restaurant goes de luxe at 9:30. The

hearty but sophisticated Persian fare

restaurant goes disco at 9:30). The

taking food she can create with raw nuts and
tomato on the evening menu. The
dish of Fine Vietnamese Cuisine

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Please call for reservations: One dinner per couple, 40% off a la carte menu, $20 off any entree, per party. Offer good until 2/28/06. All major credit cards accepted.

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San Diego Reader

An easy walk from the Convention Center

and the downtown area, the

restaurant is a spacious and

handsome, and the view from the
terrace of the 21st century. The fare features mid-

and lighter dishes are the most successful —

very casual, mainly inexpensive.

very casual, mainly inexpensive. — N.W. (3/01)

N.W. (2/01)

Las Cuatro Milpas

1857 Logan Avenue, Barrio Logan, 619-234-4460. This is the

city’s most popular Mexican restaurant

and is traditionally Mexican food

here for three generations — seventy years.

 Vietnamese and all around the world.

lentil soup. — E.B. (9/01)

Sevilla

555 Fourth Avenue (at Mar-

ket Street), Gaslamp, 619-233-3879. (What else?) rosewater syrup. Moderate.

Chinatown for dinner. The best

food is unpaid. You can get tapas in the

restaurant and enterés at the bar, and

in either case the dishes are varied, in-
teresting, and highly cosmopolitan, ex-

cuted with wonderful consistency. Be
to look for something that includes

potatoes; the humble spud gets Cin-

deesa treatment here. No reservations

(whichever) at tapas bar; reserva-

tions strongly recommended for dining


The Westgate Gourmet Deli-

cateress (Third Avenue, between

Broadway and C Street), downtown, 619-352-3684. The

Robert, the younger brother of Celadon in Hill-

Street), Gaslamp, 619-233-3879. The

appetizer list is

chicken, pork, or salmon; two vegan

choices plus an interesting reserve list.

extensive wine list, unusual in this

neighborhood.

The good twin provides

Evenings at Sadaf, two.

meats just keep on coming at a Brazil-

ian pace. There's no end to the variety of half-

plates and salads, and a vibrant, sweet-sour

sauce. The best part is that Sadaf's
does a great job with calamari. And in

fair weather, the lush garden dining par-
ung, this is a neighborhood joint

which lends them a delic-

ously smoky campfire flavor. Doesn’t

be like beef! You can choose nicely
gilled chicken, pork, or salmon; two vegan

pasta; or scampi. The appetizer list is

medium-sized, and the view from the
terrace is spectacular. Open

mid-afternoon. Inexpensive. — E.B. (09/01)

Pot's Meats

742-1/2 India

nuestyle bar, offering a

rassic. Quiet and relaxed weeknights,

higher on weekends. Lunch and dinner daily. Moderate

=this has three floors: a crowded but
tapas bar for spontaneous snacking, a romantic

dining room with serious Spanish en-
terés. — E.B. (11/00)

Sadaf

828 Fifth Avenue (at E Street),

Gaslamp, 619-501-8424. This

restaurant is at the center of the Gaslamp

This isn’t a restaurant, it’s a legend. The

restaurant and the city of San Diego since

1944. — N.W. (9/00)

Lunch and dinner daily. Moderate

Craftsman and offers Thai cuisine fit for roy-

alty, made with unsmoked bacon. Soups

and stews, served with various sa-

\n

laundry. Moderate

Moderate. For a relaxed good time with lovely

views and tasty food to match, put on your

aloha shirt and food over the

bridge. The old Coronado Boathouse

boasts a handsome, historic structure

with architecture mirroring the nearby

Ford Est (plus enthusiasts, ser-
rile water sports, and satisfying main-
steam American cooking. The bar

restaurant. The Westgate Boathouse

and lunch. The place reeks of gentility.

The place reeks of gentility.

restaurant and the city of San Diego since

1944. — N.W. (9/00)

Lunch and dinner daily. Moderate

Sadaf 828 Fifth Avenue (at E Street),

Gaslamp, 619-310-8088. Vegetarian

restaurant and the city of San Diego since

1944. — N.W. (9/00)

Lunch and dinner daily. Moderate

Sadaf 828 Fifth Avenue (at E Street),

Gaslamp, 619-310-8088. Vegetarian

restaurant and the city of San Diego since

1944. — N.W. (9/00)

Lunch and dinner daily. Moderate

Sadaf 828 Fifth Avenue (at E Street),

Gaslamp, 619-310-8088. Vegetarian

restaurant and the city of San Diego since

1944. — N.W. (9/00)

Lunch and dinner daily. Moderate
Filipino Desserts Plus

Filipino Desserts Plus 1635 Sweetwater Road (at Prospector), National City, 619-477-4904. Also at 4120 Mission Boulevard, Pacific Beach, 619-274-8444. 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 Mai! Gaima Nect-ter, and shio food. Although the kalo pig here isn’t cooked in an imu—a hole in the ground—it sure tastes like the real thing and comes with cabbage, rice, macaroni salad, and kimchi. But beware of the haupia cake—it may cause serious addiction. Lunch and early dinner Tuesday through Sunday; closed Monday. Inexpensive. —E.B. (10/04)

Filipino Desserts Plus 2220-Q East Plaza Boulevard, National City, 619-479-6748, also at 8955-F Mira Mesa Boulevard (inside Seafood City), Mira Mesa, 858-271-5754. Filipinos often mix meat and savory, so it’s no surprise that this dessert place has regular dishes, including adobo pork, pancit, and lumpia. Unagguan, a Filipino specialty, is pork made with “chocolate milk,” shing for pig’s blood. But the pride of the place is the desserts, from the ubi halo (purple yam custard) and macapuno (coconut-corn combo) to the sapos apay (multicolored layer cake) and fried ube malambanana on a skewer. Open daily; breakfast through early dinner. —E.B. (9/04)

Island Wok 922 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-6835. The tiny indoor-outdoor-takeaway cafe is a standy with locals, especially the high school crowd. It serves good Vietnamese food, Chinese, and plenty of fish. The owner, Xuon, makes scrumptious fresh spring (not fried) Vietnamese spring rolls wrapped in rice paper with shrimp, pork, or chicken and vegetables in the middle. But most customers go for the steam-table combination plates. You can get chow mein, fried or steamed rice, and a fried spring roll to start off, and then you can add entrees like orange chicken, long pao chicken, or sweet-and-sour pork. Closed Sunday. Inexpensive. —E.B. (12/05)

Lai Thai Restaurant 1430 E. Plaza Boulevard 4810, National City, 619-474-5646. Lai Thai started up as the home Thai in a sea of Filipino restaur-ants in South Bay, but it has gained a devoted place under glamorous Som- masawat Buthya. Prices are so reasonable, you feel the food shouldn’t come on such beautiful platters. The soups, tom kah (spicy coconut), and tom yum (hot and sour), are especially good, as is the house Lai Thai Fish ( usu-ally garlic) in delicious panang con- coconut-curry sauce. But you’ve got to push for spiciness if you want it. Lunch deals are really cheap. Also check out the Thai art on the walls, some for sale. Open lunch through dinner six days; closed Mondays. Inexpensive to moderate. —E.B. (10/04)

Paris’s Italian Restaurant 323 Broadway, Chula Vista, 619-421-4040. This is an area where a lot of folks live in trailer parks on fixed incomes, and Uncle Paris’s becomes their affordable, of- ten daily treat. The good news is they don’t just open now. Nick and Rose-marie Parisi, who opened here back in 1979, brought New Jersey traditions with them. Nick had been a butcher. His son Nick Jr. makes his own deli-cious Italian flavored sausage just as his dad taught him. Sons and daughters now run the place and still make their own spaghetti sauce, too. Other dishes include the eggplant or veal Parmesan sandwiches and meatballs and sauce with garlic bread. This isn’t the smart, up-to- date Paris-in-the-old-fashioned Monmouth Italian. Lunch and dinner Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, closed Sundays. — E.B. (4/05)

Peohe’s The Landing, 1201 First Street, Coronado, 619-437-4474. This gorgeous, view-endowed restaurant of- fers upscale, Hawaiian-inspired fish and paragon steaks in a plush tropi-cal setting with indoor waterfalls and three separate patios. Given the vis-u-al splendor, much of the food is bet- ter than it needs to be, featuring top-quality seafood prepared with care, e.g., halibut in a lush, saucy Frangelico-touched macadamia brerre blanc. A chocolate shell filled with macadamia nut ice cream may be worth the calo- ries, too. Full bar. Reservations advised. Lunch (with limited breakfast) through Saturday; brunch Sunday. Dinner nightly. Expensive. —N.W. (387)

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Fri. 5:30-10 pm
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Free Appetizer
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* * * Very good to excellent*-San Diego Reader

Expires 8/16/06.

* * * Very good to excellent*-San Diego Reader

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* * * Very good to excellent*-San Diego Reader

Expires 8/25/06.

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Expires 8/25/06.

* * * Very good to excellent*-San Diego Reader

Expires 8/25/06.

* * * Very good to excellent*-San Diego Reader

Expires 8/25/06.

* * * Very good to excellent*-San Diego Reader

Expires 8/25/06.
Foul Crimes Done

“I’ll take the ghost’s word for a thousand pound.”

Recently I got to dramaturge New Village Arts’ production of Hamlet. As a result, I’m convinced that 1) if Shakespeare’s sweeping tragedy isn’t infinite, as some claim, it’s the next closest thing; and 2) because of its endless mazes of significance—and often jarring contradictions—studying Hamlet can be a humbling penance for people, myself among them, who claim to know a thing or two about the Bard.

Key words resemble musical motifs: they grow and change with each repetition. One example: King Claudius murdered Hamlet’s father by pouring poison in his ear. There must be a dozen allusions to poison, lies, and Denmark’s inability to bear truly: Hamlet says the players “poison in jest”; when she hears the King might have been murdered, Gertrude says, “Words like daggers enter in mine ears”; Hamlet says the new king looks like a “mildew’d ear.” See what I mean?

There’s also an almost CIA-like obsession with espionage and spinning facts to keep the ear poisoned and preserve the lie.

The play’s so rich, even seemingly minor subjects resonate. I’ll take one—Wittenberg.

Frederick the Wise also founded Wittenberg University in 1502. One of the school’s first students, Martin Luther, became a professor of theology in 1508. In 1517, revolted by the sale of relics and indulgences and the notion that remission of sins could be bought, Luther nailed his 95 Theses to the Castle Church door. This act began the Protestant Reformation in Germany.

When Hamlet begins, the Danish Prince is a student at Wittenberg University. In 1600, about a year before the play premiered, Samuel Leukner called it “a learned seminary of the arts, in which many worthy writers have...received their education.” Many labeled the school “the Athens of Germany.” The university was not only a major center of Protestantism, it was, as Dover Wilson pointed out, the favorite university of Danes studying abroad.

In effect, Wittenberg was one of the most prestigious schools around. But there’s a problem. Hamlet legends, especially Saxo-Grammaticus’s 12th-century Amelth, predate the University. So Shakespeare either didn’t know or didn’t give a hoot about exact dates (he often uses historical people, himself among them, who claim to know a thing or two about the Bard.

In 1590, Wittenberg’s Frederick the Wise assembled a gallery of “holy treasures.” These included, he swore, four hairs of the Virgin Mary, a wisp of straw from the original manger, a strand of Jesus’ beard and, by Frederick’s count, 19,013 sacred bones. He kept them in the Castle Church at Wittenberg (which, Gervinus says, was “dear to the Protestant heart of England”). What would he be studying? He’s 20. So he’s already mastered the trivium (grammar, rhetoric, and logic) and the more advanced quadrivium (arithmetic, geometry, astronomy, and music). Odds are he’s probably a divinity student, tutored in Protestant theology. The play never says. But the circumstances that force him beyond the Protestant explanations for “heaven and earth” (in effect Wittenberg student Horatio’s “philosophy”) suggest this may be so.

The murder of his father, his mother’s hasty remarriage, ghostly visitations, and being cursed to set things right catapult Hamlet, unprepared, from the pristine world of action. Shakespeare either didn’t know or didn’t give a hoot about exact dates (he often uses historical people, himself among them, who claim to know a thing or two about the Bard.

The school had more associations for Shakespeare than Martin Luther and Protestantism. According to Johann Spies’s Faust-Buch (1857), the original Dr. Faustus (who died around 1540) was also a student at Wittenberg University. Along with “virtuous studies,” John Faustus “gave himself secretly to study Necromancy and Conjuration.” He became a doctor of divinity but lived such an “ungodly life” — he called the devil his “brother-in-law” — that “at the Day of Judgment there is no hope of his redemption.”

Christopher Marlowe read an English translation of Spies and wrote The Tragicall Historie of Doctor Faustus, first staged in 1594. The play, about...
**THEATER LISTINGS**

Theater listings and commentary are by Jeff Smith. Information is accurate according to material given us, but it is always wise to phone the theater for any last-minute changes and to inquire about ticket availability. Many theaters offer discounts to students, senior citizens, and the military. Ask at the box office.

**All in the Timing**

Ion Theatre and InterMission Productions’ staging of David Ives’s one-acts opened my eyes to this playwright. I’d seen other versions and considered Ives an offbeat poet who delighted in surrealistic combinations of words and situations. (In Sure Thing, his reiterations of a scene anticipate the movie Groundhog Day, Philadelphia says we live in varying mood states, which can change.) But I found him neither as funny nor as playable as others claimed (like much of Saturday Night Live, the sketches felt grindingly one-note). Ion/InterMission changed my thinking. The smart, daring physical production matches Ives’s language with visual accents and crisp business. Co-directors Claudio Raygoza and Carla Nell accept only bold choices from a game four-person ensemble energized by Jeff Smith. Information is accurate according to material given us, but it is always wise to phone the theater for any last-minute changes and to inquire about ticket availability. Many theaters offer discounts to students, senior citizens, and the military. Ask at the box office.

**American Rhythm**

Lamb’s Players Theatre stages this “musical tour” of 20th-century American music, created by Kerry Meads and Vanda Egginton. Wyckoff Theatre, 1010 W. Broadway, Downtown, through August 13; Thursday at 7:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday at 8:00 p.m., Sunday at 3:00 p.m. 619-550-1010.

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Back to Bacharach and David
Steve Guinderson and Melanie Gibb sing the music of Burt Bacharach and Hal David, including "Raindrops Keep Fallin’ on My Head" and "Walk on By." Javier Valasco directed.

NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987 COMMONS DRIVE, CARLSBAD BEACH, THROUGH AUGUST 20; THURSDAY THROUGH SUNDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-570-1100 or at Civic Theatre Ticket Office (M-F 10A-6P) 619-437-0600 or 858-481-1055.

The Boys Next Door
The North Park Vaudeville and Candy Shoppe stages Tom Grif- fin’s touching comedy about four mentally challenged men living in a group home.

NORTH PARK VAUDEVILLE AND CANDY SHOPPE, 2031 EL CAJON BOULEVARD, NORTH PARK, THROUGH AUGUST 26; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-647-4958.

Come Blow Your Horn
OnStage Playhouse starts off its 2006–2007 season with Neil Simon's touching comedy about four mentally challenged men living in a group home.

ONSTAGE PLAYHOUSE, 291 THIRD AVENUE, CORONADO, THROUGH AUGUST 19; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 613-547-0000.

Forbidden Broadway: Special Victims Unit
Due to popular demand, the Theatre is reprising David McBean’s musical Broncos cheer to Broadway: some of the sharpest, funniest theater criticism around! The framing device—the show’s Special Victims Unit for Broadway clunkers—doesn’t last two minutes before it disappears. But no matter. Alessandrini’s latest attempt to “turn the Great White Way gray” is a winner, thanks to his ever-present wit and some amazing performances (especially by Valerie Fagen, co-au- thor of Six Women with Brain Death, especially when she slanders Sarah Brightman). Along with lambasting contemporary Broadway’s disturbing pen- changes.)

Critic’s pick.
THE THEATRE, 1100 AVENUE OF THE ARTS, SAN DIEGO, THROUGH AUGUST 17; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-588-0206.

Five Cups of Coffee
Lamb’s Players stage the world pre- miere of Gillett Elvgren’s “loopy” comedy, in which “the Garden of Eden may lie buried beneath land mines in Iraq” and “the Gates of Paradise look strangely like Grass- land.” Robert Smyth directed.

LAMB’S PLAYERS THEATRE, 1124 8TH AVENUE, CORONADO, FRIDAY, AU- GUST 11, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 17; TUESDAY THROUGH THURSDAY AT 7:30 P.M. FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AT 4:00 P.M. AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 613-437-0000.

Fully Committed
Air traffic controllers, at least, have each other. Not Sam Pelikowski. He must make all the reservations for a posh New York restaurant:

2 HOURS OF CLASSIC FLOYD - LIVE! BIGGER THAN EVER WITH NEW SPECIAL EFFECTS!

The Australian Pink Floyd Show
Featuring Full Length Version Of Dark Side Of The Moon.

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A MUST SEE FOR ALL FLOYD FANS - CHICAGO TRIBUNE
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Civic Theatre 3rd & B St.
619-570-1100 or at Civic Theatre Ticket Office (M-F 10A-4P) or ticketmaster 619-220-TIXS

Godspell
Christian Community Theater presents Steven Schwartz’s musical, a nontraditional approach to the Gospel of Matthew.

MT. HELIX AMPHITHEATER, LA MESA, THURSDAY, AUGUST 10; THROUGH AU- GUST 26; THURSDAY THROUGH SUNDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-588-0206.

Hamlet
For its 10th annual Free Shake- speare in the Park, New Village Arts presents the Bard’s tragedy, directed by Delicia Turner Sonnen- berg with Frances Gercke as the Danish prince. Admission is free.

THOMPSON PERFORMING ARTS CEN- TER, LA COSTA CANYON HIGH SCHOOL, ONE MIRAH WAY, CARLSBAD, FRI- DAY, AUGUST 11, THROUGH AU- GUST 20; FRIDAY THROUGH SUNDAY AT 7:30 P.M. 760-433-3245.

Five Cups of Coffee
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Come Blow Your Horn

ONSTAGE PLAYHOUSE, 291 THIRD AVENUE, ENGLE VISTA, THROUGH AUGUST 12; THURSDAY THROUGH SUNDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-422-7787.

Dames at Sea
Lamplighters Community Theatre presents the popular Jon Wise, Robin Miller, and George Haim- sohn musical. Can innocent, tal- ented Ruby from Canasta become a star in 24 hours? Thomas Fitzpatrick directed.

LAMPLIGHTERS COMMUNITY THEATRE, 8053 UNIVERSITY AVENUE, LA MESA, THROUGH AUGUST 20; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY (AND THURSDAY, AUGUST 17) AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-494-4959.

FIVE CUPS OF COFFEE
Lamb’s Players stage the world pre- miere of Gillett Elvgren’s “loopy” comedy, in which “the Garden of Eden may lie buried beneath land mines in Iraq” and “the Gates of Paradise look strangely like Grass- land.” Robert Smyth directed.

LAMB’S PLAYERS THEATRE, 1124-8TH AVENUE, CORONADO, FRIDAY, AUG- UST 11, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 17; TUESDAY THROUGH THURSDAY AT 7:30-P.M. FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00-P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AT 4:00-P.M. AND SUNDAY AT 2:00-P.M. 613-437-0000.

Forbidden Broadway: Special Victims Unit
Due to popular demand, the Theatre is reprising David McBean’s musical Broncos cheer to Broadway: some of the sharpest, funniest theater criticism around! The framing device—the show’s Special Victims Unit for Broadway clunkers—doesn’t last two minutes before it disappears. But no matter. Alessandrini’s latest attempt to “turn the Great White Way gray” is a winner, thanks to his ever-present wit and some amazing performances (especially by Valerie Fagen, co-au- thor of Six Women with Brain Death, especially when she slanders Sarah Brightman). Along with lambasting contemporary Broadway’s disturbing pen- changes.)

Critic’s pick.
THE THEATRE, 1100 AVENUE OF THE ARTS, SAN DIEGO, THROUGH AUGUST 17; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00-P.M. 619-588-0206.

Fully Committed
Air traffic controllers, at least, have each other. Not Sam Pelikowski. He must make all the reservations for a posh New York restaurant: Paul Sarre said, “Hell is other peo- ple.” Nah. Hell is other people de- manding all-regan cuisine for 15 at a 7:30-P.M. seating, while five other callers blink on hold. Cypnet The- atre is reprining David McBean’s Noel Award-winning performance. He plays Sam and everyone else, maybe 40 people. A logistics boggle! It’s the equivalent of memorizing a phone book and making each voice so distinctive you remember it the next time you hear it. McBean must change characters as fast as he can say “hold, please.” He’s so terrific, however, logistics disappear into Sam’s frantic, behind-the-scenes world. Sam, it turns out, is an aspir- ing actor lacking “a strong sense of personal entitlement” — just what every irate caller has! Sam gets a crash course in assertion training and passes with flying colors. Throughout, the audience’s “oh yeah’s” and “that’s right’s” punctu- ate the show with shocks of recogni- tion. Anyone who has ever been an actor, or waited tables, or taken reservations (a friend of mine, who books for a local hotel, refers to the public, off the record, as “the beast”) will empathize with Fully Committed. And given McBean’s special performance, so should ev- eryone else.

Critic’s pick.
CYGNET THEATRE, 1001 CADIZ BOULEVARD, COLLEGE AREA, THROUGH AUGUST 13; THURSDAY THROUGH SUNDAY AT 8:00-P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00-P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00-P.M. 619-533-1525.

FIVE CUPS OF COFFEE
Lamb’s Players stage the world pre- miere of Gillett Elvgren’s “loopy” comedy, in which “the Garden of Eden may lie buried beneath land mines in Iraq” and “the Gates of Paradise look strangely like Grass- land.” Robert Smyth directed.

LAMB’S PLAYERS THEATRE, 1124-8TH AVENUE, CORONADO, FRIDAY, AUG- UST 11, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 17; TUESDAY THROUGH THURSDAY AT 7:30-P.M. FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00-P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AT 4:00-P.M. AND SUNDAY AT 2:00-P.M. 613-437-0000.

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Battered by rabbis' evaluations, at first, and later with teenage angst, the lovers — Eve Damron, David Villalobos, Oswin Olivera, and Julia Kenoski — are both distinct individuals and a sharp ensemble. The mechanics, however, are not “rude” enough (especially Jonathan Peak’s attire, styled Bottom the Weaver), and young Michael Drummond lacks the chops, and the menace, for Puck. York Kennedy’s bold daydreaming/night-lightning, Christopher R. Walker’s music, and especially Michael Uno’s dual roles as Francis Flute and Thiade are big pluses. In a play of full Orishan metamorphoses, one does one of the best: At Flute is about to play the suffering Thiade, something touches him, and the character takes over so completely you wonder who was more real, Flute or the role he transformed him. Which was “any nothing,” and which “something of great constancy?”

*Worth a try.*

**LOVELY DAWLS FESTIVAL THEATRE, 350 EDISON CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, BALDWIN PARK. THROUGH SEPTEMBER 29.**

A CRITIC’S CHOICE — five directors invented their own contest: people acknowledge failure, which “something of nothing,” and which “something of something”... one of them, Jonathan Peak, does a double role as Thiade and Don Quixote, and is successful. Joe Kenoski, who is a speech writer, and his brother Kenoski, who is running for office and thinks he’s Abe Lincoln. Joe Calaco directed.

**SANSIO RENDEZVOUS The Broadway Theatre 350 Edmonson Pkwy, Deerfield Beach, FL (954) 437-0600 www.sansiorendezvous.com**

NATIONAL COMEDY THEATER Improvational comedy, making funny stuff up the sudden, is difficult. (Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissberg Brothers, who are also known as Weissber...
emotionally stuck as Chekhov’s famous trio; one even says so. Arctic Sara may try a new path, if she can overcome her diminution and a Jewish male stereotype; the others stay the course. Chekhov this ain’t, though it would like to be. (Sara also borrows heavily from Beth Hendley’s “moment of happiness” in Crimes of the Heart.) Wasserstein keeps the deeper issues about anti-Semitism, non- and traditional women’s roles, cultural differences on the back burner (offstage the Soviet Union is falling apart, but you’d hardly know it). The play and Old Globe production, however, are funny throughout (including a first: during the intermission almost every character makes passionate love). Janet Zazik, Jackie Hoffman and especially Deirdre Lovejoy’s Pfeni (in complete emotional sync with the best written of the three women) keep the laughs coming, as does Tom Niffla in a tour de force as Geoffrey, director of musicals, and Mark Blum as gently as-...
Soon or Late

The freshness of this event would appear to have cowed him into his best behavior.

The question that dogged United 93 three months ago — whether or not it was “too soon” for Hollywood to do 9/11 — has naturally evolved in that short span into a question of whether World Trade Center now comes “too late,” whether it has had its thunder stolen. The only way in which it, too, might be seen to have come “too soon” is in telling a story with so narrow a focus and so positive an outcome. (Some of the pressure is relieved right at the outset when we’re informed that the story is “based on actual accounts of the surviving participants.” Underline surviving.) Such an approach might be more warrantable if it were the fifth or the fifteenth treatment of the subject, injecting some much-needed balance, but the mere second treatment can fairly be taken to task for giving voice to so unrepresentative, so uninclusive, an experience — that of two Port Authority policemen (Nicolas Cage, Michael Peña, roughly four hundred closeups between them) who, together with a couple of unluckier comrades, dauntlessly entered Tower One with the intention to help evacuate it, were uninformed of the similar situation in Tower Two, and were trapped in the rubble when the building collapsed on top of them before they ever got above the shopping-mall concourse.

This seems a particularly unexpected approach, a particularly cautious and safe one, to be taken by Oliver Stone, professional boat-rocker and wave-maker, who for once is not looking to cast an accusation or an aspersion (i.e., a stone), but rather to recast himself as the champion of Men in Uniform he became so briefly and incongruously with Platoon. Needless to say, there is no counterpart here to the James Jonesian abuse-of-authority figure played by Tom Berenger. The square-jawed, God-fearing Marine reservist, meanwhile, joining the search-and-rescue on his own initiative, serves as an explicit apologist of future military action. And even the de rigueur clip of George W. Bush on television is not unflattering. The freshness of this event — five years as against the more than dozen years between the Vietnam War and Stone’s version of it — would appear to have cowed him into his best behavior, both civically and cinematically, toning down his camerawork and his cutting along with his bellow. (Perhaps the freshness of the Alexander disaster, and the distance of the director’s last nondisaster, helped to cow him, too.) At bottom, this is little more than a grade-A docudrama — a made-for-TV movie bulked up for the big screen — with a smooth incorporation of familiar archive footage, a decent selection of reconstructed detail (the shower of paper, etc.), and a meticulous reproduction of the skeletal remains at Ground Zero, a cremated behemoth. The early unfolding of events, beginning at 3:29 on the morning of the 11th, can hardly help but raise a few goosebumps, as it builds an unbearable tension between the filmmaker’s foot-dragging pace and the viewer’s racing memory, a true collaboration between artist and audience. But that comes to an abrupt stop with the fall of Tower One, and the cementing of a static situation, half an hour into the film. The remaining...
hour and a half of waiting and worrying with the families (Maria Bello and Maggie Gyllenhaal as the wives), and of suffering and sweating with the immobilized men (calling to mind the forgotten Ladder 49, that post-9/11 tribute to firefighters everywhere, elsewhere, especially Baltimore), are incalculably more tension-free, more routine, more trite, more mawkish, more TV-ish, Soft Stone, if you will. You might be surprised how much you miss the hard one.

Little Miss Sunshine, the feature debut of music-video veterans Jonathan Dayton and his wife Valerie Faris, was put together on the “quirky” assembly line, a product of the thriving “quirky” industry. Dad (Greg Kinnear) is a would-be self-help guru, “would-be,” that is, if anyone were buying his Nine-Step Refuse-to-Lose Program, an indemnity does not nurture in secret by Granddad; and his competitors in the beauty pageant are a frightening collection of JonBenet Ramsey plastic dolls, and the bus itself emerges as the best character, requiring a collective push after the clutch goes out en route, and emitting a rude-sounding, unpredictable bleat after the horn gets stuck.

Once in a Lifetime: The Extraordinary Story of the New York Cosmos has the longest title to date in a summertime. The Ballad of Ricky Bobby, and The Mostly Unfabulous Social Life of Ethan Green

The funniest laugh-out-loud audience pleaser at the (Sundance Film Festival)
Seven deaths a week in Wild River and Splendor in the Grass, as well as on stage in the Marilyn Monroe role in Arthur Miller’s After the Fall, is said to have been unencouraging. The film, shot in grainy, gritty 16mm blown up to 35, recalls an era in American cinema when independent films were not just auditions for Hollywood, but advanced an actual alternative aesthetic. Many films before and since have and since for an air of unfinished reality, but few have breathed it as deeply as Loden, who, in addition to writing and directing, played the title role of an aphantic divorcee in a photographically ugly Pennsylvania coal town, showing up for a custody hearing late, in hair curlers, without a lawyer or a leg to stand on, and afterwards falling into an itinerant life of crime with a two-bit Dillinger, the jumpy, pumped-up, combustible Michael Higgins. Thirty-five years later it would be no exaggeration to judge his performance unforgettable. I have never in the interim been able to see this actor without thinking instantly of him.

**MOVIE LISTINGS**

All reviews are by Duncan Shepherd. Previews are indicated by one to five stars and antipathies by the black spot. Unseen movies are for now unreviewed. Thousands of past reviews are alphabetical, by year of release and by rating, are available online at SanDiegoReader.com.

**Another Gay Movie** — Sex romp of four high-school homosexual virgins, directed by Todd Stephens. (02/11/11 THROUGH 17)

**The Ant Bully** — Pixar film, depicts the communal spirit of an ant colony against the every-man-for-himself ethos of humankind. As in Honey, I Shrank the Kids (but by another method: the puppet-in-the-car method of Hamlet), a human being gets to see the world from an ant’s-eye view. Notwithstanding some clever touches, the normal ugliness of computer animation (creatures out of Alien, Starship Troopers, Scanners, and elsewhere) has been mated to exceptional tastelessness: the taffy tongue of a marauding frog and the gaseous bog of his stomach; the scaly scalp and grasy nose hairs of a cigar-chomping pest exterminator. The exterminator, a Satanic villain advertising himself as Brads-a-Bug and swarming with flies, spices the preachiness with a pinch of fire-and-brimstone. Voices by Nicolas Cage, Julia Roberts, Paul Giamatti, Meryl Streep; written and directed by John A. Davis. 2006.

**Barnyard** — Computer-animated animal tale, written and directed by Steve Oedekerk, with the voices of Kevin James, Courtney Cox, Sam Elliott, Andie MacDowell, Joseph Bologna, and Michael Nouri, the director in question, as well as on stage in the melancholy character of a Goth granddaughter forms a tenuous link to the past, but after the 1980s she fell below the radar into made-for-TV movies and direct-to-video. Desperately seeking Susan, indeed! Her most poignant moments here, quite independent of any plot machinations around elder single in Florida retirement community, come from the intercut stills of each of the actors in their salad days, testifying both to the natural ravages of time and to the elective disfigurements some people undergo to combat those ravages. Since some of the obvious surgeries are intended that way too. Diego Canyon, Brenda Vaccaro, Sally Field, or job for her — set!), Renee Taylor, Len Caisio, a well-preserved Joseph Bologna, and Michael Nouri, the puppet of the group, are among the specimens on exhibit. 2006.

**Boynton Beach Club** — It is difficult to locate the director of Smithereens and Desperately Seeking Susan in the multicharacter romantic comedy (original title: The Bayfront Beach Bummers Club) that targets an audience of seniors and is accordingly toothless and bland. Rather than “targets,” perhaps we should say “patronizes.” Susan Seidelman, the director in question, is only in her early fifties (the character of a Goth granddaughter forms a tenuous link to the past), but after the 1980s she fell below the radar into made-for-TV movies and direct-to-video. Desperately seeking Susan, indeed! Her most poignant moments here, quite independent of any plot machinations around elder single in Florida retirement community, come from the intercut stills of each of the actors in their salad days, testifying both to the natural ravages of time and to the elective disfigurements some people undergo to combat those ravages. Since some of the obvious surgeries are intended that way too. Diego Canyon, Brenda Vaccaro, Sally Field, or job for her — set!), Renee Taylor, Len Caisio, a well-preserved Joseph Bologna, and Michael Nouri, the puppet of the group, are among the specimens on exhibit. 2006.

**Cars** — The Pixar people, director John Lasseter in particular, envision a world of cars without people (Mummy, where do cars come from?), but of course anthropomorphized cars, such that the windshield is eyes and the hoods, grilles, and front bumpers form noses and mouths. The vision focuses chiefly on a hot-shot rookie race car called Lightning McQueen, who, en route to the Piston Cup championship on the West Coast, gets stalled in the sleepy little backwater of Radiator Springs (soon christened “Hillbilly Hell”) off Route 66 (“The Mother Road”), which time and the interstate have passed by. Whether or not you can steer around the irony, or搬家, or can’t, or what-you-will, of a computer cartoon waxing nostalgic over the slower pace and simpler ways of the Good Old Days, this is one of the better specimens of this type of animation, the airless, vacuum-sealed, climate-controlled, machine-tooled type. The clean, sleek, toy-like shapes of the vehicles (straight out of an old Chevrolet commercial) are easily handled, and their personalities inventively differentiated. The town itself is vitally detailed: the single flashing yellow light on Main Street, the caution-cone motel cabins, the gaudy-donic garage for the psychodelic hippie van, etc. And, outside of the herd of flatulent tractors, the sense of humor refrains from the off-color. And having to listen to Owen Wilson is much preferable to having to look at him at the same time. Paul Newman, a racing enthusiast in real life, could be said to be well cast as the voice of the legendary Hudson Hornet, Piston Cup champ from 1951 to ’53, who chose to put himself out to pasture at...
The height of his powers and to live out his years in peaceful obscurity. 2006.

** The Office — The official sequel can make no effort to match the scrupulous integrity of its 1994 foreunner, least of all an effort to match the black-and-white photography. Not that the forerunner set any sort of mark to shoot for, but least it accepted its limitations and worked within them. The memory of it had already been well and truly salted, however, by repeated appearances of Jay and Silent Bob, in particular, in Kevin Smith’s subsequent work, and there was no going back from the self-cannibalizing commercialism of Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back. But go back Smith defiantly, desperately does, to torch the Quick Stop and to reposition his aging, thickening clones behind the fast-food counter at Mooby’s. Onward and upward, franchise-ly.

★ ★ ★

The Heart of the Game — Ward Silver’s video documentary chronicles the story of Bill Redler, Seattle tax man turned girls’ basketball coach, and of his prize pupil, Darnella Russell, a black transfer from her neighborhood Garfield High to white-terred Roosevelt High. “Darnella Russell is my only chance at being famous.” The story spans her entire five-year high-school career and more. It details the ups and downs of the seasons, the state tournaments, the intraquad and intracity rivalries, the losses learned (“Don’t dribble the ball behind your back with ten seconds to go”), the crush’s unconventional motivational methods (an annual theme: Pack of Wolves, Tropical Storm, Pride of Lions, etc.), and it expands into extracurriculars such as race and class, sexual molestation, teen pregnancy, courtroom drama: “To get back on the court,” a TV reporter formulacally puts it, “Darnella had to go to court.” All told, it makes a good story, and the local news announcer would seem to be guiltless of hyperbole when he calls it “one of the greatest stories in high-school basketball in the state of Washington.” A decent number of qualifiers: “one of” “high-school—” “Washington,” and no need to add the qualifier of girls’ basketball.
Lady in the Water — The big surprise of M. Night Shyamalan’s followup to The Village is that there is no big surprise at the end of it. It is instead a ritualistic playing out of a parable — a whole-cloth mytholog- y — and the only track to it is to figure out who among the residents of The Cove apartment complex in suburban Philadelphia (where else?) plays what part in the parable: a Narf, a sea nymph from The Blue World, will require the assistance of a Mystic, a Guardian, a Healer, a Symbolist, and a Guide, if she is successfully to evade the Scruit, a growing canine creature with grass hair, and be airlifted back to The Blue World by a giant eagle known as The Great Eagle. Among many miscalculations, the most grievous is Shyamalan’s casting of himself in the role of the sought-after Writer — aka The Chosen One — whose magnus opus, entitled The Cookbook, is earmarked to inspire a Great Leader who will set the sketched world back on course. (Cur, over the closing credits, a hes-itant, unconfident, but hopeful rendition of Dylan’s “The Times They Are A-Changin’” by a group named A Whisper in the Noize.) The messianic tendency has become more and more pronounced in the filmmaker’s oeuvre, ever since the successful outcome of The Sixth Sense gave him leave, gave him le- leis. But it has never before achieved such a height of public embarrassment. For entertain-ment purposes, that’s not altogether a bad thing. There’s a horrible sort of fasci- nation in the spectacle, balanced by a quite pleasurable fascination in the photographic style of Christopher Doyle (Wong Kar-wai’s right hand), the camera hovering around the faces at odd angles and with odd fram- ings. If you’re going to make a really bloody fool of yourself, you might as well make it of your own good-looking fool. With Paul Gi- amatti, Bryce Dallas Howard, Bob Balaban, Susan Sarandon, the threadbare. • PASHION VALLEY 18; GLASP LAMP 15; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18.

Little Miss Sunshine — Reviewed this issue. With Greg Kinnear, Toni Collette, Steve Carell, and Abigail Breslin; directed by Jonathan Dayton and Valerie Faris. • HILLCREST CINEMAS LA JOLLA VILLAGE; FROM 8/13.

Miami Vice — The name of the Eighties television series — fighting crime and look- ing cool doing it — has been appropriated for the same reason that the social striver might don Armani. The drug stint in the series could have been pulled by any of the not exclusively Sonny and Rico and Co. If you’re going to jetison the theme music, take all the rest for yourself and retain the proper names? You might as well just settle for Jacksonville Vice. The storytelling, in other words, is strictly generic (suitable for off-the-rack dressers) and yet totally confusing (unsuitable for prime time). The confusion is evidently deliberate, first to cover up the genericness, and second to est- ablish a degree of superiority, to let you know that even if you were sitting in on the planning sessions of drug smugglers and undercover cops, sitting right there should- er to shoulder with them, you would glean only the dimmest glimmer of what’s going on (or coming down). Adding to the con- fused are the shifty camerawork, the dis- tracting, cutting, and above all, the under- world angst and dissected fact accounts. If all this confusion somewhat diminishes your involvement, you still can’t help but notice that Michael Mann is a filmmaker who takes himself seriously. You can see it in the pantomimic worship of the wind — the manifestations of it in sports cars, in speed- boats, on mopeds and beaches, through expensive haircuts and arching palm trees and loose linen jackets. You can see it in the craking-up of suspension. The hero’s mask and mission will be the great news of a world-class gymnast — a dizzyingly loopy path. The slo- mo sign of a world-class gymnast — drops of perspiration detouting at the vol- ume of thunder, his right leg latching like crystal on his dismount from the ring — becomes more or less true, and he entrusts his rehabilitation to the apolitical grease monkey (a funny Nick Nolte) at the Texas Quick Mart: “This is a service station. We offer service. There’s no higher purpose.” The story, from a novel by self-help author and former athlete Dan Millman, is pur- portedly “inspired by true events,” and at the very least the quadrennial Olympic qualifying tournament could be said to be a true event. The rest is apt to cause difficulty swirling away. With Scott Mechlowicz and Amy Smart; directed by Victor Salva. • HILLCREST PLAZA 14.

Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man’s Chest — Sequel to POC. The Curse of the Black Pearl. And more than it need be. Part II of an afterthought trilogy. (It does not make it go any faster. And lastly, the movie is wonderful plastic and elastic (the fall of Napoleon Dynamite’s Latino sidekick, Pedro, surely should give the filmmaker some rope. Héctor Jiménez, Richard Mon- toys, Peter Stormare. 2006. • FORTUNA PLAZA 14.

The Night Listener — A Silk homosex- ual, the morose host of a national AIDS-awareness radio show, transfers his emo- tions, at long distance, onto a terminally ill pedophilia victim and his adoptive mother, but then, despite speaking to him repet- itiously on the telephone, he comes to doubt the boy’s existence. The intriguing premise (from an Amistad Maupin tale) is better designed for the page than for the screen, when we can see the boy with our own eyes and the cranking-up of suspense, when the New Yorker pursues his doubts all the way to rural Wisconsin, is uncon- venci ng. With Robin Williams, Tami Cot- lette, Rory Co kkin, Sandra Oh; directed by Patrick Stettner. 2006. • CARMEL MOUNTAIN; ESCONDIDO 10; FASH- ION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; PORTON PLAZA 14; L A JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MI- SION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROM- ENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 15; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MAN- COS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14.


Peaceful Warrior — Athletic inspira- tion by way of the Buddhist school of thought, a dizzyingly loopy path. The alo- mo sign of a world-class gymnast — drops of perspiration detouting at the volume of thunder, his right leg latching like crystal on his dismount from the ring — becomes more or less true, and he entrusts his rehabilitation to the apolitical grease monkey (a funny Nick Nolte) at the Texas Quick Mart: “This is a service station. We offer service. There’s no higher purpose.” The story, from a novel by self-help author and former athlete Dan Millman, is pur- portedly “inspired by true events,” and at the very least the quadrennial Olympic qualifying tournament could be said to be a true event. The rest is apt to cause difficulty swirling away. With Scott Mechlowicz and Amy Smart; directed by Victor Salva. 2006. • HILLCREST PLAZA 14.
**A Prairie Home Companion** — In its title and its essence have been taken from Garrison's (aka Garrison Keillor's) weekly public radio show. But there is no mention of the imaginary world of Lake Wobegone, MN. The sole setting is the Fitzgerald Theater in St. Paul, named after native son F. Scott, and ticketed for the wrecking ball, and the plot situation is closing night of a long-running old-fashioned live radio variety show, mixing gospel music, country songs, blues, and bluegrass; but a fragile audio made barely (and unconvincingly) concrete. Director Robert Altman brings, along with his, a droning, disengaged card-gam, a deep-seated condescension that makes the loss seem like no big loss. And it goes without saying that he also brings an ensemble cast: Kevin Kline as a Clare-oue-escape private eye unfortunately named Guy Norie and unfriendly narrat- ing in first person, Virginia Madsen as a heaven-sent angel in a white trenchcoat, Tommy Lee Jones as the heartless new landlord, and a host of non-singers, Mary Steep, Lily Tomlin, John C. Reilly, Woody Harrelson, L.J. Jones, and the regretfully irrepressible Keilor himself. Lindsay Lohan, purportedly a pro-fessional singer, sounds the worst of the lot.

Inevitably there are nice touches, like the professional singer, sounds the worst of the lot.

**The Purple Rose of Cairo** — A movie by, but not with, Woody Allen. And the in-evitable question to ask with any Woody Allen movie — who's the inspiration this time, Fellini or Bergman? — can be an- swered as follows: Fellini, specifically The White Sheik, the one about the provincial honeymooner who gets to meet in real life her heroes from the Jornetti photo novels. But more obviously, the big moment here is a reversal of the moment in Sherlock Jr.

Reeve in the part. (The new Superman and sputtering and stumbling, mining a steadyAmerican Psycho, starring Christian Bale, gives great social commentary on what life was like in the 1980s. It's as relevant today as it was for that era. Despite being dark, it handles the subject matter with subtle humor.

Marvin Scorsesse's Goodfellas is a very original take on all of the classic gang-sta- ge. And despite being in a new genre, it breaks away from all of the mobster clichés.

Kevin Smith's Clerks — about a pair of cash-register jockeys — depicts what it's like to be young and not knowing what to do with your life. It presents its theme in a very realistic way but with characters and dialogue that sometimes go over the top and stretch the boundaries of reality.

**American Psycho (USA) 2000, Lions Gate** List price: $29.95

PIERROT LE FOU (France) 1965, Fox Lorber List price: $29.99

JOHN CASSAVETES'S FIVE FILMS (SHADOWS/ACE/JACKIE UNDER THE INFLUENCE/KNIGHT OF CUPID/OPENING NIGHT (A Chinese Woman) 1974, Criterion List price: $24.95 (eight discs)


**Where's Poppa?** (USA) 1970, MGM List price: $16.95

THE FRISCO KID (USA) 1979, Warner List price: $16.98

AMERICAN DREAMER (USA) 1984, Paramount List price: $14.98

**Match Point** — Another one, with the same director and the same lead actor. It is a very original scat-oological history of how the West came to be and it is a scat-oological history of how the West came to be, with a fusion of music and dark-blueрисунок.
too often, but the excuses are usually easy—
genius of the story is the and the nonstop product
publish is satirically motivated (i.e.,
dramatically justified) and, with John C. Reilly and
Gary Cole, along with Fellwell, has good
eyes and ears for rednecks. With Sacha
Baron Cohen, Leslie Bibb, Amy Adams,
and Michael Clark Duncan; directed by
Adam McKay. 2006.

CLARK MOUNTAIN: CHULA VISTA 10; DIN
ERAMIA: 630, MAR HIGHLANDS: ESCONDIDO: 5;
ESCONDIDO: FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY: 9
GROSSMONT CENTER: HORTON PLAZA 14,
MISSION VALLEY: 20; OCEANSIDE: 16; PALM
PRINCE: 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 1; POWAY 10; RAN
CHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN
MARCO 18; SANTER DRIVE IN 8; SOUTH
RAY: 12; THEATRE 18; VISTA 12; VISTA
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5:45, 6:45, 7:15, 7:45, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00.
Mission Valley 20
4940 Camino Del Mar South (858-538-2262)
1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 4:30, 6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:30,
9:00, 9:30, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30,
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10:30, 11:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30
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Town Square 14
700 Town Square Drive (858-274-2412)
8:00, 9:30, 10:45, 11:15, 12:30, 2:15, 4:45, 6:15,
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SOUTH BAY

CHULA VISTA
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Brookside between H and J (619-338-4214)
Barnyard (PG) Fri., Sat., Sun. 12:15 (2:45) 5:15, 7:30, 9:45
The Descent (R) Fri., Sat., Sun. 11:15 1:30, 3:45, 6:00, 8:15, 10:30
John Tucker Must Die (PG-13) Fri., Sat., Sun. 11:45 1:45, 4:15, 6:45, 9:15
Little Man (PG) Fri., Sat., Sun. 11:15 (1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30)
Miami Vice (R) Fri., Sat., Sun. 11:00 (2:15, 4:30, 7:00)
Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby (PG-13) Fri., Sat., Sun. 11:45 1:45, 4:45, 7:45, 10:45

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The Ant Bully (PG) Barnyard (PG) The Descent (R) The Devil Wears Prada (PG-13) John Tucker Must Die (PG-13)
Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby (PG-13) World Trade Center (PG-13) You, Me and Dupree (PG-13) Zoom (Not Rated)

San Marcos 18
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FALLOOK
Galaxy 6
526 S. Mission Road (760-945-4784)
Barnyard (PG) Fri., Sat., Sun. 12:50 (2:20, 4:50) 7:00, 9:30
The Descent (R) Fri., Sat., Sun. 11:15 (1:30, 3:45, 6:00, 8:15, 10:30)
John Tucker Must Die (PG-13) Fri., Sat., Sun. 11:45 1:45, 4:15, 6:45, 9:15
Little Man: The Runaway Rainbow (G) Sat., Sun. 10:30
Pulse (PG) Fri., Sat., Sun. 12:45 (2:45, 5:15)
Step Up (PG-13) Fri., Sat., Sun. 12:45 (5:15)
Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby (PG-13)

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Monster House

My Little Pony: The Runaway Rainbow

Pulse

Pulse

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The Devil Wears Prada

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Caos político

Los simpatizantes de Andrés Manuel López Obrador, candidato de Izquierda a la Presidencia de México, bloquearon el lunes pasado las autopistas que rodean la capital del país, donde abrieron el paso a los autos sin cobrarles peaje. Por sorpresa, como realizaron las acciones estos días los seguidores del político izquierdista, permitieron el paso de vehículos sin pagar en las autopistas que comunican la capital mexicana con Pachuca y Querétaro, al norte de la ciudad, Cuernavaca, al sur, y Puebla, al este de la capital.

Estas actos fueron consecuencia del descontento entre los seguidores de López Obrador ante el anuncio del Tribunal Electoral de que el presidente no se realizará un conteo parcial de las casillas que fueron utilizadas en las votaciones presidenciales del pasado 2 de julio. Según la Cámara de Comercio del Distrito Federal, piden 23 millones de dólares diarios por los planteones.

Viven en la calle

América Barceló

En el Condado de San Diego existen más de 300 indigentes durmiendo en las calles arrebatados de comida, ropa y los servicios básicos para subsistir.

Mientras los proyectos millonarios de desarrollo económico siguen incumpliendo con la ley, en el centro de San Diego, un elevado número de personas sin hogar vive albergado en estos edificios de lujo. Tal es el caso de Rodolfo Domínguez Benítez, de 49 años, que lleva cuatro años durmiendo afuera de comercios en el centro de San Diego.

“¿Dónde voy a dormir?”, se pregunta el hombre que vive en el suelo de los edificios de lujo. Rodolfo cuenta que hay varios casos de personas que han sido expulsadas de viviendas de lujo por el aumento de los alquileres.

Urge un cambio

Abraham Nudelsteiner

El sistema que debería de seguir la Federación Mexicana de Fútbol es la de organizar un campeonato a 30 fechas con una sola tabla de clasificación. La liguilla la jugarán los ocho equipos mejor colocados y de ahí se desprendería el campeón. El sistema resultaría el interés de los aficionados en todas las plazas donde hay futbol de Primera División pues el octavo boleto por llegar a la liguilla seguramente sería puleado por más de tres equipos.

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Pega susto

En una situación nunca vista antes en San Diego, autoridades sanitarias ordenaron el cierre de restaurantes al confirmarse la presencia de la bacteria Enterobacteriaceae en agua del Noriega del Condado. Los establecimientos afectados están ubicados en la plaza de Ramón Perinera, donde se detectó el agua contaminada. Las autoridades dijeron que no se tomaron medidas preventivas.

Magia en la pista

Kleasor López
Diario San Diego

El circo de los sueños (Circo del sueño) es una nueva forma de llevar el circo a toda la familia, pero principalmente hacia los niños para que se den cuenta que sus sueños son posibles.

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey ofrece ahora un show más íntimo, de mayor acercamiento a su público y de mayor contacto. Observando a las tres pistas de los niños que lo hacen caracterizado, ahora presentará una historia que llevará a los ‘pequeños’ y a todos a un viaje en donde mostrará sus habilidades y destrezas de todos los personajes que forman este gran circo que es considerado como el de mayor espectáculo a nivel mundial.

Sentado en una silla de piel negra grande y acuñada que se encuentra dentro del vestidor de los Padres de San Diego, Adrián González reflexionó sobre la gran temporada que está tomando en las Grandes Ligas.

“Eso es increíble, estoy muy contento con todo lo que me está pasando”, comentó el primer base del conjunto sandiego. Mientras acariciaba un cachorro building que el equipo donó a la Asociación de Animales, el joven pelotero de 24 años de edad admitió que nunca se imagino tener el impacto que ha logrado establecer dentro de la organización san dieguita.

“Yo llegué al equipo cuando Ryan Klesko era el titular de la primera base y que tendría que esperar mi oportunidad para subir, pero que lo hice”, comentó el primer base del conjunto sandiego. El mimo de Chula Vista ha sabido aprovechar su oportunidad y hasta el domingo pasado tenían un promedio de bateo de 0.306 con 19 cuadrangulares y 58 carreras producidas.
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EOE/PP 10015

TEAM MEMBERS

- Deliver fast, fun and friendly service to Target guests.
- Keep the Target brand experience consistent, positive and welcoming.
- Make a difference by responding quickly and responsively to guest and team member needs.
- Positions available in the following departments: Overnight Logistics & Backroom (Stocking) and Sales Floor

TEAM LEADERS

(HOURLY DEPARTMENT MANAGERS)

- Lead teams that provide fast, fun and friendly service to Target guests, both face-to-face and by supporting sales floor teams.
- Help to keep the Target brand experience consistent, positive and welcoming for guests.
- Hire, supervise and train team members to achieve target sales, service and presentation goals.
- Areas may include: Food Service, Garden Center, Guest Service, Overnight Logistics (Stocking) and Sales Floor

See the rewards:

- Target merchandise discount
- Competitive pay • Flexible scheduling
- Target merchandise discount
- Areas may include: Food Service, Garden Center, Guest
- Lead teams that provide fast, fun and friendly service to Target
- Help to keep the Target brand experience consistent, positive and welcoming for guests.
- Hire, supervise and train team members to achieve target sales, service and presentation goals.
- Areas may include: Food Service, Garden Center, Guest Service, Overnight Logistics (Stocking) and Sales Floor

See the rewards:

- Target merchandise discount
- Competitive pay • Flexible scheduling
- Target merchandise discount
- Areas may include: Food Service, Garden Center, Guest Service, Overnight Logistics (Stocking) and Sales Floor

Apply in person at the Employment Kiosk at the front of the store:
Target, 2245 Sports Arena Blvd, San Diego, CA 92110

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DRIVER/SALES MANAGER. Full time. 10am-5pm, Monday-Friday. 858-460-7533.

DRIVER/TOGGLE INSTALLER. Full time. 8:30am-5:30pm, 5 days a week. Company car. $700.00 per week + benefits. 619-450-8833.

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OFF THE CUFF
by Cruz Medina

I’d probably write about inter-racial racism. I’d tell a story about a kid coming up, maybe a few kids of different ethnicities. The shit that grinds me up the most, like Antoine Fisher-type real stories. I’d probably deal with all ethnicities that aren’t traditionally of privilege in this country. White people don’t have to deal with racism, but maybe money; poor whites have problems similar to ethnic racism. Have you ever seen White Man’s Burden? Everything’s flipped around and John Travolta was in the ghetto and all the white people are up in Beverly Hills. It still sticks to its stereotypes. Hollywood has a shitload of stereotypes. They never really showed any middle-class ethnicities; they only showed the white people in the ghetto with no in-between. More than likely I’d talk about a middle-class person of color because they have a lot of assets that they have to deal with. I’d also write a story about a crazy group of guys who go to Vegas, something along the lines of Very Bad Things, but not as cheesy.

I would write a book, it’d be about a different sort of exploitative adventures abroad. I’ve done the experience. I lived in Barcelona for six months but meeting different travelers through Europe — you meet some crazy characters there. Americans tend to flock together in Europe; I’d write about the groups of British people on holiday. It’d be like Hemingway’s The Sun Also Rises, with the running of the bulls in Pamplona. I’d be more Hemingway than Kerouac; I didn’t get into any fights like Hemingway; but I played a soccer game at two o’clock in the morning with a bunch of crackheads and vagrants. It was pretty fun, actually; it was one of those experiences that you remember forever. I want to go to Asia, maybe Japan for a different perspective journey, maybe a little reminiscent of Henry David Thoreau. I’d talk about things I’ve already reminisced about. There are a lot of differences; I lived in Barcelona for six years. Writing about the outdoors — you meet people on holiday. It’d be like Hemingway. I’d write about the groups of British people in the outdoors. If I were to write a fiction book, it would be similar to my own. I’m from Spain, so I might write about coming from Spain to live in the United States. There are a lot of differences; people are more friendly with strangers in the United States, but less close with their good friends. I’m from a small town near Madrid, but I always studied and worked in Madrid. People aren’t always polite with strangers. People here tend to be more individualistic.

What would you write a book about?

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619-858-3121

www.karihayden.com

Ocean Beach

Free phone consult:
Last week’s place (clue: Where Navy fliers were born?) Helicopters and hangars at Naval Air Station North Island, Coronado (as seen from Point Loma). The giant airplane hangars were built before World War II to house dirigibles; today, SH-60 Seahawk helicopters use helicopters. Inside, the helicopters look like “toys on the garage floor,” according to one observer. (Last week’s winners: Kevin, Debbie, Oscar, David, Chuck, Allen)


**4865 Convoy Street**


**Name This Place, Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92138. Phone and address. (Deadline, Tuesday, 9 a.m. in case of ties, lottery will determine top five winners.)

**RENTALS**

**Houses**


**San Diego, Central.** 2nd floor, 2 bath, 2 car garage, laundry, fireplace, balcony. $1495. 2 pets. 619-294-1271. New exterior paint. Wood floors. 619-294-4827.


**Bay Ho.** 2 private offices, large central area, 2 bathrooms, 2 car garage. Includes yard, view decks, building. caretaker accessible. 24/7 Easy access. 3 months deposit, 1 month utilities. Coin-operated, on-site parking. 619-423-1354. Free parking plentiful. Easy access in home, parking space in home. 619-718-6491. $1180/quarter feet. utilities extra. 858-372-0131.

**Tastefully furnished room. Perfect—if you are a young, healthy, single male. One year-old female. Beautiful, smart, and beautiful corals. Protein skimmers. Post free online ads. 619-388-7560.**


**COLLEGE AREA.** Tenants on their way in to campus coming home. 1 car garage, huge yard. RV parking. 3705-Gayle Street, 760-603-0007, 619-671-6589.

**ENCINITAS.** 2 bedroom, 1 bath, roommates, washer/dryer, hook-ups inside house. $750, 3 bedroom, near lake. 619-517-9258.


**CITY HEIGHTS.** 2 bedroom, 1.5 bathroom, great corner location. Near free-way. 619-379-2200. Email: HilltopManagement@msn.com. 858-272-9215.


**CHULA VISTA, RANCHO DEL REY.** Near SDSU. Large recreation room, fanned, washer/dryer, hook-ups, on-site parking, pets negotiable. 5 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-car garage, 2-month deposit. 619-451-6839. 619-477-8015. 619-278-4893.

**BAY PARK.** Peach face lovebird babies. Very sweet, gentle, friendly. 619-423-1354. $150 donation. 619-685-3536.

**CARDELL.** Charming house. 2 car garage. $1495; 6588. 619-291-5555.

**ALTADENA.** Remodeled 3-bedroom, 2-bath. Combination home in Rive Ranch. Includes water, $1195 deposit. 8708 Vidal. 619-426-7941.

**BANKER’S HILL.** Beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath, ocean view, near downtown, 18th floor. Pets negotiable. $2200/month. 3 months deposit. 619-540-0730. www.pacyouse.com.

**BAY PARK.** Peach face lovebird babies. Very sweet, gentle, friendly. 619-423-1354. $150 donation. 619-685-3536.

**COLLEGE AREA.** Tenants on their way in to campus coming home. 1 car garage, huge yard. RV parking. 3705-Gayle Street, 760-603-0007, 619-671-6589.

**COLLEGE AREA.** Tenants on their way in to campus coming home. 1 car garage, huge yard. RV parking. 3705-Gayle Street, 760-603-0007, 619-671-6589.


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VA Loan Headquarters
THE READER PUZZLE
by David Levinson Wilk

Across
1. Said "I'll hang loose, blood," say
2. Unkind moniker for Telly Savalas
3. Ms. Lopez, in tabloids
4. Mean-spirited
5. Love to bits
6. Stove's nub
7. Air rifle
8. 1986 Best New Artist Grammy winner LeAnn Rimes
9. "The only way to have a friend
10. B.O. purchase
11. "Home Alone" actor
12. They know the ropes
13. Magic place?
14. "Peaceful Warrior" (1986
15. 66.180 degree turn, slangily
16. Stroke's need
17. Not nearly all there
18. 1996 Best New Artist Grammy
19. Have the nerve
20. Rum-flavored dessert made by
21. ____-Prussian War (1866
22. ________, "daisy!"
23. de-sac
24. Opposite of norte
25. Enjoy, as fine food
26. ...is sad and dreary everywhere...
27. Stephen Foster
28. Saul...go, Marie
30. Baked pudding
31. Freezer bag brand
32. Carte blanche
33. "Man's best friend"
34. Psychiatric of the 60s
35. Sky competitor
36. Suffix with beat and peace
37. Firmy set
38. Porcelain
39. Neokwan for Spanglo Bore Square
40. Comedienne Boosler
41. Notorious bacteria
42. Ducal costume accessories
43. Really steamed
44. Top-notch
45. "Humorist's" (1998 Sarah McLachlan hit
46. Intrusive U.S. agency that's "tapped" each of this puzzle's themed answers
47. "...a law that will combat erectile dysfunction?": Emerson
48. Firmly set
49. Wakeful watches
50. Gershwin's "Rhapsody ____": Stephen Foster
51. Neckwear for SpongeBob SquarePants
52. Pusher pursuer
53. B.O. purchase
54. Jon Hutchens,
55. Dan Anderson,
56. "Lent a hand ____": Emerson
57. One entry per person.
58. All answers must be entered in the
59. There are more than five winners,
60. Solution to and winners of the
61. "Dream Big."

Down
1. "Concerto No 5 for Harmonic" composer
2. Gershwin's "____"
3. Wakeful watches
4. "Mr. Belvedere" actress Graff
5. Hourglass plastic
6. Spy TV, since 2006
7. Lent a hand
8. Mountain debris
9. City on the Ural
10. Comment from an Italian
11. Departing from a vacation to North America?
12. Pioneered
13. French landscape architect
14. Smartly dressed
15. 180 degree turn, slangily
16. "Mr. Belvedere" actress Graff
17. "...daisy!"
18. "You go, ____!
19. Have the nerve
20. Not nearly all there
21. "...a law that will combat erectile dysfunction?": Emerson
22. _O D_ (9 letters)
23. _E_E_ "daisy!"
24. _E_E_ (9 letters)
25. _E_E_ (9 letters)
26. _E_E_ (9 letters)
27. _E_E_ (9 letters)
28. _E_E_ (9 letters)
29. _E_E_ (9 letters)
30. _E_E_ (9 letters)
31. "...a law that will combat erectile dysfunction?": Emerson
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59. "...a law that will combat erectile dysfunction?": Emerson
60. "...a law that will combat erectile dysfunction?": Emerson

Rules of the Game
1. The prize for solving the Reader Puzzle will be a Reader T-shirt.
2. All entries in the Reader Puzzle contest must be received by the Reader by 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, five days following the issue date (Fax to 619-249-9111 or e-mail to rpuzzle@sandiegouniontribune.com).
3. Solution to and winners of the Reader Puzzle for 8/3/06.

San Diego Reader August 10, 2006
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**Mission Beach** 1-858-583-0182

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Oceanfront 2 bedroom, ocean view, pool, spa. All new! Walking distance to shopping. No pets. Available now.

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**La Jolla**

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LA JOLLA. Amazing location. One block to back ocean views. Walk to Windansea beach. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Parking. New furniture, appliances, all new! Available now.

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12-month/12,000-mile nationwide warranty

Minor Service Starting at $35.95

- Replace engine oil (15W40) & filter
- Replace air filter
- Rotate tires
- Check & adjust belt tension
- Inspect hoses & brake fluid
- Inspect antifreeze

Intermediate Service Starting at $82.95

- Change oil (15W40) & filter
- Check tire pressure
- Replace air filter
- Rotate tires
- Check & adjust belt tension
- Inspect hoses & brake fluid
- Inspect antifreeze

Major Service Starting at $149.95

- Change oil (15W40) & filter
- Check tire pressure
- Replace air filter
- Rotate tires
- Check & adjust belt tension
- Inspect hoses & brake fluid
- Inspect antifreeze

“Check Engine” Light On? $29.95

Regularly $59.95. Our ASE Master Technicians use the latest state-of-the-art computerized equipment.

- Computer scan
- Code translation
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Parts Call for your application

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Air conditioning performance check.

- Check for leaks
- Inspect systems & belts

 labor only. Most cars & light trucks. We are your retrofit & 134A specialists.

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13 million transmissions fail every year. Prolong your transmission’s life by a complete fluid flush.—Backsystem.

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- 4-cyl.
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- Replace spark plugs
- Adjust idle speed
- Adjust timing
- Check heater & air filters
- Check cap & rotor
- Check belts & hoses

Cooling System Services $24.95

- Annual Service
- Drain & fill radiator
- Pressure test system

Smog Inspection $24.95

Free retest with our repairs. Most cars Plus $4.25 certificate & $2 transfer fee. Call for appointment.

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- Check alternator output
- Check battery operation
- Check starter draw
- Check cables

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Econo Lube has Wireless Internet access, complimentary pastries, snacks, chips, soft drinks, fresh fruit, Starbucks coffee, and satellite TV.

**Free Oil Change**

Up to 4 quarts of 15W40. Included for extra $15

**Manager’s Special OIL CHANGE**

$9.99

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**OCEANSIDE**


**OCEANSIDE**

30th, 1 bedroom. $1150. 1 bathroom, heat, walk up. Off-street parking. 30th Street, #3. 619-434-6678.

**OCEANSIDE**

3rd, utility included 1 bedroom 1 bath. 2 blocks from North Ave, 350 sq/ft. Parking. 1 block to Bay. 863-6371.

**OCEANSIDE**

Point Loma. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. All utilities included. Parking. 1665 Radcliffe Ave. 858-487-4020.

**OCEANSIDE**

Point Loma. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. $875. 1 block from alley. Parking. 1665 Radcliffe Ave. 858-487-4020.

**OCEANSIDE**

Point Loma. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. $875. 1 block from alley. Parking. 1665 Radcliffe Ave. 858-487-4020.

**SMOG CHECK $16.85**

($16.85 for certificants and $2.50 for others. Most cars.) No appt necessary.

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**FREE BRAKE INSPECTIONS**

$30 off BRAKE JOBS

Jay and Laura Flynn of Liburna, Ga., filed a $111 million lawsuit in June against Home Depot and the maker of Tile Perfect Stand’N Seal Grout Cleaner, charging that a defect caused toxic fumes that permanently destroyed half of Jay’s lung capacity, weeks after he was exposed to the fumes, according to Laura, ended the couple’s “extremely active love life.” She added, “I mean, every day. But now that is over.”

There Must Be Somebody We Can Sue: (1) Daughter Carrell Lough, 25, is suing her parents for at least $75,000 for the broken ankle she suffered in a fall on their property when she paid them an unexpected visit in Darlington, S.C., in 2005. The mother said she appreciated the surprise birthday visit, but didn’t anticipate any injuries. (A judge refused to toss out the lawsuit in July.) (2) Jaime Pinello filed a lawsuit in Hackensack, N.J., in June against the estate of his late brother’s late girlfriend. Daniel Pinedo and Xandra Martinez were married in May 2004, execution style, by Ortiz’s jealous former boyfriend, and Jaime Pinello alleged that that was Ortiz’s fault.

The Laws of Irony: (1) In June, former peace activist Brings, 30 (who had gone to Iraq in 2003 to protest the impending U.S. attack), was arrested in Islington, England, and charged with knocking a man out (leaving him in a coma) in a fight after being hit on the man’s girlfriend. (2) The British watchdog Environmental Agency, which prosecutes polluting companies, was charged with shooting animals. A court found them guilty of allowing toxic waste to flow from its monitoring station along the River Exe in Somerset. (3) In July, municipal officials in Providence, R.I., had a controversy simmering that involves criticism from hundreds of residents and patients facing having to give poll-takers straight answers from one question to the next. For example, 40 percent said they never “lied” but in the next question, about 10 percent of those 40 percent said they might even have lied just within the previous week. More than half said lying was “never” justified, but two-thirds then said they sometimes do.

Signs of the Times: Coffee is okay sometimes.

The Birth of a Criminal: (1) Nurse Christopher Irvin, 32, was charged in June with stealing from the Veterans Administration. He was sentenced to 27 months in prison for embezzling $1.5 million from the federal government. (2) Contractor Thomas Stanley, 40, of Pennsylvania, was also sentenced to 27 months in prison for embezzling $91 million from Home Depot in June. Stanley was also sentenced to 27 months in prison for embezzling $1.5 million from the federal government.

People with Issues: (1) In June, Betty Jean Barachie was sentenced to 27 months in prison for embezeling $1.5 million from her employer so that she could indulge a compulsive-shopping habit; among her 1,500-item haul were 58 coats, 16 chainsaws, more than 3,000 books, and a John Deere tractor. (2) Nurse Christopher Irvin, 32, was charged in April with molesting a comatose 4-year-old girl under his care at Children’s Hospital in San Diego; he told police he had touched the girl’s genitals only “to see if I liked it.” (He said he had touched her because he wasn’t really aroused, he must not be attracted to children.)

Lease: Must be somebody we can sue.
Free Classifieds

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$795-$850, Studio-1 Bedroom. Two
Bedrooms. Three Bedrooms—Four Bed-
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$795. Remodeled 1 bed-
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Near shops, stores. Restaurants. No pets.
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$795. 1 Bedroom. Com-
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Parking and laundry includes. 3144 Green
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handicapped parking! Private fenced yard.
Gated parking. Small pet considered. No
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SOUTH SAN DIEGO/SOUTH PARK.
$795. 1 Bedroom/1 Bath Apartment.
Great location! Great price. 1 block to the
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$700. 1 Bedroom. Com-
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SPORTS ARENA/PT. LOMA
$895. 3 Bedroom, 2.5 Bath Townhom-
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SPRINGS.
$1095. 1 bedroom. Private 
entrance. Off-street parking. Clean, new
paint, hardwoods. Private fenced yard!
Great location! Call Laura. 619-651-9277.

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$894. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhomes.
Includes all utilities. (619) 532-9160.

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trance. Off-street parking. Clean, new
paint, hardwoods. Private fenced yard!
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SPRINGS.
$1095. 1 bedroom. Private 
entrance. Off-street parking. Clean, new
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CALL FOR TUNE-UP.
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Thirty Years Ago
Entire sections of the [Comedy Store] audience were on their way out, disgusted by the preceding scene. I wonder to this day whether anyone could have made them laugh at that point. Not one sentence was out of my mouth when they began tooller, “Get her out! Get the hook!” I made believe I didn’t hear them, but the silence was worse.

“I CAN’T SEE YOU OVER THERE! I CAN HEAR YOu...” Judy Lin,
August 12, 1976

Twenty-Five Years Ago
Dave likes to hang out on the wall separating the sidewalk from the sand at the foot of Newport Avenue in Ocean Beach, watching “all the little honey’s” walking by in their bathing suits. He lives off the few dollars he makes selling blood to the plasma center two blocks up Newport, and eats most of his meals free at the Point Loma Methodist Church on nearby Cable Street.

“I January I met this family, a couple and their two kids, who were livin’ in their car in the Santa Barbara Harbor parking lot. About six months ago they moved down here ‘cause the weather’s nicer and the atmosphere is mellower, and when they came back in June to pick up a welfare check, I came down here with ‘em.”

—“LOW TIDE AT O.B.,” Thomas K. Arnold,
August 13, 1981

Twenty Years Ago
One night in the late ’60s, after nodding out during the sci-fi flick starring William Lundigan, I did some tooling around on an astral plane. My consciousness floated out of my body and bobbed above the bed like a balloon full of psychic energy. My suspended being perceived the flickering TV set and the crumpled paper bag on the night table. Were the bag’s earlier contents — four White Castle hamburgers — to blame for the current circumstance?

—“JUST GET OUT!” Bill Owens, August 14, 1981

Fifteen Years Ago
I have further details about the cultural level of this planet to add to my previous reports.

I have discovered a bizarre institution called the “air show.” The occasion for my investigation is an annual air show at a location called Miramar in San Diego, California, USA, North America, to be held this weekend.

Apparently other such shows are held elsewhere on this planet. These shows reveal what the people of Sol III are like.

Airplanes, I should explain, are flying machines propelled by fossil fuels. Each flight uses huge quantities of these resources and pollutes the planet’s atmosphere with poisons.

—“A WING AND A PRAYER,” Snorri Sturluson,
August 15, 1991

Ten Years Ago
Pete Wilson hitched his political career in San Diego, and it is here that it’s likely to die. The rise of the city’s ex-mayor to presidential candidate (“dour,” “a great campaigner,” “not interested in governing,” “never underestimate him,” “really fun when you get him on one”) was stalled last year by San Diego characters and circumstances that gained national notoriety. It is ironic that Wilson, who fancies three-piece suits, imported silk ties, Italian shoes, expensive cigars, and wealthy friends, would be brought down by a pair of Mexican maids and their La Jolla employers.

—“WELCOME, GOP CONVENTION DELEGATES, TO SAN DIEGO, CITY OF SHAMS,” Matt Potter,
August 8, 1996

Five Years Ago
On a recent Saturday, I visited the jam-packed sands of Pacific Beach. Like bees buzzing themselves with their honeycomb, sun-wor-shipers buzzed themselves with recreation — beer, tanning, horseshoes. The tanned flesh of the toned twentiesomething crowd was dotted here and there with bits of ink and metal, belly-button piercings and tatoos having slid from roguishness into trendiness. I weaved my way through the buzzing crowd, searching for a queen bee who would give me her perspective into the feminism of the new millennium.

—“CITY LIGHTS,” PRETTY WOMAN,” Deirdre Lucken,
August 9, 2001

Columns archived at SanDiegoReader.com
Dear Saffron,

My childhood wasn't so great, and my relationships with family members have never grown to anything worth pursuing. My mother is a single parent of five; I am the youngest child. Throughout my childhood and adolescent years, I endured a lot of physical and sexual abuse at the hands of my two older brothers. One sexually abused me, and a few years later the other began physically attacking me — which led to a great deal of verbal and emotional abuse from numerous other family members. Negative thoughts and feelings plagued my mind with self-doubts that were painful. All of this hurt and emotional stress deprived me of a healthy foundation to mature from. I was robbed of my childhood and left with scars that affect me as a young adult today. I have been ready to confront my feelings regarding my abuse and surprisingly ready to address my feelings to them.

I will be getting married in February of '06, and I certainly want to make this marriage not all of my family. Yes, I want to leave all of my "unfinished business" in the past before I move on towards a much brighter future. I want to express my pain, as well as extend my forgiveness. What would be the best way to communicate these feelings to my family without inducing pain in them? Please help.

MENDING A BRIDGE

Dear Mending a Bridge,

I’m impressed with your bravery and your ambition to forgive. I believe that someone like you — who has suffered through a nightmarish childhood, yet has had the strength to go on and build a good life— deserves admiration and lots of expert help. If you haven’t already done so, I recommend that you find a psychotherapist, social worker, or counselor that you like and trust to assist you in figuring out how to clear the air with your family. This process will show someone who has expertise and experience in dealing with abusive families. I suggest finding a therapist not because I think you are crazy or screwed up, but because you want to attempt something complicated and possibly dangerous. A therapist will help you protect yourself. Family members have harmed you in the past, and you have no guarantee they won’t try to do it again. Here are some resources for finding counseling or a therapist.

Center for Community Solutions, 858-272-1767; National Association of Social Workers, 619-232-9622. You can also look in the Yellow Pages under ‘psychologists’ information and referral services.’ Talk to friends and counsellors who might have a lead on a good psychotherapist or counselor to be your ally in this courageous undertaking. It might take a while to find the right person, but it will be worth it. In addition to finding a professional to be on your side, you are going to need support during this attempted reconciliation from close friends and your fiancé. And here’s something that you might not want to hear: Sometimes a person will ultimately decide that what’s best for him or her is to stay away from some or all of their family, much as they wish this wasn’t so.

Remember, just because you are ready, willing, and able to confront the past doesn’t mean that your family is. Some people are never ready to do this. You may have to prepare yourself for the possibility that your good-faith attempt to make some kind of peace with your family may not work — meaning that it may not have the outcome you hope for. They might not be capable of rising to this occasion. If your family is not able to respond positively to your overture, that’s not your fault. In this case you may choose to do what is necessary for you to forgive them on your own — to move on without their participation. If this happens, it’s perfectly okay. You did what you could. You can’t force people to face things or do what’s right. You can’t change other people. You can only change yourself.

Write to Saffron Circle, c/o La Jolla Reader, PO Box 5830, San Diego CA 92128-5830; call her at 619-235-3000 ext. 413; fax her at 619-881-2401; or e-mail her at saffron@readers.com.

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THAT'S HOLI FOR YOU

We've all seen kids color elephants red, color the sky pink, and color water yellow. Such iconoclastic color schemes are usually the results of lack of adequate colors or indifference to compliance with nature. But have you ever seen grown-up folks color each other red, blue, black, silver, green, and pink? Or pour colored water on everyone that happens to come his or her way? Or fire streams of colored water at friends, family, and neighbors?

That's holi for you! It's a festival of colors that paints the whole of India in the last week of March. A festival where everyone gladly gets themselves colored, when kids fill balloons with colored water and paint their aims at all kinds of targets, when the whole family gets together and enjoys thandai (a drink composed of milk, almonds, saffron, etc.), and when most of India is out there in the streets, I'm comfortably decked up in my bathroom.

When I was 3 years old, I visited a relative of mine with my parents. The visit was on the same day as holi. Now, while I sat in grandpa's lap, my dad was out being colored beyond recognition. Being a firm devotee of my dad, I waged my first war of independence to try and get to his rescue, but enemy forces overpowered me and I helplessly watched red, pink, green, black, and what-have-you color the biosphere!

When Dad made his way out of the color circus, I celebrated by crying for the next three hours! Turns out, I was so shocked (probably by the fact that Dad's color scheme shocked (probably by the fact that Dad's color scheme)

that I had to be taken inside a room and wouldn't see anyone except Mom for quite a long time!

I took this event in my stride, but as a side effect, I kept away from holi for the next 17 years.

Every year on the eve of holi, my cousins would come down to my home and sleep in my room. "Why?" did I ask? It gives immense pleasure to people who play holi to people who don't. Maybe it's their sense of egalitarianism, maybe they don't miss others to miss out on the colorful part of life...

Not to be outdone, every year I'd wake up first, get a book, a towel, some food, and a nice pillow and set up camp in the bathroom. A bathroom's a wonderful creation of our home. You're allowed to enjoy solitude, ponder on the events going on in the world, think about the last cricket match between Sussex and Middlesex, imagine intelligent life existing elsewhere in the universe, play Snake on your Nokia till you're able to beat your previous high score, and think up a strategy on how you'd approach your latest crust only to discard it five minutes later in favor of another strategy that'd also have a five-minute shelf life.

And, of course, it's home. My cousins could bang the door for all they were worth, and I'd peacefully count the seconds there before Mom would shoo all the color-terrorists away.

Things changed last year. Under popular demand, I buckled.

Well, I reckoned it wouldn't hurt anyone to try out holi once. I announced to one and all that I'd be home to play holi — and not just with myself in the bathroom. How did every-one respond? Not a single soul turned up to color me, and I was left sleeping till it was almost noon. (Maybe I should have tried this trick earlier.)

My elder brother turned up to do the honors. And how! The thing about using colors is that you're supposed to oil yourself before you start so that it'd be easy to wash away the color when you have a bath. Bro, well, he finished off two cases of pink on me, and no points for guessing that he didn't allow me to oil myself.

Getting colored was no fun at all. It went in my eyes, making me look like a red-eyed maniac.

It went in my mouth, making me go thoo thoo thoo thoo for hours. And it pervaded my scalp, turning the dandruff on my head pink!

I'm done with holi. To hell with color and to hell with color fest. Back to the bathroom next year.

http://sunnyblogs.blogspot.com/
**Bank Robbery**

**Location:** 9710 Camino Road, Spring Valley  
**Time/Date:** 10:53 pm. on 8/2/06

**Incident:** Deputies from the Lemon Grove Station responded to an armed robbery at the GameStop Video. An armed black male, 5-8”, 150, wearing a black baseball cap with a dark colored bandana over his face went in [the store] with a silver color revolver. The armed suspect demanded money from the register. The deputy walked the employee to the back room to open the cash registers. The robber took approximately $200 from the registers. The robber told the employee to get down on the ground. The robber was last seen walking out of the store.

**MAIL/WIRE/BANK FRAUD AND MONEY LAUNDERING**

**Location:** various locations in San Diego  
**Time/Date:** various times from July, 2004–June, 2006

**Report:** United States Attorney Carol L. Amann announced...the unsealing of a criminal indictment in federal court in San Diego, charging attorney Michael S., formerly a criminal investigator with the Internal Revenue Service, and Wendy H., arising from their participation in a scheme to defraud clients of S.’s law firm and two federally insured financial institutions. S. and H. were associated with Xelan, Inc. (the Economic Association of Healthcare Professionals), a financial and tax planning firm that specialized in “tax strategies” for its members. After July 2004, S. severed his relationship with Xelan, formed his own law firm, and hired H. to be his Chief Financial Officer.

S. and H. are charged with a scheme to defraud former Xelan clients and financial institutions in the following four ways. First, the [suspects] made false and misleading representations concerning distributions the clients would receive from Doctors Benefit Insurance Company (“DBIC”), a Xelan-affiliated entity. S. and H. falsely represented that 8% of the clients’ distributions were required to be paid by law to be deposited in an Interest on Lawyers Trust Account and were only to be used for legal expenses. Instead, S. and H. converted these funds to their own personal use. In order to conceal the conversion of client funds, S. and H. caused fraudulent bank statements to be sent to the clients showing that the funds were still on deposit.

Second, the indictment charges S. and H. with obtaining the credit card numbers of former Xelan clients and using those numbers to bill credit card companies for charges that were not authorized by the clients.

Third, the indictment charges S. and H. with defrauding Union Bank of California by depositing a stolen and altered check into a bank account created in a fictitious business name. (They) then used the Union Bank account to write checks to pay the mortgage on S.’s personal residence and the office rent for [his] law firm.

Fourth, the indictment charges S. and H. with defrauding Wells Fargo Bank by depositing over $200,000 in checks drawn on S.’s law firm account into H’s personal bank account, knowing that there were insufficient funds in the law firm account to cover the checks. These funds were then used for S. and H.’s personal benefit.

**DUI**

**Location:** 13500 Carriage Road, Poway  
**Time/Date:** 10:00 p.m. on 7/26/06

**Résumé of Incident:** Poway Sheriff’s deputies and Poway Fire Department responded to a reported vehicle vs. pedestrian collision. Investigation at scene indicated the driver of a Dodge Dakota pickup, accompanied by two passengers, was driving northbound on Carriage Road, north of Papago Drive. The driver left the roadway and traveled onto the sidewalk and front yard of a residence. After colliding with a chain link fence, the vehicle struck a resident who was standing on the sidewalk in front of her home, causing serious injuries. The driver continued north a short distance striking two additional vehicles before coming to a stop. The driver, identified as 20-year-old Jonathan F., was subsequently arrested by Deputy Dueno.

— Michael Hemmingsen
**Furniture**

**Free Classifieds**

**Furniture**

- **PUFFER**
  - cabinet, black with black matte
  - Very pretty! $250, 601-431-9504.

- **OAK & LEATHER**
  - Desk, oak with black leather

- **BED FRAME**
  - $75. 21 wood end tables, pecan with glass tops.
  - $90. 619-426-2727.

- **BED**
  - $169 A BARGAIN.
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- **BED**
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- **HEADBOARDS, FOOTBOARDS, FRAMES**
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  - Call 619-260-8000.

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  - $89. 21 black leather, on casters.

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  - Several pieces in excellent condition.
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  - $75. Anaheim.
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- **FILING CABINETS**
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  - 619-424-6647.

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  - $50. Like new selling for $75.
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  - $1000. Portal Loma.
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  - $239. Credit cards accepted.
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ONE NIGHT, WHEN I LIVED IN CLAIREMONT, HORROR CAME IN through the front door. I was cooking chicken in the tiny old oven in the dilapidated kitchen of my ancient apartment. While cooking, I divided my time between talking on the phone to my girlfriend and watching the leprechaun on television. In the oven, my glass baking dish sat filled with bubbling chicken, and atop the pinkish meat were darkly glistening rings of a red onion. On the phone, I told Diane how my face had flushed red and my eyes watered each time I checked my cooking dinner and asked her how long it should take. My phone beeped.

“Hang on, someone’s calling,” I said into the little silver plastic device. “Oh, no one’s calling. It’s the battery. It’s about to die.”

“Half an hour,” she told me.

“Half hour!” I protested. “My house is going to be a hundred degrees by then, and my eyes are going to pop out from the onions.” Deep, went my phone.

I said our goodbyes and I went about opening all the windows and the front door. I pulled the hot dish out and poked at the chicken with a fork to test the color of the juice. Still bloody. I snatched the sleek little body of my phone from the yellow tile corner and walked it into my bedroom to put it on its cradle charger. I had no idea that the fright of my life was stealing in through the front door.

My dinner was nearly done, and the oven door swung and clanged closed. On the television, the leprechaun crept from an open closet to hide beneath a desk so he could spring out and kill again. I glanced down my hallway and saw a small eye peering around the corner at me about six inches above the floor.

I live alone. Nothing else living and with an eye should be in this apartment right now, I thought. The eye twitched. My phone was in my bedroom, behind the eye, so I couldn’t call for assistance. The eye was in the hallway to my front door, so screaming out in the hallway wasn’t an option. I bolted from my chair and grabbed a fork from the stovetop and charged into the hallway. “GO AWAY, LEPRECHAUN!” I screamed and dove through the air at the small eye peeking around the corner at me about six inches above the floor.

A thin black cat, greeted by the warm smell of chicken, must’ve followed me in from the front yard. He skittered out the front door, chased away by a crying lunatic bearing a silver fork.

WHAT I WILL AND WON’T WATCH THIS WEEK

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10

THE FLAVOR OF LOVE
VHI 2:00 P.M.

This is my new favorite show. Flava Flav does pretty much exactly what I would do if I were very rich. He womanizes. Rides around in limousines. And always wears a Viking helmet. God knows me poor because he knows nobody wants to see me in a tabletop cape and a pair of choo-choo underpants.

GENE SIMMONS; FAMILY JEWELS
AETV 11:00 P.M.

I want to dress Gene Simmons in a nine-dollar blue button-down shirt and a pair of khaki carpenter pants, sit him down at my Ikea desk, and make him write, “It’s just a band. I’m not a carpenter.”

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11

PAM 7:00 P.M.

As with most movie titles, my mind goes berserk at the possibility for pornographic rearrangement. Like, when I first saw American Beauty, I thought the film American Beauty couldn’t be too far behind. For this one, “Harry” can be “Hairy” and “Potter” can be well... let’s not be too literal here. And the converted version of “Chamber of Secrets” is too filthy to mention, far too filthy. Oh, my stars and garters, you disgusting little things, you.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12

MAN’S FAVORITE SPORT? (1964)
TCM 9:00 A.M.

I have a theory that any sport is just an elaborate ritual to get a hug. Maybe that’s why I never invited back to wrestling camp after that one time. I thought it was because I wore a beret to all my matches and baked cupcakes for my opponents. Although, I suppose none of that really helped.

CHASING FARrah
TV LAND 11:30 A.M.

Farrah should open her own home-improvement store and call it “Farrah’s Kitchen and Bath.” (You thought I was going to make a crack about Fawcett’s Faucets, didn’t you? You dirty ass, what do you think I’m doing here? I’m trying to run a business consulting firm for the formerly beautiful, and you think I sit around here all day making puns about this poor strumpet’s last name! I can’t stand you.)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13

ON THE ROAD WITH 16 CHILDREN
DHC 10:00 P.M.

I’d shoot myself before I got to Temecula.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 14

GIRLFRIEND GETAWAYS
QVC 11:00 P.M.

I looked. This show is about luggage. I find that appropriate, as I imagine any man watching QVC at 11 o’clock on a Monday night can deflate his “girlfriend” and fit her into a carry-on. You know what I mean. WINK!

TUESDAY, AUGUST 15

OIL, SWEAT, AND RIGS
DHC 11:00 P.M.

Clint Eastwood is in. Now all I have to do is resurrect the ghost of Lee Marvin so I can film Paint Your Vagon II: This Time It’s on an Oil Rig. Oh, there’ll be sweat, work gloves, and hard helmets, but the real story is that these men love to sing and dance. ALL ABOARD! We’re drilling for PIZZAZZ!

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16

WWE DIVA SPECIAL: THE SEXIEST WOMAN ON TELEVISION
USA 10:00 P.M.

I dare say, the sexiest woman on television is not one of these man-beasts who looks as if she was dragged out of the Paleolithic era and shaved only this morning.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17

ON THE ROAD WITH 16 CHILDREN
DHC 10:00 P.M.

I’d shoot myself before I got to Temecula.

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SILK BRADS, 1000 silk brads for $1.50. 4x; 6x; 9x; 12x; 15x; 18x; 20x.REAMER, 250,000 Guinea Pig, $1.50.

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SAN DIEGO AUGUST 10, 2006

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“What happened to your shorts?”

By John Brizzolara

Let me tell you about my leave of absence. Like you’re dying to know. One letter poured in. It was hard to tell exactly what the writer was trying to express as it was written in crayon or possibly lipstick, but he seemed to miss the column—at least I think that’s what the message was. The obscenities indicated his anger at my leave-taking.

Jettin to Aruba is tiresome, uncomfortable, and annoying. Especially if you’re sitting next to a fellow car salesman for motel chains who wants to tell you every fascinating aspect of the job. Airline peanut bags are still as hard to open as ever, and airport security—well, you probably know. Aruba isn’t what it once was, but you can’t find good seafood restaurants. A good steak? Good luck. There are a lot of Germans there, as oblivious as Americans or Australians (who are essentially Americans in training).

The flight back to the West Coast was relatively painless. I slept through most of it and missed a screening of Corby Romano, which I will grape about on long winter evenings.

The baths at Escalen are soothing still, even more so after a two-week bout of drinking in Aruba. In Big Sur I had switched to bourbon (far more reliable than grappa and absinthe, which is cheap in Aruba) and plenty of it. I saw flying saucers over the Pacific from my hot tub one night in Escalen. Though you might be tempted to attribute it to the bourbon, they were as real as taxes to me.

One more stop via Aero Mexico to Puerto Vallarta, with a nasty hangover that tequila soon quieted. I found it to be hot as hell, naturally, but no more so than San Diego this summer. I understand. I tried to find Carlos Murphy’s to sit in Richard Burton’s chair or maybe Liz Taylor’s, but I found myself staggering a little bit and the old eyesight was revealing two of everything, so I never made it. Maybe it’s not there anymore. I spent a lot of time on the beach with Coronas and sport a George Hamilton tan even now.

Just kidding. I’ve been in rehab again. I can just hear the women in the Reader front office answering phone calls for me, saying, “I’m sorry, he’s unavailable. In rehab again, you know.” And anyone who knows me would just nod and say, “Right, okay.”

Rehab is great for stories. Half of them are codswallop about crimes that may or may never have happened. But one guy, a stand-up comedian named Bo or Beau, who can’t get on stage sober, had a story I believed wholeheartedly. It was about a night drinking with the boys in Mission Beach and he blacks out, only he’s got his passport with him somehow in his back pocket. The boys decide to take a vacation right there on the spot, and Bo wakes up in Jamaica, only he thinks he’s in Mission Beach.

The beach looks a little different, and the people sure as hell look different. He sees a lot of black people and a lot of Rasta locks. He sees what looks like a Denny’s, only the lettering is odd. Bo doesn’t feel too good. He’s got about $100 in his pocket, and he looks for a liquor store to get a bottle and get his act together. He finds one and purchases a bottle of rum that is cheap. The change he gets back looks odd, but what the hell. He downs a good bit of the contents and stands in front of the liquor store and shouts, “Woo-hoo! Yes!” Then he looks for a bus to take him to La Jolla.

He actually finds a bus in a pretty short order but is miserly surprised at the number of chickens on board. He accepts this with the philosophical aplomb of the shot-slinging drunk.

Working through the bottle on the bus, Bo gets very unsteady. His head is wobbling this way and that, and he’s pretty much falling out of his seat. The guy behind him either takes pity on him or gets thoroughly annoyed and tips Bo’s head to the headrest with a sweater. So Bo’s sitting there wondering why he can’t move—thinks he’s paralyzed, a stroke or something. By the time he figures out what’s restraining him, he has to take a leak pretty badly, and he’s peeing all over the place simultaneously. He’s got to get off the bus. He works his way loose from the sweater and staggers to the front of the bus, yelling, “I gotta get off!” He’s making such a scene, the bus driver pulls over.

So, Bo stands on a street corner throwing up. His unit is out of his shorts, and he’s spraying all over everything, including himself. Through some act of God, he is directly in front of the hotel where his buddies are staying. He sees one of them just a few yards away and he’s brought inside.

“How the hell have you been, Bo?”

“Where the hell have you been? And where’s my luggage?” By this time he realizes he’s not in Kansas anymore.

“You didn’t bring any. You came just like you are.”

“Woo-hoo! I thought I lost it.”

“What happened to your shorts?”

“I plead on them. You got any extras?”

His buddy did.

Bo found his return-trip ticket in his wet shorts. The ticket’s soaked too. So he makes it back to San Diego and does his gig at the Comedy Store—but drinking so much bourbon to do it, he checks himself into rehab.

How did I really get to rehab? Don’t ask. I’ll tell you that it had to do with an instant bottle of Stolichnaya vodka and went on from there. Why did I do it? Sorry, there’s no good answer there; it’s the way it is with me, but it doesn’t have to be. This thing can’t be cured, but it can be what they call arrested, and I know empirically what that means.

The gift of alcohol: it just keeps on giving.