

SAN DIEGO WEEKLY

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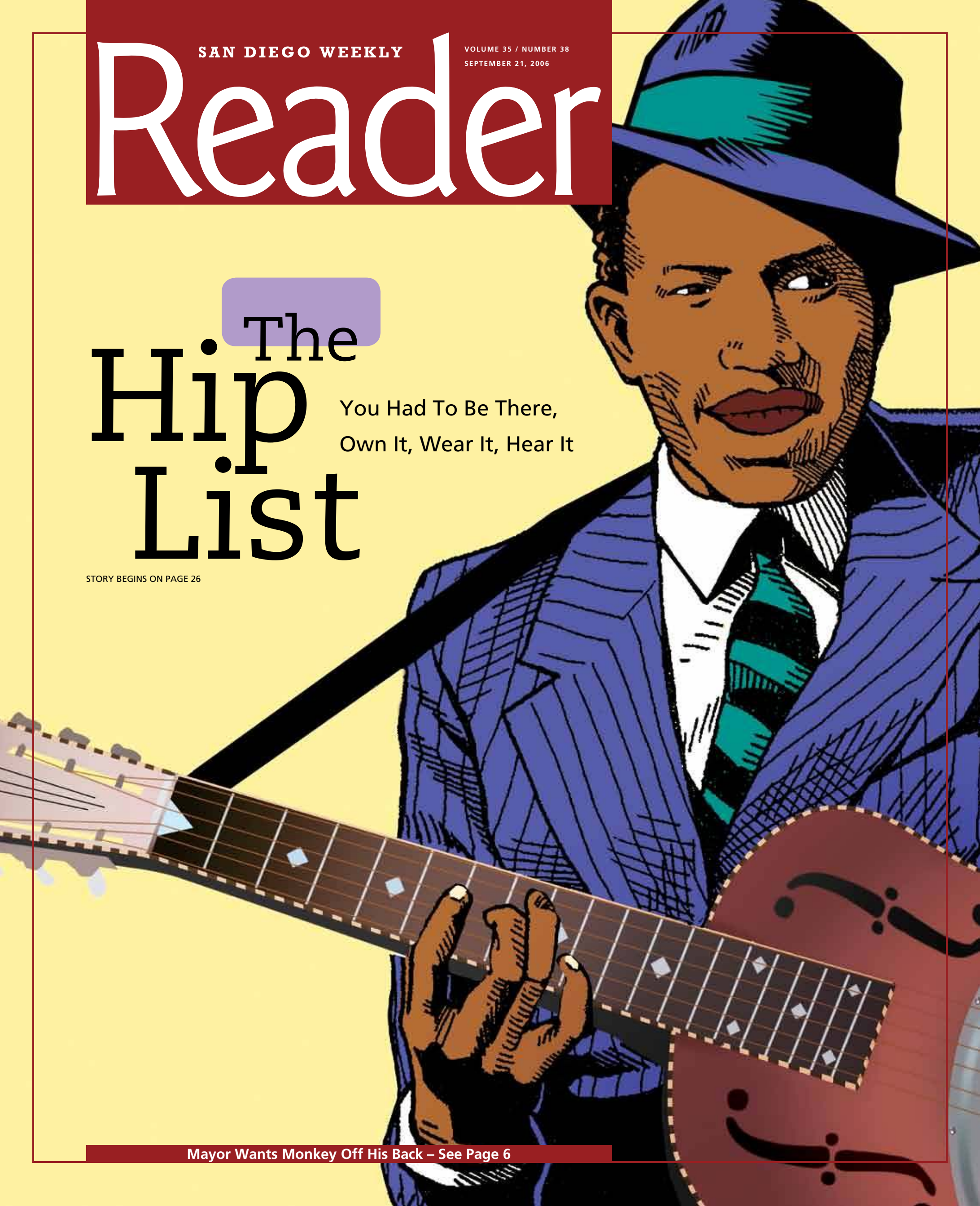
Reader

The Hip List

You Had To Be There,
Own It, Wear It, Hear It

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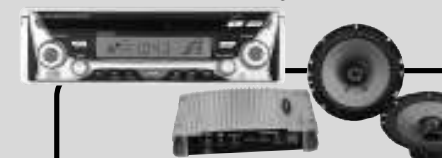
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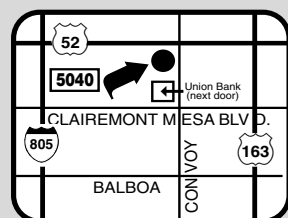
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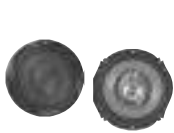
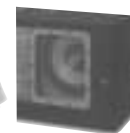
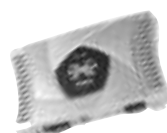
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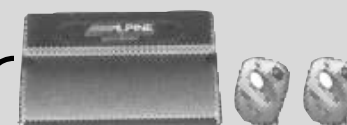
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An archive of City Lights stories can be searched on the Internet at SanDiegoReader.com

Red-light district Just exactly who is bankrolling this fall's ballot crusade by San Diego mayor **Jerry Sanders** to privatize city services and limit pension options for city workers? First on the list in a campaign financial disclosure statement filed this summer by the group backing the Sanders measures is ACS State and Local Solutions, formerly known as Lockheed Martin IMS Corp., a Washington, D.C., outfit that makes those controversial red-light cameras that have had a lot of motorists fuming. ACS, which kicked in \$2000 to San Diegans for City Hall Reform back on June 28, has made a good living by collecting a percentage of the fines that result from its automatic photos.

Another donor to the cause, Anheuser-Busch, which gave \$2500, is the proprietor of SeaWorld, a city lessee that relies heavily on the city's good-



will to fend off critics of its environmental policies and lease terms.

Then there is OM Foster, LCC,

which gave \$10,000. Records reveal the entity to be a downtown real estate partnership between developer Oliver McMillan and the wealthy landowning family led by **Pauline Foster** of Rancho Santa Fe, former board member of the Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego and mother-in-law of state education chief **Alan Bersin**.

A \$5000 donor is Rural/Metro Corporation, the Phoenix-based company that has a contract to run the city's ambulances.

For some reason, the Sycuan Indian band, proprietor of a large gambling casino in East County, is also so concerned about the state of outsourcing in San Diego that it has ponied up a total of \$20,000 for the campaign.

The Builders, Associates, Contractors PAC gave \$35,000. And the San Diego Lodging Industry Association PAC contributed \$25,000. Former city council candidate and pro-Soledad Cross maven **Phil Thalheimer**, who runs a flight school and is said to harbor future political ambitions, gave \$10,000.



Phil Thalheimer

The bucks start here The fledgling Truman Association of San Diego, a group of centrist, pro-business Democrats vowing to vie with the local GOP's wealthy Lincoln Club in the busy arena of independent fund-raising and campaign spending, has picked its first candidate deemed worthy of support. She's **Katherine Nakamura**, an incumbent San Diego school board member running against **Michael McSweeney**, a high-ranking Republican whom some Democrats see as a future threat to Democratic city council aspirations. Elected four years ago after a rough-and-tumble campaign during which the *Union-Tribune* attacked her Republican opponent **Jeff Lee** by disclosing confidential military service documents apparently leaked



Katherine Nakamura

to the paper by someone in the Pentagon, Nakamura was an ardent backer of ex-school superintendent **Alan Bersin**. That was until two years ago, when Lee's wife **Mitz**, along with two other newly elected board members and board incumbent **John de Beck**, made it

clear they would send Bersin packing. Bersin, a nominal Democrat, now serves as Governor **Arnold Schwarzenegger**'s secretary of education. Ironically enough, considering this year's Truman Association endorsement, Nakamura's first race was heavily backed by wealthy downtown Republicans, including real estate mogul **Malin Burnham**, who personally spent \$20,000 on radio spots beating up on her opponent. Coincidentally, that's about the same amount that Truman Association cofounder **Art Castanares**, a political consultant and former top aide to ex-state senator **Steve Peace**, says his group is planning to come up with for Nakamura this year.

Crossed up When he's not out on the hustings praising the merits of the Kroll report on past malfeasance at city hall or plugging his privatization measure, one of San Diego mayor **Jerry Sanders**'s biggest causes of late has been keeping



Jerry Sanders



Rana Sampson

the Mount Soledad Cross. But not every member of his family agrees. So reports **Don Harrison** on Jewish-sightseeing, a website dedicated to coverage of local people and issues of that faith. Last month Harrison, a onetime political consultant, lobbyist, *Union-Tribune* writer, and top aide to the late city councilman **Bill Cleator**, interviewed Sanders and his wife **Rana Sampson**, an academic-minded ex-cop from New York whom Sanders says he met at a police convention. "One of the reasons that I love the United States is that there's respect for all religions, and the separation of state and church is something I feel very comfortable with," Harrison quoted Sampson as saying about her opposition to retaining the controversial religious symbol on public land. "I just happen to be on the opposite side of this issue with Jerry." Despite that difference of opinion, Sanders, who Harrison reports has visited his wife's sister on a kibbutz near Eilat in Israel, closed ranks, sort of, with Rana on the issue of Hezbollah versus the Jewish state: "I think the issue is really peace for everybody, and, as I said that day at the event, it is extremists that are trying to take that away from us, and that is just unfair."

— Matt Potter

The Reader offers \$25 for news tips published in this column. Call our voice mail at 619-235-3000, ext. 440, or fax your tip to 619-231-0489.

A Born Bureaucrat Shifts the Blame

By Don Bauder

Do you wonder why Mayor Jerry Sanders wants to spend millions of dollars annually to hire a high-priced monitor to

oversee city finances? Or why he wants to study setting up a joint city/county authority to find a way to build a stadium for the Chargers?

The obvious answer, of course, is that the money will come from taxpayers. It won't be his money. But there is a deeper answer, and you can reach it by sticking the letter *k* into the word "money" to make it "monkey." If Sanders hires a big-name monitor as fleecemaster Kroll, Inc., recom-

authority with the county is a clever move by Sanders. If the money can't be found, the mayor can point the finger at Supervisors Ron Roberts and Dianne Jacob. The Chargers really want to bolt to Los Angeles or Anaheim and will go in an instant if the National Football League agrees. In that case, Sanders again can point the finger at somebody else: it was the county that let the team slip out of town. Or he will try to blame those folks who think

with sweeping powers — to investigate and run up the tab, as Kroll did in its \$20.3 million scissors-and-library-paste job. The Washington office of the Securities and Exchange Commission may go along with Kroll, instead of with its own Los Angeles office, possibly because Arthur Levitt, a former chairman of the agency, spearheaded the Kroll report.

You have to understand the Securities and Exchange Commission. It is set up to protect Wall Street, not investors or taxpayers. Its main punishment tool is called a consent decree, in which a wrongdoer, without admitting or denying the agency's allegations, says he won't break any securities laws. Hence the joke: "I didn't do it, but I promise not to do it again." Gary R. Weiss, author of *Wall Street Versus America*, explains that whether the chair-

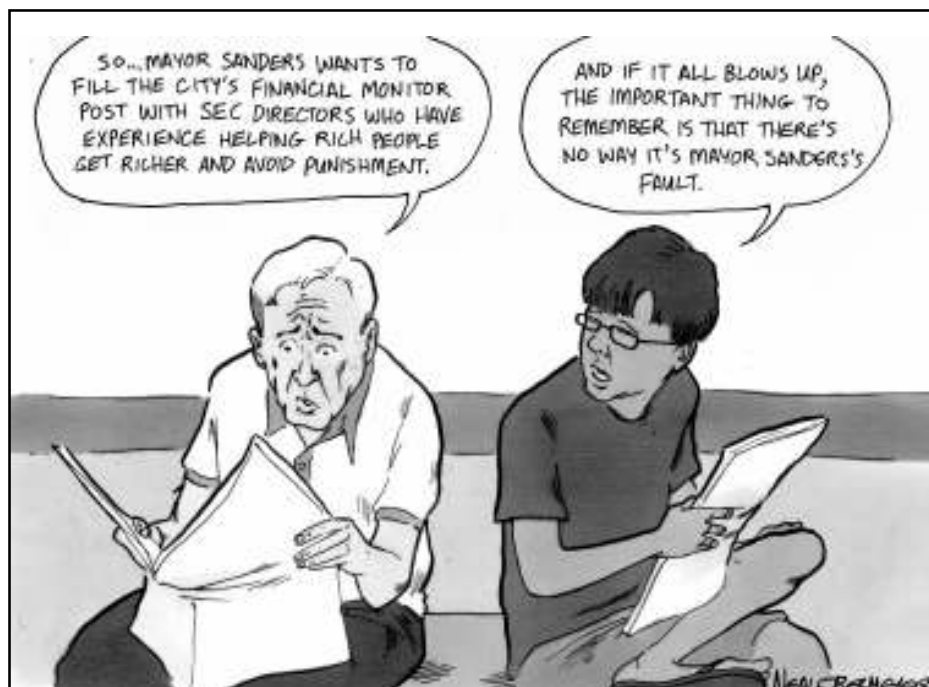


ILLUSTRATION BY NEAL OBERMEYER

mended, then he can do what bureaucrats always do: move the monkey from his own back to somebody else's — in this case, the monitor's. If something goes wrong, Sanders can point his finger at the fellow raking in millions of taxpayer dollars a year.

It's the same way with the Chargers. The city is broke. Long ago, Sanders said the city didn't have the time or the money to pursue a Chargers subsidy. The county is also broke, but it doesn't know it yet. Setting up a joint powers

a penniless government should spend its money on streets, roads, sewers, libraries, and schools instead of on subsidies for billionaires.

Avoidance of responsibility is the key to bureaucratic survival. It's called the bureaucratic shuffle. And in his career at the police department, Sanders was a bureaucrat's bureaucrat. He is no different as mayor.

The Los Angeles office of the Securities and Exchange Commission has been willing to permit San Diego to hire a consultant for four to six months to oversee its financial reform effort. Such a move would not cost much. But Kroll wants a three-year monitor

man is somebody like Levitt, who talked big but delivered zilch, or Harvey Pitt, who was overtly pro-industry, the result is the same: Wall Street wins.

Now Sanders is scouting Wall Street for a monitor. He says that the monitor plus Kroll's other suggested initiatives will cost \$45 million over several years. Don't be surprised if the bill is \$45 million a year. After all, Kroll started out saying its report would cost \$250,000. Then it was \$2 million. The final bill was more than ten times \$2 million. Bait and switch is an old Wall Street ruse.

Nonetheless, Sanders's office has interviewed two former

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The Trick Is To Benefit Your District

By Joe Deegan

How best to survive? Should a member of Congress coddle his district or make himself a national name? After newspaper

and television broadcasting careers, Lionel Van Deerlin in 1962 won a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives and served San Diego until 1980. As a House Commerce Committee member, he worked on several iterations of the national Air Quality Act. In 1976, he became chairman of the Subcommittee on Communications.

But, he tells me as we sit poolside outside his apartment in Point Loma, "You can't just go to the people and say, 'In the last two years I've managed to make sure that AT&T doesn't lock up the communications business for the future' without having something more practical for your district. So to keep getting elected, you keep an eye out for what you can do, and the trick, if you're with the in-party, is to get announcements that are beneficial to your district."

Van Deerlin, who turned 92 this summer, calls obtaining benefits for the home district "a wholesome objective." After all, citizens elect their congressmen largely to represent their local interests. "And you'd better not be too far behind, either," he says.

"I will say the Kennedy administration was very helpful to a new member in that regard. I got a call in my office one day that the president had authorized a Veterans Administration hospital for San Diego. So I was able to make that announcement, which was important to a lot of people, the only quirk being that I estimated it would be accepting patients by August 1967. And in August 1967 we were just breaking ground. So my announcement was a little rosier than the fact."

In 1967, Van Deerlin helped pass the Air Quality Act, which established anti-pollution standards states had to meet. "In the final passage of the bill on

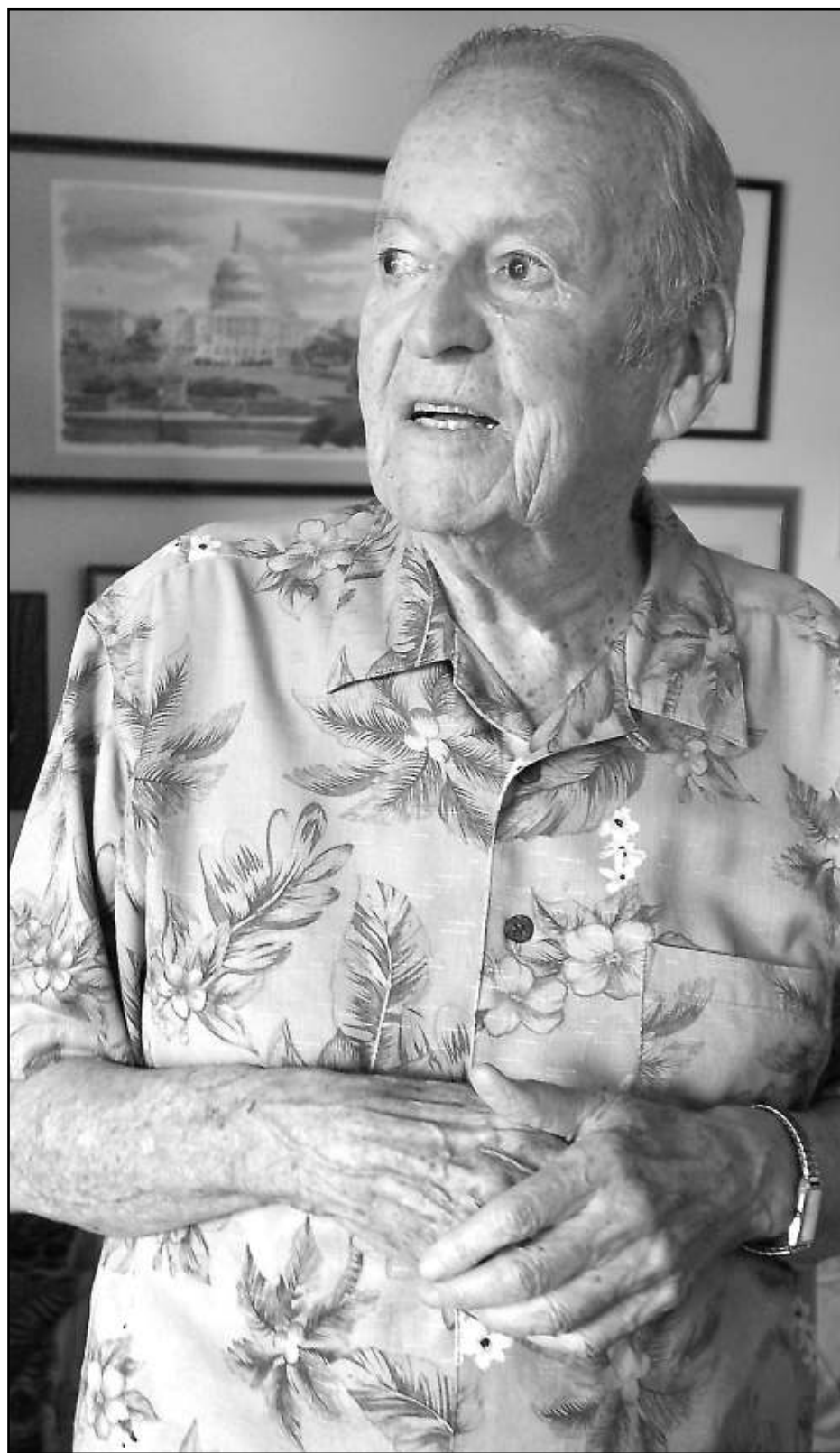
the floor of the House," he says, "I was so busy lining up votes in the cloakroom — it didn't matter what anybody was saying [on the floor], it was going to be decided by the votes — that the *San Diego Union* the next morning never even mentioned my name. Both in committee and on the floor, with one or two other members, I'd been instrumental in getting a California waiver [permitting requirements stricter than Detroit wanted]. And I felt somewhat abused until the *Evening Tribune* came out the same day with a seven- or eight-column story under the title 'Van Deerlin Saves Bon Homme Richard for San Diego Repairs.' The [aircraft carrier] was being sent back to the West Coast for repairs from Hawaii and had been ordered to go to the Bremerton shipyard in Washington State. I had made a phone call to the commanding admiral for the Pacific, who was headquartered in Hawaii, and I didn't talk more than five minutes. Whether the change was already decided, I don't know. I like to think I had something to do with it, but I couldn't be absolutely certain that my intervention caused the change. But this headline gave me full credit by name. So I felt these things, like hits and errors in baseball, they even out.

"The first time I attracted any major attention — reluctantly — was in early 1967 at the convening of Congress after the 1966 election," he says. "You may remember the name Adam Clayton Powell, black congressman from Harlem who had run afoul of the law in New York and couldn't enter the state from which he was elected without being arrested. He was staying down in the Caribbean and living it up. On the basis that a man in his legal no-man's-land would not be sworn into the Army, I announced in advance that I would ask, on the

day Congress convened, that Mr. Powell stand aside and not be sworn in. The Speaker, John McCormack, was very upset with me, and he'd called me in two or three days in advance of the convening of Congress. 'Van,' he said, 'you don't seriously think that a member who's been duly elected is going to be denied membership, do you?' And I said, 'Mr. Speaker, you've been up in Boston, and I've been here in Washington, and, yes, I think that's going to happen.' Well, he had to call on me, of course. God, it was the most agonizing moment of my life, standing up, and here's Powell leaning over the back rail of the House floor, and I had to ask that he stand aside. And it was passed overwhelmingly. The green sheet," says Van Deerlin, ever the newspaperman, "the last edition of the *San Diego Evening Tribune*, reported in 120-point type: 'Van Deerlin wins.'"

"The next time I was home," he continues, "I had a number of meetings around my district, and... there was this group of six or eight that had a portable gallows. They carried these gallows around and would be in the back of the hall wherever I spoke, standing, not saying a word, but with these gallows, ready to hang me in effigy. On one occasion, there was such a hubbub out at Neighborhood House that Bill Kolender, who was then community relations officer for the San Diego Police Department, thought it was getting dangerous. He ordered the lights turned out, took me into a side room, kept me there for about ten minutes, then rushed me out to an unmarked car at the curb. On both sides of the car, these guys are rocking the car. I felt like a South American caudillo headed for the airport. There was never, I'm sure, any serious danger, but police don't like to take chances. And that hung over me for a while because the people who were angry were an important part of my constituency."

During his 18 years in office, Van Deerlin worked with five presidents and through the assassinations of John and Robert Kennedy and Martin Luther King Jr. I encourage him to speculate on whether President Kennedy, had he lived, would have escalated the Vietnam War the way Lyndon Johnson did. He doesn't take the



Lionel Van Deerlin

bait. But he does think that Kennedy was "less obviously influenced by political considerations. Here was Johnson," says Van Deerlin, "just obsessed with the idea that people would think him, in contrast to Goldwater, somehow soft on defense. And I don't think anyone was ready to accuse him of that."

"In the beginning," I ask Van Deerlin, "what were your feelings about the war?"

"Let's see," he says, "the Gulf of Tonkin resolution was in 1964, the year I was running for reelection after my first term. And I was then, sadly, of the view that the administration

had sources of information that justified the war. And I was trusting. I was one of [416] votes in the House for the Gulf of Tonkin resolution."

"How long did it take you to start changing your mind about Vietnam?"

"I think it was about 1968. In the South Bay, from the very start, there was *Chula Vista Star-News* publisher Lowell Blankfort, who had been adamantly opposed to the war. The publisher of the *Oceanside Blade-Tribune*, Tom Braden, who had worked for the organization that preceded the CIA, was strongly against it too. But

I still clung to the supposition that those in charge had information that was unavailable to me. No elected official can safely assume that."

"It's surprising that, in the heart of San Diego's military community," I say, "those two editors were opposed to the war."

"And knowledgeably opposed," according to Van Deerlin. "They were both very good. But they caught a lot of hell for their decisions. Braden is dead now, but Blankfort remains my very good friend, even though before the 1968 election,

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Born bureaucrat

continued from page 6

chairmen of the Securities and Exchange Commission: Pitt and Richard Breeden. Former agency chairmen "won't come cheap; it will be easy to run up a tab without getting value," warns Frank Partnoy, law professor at the University of San Diego and author of two hot-selling books about Wall Street.

"I don't understand the city's fascination with ex-SEC chairmen," hoots Weiss. "Do your city officials really believe that heading an ineffective federal agency qualifies them for anything other than heading another ineffective federal agency? Breeden is middling,

and Pitt is an abominable choice."

Both would charge big bucks — probably more than Levitt's \$900 an hour. In both cases, big bucks bring big baggage. Breeden, a former member of James Baker's Texas law firm, Baker Botts, was a lawyer for the elder George Bush. When the senior Bush became president, he named his friend and confidante Breeden as head of the Securities and Exchange Commission. And who do you suppose was named general counsel of the agency? None other than James R. Doty, another Texan who had worked at Baker Botts. Doty had also given legal assistance to George W. Bush, the then-president's then-obscure son,

in his purchase of a piece of the Texas Rangers baseball team — the younger Bush's only financially successful business venture.

In the early 1990s, Dubya was a board member of a Texas oil driller called Harken Energy. It cooked the books; the Securities and Exchange Commission made it restate its earnings downward. Between the book-cooking and the restatement, Dubya dumped his Harken stock. And he was eight months late in reporting the sale. To no one's surprise, Breeden's securities agency decided not to pursue the matter.

Breeden is a highly paid monitor for accounting firm KPMG, which has run afoul of the law for concocting offshore

tax dodges. (Ironically, KPMG is the firm holding up San Diego's 2003 audit.) Breeden is also monitor for Hollinger International, a media company being probed for massive fraud. KPMG had been Hollinger's accounting firm. But as the *Corporate Crime Reporter* points out, Hollinger under Breeden decided not to pursue claims against KPMG. Hmmm.

And Pitt? He was formerly chief attorney for the securities agency. Then he went into private practice and began raking in \$3 million or more a year representing accounting firms. He also represented some rogues — particularly, Ivan Boesky, the 1980s Wall Street arbitrageur who found his way

to La Jolla after serving a stretch in prison. President George W. Bush named Pitt head of the securities commission. Very quickly, Pitt got criticized for giving private audiences to companies that were being pursued by the agency he headed. Almost as soon as he got into office, he told his former accounting industry clients that they could expect kinder and gentler regulation. But then came Enron, WorldCom, Adelphia, San Diego's Peregrine Systems, and other massive frauds. Kinder and gentler didn't sound so good.

Then in 2002, Pitt was looking for a person to head a newly created Accounting Oversight Board. There was general agreement in Washington and Wall

Street that the job should go to John Biggs, who had been chairman of a big financial institution. But Biggs had been a critic of the accounting profession. The big accounting firms — Pitt's former clients — objected. So Pitt pushed for a Beltway insider named William Webster, who headed the audit committee of a tiny company being sued for fraud. Pitt knew it but didn't pass on the word to officials who had to vote on Webster. The officials howled, so did the public, and Pitt was gone in November of 2002.

So will Pitt or Breeden, or someone else of that ilk, be San Diego's high-priced monitor? You can expect it. The consultant scam is a perfect cover for the consummate bureaucrat. ■

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continued from page 7

when he was making his recommendations, he wrote a long and well-documented editorial about the reasons I should be retired. But then he concluded that given the other choice, the person I was running against, he would have to reluctantly endorse my reelection with the hope that I would change my ways. And his headline? 'For Congress' in 36-point type, 'Van Deerlin' in 14-point type."

I am curious about Van Deerlin's views on national communications. "Have there been any changes in broadcasting laws," I ask, "that have

given rise to all these strident radio talk...?"

"Including San Diego shows," interrupts Van Deerlin.

"...and," I continue, "to the Fox News method of presenting content that it labels 'fair and balanced'?"

"Clearly, and I'm not one to say that it's an improper change," replies Van Deerlin, who was a proponent of deregulating the industry. "What it does mean is that the First Amendment has taken over totally in broadcasting. We used to have something called the Fairness Doctrine, which required that broadcasters give attention to public events but that they give adequate opportunity to be heard to both sides. This even has involved, in some instances,

the extreme nonsense that [they] give representation to both sides in the same broadcast. Well, how do you do an important documentary if you don't take positions? The Fairness Doctrine required that you give what was called 'equal time.' And the Federal Communications Commission read that as equal by minutes and comparable time of day. In other words, you couldn't go on at two o'clock in the morning to give somebody an opportunity to respond to something that had been broadcast at 6:00 p.m.

"But that's out the window now. I think one improper aspect of [developments in communications law] has been that the same owner may have as many licenses within a given

coverage area as he can afford. The purpose of licensing broadcast channels and bands was to limit the coverage that a single voice might have. What's his name from Australia, Rupert Murdoch, has even acquired American citizenship so that he cannot be barred from owning licenses, and his ambition, I'm sure, ultimately, is to have every radio band and television channel in the nation owned by Rupert Murdoch. That practically could not happen, but legally it could, almost."

Van Deerlin says that in the late 1970s his subcommittee stalled, in the face of many congressional sponsors, AT&T's attempt to extend its monopoly in perpetuity, which would have allowed it eventually to

dominate future communication technologies. Early in the next decade, after he had left office, he says, federal courts ruled against the company, "using roughly the same language we had been speaking in our committee. If AT&T had gotten its way, the Internet would have been delayed indefinitely."

In 1980, Ronald Reagan defeated Jimmy Carter for president, largely on the issue of Carter's failure to solve the American hostage crisis in Iran. Van Deerlin is critical of Carter for not taking stronger action against Iran. "It was just awful," he says, "to see a great nation's ambassadors paraded around Tehran the way they were."

On Reagan's coattails, Duncan Hunter defeated Van Deerlin for the District 42 seat in the House of Representatives. (The district covered downtown San Diego, everything south of El Cajon Boulevard to the Mexican border, plus Lemon Grove and Spring Valley.) The next day, Van Deerlin complained that television coverage of Carter's concession speech before the polls closed in California contributed to the election's outcome. But Carter's handling of the hostage crisis had set up a Republican charge that Democrats were soft on defense. "I don't know about other Democrats," Van Deerlin tells me, "but according to Hunter, Van Deerlin sure was soft on defense." ■

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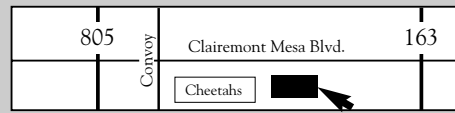
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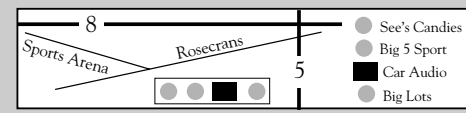


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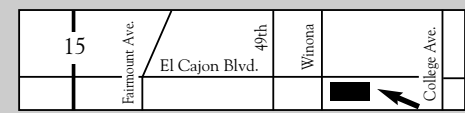
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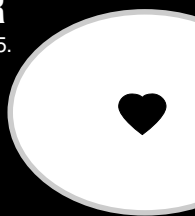
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Who Paid The Bill?

Read Mr. Bouvier's article about "Mateo" — "a Guatemalan expatriate" ("Guatemalan Dream of American Green," Cover Story, September 14). Just curious, and an answer would be most appreciated. So, we have two illegal immigrants with a "legal" daughter. Nice that he is able to send lots of money home. Now, how much money was sent to the hospital to pay for the birth of his daughter?? As an ex-trauma nurse, having intricate knowledge of rising health-care costs associated with illegal and undocumented immigrants, did he pay the hospital bill?

Jon
via e-mail

Episode Gap

Did you run out of fingers to count on and lose track of the sixth episode of "Unforgettable," or was it more forgettable than the title implied? Maybe you never really knew how many episodes there were; after all, part one in the August 10 issue said it was "Part 1 of 3." Perhaps if it had been a reprint with the disclaimer hidden way off to the side in tiny print you could have gotten it right with practice. No wonder the Reader is free.

Name Withheld
by Request
via e-mail

Part 6 runs this week.

— Editor

Thanks, Ed

My lady and I look forward every week to reading Ed Bedford's "Tin Fork" restaurant review. When we read the A La Française review (September 14), we hastened to grab the number 11 bus and ride out to it. Unfortunately, we arrived after 2:00 p.m. and had to settle for the cup of

soup. They did not have any pan chocolate. They said they were sold out.

The menu is appealing, but we didn't like the acoustics, and instead of French music, we heard what sounded like Arabic music emanating from the kitchen. We found the staff to be pleasant and will make it a point to return when we can arrive earlier when hot food is available.

We both admire Mr. Bedford's work and find his style to be as entertaining as it is informative. Recently he wrote about Bully's (May 11). I always schedule my appointments at the Bird Rock Dental clinic to allow me to be there to get one of those terrific hamburgers at lunchtime. I thank Mr. Bedford for giving us the tip to order it on grilled sourdough bread.

The Reader is an important resource in our community.

Downtown Charlie
via e-mail

The Road To Black's

Loved the article about Black's Beach ("Bares Rule," Cover Story, September 7). But you never explained how to get there.

I was transferred from a Florida company to Del Mar in 1977. I remember going once, and only once, to Black's Beach.

I'm a squeaky-clean stand-up comic with numerous cable awards and, in those days, a day job as a real estate developer. I had the pleasure of meeting your columnist Don Bauder.

So I recently read your article, and it never said how to get there. I had an okay time. I was young, in my 20s then, and I went with a real veteran who knew how to negotiate the cliffs.

That experience is long ago and far away. Nowadays, in my comedy career (I won an Emmy in 1985 from the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences), I shrug and say, "Ever been to Black's Beach?" and the audience applauds. "I heard they do body painting there." The audience applauds again. "I don't know how they get those cars down there."

Mary Jo Crowley
via e-mail

Ink Wasted

I am wondering why the Reader would waste ink on the opinions of tarnished former congressman Jim Bates ("Airport Answers and the \$800 Ashtray," "City Lights," September 7). Of all the knowledgeable resources available to you, you pick the one who was involved in an attempt to find a new airport location for San Diego that didn't even work. I'm wondering how that makes him an expert. It is also lovely how little goes into the true reason why Bates is a dark figure lurking shamefully in the past. He makes himself out to be a harmless flirt when allegations of a much more serious nature were put against him and, if you recall, settled quietly out of court. As someone who worked for him in his office for about a year, I was subject to his "flirting" on a daily basis. I can tell you this man is a filthy liar who thrives on the very abuse of power he claims to find disgusting in politics. I am disappointed that you keep his name in the news. He is a person barely worth using your breath on.

No one should have to suffer the fate of being stranded on a desert island with this man. Not like anyone would accept his revolting offer.

Name Withheld
by Request
via e-mail

Death Metal For The Discriminating Listener

Regarding Scott Lewis and his take on what he thinks is death metal ("Fresh Meat," "Blurt," September 7). Reading the interview of Lewis about his band, Carnifex, I was hoping it would be meaningful. As mentioned, Cannibal Corpse, a band that has worn out their welcome with ten full-length albums, live DVDs, a huge merchandise selection, etc., it's safe to say they have become a novelty act. I certainly don't think they are the leaders in American death metal. They happen to be popular and well established through their longevity. There are bands around the world and here in the United States far more superior.

Scott makes the absurd comment that old death

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metal all sounds the same. There will always be similarities. You have to consider that this form of music has been around over 20 years. Very remarkable. It has also evolved to a level of greatness. There's a lot of creativity behind this music. Also, it is the most enduring, next to classical, and sadly it is underrated. It always will be. But of course death metal is not for everyone. It takes a certain person to embrace it. Lucky for us, it isn't mainstream and under corporate dictatorship. Believe me, this form of music could have possibly been abolished.

It's hard to believe that death metal as a true, consistent form has outlasted the trends. Heavy metal as we know it has run its course. The true heavy metal head-banging genre is long gone, with the exception of Priest, Maiden, and Dio, who are icons. They are the *true*, few left. And they still raise the metal flag, even though their scene has diminished. You can't kill those guys.

When Scott Lewis refers to death metal as all the same, then what's the point or motive to Carnifex? Groove D.M. has already been achieved, years ago, and actually it burned out big-time.

Another thing is death metal is not, by definition, "fun music." It's not made for children. It's not intended for kids, unlike nu-metal, the worst music there is. It's not even innovative, and it's not linked to death metal, even though some nu-metal bands pretend to be part of the genre. It's amazing how bands conceive a style, thinking a distorted guitar, a bass, blasting drums, and yelling vocals constitute heaviness or aggression. It's a false illusion. Composing real death metal with the right formula and passion is the key to true accomplishment. To play extreme D.M. is the highest form of flattery, and it is here to stay, forever.

Tony D. Metal
Spring Valley

Horses And Possums Don't Mix

Your article about opossums was very interesting and inspiring ("Nocturnal, Misunderstood," Cover Story, August 31). However, one small item was un-

mentioned. Opossums carry equine protozoal myeloencephalitis (EPM), a disease that can be fatal to horses, creating inflammation to the brain and spinal cord and leading to seizures, collapse, and paralysis. The opossum contaminates the horse's feed or water through its feces. I hope the opossum rescuers keep this in mind when they decide where to release these critters.

Miriam Mustain
via e-mail

We Get It

I was happy (and relieved) to see the column "TGIF" return to the *Reader* (August 10). I always get nervous in its absence, wondering if Brizzolara has crashed and burned. "TGIF" is the first article I read each week. Maybe that's because, even though I don't share exact life experiences with the writer, I at least can identify with the difficulties/frustrations of life expressed. I can certainly identify way more closely with Brizzolara than I could with the past column that used to run one page before "TGIF" by the woman with the five kids and her Ozzie and Harriet life. As convoluted and chaotic as "TGIF" may appear at times, we readers still can connect with the writer's futility of life and look forward to reading "TGIF" each week. We get it, John. Keep the faith.

Sharon Power
via e-mail

One Lofty Jerk

Regarding Barbarella ("Diary of a Diva"), am I the only person who thinks her "boyfriend" David is a pretentious schmuck? Not only does he deem the institution of marriage beneath his esteemed and much-more-evolved-than-the-rest-of-us self, he refers to others constantly as "stupid." The only "stupid" person around here is Barbarella, for following this ass around like a puppy dog and thinking for one minute we actually believe she buys into his more-enlightened-than-thou b.s. Her ideals, and therefore her columns, reflect *his* opinions, not hers. Being involved in the arts does not give you a free pass to look down at the rest of humanity as uninformed.

Lorie Grant
Point Loma

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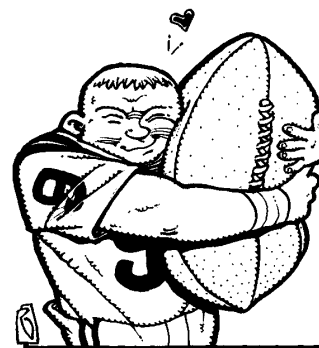
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STRAIGHT FROM THE HIP

BY MATTHEW ALICE

Illustration by Rick Geary



Hey, Matthew Alice:

Every time I see a football game, the kickoff guy always pushes on both ends of the ball before he sets it on the kicking tee, squeezes the living daylight out of it. So what does he think he's accomplishing? Does he truly think he's changing the physical characteristics of the ball by "moving" air inside of it prior to kicking it? Or is this just a symbolic act, like a baseball player wagging his bat while he waits for the pitch? Does Grandma know her physics?

— Richard Cone, Cardiff

Well, no, but she's been seen in some local watering holes with a retired football coach. Will that do? We asked her to slip your question into the conversation some evening. Meanwhile, we dialed up Wilson Sporting Goods for their take on the situation. They make the balls used by the NFL.

Would you believe it? We got the same basic explanation from the lounge lizard and the football makers. Ya never know where you'll find an expert. Anyway, according to Wilson, every game begins with a pristine, never-been-fumbled, sparkly new ball. Right out of the box, footballs are stiff. The kicker would like a little more flexibility in the thing, so it's not like kicking a rock. Smashing the ball beforehand accomplishes this. Coach explained that at the point of impact of toe with ball, the football actually folds back a bit over the kicker's toe, which gives him a little better end-over-end control and much better distance once the ball springs off the tee. Mashing the football imparts at least some improved flexibility. Coach also says you'll see this a lot in games played in cold weather, since the temperature stiffens the leather, requiring repeated squashings. So, the practice is not voodoo or fantasy football or some sports urban myth or nervous habit. A squashed football is a lively football.

Hey, Matt:

In those Lipitor commercials with Dr. Jarvik, he is standing in front of and walking through a stunning piece of architecture. What and where is it?

— Michael Faught, Clairemont

Get yourself a ticket to Milwaukee, Mike, then take a cab to the city's art museum. There you will see the Quadracci Pavilion, like a combination of skeletal bird's wing and baleen whale's mouth. It's the first U.S. commission for wildly popular Spanish artist-architect Santiago Calatrava. Since the pavilion's completion in 2001, it's been used as the backdrop for nine commercials, six of them for cars. Pfizer, maker of Lipitor, said they like the "clinical, cutting-edge" look of the place. Calatrava has a future Catholic-church commission in Oakland, if the thought of Milwaukee is just too much.

Chips and Dips

Okay, we get it. The Frito-Lay company is just plain wrong. Decades ago we heard from a nostalgic snack fan mourning the loss of Sour Cream and Onion Doritos. F-L denied any knowledge of the things, aside from a short-lived "lite" version. Since then we've had to set up a whole file cabinet for the disgruntled e-mails from people who claim F-L is full of it. Hoping to end the discussion, we present here a nationwide sample. Obviously we know nothing when it comes to voting; but junk food? We're all over that. Caution: Two of the e-mails include the word "awesome," which understandably makes some people break out in hives. Anyone fully sick of the word is warned.

I too distinctly remember Sour Cream and Onion Doritos in a dark green bag. At the time, that was my absolute favorite snack. I graduated from high school in 1980, so I was a snacking teenager then.

— James Smith, Brandon, Mississippi

I too remember having the Sour Cream and Onion Doritos as a kid in the '80s. They were awesome! No one here believed me either.... Cool Ranch are similar, but NOT the same!

— Shelley, Michigan

I remember them like it was yesterday, green and white bag and all. They were awesome. I think Cool Ranch came out right around the same time, and the sour cream ones just got buried in the hype. No one noticed their disappearance except for me :(

— Ted, New Jersey

Lowdown from Down Under

Centuries ago we grappled with the question of whether the Close Door button on an elevator works. Here's the official line from Australia, but I'm not sure it applies in the Northern Hemisphere.

Otis elevator Door Close button. Finally the truth comes out. Yes, the "door close" button is connected. Yes, it does not do anything when pressed. It was designed to operate when the elevator is switched to "independent service." In this mode the elevator doors stay open until the Door Close button is pushed. Often used when [movers] are shifting furniture or when moving VIPs around, as when in this mode the outside calls do not cause the elevator to stop. Fact, from ex-Otis elevator serviceman and installer.

— Andrew Wood, Australia

A searchable archive of past columns is available at SanDiegoReader.com

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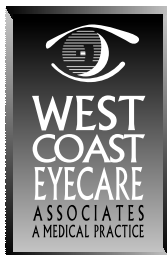
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SportingBox

By Patrick Daugherty

Getting Their Stories Straight

Two weeks ago I wrote a column about Chargers linebacker Steve Foley, who was shot near his house by an off-duty Coronado policeman. I finished the piece with, "...this story reeks of lies and omissions. More to come."

More has come. More lies and omissions. Let's catch up.

1. Foley was shot from behind. I have read a dozen stories saying, "Foley was shot three times— twice in the back of the left leg and once on the outside of the left thigh." What does "outside of the left thigh" mean? Well, it's a sentence deliberately crafted to conceal meaning. What we want to know is the entrance and exit path of the bullet that hit Foley "outside of the left thigh." That will tell us if Aaron Mansker shot Foley from behind three times instead of two. Or was it four?

2. Foley was out of his car, in front of his house, at that point liable for, at most, drunk driving, which is a misdemeanor. What did Foley do that required an off-duty cop, 26 miles out of his jurisdiction, to draw his pistol and fire at least seven rounds (one for the bushes or Foley, three into Foley's car, three into Foley)? Foley did not know that this man, who was wearing civilian clothes and driving an unmarked car, was a cop. Saying you're a cop and proving you're a cop are two different worlds. Foley did know he'd been followed. There was nothing illegal or even strange about Foley getting out of his car and walking toward the man.

The cop's story, that a 25-year-old woman in Foley's car was attempting to run him down while Foley was reaching into his pants, is so "the dog ate my homework" that I won't waste any more space on it.

3. The cop was going to drive away but realized he was in a cul-de-sac and could not leave. Let's see, one cul-de-sac, one cop in a 2000-pound automobile, one cop holding one automatic pistol in his hand, and finally, one unarmed man in the street. Adds up to: *the cop was trapped?* Exactly how does that work?

By the way, Foley is still in the hospital as I write this. He was admitted September 3. According to PubMed, the mean length of a hospital stay for a heart transplant is 3.1 days using one technique, 8.8 days using another. One wants to know what is causing Foley to be

working on his third week at Sharp Memorial. How severe are his wounds?

4. Prosecutors' desire to run tests to see if Foley was using steroids is absurd, is trying to find *anything* that will discredit the man. Steroids, drunk driving in Louisiana, picking up women in bars, not eating enough fiber, does not explain why Foley was shot and shot again and shot again.

This case will go on for years. Foley has real friends. Chargers players and coaches have visited him. During the Raiders game, San Diego players danced Foley's unique "bull dance" as a show of support. He's been well liked on every team he's played for. Foley will be able to find respectable, admired people who will be happy to give generous testimony on his behalf.

Foley is smart, as witnessed by his silence; always the mark of a pro. Foley has money to mount a defense and an offense. He can put a precise number on what he lost as a result of being shot. He'll start at \$1,650,000, the amount he would have earned playing for the Chargers this season. And, if the shooting causes permanent injury, he can put an accurate number on that loss, too. Best of all, Foley can sue government agencies, not wretches like you and me and the cop who are living paycheck to paycheck. Government agencies have the resources to pay millions, and here's the beauty part, *will* pay if so ordered. For a criminal attorney, this case is the mother lode, the one-in-a-million, what he dreamed of in that quiet, secret place where greed runs free.

I don't want to go into the cop's background now. You've probably read about it; it's sad, bordering on tragic. But, other people will, and number one on that list will be Foley's lawyer. This is not going to be good for the cop, anyone connected to the cop, the district attorney, and the public treasuries of Coronado, San Diego County, and Poway, for openers.

Finally, the reason we're getting these shifting, ridiculous stories out of police and prosecutors is that most of what's happening now is not about Foley's drunk driving, which is why so many of these stories sound out of place and off-key. What's happening now is all about the humongous lawsuit that Foley will file and the positions police departments and district attorneys are taking in anticipation of that. Drunk driving is the least of it.

The Vegas Line

NFL – Week 3 (Home Team in CAPS)

<u>Favorite</u>	<u>Spread</u>	<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Over/Under</u>	<u>Underdog</u>
BUFFALO	6		34 ½	N.Y. Jets
PITTSBURGH	2		41 ½	Cincinnati
INDIANAPOLIS	7		44	Jacksonville
MIAMI	11		36 ½	Tennessee
Washington	4		37 ½	HOUSTON
Chicago	3 ½		34	MINNESOTA
Carolina	3		35	TAMPA BAY
DETROIT	6 ½		38	Green Bay
Baltimore	6 ½		33	CLEVELAND
ARIZONA	4 ½		45	St. Louis
SEATTLE	4		44	N.Y. Giants
Philadelphia	6		41 ½	SAN FRANCISCO
NEW ENGLAND	6 ½		39 ½	Denver
Bye	7 ½		44	OAKLAND
		<u>Monday</u>		
Atlanta	3		41 ½	NEW ORLEANS
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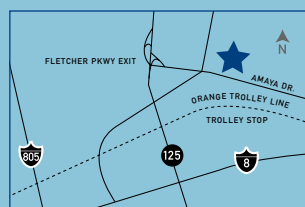
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SHEEP AND GOATS

PLACES OF WORSHIP REVIEWED

Denomination: nondenominational
Address: 4698 Alvarado Canyon, Suite A, Mission Valley, 619-750-3537
Founded locally: 2005
Senior pastor: Ken Hensley
Congregation size: 68
Staff size: 1 full-time, 1 part-time
Sunday school enrollment: none
Annual budget: n/a
Weekly giving: n/a
Singles program: young adult Bible study
Dress: casual — shorts, jeans, dressy T-shirts, a few button-downs
Diversity: mostly Caucasian, a few African American and Hispanic
Sunday worship: 10:30 a.m.
Length of reviewed service: 1 hour, 15 minutes
Website: www.lifepointcommunity.com

"NEXT Church," read the painted sign running along one wall of the converted industrial space: poured concrete floors, concrete-block walls painted in muted red and yellow, a canopied stage in one corner, and a '60s-era rumpus room set up in another, complete with fish tank, console TV, and purple-felt pool table. A coffee bar offered refreshments; jazzed-up religious art offered edification. A pair of gray prayer pillars, covered in writing, flanked the entrance: "Thank you Lord for a new life." "I pray for the families who have fathers, brothers, sons in the war with Iraq." "Thanks for my mom, my family, my good-lookingness, my education, for heaven, for God." Pictures of church members were wired into a mattress spring mounted on one wall.

Among other songs, the band played Matt Redman's ubiquitous "Blessed Be Your Name," slowing it down and adding jangle-twang guitar-work reminiscent of early REM: "You give and take away/You give and take away/My heart will choose to say/Blessed be your name." Vocalist Catherine read from Romans 8: "Can anything ever separate us from Christ's love?" Worship leader Justin ruminated on the love creation ought to bear its creator.

Pastor Hensley announced that "Next Sunday night at 7:00 is our Lifepoint Café," where "we bring in local artists. This month, we have a fellow coming down from L.A. who used to play in San Diego quite a bit: Tom Brosseau. He's good friends and plays a lot with Gregory Page and Steve Poltz of the Ruggburns. One of the many reasons we do this is we want to support the local arts and be a church that is artist-friendly — also for those who are outside of our church community. Just have a place where the arts are celebrated; build a bridge for the artists that exist in our community. It's always free, and Tina brings her coffee cart and fires up some espresso."

Hensley's opening prayer expressed his desire to "join with the chorus that exists around

the world and throughout history, of those men and women whose hearts have been given to you.... We trust, Father, that your presence is here, that your Holy Spirit is here, that Jesus is here, and Father, we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses...."

The band played again, and Hensley gave his pre-communion talk. He had recently read a book entitled *Strong Fathers, Strong Daughters* and found a story about a teenage girl who, after being sexually forced by a longtime friend, told her father about what had happened. "The father's response was, 'Boys will be boys.' And he went and played golf." The girl went through 18 months of counseling to recover from "the impact of that afternoon. If the father's response had been different, perhaps it might have shortened that period — maybe changed it altogether. We rub off on each other, whether we like it or not. The good rubs off, and the bad rubs off." He talked about the good that had rubbed off on some newer members of the church: "God had gotten into their life through the influence of other people, and they find themselves doing things that would have been out of character 12 months ago."

Communion meant getting up and partaking from a candlelit table holding trays of what looked like matzoh shards and tiny plastic cups of grape juice. Here as well, Hensley reminded us that "as we share in communion, it reminds us that we have a common union.... Father, you pulled us into the kingdom, into community."

The theme persisted through the lesson on "ways we can improve the relationships in our life that are important to us." Hensley argued that the strongest relationships are those that "have God in common," and noted that Paul, in his letter to the Philippians, pleaded with two quarreling women to "agree with each other in the Lord."

"The Holy Spirit of God is inspiring Paul to write to these churches, and the Holy Spirit felt like it was important enough to lead Paul to write this. Focus on what you have in common — your relationship with God. When you have two people who have Jesus in their life, there is a unity there, regardless of what you do.... The Bible calls it 'the unity of the Spirit.' The Holy Spirit is not a stranger to itself." To help foster and maintain such unity, he exhorted the people to "live Godly values" in their own lives, pray together, and serve together. "One of the best ways of discovering God is to start doing what God does, and that's serve."

What happens when we die?

"I believe that if a person has a personal relationship with Jesus, then they go to heaven and spend eternity with Him," says Hensley. "If not, they spend eternity separated from Him."

— Matthew Lickona



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BestBuys

—EVE KELLY

The love of money may be the root of all evil,” sighed Bernice, “but the only sure things are death and taxes. Money isn’t going anywhere. Except maybe my money.” She had just paid a penalty on a late tax payment and was feeling the pinch of unbudgeted expense. “I’m just tired of feeling like such a financial dunce.”

That sounded like my cue. “What if I can find someone to help you start investing? You’re a smart gal. Grab the bull market by the horns!” Bernice, good sport, said she’d take a look at whatever I could dig up. “I’m always willing to make money,” she said with a smile.

A couple of days later, I found Better Investing (760-741-4137 in North County; 619-589-2545 in South County; www.betterinvesting.org), a nationwide nonprofit organization of volunteers set up to provide education, networking, and practical investing experience. “We want to help people become better investors,” said Earl Davis Jr., president of the San Diego chapter. “Our four basic principles are: invest regularly, reinvest all your earnings and dividends, look for companies that have potential growth, and diversify—that keeps you from being the victim of an industry that might go belly up.”

Some people get together and join Better Investing as a club (\$40/year dues plus \$25 for each individual member); others join as individual investors (\$50 to \$80). “The biggest benefit of being a member is getting access to online information about companies. You also get a manual and a stock-selection guide. The guide is the most popular tool we offer; it includes graphs on which you can plot the growth of a company based on its annual reports. If its rate of growth is such that it doesn’t look like the price of the stock is going to double in the next ten years, you can almost forget it right away. In the old days, we plotted it manually, and you can still do it that way. But we also have a computer program called Investor’s Tool Kit, which does all the plotting for you, and also some of the math, to let you know how a company is growing.” He noted that the kit allows you to adjust the graph based on various factors not covered in the basic profile.

From Davis’s description, it sounded like a club might be a good first step for a beginner—or a whole bunch of beginners. “Most people form clubs because of some common bond. There are two clubs at the church I attend. It’s known as a partnership, for income-tax purposes. Most clubs meet once a month, rotating between different people’s houses. Everybody puts in so much money a month. When I first started, it was in a club, and we were putting in \$10, but that was way back in the ’60s. For the first six months after it starts, a club should be looking at information and putting its money

“That keeps you from being the victim of an industry that might go belly up.”

away,” before beginning to buy.

After you’ve been meeting and studying and learning to use the stock-selection guide for a while, “you know more about the stock market than the average person. You’ve been exposed to some principles. The guide gives you an idea of whether a stock is a good one to buy. It also tells you when to buy it. Anybody can tell you that IBM is a good stock to buy, because of their reputation. But should you buy it now or not? Over the next five years, is the company going to grow or be stagnant? From annual reports you can make projections, relying on what a company has done in the past five years. You can get a rough idea of where it is right now and whether or not you should wait until it drops before going in.”

Once the club is up and running, different people make presentations about different stocks. “Depending on the size of the club, there may be three or four.

Based on the information presented, the members decide whether or not they want to buy that particular stock. They also make decisions about whether or not to sell stocks that the club already owns. The stock is owned together.”

Club or no club, computer program or no computer program, Davis said that some people still find the selection guide “intimidating. They look at that graph and freeze. That’s why we offer ongoing workshops.” Every year, Better Investing holds an Education Fest, open to members and nonmembers. Popular courses include, “When to Sell... How to Read an Annual Report... How to Use the Value Line—that’s a sheet that tells you everything about a company, such as how much is held by inside investors, for instance.” Other workshops include Investing Terminology, Introduction to Portfolio Management, and Club Organization. Each is an hour long. Davis said that they would serve well as introductions for beginners, or as review/updates for veterans.

Davis encouraged getting started sooner than later. “The best time to get to anybody for something like this is when they’re young. Those of us who have passed the age of 50 wish that somebody would have told us.”

I think I’ll be able to coax Bernice to the Education Fest. But if she wants to get started before next fall, more (and more in-depth) classes will be held in October at the Manchester Center in San Diego (\$35, register online or call). Morning classes include Using the Stock Selection Guide, Using Investor’s Tool Kit 5, and Introduction to Better Investing. Afternoon classes include Portfolio Management, Using Investor’s Tool Kit 5, and When to Sell.

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Crasher

WINGMEN

by Josh Board

friends often ask if they can join me for the parties I write about. If I'm crashing a party, it's more difficult when I have people with me. If I've been invited to the party, it's awkward to bring others who are going to eat the food and drink the beer.

When I was interviewed on the *Dick and Skibba Show* one night, Skibba suggested that we hang out. I invited him to a party at a La Jolla mansion.

Driving through La Jolla Shores on a weekend sucks, but the valet at the party made it simple. I was happy to tip, since it was free valet and parking was difficult to find. (Nothing is worse than tipping a valet when they are already charging you and then they park the car ten feet away.)

Marc, the host, told me he calls his party the "Gold Diggers Ball." He and his friends invite several single women, and when they see the house, their eyes turn into dollar signs. Marc told me a story about meeting a woman at the party once, going out with her, and then having her ask to borrow thousands of dollars. As I told one woman who couldn't stop talking about the huge house overlooking the ocean in La Jolla, "I'd consider turning gay, if it would get me into this house."



There were security guards, lots of food, and drinks being served by two bartenders on the patio. I asked how much was spent, and Marc said, as he was writing a check to the band, "I spent over \$5,000. I don't mind, though. I only have these parties a few times a year. And I'm not looking to meet women here. These aren't the types of women I want to date. I hired the Cher impersonator from Lips. I have my friends here."

As the sun set, Marc told



Top: Local DJ Skibba on right, next to Tammy; bottom left: Women on the back patio, where it was less crowded; bottom right: Bartenders were hired, as well as valets and security

me one. It's not about the money; it's the principle. If the woman would make some gesture, instead of seeing my house and thinking I should spend so much money on them..."

"I've never seen so much dyed hair and cosmetic surgery in my life."

Skibba and me about a woman he took on a private jet to Hawaii. Marc paid for everything. When they were walking around the island, she asked for a few dollars for an ice cream cone. "She couldn't even buy her own ice cream cone, or buy

I thought Skibba would be a good wingman for me. He has long hair and a Jim Morrison vibe. But when we walked to the back of the house where it was less crowded, I became his wingman. We saw a group of Asian women sitting down, and

we approached them. We both liked Tammy, but he sat next to her and started his rap. She was a doctor with a great sense of humor. One of her friends seemed interested in me. She said, "Oh, my god, you're that guy from the *Reader*! The party raider or whatever it's called." She gave me a backhanded compliment of saying I was cute but dressed like a slob, and she volunteered to take me clothes shopping. Tammy's friend seemed tipsy, and as Tammy and Skibba were talking, she asked Tammy for her medical opinion about an injury. After Tammy gave her advice, using all these medical terms, I asked

if doctors are often asked to look at weird things on people. She laughed and said, "As long as I'm not eating, and they don't show me some disgusting rash on their body. I don't even want to look at things like that on my own body."

I lit up a cigar, and a blonde who looked to be in her late 40s came over. She had a thick European accent and yelled, "Stop smoking that cigar! It smells so disgusting!" Skibba said, "Hey, lady, your accent is disgusting." She turned to Skibba and said, "I think your look is disgusting," and she stormed off. The man who was with the European woman was staring me down. I wondered if Skibba would have my back if he came over looking for a fight.

I grabbed a drink and walked to the front of the house. Security wouldn't let anyone upstairs to see the band. There was a crowd on the beach watching them sing Beach Boys and Buffet-y tunes. I heard the band go into a Herman's Hermits song and thought they weren't the hippest group around. Then I saw a group of 40- and 50-year-old women singing along and thought that perhaps I had judged wrong.

I met a woman named Jes-

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sica who was funny and flirtatious. She asked me if I golfed. I told her I had trouble getting past the windmills so I gave up. She laughed and offered to teach me. She handed me her phone number. I was digging her, but she said she was dating a few different guys and that she preferred it that way. She said, "This last guy took me to see Santana. Now that's a great first date. He even had a bunch of joints. He told me he didn't lick them, that he used spring water."

I grabbed a glass of red wine and went to watch the waves roll in. It was so crowded that my view of the ocean was obstructed by singles trying to pick up on each other. There was one guy who looked like a porn star from the '70s — huge mustache, curly hair, unbuttoned shirt.

I noticed that the women use body language and facial expressions to show a guy that they aren't interested, but the older guys don't pick up on that. The woman usually ends up walking away in the middle of the guy's rap.

I went back around to see how Skibba was doing, and he was walking Tammy to her car. He came back and said, "I don't think it went well. I asked for her phone number, and she said, 'Just as friends, right?'" I agreed that wasn't

a good sign. He added, "I think I blew it when I went to grab a cigarette and a condom fell out of my pocket." A woman who was walking by started kissing Skibba as her friend yelled for her. I asked him what that was about. "I don't know. I think she was

drunk, though." I heard the phrase "This house is so cool" about 20 times. Where the bartender was serving drinks, I heard the phrase "Where does the line start?" about ten times. I overheard one guy say, "I've never seen so

much dyed hair and cosmetic surgery in my life." I noticed a few people like that, but I'd say it was less than 20 percent of the crowd. I wanted to tell the guy, "It's no more embarrassing than your unbuttoned Hawaiian shirt and gold chain," but I figured I

had pissed off my quota of people for one party. A woman approached me and handed me a Jell-O shot. I said, "At a party with good food and wine, I feel weird having a Jell-O shot." She giggled, scooped hers out with her tongue, swallowed it in one gulp,

and said, "I'll get us two more." ■
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— Neil Peart (of the band Rush)

We emerged from the underground station to the bright Babel that is San Francisco’s Union Square. To our left, pedestrians shifted from foot to foot as they waited for city employees to yank the steel rope of the cable car for a manual u-turn. To our right, an Asian man played Beethoven’s *Ode to Joy* on a wooden flute as passersby tossed bills in the instrument case at his feet. Vendors were sensed before seen — the air was redolent of incense and hot dogs.

The suitcase gave us away. We were on our third stride from the escalator that carried us to daylight when we were approached.

“Can I help you find your way?” His clothes were clean, his face was scruffy with gray stubble, and his wavy hair was partially covered with a baseball cap.

I was shaking my head no when David said, “Sure. We’re looking for the Hotel Palomar.” After taking a few minutes to explain to us the history of the building (and of the general area, beginning with the Great Earthquake of 1906), the “helpful” man pointed to the hotel’s sign half a block away, clearly visible from where we stood.

We thanked him and took our fourth step, but the man stopped us before we made it to five. “Do you have any change?” We did. David reached in his pocket, and the man kept speaking, explaining his situation, how he made a living, etcetera, etcetera; I really didn’t care — he’d offered to help us, we’d allowed him to, and the quarters in

David’s pocket were readily accessible. David listened politely for another few minutes while I took in the scene and chanted, *shut up, shut up, shut up!* in my head. After dumping a pile of quarters into the man’s hand, David turned with me in the direction of the hotel. The sidewalk was a gauntlet of extended hands. Half a block never seemed so far.

Two steps later, I glanced at a woman leaning against the thick trunk of a tree and dwarfed by a large sheet of cardboard. Her shaggy haircut was current with the latest trends and colored black. She was young, pretty, and perfectly punk in a black miniskirt and red fishnet stockings that were torn in so many places it seemed the few remaining shreds were stuck to thigh and calf by sheer will. Intent on getting to our destination, I wouldn’t have paused if it weren’t for David, who had fallen behind me to approach the girl.

“Gotta have Versace,” he said, digging into his pocket once again. It was then that I noticed the writing in black and red marker on the large cardboard sign: “I LOVE CHANGE! Need \$ for Versace glasses.”

David had an extraordinary amount of change in his pocket — at the airport, I had overpaid for our train tickets by almost ten dollars and the machine had spit back the difference in coins. “Anyway,” he said as we continued our half-a-block trek, “she

amused me, and I don’t mind paying for entertainment.”

I was overwhelmed by the number of people working the area, each person trying to top the last with innovative ways to suck the change from David’s pocket. On one hand, I couldn’t blame them. On the other, I wanted to get to our hotel room, set down our bags, and pee. Someone popped out of the crowd and asked me for money — someone clean and well dressed. When I said I didn’t have any, he spit, “In that big purse? Come on, you’ve got to have change in that bag.” I turned my gaze away and ignored the epithets muttered under the man’s breath as we walked on. David, preoccupied with declining an offer to purchase jewelry from a mobile street vendor, missed my little exchange. When he looked back at me, he could see I was livid.

“Whoa, why are you so angry?” David asked.

“Can you fucking believe that? Even if I *had* change in my purse, which I *don’t*, why should I give it to some random guy on the street just because he *asks* for it? I don’t owe him shit! Why can’t we just walk down the fucking sidewalk without being pestered?” Noting my misdirected vitriol, I took a deep breath and let it out slowly.

“Sorry, it’s just that I’m annoyed. For once, I’d just like to get from A to B without all these forced obstacles. I should talk to Zim about designing a video game, like street



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warfare, based on evading all the people who want something from you, and you'd score more points on how quickly you can get rid of them without giving up your pocket change."

David chuckled at me. "We're almost there," he said. "We just have to cross this intersection."

I spotted a clean-cut teenager with a clipboard stomping her way through the crowd, eyes on the prize, which was us, the two smiling (and therefore inviting) faces of obvious tourists dragging a suitcase through Union Square. I groaned to call David's attention to our next nemesis. Gifting change to the creative, helpful, or needy is one thing; it's quick, it's easy, and it can make you feel good. Giving precious minutes to a person determined to win you over to whichever cause they've chosen to champion is another; it's long, boring, uncomfortable, and downright irritating.

When exiting the grocery store a few weeks ago, a young blonde set upon us with a similar clipboard in her hands. "Do you have a minute for the environment?" A loaded question, best left unanswered. Before I had the chance to ignore her, David cheerily answered, "I'm sorry, but we're raping the planet this week!" As David (who has contributed many thousands via donations of his artwork to auctions for environmental groups) and I continued to the car, the girl we'd just left in our wake stared at us, dumbfounded. I kicked myself all the way home for not thinking of the response myself.

My sister Jane is great at this sort of thing. "No matter what they say, don't engage, that's the worst," she advises. "If you say anything, they've got you, then you're having a conversation. You've got to shut them down immediately." Whenever I complain about the nuisance of people with a cause, Jane

recalls the Mormon Incident. Half of my family worships and admires Jane's gumption in doing a thing we have only dreamed of, and the other half admonishes her for her impertinence.

Jane was on the phone with Mom, standing in the foyer of her home. The wooden door was open; the screen door was not. "I was standing by the door, and I heard a little tap. I knew they could hear me and see me. I walked up to the screen and they said, 'Hi, we're with the Church of Latter Day —' and I just shut the door! I didn't miss a beat in the conversation with Mom. When I turned around, Simon was sitting on the couch with his mouth open in shock." Jane's husband, like all of the men my sisters and I are with, is the patient half of the pair. "My time is valuable — why take the time to explain why I'm not interested? The common decency of being nice takes time, and I don't

have time for it," she says.

I fall into the half of my family who worships and admires Jane's behavior in this situation. I wish I had the balls to nip irritating interactions in their obnoxious little buds.

The clipboard came closer, and I began to speak loudly at David, creating the illusion that we were in the middle of a conversation so passionate, so heated, that anyone who dared to interrupt would suffer great and humiliating scorn. Secretly, though, my shoulders hunched in defensive tension, bladder on the verge of explosion, I wanted her to try. I wanted an excuse to fly off the handle and attack a pushy, zealous-about-her-first-job-for-a-cause teenager.

If only I wasn't such a great actress. She backed away at the tone of my voice, buying my act. Or perhaps she had actually heard what I was saying to David — my suggestions of equally annoying scenarios to present to anyone

who interrupted me: "How about I storm into the restaurant where you're having lunch with a good friend and I say, 'Hey! HEY! Excuse me! Are you aware of the plight of the boll weevil? Now give me your name, address, and any money you've got on you!' I managed to keep up the rant for the remaining 30 or so steps to the hotel's entrance, where the smiling doorman was deftly denied the opportunity to earn a tip when we insisted on carrying our own bags. ■

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BEST LOCAL PERFORMANCE ON YOUTUBE — ROOKIE CARD AT THE CASBAH

Somebody filmed Rookie Card's record-release party at the Casbah, where they took to the sidewalk in front of the club to perform the Beatles' "Back in the U.S.S.R." for an encore. Though some instruments are inaudible due to the amps being inside the club, there's enough acoustic headbanging to get the small crowd singing along. The whole crew nearly falls over in amazement when, on cue, a jet soars overhead on its way to land at the airport, its roaring engine drowning out the final notes, identical to the original Beatles recording. The camera catches a shot of the jet and then swings back to everyone losing their minds over the supersonic synchronicity.

BEST RADIO RANT — TOM DELONGE ON 91X

"It's so weird how our own government did it to us, 9/11 was not perpetrated by a bunch of people that just learned how to fly planes," Tom DeLonge announced May 8 while playing DJ in a mock takeover of 91X — the station was temporarily renamed KAVA-FM. "We do know that the buildings came down in a fashion extremely similar to a controlled demolition of a building. We do know that expertise that is needed to fly those gigantic planes into that exact location could never have been achieved by someone that just learned how to fly a small plane...[Vice President Dick] Cheney knew that the planes were coming in, and he capped the order to leave it alone so it could hit."

BEST MAKEUP DATE — THE SYN, MARCH 17, ACOUSTIC MUSIC SAN DIEGO

The reunited Syn — with Chris Squire and Alan White of Yes — were supposed to play AcousticMusicSanDiego on February 23 and 24. A week before the show, promoter Carey Driscoll found out (from the *Reader*) that the group wasn't coming due to low ticket sales. "Apparently, bands discovering that they're not as big a draw as their egos allow them to think these cancellations somehow fall under an 'act of God' clause," said Driscoll in his e-mail newsletter, "apparently because they think of themselves

as gods." The Syn kissed and made up with the venue and appeared March 17, performing songs both new and from their mid-'60s heyday, with a borrowed acoustic guitar lent by local Yes tribute band Roundabout. After "The 14-Hour Technicolour Dream," Squire even told the audience a lengthy story about the Syn opening for Jimi Hendrix at London's Marquee club in 1965.

BEST GROUPIES — ROCK SLUTS

"The only reason our friends put up with us is because they think there is a chance they might get laid," say the RockSluts on their MySpace page. The local club grrrls have posted a "Guide to Keeping Your Man" for others who date musicians. Among their tips:

"No rumpshaka dances during the show unless your man is in 2 Live Crew."

"You cannot drink on the band's tab! Buy your own."

"If you're a stripper, keep work on the pole, not at shows. Not every-

one wants to know Victoria's Secret."

And, finally, "Don't make out with other band members' girlfriends at the bar. Save that for the after-party."

BEST BOLLYWOOD RINGTONES — EMBIENCE

"There are three million Indians in the United States, including immigrants and those here on work visas," says Nimish Shrivastava of Embience, Inc. The local firm has a deal with Verizon Wireless to sell ringtones of Bhangran beats, Punjabi blends, sitar ragas, and classic Bollywood soundtrack tunes (Bollywood is India's Hollywood equivalent). Founded in 1998, Embience employs around 20 people and claims around 50,000 monthly users. A new service, "Drinknation," sends alcoholic drink recipes to your mobile phone. They're also introducing "Drinktini," enabling your phone to locate the nearest bars in most major cities. If you end up too drunk to drive, the service also calls you a cab.

BEST RADIO RANT: TOM DELONGE ON 91X



ILLUSTRATION BY JAY ALLEN SANFORD

BEST SHORT-LIVED COMEBACK — IKE TURNER WITH THE GORILLAZ

When animated rockers the Gorillaz performed with guest stars in NYC over several nights in early April, many were surprised to see North County's Ike Turner earning great press for his performance of "Every Planet We Reach Is Dead." The *Hollywood Reporter* called his turn at the mike "all too brief," while the *L.A. Times* praised his "flamboyant piano solo," saying he "played the room [the way he did] during the heyday of the Ike and Tina Turner Revue." The *New York Post* reported, "Turner's piano rolls were limber, expressive, and projected a Crescent City barrelhouse style that conjured the late great Professor Longhair. Fantastic." Despite all this loving ink, a recent "Ultimate Movie Bad Guys" poll in *Vibe* magazine named Ike Turner (as portrayed in *What's Love Got to Do with It*) at number four, behind Hannibal Lecter, Darth Vader, and Freddie Krueger, but ahead of Norman Bates.

BEST JEWEL SPOOF — "PANTS" BY HINDIBUNNI

Sung to the tune of Jewel's "Hands":
"Take a bite, a sip of your Sprite,
Forget about things fat-free and lite.
'Cause where there's a meal to super-size
there we shall go dining.
My pants are large, I know,
But I'm not fat, I'm just big-boned."

BEST CLOSET CHEF — CATHRYN BEEKS

"I'm putting together a cookbook containing recipes from the San Diego music community, with an accompanying compilation CD of local artists," says Cathryn Beeks. "Each entry will have a little blurb from the contributor about how to serve the meal or where they got the idea." Beeks has collected recipes and drink mixes from various performers, radio personalities, and music fans around town, including Gregory Page, Lisa Sanders, photographer Steve Covault, and about 20 others. "Music writer Ed Decker gave me a Bloody Mary recipe, with two secret ingredients. Hilary [former 91X DJ] submitted a fruity topping for ice cream with rum and cinnamon. Carol Ames gave up her protein smoothie mix, and Dave Howard donated his vegetable jalousie recipe. Christopher Dale [Superdoo] submitted the directions from the back of a box of frozen taquitos. The book will come with a disclaimer explaining that the recipes haven't been tested."

BEST PROTEST SONG — "WHEN DID JESUS BECOME A REPUBLICAN?" BY CINDY LEE BERRYHILL

Cindy Lee Berryhill's "When Did Jesus Become a Republican?" is currently featured at Neil Young's "Living with War Today" website, where songwriters are encouraged to submit political music. "They actually have a kind of ranking system there for the protest songs," she says, "and I [went] from 'newly added songs' to number 13. I didn't even know it had been added until L.A. Air America radio called and said



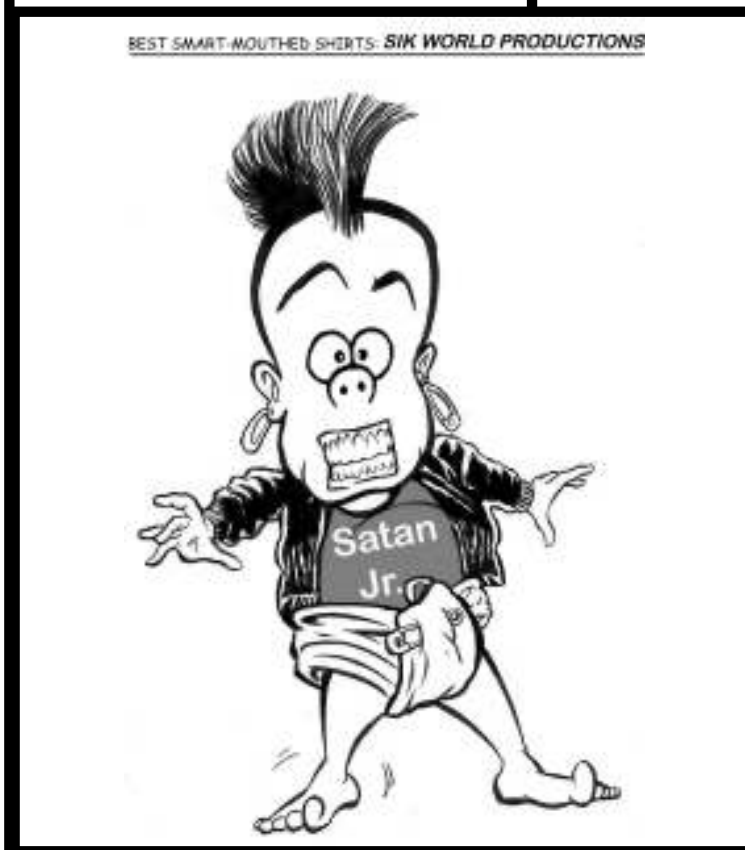
ILLUSTRATIONS BY JAY ALLEN SANFORD

they found my song on Neil's site and would I do an interview." Berryhill says she went through the regular submission process and the song's embrace on Young's webpage is unrelated to the fact that, a few years ago, she worked for Young's manager Elliot Roberts and Lookout Management. Sample lyric:
"When did Jesus turn the tables on
tender and join the money lenders?
'Stead of sharing with lepers, he's
sellin' shares of Halliburton?"

BEST SMART-MOUTHED SHIRTS — SIK WORLD PRODUCTIONS

Local clothier Sik World Productions earned notoriety over a line of T-shirts for infants, with logos reading "My daddy's a motherfucker," "Satan Jr.," "Are you my daddy?" and "Nice tits, can I try one?" Ladies' shirts

include "Size matters" and "Instant lesbian, just add water," while men's tops read "Man-whore," "Got pussy?" and "It ain't gonna suck itself." For those who dress their dogs, there's "I'm a bitch," "Nutless wonder," and "I'm smarter than the President." Sik World also runs a record label, which recently released the debut album by Divided by Zero (comprising former Ghoulspoon members).



BEST AUTOBIOGRAPHY — “MEET ME WITH YOUR BLACK DRAWERS ON”

“I started off on my 70th birthday intending to write a biography of Big Mama Thornton, but instead I ended up penning my own memoirs,” says Sweet Baby Blues Band singer/pianist Jeannie Cheatham. *Meet Me With Your Black Drawers On* covers the ten-year period Cheatham played with the legendary blues belter, with backstage tales involving racism, sexism, and stars Duke Ellington, Lionel Hampton, Ornette Coleman, Jimmy Witherspoon, and Cab Calloway. There’s also the

tale of the night Cheatham spent in a Dayton, Ohio, jail cell; says the septuagenarian, “You’ll have to buy the book to find out why.”

BEST PRIVATE PARTY WE WEREN’T INVITED TO

The Hard Rock Hotel hype officially kicked into gear with a February 16 invite-only party at On Broadway for around 1200 guests, most of them prospective condo buyers. Ashlee Simpson was the alleged host, though apparently the only time she was spotted was during her swear-laced introduction for Hoobastank (who played their first gig

since releasing a new album). The party had an actual red carpet and celeb sightings amidst the ice sculptures and scantily clad model/waitresses, who included singer Macy Gray, Yellowcard’s Ryan Key, and Velvet Revolver members Matt Sorum and Duff McKagan. How do we know it was a cool party, since we weren’t invited? We saw a pic of the DJ wearing a sleeveless black Misfits shirt.

BEST FOOD FIGHTERS — WE NEED P****

“We got kicked out of Dream Street and other places for throwing fast food into the crowd,” says We Need Pussy



ILLUSTRATION BY JAY ALLEN SANFORD

singer Chris Greer. Their song “99 Cent, Oi Oi Oi” traditionally accompanies the food

fighter. “At the Rhythm Lounge, our bassist Mike threw a cheeseburger, and it hit a

whiskey bottle and just about took out the bartender. I heard the owner call us assholes. They made us clean up the mess, and I don’t think we got paid that night.” Greer admits his band aspires to being little more than “the poor man’s Gwar. We’ve always been more about performance than music.”

BEST VIRTUAL CLASSROOMS — CLICKFORLESSONS.COM

Singing lessons were the most-requested tutorial last year at *Clickforlessons.com*, according to cofounder

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Steven Cox (who also plays with Across the Room). After surveying around 3000 students nationwide, he says, "We had some surprises this year, including hip-hop dance at number four and belly dancing at number seven." After singing, other most-popular lessons included piano, acoustic guitar, violin, acting, salsa, and Spanish language. Least-in-demand courses were pottery, line dancing, glassblowing, and, somewhat surprisingly, how to strip.

BEST BEER ANTHEM — "THE SAN DIEGO DRINKING SONG" BY THE BUZZBOMBS

With only four lines, even the drunkest of patrons can usually sing along:

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I started in L.A. and drank to Coronado
I drank until I puked and then I ate a bean burrito
I like beer and I'll kick your bloody ass."*

BEST GIZMO GEEKS — ABT

Carlsbad-based ABT gets around \$60 for their iJet Two-Way, a radio transceiver that wirelessly controls iPods. The handheld unit has controls similar to an iPod's, including a display for song and album titles. "Hopefully, this newfound track selection knowledge will protect your party from a sad musical death," reads a product review at engadget.com, "and the iJet Two-Way's 150-foot range might let you grab some chips in the process. Though the iPod-inspired stylings don't quite lend themselves to casual flashings, you'll have to ask yourself if the added convenience is really worth risking your cred over."

BEST PLAN TO GLORIFY A SATANIC KILLER — "LORDS OF CHAOS"

The only Norwegian band most Americans have heard of is a-ha, but

that country's black metal scene has long been a hotbed of Satanic cults, onstage animal sacrifices, and over 100 burned churches, some of them torched by Varg Vikernes of the band Burzam. Local film com-

pany ZU33 is making a movie based on the book *Lords of Chaos*, about Vikernes and his conviction in the early '90s for killing Øystein Aarseth of Mayhem. Directed and co-written by local avant-garde musician

Hans Fjellestad (who also helmed the 2004 electronic-music documentary *Moog*), the film will be a somewhat fictionalized account of the infamous "Black Circle" of Norwegian black metallers.

BEST PUPPET SEX ON DVD — "LIVE FREAKY! DIE FREAKY!"

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BEST BACKPEDALING: **KENNY WEISSBERG "MUSIC WITHOUT BOUNDARIES"**



BEST FIBBER: **ASHER MENDEL**



Die Freaky! was inspired by the Manson murders. Tim Armstrong narrates the film, about a Manson groupie in a postapocalyptic future who uses the book *Helter Skelter* as a blueprint

for cleansing mankind with "music, murder, and mayhem." Travis Barker and Rob Aston of Box Car Racer play a pair of cops, and supposedly, the hardcore puppet sex scenes had

to be cut back after the film initially received an X-rating.

BEST BELATED BITCHFEST — BEHIND THE MUSIC: RATT

"This is the third time we've tried to work with these guys," says a VH1 producer of *Behind the Music: Ratt*, which debuted in May. He says drummer Bobby Blotzer got bleeped the most.

"Every time he mentions [former singer Stephen] Percy's name, it's preceded by 'that motherfucker.'" The show has lots of local footage and includes interviews with the late

Robbin Crosby, shot for a previous *BTM* attempt before the guitarist died of AIDS-related illnesses in 2002. Percy's segments include his contention (not shared by all band members) that

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BEST SONGWRITER'S JAM — THE GAME

"It started when Jeff Berkley, Steve Poltz, and Gregory Page toured Australia," says Cathryn Beeks of the genesis behind her monthly songwriter's jam the Game, held at the Mission Bay Boat and Ski Club. "They'd make up a song title, and then the next night, each of them would have to play a song based on that title." Beeks now invites locals to have a whack at instant songwriting for a live audience, so far attracting players like Sven-Erik Seaholm, Mark DeCerbo, and others. Three sample lyrics from a previous Game, where the song title was "Quick":

Joe Rathburn: "A picture's etched on my brain, of them taken by that hur'cane / They were gone just...that...quick."

Bart Mendoza: "You want the stars, the sun, the moon / all yesterday, if not that soon."

Mark Jackson: "So if you're gonna quit me, baby, be quick / And don't you try to burn me with your witch's candlestick."

BEST ODE TO A FORGOTTEN FRUIT — "POMEGRANITE GREY" BY COLIN CLYNE

Colin Clyne explains his fascination with a certain fruit. "My late Nana used to always have pomegranates in her fruit bowl...I was reading about art history and interpretation and was delighted to read about the symbolism attributed to the pomegranate in art history and how it represented birth and creativity due to its overflowing seeds." The title of his new song "Pomegranite

Grey" is purposely misspelled. "I lived in Aberdeen [Washington], which is also known as the 'Granite City' due to the majority of buildings being built of granite. It's a very cold and grey-looking

place during the winter months. I have this theory about British music being built round the melancholy of the weather and greyness usually found in most cities."

BEST PRODIGY-TURNED-PRO — HARGO

Twenty-three-year-old Hargo got his first taste of fame at 16, when his tune "Giving" was selected as official theme song for the 1999

South Africa Peace Conference. "Actually, I was only 8 when I wrote that for choir," he says. A 2000 performance opening for Seal earned a ringing endorsement from the headliner ("This young man's

music moved me deeply"), while the B-52's Kate Pierson recently said of Hargo, "He's a fabulous singer-songwriter." Hargo's debut album *In Your Eyes* was released last year.

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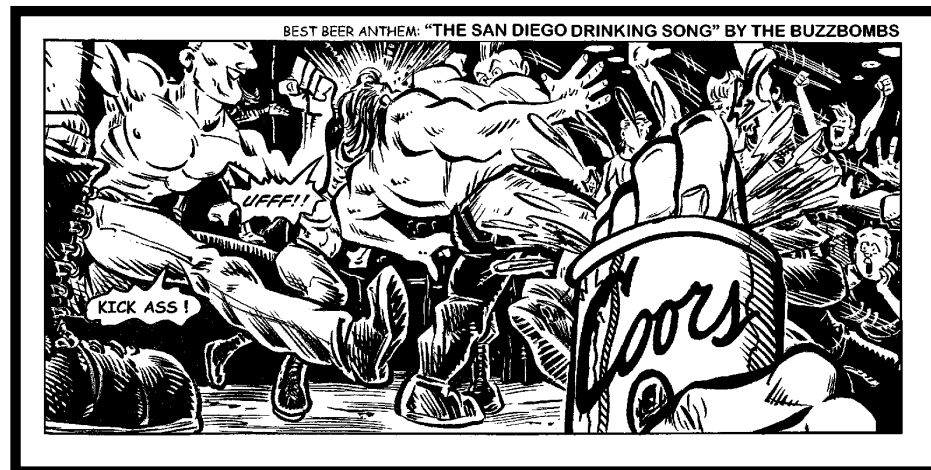
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**BEST FILIPINA
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PATRICIA JAVIER
IS BORN AGAIN**

Filipina recording artist and cheesecake model Patricia Javier (her most popular VCD *Bare Naked* opens with her moaning, "Please me, undress me") has announced she's put away the lingerie and become a Christian. "I've been born again and God has given me a new life, so my new album has ten inspirational songs that pay homage to our Lord," she recently told a Manila newspaper. The 32-year-old lives in



Chula Vista with her chiropractor husband, Dr. Robert Walcher, whom she married last December. "We met here," she says. "We were split for a few months,

but God helped us to reconcile. Robert didn't have religion before, but now he's a Christian like me. He allows me to sing Thursday nights at Ben's Restaurant, which

is owned by a Filipino." You can still view video of her stripping at http://www.metacafe.com/watch/87790/patricia_javier_bare_naked.

**BEST POLITICAL
ALBUM — THIS
GOLDEN ERA BY
THE WILD
TRUTH**

"It's pretty much about how we need to take back our country's soul," says Wild Truth singer/guitarist Sven-Erik Seaholm of the inspiration behind *This Golden Era*, the group's first CD in ten years. "While we were all 'getting ours' to 'keep America rolling,' a bunch of evil fuckers took over the country, turned it upside down, and shook it until its pockets were empty. So, of course, the next 'right

thing to do' was to drag us all into a quagmire of never-ending Middle-Eastern conflict. While we're all saluting the high-flying banner of oil and trying not to feel bad by eating a pill to cure everything imaginable, there are actually guys on the floor of Congress arguing that preserving nature isn't as high a priority, in light of the impending apocalypse."

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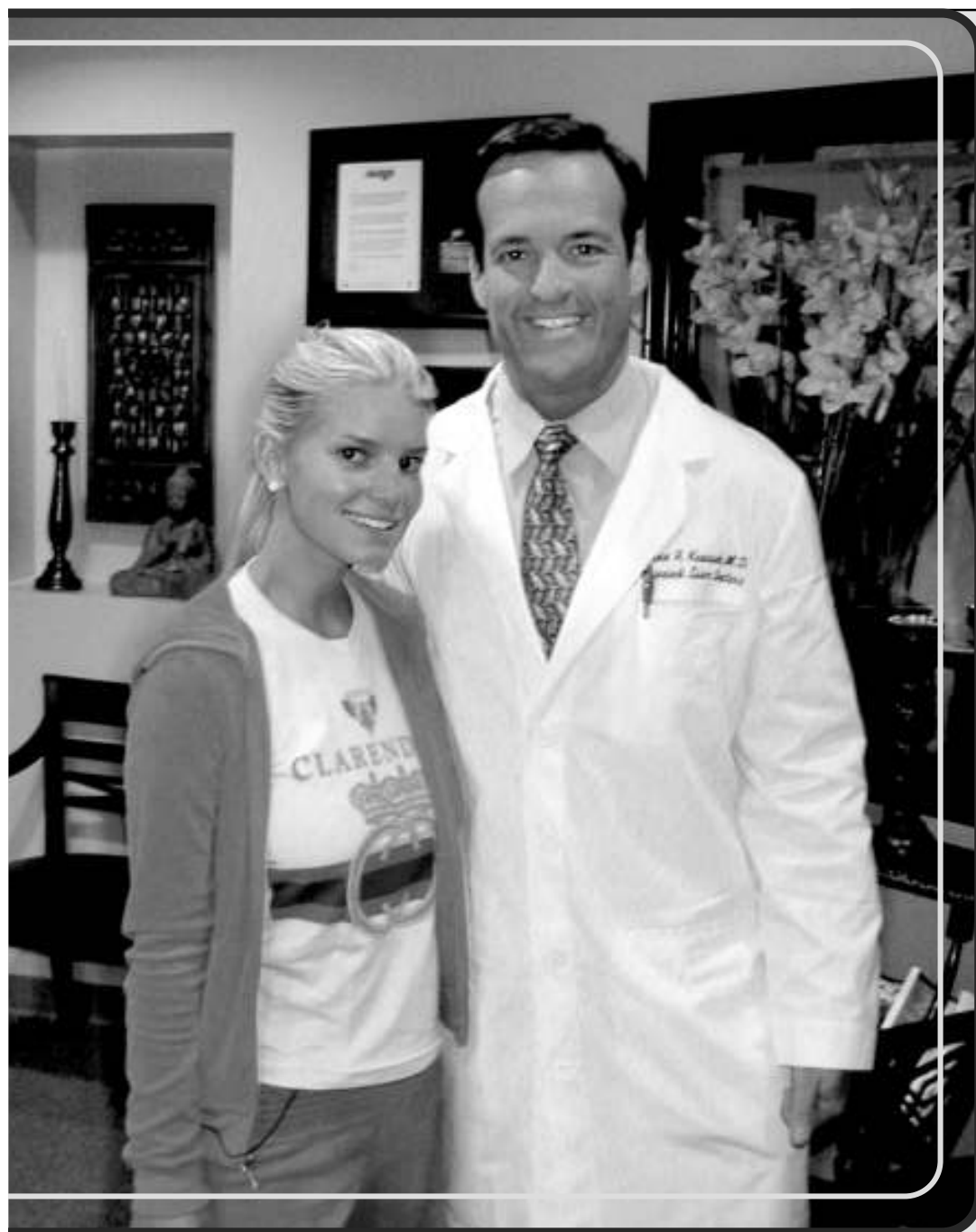
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torian Tom Jacobson, we now know the downtown Dallas locale where Robert Johnson recorded 13 tracks in June 1937. While going through a stack of Columbia Records memorabilia, Jacobson found a letter from producer Don Law — the only person ever to record Johnson — confirming the rare recordings were made at 508 Park Avenue, a three-story art-deco building housing Brunswick Records at the time. Now owned by a Dallas drink distributor, the currently abandoned building may become eligible as a historic site, which could save it from demolition. The letter says Johnson was paid \$25 per song. It also mentions a night in San Antonio when Johnson asked Law for money to pay a prostitute, reportedly complaining, “She wants fifty cents and I lacks a nickel.”

BEST CLASSIC ALBUM RE-CREATION — LOS LOBOS, JANUARY 6, HOUSE OF BLUES

For only the sixth time in their concert career, Los Lobos performed all 16 songs from their classic *Kiko* album (named number three in *Rolling Stone*’s “Best Albums of 1992”) to an enthusiastic HOB crowd. San Diego was the last city to see the *Kiko* re-creation before the band reverted to their regular career-spanning set list. Highlighted by lush, rootsy/psychedelic numbers like “Wake Up, Delores,” “Saint Behind the Glass,” and “Kiko and the Lavender Moon,” the LP is also planned as a theatrical production, currently slated for a 2008 premier.

BEST BACKPEDALING — KENNY WEISSBERG, MUSIC

WITHOUT BOUNDARIES

When KPRI stopped producing new episodes of local showcase *Music without Boundaries* in April 2005, host Kenny Weissberg circulated an e-mail addressed to

“MWB supporters” bemoaning the station’s determination to “eliminate any unfamiliar music and tighten up the playlist, i.e., more repetition à la top-40 radio. I fear that KPRI will soon become

America’s first top-40 triple A station.” Weissberg quickly backpedaled with an e-mail to supporters reading in part, “There were certain things I said in that [earlier] e-mail that were either miscon-

strued or unintentionally incorrect. It seems I have created the false impression that KPRI cancelled *Music without Boundaries*. That is not the case. They feel that the Saturday morning time period is not the

best slot for the show. When I sent my e-mail to you, it included a few statements that I deeply regret. I want to emphasize that I have nothing but respect and love for KPRI and my colleagues there.” Sure enough,

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KPRI began airing a *Best of MWB* compilation show on Sundays, and 91X picked up the program at the end of 2005.

BEST FIBBER — ASHER MENDEL

Before moving to Missouri, longtime local Asher Mendel (Star Chamber, Chicken Little and the Armageddon Juggernauts) told the *St. Louis Journal* that he performed a “donkey

show” in Tijuana. “I did mouth exercises with taking in beer cans, because they have a similar circumference to that of a donkey,” he claimed. “One [donkey] was enough. After that, I had to have three stitches.” Mendel also stated, “I have this cute little butterfly tribal tattoo on the small of my back and, like, oh my God, I was so drunk that night. I must have had three daiquiris that

evening. I don’t know what the tattoo itself means, but I think it’s kind of cute and flirty. That was the same night I got hepatitis at the Alpha Sigma Nu house.”

BEST GOVERNMENT-RELATED CONSPIRACY — EVE SELIS AND THE EAGLE

For years, Eve Selis was involved in a government-related cover-up. On September 9, 2000,

she was to sing the national anthem at the America West Arena in Phoenix. The performance was supposed to be capped by an American bald eagle being released from a balcony to circle the arena and land on its trainer’s wrist. However, the bird instead chose to land on top of Selis’s head. She maintained her composure and even managed to bow for the audience, most of whom likely thought the landing had been planned that way. Says Selis on her website, “The trainer asked us not to speak of it, for fear of the eagle losing his congressional approval. This bird, which is an endangered species, was the only bald eagle sanctioned by the U.S. government to fly free at sporting events, rallies, military celebrations, etc. So we understood and kept it on the down low. We recently heard that the

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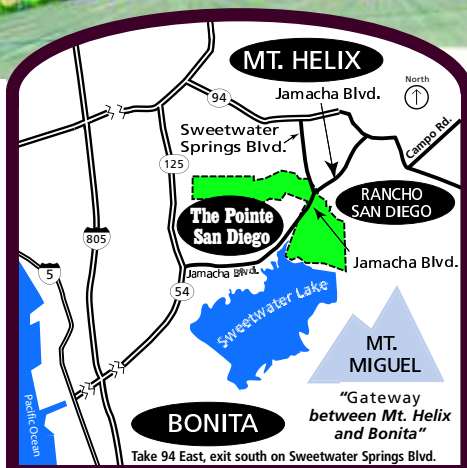
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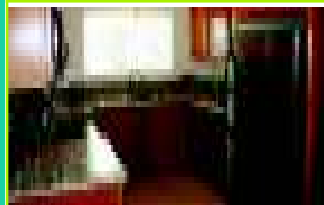
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bird had retired, so what the heck. The truth must be told."

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this one — Psychotic Serenity, Worth Every Scar, the Napoleon Complex, the Bloody Hollies, Satanic Puppeteer Orchestra, Naughty Nuns, Disgruntled Hippos, Ape

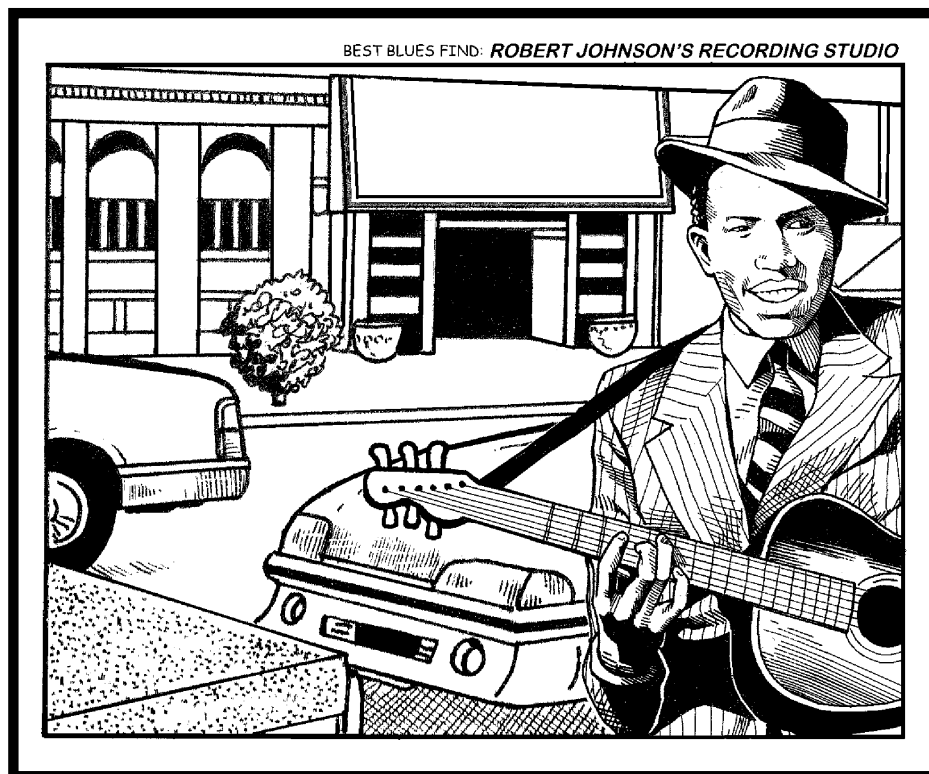
Lust, Chimichanga and the Sour Chives, Jane Likes Dick, Nocturnal Emissions. We finally settled on Spell Toronto, known for going through guitarists the way Spinal Tap used up drummers. According to bassist Ismael Velasquez Jr. (a.k.a. "Chacho"), "The name comes from this girl we know, she told us that any guy who can spell 'Toronto' while performing oral sex on a girl is a master cun-ninguist. So, after a lot of study and practice, we earned our degrees and took the name." ■

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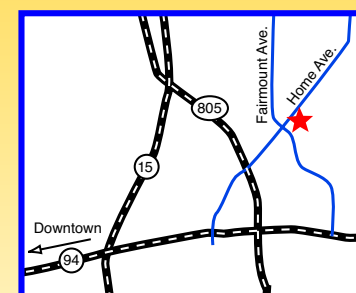
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SUBVERTING SALVATION: NATIVE RESISTANCE TO EARLY SPANISH COLONIZATION

BLOOD IN THE RIVER, THE YUMA MASSACRE OF 1781

(Part Six of Six)

Captain Fernando Rivera y Moncada and Father Francisco Garces had so much in common, you'd think that

by when they met they would
Jeff have hit it off.

Smith No one saw more of

New Spain's northern frontiers than the leather-jacket soldier and the Franciscan priest. Rivera led the first wave of the "Sacred Expedition" to San Diego in 1769—and may have chosen Presidio Hill as the site for the first mission. He led the "second expedition" from San Diego to Monterey, where he became first military governor of New California. During his troubled stay in the region, Rivera made at least six odysseys—at the head of unruly, often unpaid, underfed soldiers—including a 1200-mile trek from La Paz to Monterey. When they couldn't find a trail, soldiers hacked one out with crowbars, picks, and shovels. For Rivera, every mile of New California was enemy

territory.

Garces was a guide for both of Captain Juan Bautista de Anza's expeditions. Alone or with interpreters, he explored the Gila and Colorado rivers, the Grand Canyon (the first non-native to reach it from the west), the San Joaquin Valley, and Mojave Desert. The large, full-bearded friar rode a black horse and proselytized with a painted canvas: on one side, the Virgin Mary and infant Jesus; on the other, a soul burning in hell.

"He shows in everything the coolness of the Indian," wrote Father Pedro Font, perplexed by Garces's love of "savages." He eats their "nasty and disgusting" food and calls it "appetizing." Garces, Font concluded, "seems like an Indian himself."

"I like them and they like me," Garces wrote. They always asked if he was married—and what was under his habit. Though only in his mid-30s, they called Garces "Old Man," out of respect for his obvious spiritual "power." He visited hundreds of tribes and claimed to have seen at least 25,000 natives. Only the Hopi at Oraibi—who confronted him on July 4, 1776—were unfriendly. And in his diaries, he expresses anger at only one man.

Garces met Captain Rivera at San Gabriel Mission in late March, 1776. The friar was making a 2000-mile search for

an overland route, a "land bridge" from Santa Fe to Monterey. In a letter, Garces had requested a military escort to explore the "reed marshes" east of San Luis Obispo (the San Joaquin Valley). Rivera refused. He was even blunter in person.

Garces didn't know that Rivera had spent the last several months pacifying San Diego after Kumeyaay burned down the mission—and had just been excommunicated for taking Carlos, one of the leaders, by force from a religious sanctuary. "Thin as a string" from fever and frequent bouts of vertigo, and wrapped in a dark blue blanket, Rivera was racing to Monterey to ask Father Serra for absolution. Rivera's fractured shinbone, badly set years before, throbbed. And his tormented soul was in exile. He was in no mood to grant favors to Franciscans.

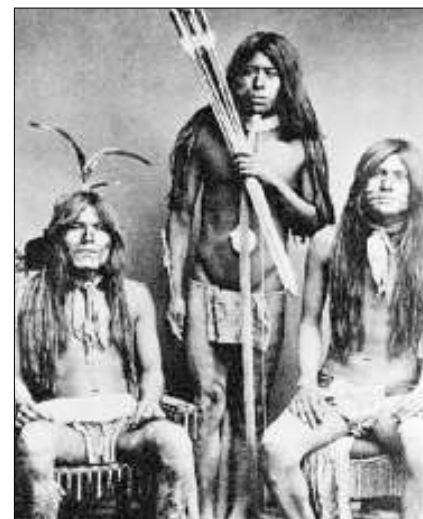
"Do you have orders from His Excellency?" [the Viceroy]. "No? Then I must refuse."

Rivera gave Garces a good horse and waved him away.

"The Commander took it very ill that I came here," Garces wrote. "He said Indians of the Colorado should not go to the establishments at Monterey...that such contact could be harmful."

"I don't doubt the commander has solid reasons. But begging his pardon: why stop the harmless and long-established commerce of the river people with those of the sea, consisting as it does in some white shell-beads?"

Rivera had a lifelong fear of being overrun in battle. The Franciscan "mania for founding missions in every corner," he often complained, stretched his defenses



Quechan Indians

too thin. Garces, by contrast, forged treaties among tribes wherever he went. He also wept when natives died without the "three drops"—of baptism—that could have saved their souls.

Fate gave the warrior and the peacemaker something else in common: the next time they met, in 1781, both died tragically at the Yuma Crossing.

For centuries, the dusty trails of the Southwest led to the confluence of the Gila and Colorado rivers, the only place one could ford the Colorado year round. When Anza's first expedition reached the crossing in 1774, Quechan villages controlled access. Without an alliance with the tribe, Anza noted, New Spain's passage to Alta California would be "almost impossible."

New Spain courted Salvador Palma, *kwoxot* (spiritual leader) of the Quechans. He went with Anza to Mexico City and was treated like a head of state. He returned with

QUOTATIONS

1. Father Francisco Garces (in 1776): "If command of this river may be assured, then it is possible to cross the Tulares [San Joaquin Valley] in small boats and through them to the harbor of San Francisco; it will even be helpful for trade with China."

2. Ernest J. Burrus, S.J.: "Neither Rivera nor any of his relatives received any part of his salary, which on

paper amounted to 3000 pesos a year; [his wife] and three of their children all died paupers."

3. Charles E. Chapman: "Historians have been altogether too prone to regard the hostility to the Spaniards [by California tribes] as a matter of small consequence. Its real import appears, however, in light of such events as the Yuma Massacre of 1781."

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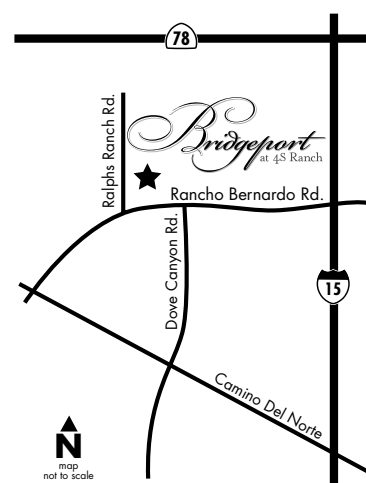


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a trunkful of clothes, trinkets, and promises of wealth beyond measure for his people.

Years passed. When nothing happened, Palma's power declined.

In the fall of 1779 the new governor, Teodoro de Croix, ordered two "military

towns" built near the crossing. This relatively new strategy combined mission, pueblo, and presidio. Plus, Croix boasted, it was a lot cheaper than presidios.

"In essence," writes John L. Kessell, Croix "was ordering two Spanish towns of twenty-five families each set

down in the midst of three thousand wrought-up heathens two hundred and fifty miles beyond the last garrison."

Father Juan Arricivita, who chronicled the disaster that followed, called Croix an "Artisan of Death."

In December 1780, 100

settlers and soldiers, along with herds of cattle, horses, pack mules, and sheep, descended on the river. They built two military towns: La Purísima Concepción at the Yuma crossing; and San Pedro y San Pablo de Bicuñer, about ten miles northeast. Both stood on the west side

of the Colorado, to shield against the Apaches, and both invaded Quechan dreams of prosperity.

Garces, who thought hybrid-towns a "mongrel" notion, wrote that by raising impossible expectations, "Palma and the gifts from Mexico have done more harm

than advantage."

The Spaniards took the fertile bottomlands for themselves. Their livestock grazed on Quechan crops. As a result, when Garces spoke of baptism to the natives, "they mock you."

Ensign Santiago Yslas, the young, untried commander of the Yuma settlements, told Palma that the time for free gifts "has already passed." If his people want clothing now, they must work for it. In the spring of 1781, Yslas requested two cannons and ten irons from Croix. Yslas built a whipping post at Concepción.

For a minor offense, Yslas had Ygnacio Palma and Pablo, highly respected leaders, arrested and placed in the stocks.

While incarcerated or shortly after, Ygnacio had a powerful *icama* — dream vision — revealing that his people must rid their lands of invaders.

In late spring, the colonists ran short of food. Yslas sent a party of soldiers to Mission San Gabriel to buy more. Ygnacio feared they'd gone for reinforcements.

Ygnacio led bands of young braves through the two pueblos. They shook 24-inch war clubs and hurled curses at the mud huts and the families hiding behind barred doors.

During the first week of June, 40 recruits and nearly 1000 horses and cattle approached the crossing from the south.

It was Rivera, heading an expedition for the new pueblo of Los Angeles and mission at Santa Barbara. Since he last met Garces, Rivera had lost his governorship and became Lieutenant Governor of Baja California. He'd received orders to bring soldiers and settlers from Sonora to Alta California. The assignment was odious since most of the people he tried to recruit believed, with Father Jacob Baegert, that Alta was "the worst place on earth."

The expedition left Alamos, Sonora, in April. Rivera vowed that the journey to Mission San Gabriel would be his last. Wary, often irrational, the 57-year-old hadn't received a peso for his last seven years of service. "He quarreled with all," writes Ronald L. Ives, "including many who could

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have helped him."

Rivera saw trouble when the horde of settlers and animals passed through Halchidoma lands. A small group of natives, led by a Christianized woman, came to greet him. Rivera nodded, dutifully, but didn't regale her with gifts. The Halchidoma turned away. Then the woman came back and threw a hat and baton (given the tribe by Garces or Anza) on the ground. Since you bring no gifts, she said,

ing in the heat of summer. One-hundred-plus temperatures dehydrated the livestock. Since over 250 were too weak to cross the Colorado, swollen from a late-spring thaw, Rivera changed plans. He sent a military escort back to Tucson. Then he ordered 35 men and their families, and all the animals that could ford the river, to continue on to San Gabriel.

Rivera, a few unmarried soldiers, and a small squad from California herded the

chans, Mojaves, and some Halchidoma began to cover themselves with mud — to recognize allies in battle. They scratched thin lines down their faces. Others painted their bodies red, their faces black. Young braves tested their bows and flint-headed arrows; the old attached war clubs to their wrists with leather thongs. Those without bows or clubs carried shields and 8–10 foot spears. Quechans believed that fighting well in battle was more important than winning. On the morning of Tuesday, July 17, 1781, they fought to win.

To avoid the white-hot desert sun, the Spanish colonists at Concepción and Bicuñer got up before dawn to till their fields and dig irrigation ditches. At Concepción, Father Garces prepared to say the day's second Mass at 8:00 a.m. Yslas would assist. His wife, Maria Ana Montiel, walked with him to the adobe church. On their way they noticed natives assembling in the town plaza, their arms loaded with firewood. Yslas, who had never posted sentries, ordered Corporal Pascual Baylon to stand guard.

As her husband prepared to serve the Mass, writes Montiel, "the war whoops of the Indians began."

Three or four Quechans dropped their firewood and clubbed Baylon to death. Father Barreneche, who had

said the morning's first Mass, heard the cries and ran from his apartment to the plaza. Breaking through the cluster of Quechans, he grasped Baylon's dying hand, then raced through a gauntlet of swinging fists and clubs into the church.

Realizing that the Quechan Nation was in revolt, Garces stopped Mass. Frightened townspeople began screaming about who deserved blame for the uprising.

"Let's forget whose fault it is," Garces shouted back, "and simply consider it God's

punishment for our sins."

"His voice was compassionate," writes Montiel, "though his face was ashen gray."

More and more natives streamed up the steep hill. They ran from house to house and to the fields in search of prey. All day, those in the church huddled together.

Approximately ten miles northeast, Bicuñer stood on a bluff, 100 yards from the river. As at Concepción, only two soldiers were stationed at the pueblo. Although one guarded the horses, no one guarded the town.

Around 8:00 a.m., July 17, as Fathers Juan Díaz and José Moreno walked across the plaza on their way to Mass, Quechans converged from all sides. A pistol fired. Díaz dropped to his knees; then natives crushed his skull. According to Arricivita, all his life Father Moreno had been "obsessed with the palm of martyrdom." At Bicuñer, Moreno received "the epitome of all other forms": he was beheaded.

Since Bicuñer was far from Rivera's camp, the attackers didn't fear reprisals. They dragged the Spaniards from

THE CHARRED PLAZA, STREWN WITH CORPSES, SMOLDERED BENEATH THEM IN THE MORNING SUN.

you are in "bad faith" with the Halchidoma.

The woman was an interpreter. Although Rivera had told the interpreters at the Yuma Crossing, Francisco Xavier and Joseph, that his party was just passing through, they spread the word that the combined forces would annihilate the Quechans.

Rivera's expedition had come up the Camino del Diablo — the Devil's Highway — to the Yuma Cross-

emaciated cattle to a camp on the eastern shore, across from Concepción. For a month, the animals fattened themselves on Quechan mesquite trees, cornfields, and *tornillo* (screwbean) groves. Soldiers molested Quechan women.

Early in July, Lieutenant Arias Caballero and sub-Lieutenant José Arguello accused two Quechans of stealing. The officers beat one and ordered the other whipped.

Within a week, Que-

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their homes, killing the men and some of the women. The rest they took captive.

“In the heart of the attack,” writes Mark Santiago, “survival depended on luck and the mercy of individual Quechans.” Forty-five (of 77) settlers died at Bicuñer, their naked bodies left to decompose in the sun.

A soldier, Miguel Romero, escaped down the hill. Swimming for his life, he crossed the Colorado and hid behind cottonwoods and reeds on the eastern shore. As Romero swam, natives smashed down the door of his home and murdered his wife, Maria Juana Cota, and their two children.

By midday, some attackers took their booty home. Most, however, headed south. At dusk, they joined forces and launched a second assault on Concepción.

“That night,” writes Montielo, “the Yumas began to burn our houses and belongings and kill as many of our people as they could. That was the night my heart was broken.”

During the day, her husband, Commandant Yslas, snuck from the church to his house nearby. That evening he went to the plaza with a musket and pistols. As he tried to make a call to arms, Quechans accosted him. From the church door, Montielo “watched my beloved husband clubbed to death before my very eyes.” Natives stripped Yslas’s clothes and weapons, dragged his body down the hill, and threw it in the river.

After murdering the commandant, Quechans broke into his home. They caught a glimpse of the gifts Viceroy Bucareli had promised Salvador Palma in Mexico City: furnishings, bundles of clothing, even a large cache of grain Yslas kept for

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family emergencies. Warriors destroyed everything, even the grain.

Concepción was aflame, except for the church. Spears and arrows spiked the doors; rocks and clubs pocked the walls. But the sanctuary, and those inside, had been spared.

At night, writes Montiel, Garces and Barreneche "moved stealthily about the village" giving sacraments to the wounded and dying.

"The devil is on the side of the enemy," Father Barreneche told the refugees the next morning, "let us praise God for sending us these trials."

As Montiel "awaited death at any moment," Barreneche and Garces climbed to the roofs of the church and the priests' house. The charred plaza, strewn with corpses, smoldered beneath them in the morning sun. There were no natives in sight, so the friars tore out the thatch on the roofs to prevent fires. As they worked, havoc unfolded across the river.

Rivera must have heard the shouts the day before and seen the flames at night. But his 11-man force would have been cut down crossing the Colorado. He could have fled south (and many to this day wonder why he didn't). Instead he ordered his soldiers to dig a trench and build a barrier of bales and mats around the camp.

Throughout the night the natives crossed the river.

According to Lee Emerson, a Quechan interviewed by Peter R. Odens in 1980, his ancestors said Rivera placed "rings of black powder on the ground, and when the Quechans attacked," — around one p.m., Wednesday, July 18 — "the Spaniards touched off the gunpowder and took a heavy toll on my people."

Attackers ran at the Spanish camp in waves. Rivera had half of his troop on horseback in front of an earthen breastwork; the rest fired from behind.

"We lost many men in the battle," said Emerson, "but my people noticed that the Spaniards were shooting in volleys and had to reload their muskets after each salvo." During the pauses, the warriors rushed forward, "keeping themselves well covered when the Spaniards were ready to shoot again."

After a volley the attackers swarmed the horsemen,

crippling the animals and spearing their riders.

Survivors assembled behind the barricade for a last stand. The end was swift. Arrows blackened the sky. Then the attackers swarmed the barricade and overran the camp.

Quechans tore the

leather jackets off the soldiers and heaped the corpses on a mound. Some say that Salvador Palma put on Rivera's uniform and carried his shield like a talisman.

Five years earlier, in one of his complaints to Viceroy Bucareli about his lack of troops in Alta California,

Rivera wrote, "I shall be reduced to ashes and my bones will have whitened in the sun before reinforcements will arrive. That is, alas, the fate that awaits me."

Months after the assault, Rivera's sun-bleached bones, identified by his badly set leg fracture, were discovered by

the river.

Although Father Serra loathed Rivera — even called him the devil's henchman — when he heard the news Serra wrote: "Our poor Don Fernando, he who was so cautious in the matter of Indians; ... killed in one fell blow! Alas! What are we to say on

the matter? God alone knows."

At 3:00 p.m., now armed with Spanish weapons, Palma ordered the natives back across the river to Concepción.

"Flee," Father Barreneche shouted from the rooftop when he saw swimmers splashing toward them.

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Barreneche grabbed his breviary and crucifix. He and Garces herded the seven women and several children out of the mission — for the last time, both knew.

Should they try to reach Bicuñer? — Barreneche asked Garces.

No. Montiel writes: "Garces assured him that it was completely destroyed and its inhabitants killed." They decided on the *visita*, a small church they'd built half way between Concepción

and Bicuñer.

The group moved north with caution. On the far side of a narrow lagoon, they heard a man's anguished cries. Gertrudis Cantud recognized the voice: it was her husband, Pedro Burgués, a soldier, begging for a friar to hear his last confession. Go to him!

Barreneche couldn't swim. As he waded across, his arms flailed in water over his head. Clutching at trees and stalks of brush, he pulled

himself to safety.

Since being with priests might endanger them, Garces decided it would be safer if he and Barreneche separated from the rest. "Stay together," he said. "Do not resist capture and the Yumas will not harm you."

Garces had given most of his clothes to the needy. Wearing only shorts and cowl, he crossed the lagoon and joined Barreneche. "This was the last we saw of the two fathers," writes Mon-

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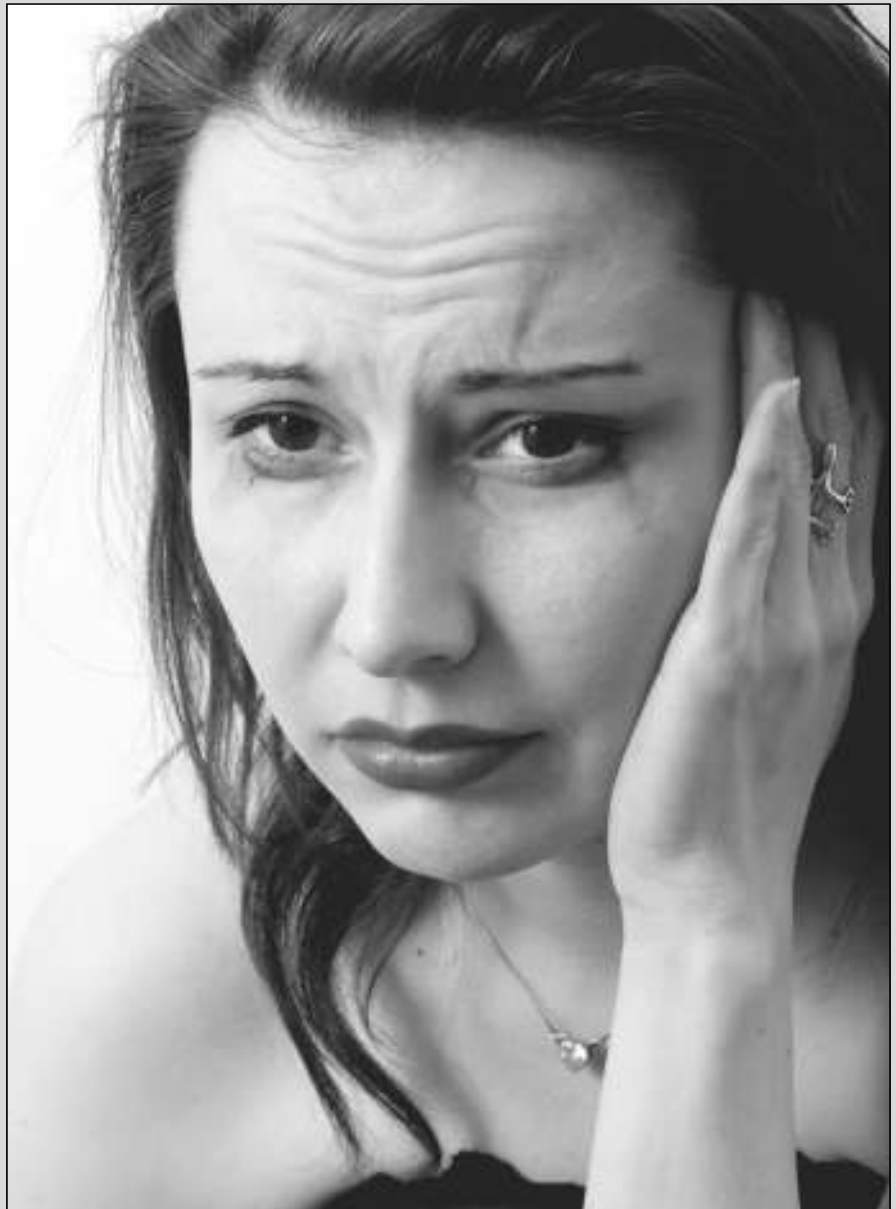
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tielo. The next morning Quechans took the women and children captive, except for Gertrudis Cantud, who escaped.

Salvador Palma sent out search parties for Garces and Barreneche. Do not harm them, he commanded, "for they have good hearts."

As the friars made their way to the *visita*, a Christianized Quechan couple took them in. The next day, other Spaniards hid in the safehouse. One of them was Gertrudis Cantud. On either July 19 or 21 (Cantud says the 21st), a band of warriors came to the village, led by Francisco Xavier, the interpreter who deliberately mis-translated Rivera's claims of peace. Xavier was one of, if not *the*, leaders of the revolt. When he heard that Garces and Barreneche were inside the hut, Xavier disobeyed orders: "If these survive, then

all is lost. For these are the worst!

"Come outside!" he shouted at the fathers. "We are going to kill you!"

"We're drinking chocolate," replied Garces. "We'd

cutioners, Father Garces disappeared from their sight, and they were left clubbing the air.

"Word had spread among the Yumans that he was more powerful than their

BOTH CAPTIVES AND NATIVES SWORE THAT, AFTER THE MAS- SACRE, A SOLEMN PROCESSION OF TALL WHITE-ROBED FIGURES WALKED THE BLASTED STREETS OF CONCEPCIÓN AT NIGHT.

like to finish it first."

"Leave it!"

Garces and Barreneche walked through the door to their deaths.

"The Indians," writes Montielo, "tell the story that at the first attack of the exe-

witch-doctors. Time and again I heard that many did not want to see the fathers killed. Nevertheless, their blood was spilled."

Gertrudis Cantud, Montielo adds, "was close enough to hear their pitiful moans as

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Debit

they lay dying.”

Many natives and an estimated 105 Spanish men, women, and children died at the Yuma Massacre. The 76 captives were put to work in the fields.

Salvador Palma, head chief once again, ordered all religious icons and vestments thrown in the river. No Quechan ever lived at the former sites of Concepción and Bicuñer.

“With this military act,” writes James A. Sandos, “the Quechans effectively closed the land route from Sonora to California for the remainder of the Spanish and Mexican eras, making California solely dependent upon the sea for external supply.”

Palma destroyed the symbols but couldn’t quite erase the influence. Before their bodies were exhumed and taken, in empty metal cigarette cases, for reburial at San Xavier del Bac Mission, a legend claimed that a fragrant chamomile rose from Garces’s and Barreneche’s hastily dug graves.

Another legend grew. Both captives and natives swore that, after the massacre, a solemn procession of tall white-robed figures walked the blasted streets of Concepción at night. They carried candles and sang eerie hymns. Some said they were Quechan ancestors mourning the braves who died in battle; others said angels taking Father Garces’s spirit to the sky.

In either case—or more likely because he didn’t want to encourage even graver reprisals by keeping them—instead of selling the captives into slavery, Salvador Palma hastily ransomed 48 and set the rest free. ■

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RESEARCH STUDIES

There is hope...

Pacific Sleep Medicine Research Centers offer hope, and help, for patients who suffer from a wide range of medical conditions. Transportation may be provided to qualified participants, and qualified participants may receive compensation for their time and travel.



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Do you have trouble falling and staying asleep?

Pacific Sleep Medicine is conducting a clinical research study of an investigational medication for the treatment of Insomnia.

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

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One artist pushes a brush across a canvas; the other artist turns a cannon into a seesaw. The first makes pictures of birds, vegetables, and trees; the second sets a fire hydrant on fire and takes a photo of it. Stephen P. Curry and Roman de Salvo

that lends monetary value to art objects.

It is true that the more you look at art, the more you can see, and some works are more complicated than others. Art resonates most fully when it is contextualized; you

paintings remain startling 500 years after he made them.

Curry and de Salvo have crossed a crucial juncture in an artist's career, which is why I recently decided to talk to them in San Diego. Both have established reputations and recog-

TWO ARTISTS

might seem to have little in common besides age and location (they are both around 40, and live and work in San Diego), but in fact they have similar sensibilities and work with the same goal in mind: engaging an audience directly. This is not as common as you might think, since much of the apparatus of the art world is devoted to complicating the issue. University art departments and the publishers of art magazines like to make art seem mysterious so that they can explain it to the rest of us, and it is that aura of exclusivity

can love de Kooning's pictures of women without ever seeing a portrait by Ingres, but once you've seen an Ingres, de Kooning's genius becomes even clearer.

Nonetheless, you don't need to take a university course to appreciate a Jackson Pollock canvas; all you need to do is sit in front of it for ten minutes. The work of Curry and de Salvo offers us immediate pleasure, but it has staying power, too. Literature, said Ezra Pound, is news that stays news, and we can say the same of all authentic art. Titian's

nizable styles, and both have managed to make the difficult transition from talented youngster to mature artist in a way that suggests that they will be around for the long haul, and that their styles will continue to evolve and deepen.

They are well known in Southern California, with dealers in San Diego, La Jolla, and Los Angeles. They have shown at other venues around the country. But neither expressed a strong desire to test the New York scene the way many painters and sculptors with West Coast reputations have done in the past. Each feels a strong connection to the San Diego community (Curry was born and raised here; de Salvo, born in Nevada and raised in



Hydrant Fire, ed. # 6-12, Roman de Salvo

and de Salvo can tell you that becoming an artist is as much a vocation as it is a result of talent, training, and relentless work. They both liked the idea of becoming an artist when they were young, but they eventually realized, as all true artists do, that they had no choice in the matter.

Remaining creative is not easy, especially once you have made a name for yourself,

wildlife was what I liked," Stephen Curry said over lunch in La Jolla, a block or two from his dealer, Quint Contemporary Art, this past spring. "I never really considered anything else but art. I had an interest in biology and science when I was in elementary school, and I was really good at drawing things in class. I had a bio teacher who encouraged me to go into medical



Naught, Stephen P. Curry

ART PROMISES *nothing of what all Americans are trained to desire: money, power, and visibility.*

the Bay Area, moved here in 1992).

America is ruled by cultural illiterates, from the White House to the television studios, and training in visual art, music, and literature is offered in public schools only in token allotments. In such a society, the dedication of artists has a kind of poignancy. But Curry

because if you are true to your talent you must keep trying to find new means of expression, and art promises nothing of what all Americans are trained to desire: money, power, and visibility.

"I thought I was going to be a wildlife painter when I was a kid, because I didn't have any knowledge of art, and

illustration. But that was short-lived. I think I was already worried about how I would make a living, and medical illustration seemed like an answer. But it was way too rigorous and too limited for me."

After two years at Grossmont Community College in El Cajon, feeling a bit adrift, he enrolled at the San Francisco

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Art Institute. It was then that Curry, a low-key, slight man with a thoughtful manner and a quick smile, realized, “there was no question that that’s what I would do. There comes a point when you realize you can’t do anything else.”

Roman de Salvo studied at the California College of Arts and Crafts in Oakland before earning a master’s degree at the University of California at San Diego. De Salvo is pleasant, open, placid, but you sense the concentration he brings to his work as he explains it. Both he and Curry are enthusiastic about making art, and their enthusiasm rubs off as they speak; it is clear that they make good teachers.

“In my earliest memories I can remember being by myself and focusing on some little project or



Yesterquest, Roman de Salvo

another,” de Salvo said in a café not far from the street-level garage on West Ash Street in Little Italy, on loan from the State Department of General Services, where

he had been working for 15 months. *Nexus Eucalyptus*, his monumental ode to the state highway system, a kind of road map cut from eucalyptus trees that would hang

by wires from a tall steel tower, was to be erected in a few weeks, and slices of trees in all kinds of shapes — curving, straight, bifurcated, with and without

branches — lay on supports across the garage floor, each of them numbered.

“My mom used to set me up with some little crafts project or another. And then, in school, if there was something to draw, I was always the one that got praised: ‘Look what Roman did!’ ”

De Salvo’s witty, disarming sculptural works — his materials have included furniture, drinking fountains, and a cannon — have been shown at the Whitney Biennial, the California Biennial, up and down the West Coast, in New York, and in exhibits that traveled the country. He and Curry share a dealer in Mark Quint.

De Salvo is a maker; his skill at building things is inseparable from his vision as a fine artist. “I got into ceramics in high school, and I credit that with a lot of what it took for me to go

to school. My friends were cutting school and there was a lot of temptation for me to do that. But the thing with ceramics is that if you throw a pot and put it in the kiln one day, you’re excited to see how it comes out the next day.”

Senior year, he was awarded an art scholarship, “and when I went to college I did ceramics to the point where I got tired of throwing pots, and I thought, why not see if I can make sculpture? So I took some sculpture classes, and that started opening my eyes to many other things. At that point, becoming an artist seemed like the natural thing to do.”

Art is subversive: it upends our worlds, in small or large ways. All artists are critics: They want to add to or alter what they have already seen, read, or heard,

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and they aim to overturn assumptions. For this reason, art is surprising. It changes our visual perception of things in the world and alters received wisdom.

Curry and de Salvo are modest men with startling talents. They show no signs of obsessive careerism, and they are generous in speaking of their contemporaries; they simply do what their talents dictate. Yet their work is radical in its root meaning; you won't look up through the trees in quite the same way after you've seen Curry's *Constellation* paintings, and once having seen de Salvo's transformation of a laptop computer into a TV-dinner tray, you won't approach your own computer with indifference.

One of de Salvo's best-known works — it can be seen on the grounds of the Museum of Contemporary Art in La Jolla — is *Liquid Ballistic*, his 2001 reimagining of a Revolutionary War-era cannon. De Salvo's life-size firearm, with its accurately scaled mahogany cannon and big spoked wheels, looks real enough, but it fires water, not can-

nonballs (it contains a storage tank and water pump.) Further, it can be used as a seesaw, complete with rubber bumpers made from automobile tires at each end



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of the cannon.

In an earlier work, *Garden Guardians*, made in 1994, de Salvo again rendered notions of self-defense (or aggression) absurd. He placed joysticks of the sort you might use to shoot down an enemy fighter, or at least play a video game, atop the low walls of the Museum of Contemporary Art, facing the ocean. If enemy aircraft were to threaten the shore of La Jolla, visitors to the museum, *Garden Guardians* suggested, would be the first line of defense. When the joysticks were tilted in various directions, nothing happened, to the consternation of some

museum-goers. But when the triggers were pulled, the joysticks emitted a surprising breath of perfume.

Everything de Salvo makes relies on the participation of the viewer, to one degree or another; sometimes he invites physical interaction with the work of art. Other times he simply wants you to be surprised, even challenged, by the ease with which our assumptions about everyday objects, and the world, can be overturned. Were you to flush a certain toilet in a restroom at the University of California at San Diego in 1994, you might have been alarmed to see a

geyser of water shooting up from a floor drain, as if the plumbing had gone hay-

De Salvo wants above all to be accessible while following the dictates of his

separated from the street on one side only by a roll-down steel security grate, and thus “people were always passing by and looking in. It’s been really gratifying because there’s been so much enthusiasm, and I feel like I’m doing something that doesn’t require an education in art. It’s not that obscure. What I do is specialized, but my hope has always been to have the work fit in everyday spaces, with everyday people, however you might imagine that.”

Earlier in his career, de Salvo was more adamant about the question of accessibility and art’s potential to be viewed an exclusive

preoccupation.

“In my formative years I was against the ‘art’ context, because work that is viewed only in that context is automatically set up so that it has to be defended. I didn’t want to do things that needed to be defended, I just wanted them to be experienced.”

That philosophy suggests that de Salvo is working in the line of artists who came of age in the 1960s, who sought a democratization of art. The “happenings” created by artists such as Allan Kaprow, the heroically scaled sculptures of everyday objects such as the ice cream cones and clothes-

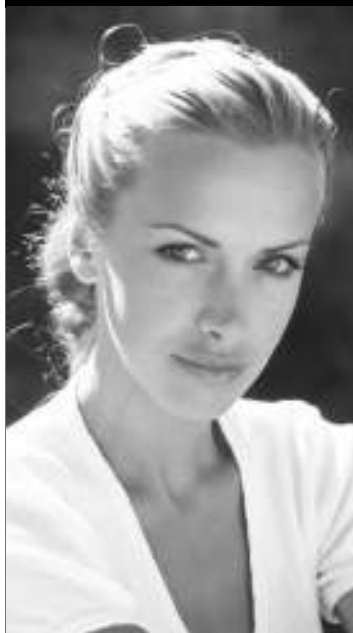
wire. This was de Salvo’s *Zurn Fountain*, named after the maker of the commercial floor drain.

own imagination. “I like to think of a general audience,” he said. The garage where he worked in Little Italy was

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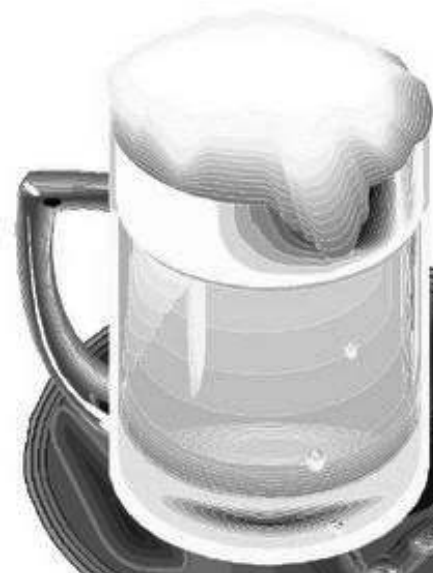
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pins that Claes Oldenburg made — these were meant to erase the line between fine art and public life, get art out of the museums and

I just want to make things that are experienced in a pleasurable way, and there is something rich in that experience — when the

cific places where it will be seen. “I think a lot about that — in some cases people will be coming to some grand bureaucratic edifice to do business with the state, or else they might be waiting for the trolley. You engage people depending on what they are doing, how they are going about their business.”

The big sculpture of highways, 125 feet long by 50 feet wide, is suspended 30 feet in the air; it hangs from a 69-foot tower. It stands in the courtyard of a five-story building, at eye level with the third-floor offices. “You can see it from the courtyard, but all of the offices have balconies, so it

THE DRIPPED PAINT

cascades over parts of the lovingly rendered fruit, as if someone had defaced a still life by some 18th-century Dutchman.

into the street.

De Salvo wants to “let the experience flow naturally. Whether or not it is seen as art is not the point.

synapses are firing in everyone’s minds. The audience is everybody.”

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can be seen from those various points, above it and below it, as well. And one side of the building is open, so it can be seen from the freeway.”

The piece combines modern materials and ancient ones, invoking the California of endless freeways as well as the countryside the freeways obliterated. De Salvo was inspired to make it while looking at eucalyptus trees.

“They have long, slender, flowing branches that I liked the look of, and their gestures conjured highways. The eucalyptus isn’t indigent. It was brought here from Australia in the 19th century. This was all chaparral, with a lot of brush but not a lot of big trees for fuel. Eucalyptus is fast growing and burns very hot, so it was planted to be used as a substitute for coal, anticipating the need for power. Vast growths were planted up at UCSD. Wherever there’s not a building, there’s eucalyptus, but of course there is more and more building.”

Once he had proposed the project, the state Department of General Services arranged for him to take as much eucalyptus as he needed. “There was an infestation in the 1990s that killed a lot of eucalyptus trees, so there was a lot of dead wood that had had a chance to dry out, and wouldn’t be unruly to work with.”

De Salvo made a model of what he wanted to make. “But you can’t really figure out the true dimensions and form until you have the materials to work with. The arborist I worked with would call me up and say, ‘I have a few trees to show you.’ I would go and look. Much of it was straight wood, but I needed pieces with curves and bifurcations. I would pick and choose — I knew from making the model what kind of pieces I needed, so I would find a tree with good-looking parts, something that would be easy to harvest, and we’d cut it and bring it back.”

The way in which the trees were killed proved an unexpected benefit to the project. While the individual tree pieces have been assembled to form a big, winding, road-like network, each individual section of eucalyptus contains its own

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intricate roadmap, courtesy of the eucalyptus longhorn beetle. De Salvo bent down to point out the beautiful patterns that ran through the wood.

"These are the tracks of the grubs that killed the tree. You can see all these tiny little paths emanating from a central point — here's a spot right here. Basically, a beetle laid its eggs in this spot, and they all hatched into grubs and started foraging in different directions. As they grew, they cut a wider and wider path until they turned into beetles, came out of the tree, and went off looking for another tree. It's like a micro-version of the larger piece."

He took pictures of all the pieces and worked with a scale model as a guide while laying pieces out in the garage in Little Italy. When he needed help, he employed a graduate student in sculpture who helped sand and varnish the pieces as well as move them around.

"It far exceeds anything I've done in terms of scale. And people walking by in the



Purged, Stephen P. Curry

last 15 months have been very curious as to why all this wood is in here. Before I had the pieces milled down, the reaction was, 'What are all those trees doing in there?' It really grabbed people's

attention — 'What is part of the forest doing in this building downtown?' "

Stephen P. Curry's transformation of trees takes place on paper and canvas. *Constellation*, his new series

of paintings, refines the approaches to painting the artist has taken in the last decade and suggests that he has found a fresh way to paint as an abstract artist, although he works with

nature as partial inspiration.

Curry is fascinated by the push and pull that takes place in our minds when we are confronted by something that seems real and artificial at the same time; he homes in on perceptual confusion, but in the subtlest ways. The tightly clustered treetops in the *Constellation* series read as negative space; it is the spaces between the leaves that we see. Thus, in *Constellation #2*, painted in 2005, we see jagged shards of color on a white background: it is as if a brightly colored vase had been dropped onto a white floor. Those shards, in tones ranging from bright yellow through orange and red to crimson, also look like scattered islands on a map, or festive shrapnel.

It is only when we look at the contours of those shapes that we first notice the leaves. We are, in fact, looking at something like a photographic negative, for the white background is the canopy of leaves through which we can glimpse bits of a multicolored sky — the

sky of sunset, or of Mars, or of an apocalypse.

The play between negative space and positive space is at work in most representational paintings, as well as in most abstractions. The notions of foreground and background are basic to any attempt to create a three-dimensional illusion on a two-dimensional surface, and Curry is drawn to such basic questions.

"I realized when I was making this new body of work that it had something to do with trying to teach students about composition, about basic ideas in painting. I started showing them work by modern artists such as Ellsworth Kelly, and so ideas about composition informed these new paintings," he said.

Curry teaches at Palomar Community College in San Marcos and at the Art Academy of San Diego. "It's nice because it keeps me on my toes, communication-wise. That is, I talk to people," he said, laughing. "I spend so much time in my studio that I come home

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and can't communicate with my family. So it helps. Teaching takes me away from the studio, but in the long run, it's a good thing."

He earned a bachelor of fine arts degree from the San Francisco Art Institute in 1990. Besides his childhood interest in wildlife and in biology, he recalled seeing "a big coffee table book of Leonardo da Vinci, and that was a huge influence. But as far as contemporary art goes, the first real 'wow' for me was Jim Dine. I liked the way he used different materials, and his expressive quality. That led to Christopher Brown, a Bay Area artist—I liked his surfaces, the way he handled paint.

"When I was a kid, my mom was always looking at art, especially de Kooning and Diebenkorn. She was a homemaker, but whenever she could, she took art classes. And I'd go with her occasionally, so in a lot of ways she introduced me to those painters. I've always been fascinated with de Kooning. I like the feel of the paint in his work. The thing that always attracted me to painting, when I was a little kid, and still does, was just the idea of paint."

Curry has called the act of painting "a conversation between myself and the paint on the canvas. It is a visual expression of my thoughts; language dissolves and time ceases. My secondary con-



Pianura, Roman de Salvo

cerns are the subject matter and my relation as an artist to the history of art."

His still-life paintings fall squarely into that tradition, and he has said that

working in the genre is his attempt to "elevate" it from its low status. In earlier cen-

turies, still-life painting was considered of lesser importance than religious or heroic painting, and in modern times it has been perceived as less serious than abstract painting. Because Curry's "argument" with paint, as he puts it, puts the attention on the medium — on his way of painting the subject, rather than on the subject itself — he succeeds in making ordinary subjects mysterious and resonant. It is here that his and Roman de Salvo's sensibilities overlap most obviously.

In the *Constellation* pictures, "I wanted to completely get rid of the idea of illusionism and rendering. I've always enjoyed expressive backgrounds so I was

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thinking, how can I use this expressive background” — the colorful sky, glimpsed through the trees — “and just deal with painting, with moving paint around? But I still wanted some kind of structure, some composition.” He began making small gouache studies of trees and sky, then began painting on canvas. In earlier works in the series, the source can be made out more readily than in the later works, which grow increasingly abstract.

The dramatic development in his paintings, over the last five years in particular, was a result of “a strong desire to want to change the look of my work repeatedly. I don’t want to stay in one style. I did still lifes with an expressive bent for many years, and then I had a desire to explore many different ways of painting at the same time. I’d been thinking of Gerhard Richter and the way he explores several different ways of painting simultaneously. And that’s something that’s influenced me more than Southern California painting or anything



Here to There, Stephen P. Curry

that’s happening in the United States, really.”

It is fascinating to go backward in Curry’s career, tracing the evolution of his current style. *Pageant*, for example, made in 1997, is a

painting of six songbirds, all with their feet on the ground, wings folded. Some have apparently been caught in midthought, while others peck at the ground or look around alertly, their

eyes like watermelon seeds.

The six birds are nicely represented. In Titian or Watteau, they would signify or augur something. Here, however, they carry no connotations; they read as a

series of studies, and as evidence of the artist’s facility. Like all of Curry’s paintings, they are easy to look at for a while, and then you begin to feel a bit disoriented.

There is a suggestion

that these birds are not what they seem, or, rather, that they are not what we have come to expect of bird pictures. One now appears to be speaking; another, scowling. A foreshortened bird, ducking its head, is rendered in a smear of paint, like a face painted by Francis Bacon. And then there is the seventh bird: no more than a silhouette, perhaps it is standing guard over the others; perhaps it is visiting from the underworld.

A pageant is a show, a pretense, a display — especially an ostentatious or colorful display: the Rose Bowl parade. The birds are like floats, and indeed the ground they seem to stand on is ambiguous, an expanse of slick green-brown paint that could be sky or earth or a kind of no-place. And so, despite that fact that a six-year-old would know these apparitions as birds, we cannot forget that they are manipulations of pigment.

In 1999, a series of still lifes emphasized Curry’s love of painting in its different possibilities. *Now and*

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Then shows a quartet of apples and some grapes on a gray tabletop that bleeds off into a drippy, scratchy, gray-white background — and the dripped paint cascades over parts of the lovingly rendered fruit, as if someone had defaced a still life by some 18th-century Dutchman. One of the apples even seems to be bleeding red. The painting deconstructs itself as we watch.

In 2000, Curry further explored the boundary between realism and abstraction in a series of works called *Above and Below*, a title that refers to what we

see and what we cannot see — a flower and its roots, for example.

The mysteriously titled *Lullaby* shows the flower known as coltsfoot (for the shape of its buds). In an image that suggests five overlaid photos, Curry shows us the bloom at five stages, with a closed bud, blossoming, open, closing, and withered. It is constructed of luscious but carefully controlled strokes of greens and yellows, and seen on a ground of slathered, drippy dark colors. Again, Curry wants us to consider the ambiguity of the illusion.

Gloaming, a series made in 2003, takes its name from Curry's favorite time of day, twilight. The word has warm, even sentimental overtones of Scots ballads, sunsets over a moor. But the paintings are more than a little disturbing. *It Will Pass*, a triptych, shows trees and branches silhouetted against a sky of soaked yellow and red. This could be the scene of a forest fire or a nuclear conflagration. Only a handful of leaves remains on the trees, and they could also be birds, or bats: a hot wind seems to blow through the scene.

The title *It Will Pass* is both reassuring and portentous.

Apart from reading meaning into the canvases, there is the simple joy of looking at them. The tree trunks are like capillaries, or blown ink, and read as gorgeous drawing over the rich colors. The paintings are highly expressive — Curry is above all else a lyrical painter — and the *Gloaming* series is almost Wagnerian when seen in the context of his other works.

Roman de Salvo's sculptures and installations reflect the world around them,

and comment on the way we see the world and relate to it. According to Stephen Curry, art shows us, and future generations, "how we were seeing the world at this time. I think art should be timeless rather than timely, even as it reflects our society. I think art work should be intelligent and thought-provoking, but ultimately it needs to have some esthetic quality that attracts people to it and makes them pay attention."

Curry and de Salvo like being associated with what an outsider sees as the San Diego art scene, though

now that they have succeeded in making distinguished careers for themselves, the "scene" is less important to them than the larger community.

"I can do what I do and survive, and that's the big success for me," de Salvo said. "I do feel I'm part of a community, but it's not limited to artists — there are architects and art enthusiasts and academics. I have a lot of friends here in San Diego, and being an artist has connected me to a community. That feels good, and it's important to me."

— Robert Long

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Look at the way she carries her purse. She knows, she lets that purse dangle, it's history." The white-haired woman, crossing University at Fairmount, clutches her handbag under her arm. "Black guy did a purse snatch over there couple of months ago," Officer Jim Stevens nods toward Lucky's parking lot.

"He got chased by the clerk. He was rolling up the alley, and the clerk solicited help from some East San Diego Hispanic gang members, yelled, 'That guy stole some old lady's purse.' The gang members are really into taking care of their 'hood, watchin' out for their own. So they took off after the guy and caught him. Clerk got there, guy was down. Clerk thanked the gang members. They said, 'We'd like to stick around and talk to the police but we can't.' Clerk looked, saw the alleged purse snatcher had a stab wound in his back.

"Purse snatches on a real regular basis at this check-cashing place." Stevens indicates a storefront at University and Fairmount's corner.

Weekday. Warm afternoon, half moon hangs, laundry white in sky drained blue, faded-flag blue. School's out. Children shouldering book bags hurry past men going nowhere who sprawl on bus benches at intersections and

suck from pint wine bottles.

We drive another half block east on University. Stevens lets the big Ford Crown Victoria cruiser find its rhythm inside the current of cars. He takes in the street with one

glance, is absolutely alert, vigilant. He nods at a heavysset man walking toward us. "See that guy, he's a checker at 7-Eleven down at 3105 Fairmount, where I do my paperwork. Other night, some guy walked in behind the counter and slapped him around, beat him up.

"Yep," says Stevens, "this part of town — dangerous at night, dangerous during the day. Dangerous, period."

SDPD's tans fit not quite smoothly over Stevens's 6'3", 190-pound frame: the bulletproof vest's bulk shows under his shirt, his biceps pull the sleeves tight. Square chin, hard flat cheeks, straight nose, wide-open green eyes, and tanned, what saves Stevens from all-American oatmeal-wholesome good looks is an Elvis sulkiness, a bad-boy pout, to his mouth.

Thirty-one-year-old Stevens is a ten-year SDPD veteran. His father, Ed Stevens, retired in 1979 after almost 30 years with the department. He encouraged Jim Stevens to become a policeman. Stevens graduated from the academy in October 1980, worked in

Clairemont for two years, in Southeast San Diego for three. Worked narcotics for a year, then went back to Clairemont. Been assigned to Eastern Division for 18 months. Stevens likes Eastern. "More excitement. More going on. People are



Jim Stevens

PHOTOGRAPH BY PAUL STACHELER

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For all this time, Stevens has worked patrol and not attempted to pursue a desk job. Cops are about the only professionals left who around the clock make house calls, and Stevens (never married) puts in four tens a week, plus end-of-shift and court appearance overtime. "Most cops don't want to work patrol. The hours, hard on family life, but me, that's what I want to do, that's my thing."

Several months earlier, on a third watch (9 p.m. to 7 a.m.) ride-along, Stevens told me about a call he'd

taken to a house on Wightman. Woman in her 90s, living alone, woke to burglars ransacking her house. She screamed, burglars fled. When Stevens arrived to take the report, the woman sobbed. The only possessions that meant anything to her had been stolen — an antique clock her late husband had brought with him when he emigrated to America and an AM radio that kept her company when she couldn't sleep. Report complete, Stevens returned to patrol. He hoped, he'd told me, he'd get lucky and catch the perpetrators, or "perps." He happened, then, to drive into the parking lot of the Euclid and Wightman 7-

Eleven and through the plate glass window saw a man who matched the description given by the woman of one of the burglars. He was standing at the counter, showing clerks an antique clock and a radio. Stevens walked in, blocked his exit, took him down at gunpoint. The burglar had been trying to sell the items to 7-Eleven clerks.

What happened on that case? "They are all doing major time." He grins, then asks, "You know that kid we chased in the stolen Mazda?" I nod, yes. We'd chased and caught a baby-faced 15-year-old who insisted — believably — he'd never been busted. Stevens's initial check showed the boy clean.

During transport to juvenile hall, the boy slept. I could hear his snores. Over my shoulder, I looked at his sleeping face through the cage wire that separated us, thought, "Just a child and all tucked out."

"He got busted for the same thing about a week after we caught him. Had a bunch of priors. They weren't tying him in on all of his auto-theft cases because he was using a different name. Streetwise kid."

And the parolee we'd apprehended driving a stolen Cadillac, Cripdown? "Parole violated. Back in prison."

* * *

This is the second watch (3

p.m. to 1 a.m.), and we stop at 49th and University to acquire what for Stevens (who got out of bed at ten this morning) is lunch. "HOLA," he says to the cook and asks, in fluent Spanish, how the man's family is, if his wife got her driver's license yet.

"Lot of people driving out here don't have licenses," Stevens says, as we return to the car.

"You be taco-holder." He hands me a root beer can and wobbly paper plate, then slips out of the visor a black-and-white photograph, holds it up for me to see. "This is the guy we're going to keep our eyes open for this evening," Stevens speaks

in his usual cowboy-laconic easy way, says, "Armed and dangerous, always got a gun. If we spot him, I am going to want you to stay down low, because there's a good chance there's gonna be a shootout."

"Grew up and went to school here, is wanted for attempted murder." The face in the photo — young black male, eyes downcast, unsmiling — looks no different than men I see every day on streets and in stores. I swallow, hard, ask why this guy doesn't leave the neighborhood. Go where no one knows him.

"Used to the area, got friends who live here, feels comfortable here. If he had

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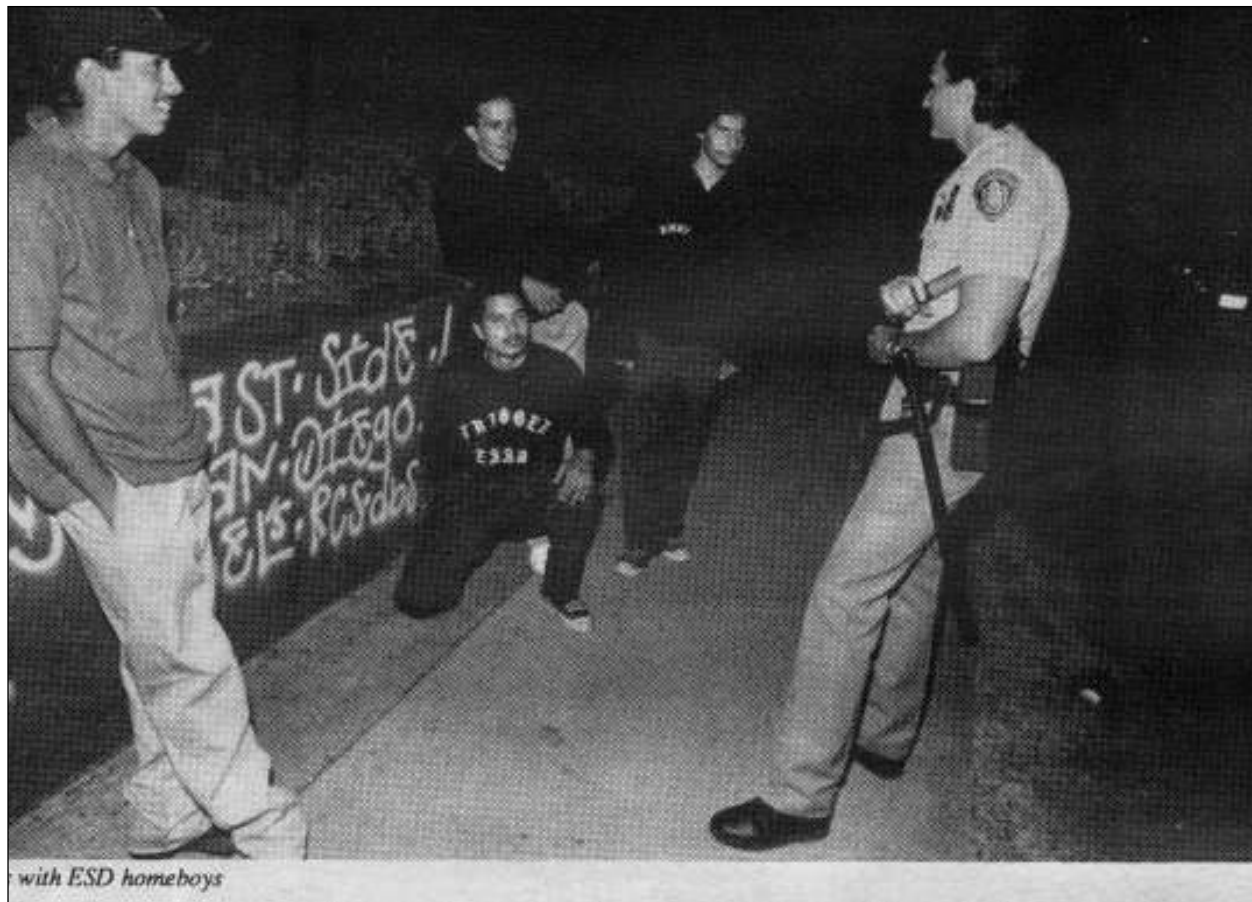
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any sense, he'd head out. He'd probably eventually get caught; but if he stays here, he'll get caught a lot sooner. He's confident, very elusive, a good driver, an expert car thief. He steals only fast cars — Firebirds, Trans-Ams, Irocs."

We take off, then, before light fails, to cruise the neighborhood. "Checkin' things out, bein' visible, lettin' people see we're here, lookin' for anything unusual. Hit some of my hot spots."

Where we will look for this suspect, the neighborhood with which the suspect's familiar, lies within Eastern Division's 82 square miles, an area that encompasses everything east of 805, south of Miramar Road, and north of 94 to the city limits. Of the city's seven divisions, Eastern's radio frequency is the busiest (a significant portion of Eastern's calls are occasioned by gang activity). Some 180 police officers work out of the division's Kearny Mesa headquarters: 150 in patrol, 30 as detectives.

Stevens most often



Stevens with ESD homeboys

patrols beats 316 and 317 and knows the blocks, the residents, in the intimate, instinctual way fly fishermen know familiar streams

and bird-hunters know familiar fields. Beat 316 is bordered by 805 to the west, Fairmount Avenue to the east, University to the north,

and to the south by Home Avenue; Beat 317 is bordered to the north by University Avenue, to the east by 54th Street, by Home and Chol-

las Avenues to the south, and to the west by Fairmount. "University Avenue is worse than El Cajon Boulevard. Forty-fourth is all-

around pretty bad all the way up. Van Dyke is bad; 44th and Van Dyke both are big for gangs, for dope, rock cocaine especially. Highland is bad, Menlo. Marlborough, Wightman, and Chamouné, a lot of stuff goes on there. Winona, they come out of the woodwork at night to deal up and down Winona. University and Winona, lot of rock cocaine gets sold out there."

The world of the late '40s and early '50s, shabby and solid, unrolls before us — narrow porches hidden behind blue hydrangeas and poinsettias, behind stunted evergreens onto which tall palms cast meager shadows. An unexpected note strikes a visitor. Chain-link fence surrounds these houses; iron bars criss-cross windows and doors; no windows stand open; security lights flood side yards. And there are the courtyard walls, fences, sidewalks alight with skeins of hallucinatory graffiti.

And, I think, perhaps in a stuffy room in one of these houses waits the man, "armed and extremely dan-

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gerous," who bears that face in the photo. I imagine him idle, restless, irritable, sitting before a television set, weapon in one hand, remote control in the other, punching his way through channels; imagine that no basketball tournament, no situation comedy, not even a hot-dancing bare legs and breasts three-minute video can seize, hold momentarily in place, his fear. I imagine he walks to the window, pushes aside a flowered drape, gazes into the street, fingers the gun held loosely in his hand.

"People who live down here, they know what kind of area this is. They've had cars broken into. Been burglarized. And if you look closely, you'll see bullet holes all over the place. So people fortify their houses. Lot of 'em have dogs, big guard dogs — Dobermans, pit bulls, German shepherds. Pit bulls are definitely the dog of choice. Don't cost much, you can pick up one for 50 bucks."

Although many Eastern Division neighborhoods are fairly evenly racially mixed, others form enclaves of black, Hispanic, Oriental, or white. "As soon as we cross 40th Street, it goes from being pretty racially mixed to being primarily Hispanic. Fortieth all the way down to 805, it will be predominantly Hispanic."

In Southeast San Diego, which Stevens patrolled for several years, gangs have turf boundaries somewhat rigidly drawn. The Neighborhood Crips claim basically everything from I-15 east to Euclid Avenue, north to 94, and south to Imperial Avenue. Neighborhood Crips are bordered by three rival gangs, one of which is a Crip faction, which, in event of gang warfare, would team up with Neighborhood Crips. The gang that borders Neighborhood Crips to the west, the friendly faction, is West Coast Crips. To the east is Little Africa Piru, and to the south is Syodo Mob.

Stevens explains, parenthetically, that black gangs, nationwide, for the most part, divide into two factions, Piru (or Bloods) and Crips. Legend has it Piru takes its name from a street in L.A. Piru gang members refer to each other as "Blood." "Crips," says Stevens, "started out as a group of guys that



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went to school together in L.A. and formed a gang. Supposedly, to get into the gang, you had to cripple somebody. Crips call each other 'Cuz.'

But Stevens's beat in East San Diego, unlike Southeast San Diego, "is not divided turf-wise. So here in East San Diego, you can have a Crip set — say, Raymond Avenue Crips out of L.A. or the local West Coast Crips — on one block, and one block over you can have a Blood set, maybe some Piru gang members out of L.A. or the local Eastside Piru. That's why this area gets so hot.

"As far as street gangs go, the Mexicans don't like blacks, blacks don't like Mexicans, neither of 'em like Orientals. Usually they tolerate each other, but every now and then something will happen, and two rival gangs fight."

We turn onto the 2700 block of Highland Avenue. "This street here is sure a problem." Stevens drives into an apartment complex's parking area, above which two floors of balconies, reminiscent of tiered cell blocks, rise.

"Just got back on the street. Buffed out." Stevens nods toward a shirtless black male, hugely muscled, who stands on the second-story balcony. Greeting Stevens with an upraised palm, the man calls down, "What it be like?"

Stevens waves, says to me as we nose out of the complex's parking lot, "Guy's OG, original gangster, Piru. If I were another black kid and a Crip, and he would've said that to me, 'What it be like?' that would have been a challenge. I would have

said, 'What it C like?' and it would have been on.

"Piru gang members would say to another Piru, 'What up, Blood? What it be like? What be up? What be down?' Crips would say, 'What it C like?' And if a Piru gang member said to a Crip gang member, 'What up, Blood?' a Crip's immediate response would be 'Ain't no Blood here, Cuz.'"

The police band radio,

She said he took a rifle out and threatened her and her kids with it."

"Cover a 415. Sister's boyfriend, banging at door, refusing to leave."

Does he go to many domestic disturbances? Stevens sighs. "Yeah, a lot."

Children playing along sidewalks wave, and Stevens honks, waves back. I ask if his greetings are made in the spirit of good commu-

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mounted under the dashboard ("under-dash mount" is how Stevens describes this radio's placement), is never turned off. It delivers, through static, the female dispatcher's terse enunciations, unedited, primary documents that spell out encoded mayhem and grief.

"Black male with short dark hair, camo shirt, dark pants, carrying a handgun, in a parking lot, 4470 Euclid."

"Four-fifteen involving husband, husband throwing things around apartment, they have two kids, ages three and five. She and her husband are fighting.

nity relations. He frowns. "No. I wave to 'em because I know 'em."

* * *

We'd gone out into beats 316 and 317 on an afternoon of Stevens's day off. He wore jeans, billed cap, Ray-Bans, drove his Ford pickup. His Rhodesian ridgeback, Syndo (named after the Syndo Mob) rode in the cab (at home Stevens keeps a parrot he calls Piru). Two teenage black males called out to us to buy dope. We kept rolling down the alley. If we'd wanted to buy, I'd asked Stevens, what would he have

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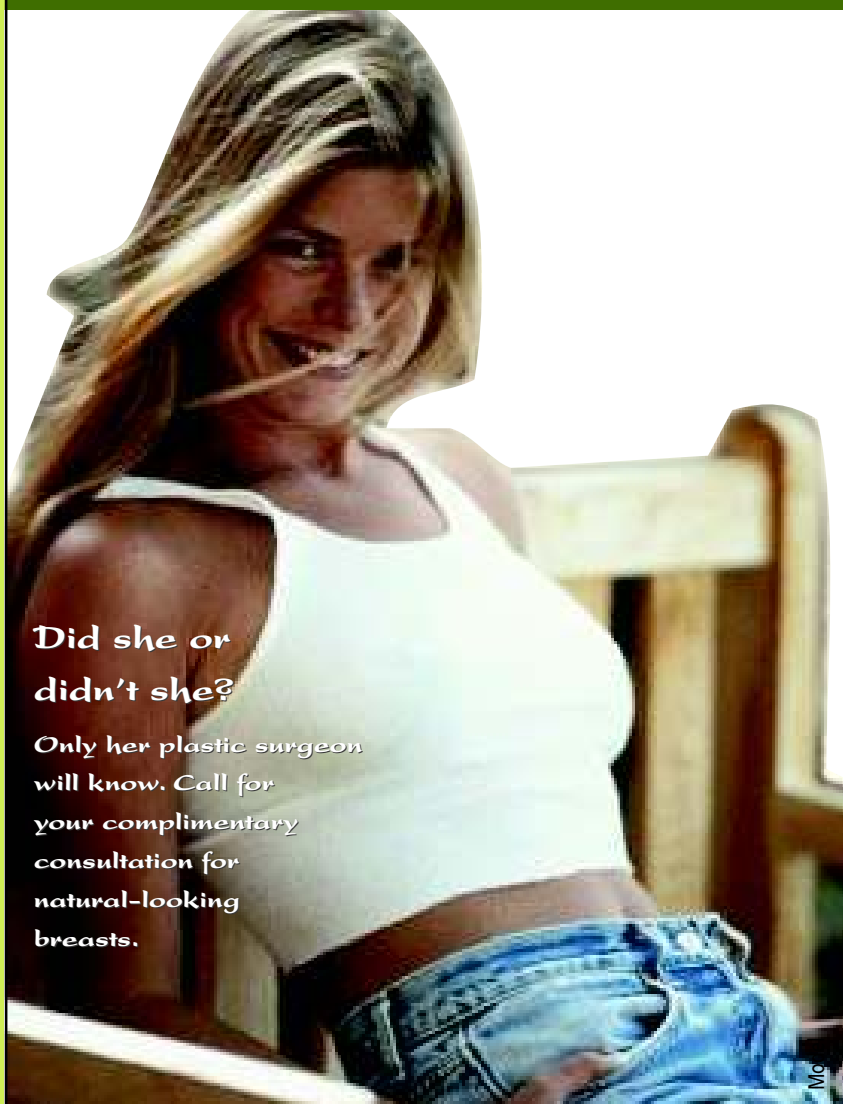


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Turning at 41st and Dwight, Stevens pulls into a driveway. "See that wall that got caved in right there?" He lets out a long whistle. A plump boy, maybe 12, stops, smiles, runs toward the car. "Say, don't you get nervous when you walk by right there?"

The boy squares his shoulders. "No way."

"How's your cousin doin'? How you doin'?"

"Both fine."

After exchanges about what's happening in the neighborhood, Stevens tells the boy goodbye and explains. "About six months ago, another officer and myself were chasing a stolen car, a T-Bird, comin' west-bound on this street about 60 miles an hour — see that dip right there? — T-Bird hit the dip, came shootin' over here to this garage door.

That little boy, he and his girl cousin were walkin' on the sidewalk. He jumped out of the way, hit his head on the sidewalk. The car picked her up and slammed her into that cement retaining wall right there. Had her pinned, both legs, right in there. By the time we got here, the guy jumped out of the car and took off running. But the girl was pinned between cement and the car, both her legs fractured and broken. So we had to physically lift the car up off her legs. We later caught the driver.

"Good kid, he is. The ones who aren't in jail come from strict households. Many homes down here are headed by single women. A lot of these women have a strong hold on these kids. The kids are afraid of their mothers, at least until they get older."

Farther on, edging the cruiser past cars parked along curbs, Stevens indicates two apartment buildings several blocks off University. "Couple months ago, about three in the morning, we had a guy jumpin' from rooftop

to rooftop over there, completely nude. He had overdosed, smoking cocaine. Freakin' out. Big buffed-out dude. Very muscular. Five of us it took to fight him into custody.

"See that house? The one with 'Beware of Dog?'" The frame rambler sits back from the street on a patch of seared, spotty lawn. Shades cover windows. "Guy's dealing dope real heavy out of there. He's got pit bulls in the front yard, back yard, in the house. House is semifortified."

Farther down the block, we slow again. "Couple of weeks ago, we had two separate warrants on this house here, the one with boarded-up windows. Canceled a whole shitload of burglaries. Two parolees were living in there."

Walking toward us, tall woman in red shorts, black halter top, shoots out one bony hip, narrows eyes, stares hard at Stevens. "That's one of the guy's sisters. She's a dealer."

Another block. Grinning male, striding down

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sidewalk, loses grin, sneers when he spots Stevens. "Raymond. Me and Raymond don't like each other at all, because I've put him in jail three times, twice for being drunk, once for dealin' dope."

Do many people give Stevens these angry glances? "Yeah, and you get quite a bit of that diarrhea 'oh shit'

look — they look nervous, make it a point to look away from you.

"Most people down here though are glad to see us. But they are the silent majority. Mostly it's because they're scared of retaliation at the hand of the dope dealers. Don't blame 'em either."

Entering an alley off of

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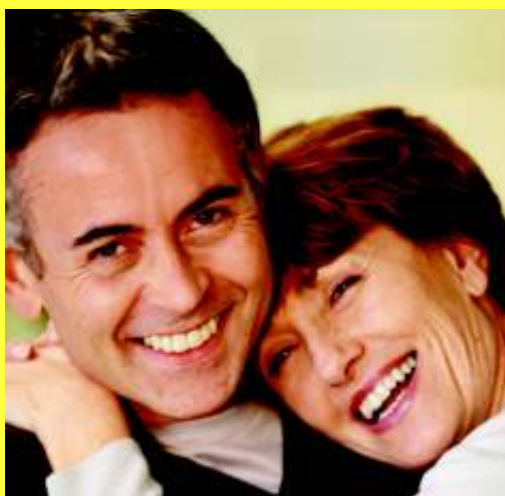
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Wightman, Stevens taps the brakes to avoid hitting a small boy who appears, seemingly, from nowhere. Guacamole slides off the plate onto my skirt.

Stevens hands me his napkin. "I'm makin' quite a mess, huh?"

We're out of the car. "You find lots of graffiti in these alleyways. Less likely anybody'll be watching, gives 'em more of a chance to write." Garage doors, fences, sides of sheds, concrete retaining walls: graffiti delirium blooms. OBS, RCLS, BSD, East San Diego #1 — gang names and gang-bangers' gang names — Cubby, Sparky, Slow, Shyboy, Pookie, Smurf, Pony, Dreamer, Ricky, Jueto, Trigger, Mosco. Perfidious oranges and reds spell out in a rainbow arc high on a toolshed wall: *Mi Loca Vida*.

"Pretty generic nicknames," says Stevens. "There's usually a Chuco, a Flaco — which means skinny. What they'll do, they nickname their buddies — like if he's short, looks like sort of a mouse, they will call him

Mouse; if he looks like a rat they will call him Rat or *Ratón*."

Black gang-bangers, Stevens tells me, tend toward names that refer to guns. "Breakdown, for breakdown shotgun; Trey-Eight, for .38; Sawed-Off, for sawed-off shotgun." Black gangsters also often use "L'il" as part of a gang name. "So there's a L'il Deuce," says Stevens. "'Deuce' because the gang member's known to carry a .22."

Sinking sun pinkens lurid spiked letters emblazoned across walls. *Mi Loca Vida* — My Crazy Life — crowns the violent phantasmagoria; I think of jailhouse tattoos, skin inscribed in ballpoint pen, with snakes and naked-breasted women and daggers and dragons, think that many of those who have thrown up their names on these walls will progress from youth detention facilities to county jail and ultimately, state prison.

"ESD crossed out OBS right here." ESD slashes across an OBS written in broad felt-tip pen on a frame out-

building. "OBS will come along and see that and cross out ESD and write 'Fuck ESD' or something like that."

ESD, Stevens explains, is a Hispanic gang. OBS — Oriental Boys — takes its members primarily from the Cambodian population. OBS is about a year old. Most OBS members were born in the States. They tend to speak a black English and use the slang black gang-bangers use.

"OBS is claiming Crip, so they carry the blue rag like Crips do, and they usually call each other Cuz.

"Usually, Hispanic gangs feud with Hispanics, and they usually get along with blacks, and vice-versa. Oriental Boys and Hispanics, for some reason, they got off on the wrong foot. OBS is trying to claim territory and get established; they're feuding real heavily with Hispanic gangs. Been goin' at it six months. In that time, there have been many drive-bys committed on each other."

Where do they get guns? "Black market, burglaries."

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Back in the car, we cruise northbound on Menlo, toward University. "3700 and 3800 Menlo, OBS territory." Dozen teenage Oriental males and one blond male mill in front of a concrete retaining wall. One long whistle — high, piercing — arcs across the neighborhood. "Lotta times you drive by, you hear 'em whistling. Whistlin' to let everybody know we're here. One whistle, that's one cop car. Two whistles, that's two cop cars. Sometimes, instead of whistling, they'll yell, 'One time,' for one cop car or 'Two time,' for two cop cars.

"Hardcore little gang members, OBS," says Stevens as pleasantly as if pointing out the yellow and orange canna that brighten a nearby housefront. "If they don't have guns on 'em right now, they have access to guns close by. They are real careful to see who drives by, there could be a drive-by killing any moment. Had we come around the corner real fast, there would have been immediate movement on their part.

"Between 30 and 50 actively claim OBS, but a lot more than that associate with 'em. What actively claiming means is that if, as a police officer, you ask 'em, 'Do you claim OBS?' and they say, 'Yeah. I claim OBS,' then we can document them as a gang member in our files. But if you stop five or six of 'em, and they're all dressed like gang members and they talk like gang members and they're hanging out with documented gang members, unless they actively claim, we don't list them in our gang file."

I ask about habits of Oriental gangs.

"Drink beer, smoke marijuana, aren't much into hard drugs. Steal cars, are heavily into Toyotas, mainly Celicas."

We cruise streets bordered by overgrown sidewalks and dusty alleys off which gardens sprout, past pastel frame houses, stucco apartment buildings, past eruptions of weeds and wildflowers, more cannas, cactus. We pass abandoned storefronts, churches, schools,

and schoolyards, tenements and projects with window panes missing and gunshot holes along walls. We pass houses hidden behind chain-link and rock wall. Within one courtyard, from a bed of rusty ferns, rises the pale statue of a female saint, arm raised in blessing.

Stevens grabs a taco. The female dispatcher offers from the radio one after another call.

"Someone 242-ing an open-heart patient."

"The 4300 block of Adams, reporting party says possible 459 occurring now. RP saw male enter window there, go into house."

"In alley, white male, wearing pajamas, yelling at people for over an hour, RP thinks he's 51-50."

Stevens talks about local gangs. For Hispanics, he says, "Being in a gang is more of a tradition. Their brothers were in the gang, their uncles and dads. They watch out for each other.

"Hispanics stay in gangs forever, unless they get jumped out — fight their way out, three or four guys

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beat the shit out of you. You got to beat your way in as part of your initiation, and you got to beat your way out."

Hispanic drug of choice? "They drink beer, smoke marijuana, smoke some PCP from time to time, although PCP is pretty much played out. Steal cars, do the occasional burglary.

"Black gang members get in gangs, it's peer pressure, they want to be cool, get respect.

"Dope-dealing activity is about equal between Crips and Piru. Hispanic gang members dabble in dealing dope, but they're not into it as heavy as black gangs. Not into crack, a little bit of speed but not that much." Meth? "Mainly a white drug." Which of the gangs is most violent? "They're all pretty violent. All gun-oriented — .22s, .38s, every kind of gun. The Orientals tend to be more into semiautomatic weapons.

"Frequently you have a drive-by where they use bird shot, which is a warning — don't talk shit, don't do dope here, whatever. Anyway, they use bird shot, they mean to

hurt somebody, they don't mean to kill 'em. When they do a drive-by, they use a .45 or a 9mm or something like that, they're out to hurt or kill somebody."

Air begins to cool on my elbow, set outside the window Stevens wants kept rolled down so he can hear neighborhood sounds. Palms and evergreens and drooping willows take on the deeper green of late afternoon. I hand Stevens the next to last of his tacos, which he manages to neatly tuck into his mouth while turning the corner.

Off Menlo, Stevens stops behind a house and attached garage painted pale blue. We get out. Morning-glory vines trail up the garage. Birds — making their last feeding foray before sunset — warble and trill. Narrow sidewalk runs between garage and fence. Burnt matches, glassine envelopes, cigarette butts, excrement coils aglitter with flies litter cement. Several nights earlier, Stevens arrested three crack smokers here. The glassine envelopes held crack cocaine.

Stevens aims his boot toward swarming flies. "They squat right over there and take dumps. Rude, huh?"

Back in the car, radio offers "459 possibly going on at auto battery shop. Fairmount and University," and after a bleat of static, "White male, 81 years, got on wrong side of road, could be confused."

Fairmount and Myrtle. "Lot of dope used to get sold here, cocaine and heroin. People would come from all over to buy. The place was well known. Due to citizen involvement and intensive police enforcement, it's currently a dead spot. Places stay down for a few months, and then we have to start the process all over again."

We pull into the 3105 Fairmount 7-Eleven parking lot, the 7-Eleven Stevens uses as bathroom, telephone, and report-writing stop. He gathers paper plate, napkins, root beer can. "As messy as you might have thought I was, if I were a rookie, I would've gotten that food all over the place."

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* * *

The first night I'd gone out with Stevens, we'd arrested three subjects for auto theft (all three arrests were preceded by pursuits) and been one of the first cars at a murder scene.

That night we had not been in the cruiser 30 minutes before a pursuit took place. We were driving, I was asking Stevens (whom I had heard extolled as one of SDPD's most accomplished nabbers of stolen vehicles) how he determined whether or not a car might be stolen.

"You look to see who is driving, do they seem nervous. Is it a profile vehicle? One of the vehicles commonly stolen, a Mazda, Toyota, Nissan. These foreign vehicles are popular to steal because their ignitions are easy to defeat.

"You look for vehicle damage — punched-out door locks, broken windows. You look in cars to see if they have a screwdriver stuck in the ignition. You look for plates that don't appear to be the proper plate for the vehicles — older, six-digit numbers on a license for a

vehicle that would have been assigned the newer seven-digit plate. Or maybe you will see a Nissan and it's got a Chevrolet license plate frame, that is often an indicator the plate has been switched.

"You watch the car. Are they going in a great big circle, are they obviously trying to make turns to keep from being followed, are they constantly looking back to see if they are being followed, looking at you in the rear-view mirror?

"Once something raises



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your suspicion, then you develop your probable cause — your PC — to make a stop.”

Among PCs Stevens suggested were speeding, failing to signal a lane change, expired registration, or any number of equipment violations — nonfunctioning lights, bald tires, broken windshield or windshield obscurement.

We were driving that night westbound on Myrtle. A white Mazda approached on Fairmount. Indicating the Mazda, Stevens said, “Here we have a profile vehicle. A commonly stolen vehicle, youthful occupants.” Stevens then said, “Now let’s develop our probable cause...” and the Mazda

turned right into 43rd Street, going the wrong way into heavy traffic.

We lit him up, took off. Stevens radioed in the Mazda’s plate. While the dispatcher’s voice answered that the Mazda had been reported stolen, our cruiser zoomed past cars whose blazing headlights rushed toward us.

The Mazda’s driver continued along 43rd, then suddenly stopped in traffic. We stopped. The driver leaped out, staggered momentarily, then darted westbound into a pitch-black alley. Stevens, telling me to call for backup, jumped out, shouted, “Freeze.” The driver ran faster. Stevens raced after him. The driver ran, jumped

over a wooden fence, climbed six feet of chain-link, leaped down, ran.

Two men bounded from the Mazda’s passenger door. As in a cliché nightmare, action seemed slowed in motion and at a movie viewer’s distance from me. The men stopped, stood, eyeballed me. I almost smiled, as if we were old friends engaging in a long weekend beach house game of charades. Abruptly, as if slapped, I recognized that these men, this police car, radio mike I held in my hand (and my own voice, tremorous, calling for backup), shotgun I reached for, Stevens’s back (then at a half-block’s distance), were real. My blood, not play-acting ketchup,

could spill slow and hot across Ford’s seats. I grabbed the shotgun. The men fled. In seconds three police cars arrived. That August night, so hot that by 2:00 a.m., air remained stifling, I shivered.

The Mazda’s driver escaped. An hour later, a call came for a murder on that same block, not ten feet from the place we’d stopped. The victim had been shot in his car. What was left of his head flopped to one side, what remained of his mouth contorted in agony, and one brown eye bulged out of its socket, staring at us. The chickens my grandmother beheaded in the back yard for Sunday dinner continued to twitch even while she was wiping with her apron

hem their blood from the axe head. Likewise, the victim’s arms and legs continued to jitter.

Yellow police do-not-cross tape was strung, sealing off a two-block area. The detective in charge had staked off the area for a grid search when there was more daylight. Stevens and a dozen other patrolmen began a house-to-house neighborhood canvass.

Past dawn, we came up on a Caddy, against which leaned Cripdown — a small-boned black male parolee in his mid-20s, with whom we’d chatted earlier at Stevens’s 7-Eleven “office” parking lot, in which we were sitting now. I’d noted to Stevens at the time that Cripdown smelled terrible — stale sweat, metabolizing booze, urine.

“Probably a hot model,” said Stevens about the Cadillac, and continued driving. He called in the plate, car

came back stolen, several weeks before. Cripdown was only leaning against the Caddy, nothing wrong with that, said Stevens. To prove he’d stolen the car, we needed to catch him at the wheel. So we would turn into a side street that would afford a view of Cripdown driving out, and we’d wait.

While we sat, Stevens used the tactical frequency on the car radio to alert other units to encircle the area to keep Cripdown from escaping and to be ready to make a strategic response when and if he rolled. Fifteen minutes later, Cripdown steered the Cadillac southbound on 44th, made a right, and made another right on Myrtle, started to drive up Myrtle, then saw the police car. Stevens lit him up, Cripdown sped up, we sped up behind him, Cripdown crashed into a liquor store. “Vodka, \$4.69,” a sign mounted above the now-

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battered nose of the Caddy offered. "Malt Beer, 99 cents."

Before Stevens vaulted out, three more police cruisers slipped in alongside us, and from the cars leaped six police officers, weapons drawn. Stevens, using methods taught in police academy for a felony hot-stop, took cover behind the driver's door, held his weapon in a two-hand grip, and began directing Cripdown out of the Caddy.

"This is the police department, we have reason to believe you are an armed felon, do exactly as you are told."

Cripdown opened the Cadillac's door, peered behind him, seemed to ponder for a moment the seven gun bores directed at him. He smiled meekly. Tentatively, he put one foot out onto pavement.

Stevens barked, "Put your hands up in the air." Cripdown brought up his arms. "Step away from the vehicle." Cripdown took two sideways steps away from the Cadillac.

"Slowly turn in a circle and then face away from me." Cripdown did this. "Now, walk backwards toward us."

Cripdown walked backwards, stumbling. An officer strode toward him, grabbed him, put him face down on the hood of Stevens's cruiser. His brown cheek pressed into the well of the white hood, his eyes closed. As the officer snapped cuffs on him, Cripdown appeared utterly relaxed, at rest. He inhaled, exhaled rhythmically, easily, like someone about to sleep.

Before placing Cripdown in the back-seat cage, a straight-faced Stevens said to me, "You know that perfume you're wearing?" I nodded, yes. "Do you have it in your purse?" I nodded, yes, again. "Why don't you spray some of it around in here before we put in our passenger?" I grubbed through my bag, found the Chanel Cristalle, sprayed.

Cripdown grew restive during the reading of his rights. He wanted, he said, to explain. The Caddy was not stolen but had been rented by him from a friend for "\$20 and two dime rock." The "lessor," Cripdown assured Stevens, was expecting him to return the car Monday morning. Stevens,

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amused and disgusted, shook his head.

I had thought criminals wily and clever, as on television and in black-and-white gangster movies that as a child I'd loved. I was surprised to hear Cripdown insist upon confessing, even after Stevens seemed almost to beg him not to talk. Given gangster films' cops-versus-robbers antipathy, I was surprised, too, at how friendly Stevens and Cripdown were toward one another; they were more like peers engaged in an enterprise whose success they mutually desired rather than enemies pitted one against the other.

* * *

Now, four hours into his

second-watch shift, Stevens steps into the car, hands me a package of peanuts, turns the key in the ignition. "Ready to roll?"

At 36th and Van Dyke,

in a Cadillac like that one." Stevens's eyes narrow. "They saw us back there at 7-Eleven, and ever since they pulled away from 7-Eleven, they've been trying to get away from

"Some of these girls out here are contaminated with the virus, and they're passing it along."

Stevens points out a fairly new white-over-red Cadillac, two men in front. "The guy we're keeping an eye out for supposedly several days ago was seen riding around

us.

"Thinkin' I might come after him, his quickest escape route would have been if he turned right.

"What they should've done, had they had their shit together, he wouldn't've stayed on that straightaway, he woulda started turning right, right away. See, that's what they always do, when you chase 'em. They start turning right. Because in order to turn left, you have to fight with cross-traffic. And you got to slow down. So, rule of thumb is always turn right."

The Cadillac turns into an alley. "They're trying to evade us, that's why he hit the alley."

At 4000 44th, the Cadillac stops. "He knows I'm back here."

I think of the face in the photograph, the eyes downcast and almost sleepy, the lopsided grin. I imagine him lying across the Cadillac's back seat, an Uzi on the floor of the car, his hand com-

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panionably stroking the black barrel. I imagine his talking from the darkened back seat with the car's driver, imagine tense jokes, challenges exchanged.

"What are we going to do?" I ask.

"Develop our PC to make the stop."

I think of the murder victim's obliterated head, the chickens my grandmother killed.

What then?

"Feel 'em out. Ask the basics. Take a look. See if there's anything dirty in the car. See if they look dirty. See if I recognize any of the guys."

"This is a bad area, there's all kind of hard-cores live around there, and there's two of 'em, and if I stopped 'em and it turned to shit?"

The Cadillac pulls

conditions of their parole. So if I wanted to, I could get them out of the car, search them, their car, with no probable cause.

"We drove right by 'em, didn't stop, so they probably are thinkin' now, 'We're just bein' paranoid.'"

"If I was workin' a two-man car? I would've pulled in right behind him, and we would've taken care of business right there. But now we are going to go to the end of the street, out of their sight, and wait about five minutes and see if he rolls. If he rolls, we'll pull in behind him. *But we'll pick the place to stop.*"

Dark. The dashboard glows. From the visor, the face in the photograph looks down on us. We sit, watch the Cadillac. I hear the rise and fall of Stevens's breath-

The Cadillac's lights have been turned back on. "He's rollin'." Stevens pulls away from the curb.

At 3700 43rd, Stevens announces, "I like it right here. Well lit." He lights up the Cadillac. Baby Green stops. Stevens gets out, approaches the driver's window, "So what are you guys up to?"

Baby Green smiles. "We jus' be goin' to my girl's house."

"Just cruisin' around? You tried to bust a move down that alley?"

Baby Green smiles again. "I know you seed me is why."

"I'm gonna get somethin' to show you guys real quick." Stevens returns to the car, brings back the photograph. "Seen him around?"

"Newspaper," J-Dog says, stonefaced. "Newspaper."

"You recognize him pretty quick."

"Newspaper is where I recognize him from. Don't know his name."

"Seen him around?"

"Only in the paper, like I tol' you."

Stevens waves. "Be cool."

As we walk back to the car, Stevens says, "Damn straight, they've seen him around. They've seen him around lately too. I know so. I could tell by J-Dog's response. He said right away he recognized him. Said, 'Saw his picture in the paper.' I've been reading the paper every day; the pictures they have of this guy are no good. Also I don't believe J-Dog's a real avid newspaper reader."

* * *

Half moon bright white, stars. Cooler. We drive University, through sparse traffic past now-darkened Oriental markets and video-rental outlets that stock Oriental-language films, past grocery stores selling Middle Eastern staples, martial arts schools, narrow bars with "lounge" after their name. I look over into the lane next to us, peer down into a Mazda driven by a teenage male, try to see if a screwdriver is sticking out of the ignition. I confess to Stevens that ever since our first ride-along, I've found myself checking profile cars for telltale signs of theft.

"You'll see 'em," he says, adding, "Me and my partner about three months ago

"Guys steal cars to import drugs, run aliens, to make drug transactions, do drive-bys; they steal cars so they can go out and do a burglary. They steal them for joyrides, a trip to beach, take a girl out on a date."

against a curb before a one-story house. Cadillac stops, its lights go off.

Telling me not to look over, Stevens drives slowly past the Cadillac. His eyes gaze peripherally. His breathing quickens slightly.

He smiles. "Guy who's driving? Name's Baby Green. In the passenger seat, J-Dog. Those are their Piru names. North of 'em Lincoln Park Piru, hard-core Piru gang members. From the Syndo Mob. Baby Green's a parolee, spent prison time for armed robbery. J-Dog, me and J-Dog go back many years. I arrested him for being under the influence of PCP when he was about 16 or 17. He's also done prison time for armed robbery. You know what? He's an all-around superior athlete — track, football — but he's still out here fuckin' off."

"Parolees are subject to search and seizure. Part of the

ing, even and slow. He often works alone, and I ask if he would rather work a one-man car or have a partner. "Every car in San Diego," he answers, "should be two-man."

Stevens thrums his fingers along the steering wheel, studies the Cadillac. "Some of these guys, like Baby Green, are real streetwise, they learn a lot of tricks in prison. Like, if you're dirty, *you* make the move, *you* stop, *you* know what you're doing. Then the guy following you, *he* doesn't know what you're doing, and *you* have the element of surprise."

"You got a guy who's done time for armed robbery and he's dirty, he's got something dirty in that car, you pull him over like that, he panics, he sees you're by yourself, he thinks things are rollin' his way and he's got the upper hand, there's no tellin' what he'll do."

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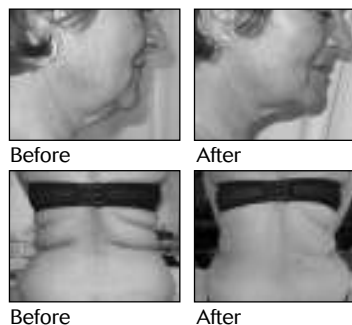
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were at a stoplight, and I saw a screwdriver sticking right out of the ignition, looked like a 13- or 14-year-old kid driving. Kid pulled in front of us, and we developed probable cause to stop him. We lit him up. He took off, just like that, out of control, going down Streamview, tried to take a corner doing about 60.

"I backed off, didn't want him to feel so pressured he had to drive like that. He lost control, hit a parked car, a telephone pole, slammed a truck with a camper shell, three more cars, went up like the Dukes of Hazzard, did a flip in midair. Fortunately, the car he'd stolen, it was one of those ones that automatically belts, so he was seat-belted in. His face smacked the windshield. If he hadn't been in that type of vehicle, he undoubtedly would be dead.

"Anywhere you have a lot of stolen vehicles, as we do in San Diego, you are going to have pursuits. People around here are pretty hip to gettin' out of our way."

Along Fairmount, Stevens spots three teen-age black males walking toward us. Two of the trio he knows,

one — Axe, a Crip from West Coast 30 — he'd recently arrested. "Last time I ran into Axe, he and another couple of guys had just gotten through bein' in a gang fight. Ever'body had a little bit of blood on 'em that night."

Photo of suspect in hand, Stevens bounds out his door. Five long, rapid steps bring him abreast of the three. "Seen him around?" The photographic paper glows under streetlamp light. I tense, as if expecting the face and the bulked-out body that my imagination has shaped would suddenly spring from nearby bushes.

Naw, the three say, they've not seen him. Axe nods at the photo, says, "That nigger was kickin'." Stevens asks Axe what he's been up to. Axe, laughing, recalls the night Stevens arrested him, the gang fight, insists, "I not hangin' no more."

"You probably shouldn't be wearin' that jacket." Stevens indicates Axe's blue jacket.

"I gotta have it."

Stevens turns to me, explains, "He's violating probation by wearing blue. And he's sayin' he don't bang no more because he's probably

on probation right now. It's a violation of his probation if he claims." Stevens turns back to Axe, asks, "Is your brother locked up?"

"Naw."
"What happened on that case?"

"He's gotta go to court on the first."

Talk turns to OBS, the Oriental Boys. Stevens says, "They're tryin' to say they're sidin' with you guys, they're

After more talk about who is where, who's locked up, who's claiming what gang, Stevens says, "We're going to bust out of here; see you fellows."

I ask how old Axe is. "Sixteen. He's all right. He's a YCOG. Young Cousin of Original Gangster. He's been in some pretty stiff shit. He's very streetwise. Most of these kids are extremely streetwise.

"In order to be able to

"You get stabbed with a knife, wherever it hits, it's a license to operate. It's better to get shot."

claimin' Crip. You guys kickin' with 'em?"

Axe says, "They got lot of guns."

"No," Stevens smiles, "we been up on 'em and we got their guns."

"Cripdown," Axe asks, "he still around?"

"We arrested him driving around in a hot model. He was lookin' pretty good for a while. Then he started suckin' on the pipe."

stop and talk with gang members and to build any rapport with them, you have to know their slang. Your body language has to change, your grammar. You can't pronounce things perfectly; you gotta use street slang, gang slang, they won't talk to somebody that sounds educated at Yale. You have to know their homeboys. I know the OGs, the original gangsters, the older guys,

and once you start talking about the OGs, you start getting their attention right away, because they look up to those OGs."

Does Stevens notice any difference among gang members when arresting them? "Hispanics are generally a little more tight-lipped. Blacks and whites are easier to wheel and deal with. 'Tell you what, give me a little bit of info, we'll see if we can shift charges around a little bit, maybe let you slide on this and that.' Blacks and whites are more likely to talk with you a little bit. Hispanics are more likely to say, 'I'm not snitchin'. You got me for this and that, you do what you got to do.'"

* * *

We pull up next to a police car stopped at Central and University. "They work a prostitute detail," Stevens says and then yells out his window to a patrolman, "What up?" The officer explains that they were chasing a prostitute who had run from them. Stevens pulls away from the curb, waves, smiles, calls out, "Quit harassin' people."

Fewer prostitutes now walk El Cajon Boulevard, Stevens says, adding, "As

soon as people start getting fed up with something and start coming out and saying, as they did about prostitution, that they're tired of whores up and down the boulevard, then we can do more proactive enforcement, because we know then that people are behind us."

We turn onto El Cajon's neon. "Prostitutes usually come out about ten, ten-thirty, and they'll stay out all night. They see you comin' from a long ways off. You have to be sneaky to find 'em. They can spot a cop car, they know what the cars sound like, they know what the headlights look like, parking lights. Usually they pick up the pace a little bit when they see us, to look like they have somewhere to go.

"Some of 'em are car dates, some have a hotel room, some take dates to vacant houses. But most are car dates and most dates consist of oral sex. About half use condoms. And some of these girls out here are contaminated with the virus, and they're passing it along.

"Some of 'em tell you they make 30 or 40 or 50 bucks a trick, several hundred dollars a night. Depends on the girl. A lot of 'em are

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what we call strawberries or cherries, crack whores."

"You get farther west, it's mainly Hispanic transvestites and transsexuals. You would be real surprised. Some of them are very appealing-looking. They wear their makeup just right, they are little and dainty."

Stevens slows, says that if he's not mistaken, the three figures standing in shadow next to a real estate agency are TVs, either transvestites or males who have had breast implants and who are bewigged and garbed as women. Stevens suggests we stop and talk with them. Hispanic, one in an ornate platinum blonde wig and two in brunette wigs, the

these places." Stevens points out Adult World.

"About two or three months ago that place — Adult World — got robbed. We got the call and went down to take the report. They keep a video camera in the store and had captured the robbery on tape. The tape shows this tall black guy, while the clerk is distracted doing something else, going back behind the counter, reaching into a cash register, and pulling out the cash register drawer, then starting to take off. The clerk runs up and grabs him to get the money from him, the guy pulls out a knife, starts stabbin' the clerk. Shows it all, right on the tape. Pretty

When the bullet goes into your system, it's so hot it cauterizes and seals everything it goes into. You get stabbed with a knife, wherever it hits, it's a license to operate. It's better to get shot, actually. So, have you been to court on him yet? We tried to get him charged with attempted murder."

"The morning I went to the prelim, they tried to get him to plead guilty to a lesser charge, he wouldn't go for it. I don't know whether he's stupid or what."

"He's a parolee. He's goin' to be goin' back for a long time. This isn't the only one they've got him on."

The clerk moves closer, addresses Stevens. "Did you hear what he did to that furniture-store owner? An older man, like in his 70s. He went to the guy's garage, took the screwdriver from his car, knocked him down on the floor, got down in a fetal position, stabbed him, kicked the crap out of him, pummeled his face. To do something like that to an older guy, he's got to be pretty sick."

"I imagine," offers Stevens, as we head for the door, "he'll do five or six years."

* * *

wild.

"We caught the guy eventually. Well, *we* didn't, but our detectives did."

Stevens suggests we pay a visit on the clerk who was stabbed. When Stevens enters, customers, all male, look up — startled — from their study of dildos and lubricating unguents and various latex devices. The clerk, handsome dark-haired mid-30ish, in white shirt, smilingly greets Stevens.

"What happened on your injuries? How did they turn out?"

"Well, he punctured my lung, fractured my hand. I grabbed him and I grabbed the tray. He was really going at me. Actually, I guess I've watched too many movies or somethin'. I'd go through that stabbing again in a minute before I'd go through my experience again with that trauma unit, that was the worst. They don't leave no stone unturned over there. He punctured my lung, but they cut my stomach open to explore."

"It's better to get shot than to get stabbed like that.

We make a left and hit a couple of side streets. Everything begins now to look dangerous. I think, again, of the face in the photograph, wonder in which of these houses the suspect might be hidden, and when I hear what sounds like gunfire, I start. "Some kind of a backfire," says Stevens. "Possibly could have been a gun with weak ammo. Around here could be anything."

"We'll wait and see if any cars come rolling out of the area." Wind has come up, rattles branches and fronds. Dog barks. My heart speeds. "It's not uncommon at all to be driving around here and hear gunshots. Lot of times when you hear guns being fired in this neighborhood, guys are going outside and shooting off a few rounds."

Over the radio, a call comes for a car to go to the site of an armed robbery on El Cajon Boulevard. Dispatcher notes: "Beige Mazda 323 used as the getaway car."

"Those are real popular to steal," Stevens says. "We chased at least one, that

"I've got about 25 pounds on my belt, which makes a big difference when you're chasing somebody. Also, the vest, bulletproof, adds another three or four pounds."

three diminutive men are raised to a height of perhaps 5'5" by their three-inch heels.

The blonde tells us they came from Tijuana, where they had danced topless in bars, most recently in the Bambi Club. "Prostitution," the blonde says, "is legal in Tijuana but not for men dressed up like women."

How much do they earn? "On a good night when business is good, three or four hundred dollars. They do not take dates alone, but at least two go together, one to do business, the other as protection. They offer, primarily, oral sex. The blonde opens a purse, shows condoms. A knife blade glitters. The blonde laughs, nervously, says, "*Cuchillo*."

What happens when customers discover they are men, not women? The blonde answers, "They don't discover."

Back in the car, Stevens comments, "Pretty hard to tell they weren't women."

Several minutes later, on University, Stevens indicates a storefront. "Lots of the prostitutes work close to

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Stevens likes, I observe, apprehending stolen cars. He laughs, "Thrill of the chase," then adds, serious now, "Eighty percent of the time — no, 99 percent of the time — that person in that stolen car, that's likely not the first law he's broken or the first car he's stolen. Car thieves are usually pretty hardcore individuals who are into a lot of crime, not only stealing cars.

"Guys steal cars to import drugs, run aliens, to make drug transactions, do drive-bys; they steal cars so they can go out and do a burglary. They steal them for joyrides, a trip to beach, take a girl out on a date.

"That Mazda you heard, you think that was their car? No. Those guys likely stole that car, then went out and did their armed robbery and probably already dumped the car.

"It's a game in a way," Stevens confesses. "You develop probable cause to stop them, then you make the stop. About half the time they pull over, about half

the time they rabbit on you — try to get away.

"A lot of times, when I stop a car, I will say, 'Turn it off' before I even walk up towards them, because a smart car thief, he'll wait for you to get out of your car, and you start walking towards him, and then he hauls ass on you.

"It's an art, chasing cars. You don't want to chase them in an unsafe area or manner. But you can't back down, you can't have the word get out that cops aren't chasing cars, because crooks then would literally live out of their cars. If you live out of your car, you want to go to get something to eat, you drive through at Jack in the Box, whatever; you stay in your car most of the time, you're safe, because the cops aren't going to go after you. Crime would run rampant if police pursuits were across-the-board denied."

I ask Stevens to tell me about a particularly memorable pursuit. He considers for a moment, then offers, "Different gangs have different initiations — go out

and steal a car, go out and beat up a rival gang member, or get involved on purpose in a high-speed police pursuit and drive up and down predesignated streets.

"Seven, eight years ago,

to, but they're still into the same type crime — car theft.

"The Mad Drivers were known for their ability to steal cars and to solicit, sucker, and lead cops on high-speed pursuits. To become a mem-

Moon high in sky, across
the street from 7-Eleven,
three black males, one grip-
ping an ironing board in his
arms as if the board were a
dance partner, stand at the
pay phone, barking out a
rhythmic rap chant.

there used to be in Southeast a gang who called themselves the 41st Street Mad Drivers. Now they call themselves the Neighborhood Crips. They don't bait us into pursuits like they used

to, but they're still into the same type crime — car theft. The Mad Drivers were known for their ability to steal cars and to solicit, sucker, and lead cops on high-speed pursuits. To become a mem-

along that route and wait to see the chase.

"First one I got in, 1983, '84, was at 3600 Market Street. I'm driving eastbound on Market, one-man car, workin' by myself, graveyard. Brown Z-car pulls up in the lane next to me, directly to my left. I look over at them. They look at me.

"Two black kids, 16 or 17, blue Crip rags pulled up right above their nose, so all I can see are eyes. Driver nods his head. I know they want me to chase 'em. I nod, motion with my hand, 'Go ahead, pull up.' They change lanes, get right in front of me.

"I lit 'em up and the chase was on.

"I chased them up and down side streets off Market. As I was going up side streets, people were yelling and screaming, rooting on their homies.

"I chased them for three, four miles. Those old Fairmonts we had back then were super-slow. Eventually we got on the freeway. They turned out their headlights, stuck out their arms, and

they waved goodbye. Their car was a lot faster than mine. They blew my doors off, blew me away. I last saw them going northbound on I-15.

"I radioed ahead to the cops working East San Diego. One cop spotted them as they got off on El Cajon Boulevard. Before it was over, they ended up getting into three separate pursuits with three different police units — being chased, evading their pursuers, being picked up, evading their pursuers again. The next day the Z-car was recovered, unoccupied, over by Wightman. Of course, it was a stolen car."

* * *

"Three-sixteen Victor." Dispatcher asks Stevens to respond to an 11-44 in a nearby apartment complex off El Cajon.

"Could be anything," he says, "drug overdose, stabbing, shooting, heart attack. Might have to call the coroner, the coroner will come out."

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gency overhead lights beam. An ambulance stands ready behind the truck. Stevens strides through a brick courtyard into the open door of a ground-floor apartment. Returns, moments later. "An elderly woman, unconscious; they're doing CPR right now." Through the open door can be seen men in yellow jackets, City of San Diego imprinted in black on the jackets' backs.

"Either going to be an 11-44 natural or she'll be transported to the hospital," says Stevens. "What we do now is wait, stay out of the way."

I ask how his work has changed in the decade he's been a policeman. "People are much more blatant about everything they do now, like they don't care. They don't sweat doing time like they used to. Doing time anymore ain't that big of a thing."

"Things are a hell of a lot more dangerous than they used to be. Lot of guns floating around."

From the radio on Stevens's belt, the female dispatcher asks, "Do we have a Vietnamese interpreter?" then, "Transporting one juvenile," then, "Stand by for detox, 375-pound woman threatening to fight, will not hesitate to fight. Chronic."

Stevens paces the small courtyard. "Ten years ago, I would have possibly been in a physical confrontation with someone several times a month. Now? I talk to people. Take some guy who's hell-bent on fighting everyone he sees? You go up there and talk to him right, you can get him to go and sit in the back seat of your car easily, and he'll likely apologize to you for being such an asshole. That's a skill you develop. It takes a long time. It was hard for me to learn."

"Couple years ago, a woman under the influence of PCP ran up to the car, ran up in front of me, jumped on the hood of the car, jumped up on the roof, started to pull on the light bar. Dentin' it all up. She weighed 260 pounds. She was goin' crazy. I called for backup. He got there. I started talking to her, and she started crying, and she was apologizing for messing up my car, and she got in the back seat and put her hands behind her back for me to handcuff her. However, as soon as I got her handcuffed,

she started going off again. Kicking the windows, butting the windows with her head. She was going nuts."

From the radio, "Two black males, bleeding from the back. Over on Van Dyke, on the 245 shooting, for evidence collection on the backside of Tierrasanta. Occurred at 15:45 hours, two gang units here now and one at Mercy Hospital."

What's it like to see death all the time? The only 11-44s that depress him, he says, "are the civilian naturals. Crimes involving a real legitimate victim, they bother me, but not gang- or dope-related deaths."

I ask if there's a cop show on television that he likes. "No, most cop shows are pretty phony."

I say that he seems to have a fairly pleasant disposition. He agrees. "I do. If you've got a patient disposition, you've already got a lot going for you on this job. I don't get in over my head if I can help it. You pick up on that. Somebody out of prison, for instance, he thinks you don't know how to carry yourself, say you're new or something, he picks up on that through body language."

Has he ever had to use his gun? "I take it out a lot, but I've never had to shoot anybody."

Stevens had recently returned from training with the pain-compliance devices called *nunchakus*. To make space on his belt for the *nunchakus*, he had removed one of the two sets of handcuffs he had been carrying. "I used to carry a buck knife too, had to take it off also — I used that knife for everything, cutting tapes, jimmying locks. We're carrying semiautomatic pistols now, so I'm carrying two clips. Each clip carries usually about 15 bullets. I've got flashlight, handgun — a Ruger P85, radio, Pierre 24 polycarbonate nightstick. Altogether, I've got about 25 pounds on my belt, which makes a big difference when you're chasing somebody. Also, the vest, bulletproof, adds another three or four pounds."

Forty-five minutes we've been leaning against the brick courtyard wall, talking and listening to calls come over the radio, when the paramedics pass us, pushing a gurney to which is strapped an open-mouthed

woman, wisps of white hair damp on her forehead. The paramedic tells Stevens, "We're going to transport her."

* * *

Back in the car, we turn onto Myrtle and Fairmount, Stevens suggests I look to my right at a garage apartment. "Up there, where the window's open, that's where our buddy, the guy we're keeping an eye out for, has been known to hang out some of the time."

"This corner has had several shootings, dope-related assaults. Gangsters congregate in this parking lot, deal in dope, stolen cars, little bit of everything. In fact, this is where we spotted Cripdown's Cadillac that morning."

Van passes us. Stevens waves. "Couple of undercover narcs. Getting ready to go over and raid a house."


Radio offers a burglary. Stevens grabs the mike, "316 Victor, I'll take that." He turns to me, says, "These burglaries can often take two hours. Most burglaries," he adds, "happen in daytime, most are committed by kids or dope fiends. You figure burglars are doing 50 to 100 burglaries to every 1 burglary they get caught for."

The burglary victim opens his front door before we step out of the car. Husky, white, 30ish, dressed in jeans and plaid shirt, he wrings his hands, says, as we walk up the pavement toward him, "This is the first time someone has invaded my personal space."

He returned home from work after five, went into his den and found his cameras gone and one window wide open. Nothing else — not the television, VCR, computer, not his new luggage, not his piggy bank — was missing.

Leading Stevens through the house (which smells of the two cats asleep on the living room sectional couches) to the den, the man says he's already asked neighbors if they saw anyone suspicious. They did.

"The cameras I kept here." He motions toward a dusty oak dining table, on which dustless squares attest poignantly to the theft. Then, again wringing his hands, swallowing hard, he confesses that the bedroom windows had been left unlocked.



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Stevens checks windows, then asks the man to show us to the back yard.

Untrimmed laurels shade two windows. Stevens, playing his flashlight (Stevens's \$150 flashlight has adjustable beam light and dimmer), spots in grass beneath one window a white cotton sock. "Probably put this sock over his hand when he reached up in here to open the window. Means more than likely he's been arrested before, didn't want to leave fingerprints."

Thirty minutes later, we are across the street, standing in the living room of an elderly couple, who, from matching recliners, have been watching television on a console outfitted with a massive screen.

"Your neighbor," says Stevens, voice raised to be heard above blasting laugh track, "got home about five, found he'd been burglarized. Says you saw a suspicious-looking stranger around today. What did he look like?"

On television a dog is running in circles around a midget dressed in top hat and tails.

"Kinda gray hair," the woman answers. "I'd say middle-aged. Neatly dressed. Kinda nice-looking. Big fellow."

"Six foot, six foot two?"

"No, not that tall."

"Five ten?"

"I'd say so. Very neat-looking fellow. Clean hands."

"About 180, 190 pounds? Medium build?"

"Yes. Middle-aged. About 190."

"When you say 'middle-aged,' " asks Stevens, "how old do you mean?"

She laughs. "Younger than me."

Outside, Stevens says, "They look like that painting of the two old people, what's it called?"

"*American Gothic?*" I say, walking behind him quickly to keep up with his long stride.

"Yeah, Grant Woods painted that. Let's go back to 3105 Fairmount, bust this report out."

Moon high in sky, across the street from 7-Eleven, three black males, one gripping an ironing board in his arms as if the board were a dance partner, stand at the pay phone, barking out a rhythmic rap chant. Yellow light from the plate glass

windows gilds the cruiser's trunk. Driver's-seat door open, one foot on pavement, Stevens writes his burglary report. At 7-Eleven's counter, a twacker quartet — two male, two female — twitches, flinches, frets hands along scrawny bare tattooed arms. A tremorous hand holds out a quivering bill to pay for Screaming Yellow Zonkers, four boxes. Behind the four-some, two overweight teenage girls grasp ice-cream cartons to their bosoms; and behind the girls, a black male (red-and-black sateen jogging suit, unlaced Reebok hightops, clear plastic shower cap protecting his do, sunglasses aglow with 7-Eleven's lights) waits with a package of Pampers.

Black male, young, carrying a six-pack of Coke cans, has approached the car. Stevens and the young man chat pleasantly. Stevens asks, "What's your last name?" "Curtis."

"You related to Donald?"

"He's my father."

"Is that right? Well, tell him Officer Jim Stevens said hello. Haven't seen him in years, like about six or seven years. He still got that shaved head?"

"Yeah."

"Your dad was all right."

After the young man has headed out into the street, Stevens says, "His dad kinda had a wild streak in him. A hard-ass. Nice guy though. Great big buffed-out guy. Burnt rubber ever'where he went."

From the radio, the female dispatcher offers: "RP standing by in front of the Big Bear. Volunteer from CMH en route" and "11-10 with the RP standing by, vehicle is an '87 Nissan pickup. Waiting in front of the Mervyn's store."

7-Eleven's night manager strides through the lot toward Stevens's car. "We ought to sell out," he says to Stevens, "and go to Puerto Vallarta."

Stevens holds up the photograph. "Look at this, will you, tell me if you've seen this guy in here. Buddy of his lives right next door, in the apartments."

"Yeah, I've seen this guy."

"Remember when was the last time you saw him?"

"A while."

The face I have been imagining, to which I've appended a restless body, for whose bulk I've conjured

hiding places, surprises me by looking no different than when I first saw it nine hours earlier. It is still only a very unremarkable, everyday face.

"He's wanted for murder. Hangs out with a kid who comes around here quite a bit, tall, thin black kid, used to wear beads in his hair, a Crip."

"Want me to take him if he comes in? I'd be more than happy to."

"Don't even try to. This guy's always armed."

"Then we gonna be even. Come right down to it, most of 'em are chickenshit."

Back on the streets again after midnight, sparse traffic, ahead of us a Kawasaki. A girl, whose tight pants swathe attractive buttocks, clutches the cycle's driver. Stevens smiles. "A little *cultita*!" He says about the bike: "A Ninja. I've got one like that, except mine's red, white, and blue." Stevens grins. "Patriotic colors. I stopped that bike before, guy didn't have the Class 4 license."

Call comes over the radio, gang fight in a schoolyard. "Might be," Stevens suggests, "some of those OBS boys."

We turn onto Myrtle. The half moon's luster whitens rooftops, air has turned crisp. No cars pass us. The neighborhood is so quiet that insects' whir and chirp can be heard, and even the radio has ceased its crackle, the voice of the female dispatcher is silent. Stevens nods toward a liquor store. "This is where we pulled over Cripdown." Signs on the wall into which Cripdown crashed still offer "Vodka, \$4.69" and "Malt Beer, 99 cents."

So what did he think Cripdown would do in prison? "Lift weights, hone his skills." Would anyone from the neighborhood visit him? "A few people will, every now and then." Did Stevens ever visit anyone he'd sent to prison? He smiles. "Nope, I'll see 'em when they get out."

Did he think they'd catch the guy for whom he'd been looking? "Eventually, sure." ■

— Judith Moore

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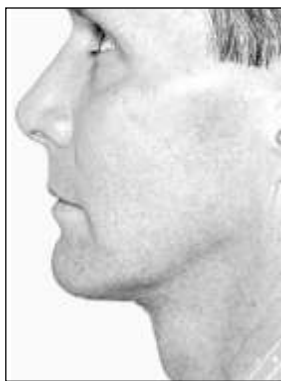
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They're proving themselves as athletes, as women trying to play football. There's a whole different level of passion involved. Plus, women are known for being more emotional than men," says So Cal Scorpions player Jody Taylor. "Now imagine you have two women on the line [ready to charge at] each other — we almost had a brawl on Saturday, there was so much emotion charged up."

The Scorpions have been playing in the Women's Professional Football League since 2004. Because they have no corporate sponsors and are not on television, female

professional football players are unable to make a living from the sport. The Scorpions are able to pay each player

\$75 per game, in an eight-game season.

"You can't always count on your gate," explains Taylor, adding that many tickets are given to community organizations and that the team is lucky if ticket prices cover the operating costs.

The Women's Professional Football League plays by the same rules as the NFL, with three exceptions: the ball is a TDY 1000 (smaller than the 28-inch-long NFL ball), the play clock is 25 seconds rather than 45, and the kickoff is from the 45-yard line instead of the 30.

"It's full contact," says Taylor. "People will come and say, 'Wow, these kids from La Jolla are big,' and we're, like, 'Yeah, those are women,' and they're, like, 'You're kidding me! Those are women hitting [each other] that hard?' I've seen broken legs and arms; broken fingers are pretty much like

breaking a nail for us."

Desiree Weimann, #2, suffered a debilitating injury to her neck two years ago. "She's a peanut: 116 pounds. A real gamer," says Taylor. "We were playing the Long Beach team, and she hit another player mid-sternum and spun around and landed face down. She didn't know if she'd walk again. Now it's last year, and she comes to tryouts, and Ann [Bagala, the team's owner] was, like, 'Desiree? No way.'" Weimann insisted she was not done playing and managed to get clearance from her neurologist after six months of rehab.

Three women on the team wear the Xena line of shoulder pads, which have extra padding for breasts, but most of the players stick with men's gear. "Women's torsos are shorter, so men's shoulder pads fit to give you breast protection. In the beginning, people thought this wasn't going to last," Taylor says of the league, which is in its ninth year. "But now vendors are coming out with more products for women, like sports bras with hard plastic shells and female mouthpieces."

Scorpions players come from all walks of life. "We have a couple of cops, a Marine, moms, and a nursing student," says Taylor. Over 100 women try out every season, and many players are recruited. Crystal Stokes, #61, was recruited by Taylor and Bagala while driving on I-8. "We're driving down the 8 at 70 miles per hour, and I look over and see these super, Lela Ali-cut arms, and I screamed out the window, 'Have you ever thought about playing football?' She screamed back, 'Let's pull over!' She's in the Marines to become a drill instructor, she's hard core, but she's also kind of like a



So Cal Scorpions (dark jerseys) vs. L.A. Amazons, July 22, 2006

Gidge — the first time she nailed someone she got up and said, 'Yay, me!' She runs like a gazelle, and now she's our starting defensive end and averages two to three sacks every game."

Being big and strong, says Taylor, does not mean one must sacrifice femininity. "There's a split picture of Lela Ali, where on one side she's in an evening gown, and on the other side she's beating the hell out of somebody. You can still be a girlie-girl and have muscle." Tarrah Philpott, #52 and a linebacker, "does wedding planning, and one time she came to the stadium holding her shoulder pads and helmet, wearing a little black dress and pumps, and she left the game with a broken nose," recalls Taylor.

Not everyone is ready to accept women on the football field. "It's mostly elderly women who think we shouldn't be doing this. They're stuck in the mind-set that we should be at home, cooking for our husbands. In five years, I remember only two incidents where I've had guys challenge us." One of those times, Taylor was hanging out

with Michelle Starks, #72. "We had one of those stress balls that you squeeze, and it looked like a football. This guy said, 'What a joke, women playing football.' I said, 'I'll accept that on one condition: You go over there, about 20 feet away, and I'm going to throw this ball, and you've got to catch it and run back to me.' He was, like, 'That's it?' and I said, 'Yeah, but first you have to get past *her*,' and Michelle, who is 320 pounds and six feet tall, stood up. He backed down."

— Barbarella

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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

Events that are underlined occur after September 28.

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, and a phone number (including area code) for public information to **READER EVENTS**, Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186. Or fax to 619-881-2401. You may also submit information online at SanDiegoReader.com by clicking on the events section.

BAJA

"Libertad, Ciudad de Paso,"

Omar Pimienta discusses his new book, Thursday, September 21, 7 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, in Zona Río). 011-52-664-687-9636. Free. (TIJUANA)

Orchestra of Baja California presents "Pelea de Gallos," Thursday, September 21, 8 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, in Zona Río). 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

Film Festival with filmmakers from more than 20 countries presenting their projects, lecturing, and more concludes on Sunday, September 24, at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, in Zona Río). Details: 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

Raw Live Tour, wrestling planned on Friday, September 22,

OUT & ABOUT

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PHOTOGRAPH BY BARLOMIEJ BARCZYK

4 p.m., at Monumental Bullring by the Sea. 011-52-664-680-1080. (PLAYAS DE TIJUANA)

U.F.O. Lecture by Jaime Maussán on Friday and Saturday, September 22 and 23, 7 and 9:30 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and

Mina Street, in Zona Río). Tickets: \$20, \$25 U.S. 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

"Why Make Films in Mexico?" Question answered by Juan Carlos Rulfo, Friday, September 22, 7 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina

Street, Zona Río). Free. 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

Farming in the Ocean, discover Ensenada's aquaculture during outing hosted by San Diego Natural History Museum on Saturday, September 23, 8 a.m.–7 p.m. \$105 fee includes boat ride toward

Punta Banda and Todos Santos Bay, visit to oyster, mussel, bluefin-tuna aquafarms, lunch, transportation. Reservations: 619-255-0203. (ENSENADA)

Wine and Dine in Ensenada, Baja California Tours hosts outing led by David Clark, Saturday, September 23, 9 a.m.–7:30 p.m. Event includes tours and tasting at Chateau Camou, Monte Xanic, Pedro Domecq wineries in Valle de Guadalupe. Barbecue lunch at Dona Lupe winery. \$89 fee includes lunch, transportation. Reservations: 858-454-7166. (GUADALUPE VALLEY)

Demolition Derby, Sunday, September 24, 10 a.m., at Campo Romero Manzo, Mesa de Otoy. 011-52-664-682-8488. (TIJUANA)

Sixth Annual International Jazz Festival with performances by Contrapunto, Sacha Boutros, Ensenada Jazz, Javier Bätz Blues Band, many others, Sunday, September 24, noon, at Ventana del Mar. 011-52-646-174-4001. (ENSENADA)

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"Estudio y Disciplina," Cecilia Pliego lectures Tuesday, September 26, 6:30 and 8:30 p.m., in Reading Room at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, Zona Río). Free. 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

Opera Pop Promised when Filippa Giordano performs Thursday, September 28, 8 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, in Zona Río). Tickets: \$60, \$80 U.S. 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

Tijuana Cultural Center, the center (CECUT) offers guided tours in Spanish and English of exhibit on history 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, Lions, Fuerzas de la Naturaleza, Oasis Marino.*

The center is located at Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, Zona Río. Showtimes and information: 011-52-664-687-9600 x50. (TIJUANA)

OUTDOORS

Lanternlike Venus lies just left of the exceedingly thin, waning crescent moon on the morning of Thursday, September 21. Start looking very low in the eastern sky at around 6 a.m. to spot both of them. Binoculars may be required to see the pale moon. Any vantage point with a view of the mountains to the east of San Diego will do, as long as coastal clouds don't interfere.

Fall Officially Begins at 9:03 p.m. local time on Friday, September 22 — a good excuse to throw an impromptu evening party to celebrate the occasion. At equinox, the sun shines directly down somewhere on Earth's equator. At 9:03 p.m. San Diego time this year, that equatorial spot lies in Indonesia. The autumn season will continue for another three months until the sun "moves" to its farthest southerly point, winter solstice, December 21.

Are You a VIP? Cabrillo National Monument kicks off tide-pool season with Volunteers-in-Parks orientation and trainings on Saturdays, September 23 and October 7, at monument. Conference includes presentations by field experts, monument staff, volunteers. Park Service asks volunteers to commit to serving eight hours per month. Free. Registration: 619-523-4576. (POINT LOMA)

Find Gold — leaves and flowers that is — during guided walk crossing San Diego River in Mission Trails Regional Park on Saturday, September 23, 8:30 a.m., at Kumeyaay Lake campground entry station (Two Father Junipero Serra Trail). Free. 619-668-3281. (SAN CARLOS)

Trekking the Refuges, view migratory waterfowl and wildflowers of South San Diego Bay National Wildlife Refuge during outing hosted by Chula Vista Nature Center, Saturday, September 23, 8:30 a.m. Free. Required reservations: 619-409-5903. (IMPERIAL BEACH)

An Expert Birder from San Diego Audubon Society leads bird walk in Tecolote Canyon on Saturday, September 23, 9 a.m., at Tecolote Nature Center (5180 Tecolote Road). Free. Bring

binoculars and drinking water. 858-581-9944. (CLAIREMONT)

Beach Cleanup at La Jolla Shores hosted by San Diego Coastkeeper on Saturday, September 23, 9 a.m. Free. Directions: 619-758-7743. (LA JOLLA)

Help Remove Invasive Plants and refuse along San Diego River — from I-5 west to river mouth — with Audubon Society volunteers, Saturday, September 23, 9 a.m.–noon. Wear work clothes; bring work gloves and

weeding tools if you have them. Free. Directions: 858-273-5242. (MISSION BAY)

Visit Historic Oaks and Kumeyaay Grinding Rocks during guided nature walks in Mission Trails Regional Park on Saturday, Sunday, Wednesday, September 23, 24, and 27, 9:30–11 a.m., in Mission Trails Regional Park (One Father Junipero Serra Trail). Free. 619-668-3281. (SAN CARLOS)

Bizarre Trees, cacti, and succulents star when Offshoot Tours hosts its monthly hour-long guided stroll through desert garden, Saturday, September 23, 10 a.m., starting from park's visitors' center. Free. 619-235-1122. (BALBOA PARK)

Explore Newest Addition to San Dieguito River Park's Coast-to-Crest trail and learn cultural significance of area with guide Cindy Stankowski of San Diego Archaeo-

logical Center, Sunday, September 24. Outing starts at 1:30 p.m. Directions, requested reservations: 858-755-6956. (RANCHO SANTA FE)

A Few Early Migrants "or even vagrants" may show when Audubon Society birders venture to Lindo Lake Park (9841 Vine Street) on Wednesday, September 27, 8 a.m. Easy hiking. Free. Directions: 619-692-3246. (LAKESIDE)

DANCE

Bellydance Showcase with dancing by Mira, Monika, Selina, and Nari, live music by John Bilezikjian and friends, Thursday, September 21, 8 p.m., at Claire de Lune Coffeehouse (2906 University Avenue). \$. 619-688-9845. (NORTH PARK)

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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

Zimbabwean dance theater artist Nora Chipaumire performs *Chimurenga* for Sushi Performance and Visual Art, September 22–24, at Weingart/City Heights Library Performance Annex (3795 Fairmount Avenue). Piece uses movement, film, text, sound installation to describe personal and collective trauma of surviving war and revolution in Zimbabwe. Curtain rises at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, 7 p.m. on Sunday. \$20 general. 619-235-8466. (CITY HEIGHTS)

“Take It to the Table: A Dance Action for Peace” presented by Eveoke Dance Theatre Friday, September 22, around Copley Symphony Hall (750 B Street). “Actions” at noon, 2, 4, 6, 7 p.m., in celebration of Ani DiFranco concert that night. Free. 619-238-1153. Bring the message of peace downtown! (DOWNTOWN)

The Circulators Square Dance Club has beginners’ class starting Friday, September 22, 6:30 p.m., in Recital Hall (2130 Pan-American Plaza). Classes are open to adults and children over ten (accompanied by an adult). \$3. 858-586-1548. This is the final night of open enrollment. (BALBOA PARK)

Persian Garden and Improv Ragtime Tango featured Friday, September 22, in room 207 of Casa del Prado. Lesson at 7:30 p.m. followed by open dancing. All ages. Partners not required. Free. 619-583-9956. (BALBOA PARK)

“Trolley Dances 2006” presented by Jean Isaacs San Diego Dance Theater and Metropolitan Transit System runs Saturdays and Sundays, September 23, 24, 30, and October 1. This year’s dances run along Orange Line beginning at Euclid Avenue trolley stop; tour guides then escort audience downtown. Choreographers include Monica Bill Barnes, Bradley Lundberg, Jean Isaacs, Kate Brill, Yvonne Harguindeguy, Ben Levy. Performances begin every 45 minutes, 10 a.m.–3:15 p.m. Tickets (which include all-day trolley pass) are \$25 general, \$15 seniors, \$10 students, people in wheelchairs and strollers free. Reservations: 619-867-8749. (SAN DIEGO)

50th Annual International Dance Oktoberfest sponsored by San Diego International Dance Association folk dance clubs is September 23 and 24 in Balboa Park Club. Saturday’s dance workshops run 1–4 p.m., promising basics in polka, waltz, schottische.

Events on Sunday: 12:30–4:30 p.m., with grand march (1 p.m.), dance performances (2:15, 3:30 p.m.), audience participation dances, vendors, food, singing of German songs throughout day. Free. 619-422-1584, 858-546-1381. (BALBOA PARK)

All Things Swing Dance Party with music by Voo Rendezvous with Hal Smith, workshops, dancing, performances, games, on Saturday, September 23, at Dance North County (535 Encinitas Boulevard, suite 100). Intermediate workshop (7:15 p.m.); beginners’ class (8:30 p.m.), open dancing 8:30–midnight. Dance only: \$13; additional fee for lessons. 619-291-3775. (ENCINITAS)

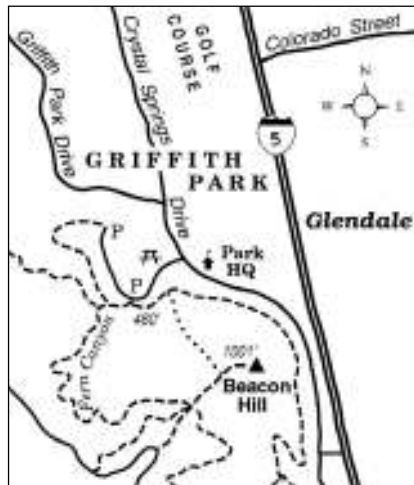
English Country Dancing takes place every Sunday, 6–9 p.m., at Jean Hart Academy of Dance (Oak Knoll Plaza, 12227 Poway Road).

ROAM-O-RAMA

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

Sharply terminated by the Los Angeles River and Interstate 5, Beacon Hill stands as the last eastward gasp of a 50-mile-long mountain range — the Santa Monica Mountains. Back in the early 20th century, the hill served a utilitarian purpose as the site of an illuminated beacon for Grand Central Airport in Glendale. Today, it presides over flatlands overrun by industrial buildings. Commercial air operations have long since shifted to LAX and four other big airports around the Los Angeles Basin.

Beacon Hill remains unspoiled today because it lies in L.A.’s spacious Griffith Park. On this looping hike up to Beacon Hill’s seldom-visited summit, you’ll have a unique view of the city of Glendale’s medium-rise downtown skyline and spreading housing tracts, and the looming Verdugo Mountains beyond.



Start your hike on Griffith Park’s east side, just west of Interstate 5. This section of the park includes the Crystal Springs picnic ground, and the park’s visitor center and ranger headquarters. From the entrance to the large parking lot west of the ranger station and south of the merry-go-round, head south across a paved road onto a parallel fire road. Travel 0.1 mile east, and then turn sharply right up the narrow but obvious footpath that goes straight up the hill. A very steep but short climb takes you up past twisted live oaks and

tree-sized toyon shrubs. When you reach a ridgetop path lined with pine trees, turn left and walk up to Beacon Hill’s rounded summit. The top is grown over with rangy

densest growths of vegetation — an agreeable mixture of native chaparral, oaks, and various nonnative trees. Near the bottom, stay right at both of two closely spaced

BEACON HILL IN GRIFFITH PARK

Climb Beacon Hill in L.A.’s Griffith Park for a bird’s eye view of valley and mountains.

Distance from downtown San Diego: 126 miles

Length: 1.9 miles

Hiking difficulty: Moderate

laurel sumac bushes, but you need only descend a little to the east for a fairly unobstructed view of Glendale.

You can return by a much more gradual but longer route, entirely on fire road. From Beacon Hill, walk west on the ridge to a five-way junction on a shady saddle. Take the right branch, and wind easily down the sides of a steep, north-flowing ravine called Fern Canyon. You pass through some of Griffith Park’s

intersections. Your starting point lies directly ahead.

This article contains information about a publicly owned recreation or wilderness area. Trails and pathways are not necessarily marked. Conditions can change rapidly. Hikers should be properly equipped and have safety and navigational skills. *The Reader* and Jerry Schad assume no responsibility for any adverse experience.

Ellen Riley, Karin Norlin, Ellie Konitshek share calling duties on September 24. \$6. 858-676-9731. (POWAY)

Bellydancer Mariela performs, Middle-Earth Ensemble provides music, Sunday, September 24, 8 p.m., at Turquoise Cafe Bar Europa (873 Turquoise Street). Open dancing. No cover. 858-488-4200. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Sunday Swing Dance with Doctor Swing playing “best digital dance music from the ’40s, ’50s, and ’60s,” Sundays, 5–9 p.m., at Cask n’ Cleaver (3757 South Mission Road). No cover. 760-728-2818. (FALLBROOK)

Zydeco Dances with lessons are offered Tuesdays, including

September 26, at Tio Leo’s (5302 Napa Street, between Morena Boulevard and Linda Vista Road). Beginning dance lessons at 7 p.m.; open dancing to recorded tunes from 8–10 p.m. \$5 (first visit free). 619-857-8409. (LINDA VISTA)

FILM

Open Screening Night at Media Arts Center San Diego (921 25th Street) is Thursday, September 21, 7 p.m., with spotlight on upcoming San Diego Asian Film Festival, new San Diego and Tijuana shorts. Free. 619-230-1938. (GOLDEN HILL)

“Flirting With Disaster” — this flick starring Ben Stiller, Patricia

Arquette, Tea Leoni, others screens for Cinema Under the Stars series, Thursday–Saturday, September 21–23, 8:30 p.m., at Tops (4040 Goldfinch Street). \$12. 619-295-4221. (MISSION HILLS)

Up for a Black Comedy of the Existential Kind? *Duck Season*, Fernando Eimbcke’s riff on adolescent dreams and disappointments screens — in Spanish with English subtitles — for Film Forum, Monday, September 25, 6:30 p.m., at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Free. 619-236-5800. (DOWNTOWN)

Clint Eastwood’s *Unforgiven* stars Gene Hackman, Morgan Freeman, Richard Harris, and Eastwood himself and screens for

“Westerns” installment of ongoing Carlsbad Library film series, Wednesday, September 27, 6 p.m., in Schulman Auditorium (1775 Dove Lane). Free. 760-602-2026. (LA COSTA)

“A Walk in the Night,” one of the first films from new generation of young black South African filmmakers, screens Wednesday, September 27, 6:30 p.m., in third-floor auditorium at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Mickey Madoda Dube’s debut is adaptation of Alex La Guma’s 1962 novella. Free. 619-230-1938 x 102 or 619-236-5800. (DOWNTOWN)

“Matta — The Eye of a Surrealist,” filmmaker Jane Crawford’s documentary shows artist exploring and explaining the creative process, with interview commentaries by art historians, curators, fellow artists. Screens Thursday, September 28, 7 p.m., at San Diego Museum of Art. \$5. 619-696-1969. (BALBOA PARK)

“Toon Town Troublemakers” — showcase of “new and edgy contemporary animated short films” presented Thursday, September 28, 7 p.m., at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (700 Prospect Street). Adult content; unrated. \$7. 858-454-3541. (LA JOLLA)

“Ladri di Biciclette” (1948), Vittorio De Sica’s landmark film screens Thursday, September 28, 7 p.m., at Italian Community Center (1669 Columbia Street). \$2. 619-237-0601. (LITTLE ITALY)

The Original “King Kong” screens Thursday, September 28, 7 p.m., at San Diego Natural History Museum, with presenter Bob Burns discussing the film, displaying “the original King Kong armature used in the film.” \$11 general. 619-232-3821. (BALBOA PARK)

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, currently screening in the IMAX theater: *Deep Sea* and *Greece: Secrets of the Past*. “Fridays at the Fleet” features *Antarctica* (6 p.m.), *Alaska* (7 p.m.), *Greece: Secrets of the Past* (8 p.m.), *Deep Sea* (9 p.m.) on September 22.

Wedding Guide

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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

Ticket prices and showtimes:
619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

LECTURES

"Legalities and Realities: The Lebanon-Israel Conflict and the U.N. Role in the Peace Accord" subject for forum commemorating International Day of Peace, Thursday, September 21. Question-and-answer period follows. Program starts at 7 p.m. at Hall of Nations (between Spreckels Organ Pavilion, International Cottages). Free. 619-223-8074. (BALBOA PARK)

"Memories from the Rolling Hills of Old San Diego" on offer in paintings by Gloria Torres on display through Thursday, October 12, in San Diego Mesa College Art Gallery (D-104). Gallery talk by Torres on Thursday, September 21 at 6:30 p.m. follows reception for artist (4:30 p.m.). Free. Find campus at 7250 Mesa College Drive; 619-388-2829. (KEARNY MESA)

Dog Aggression and Reactivity is subject for Happy-Hour Lecture, Thursday, September 21, 6 p.m., at San Diego Humane Society (5500 Gaines Street). What is aggressive dog behavior? What can you do about it? \$10. Required reservations: 619-243-3424. No pets. (LINDA VISTA)

"The American Dream — Corvettes from 1953 to 2006" discussed by Jerry Bach, Thursday, September 21, 7 p.m.,

at San Diego Automotive Museum. Bach, who currently owns six of these Chevrolets, will share history of vehicle, "cover the little-known facts of the American sports car and dream." Free. 619-231-2886. (BALBOA PARK)

Art Talk with Liliana Porter led by UCSD professor Roberto Tejada at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (700 Prospect Street) on Thursday, September 21, 7 p.m. Porter has created a diverse body of work across a wide range of media. \$5. 858-454-3541. (LA JOLLA)

Art Walk and Talk examining "W. Haase Wojtyla: A Coincidence of Paintings" with Wojtyla and curator Catherine Gleason, Thursday, September 21, 7 p.m., at Oceanside Museum of Art (704 Pier View Way). \$5. 760-721-2787. (OCEANSIDE)

Vista Gem and Mineral Society meets to see *Smithsonian Gems and Mineral* video and hear talk on faceting by George Coburn, Thursday, September 21, 7:30 p.m., at Gloria E. McClellan Senior Center in Brengle Terrace Park (1200 Vale Terrace Drive). Free. 760-724-0395. (VISTA)

Hairnets Optional! Dick and Cindy Wilkins of Bat Rescue present family-oriented multimedia program on world of bats when Audubon Society gathers at Tecolote Nature Center (5180 Tecolote Road) on Friday, September 22, 7 p.m. Free. 619-682-7200. (CLAIREMONT)

Tales From the Trails on offer when authors Tom Leech and Jack Farnan (*Outdoors San Diego*) present program for Sierra Club, Friday, September 22, 7:30 p.m., at Joyce

OUT & ABOUT

CHILD PRODIGY

to seasoned artist — Leann Rimes, Friday, September 22, California Center for the Arts, Escondido.

(SEE IN PERSON)



Beers Community Center (1230 Vermont Street). 619-585-3773. Donations accepted. (HILLCREST)

Sushi Time! Make pressed California sushi with smoked salmon, Saturday, September 23, 10:30 a.m., at Japanese Friendship Garden. \$30 fee includes materials. Reservations: 619-232-2780. (BALBOA PARK)

Responsible Dog Ownership Day is slated for Saturday, September 23, 11 a.m.–3 p.m., at Best Friends Pet Care (8020 Ronson Road). Demonstrations and advice on dog behavior, grooming, pet health; kids' workshops on dog safety and care; contests, games, and activities. Free. 858-565-8455. (LINDA VISTA)

Learn About Rubber — an "extraordinary substance" found in children's toys, on surgeon's hands, on construction sites, and on 747 jets — during program by Katrina Cornish of Yulex Corporation, Saturday, September 23, 1–2 p.m., at Reuben H. Fleet Science Center. Included in regular admission.

619-238-1233. Suitable for those eight and older. (BALBOA PARK)

"Fighting for Civil Rights: The 1960s and Today" examined by Joel Geier — who was a member of the International Socialists in the '60s — Saturday, September 23, 1:30 p.m., at City Heights Recreation Center (4380 Landis Street). He'll focus on relation of civil rights struggles in 1960s to current struggle by Latinos. Free. 619-708-5282. (CITY HEIGHTS)

Writers' Conference hosted by San Diego Christian Writers Guild featuring editors, writers, agents, writing consultants, movie producer, individual writing consultations is Saturday, September 23, 7:45 a.m.–5 p.m., at Maranatha Chapel (10752 Coastwood Road). Keynote speaker is author Jerry B. Jenkins. Fee: \$150 general, half-price for students. 760-294-3269, 619-221-8183. (RANCHO BERNARDO)

"Personal Recollections on Edward Binney 3rd, Collector" offered by daughter Gail Binney Smith on Sunday, September 24, 3:30 p.m., at San Diego Museum of

Art. Smith worked closely with her father as he assembled comprehensive collections of Indian, Turkish, and Persian paintings, as well as 18th-century French prints and American quilts. \$20 general. 619-232-7931. (BALBOA PARK)

"Why Our Drug Laws Have Failed" illuminated when Judge James Gray speaks for Association for Rational Inquiry on Sunday, September 24, 7 p.m., at Joyce Beers Community Center (1230 Vermont Street). According to Gray, drugs today "are cheaper, more potent, and much easier to get than they were 36 years ago at the beginning of the war on drugs." Donation. 619-421-5844. (HILLCREST)

"One Man's War Against Islamic Fundamentalism" presented by Donald M. Gragg, M.D., for North County Coastal Forum of the World Affairs Council, Monday, September 25, 10:05 a.m. in second-floor activity room at La Vida del Mar (850 Del Mar Downs Road). Gragg will talk about an American man who has made ed-

ucation of Pakistani children his personal responsibility. Free. 858-487-4695, 858-759-1202. (SOLANA BEACH)

"Almost Found Online," genealogy teacher, author, Barbara Renick addresses North San Diego County Genealogical Society, Tuesday, September 26, 10 a.m., in Carlsbad City Council Chambers (1200 Carlsbad Village Drive). Free. 858-509-4937. (CARLSBAD)

"Botanicals With a Flair," Linda Luisi presents drawing and painting instruction, Tuesdays, September 26 and October 3, 10 a.m.–2 p.m., at Quail Botanical Gardens (230 Quail Gardens Drive). \$95 fee covers both days. Registration: 760-436-3036. (ENCINITAS)

Atheist Activism in Iceland is examined by Dwain Deets for Atheist Coalition, Tuesday, September 26, 7 p.m., at North Park Recreation Center (4044 Idaho Street). Free. 619-342-7388. (NORTH PARK)

"A Predictive Model of Archaeological Site Locations" discussed by Scott Mattingly when San Diego County Archaeological Society gathers on Tuesday, September 26, 7:30 p.m., at Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve Ranch House. "Are there spatial relationships between site locations and the environmental variables of slope and distance to fresh water?" Free. 858-538-0935. (RANCHO PENASQUITOS)

Japanese Flower Arrangements by teachers from various Ikebana schools in the area showcased when Ikebana International meets on Wednesday, September 27, 10 a.m., in room 101 of Casa del Prado. Free. 760-728-5586. (BALBOA PARK)

Almost Abstract, lecture exploring career of artist Edgar Degas, Wednesday, September 27, 1 p.m., at James Edgar and Jean Jessop Hervey Library (Point Loma Li-

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brary, 3701 Voltaire Street). Free. 619-531-1539. (POINT LOMA)

"De Colores Means All of Us," Elizabeth "Betita" Martinez, whose "life and work provide a model of internationalism and solidarity," speaks Wednesday, September 27, 5 p.m., in Arts Building room 240 at CSU San Marcos (333 South Twin Oaks Valley Road). Her main project is Institute for MultiRacial Justice. Free. 760-750-4366. (SAN MARCOS)

"Questions Answered, Satisfaction Guaranteed," get insider tips on local art market when Phyllis Van Doren, Scott White, David Lewinson, and Larry Poteet gather for "SmArt Collector Series," Wednesday, September 27, 6 p.m., at San Diego Art Institute, Museum of the Living Artist (1439 El Prado). \$10. 619-236-0011. (BALBOA PARK)

Bring Your Binoculars for Inspection and cleaning when J. Craig Weatherwax II, owner of Oceanside Photo and Telescope, addresses binocular basics and "cutting edge of optics technology" for Buena Vista Audubon Society, Wednesday, September 27, 6:30 p.m., at Buena Vista Nature Center (2202 South Coast Highway). 760-439-2473. Free. (OCEANSIDE)

"Forging New Paths to Conflict Transformation in Serbia and the Former Yugoslavia" is subject when Svetlana Kijevcanin speaks for Women Peacemakers event, Thursday, September 28, 12:30 p.m., at Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice at University of San Diego (5998 Alcalá Park). Free. 619-260-7509. (LINDA VISTA)

Mangoes! Learn of their varieties, culture, and lore when Cali-

fornia Rare Fruit Growers meet on Thursday, September 28, followed by tastings of exotic fruit ice creams from south of the border. Gathering starts at 7 p.m. in room 102 of Casa del Prado. Donation: \$5. 619-846-3337. (BALBOA PARK)

Haiku Poetry Writing Workshop led by author, poet, college instructor Karen Kenyon, Thursdays, September 28 and October 5, 7 p.m., at Book Works (Flower Hill Promenade, 2670 Via de la Valle). \$35. 858-755-3735. (DEL MAR)

"Art, Architecture, and Ecology: New Collaborations for Changing Environments" is theme for ongoing "Dialogues in Art and Architecture" series at Athenaeum Music and Arts Library (1008 Wall Street). Season gets underway with lecture by installation and performance artist Suzanne Lacy, currently chair of fine

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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

arts at Otis College of Art and Design in Los Angeles on Thursday, September 28, 7:30 p.m. Free. 858-454-5872. (LA JOLLA)

"Healthy Cooking Techniques" divulged, along with samples, when Joey Nerenberg of Infusion Culinary leads class, Thursday, September 28, 6 p.m., at Macy's School of Cooking (in Mission Valley shopping center, 1555 Camino de la Reina). Free. Reservations: 866-388-2665. (MISSION VALLEY)

IN PERSON

Swimming Near a Baby Gray Whale separated from its mother inspired long-distance swimmer Lynne Cox to write *Grayson*, which she'll sign and discuss at Warwick's Bookstore (7812 Girard Avenue) on Thursday, September 21,

7:30 p.m. Cox is also author of *Swimming to Antarctica*. 858-454-0347. Free. (LA JOLLA)

Journalist, Animal Advocate Julie Hoffman Marshall visits Muttropolis (7755 Girard Avenue) for "mutt mingle" dog socializing, presentation, booksigning of her book *Making Burros Fly: Cleveland Amory, Animal Rescue Pioneer*, Thursday, September 21, 5 p.m. Free. 858-459-WOOF. (LA JOLLA)

"Religion Gone Bad: The Hidden Dangers of the Christian Right" signed, discussed by author Reverend Dr. Mel White, Thursday, September 21, 7 p.m., at LGBT Center (3909 Centre Street). Free. 619-459-3247. (HILLCREST)

Debut Thriller Author Alexandra Sokoloff visits Mysterious Galaxy Books to discuss and sign *The Harrowing*, Thursday, September 21, 7 p.m. Find Galaxy at 7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, 858-268-4747. Free. (CLAIREMONT)

"The Woman's Right" is story of author Franklin F. Gould's grandmother told through excerpts from diaries, letters, and newspa-

OUT & ABOUT

ALMOST ABSTRACT career of Edgar Degas explored, Wednesday, September 27, Point Loma Library.

(SEE LECTURES)



SELF PORTRAIT, EDGAR DEGAS, 1885-1900

pers who took "ownership of her destiny." Gould discusses and signs books, Thursday, September 21, 7 p.m., at Mission Hills Library (925 West Washington). Free. 619-692-4910. (MISSION HILLS)

"Stand-Up for Peace," performances in recognition of United Nations Day of Peace, Thursday, September 21, 8 p.m., at Comedy

Store (916 Pearl Street). \$5. 858-454-9176. (LA JOLLA)

The Backyard concert series continues with performance by Tim Riffle featuring Jordan Reimer, Friday, September 22, 7 p.m., in amphitheater at Community Reformed Church (777 West Felicita Avenue). Art by local artists on display. Free. 760-746-1322. (ESCONDIDO)

Roots Rocker Rosie Flores for AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, September 22 (\$15, \$20). Venice takes stage on Thursday, September 28 (\$18, \$22). Concerts begin at 7:30 p.m. at Normal Heights United Methodist Church (4650

Mansfield Street). 619-303-8176. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

"Music of the People," music faculty at MiraCosta College will perform their favorite rock, pop, jazz, folk, and classical music in concert, Friday, September 22, 7:30 p.m., in Little Theatre (room 3601, One Barnard Drive). \$10. 760-795-6815. (OCEANSIDE)

"Operation Homecoming" at Encinitas, national tour for new book hits Encinitas Community Center (1140 Oakcrest Park Drive) on Friday, September 22, 7:30 p.m. Reading with San Diego and other California-based authors and editor Andrew Carroll. The NEA es-

tablished Operation Homecoming to help U.S. troops and their families write about experiences in Iraq, Afghanistan, and home front. Free admission. Required reservations: 760-753-6041. (ENCINITAS)

From Child Prodigy to Seasoned Artist, Leann Rimes — who has won two Grammy awards and sold more than 37 million records — in concert, Friday, September 22, 8 p.m., at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). Tickets: \$60-\$75. 760-839-4100. (ESCONDIDO)

Author and Musician Laura Preble signs, discusses *The Queen Geek Social Club*, Saturday, September 23, noon, at Barnes and Noble Grossmont Center (5500 Grossmont Center Drive). 619-667-2870. Free. (LA MESA)

The Samoan Way, author Mary Elizabeth La Haye shares story of *fa'a Samoa* from island of Ta'u in American Samoa during slide-illustrated talk, Saturday, September 23, 2 p.m., in community rooms at Oceanside Public Library (330 North Coast Highway). Letters written 1936-1939 by her aunt and uncle provided source material for her book *Letters from Samoa: Life, Love, and Lore of the Manu'a Islands*. Free. 760-435-5580. (OCEANSIDE)

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Jimmy Buffett Oct. 26

Guns N' Roses

October 5

Paul Simon

October 3



Brooks & Dunn

October 14

David Sedaris Oct. 27
Jose Luis Perales Oct. 29
HIM Oct. 30
Aerosmith/Mötley Crüe Nov. 9
The Fray Nov. 11
James Blunt Nov. 14
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"Blue Man Group" Nov. 4

Lakers vs. Suns Oct. 22



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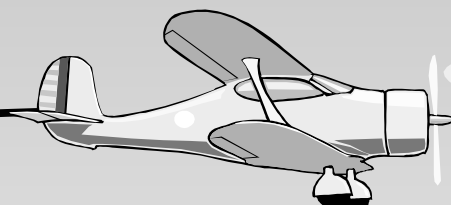
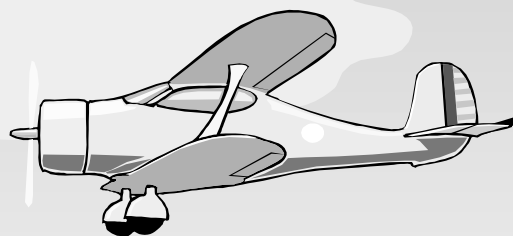
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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

gospel choir, and a praise choir slated for Saturday, September 23, at Stephen and Mary Birch North Park Theatre (2895 University Avenue). Tickets benefit Center for Social Support Education. Reservations: 619-325-2773. (NORTH PARK)

Banshee in the Kitchen plans concert hosted by San Diego Folk Heritage, Saturday, September 23, 7 p.m., at Templar's Hall in Old Poway Park (14134 Midland Road). \$15. Reservations: 858-566-4040. (POWAY)

The Psalmist Hour showcases poetry and live music by Platinum Souls, Judah Israel, Chris Swann, Chris Montelongo, Saturday, September 23, 7 p.m., at Arts and Entertainment Center (3026 University Avenue). Tickets at door: \$10. 866-815-6550. (NORTH PARK)

The Heretic's Ball presented by Don Victor promises "social, political, and religious heresy...that combines improvisation, performance art, music," more, Saturday, September 23, 9 p.m., at Rebecca's Coffeehouse (3015 Juniper Street). Donation. 619-691-9661. (SOUTH PARK)

Psychic Medium and Author Linda Pynaker leads "fun exercise

so you may communicate with one of your spirit guides or angels," Saturday, September 23, at Sacred Pathway Bookstore (300 Carlsbad Village Drive, suite 107). Exercises begin every half hour between 1 and 4 p.m. Free. 760-436-7740. (CARLSBAD)

Mystery Author Margaret Coel discusses her new Wind River mystery, *The Drowning Man*, Sunday, September 24, 2 p.m., at Mysterious Galaxy Books (7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard; 858-268-4747). Free. (CLAIREMONT)

Rockola Unplugged, this band specializing in covers of songs from '60s and '70s by Beatles, Eagles, Mamas and Papas, others, performs Sunday, September 24, 2 p.m., at Faith Presbyterian Church (5075 Campanile Drive). Offering. 619-582-8480. (COLLEGE)

Sunset Poets convene for reading by Corey Taft, Sunday, September 24, 3 p.m., at Flying Bridge Restaurant (1105 North Coast Highway). Featured poet followed by open-mike reading. Free. 760-758-2410. (OCEANSIDE)

Vietnamese Concerts with Luu Chi Vy, Thanh Ha, Manh Quynh, many others, Sunday, September 24, 3 and 7 p.m., at Harrah's Rincon Casino and Resort (777 Harrah's Rincon Way). Tickets: \$30-\$50. 800-427-7247 (VALLEY CENTER)

OUT & ABOUT

ACTION SPORTS

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(SEE SPORTS)



"Finding Your Voice," students from this vocal training course plan graduation concert, Sunday, September 24, 5 p.m., at Carlsbad Village Theatre (2822 State Street). \$10 general, free for those under 14. 760-432-6454. (CARLSBAD)

Bridge Brass, community brass band plans concert, Sunday, September 24, 6 p.m., at Salvation Army (4170 Balboa Avenue). Also on program: San Diego Citadel Corps Band. \$3. 858-483-1831. (CLAIREMONT)

The San Diego Master Chorale plans an eclectic concert with classical and sacred works, spirituals, folk songs, and selections from Broadway musicals, Sunday, September 24, 7 p.m., at First United Methodist Church of San Diego (2111 Camino del Rio South). Donation: \$15. 619-297-4366. (MISSION VALLEY)

Coral MacFarland Thuet and guests perform Latin jazz for mini-concert at noon on Monday, September 25, at Athenaeum Music and Arts Library (1008 Wall Street). Free. 858-454-5872. (LA JOLLA)

Open-Mike Poetry Readings, Monday, September 25, 8 p.m., Twigg's Tea and Coffee (4590 Park Boulevard). Free. 619-296-0616. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

Bestselling Mystery Author (and Fallbrook local) T. Jefferson Parker speaks for "Escondido Reads" series on Tuesday, September 26, 7 p.m., Escondido Library (239 South Kalmia Street). His latest book is *The Fallen*, set in San Diego. Free. 760-839-4601. (ESCONDIDO)

"The Diva of Design" — From Mae West to Robert Redford," Susan Claassen stars as Edith Head in this "feast of great movie lore and delicious stories," Tuesday

and Wednesday, September 26 and 27, 7:30 p.m., at North Coast Repertory Theatre (987-D Lomas Santa Fe). \$30 general. 858-481-1055 (SOLANA BEACH)

Authors Jim Gilchrist and Jerome Crosi discuss, sign *Minutemen: The Battle to Secure America's Borders*, Wednesday, September 27, 7 p.m., at Borders Books and Music (11160 Rancho Carmel Drive). Free. 858-618-1814. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN)

Storyswap — tell a short personal story, folk tale, tall tale, or literary tale, Wednesday, September 27, 7 p.m., at Barnes and Noble Bookstore (10775 Westview Parkway). Story must be suitable for family audience. Free. 858-484-1325. (MIRA MESA)

Border Crossings, clarinetist Marian Liebowitz and pianist Richard Thompson take on tangos of Piazzolla, jazz of D'Rivera, classical trea-

sures of Latin America for Concert Hour series, Thursday, September 28, 12:30 p.m. in Palomar College Performance Lab (room D-10 at 1140 West Mission Road). Free. 760-744-1150 x2316. (SAN MARCOS)

Contemporary Fantasy author Rachel Caine signs, discusses *Firestorm* and *Glass Houses*, Thursday, September 28, 7 p.m., at Mysterious Galaxy Books (7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard). Free. 858-268-4747. (CLAIREMONT)

"Rhythm of Colors," presentation of Indian culture planned Thursday, September 28, 7 p.m., in Arts 111 at CSU San Marcos (333 South Twin Oaks Valley Road). Production explores association of colors with emotions through blend of poetry, dance, and music from this "country of diversity." Free. 760-750-4366. (SAN MARCOS)

SPORTS

San Diego Padres host Arizona Diamondbacks in Petco Park, Thursday, September 21, 7:05 p.m. Home stand continues with games against the Pittsburgh Pirates, September 22-24, at 7:05 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, 1:05 p.m. on Sunday.

Pads head to St. Louis for games at 5:10 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, September 25-27. Road trip continues in Arizona with series against Diamondbacks, September 28-October 1, at 6:40 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, 1:10 p.m. on Saturday, 1:40 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets: 877-374-2784. (DOWNTOWN)

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YES ON PROPOSITION 85 MATERIALS INSIDE FREE

DID THE "MIRACULOUS NOVENA" SAVE THE MT. SOLEDAD CROSS? PAGE 20.

SAN DIEGO NewsNotes

SAN DIEGO'S LAY CATHOLIC NEWSPAPER VOLUME 16, NUMBER 8 ■ SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2006

Help Pass Prop 85

What Others Are Doing and What You Can Do

As of August 1, the Field Poll showed the yes and no sides of Proposition 85 at a statistical tie (45 to 46 percent). Proposition 85, the Parents' Right to Know and Child Protection initiative, if approved, would...

2. A motivated base. Twice as many volunteer signatures were gathered this spring — at churches and through the mail — and this in a time span of three months instead of five months. The Proposition 85 campaign woke a base...

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Reading

Replaceable You: Engineering the Body in Postwar America



David Serlin

By David Serlin
University of Chicago Press, 2004,
\$25, 244 pages

FROM THE DUST JACKET:

After World War II, the U.S. underwent a massive cultural transformation that was vividly realized in the development and widespread use of new medical technologies. Plastic surgery, wonder drugs, artificial organs, and prosthetics inspired Americans to believe in a new age of modern medical miracles and the power of medicine to transform the

lives and bodies of the disabled and those considered abnormal.

WHAT THE CRITICS SAY:

"David Serlin relocates the American fascination with using medicine to realign body with identity. [T]he quest for true self became a hall-

mark of Americanism in its grand struggle with world Communism." — *Journal of the American Medical Association*

"David Serlin's remarkable book...presents four mid-20th-century case studies of troubled bodies. Analyzing veteran amputees supplied with prostheses; the A-bomb victims brought to the United States for plastic surgery in 1955, known as the Hiroshima Maidens; African American entertainer Gladys Bentley, who reported herself cured of the lesbian lifestyle by hormone treatments; sex-change pioneer Christine Jorgensen." — *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*, Johns Hopkins

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

David Serlin holds a Ph.D. in American Studies. He is coeditor of *Artificial Parts, Practical Lives: Modern Histories of Prosthetics* and of *Policing Public Sex: Queer*

Politics and the Future of AIDS Activism. Professor Serlin received the 1997 Gustav Meyers Center Award for a Book on the Subject of Human Rights in North America. He teaches at the University of California in San Diego.

A CONVERSATION WITH THE AUTHOR:

David Serlin's voice sounds young on the phone as he tells me about his early life:

"I was born in Thousand Oaks, which is in Ventura County near Los Angeles. At three and a half, the family and I went east, where I grew up. This is the start of my third year back in California, as Associate Professor of Communication and Science Studies at UCSD."

"One of the very popular courses you teach is called 'Politics of Bodies.' At the Smithsonian you've lectured about medical science and society. You com-

bine your many interests in your remarkable book about body image and medical consumerism. So what do you make of body modification these days?"

"It's fascinating, you can turn on a reality TV show and watch someone selecting a new nose or a major body change."

"Which we then watch being made," I interject, squeamishly, "in living color — the actual surgery."

"The desire to want to change yourself is a very old story. On a show like *Extreme Makeover* [or *The Swan*], there will be a woman looking in a mirror, saying, 'That's not the real me. I want a surgeon to help me become the real me.' People believe they can trump nature with technology."

"In New York, there's a person known as the Cat Woman, who is using cosmetic surgery to give herself feline features.

She's had so much work done on her that she does resemble a cat."

"Or," says David Serlin, "there's the woman who has had several ribs removed and spent \$50,000 on surgeries so that she can look like a human-sized Barbie doll."

"This is getting a little terrifying, no?"

"Or is it an extension of consumer culture that we're seeing?" says Professor Serlin.

"It seems to be at such an extreme, though; they're almost inventing themselves out of existence. Some of these folks have had so much surgery, their own features are gone somewhere else."

Professor Serlin disagrees: "People have been modifying their bodies for millennia. Scarification, circumcision, tattooing, piercing. There's a whole range

(continued on page 96)

"In New York, there's a person known as the Cat Woman, who is using cosmetic surgery to give herself feline features."

Linda Benson Women's Longboard Pro surfing competition is part of Roxy Jam Cardiff Reef, September 22–24. Hansen Surfboards (1105 South Coast Highway 101, Encinitas) hosts autograph signings with Roxy pro athletes, past women's longboard champions, Friday, 6–8 p.m.

Heats begin at 7 a.m. on Saturday, with open beach fair (8 a.m.–5 p.m.), music, awards in "teenie wahine" and menehune divisions.

Heats for pros and juniors, seniors, masters, amateur divisions start at 7 a.m. on Sunday. Awards at 4 p.m. Free for spectators. (ENCINITAS, CARDIFF)

Action Sports World Tour U.S.A. Championships take place September 23 and 24 at iPay-One Center. More than 50 world-class skateboarders, BMX riders, and inline skaters will take to vert ramp for competition at 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, 3 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets: \$15, available through Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS). (SPORTS ARENA)

INXS Flyball Racing Team Dog Show hits Del Mar Horsepark (14550 El Camino Real) for competition, 8 a.m.–5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, September 23 and 24.

Free admission, parking. 858-794-1171. (DEL MAR)

San Diego Fall Dressage Show, Saturday and Sunday, September 23 and 24, 8 a.m.–5 p.m., at Del Mar Horsepark (14550 El Camino Real). 858-518-4128. Free admission, parking. (DEL MAR)

National Flowboarding championship is planned Saturday, September 23, at Wave House (3125 Mission Boulevard). Flowboarding is described as "combination of surfing, wakeboarding, and skateboarding." Competition in variety of divisions starts at 9 a.m.; awards at 10 p.m. 858-228-9283. (MISSION BEACH)

National Hunting and Fishing Day Celebration, Saturday, September 23, 9 a.m.–4 p.m., at Lake Murray (1-8 to Lake Murray Boulevard north, left on Kiowa Drive). Predator calling, turkey calling, dog training, decoy carving, bird calling, fly casting, falconry, information booths, more. Free. 619-417-0399. (LA MESA)

Girls Just Wanna Have Fun, all-women, full-contact football played by So Cal Scorpions against New Mexico Burn, Saturday, September 23, 5 p.m., in Edward's

Stadium (next to La Jolla High School, 750 Nautilus Street). \$8. 877-717-8464. (LA JOLLA)

Swim with Garibaldi! La Jolla Cove ten-mile swim relay, Sunday, September 24, benefitting American Diabetes Association. Teams of five swim a triangular one-mile relay race course. 619-234-9897 x7432. (LA JOLLA)

Five-Mile Asthma Walk, Sunday, September 24, at NTC Promenade at Liberty Station (2850

Roosevelt Road). Registration at 7 a.m., walk at 8 a.m. 619-297-3901. (POINT LOMA)

San Diego Bicycle Touring Society riders host adventure from Doyle Park (8175 Regents Road) to Oceanside, back through Escondido, Sunday, September 24. Eighty-two-mile ride starts at 8:45 a.m. Free. 619-561-3846. (UNIVERSITY CITY)

Snorkel and Kayak with Sharks during event led by Hike Bike Kayak San Diego on Wednesday, Septem-

ber 27. Tour includes snorkeling to see (harmless) leopard sharks, kayaking to La Jolla Sea Caves and giant kelp forest. Tours begin at 9, 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m. \$45 per person (\$35 in tandem kayak). Fee includes guide, equipment. Reservations: 858-551-9510. (LA JOLLA)

SPECIAL

Taste of the Mission, Friday, September 22, 6 p.m., at Mission San Diego de Alcalá (10818 San Diego Mission Road). \$30 tickets include wine tasting, food, commemorative wine glass. Required

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Reading

(continued from page 95)

we participate in. Is making yourself look like a cat, or removing ribs, body modification that's gone into a postmodern head spin, or is it just the evolution of something that's been going on for thousands of years?"

"Yeah," I say, "but it's coming to us now through the channel of medicine, which makes it so odd."

"Health, advertising, marketing, and entertainment have all been rolled together. Earlier, medicine was seen as something private. Today, people are participating in it [selecting surgeries], calling in to shows, e-mailing doctors."

"Plastic surgery, you write, started in response to the horrific wounds suffered by WWI soldiers."

"Actually, plastic surgery was first employed at the turn of the century, by people who wanted to change their self-image.

German Jews who emigrated to the States and German Jews in Germany wanted certain traits changed so that they wouldn't have the stereotypical appearance of a Jewish face. A lot of skin lighteners and bleaches were also on the market for African Americans. But it's really after WWII that the kind of professional discipline we think of as plastic surgery developed. Surgeons who began as emergency medical practitioners in operating theaters in Europe returned home and took up reconstructive surgery."

"And with these procedures," I say, "comes the idea of replacing organs and rebuilding humans."

Professor Serlin pauses. "During and after WWII there is an unbelievable explosion of medical technologies, then cutting edge medications and devices — everything from cortisone to dialysis machines."

"When does the idea of organ banks arrive?" I ask.

"In the '40s and '50s. The

first are tissue and eye banks developed by the military. Blood banks, with the ability to separate plasma and store blood, are begun during the war. The ability to harvest organs, and transplant, that comes in the 1960s."

"Just after WWII, there is a group of women in Hiroshima called 'Keloid Girls,' disfigured from the effects of the atomic bombing. From them, a Methodist minister named Tanimoto selected 25 and brought them to the States."

"Yes," says Dr. Serlin. "These young women were hidden by their families, kept in cellars and not allowed to work, because their beauty was destroyed. A lot of their families were Shinto Buddhists and believed a disfigured child was evidence an ancestor had committed some terrible crime. Tanimoto organized the women, and they met in private in his church to share their experiences. Tanimoto had studied at Emory University. He had contacts in the U.S. and made arrangements. The 25 brought here were

to be medically treated for their disfigurements."

"By then the American press is calling them the Hiroshima Maidens," I interject.

"Tanimoto had been approached by Ralph Edwards, who wanted to devote an episode of his popular TV show to him. *This Is Your Life* was a forerunner of reality-TV shows. It would ambush a celebrity, a famous person, a hero, then bring on people from their past, introduced as voices they might not have heard in years. The unidentified voice would bring in details from the individual's life, revealing something about them, before being reunited. At the very end, host Ralph Edwards would present his guest with a scrapbook that memorialized it all."

"Did Ralph Edwards think this episode was a way to promote cultural reconciliation?"

"No doubt. And it was quite amazing. Ralph Edwards decided to put two of the women on the show, but behind a screen, in

"The two were urged to shake hands, which they did. It's about the most awkward thing I've ever seen; it's kind of horrifying."

silhouette only, to preserve their privacy. This also made the Maidens enormously enigmatic at the same time and was an alienating experience for the women, hidden behind screens like shadow puppets."

"Ralph Edwards," I remind Serlin, "surprised Tanimoto with his family, who'd flown across the Pacific. But the real surprise was Robert Lewis."

"Yes, Lewis was the copilot of the Enola Gay, the plane that dropped the A-bomb on Hiroshima. He had agreed to appear on the program, but when

he realized what he was about to face, he retreated to the nearest bar. Staff brought him back to the studio and plied him with lots of coffee. Toward the end of the show, Ralph Edwards recounted the moments leading up to the dropping of the bomb, then brought out Lewis, who appeared on stage sweating and uncomfortable. Tanimoto looked like a deer in the headlights. The two were urged to shake hands, which they did. It's about the most awkward thing I've ever seen; it's kind of horrifying."

"Your book is full of ironies.

reservations: 619-583-8194 or 619-265-1764. (OCEANSIDE)

All-California Campout and Jam, Friday–Sunday, September 22–24, at Antique Gas and Steam Engine Museum (2040 North Santa Fe Avenue). Bluegrass jamming, "semi-dry camping." Saturday night there's a "band scramble" and potluck with prizes for best dishes. \$12 per night. Requested reservations: 951-315-0778 or 858-566-4594. (VISTA)

San Diego Festival of Beer benefitting cancer research programs is Friday, September 22, 6–11 p.m., at Columbia and B Streets. Over 50 microbreweries serve 150 different beers. \$25 tickets include ten four-ounce tastings, live music, street magicians. Over 21. 858-672-3972. (DOWNTOWN)

"Master of Color" Artist Joseph Vilella visits Hallmark Galleries (1162 Prospect Street) for exhibition of his work, September 22–24, with selected pieces on view through October. Hours: 7–9:30 p.m. on Friday, 10 a.m.–10 p.m. on Saturday, 10 a.m.–7 p.m. on Sunday. RSVP for Friday's reception: 858-551-8108. (LA JOLLA)

San Diego World Guitar Show, September 23 and 24, at Del Mar Fairgrounds. Buy-sell trade show with guitars, amps, banjos, mandolins, drums, violins. Appraisals. Show opens at 10 a.m., closes at 5 p.m. on Saturday, 4 p.m. on Sun-

day. \$10 general, free for those under 12. 858-793-5555. (DEL MAR)

INXS Flyball Racing Team Dog Show, Saturday and Sunday, September 23 and 24, 8 a.m.–5 p.m. at Del Mar Horsepark (14550 El Camino Real). 858-794-1171. (DEL MAR)

"Ceremonial Arts of the Pacific," 12th annual San Diego Pacific Islander Festival, Saturday and Sunday, September 23 and 24, at Ski Beach. Cultural booths, foods, crafts, artifacts, singing and chanting, dancing, storytelling. Free. Hours: 9 a.m.–4 p.m. both days. 619-699-8797. (MISSION BAY)

2006 ArtSplash Festival celebrating arts is centered around centuries-old European tradition of chalk art street painting, transforming Armada Drive (above Flower Fields) on Saturday and Sunday, September 23 and 24, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Fine arts, arts activities for all ages, sand sculpting demonstrations, street entertainment, storytelling, music, food, more. Free. 760-436-2828.

Taste of Carlsbad with food from over 25 restaurants and music by Lady Dottie and the Diamonds, Saturday, 3–6 p.m. \$20. 760-929-1555. (CARLSBAD)

20th Annual Menghini Winery Arts, Wine, and Music Festival, Saturday and Sunday, September 23 and 24, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Art by local artists, live music, bellydancing. Free admission.

Find Menghini at 1150 Julian Orchards Drive. 760-765-2569. (JULIAN)

Lapidary, Gem, and Mineral Show sponsored by San Diego Lapidary Society, 10 a.m.–4 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, September 23 and 24, at Bernardo Winery (13330 Paseo del Verano Norte). Gems, fossil specimens, jewelry, minerals, lapidary-related items for sale, children's activities, jewelry-making demonstrations. Free admission. 619-295-6905. (RANCHO BERNARDO)

Celebrate Gompers Park during family health and fitness festival hosted by San Diego Girls Alliance, Saturday, September 23, 10 a.m.–5 p.m., at Gompers Park (4926 Hilltop Drive). Skateboarding (on portable ramp), sports, yoga, music, more. Free. 619-563-3918. (CHOLLAS VIEW)

Some Rare! Music, books on a variety of subjects, CDs and LPs, and art periodicals on offer during sale, Saturday, September 23, 10 a.m.–4 p.m., at Athenaeum Music and Arts Library (1008 Wall Street). 858-454-5872. (LA JOLLA)

The Bloodiest Battle in the California front of the U.S.-Mexican War was fought at the valley of San Pasqual; battle between Californios and First Dragoons of U.S. Army of the West is commemorated on September 23 and 24 at Los Peñasquitos Adobe Ranch House (12122 Canyonside Park Drive in Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve). Historical encampment with "sights, sounds, touch, and tastes"

of 160 years ago, raid reenactments (11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.), demonstrations of facets of era, field hospital exhibit, musket and cannon demonstrations, presentation on horse-mounted lance technique, unmounted saber technique. Festival opens at 10 a.m., closes at 5 p.m. on Saturday, 4 p.m. on Sunday. \$5 per day. 858-484-7504 or 858-695-1579. (RANCHO PENASQUITOS)

San Elijo Hills Festival Del Mar, September 23 and 24, 11 a.m.–8 p.m., at Del Mar Fairgrounds. Music by more than 40 bands on four stages, fine art, food. On Saturday, see George Thorgood and the Destroyers, Dr. John, many others; Cake and Dilated Peoples are among bands taking stage on Sunday. Tickets: \$45; \$65 for two-day pass, \$10 for those 6–12. 858-792-0919. (DEL MAR)

Psychic Fair and Metaphysical Conference, Saturday and Sunday, September 23 and 24, noon–6 p.m., at Alexandra's Book-Store (3545 Midway Drive, suite G). Tarot, palmistry, numerology, other psychic arts featured. \$20 per reading. 619-298-3422. (SPORTS ARENA)

Ramona Outdoor Antique and Flea Market, Sunday, September 24, 8 a.m.–4 p.m., at 773 Main Street (Highway 78). Dealers offering antiques, collectibles. Free admission. 760-789-0574. (RAMONA)

From Vintage to Modern, everything photographic offered during Bargain Camera Show,

Sunday, September 24, 10 a.m.–3 p.m., at Al Bahr Shrine Temple (5440 Kearny Mesa Road). General admission: \$4. 310-578-7446. (KEARNY MESA)

Oompah Pah — Already? Twelfth annual Encinitas Oktoberfest is Sunday, September 24, 10 a.m.–5 p.m., at 276 El Camino Real (at Wandering Road). German music, dancing, German food, family fun zone, arts and crafts. Free admission. 760-753-6041. (ENCINITAS)

Art of the Book Festival with rare and collectible books, contemporary art, music, gourmet food, bookbinding and glassblowing demonstrations, author signings, children's stories — Sunday, September 24, 11 a.m.–4 p.m., on Main Street at Alvarado Street. Free. 760-723-8635. (FALLBROOK)

Art Walk Coronado, Sunday, September 24, 11 a.m.–5 p.m., at Park Place and Star Park Circle. Organizers plan activities for all ages — origami, bookbinding projects, hatmaking, live music, performance art. Free. 619-437-8788. (CORONADO)

San Diego Solar Energy Week 2006, schedule of events includes Family Solar Energy Day, Sunday, September 24, noon–3 p.m., at San Dieguito County Park (1628 Lomas Santa Fe Drive). Solar-powered car races, fuel cell and hybrid cars, solar oven baking, sun-drawing contest, Project Wildlife and Skyhunters volunteers, educational presentations. \$2 per car.

The Commercial Solar Tour 2006 is guided bus tour of local commercial businesses demonstrating various solar technologies and applications, with solar installers present to answer questions. Two tours offered on Tuesday, September 26, departing at 7:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Free; advance registration required.

The Solar Conference 2006 runs 8 a.m.–5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, September 27, at Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice at University of San Diego (5998 Alcalá Park). Explore changing landscape of solar legislation, trends, technologies, economics. Free; advance registration required. 866-SDENERGY. (SAN DIEGO COUNTY)

"Art-at-6" slated for Thursday, September 28, 6 p.m., at Hotel Solamar (435 Sixth Avenue). Art on exhibit by local artist Victoria Estacio Huckins, art auction, hors d'oeuvres and hosted wine bar. Free admission; proceeds benefit A Reason to Survive. RSVP: 619-295-8232. (EAST VILLAGE)

La Jolla Gallery and Wine Walk is Thursday, September 28, 5–9 p.m. \$25 fee includes viewing at more than 25 galleries, wine tasting at each gallery, food from local restaurants. Locations: 619-233-5008. (LA JOLLA)

Tower After Hours series at San Diego Museum of Man continues with look at culture of Cuba, Thursday, September 28, 6 p.m. On offer: a "vibrant mix of music, dance, food, and drink." 21 and older. \$20. Reservations: 619-239-2001. (BALBOA PARK)

Exercise Your Humor and Creativity with "variety of active and interactive exercises" led by Jacquie Lowell, Thursday, September 28, 7:30 p.m., at Radiance Studio (1618 West Lewis Street). \$20. 858-581-0050. (MISSION HILLS)

FOR KIDS

"The Weaving of a Dream" presented by Weaver's Tales through Sunday, September 24, in Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theater. Next up: Enid Bartnicki and Puppet Express take stage for an all-new *Peter Rabbit*, September 27–October 1. Showtimes: 10 and 11:30 a.m. Wednesday–Friday; 11 a.m., 1 and 2:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Find theater near Aerospace Museum. Admission: \$3 for children, \$4 seniors, \$5 general. 619-544-9203. (BALBOA PARK)

Take a Topsy-Turvy Tour through some famous fairy tales when South Bay San Diego Junior Theatre presents *The Stinky Cheese Man*, September 22–October 1, at Theatre on Third (250 3rd Avenue). Recommended for all ages. Performances begin at 7 p.m. on Fridays, at 2 and 4 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Tickets: \$10 adults, \$5 youths. 619-239-8355. (CHULA VISTA)

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Wednesday, September 27

Ages 20s/30s/40s

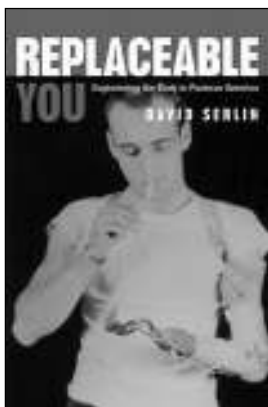
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One of them is that, not long after the Hiroshima Maidens had their operations, plastic surgery became an elective procedure. And very popular, with people getting face-lifts and nose jobs and tucks in the pursuit of youth. And, for Asians, it meant round eyes and Westernization of their features — they could change their racial appearance."

"Yes, all over Asia epicanthic folds were converted to Western eyelids. Colored contact lenses

were introduced, pronounced cheekbones were reduced, foreheads made more Western. A huge business."

"You write that by WWII, prosthetics become quite sophisticated, and there is a real attempt made to restore soldiers' limbs and masculinity."

"Yes," says Professor Serlin. "Since most troops were working class, the goal was to return them to the workplace, back to industrial work on a factory floor, in a plant. The replace- ment limbs reflected this and became more ambitious and motorized, employing all sorts of technology: pneumatic tubes that would allow the arm to extend, and electrodes hooked up to residual muscles to re-create motor skills. Ironically, this very development in robotic arms leads to industrial robots, which take over assembly-line work and by the mid '70s displace most workers."

"Another huge area of body modification that started after WWII involved hormones.

Hormones were held to be miraculous agents, as evident in the story you tell about Gladys Bentley."

"She was impressive," says Professor Serlin. "Gladys Bentley was a flashy nightclub performer in Harlem in the 1920s and '30s. She was black and openly gay. Gladys even married her white girlfriend in 1928 in a ceremony in Atlantic City."

"You refer to her as a 'bulldagger.'"

"That was a term used mostly by working-class lesbians back then. 'Bull dyke' would be a more common term today."

"Gladys was a big woman."

"Yes, and as out there as it was possible to be. Years later, however, in 1953, she announces herself in a magazine article as a natural woman again. A hormone imbalance is given as the reason for her lesbianism and raucousness. Injected with hormones, she is cooking, cleaning, being middle class."

"The pictures with the art- icle are hysterical. Gladys in the

kitchen; Gladys ironing."

"People talked about hormones in the '50s the way people now talk about genetics. It was believed your glands and hormones determined your identity. People with immature endocrine systems could rebalance their bodies and make themselves happy and healthy — normal."

"Where they'd want to cook dinner and vacuum," I laugh. "Bentley's experience is benign, compared to Turing's. Alan Turing was a genius cryptographer during the Second World War and credited with breaking major enemy codes. A real hero. After the war, he's arrested for indecency and sentenced to having hormone treatments."

"In England," says Professor Serlin, "it was called orgotherapy. Exactly the same treatment prescribed for Turing's homosexuality was prescribed for Gladys Bentley's lesbianism. Turing was diagnosed as having excessive testosterone, which led to his

"That was a term used mostly by working-class lesbians back then. 'Bull dyke' would be a more common term today."

criminal acts. If his hormone network could be neutralized, effeminized, he would have less desire for men. However, the hormones induced gynecomastia, enlarged breasts. He took his life not long after."

"The treatment was also called chemical castration," I add. "Turing kills himself in an incredibly poignant and symbolic way."

"Yes, he dips an apple in cyanide and eats it." "He's sort of reversing the Garden of Eden. You write: Turing chose deliberately to appropriate the symbol of the apple...to

express the death of self-knowledge, rather than its traditional acquisition."

We're quiet for a moment. "What," I ask, "do you think of so many star athletes taking hormones and other body enhancing substances?"

"Every athlete is using some form of technology. The idea that there is some pure body that is not mediated by performance-enhancing machines and drugs is ludicrous. We are using technologies to enhance our bodies. We're all doing it."

— Juris Jurjevics

"Contest Between the Mountain People and the Ocean People" — this local American Indian story is performed by children from Rincon and Pauma Elementary Schools, with script by Ami Admire, Friday, September 22, 6 p.m., in Arts 111 at CSU San Marcos (333 South Twin Oaks Valley Road). Free. 760-750-4366. (SAN MARCOS)

Radiant! The musical *Charlotte's Web* is current production by La Jolla San Diego Junior Theatre, continuing through September 24 at Firehouse YMCA Community Center (7877 Herschel Avenue). Recommended for all ages. Performances begin at 7 p.m. on Friday, at 2 and 4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. \$10–\$15. 619-239-8355. (LA JOLLA)

"Barrio Logan: Voices of Change," 15-week after-school video documentary program for teens begins Tuesday, September 26, 5–7 p.m., at MAAC Project's Mercado Apartments. Participants work to document and preserve stories of local community leaders in Barrio Logan including Father Richard Brown and muralist/activist/teacher Victor Ochoa. Registration: 619-230-1938 x102. (BARRIO LOGAN)

Tots and Tales interactive story time for preschoolers, Thursday, September 28, 10:30 a.m., at San Diego Humane Society and SPCA (5500 Gaines Street). Free. Reservations: 619-243-3432. (LINDA VISTA)

Decorate Garden Pots during Botany for Kids class, Thursday,

September 28, 2:30 p.m., at Coastal Sage (3685 Voltaire Street). \$10. Registration: 619-223-5229. (POINT LOMA)

MUSEUMS

Bonita Museum and Cultural Center, "Cows, Chickens, and Sheep, Oh My!" Exhibit includes dairies in Sweetwater Valley, chicken hatchery in National City, Frank Pekarek's milk bottle collection, and spinning and weaving items, on view through Saturday, November 11.

The museum highlights the history of the Sweetwater Valley from the mid-1800s, with historical photographs; artifacts, tools, and farming implements; the district's 1953 fire engine; and bound copies back to the 1930s of the *Chula Vista Star News*. Find the museum at 4355 Bonita Road; 619-267-5141. (BONITA)

Campo Railroad Museum, showcasing more than 130 years of American railroad history and technology through static and operating exhibits, the museum includes cabooses, steam and diesel locomotives, track motorcars, 1880s "Jim Crow" segregated passenger cars.

Interpretive 1.5-hour train rides offered each weekend (11 a.m., 2:30 p.m.) over portion of the San Diego and Arizona Eastern Railway. Find the depot on Highway 94 at Forrest Gate Road. 619-465-7776. (CAMPO)

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

Gemological Institute of America Museum, permanent exhibits include displays depicting science and art of gemstones and history, lore and cultural significance of jewelry. Find the GIA at 5345 Armada Drive. Required reservations: 800-421-7250 x4116. (CARLSBAD)

George White and Anna Gunn Marston House, historic home sits on five acres of landscaped grounds with a formal English Romantic garden. Built for civic leader and department store founder George Marston and his family by San Diego architects William Hebbard and Irving Gill, the Marston house design is in keeping with the early 20th-Century American Arts and Crafts period, emphasizing simplicity, function, and natural materials. The museum is located at 3525 Seventh Avenue; 619-298-3142. (HILLCREST)

Heritage Museum, an interpretive wall, replicas of the early post

office and general store, and a school room are part of this museum. A mural painted by Michael Strong depicts six periods of Poway's past. Find the museum in Old Poway Park, at 14134 Midland Road; 858-679-8587. (POWAY)

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

J.A. Cooley Museum, an eclectic collection of items — including displays on phonographs, clocks, electric trains, and 20 other types of collections — is featured at the museum. The current featured attraction is an "Industrial Product Collection," with examples of the historical progression of auto technology from 1886–1915, "some classics and a concept car." Find the museum at 4233 Park Boulevard; 619-296-3112. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

San Diego Archaeological Center, the museum is dedicated to "curation of archaeological projects and sharing them with the public." Find center at 16666 San Pasqual Valley Road; 760-291-0370. (ESCONDIDO)

San Diego Automotive Museum, "Chevrolet in the U.S.A. 1911–2006" continues through Monday, October 23. Chevrolet classics and lesser-known models are displayed, as well as advertising and memorabilia.

More than 80 automobiles and motorcycles from horseless carriages to future prototypes are included in the museum's permanent collection. Find the museum near the Starlight Bowl. 619-231-2886. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Hall of Champions, ongoing exhibits include "Bird Watching — Tony Hawk in Flight," "Surfing in San Diego," exhibits of baseball card art, fencing, local rugby history. The museum — dedicated to promoting, recognizing, and preserving athletic achievement — is located at 2131 Pan American Plaza. 619-234-2544. (BALBOA PARK)

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CLASSICAL MUSIC

CLASSICAL LISTINGS

Events that are underlined occur after September 28.

HOW TO SEND US YOUR LISTING: Contributions must be received by 5 p.m. Friday the week prior to publication for consideration. Do not phone. Send a complete description of the event, including the date, time, cost, the precise address where it is to be held (including neighborhood), a

contact phone number (including area code), and a phone number for public information to **READER CLASSICAL MUSIC**, Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186. Or fax to 619-881-2401. You may also submit information online at SanDiegoReader.com by clicking on the events section.

"Music of the People," music faculty at MiraCosta College will perform their favorite rock, pop, jazz, folk, and classical music in concert, Friday, September 22, 7:30 p.m., in Little Theatre (room 3601, One Barnard Drive). \$10. 760-795-6815. (OCEANSIDE)

The Kensington Trio plays works by Beethoven, Chopin, Albeniz, Ginastera, Saint-Saëns, and Rodriguez, Sunday, September 24, 2:30 p.m., at San Diego Public Li-

brary (820 E Street). Free. 619-236-5810. (DOWNTOWN)

Works by Debussy, Strauss, Verdi, Puccini, others may be heard when soprano Stephanie Sabin and pianist Victoria Kirsch perform Sunday, September 24, 5 p.m., at Galerie d'Art International (320 South Cedros Avenue, suite 500). Event begins with reception at 4:30 p.m., followed by concert at 5 p.m. Tickets: \$17 in advance, \$20 at door. Recommended reservations: 858-793-0316. (SOLANA BEACH)

The San Diego Master Chorale plans an eclectic concert with classical and sacred works, spirituals, folk songs, and selections from Broadway musicals, Sunday, September 24, 7 p.m., at First United Methodist Church of San Diego (2111 Camino del Rio South). Donation: \$15. 619-297-4366. (MISSION VALLEY)

Border Crossings, clarinetist Marian Liebowitz and pianist Richard Thompson take on tangos of Piazzolla, jazz of D'Rivera, classical treasures of Latin America for Concert Hour series, Thursday, September 28, 12:30 p.m. in Palomar College Performance Lab (room D-10 at 1140 West Mission Road). Free. 760-744-1150 x2316. (SAN MARCOS)

ART LISTINGS

Events that are underlined occur after September 28.

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, and a phone number (including area code) for public information to **READER ART**, Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186. Or fax to 619-881-2401. You may also submit information online at SanDiegoReader.com by clicking on the events section.

GALLERIES

"The Image Projected: Single Panels, Stacks, and Grids" opens with reception for artist Sheldon Greenberg, Thursday, September 21, 6 p.m., Susan Street Fine Art Gallery (415 South Cedros Avenue). Paintings explore "the confluence of personal memories, popular culture, classic cinema, and modern architecture." 858-793-4442. Closes Sunday, October 15. (SOLANA BEACH)

"Mauro Staccioli: Part II" opens with reception on Thursday, September 21, 6:30 p.m., at Athenaeum and Arts Library (1008 Wall Street). Exhibit boasts small sculptures and works on paper by the renowned minimalist sculptor that have not before been displayed. Concurrently see "Recent Acquisitions to the Artists' Book Collection."

Both exhibits open with reception on Thursday, September 21, 6:30 p.m., and close on Saturday, November 4. 858-454-5872. (LA JOLLA)

"Memories from the Rolling Hills of Old San Diego" on offer in paintings by Gloria Torres on display through Thursday, October 12, in San Diego Mesa College Art Gallery (D-104). Reception for artist is Thursday, September 21, 4:30 p.m., followed with gallery talk by Torres at 6:30 p.m. (in room D-104). Find campus at 7250 Mesa College Drive. 619-388-2829. (KEARNY MESA)

"Through the Plexiglass," Alex Sample showcases his "reverse painting on plexiglass" in exhibit opening with reception, Thursday, September 21, 5:30 p.m., at Randall M. Hasson Gallery (346-A South Cedros Avenue). 858-792-0902. (SOLANA BEACH)

"The Wave Series," exhibit of original oil paintings by Lorrie Blackard opens with reception on Saturday, September 23, 7 p.m., at D Gallery (222 Wisconsin Avenue). 760-805-0423. (OCEANSIDE)

Art Museums

California Center for the Arts Museum, "Friends of Niki:

Works from the Private Collection of Niki de Saint Phalle" includes work by her friends Keith Haring, Larry Rivers, and Sam Francis.

Work of newspaper cartoonists is focus of exhibit "Luann & Friends: Comic Families." Cartoonists such as Greg Evans (*Luann*), Cathy Guisewhite (*Cathy*), Charles Schulz (*Peanuts*), Dean Young (*Blondie*), and Marcus Hamilton (*Dennis the Menace*), who "tap into familiar family settings, outrageous situations, and impossible slapstick scenarios" are featured.

"Passage Ways: Life's Journey. Work from Sophie's Gallery" showcases suitcases that have been creatively transformed by the developmentally disabled students of St. Madeleine Sophie's Center.

All exhibits close on Sunday, October 1. The museum is located at 340 North Escondido Boulevard; 760-839-4120. (ESCONDIDO)

Mingei International Museum, "Sam Maloof — Dean of American Furniture Makers" showcases work by this self-taught designer craftsman who makes his living working with his hands. The Maloof rocker, his signature object, is part of the White House collection of American furniture, the first work included by a living artist. Closes Sunday, October 15.

Concurrently, enjoy retrospective exhibition of pottery by Martha Longenecker, a designer craftsperson, educator, founder, and director of Mingei International Museum. San Diego State University hired Longenecker to develop its ceramics program in 1955.

"Symbols of Identity — Jewelry from Five Continents" may be seen through Sunday, October 15. Exhibit is composed of adornments from North and South America, Africa, Asia, and Europe, with traditional work and contemporary designs included.

The Mingei is located on square with San Diego Museum of Art. 619-239-0003. (BALBOA PARK)

Mingei International Museum — North County, "Folk Art of Mexico — Selections from the Collection of Mingei International" presents contemporary objects of daily use from throughout Mexico fashioned from tin, clay, wood, paper, and fiber.

Exhibit "demonstrates the importance of family, community, religion, and fun."

"Pre-Columbian Art of Mexico — Selections from the Collection of Mingei International" highlights clay and stone objects. These objects "abound with material from myth and legend." Both exhibits close on Monday, January 15. Find the museum at 155 West Grand Avenue. 760-735-3355. (ESCONDIDO)

Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, La Jolla, "TRANsactions: Contemporary Latin American and Latino Art" — closing on Sunday, May 13 — features approximately 50 works by 48 artists from museum's permanent collection. Showcased pieces demonstrate "diversity and hybridity of contemporary Latin American art," with artists working across media and between disciplines.

Currently, see site-specific installation by Milwaukee-based Argentinean artist Santiago Cuicullu. His art juxtaposes images of progressive, historical figures and events with his personal experiences. This piece engages the architecture and oceanfront site of museum.

"From the Vaults: Recent Acquisitions" focuses primarily on works on paper, demonstrating a range of contemporary drawing and photography practices in recent additions to permanent collection. Closes Sunday, December 10.

Find the museum at 700 Prospect Street. 858-454-3541. (LA JOLLA)

Museum of Photographic Arts, "Breaking the Frame: Pioneering Women in Photojournalism" examines photographs, films, newsreels, and cameras from the late 1920s to mid-1950s that changed the world. Exhibit celebrates first women in photojournalism such as Margaret Bourke-White, Grace Robertson, Thérèse Bonney, Hansel Mieth, others. Through Sunday, September 24.

"Close-Ups: San Diego Neighborhoods," opening on Sunday, September 24, showcases creativity and artistic expression of San Diego's youth. Students from San Diego City and County public schools, grades K-12, explored their neighborhoods using photography and film over course of 2005-2006 school year. Closes Sunday, November 5.

"James Fee: Recent Photographs" captures Fee's most recent road trip to Big Sur and San Francisco, capturing landscape "distinctly West Coast and American." Sunday, September 24, through Sunday, October 29.

Find the museum in the Casa de Balboa building, at 1649 El Prado; 619-238-7559. (BALBOA PARK)

Oceanside Museum of Art, works from the 1950s, 1970s, and recent work that has never been shown are showcased in "W. Haase Wojtyla: A Coincidence of Paintings," continuing through Sunday, October 15. Retrospective features work from three of his most important series: "Nudes in the Shower," "Crime Scenes," "Stalker." Wojtyla's style has much in common with work by British artist Francis Bacon. Find the museum at 704 Pier View Way. 760-721-2787. (OCEANSIDE)

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This exhibition is organized by the San Diego Museum of Art and is made possible by the generous support of the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts, and the LEF Foundation.

IMAGE: Roberto Matta, *Anger* (detail), oil on canvas, 1943. Collection of Thomas R. Monahan, Chicago.

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Calendar

MUSIC SCENE

The Reader offers \$25 for news tips published in *Blurt*. Call us at 619-235-3000, ext. 456, or e-mail your tip to blurt@sdreader.com

Hard to Do Earlier this month, former blink-182 members Mark Hoppus and Travis Barker played their first show with their new

CD together by mailing each other Pro Tools files to work on in our own private studios was ridiculous," says Hoppus. "We said, 'You are trying to control everything, and it's wrong.' He said he couldn't be a part of anything he couldn't control, and then he left the rehearsal space.... Tom didn't even call to quit

blurt

the inside track

band (+44) at the Roxy in West Hollywood. Until August, Hoppus had been silent about the band's

the band. He had his manager do it for him."

Also at *b182.com*, Hoppus says, "On the last North



BLINK-182, TOGETHER ONE MORE TIME

breakup initiated by cofounder Tom DeLonge nearly two years ago.

In an interview posted at blink-fan website *b182.com*, Hoppus is quoted as saying DeLonge demanded that all recording be done in his North County home studio or that the band members could record their parts separately.

"Trying to Frankenstein a

American tour, we took out a Pro Tools rig and set up a demo studio in a dressing room every day.... During the long hours of downtime on tour, we would go in there and lay down ideas for the next blink-182 album. There were some cool songs started in those dressing rooms. After Tom quit, our old manager [Rick DeVoe] called and said that he was going to

take some of the ideas that we had started on the tour and rerecord them for Tom's new band [Angels & Airwaves]...."

DeVoe, based in Encinitas, did not respond to a request for comment.

"I think it is in poor taste that [DeLonge] plays blink songs at [Angels & Airwaves] shows," says Hoppus on the website. "It is disrespectful to the fans. It is disrespectful to the legacy of blink-182."

At their first show, (+44) did not play any blink songs, but one L.A. music-industry insider who was at the show says, "Some songs were real blink-sounding; really happy and poppy.... There was one really funny line. Mark says, 'Man, it's been almost two fucking years since I've been onstage.' There's silence. Then he says, 'So, has anything happened since I've been gone?' Everyone laughed. Then he plays this song that is about the breakup of blink-182."

That song, "No It Isn't," is on the first (+44) CD, *When Your Heart Stops Beating*, to be released November 14. The band kicks off their six-week nationwide tour at Soma on October 13.

— Ken Leighton

Break from Tradition

Richard "Boogeyman" Martinez, a three-year veteran of the Freak Show (an eight-member break-dance crew), says the local b-boy culture will not accept anything rock-edged.

"I have a mohawk. I'm into industrial music. I was raised around '80s bands like Bauhaus, Depeche Mode, and Siouxsie and the Banshees or punk bands like the

Subhumans or the Casualties.... People don't respect us. Why would we respect them? We've been in a lot of fights."

"They get hated on a lot," says Mike Matcke, who organized the recent B-Boy Battle at

Mira Mesa's Epicentre. "Everyone has an argument with them. They get battled on a lot. People start mocking the way they dance. When people make fun of your dancing, they are definitely insulting you."

Martinez says the Freak Show's look has cost them in break-dance competitions, including the B-Boy Battle, which had a \$1000 first-place prize. Although Martinez doesn't mind that Killaforma won first place, he says the crew that beat them in their semifinal round were not as good.

"We got robbed. Everyone thought we won.... But we got invited to a competition in France. We're going there in November." The Freak Show, which has attended competitions in Texas, St. Louis, Oregon, and the Bay Area, practices their nontraditional routines four or five nights a week.

"We're more explosive. We do a lot of tricks. I put my leg over my head. One of my moves is I jump up as high as I can and land on my shoulder. I do a lot of balancing. I have a yoga

move; a 'lotus freeze'.... Most of us want to get into Cirque du Soleil."



BOOGEYMAN ON THE BOTTOM

Martinez says the music tracks they dance to are created by DJ CPS Diablo of Encinitas.

"He goes to thrift stores and swap meets and gets rare records to make his own beats. Eventually people find out what the music is, but we find it's better to keep that stuff secret. DJs just don't ask each other what their music is."

— Ken Leighton

Big House 4th & B employees learned last week that owner Ali Nilforshan sold the club to House of Blues Concerts. A former employee says 25 of 75 employees will be retained, and there are plans for a different name: "They are going to sell the name to the highest bidder."

Housed in a former bank, the club was opened by Bob Speth in 1995. He sold it to a consortium of 17 investors in 2003. Nilforshan assumed sole ownership of the concert venue two years ago when he bought out the

other investors. Nilforshan reportedly spent over \$4 million on a remodel.

"He spent way too much on it," says a former employee. "After three months, he figured out it wasn't working." So, four months ago, Nilforshan turned over the booking to the House of Blues.

Nilforshan does not own the building. "But [Nilforshan] just signed a ten-year master lease," says the former employee. "House of Blues got a three-year lease [from Nilforshan] with an option for another two years."

The 1100-capacity House of Blues and 1650-capacity 4th & B are a few blocks away from each other. Some speculate that House of Blues took over 4th & B with the plan to transform it into an all-age venue to compete with the 2300-capacity Soma. This September, the no-booze, all-age Soma is



ALFRED HOWARD AT 4TH & B, 2004

booked 23 out of 30 days.

The former employee says 4th & B won't go all ages because in order to do so the

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establishment would be required to either relinquish its liquor license or keep its liquor license and begin serving food. "That would make no sense, financially."

Calls to Nilforshan and House of Blues spokesman Jack Gannon were not returned.

The former employee says that House of Blues managers told him they want to steer the bigger-drawing acts to 4th & B.

"I was at [the House of Blues] recently, and they were all disgruntled because they had a big dent in the wall after a rap show. All those shows will come over to 4th & B now."

The former employee says the biggest news regarding the sale is that soon there will be little room for independent promoters and venues.

"You will either be in the Viejas camp or the House of Blues camp."

Viejas Entertainment recently announced it would take over the Humphrey's concert series, adding to its venue portfolio of Bayside, Viejas Casino, the Friday concerts at Del Mar during the racing season, and a semi-exclusive "first right" booking arrangement with ipayOne/Sports Arena.

Meanwhile, House of Blues controls Coors Amphitheatre, Open Air Theatre, Cox Arena, and 4th & B. House of Blues was

purchased this year by Live Nation (formerly Clear Channel Entertainment).

Venues that bring big-name acts to town and remain independent include the Belly Up Tavern, Soma, 'Canes, and the Casbah.

— Ken Leighton

Drummer Luis Illades lives the immigrant work ethic. The Tijuana native and graduate of North Park's St. Augustine High plays in four groups.

After joining San Diego bands that fell apart during the mid-'90s, Illades moved



ILLADES: HOMBRE DE RENACIMIENTO

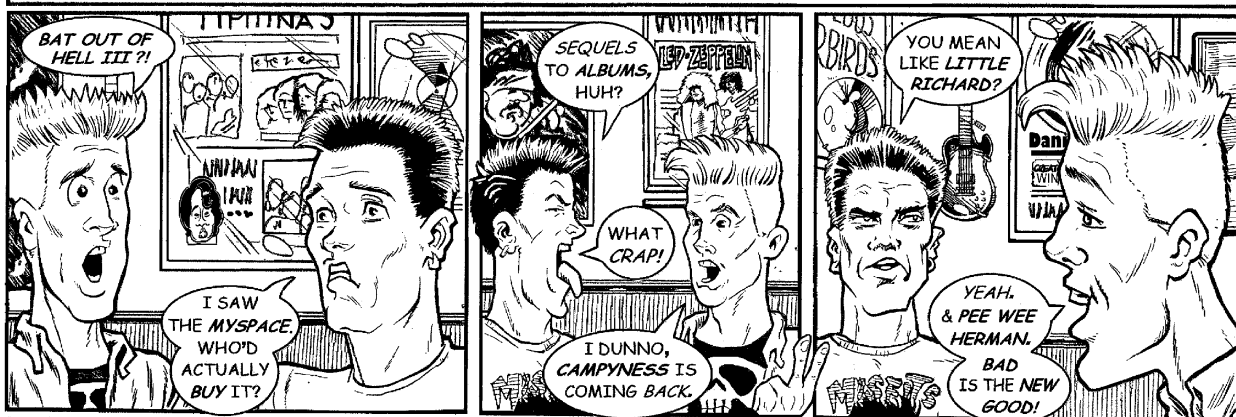
to San Francisco when he passed an audition to join gay punk/indie act Pansy Division. After a decade and a half of touring, Pansy Division has wound down to an occasional gig.

In San Francisco, Illades drums in the Cheap Trick cover band Southern Girls. He tours the world with both the Plus Ones (due at the San Diego Sports Club on September 30) and a reformed Avengers, the pioneering West Coast punk group that opened for the Sex Pistols' last show in 1978.

During a recent American

OVERHEARD IN SAN DIEGO: HARD ROCK CAFE

JAY ALLEN SANFORD



OVERHEARD? EMAIL JAS2669@AOL.COM

tour, Illades and Avengers bandmate Joel Reader opened the show with their band the Plus Ones every night. One weekend earlier this month, the drummer played a set with each band at Manhattan's soon-to-close CBGB, then four sets the next day: a Saturday-afternoon radio show with the Avengers in Jersey City; both bands at Maxwell's in Hoboken; then a late-night gig in Brooklyn. The next night, Illades played two more sets in Boston.

Over the holidays, Illades visits family and friends in TJ and S.D. and runs a catering business. In S.F.'s Mission District, he DJs regularly at Club Unicornio, a Latin music night that he founded with fellow *tijuanense* Julio Cesar Morales; they offer everything from the latest Mextronica to mambo to vintage Spanish psychedelipunk.

"We did name it after the Unicornio in TJ, sure," confirms Illades, referring to the notorious transsexual club. "When it finally closed last year, we even bid for their sign on eBay. Couldn't afford it — but we tried."

— David Stampone

Crude and Dangerous Chris Doolittle says the all-

percussion Procrastinators (who met in SDSU's Drumline) formed in 1999, when they built their first drum kit.

"We bought barstools at Wal-Mart and, using a

mount them to the front of the barstools. The entire contraption was crude and dangerous but worked."

The big problem, he says, is how quickly their "instruments" are destroyed.



THE PROCRASTINATORS WON'T DO THIS NUDE

lighter, we melted holes into the sides of plastic water bottles, which we had emptied into the bathtub. Then we shoved two wooden dowels into the bottles to mount them to each of the barstools on either side of the middle stool. We went to the Salvation Army between Montezuma and 70th to buy saucepans and hardware to

"We break a water bottle a day. The original four bottles' cost is \$15 per bottle when they weren't returned to Sparkletts. Subsequent bottles were 'borrowed' from numerous places around the county. We're up to our fifth generation of barstools; they were coming apart from being beat with heavy sticks... Cookware was

typically costing us \$3 to \$5 per piece. The copper-bottom Revere cookware — that lasted two hours — cost us \$80 for each set. I tried buying better cookware, but even the mid-range pots and pans just couldn't cut it."

While at the 2005 Monterey County Fair, the band hooked up with New Era Cookware, which provided sturdy seven-ply pots and pans. "We got eight sets.... The six pieces retail for around \$2700. It's one of the biggest upgrades to our equipment."

The group now includes multiple incarnations that play frequently at places such as Legoland and as a touring ensemble.

"Last year, one of the teams was at a California fair and was propositioned to perform nude in a barn while people watched and videotaped it for \$100. Needless to say, they turned her down.... Sometimes, we get drunk girls and women rubbing their butts on our backs while we perform."

— Jay Allen Sanford

CONTRIBUTORS

William Crain, Dave Good, Jeremiah Griffey, Larry Harmon, Michael Hemmingson, Ken Leighton, Ryan Loyko, Derek Plank, Eric Rife, Jay Allen Sanford

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Mohawks and Bathrobes

"We do different game show themes to interact with the crowd."

I first saw Van Housecoats last April Fool's Day at Dream Street. It was a comedy night, and I wanted to see the Dateless Losers and ChrisChrisChris. There was a bevy of drunk stand-up comedians onstage, rotating short stints of vitriol — yelling, cursing, racial slurs. It wasn't funny.

Standing outside were three guys with Mohawks, wearing bathrobes — or housecoats, as they say in the vernacular. They were smoking cigarettes and seemed ready to stomp on faces with their laced-up boots.

"What's with the punk band?" I asked one of my friends. "I don't know, but they scare me," he said.

When this group set the stage up like a living room, with a skeleton sitting in an easy chair looking at a TV, I knew it was all an act. They also had an MC in a tuxedo and a wide-brimmed hat with a big feather on it; he was at the bar every half hour for a refill.

"Kevena is our master of ceremonies; he's got a good P.A. voice," says bass player Van Ben, "plus, when he gets loaded, you never know what you're going to get." Between songs Kevena did his imitation of Bob Barker, giving out prizes like push-up bras to women in the audience.

"We want to make our shows different," says Van Ben. "We do different game show themes to interact with the crowd — it's all about the crowd. The prizes are just bonuses...plus, who doesn't like game shows?"

Van Greg plays guitar; Van Peter is on drums.

TRICKIEST PROBLEM PLAYING LIVE?

Van Ben "Trying not to laugh."

Van Peter "Remembering how to play the songs after too many shots."

LISTS

MIKE HEMMINGSON

YOUR AXE?

Van Ben "I got my bass from a friend for 120 bucks, plus the

promise if I ever got big I would sign it and give it back to him — to me, I just like noise, so I'll play anything."

Van Greg "An Epiphone Les Paul wannabe. Wish I could have a Gibson, but someone's going to have to pay us for me to get that."

EARLIEST MEMORY?

Van Ben "Slamming my brother's nuts in a gate when we were kids running around outside naked. Boy, I still get shit from that all the time, especially from his son — at least they still worked!"

Van Peter "Pissing in my closet when I was four or five. I was sleepwalking, and my mom woke me up screaming because I was making a real mess."

WHAT'S IN YOUR CD PLAYER?

Van Ben "Tool's *Opiate*. The best CD ever created by man; recommended for all."

Van Peter "Modest Mouse, the Pixies, and Kidz Bop."

Van Greg "Van Housecoats."



Van Housecoats

THOUGHTS ON GIGS?

Van Ben "The bathrooms — everywhere we play I got to take a shit before, and dang, they are godawful."

Van Peter "We've had some pretty bad gigs, but our best gig was the April Fool's Day at Dream Street. There were some great bands that played before us, and it was the first time we did the *Price Is Right* theme and gave out prizes. It turned out to be way more fun than I thought it would be."

Van Greg "My preference are the spinners — while trawling, you give a much brighter light show for the fish, which grabs their attention and...what? Oh, gigs. I thought you meant, like, fishing gigs."

FAVORITE CHARACTER ON GILLIGAN'S ISLAND?

Van Ben "I would say Mary Ann. She looks all wholesome and homely, but if you got her in the sack I bet she would go Wonder Woman!"

Van Greg "Mrs. Howell — Lovey. Older women are so much more giving and experienced. Plus, she's rich!"

Van Peter "Ginger, because I always wanted to lick her mole."

FAVORITE PLACE TO HANG OUT?

Van Greg "My house. I've got everything I need there: TV, Xbox 360, my band room, beer — why leave?"

Van Peter "The beach on Sundays — for Wiffleball." ■

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Calendar

CONCERTS

THIS WEEK'S CONCERTS

THURSDAY

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

The Psychedelic Furs: House of Blues, Thursday, September 21, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

FRIDAY

Ani DiFranco: Copley Symphony Hall, Friday, September 22, 1245 Seventh Avenue, downtown. 619-235-0804.

"Freestyle Party on the Bay": Viejas Concerts at Bayside, Friday, September 22, Embarcadero Park South, 619-445-5400.

Rosie Flores: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, September 22, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

LeAnn Rimes: California Center for the Arts, Friday, September 22, 340 N. Escondido Boulevard, Escondido. 800-988-4253.

SATURDAY

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

"Adams Avenue Street Fair" with **Gregory Page**, the **7th Day Buskers**, **Whiskey Tango**, and more: Adams Avenue, Saturday, September 23, and Sunday, September 24, between Bancroft Street and 35th Street, Normal Heights. 619-282-7329.

"Festival Del Mar" with **George Thorogood & the Destroyers**, **Cake**, **Dr. John**, and more: Saturday, September 23, and Sunday, September 24, Del Mar Fairgrounds, Del Mar. 858-792-4252.

SUNDAY

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, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

TUESDAY

John Mayer and Sheryl Crow: Viejas Concerts at Bayside, Tuesday, September 26, Embarcadero Park South, 619-445-5400.

WEDNESDAY

Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers: Coors Amphitheatre, Wednesday, September 27, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600.

Sonic Youth: House of Blues, Wednesday, September 27, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

UPCOMING CONCERTS

SEPTEMBER

Guster: Open Air Theatre, Thursday, September 28, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-594-6947.

Venice: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Thursday, September 28, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

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

Herman's Hermits: Sycuan Casino Showcase Theatre, Thursday, September 28, 5469 Casino Way, Dehesa. 619-659-3380.

The Yeah Yeah Yeahs: Soma, Thursday, September 28, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-7662.

Ellis Paul: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, September 29, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Wolfmother: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Friday, September 29, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Unwritten Law, **Switchfoot**, **P.O.D.**, and more: Viejas Concerts at Bayside, Saturday, September 30, Embarcadero Park South, downtown. 619-445-5400.

Yerba Buena: 4th & B, Saturday, September 30, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

OCTOBER

Del tha Funkee Homosapien: House of Blues, Sunday, October 1, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Good Charlotte: Soma, Monday, October 2, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-7662.

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

Paul Simon: Viejas Concerts at Bayside, Tuesday, October 3, Embarcadero Park South, 619-445-5400.

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

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

Mariah Carey: ipayOne Center, Wednesday, October 4, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

Buju Banton: 4th & B, Wednesday, October 4, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

Guns N' Roses: ipayOne Center, Thursday, October 5, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

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: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Friday, October 6, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

The 5th Dimension: Sycuan Casino Showcase Theatre, Friday, October 6, 5469 Casino Way, Dehesa. 619-659-3380.

James Lee Stanley and Peter Dinklage: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, October 6, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Marc Broussard: 'Canes, Friday, October 6, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780.

Gov't Mule: Open Air Theatre, Saturday, October 7, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-594-6947.

Madeleine Peyroux: 4th & B, Saturday, October 7, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

Country Joe McDonald: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Saturday, October 7, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

The Cherry Poppin' Daddies: Belly Up Tavern, Saturday, October 7, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Cecilio & Kapono: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, October 8, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Rancid: House of Blues, Sunday, October 8, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Kasabian: House of Blues, Tuesday, October 10, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

The Larry Carlton Blues Project: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, October 12, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.


Marcia Ball: Belly Up Tavern, Thursday, October 12, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Cheyenne Kimball: House of Blues, Friday, October 13, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

+44: Soma, Friday, October 13, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-7662.

Brooks & Dunn: Coors Amphitheatre, Saturday, October 14, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600.

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Temptations

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Sunday, September 24



Queensrÿche

Wednesday, October 4



Bobby Caldwell

Friday, October 6



Cecilio & Kapono

Sunday, October 8

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Temptations

with special guest **Candye Kane**
Sunday, September 24 • 7:30

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Wednesday, October 4 • 7:30

Bobby Caldwell

Friday, October 6 • 8:00

Cecilio & Kapono

Sunday, October 8 • 7:30

Larry Carlton Blues Project

featuring

Robben Ford

with very special guest

Dave Mason

Thursday, October 12 • 7:00

Joan Baez

with special guest **Rhythm Village**
Wednesday, October 18 • 7:30

Calendar
CONCERTS

Thrice: Soma, Saturday, October 14, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-7662.

Rancid: House of Blues, Sunday, October 15, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Los Tucanes de Tijuana: California Center for the Arts, Sunday, October 15, 340 N. Escondido Boulevard, Escondido. 800-988-4253.

Rancid: House of Blues, Monday, October 16, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Covenant: 'Canes, Tuesday, October 17, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780.

Joan Baez: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Wednesday, October 18, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Method Man: 4th & B, Wednesday, October 18, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

Placebo: House of Blues, Wednesday, October 18, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

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

Veruca Salt: 'Canes, Thursday, October 19, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780.

Marta Topferova: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, October 20, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Dashboard Confessional: Cox Arena, Saturday, October 21, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-594-0429.

India.Arie: Spreckels Theatre, Saturday, October 21, 121 Broadway, downtown. 619-235-9500.

Secret Machines: Soma, Saturday, October 21, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-7662.

Bob Dylan: Cox Arena, Sunday, October 22, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-594-0429.

Susan Werner: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Thursday, October 26, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Roberta Flack: Sycuan Casino Showcase Theatre, Thursday, October 26, 5469 Casino Way, Dehesa. 619-659-3380.

Jimmy Buffett: Coors Amphitheatre, Thursday, October 26, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600.

Wynton Marsalis: California Center for the Arts, Saturday, October 28, 340 N. Escondido Boulevard, Escondido. 800-988-4253.

Tricky: House of Blues, Sunday, October 29, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

HIM: Open Air Theatre, Monday, October 30, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-594-6947.

Rise Against: Soma, Tuesday, October 31, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-7662.

NOVEMBER

James Hunter: 'Canes, Wednesday, November 1, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780.

Five for Fighting: Belly Up Tavern, Thursday, November 2, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

The Blue Man Group: Cox Arena, Saturday, November 4, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-594-0429.

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

Aerosmith and Mötley Crüe: Coors Amphitheatre, Thursday, November 9, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600.

Blind Guardian: House of Blues, Thursday, November 9, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Keith Sweat: Sycuan Casino Showcase Theatre, Friday, November 10, 5469 Casino Way, Dehesa. 619-659-3380.

The Fray: Open Air Theatre, Saturday, November 11, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-594-6947.

Janis Ian: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Saturday, November 11, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

The Beautiful South: House of Blues, Saturday, November 11, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Vince Gill: California Center for the Arts, Saturday, November 11, 340 N. Escondido Boulevard, Escondido. 800-988-4253.

Pink Martini: 4th & B, Sunday, November 12, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

James Blunt: ipayOne Center, Tuesday, November 14, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

The Slits: The Casbah, Thursday, November 16, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego. 619-232-4355.

The Damned: House of Blues, Friday, November 17, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Kris Kristofferson: California Center for the Arts, Friday, November 17, 340 N. Escondido Boulevard, Escondido. 800-988-4253.

Frank Black: House of Blues, Saturday, November 18, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

The Lemonheads: Belly Up Tavern, Sunday, November 19, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Lady Sovereign: House of Blues, Sunday, November 19, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

She Wants Revenge and Pretty Girls Make Graves: House of Blues, Tuesday, November 21, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Black Label Society: House of Blues, Tuesday, November 28, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

The Trans-Siberian Orchestra: Cox Arena, Tuesday, November 28, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-594-0429.

DECEMBER

All-American Rejects: ipayOne Center, Friday, December 1, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

The Melvins: The Casbah, Friday, December 1, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego. 619-232-4355.

Geoff Muldaur:

AcousticMusicSanDiego, Saturday, December 2, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

The Barenaked Ladies: RIMAC Arena, Sunday, December 3, UCSD campus, La Jolla. 858-534-8497.

Gregg Allman: House of Blues, Wednesday, December 6, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Andre Rieu: ipayOne Center, Thursday, December 7, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

Slightly Stoopid and Pepper: 4th & B, Friday, December 8, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

Primus: RIMAC Arena, Friday, December 8, UCSD campus, La Jolla. 858-534-8497.

Slightly Stoopid and Pepper: 4th & B, Saturday, December 9, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

Panic! at the Disco: ipayOne Center, Saturday, December 9, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

Tom Russell: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Sunday, December 10, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Rosie Flores: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, December 15, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Glen Yarbrough:

AcousticMusicSanDiego, Saturday, December 23, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

El Vez: The Casbah, Saturday, December 23, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego. 619-232-4355.

THU Happy/Hour/Remixed
Daeman & Tricia 5-10 pm
DJ Matty Mac '80s/Hip-Hop/Top 40
No cover 10 pm - close.

FRI **Gimmie, Gimmie, Gimmie | DJ Atari**
DJ Bryan Pollard | DJ Morgan Young
'70s/'80s/Punk/Goth/Nu Wave
\$4 cover 9 pm - close.

SAT Live Comedy 8-10 pm
Live Music **Higher Ground** 10 pm-close

SUN **DJ Sachamo** ILLFONIX
Hip-Hop/House/Soul. No cover 7 pm - close.

MON **Monday Night Football**
Happy Hour all night.

TUE **DJ Carlos Culture** Reggae/Dancehall
No cover 10 pm - close.

WED **Girls' Night Out** by SHE Promotions
Hip-Hop/House. No cover 8 pm - close.



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I Am Ghost
VAUX

FRI. SEPT 22

LAWRENCE ARMS

SAT. SEPT 23

AMBER PACIFIC
\$10 - 7PM - LUNATIKS

SUN. SEPT 24

MUTE MATH
\$12 - 7pm - HOB

MON. SEPT 25

TV ON THE
RADIO

\$16 - 7pm - Casbah

WED. SEPT 27

SAOSIN
(CD RELEASE SHOW)

\$13 - 6PM - LUNATIKS

SUN. OCT 1

DESTROY THE RUNNER
CD RELEASE - solidstate

MON. OCT 2

GOOD CHARLOTTE
PINK SPIDERS
YOUNG LOVE

MON. OCT 9

THE DRESDEN DOLLS

\$20 - 7pm - Casbah

SAT. OCT 14

THRICE

SAT. OCT 21

SECRET MACHINES
\$16 - 8pm - Viejas

FRI. OCT 22

HAWTHORNE HEIGHTS
RELIENT K - EMERY

SUN. OCT 29

TRIVIUM

HALLOWEEN

RISE AGAINST

THURSDAY

CIRCA SURVIVE - BILLY TALENT

FRI. NOV 3

NORMA JEAN

\$15 - 6pm - lunatik

SAT. NOV 4

SILVERSTEIN

SUN. NOV 5

Story of the Year

SAT. NOV 25

COPELAND

\$15 - 8:30 - lunatik

FRI. DEC 8

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(+44)



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Coyote Problem • Deep Rooted • Delta
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Get Back Loretta • Gilbert
Castellanos Quartet • Greg Laswell
• Havana • High Rolling Loners •
Hollow Point w/ David Myers •
Javid & New Flamenco • Jazz on
the Latin Side All Stars • Jocelyn
Celaya • Johnny Dilks & His
Country Soul Brothers • Jose
Sinatra & the Troy Dante Inferno •
Lady Star & the Bustin' Loose Band
• La Tanya Lockett Band • Ledesma
Brothers • Len Rainey & the Midnight
Players • Lindsey Troy • Manganista •
Marie Haddad • Peter Bolland • Peter Hall
• Renata Youngblood • Riboflavin' • Skid
Roper & the Shadowcasters • Sonny
Burgess & the Pacers • Sven-Erik Seaholm
• Tom Griesgraber • Whiskey Tango •
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Bartenders Bible • Big Rig Deluxe •
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Sweet • Evan Bethany • Grand Ole
Party • The Gregory Page Show
• Joanie Mendenhall • John Doe
Thing • Kite Flying Society • Lady
Dottie & the Diamonds • Lazy
Lester • Lou & Virginia Curtiss •
Mario Escovedo • Matt Curreri &
the ExFriends • Molly Jenson •
Nathan James & Ben Hernandez •
Powerchords • Ras Michael & the Sons
of Negus • Roy Ruiz Clayton • Sara Petite
• Society • Tomcat Courtney • Vegetation
• Willovealot



6 Stages

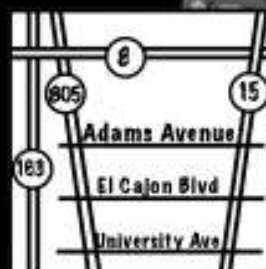
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THE DAMNWELLS
ARMY OF ME

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THE BRIGGS
TIME AGAIN
BLOOD OR WHISKEY

Thursday, September 28
SECOND 2 LAST

Friday, September 29
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CABESA DE GALLO
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SOMEDAY ASSASSIN

Saturday, September 30
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UNSEEN THE TABILIST

Thursday, October 5
MARK MALLMAN

Saturday, October 7
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DUBLINERS



THE FENIANS
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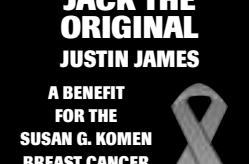
SKANIC
Sat 10/7 • 9:00 PM

JAMES McMURTRY



BASTARD SONS OF
JOHNNY CASH
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JACK THE
ORIGINAL
JUSTIN JAMES



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FOR THE
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3-DAY WALK
Mon 10/9 • 8:00 PM

MOFRO



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Tues 10/10 • 9:00 PM

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W/GUEST
Wed 10/11 • 8:00 PM

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THE REVELATIONS



THE DEVASTATORS
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JUST ADDED!

10/29 **Gin Blossoms**
w/Shawn Mullins

11/8 **Lisa Marie Presley**

11/11 **Brand New Heavies**
w/N'Dea Davenport

1/31 **Jake Shimabukuro**

UPCOMING SHOWS:

10/15 **Edie Brickell & The New Bohemians**
10/18 **Ladytron w/CSS**
10/19 **Frank Marino & Mahogany Rush**
10/20 **The Subdudes**
10/21 **Ras Michael & The Sons of Negus**
10/22 **Peter Popping's Guitar Extravaganza**
- Special Matinee! 1:30 pm
10/22 **Easy Star All-Stars 9:00 pm**
10/23 **Bonnie Prince Billy**

10/24 **Oz For Life - An Evening in the Rainforest**
10/25 **Shawn Colvin & Brandi Carlile**
10/26 **Bob Schneider & Band**
10/27 **English Beat**
10/28 **Atomic Punks**
10/31 **Halloween Party!**
w/80s Heat & Flock of 80's
11/1 **Shelby Lynne**
11/2 **Five For Fighting**
11/3 **John Brown's Body**
w/Go Jimmy Go
11/4 **The Tommy Castro Band**
11/5 **Jackie Greene**
11/7 **Adrian Belew**
11/12 **Ben Taylor & Sonya Kitchell**

11/15 **Idan Raichel**
11/16 **Groundation**
11/17 **The Skatalites & The Aggrolites**
11/19 **The Lemonheads**
11/25 **Joe Bonamassa**
12/14 **Wall of Voodoo w/Stan Ridgway**
12/14 **Venice**
12/28 **Particle**
1/13 **Dead Man's Party**
3/8 **Leo Kottke & David Lindley**

SWINGIN' HAPPY HOURS @ 5:30:
9/22 **LOS CHICHARRONES GUAPOS**
10/27 **ATOMIC GROOVE**
SALSA SUNDAY: 9/24, 10/1

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Walt Weiskopf - Tenor and Soprano Saxes
(Buddy Rich/Steely Dan)

Mark Soskin - Piano
(Sonny Rollins/Herbie Mann)

Baron Browne - Bass
(Jean-Luc Ponty/Billy Cobham)

Steve Smith - Drums
(Vital Information/Journey)

7:30 PM DOORS / 8:00 PM SHOW



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Calendar CLUBS

BEACHES

(continued)

858-483-8847. Friday, 10 p.m., *Pickford's Party*, rock. Saturday, live rock.

Jack's La Jolla, 7863 Girard Avenue, La Jolla. 858-456-8111. Sunday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., and Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., *Soul Seduction*, jazz.

Ki's Coffee on Top, 2591 South Highway 101, Cardiff. 760-436-2158. Friday, *Peter Sprague*, jazz.

The Kraken, 2531 Old Highway 101, Cardiff. 760-436-6483. Friday, *Custard Pie*, rock. Saturday, *the Bill Magee*. Sunday, *the Blues Brokers*. Tuesday, *DJ Marc Thrasher*. Wednesday, call club for information.

La Valencia Hotel, 1132 Prospect Street, La Jolla. 858-454-0771. Thursday, 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Barry Levich*, jazz. Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Wednesday, *Rick Ross*, jazz.

The Lodge at Torrey Pines, 11480 N. Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla. 619-453-4420. The Grill: Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Wednesday, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., *Dan Papaila*, solo jazz guitar. Also, Friday and Saturday, 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *Mike Nelson*, solo jazz guitar.

Moondoggies, 832 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-483-6550. Friday, *the Disco Pimps*.

Pacific Beach Bar and Grill, 860 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-272-7278. Sunday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., live reggae.

St. Tropez Bistro and Bakery, 947 South Coast Highway 101, Encinitas. 760-633-0084. Friday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Keith Jacobsen*, smooth jazz saxophone.

710 Beach Club, 710 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-483-7844. Thursday, call club for information.

Friday, *Justin James & the Sons of Beaches*, *Kanekoa*, and *Vince Esquire*. Saturday, *Semi* and *the Simple Minded Soldiers*. Sunday, *the Husky Boy Allstars*, DJ event, hip-hop/funk/old skool. Monday, open mike. Wednesday, 8 p.m., *Wonderstruck*, *Karaya*, and *Red Sonya*.

Taylor's Bar and Brewery, 721 Grand Avenue, Pacific Beach. 619-270-3596. Tuesday, 9:30 p.m., *the Mojoley Jazz Quartet*.

Thrusters, 4633 Mission Boulevard, Mission Beach. 858-483-6334. DJ events, hip-hop/funk/'80s. Sunday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Willovealot*, smooth jazz.

Tiki House, 1152 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-273-9734. Thursday, 9 p.m., acoustic/folk music. Friday, *Riot House*, rock. Saturday, *the Rockin' Blues Hounds*, blues. Sunday, open mike. Tuesday, *Christopher Dale* and friends. Wednesday, *Rock Dirty Raw*, rock.

Winstons, 1921 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach. 619-222-6822. Thursday, *the Pnuma Trio*, rock. Friday, *the High Rolling Loners*, *Shoestring Strap*, and *Married by Elvis*, bluegrass/rock. Saturday, *Kush & Blood Fiyah Angels* and *Dread Daze*, reggae. Monday, *the Electric Waste Band*, classic rock. Tuesday, *Ranking Joe*. Wednesday, *the Wise Monkey Orchestra*, acid jazz/groove.

Downtown

Belo, 919 Fourth Street, Gaslamp. 619-231-9200. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, DJs and live bands.

Blarney Stone Pub, 502 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-8519. Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Wednesday, *Steve Brewer*, acoustic.

Borders Books and Music (Gaslamp), 668 Sixth Avenue, San Diego. 619-702-4200. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Kova*, rock/jazz/funk.

C Lounge, 756 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-2830. Music every night except Monday, call club for information.

The Casbah, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, midtown. 619-232-HELL.



>hometown CDs

BY OLLIE

Album: *Lost in the Sound* (2006)

Artist: Chuck Richards

Label: self-released

Where available/price: Lou's Records for \$10, M-Theory for \$10, and Buffalo Bros Guitars for \$15. Online at iTunes for \$6.93, *Amazon.com* for \$12.99, *Borders.com* for \$12.99, *cdbaby.com* for \$12.97, *Target.com* for \$12.99, *chuckrichardsmusic.com* for \$13, shipping and handling included. Available at shows for \$10.

Band: Chuck Richards (vocals, guitar, bass, banjo, ukulele, percussion), Cady Truckee (Wurlitzer, pump organ, banjo), Atom Orr (guitar, vocals, percussion, synthesizer), Matt Lynott (drums)

Songs: 1) Lost in the Sound 2) If I'm Not with You 3) After That 4) Anyway 5) Pass Me By 6) Becoming Myself 7) Heart Attack Song

Website: *chuckrichardsmusic.com*

Lost in the Sound isn't a lot of things. Let's start with what it is. It's slow-paced. The lead is an acous-

tic guitar, backed up by a synthesizer and organs...a banjo and ukulele here and there. In parts, Chuck Richards's

vocals seem passionate, although unconvincing.

The lyrics are good; some sentimental, some abstract. The banjo and ukulele give the music a slight country or folk feel. In spots it seems blue-grassy with the addition of a steel guitar or guitarist with a pipe on his finger to sound like a steel. It's expertly played, timed, and each song is pleasant.

The following lyrics sum up Chuck's philosophy as well as the feel of the CD: "Sometimes I just like to sit on the porch, scratch my dog, and stare out into the yard / It's not that I'm lacking motivation / and I'm not getting high / I just think that if I move too fast my life will pass me by."

Now, what this disc isn't...

Nobody's getting wild on the synth and organ; they're



Chuck Richards

content to sit in the background and plink or wonk along with the walking rhythm. The album is not all acoustic. It's not country. The drumming isn't bad, but it isn't remarkable. Most of all, what *Lost in the Sound* isn't is interesting.

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SEPT. 23, SESSION #2



SEPT. 24, SESSION #3

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Reggie Smith



Friday, Sept. 22
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Jazz Rock

**The Steely
Damned**

Saturday, Sept. 23

6 pm • Pop Rock **Courtney Jones**

9:30 pm • '80s Dance

Criminal Funk

Sunday, Sept. 24
8 pm
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be on Sunday night!
98.1 Smooth Jazz
with Kelly Cole

**Calvin Romance
& Trina Steward
sing Motown**

with **DJ John Phillips**

Monday, Sept. 25
7 pm • Blues

**Chet Cannon's
Blue Monday
Blues Jam**

Tuesday, Sept. 26
8 pm • Original Rock

Taylor Harvey Band

Wednesday, Sept. 27
9:30 pm • Funk, Soul & Dance

The Soul Persuaders

UPCOMING SHOWS

Thursday, Oct. 5
Jazz Vocalist
**Patricia
Barber**



Thursday,
Oct. 14
**Chris
Duarte**

Saturday, Oct. 21
**Mark
Hummel
& The Blues
Survivors**



2241 Shelter Island Dr. • 619.224.3577

Tickets for "Upcoming Shows" available at Ticketmaster and Humphrey's. Reserved seating for "Upcoming Shows" available with dinner. All shows are 21 years and up.

FRIDAY • SEPTEMBER 22

**QUEERS • HARD-ONS
TOYS THAT KILL**

IN THE ATARI LOUNGE

THE GLOSSINES

SATURDAY • SEPTEMBER 23

**JUNIOR BOYS
ENSEMBLE
KITE FLYING SOCIETY**

SUNDAY • SEPTEMBER 24

**RATATAT • ENVELOPES
PANTHER**

MONDAY • SEPTEMBER 25

**MARITIME
REUBENS ACCOMPLICE
JAPANESE SUNDAY
SWIM PARTY**

TUESDAY • SEPTEMBER 26

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WEDNESDAY • SEPTEMBER 27

**GOSSIP
MIKA MIKO
SWAN ISLAND**

THURSDAY • SEPTEMBER 28

**SUPERSYSTEM
ZOMBI**

FRIDAY • SEPTEMBER 29

**CHARLEY HORSE
DUKES OF HAGGARD
GHOST TOWN
DEPUTIES**

SATURDAY • SEPTEMBER 30

**GRAND OLE PARTY
KILL ME TOMORROW
PRAYERS
SIRHAN SIRHAN**

SUNDAY • OCTOBER 1

**LAMBCHOP
ROSIE THOMAS**

EARLY SHOW • 7 PM

TUESDAY • OCTOBER 3

MOJAVE 3

WEDNESDAY • OCTOBER 4

JOSE GONZALES

THURSDAY • OCTOBER 5

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ELECTRIC CO.
CALIFONE**

FRIDAY • OCTOBER 6

**MAN MAN
HUSBANDS**

SATURDAY • OCTOBER 7

adult.

TUESDAY • OCTOBER 10

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The Kensington Club, 4079 Adams Avenue, Kensington. 619-284-2848. Music is rock/metal/alternative. Thursday, *the Jury, the Spots,* and *I Like Girls.* Friday, *Waterburnbaby; Me, My Brother, and a Guy Named Ray.* Saturday, *Cash'd Out, the Dukes of Haggard,* and *Sultry Savage.*

Kitima Thai Restaurant, 406 University Avenue, Hillcrest. 619-298-2929. Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Wednesday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., *the Jim Gala Jazz Trio.*

Lestat's Coffee House, 3343 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-282-0437. Music is acoustic/folk. Thursday, *Dave Howard* and *Dani Carroll.* Friday, *Chris Trapper, Silent Partner, Tiff Jimber,* and *Courtney Jones.* Saturday and Sunday, call club for information. Monday, open mike. Wednesday, 9 p.m. to 11 p.m., *the Buddy Wuddies.*

Martini's Bar and Grill, 3940 Fourth Avenue, San Diego. 619-293-0232. Saturday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Vintage Vegas,* jazz.

Mission Valley Resort, 875 Hotel Circle South, Mission Valley. 619-596-9777. The Oasis: Friday, 8 p.m. to midnight, *DJ D-2,* hustle/West Coast swing.

O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub, 1310 Morena Boulevard, Bay Park. 619-276-5637. Friday, 9 p.m., *Race Against Space, Gross Misconduct,* and *the Mortars,* rock/metal/punk. Saturday, 9 p.m., *the Prey, the Nipples, the Hillstreet Stranglers,* and *the Reservoir Tips,* rock. Monday, 7:30 p.m., *Mystery Train,* blues. Wednesday, 9 p.m., *Sweet Tooth* and *the Wild Truth,* rock.

The Ould Sod, 3373 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-284-6594. Friday, *Gene Warren,* Irish folk. Tuesday, traditional Irish jam session.

Padre Gold, 7245 Linda Vista Road, San Diego. 858-277-8681. Monday, 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *the Jazz Project Big Band.*

Pal Joey's, 5147 Waring Road, Allied Gardens. 619-286-7873. Friday and Saturday, 9 p.m., *Moon Dance,* classic rock.

Red Fox Steakhouse, 2228 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park. 619-297-1313. Thursday through Sunday, and Wednesday, *Eddie Rossi* and *Joe Soprano,* piano. Monday and Tuesday, *the David Shaw Duo.*

The Rhythm Lounge, 3048 Midway Drive, San Diego. 619-224-4835. Friday, 9 p.m., *the Micromaniacs,* alternative rock.

Rosie & Joe's, 7986 Armour Street, San Diego. 858-277-5777. Friday, 8 p.m. to midnight, *Hugh Gaskins,* rockabilly/blues.

Rosie O'Grady's, 3402 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-284-7666. Friday and Saturday, live rock.

San Diego Sports Club, 1271 University Avenue, San Diego. 619-299-7372. Thursday, 10 p.m., *Exit 21,* rock. Friday and Saturday, call club for information.

Scolari's Office, 3936 30th Street, San Diego. 619-296-3546. Live rock, call club for information.

Second Wind, 8515 Navajo Road, San Carlos. 619-465-1730. Friday and Saturday, *the Rockoholics,* classic rock.

Sham Rocks Shack, 7059 El Cajon Boulevard (half block east of 70th Street), College Area. 619-463-2263. Friday and Saturday, DJ events, hip-hop/R&B/rap.

Sogno Di Vino, 1607 India Street, San Diego. 619-531-8887. Tuesday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Mike Nelson,* solo jazz guitar.

Soma, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-SOMA. Performances start at 7 p.m. Music is rock/metal/alternative. Thursday, *I Am Ghost, Vaux, This Is the Hospital, the Eyes of an Era,* and *Le Meu Le Purr.* Friday, *the Lawrence Arms, the Draft, the Blackout,* and *the Bandits.* Saturday, *Amber Pacific, Sherwood, Just Surrender, Over It,* and *All Time Low.* Sunday, *Mute Math, Shiny Toy Guns, Joanzetta,* and *Brazil.* Monday, *TV on the Radio.* Wednesday, *Saosin, Mikoto, Yesterday's Rising,* and *the Outline.*

Tio Leo's Lounge, 5302 Napa Street (at Morena Boulevard), Bay Park. 619-542-1462. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, call club for

information. Monday, tango. Tuesday, zydeco blues. Wednesday, 7 p.m., *the High Society Jazz Band.*

The Tower Bar, 4757 University Avenue, San Diego. 619-284-0158. Thursday, *Spo-Dee-O-Dee* and *the Rhythm Stompers.* Saturday, *Slab City, the Widows,* and *the Buzzbombs,* rock. Monday, *Lady Dottie & the Diamonds,* blues.

Tutto Mare, 4365 Executive Drive, La Jolla (Golden Triangle area). 858-597-1188. Wednesday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Jaime Valle,* and guests.

Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company, 4590 Park Boulevard, University Heights. 619-296-0616. Music is acoustic/folk unless otherwise noted. Thursday, 8 p.m., *Aaron Bowen, Bradley Hathaway, Darel Junior, Jedi Israel,* and *Shelton Viola.* Friday, *Aaron Bowen, Aramburo, John Hull, Kyle Phelan,* and *Zosia.* Saturday, *Hargo, Jennifer Jayden, Stasia Conger, the Green Water District,* and *Thomas Hodges.* Sunday, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., *the Celtic Ensemble.* Wednesday, open mike hosted by *Tim Mudd.*

Vesuvio Gourmet Restaurant, Company, 3025 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park. 619-282-7040. Thursday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., *the B-3 Four* featuring vocalist *David Mosby,* jazz.

Whistle Stop Bar, 2236 Fern Street, San Diego. 619-284-6784. Friday, 9 p.m., *Airport 81* and *Treasure Mammal,* punk.

The Zombie Lounge, 3519 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park. 619-284-DEAD. Music is rock/punk/metal/alternative. Friday, *the Iris Code, the Modern Day Rifles,* and *the Binge.* Saturday, *No Dice, the Rocketz, Silver State,* and *the Slackers.*

Sunday, *Laserwolf & Thunderbolt, Red Flag Warning, the Morning Riot,* and *the Perils of Being.*

North County

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

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

Belly Up Tavern, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach.

858-481-9022. Thursday, 8:30 p.m., *Dirty Sweet, Society,* and *Juan Peso.* Friday, 9 p.m., *Common Sense,* reggae, and *Alfred Howard & the K23 Orchestra,* jazz. Saturday and Sunday, *Festival Del Mar* featuring *George Thorogood, moe., Dr. John, Dilated Peoples, Don Carlos,* and guests. Saturday, 9 p.m., *After Party* featuring *the Dirty Dozen Brass Band, the Wood Brothers,* and *Breakestra.* Sunday, 8 p.m., *Primo,* salsa. Tuesday, 9 p.m., *Rogue Wave, Jason Collett* and *Foreign Born.* Wednesday, 8:30 p.m., *a Flock of Seagulls* and *When in Rome.*



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SWINGTIME
September 24
4pm

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EMERALD RIVER
September 28
8pm

MAKAI
September 29
9pm

80'Z ALL STARS
September 30
9pm



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MUST BE 21 OR OVER

Calendar

CLUBS

NORTH COUNTY
(continued)

The Blvd., 925 West San Marcos Boulevard, San Marcos. 760-510-0004. Music is rock/metal/alternative. Friday, *Flatline*, *Six Foot Deathtrap*, *Needlemouth*, and *Drive A.D.* Saturday, call club for information. Tuesday, country.

Boar Cross'n, 390 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad. 760-729-2989. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, call club for information.

The Book Works/Pannikin Cafe, Flower Hill Mall, I-5 at Via de la Valle, Del Mar. 858-755-3735. Friday, 8 p.m., live jazz/blues/acoustic.

Borders Books and Music (Carlsbad), 1905 Calle Barcelona, Carlsbad. 760-479-0242. Friday, 8 p.m., *Jessica Ball*, harp. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Andrea Reschke*, acoustic folk.

Borders Books and Music (Carmel Mountain), 11160 Rancho Carmel Drive, Carmel Mountain. 858-618-1814. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Lee Tyler Post*, folk.

Carvers, 11940 Bernardo Plaza Drive, Rancho Bernardo. 858-566-2400. Friday, *Kicks*, pop rock. Saturday, live music.

The Comstock Bar and Grill, 316 West Mission, #115, Escondido. 960-746-6188. Call club for information.

Coyote Bar and Grill, 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad. 760-729-4695. Thursday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *the Rhythm Method*, classic rock; 10:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., DJ event. Friday, 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., *Robin Henkel*, funk/blues/rock; 10:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., DJ event. Saturday, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., *Red Lane*, rock; 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., *Hot Rod Lincoln*, rockabilly; 10:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., DJ event. Sunday, 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., *Johnny "B" Blues*; 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Bruce Cameron*, jazz. Wednesday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Northstar*, classic rock.

Del Dios Bar and Grill, 20154 Lake Drive, Escondido. 760-489-4800. Saturday, *Hugh Gaskins*, rockabilly/blues.

Fallbrook Golf Club, 2757 Gird Road, Fallbrook. 760-728-8334. Hukilau Restaurant: Friday, 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., *Desi*, Hawaiian slack-key guitar. Sunday, 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., *Rebel Music*, reggae.

Game Time Tavern, 12735 Poway Road, Poway. 858-748-0015. Friday and Saturday, live classic rock.

Hennessey's Tavern (Carlsbad), 2777 Roosevelt Street, Carlsbad. 760-729-6951. Thursday and Friday, DJ events. Saturday, *a Fifth of Blues*. Sunday, *Vick Moraga*, folk.

The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe, 5951 Linea del Cielo, Rancho Santa Fe. 858-756-1131. Thursday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *Jerry Melnick*, jazz/variety piano.

The Jumping Turtle, 1660 Capalina Road, San Marcos. 760-471-7778. Music is rock/metal/alternative unless otherwise noted. Friday, *Gone to Oblivion*, *Gimmick*, *Unknown Motive*, and *Chapter 14*. Saturday, *As Blood Runs Black*, *Life or Death*, *Elysia Carnifex*, and *13 Killings*. Sunday, *Ever So Good*, *Outside View*, and *Farewell Darla*. Tuesday, *Demob*, *the Shitgiveits*, and *the Neon Maniacs*. Wednesday, *the Rosery*, *Off Track*, and *Zero to None*.

La Playa Cantina & Grill, 1020 West San Marcos Boulevard, San Marcos. 760-744-7550. Friday, 8 p.m., *Luna Llena*, Cuban jazz. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Randy Fontaine & the Swingers*, jazz.

Longshot Saloon, 643 Grand Avenue, San Marcos. 760-744-8576. Thursday, hip-hop. Friday and Saturday, live bands. Wednesday, R&B.

Mas Fina Cantina, 2780 State Street, Carlsbad. 760-434-3497.

Wednesday, 8 p.m., *Mike Gardner*, acoustic rock/folk.

McCabe's Beach Club, 1145 South Tremont Street, Oceanside. 760-439-6646. Friday, 4:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., *the California Rangers*, country.

The Metaphor Coffeehouse, 258 East Second Avenue, Escondido. 760-489-8890. Friday and Saturday, live music. Monday, Dixieland jazz.

Molly Malone's, 1270 Main Street, Ramona. 760-789-9050. Friday, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., *JX3*, rock covers. Saturday, 9 p.m., *Left Hand Thread*, rock.

Ocean House, 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad. 760-729-4131. Friday and Saturday, live rock/blues. Sunday, salsa. Tuesday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., *the Credit Union*, swing. Wednesday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., blues jam.

Pala Mesa Resort, 2001 Old Highway 395, Fallbrook. 760-728-5881. Thursday and Wednesday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Cowboy Jack*, alternative country.

Rancho Bernardo Inn, 17550 Bernardo Oaks Drive, Rancho Bernardo. 858-675-8500. El Bizcocho Restaurant: Friday, 5:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., and Saturday, 6 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Jerry Melnick* and *Tom Bishop*, jazz/variety.

Squid Joe's, 850 Tamarack Avenue, Carlsbad. 760-729-4996. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, and Wednesday, DJ events and live music.



Surf N'Saddle, 123 West Plaza Street (Lomas Santa Fe and Highway 101), Solana Beach. 858-755-9474. Friday, *Illicit Behavior*, rock. Saturday, 9:30 p.m., *Stevi Lynn & Triple Threat*, classic rock. Wednesday, open mike.

Woody's Sports Bar, 2329 South Centre City Parkway, Escondido. 760-735-8599. Friday and Saturday, *Da Groove*, rock.



Zip & Zack's Filling Station & Pickup Joint, 1020 West San Marcos Boulevard, San Marcos. 760-591-9393. Call club for information.


The Jumping Turtle

"North County's True Music House"

THIS WEEK		
FRIDAY 9-22 All ages until 10 pm BGO Events Promotions presents GONE TO OBLIVION UNKNOWN MOTIVE GIMIC • CHAPTER 14	SATURDAY 9-23 All ages until 10 pm •  presents ELYSIA AS BLOOD RUNS BLACK LIFE OR DEATH CARNIFEX • 13 KILLINGS	SUNDAY 9-24 All ages until 10 pm <i>JTS</i> presents EVER SO GOOD OUTSIDE VIEW FAREWELL DARLA
MONDAY 9-25 MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL!! FREE TACO BUFFET!! DRINK SPECIALS ALL NIGHT!! SoCalStunts.com & Moneymix Entertainment Present Monday Night Bike Night & Night Club!! Featuring...DJ Wreckrd!	TUESDAY 9-26 All ages until 10 pm •  presents DEMOB SHITGIVEITS NEON MANIACS	WEDNESDAY 9-27 All ages until 10 pm BGO Events Promotions presents THE ROSERY OFF TRACK ZERO TO NONE DREAM LIFE MISERY

UPCOMING SHOWS (See our website for more info):

FRIDAY 9-29 All ages until 10 pm • Joe Troutman presents THE CENTER CHILDREN OF THE GRAVE WITHER	SATURDAY 9-30 All ages until 10 pm  presents LOVE HANDLE	SUNDAY 10-1 All ages until 10 pm BGO Events Promotions presents FIGHTING CHANCE • DE CAULET IRIE I • BIRDS OF YORE
MONDAY 10-2 All ages until 10 pm  presents MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL!! FREE TACO BUFFET!! DRINK SPECIALS ALL NIGHT!! SoCalStunts.com & Moneymix Entertainment Present Monday Night Bike Night & Night Club!! Featuring...DJ Wreckrd! THE INDEPENDENTS • STATE OF REVOLUTION (SOS Records)		WEDNESDAY 10-4 All ages until 10 pm BGO Events Promotions presents ENTICE AYLA WE'RE FALLING JONESLAGGER RICH IN POVERTY



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RYAN FERGUSON
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SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 30

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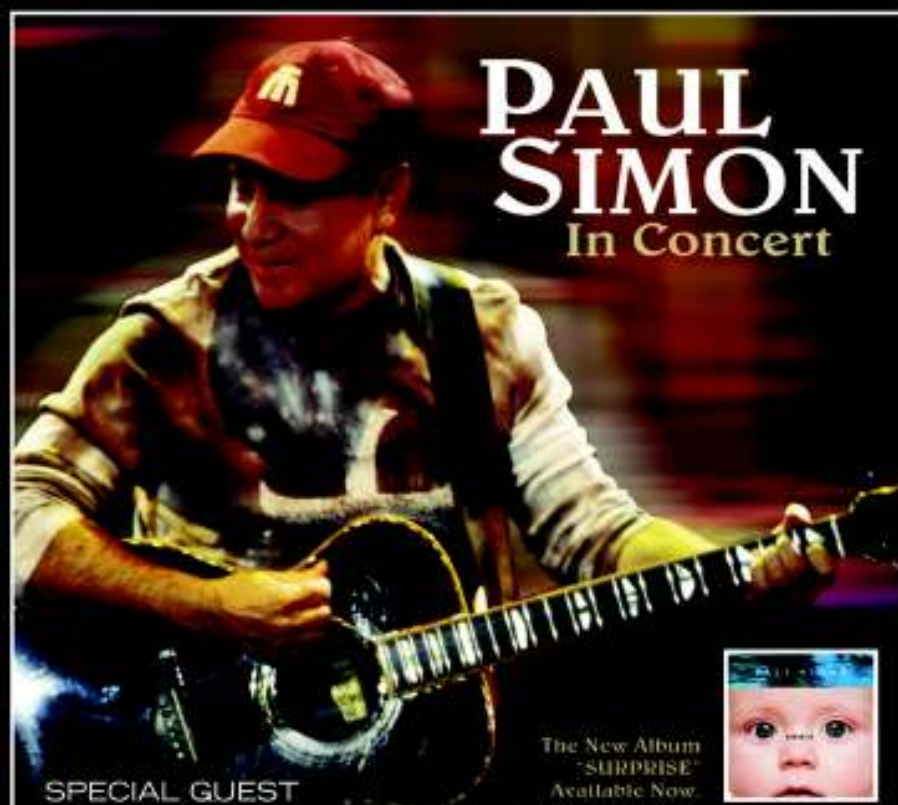
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Calendar CLUBS

South Bay/Coronado

The Butcher Shop, 556 Broadway, Chula Vista. 619-420-9440. Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Wednesday, 8 p.m., *Ray Correa*, standards/pop/Latin.

Cafe LaMaze, 1441 Highland Avenue, National City. 619-474-3222. Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m. to midnight, *Sandy Chappel* and *Sammy Canonizado*, jazz/blues. Sunday, 8:30 p.m., *Burnett Anderson*, *Robert Sebastian*, and *Scott Wallingford*, jazz.

Hotel del Coronado, 1550 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435-6611. Babcock & Story: Thursday through 4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., *Tony Lasley*, Latin jazz. Friday, 8:30 p.m., *Barbara Jamerson* and *Joe Tarantino*, jazz. Saturday, 8:30 p.m., *Stellita & Dave Lindgren*. Tuesday and Wednesday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Jim Gibson*.

Palm Court: Thursday through Sunday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Ray Briz*. Also, Sunday, noon to 4 p.m., *Joey West*.

Crown Room: Sunday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., *John Cain*.

Sun Deck: Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 2 p.m. to 6 p.m., *Ron's Garage*, classic rock.

Island Sports and Spirits, 104 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435-3456. Friday, *the Stiletto*s, rockabilly. Saturday, *Little by Little*, rock.

McP's Irish Pub and Grill, 1107 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435-5280. Music is acoustic unless otherwise noted. Thursday, *Harmony Road*. Friday, *Mystique*, soul. Saturday, *the Elevators*, blues. Sunday, *2 Guys Will Move U*. Monday, *Tommy Price*. Tuesday, *Steve Brewer*. Wednesday, *Gene Warren*.

South Bay Fish and Grill, 570 Marina Parkway, Chula Vista. 619-720-7234. Saturday, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., *the Third Coast Jazz Band*, classic jazz.

East County

Borders Books and Music (El Cajon), 159 Parkway Plaza, El Cajon. 619-593-5119. Saturday, 7 p.m., *Johnson, Bosley, & Morin*, acoustic trio.

Dirk's Niteclub, 7662 Broadway, Lemon Grove. 619-469-6344. Friday and Saturday, *Uptown Groove*, classic rock.

Don's Cocktail Lounge, 13321 Business Highway 8, El Cajon. 619-443-2444. Friday and Saturday, *Benchmark*, country/rock.

Downtown Cafe, 182 East Main Street, El Cajon. 619-440-5687. Friday, 8 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., *Joey & the Sting Rays*, classic rock/country rock.

Fannie's Nightclub, 9143 Campo Road, Spring Valley. 619-698-2204. Friday, *Geezer*, rock. Saturday, *Collage Menage*, rock.

The German-American Societies, 1017 South Mollison Avenue, El Cajon. 858-273-7283. Friday, 7:30 p.m., *the Ray Barrie 12-Piece Big Band* featuring *Jo Dark*.

Hooley's Irish Pub and Grill, 2955 Jamacha Road, Rancho San Diego. 619-670-7468. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Harold's Renegade Band*, Irish folk.

Renegade Inn, 14335 Old Highway 80 (half mile east from Lake Jennings turnoff), Flynn Springs. 619-561-8105. Friday and Saturday, *Whiskey Ridge*, country.

Second Wind, 8528 Magnolia Avenue, Santee. 619-596-8350. Friday and Saturday, *Serious Guise*, classic rock.

Tommy's Italian Restaurant, 1190 North Second Street, El Cajon. 619-440-2676. Friday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *the Wize Guyz*, swing/standards.

Viejas Casino, 5000 Willows Road, Alpine (off Interstate 8). 619-445-5400. Friday and Saturday, 9 p.m., *the Reaganomics*, '80s dance. Sunday, 4 p.m., *the Swingtime Orchestra*, big band.

NOTE

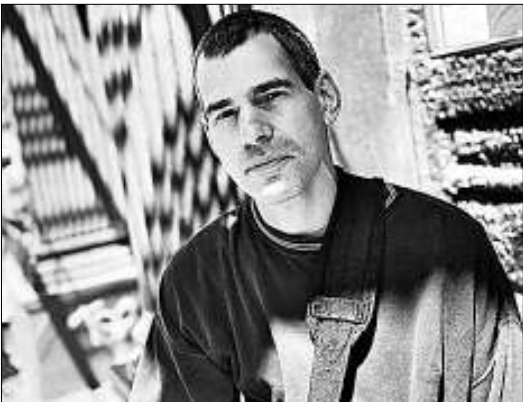
BY DAVE GOOD

If **Ben Monder** were a painter, not a jazz-fusion guitarist, he would be an impressionist. Monder messes with boundaries in the way of 19th-century artists like Claude Monet, who stepped away from realism and changed the way he applied paint to canvas. By shedding photographic mimicry and slavish attention to detail, Monet and his contemporaries were able to create dazzling, if muted, impressions of light and of movement. Monder's tripped-out jazz works on a listener's senses in like manner.

Monder's style is a mess of taboos — he blends dissimilar genres like bluegrass fingerpicking, hard rock, and bluesy, single-chord exploration. By manipulating structure

and rhythm, and by refusing to bow to convention, his music has the sound of something it is not: that airy style of music that in the '70s critics and earth mothers alike called New Age.

Back in the day, you heard New Age at group meditations, in vegan restaurants, and in the waiting rooms of naturopaths. It mellowed one's anxieties like a head full of incense. In 1969, Manfred Eicher and his ECM Records released a kind of jazz that predated New Age, and I'm surprised that Monder, a New York session giant with decades of credits as a sideman to notables like Jack McDuff and Lee Konitz, isn't signed with the German label. ECM had a lock on the emerging New Age sound with a roster that included names like Keith Jarrett and Pat Metheny. Monder fits right in. There is a passing temptation to dub Monder a Pat Metheny lite, but a more informed listen puts



BEN MONDER

Monder in the pocket of Wes Montgomery — if only the late guitarist could have unchained his own pedagogic style and allowed it to drift into the cosmos.

BEN MONDER, Dizzy's, Sunday, September 24, 7 p.m. 858-270-7467. \$15; \$10 students

Calendar BANDS

ALTERNATIVE

Airport 81: Whistle Stop Bar

All Time Low: Soma

As Blood Runs Black: The Jumping Turtle

Atlas of Id: Epicentre

The Binge: The Zombie Lounge

Brave Monster: Dreamstreet

Buffalo: The Beauty Bar

Carnifex: The Jumping Turtle

Delta Spirit: The Beauty Bar

Demob: The Jumping Turtle

The Drams: Brick By Brick

Driven A.D.: The Blvd. (San Marcos)

Elysia: The Jumping Turtle

Ensemble: The Casbah

The Envelopes: The Casbah

Ever So Good: The Jumping Turtle

The Eyes of an Era: Soma

Fairlane: Epicentre

Farewell Darla: The Jumping Turtle

50 Foot Wave: Brick By Brick

Flatline: The Blvd. (San Marcos)

A Flock of Seagulls: Belly Up Tavern

The Glossines: The Casbah

Gossip: The Casbah

I Am Ghost: Soma

I Like Girls: The Kensington Club

The Iris Code: The Zombie Lounge

Joanzetta: Soma

Jokes for Feelings: Dreamstreet

The Jury: The Kensington Club

The Kite Flying Society: The Casbah

The Kottonmouth Kings: House of Blues

The Lawrence Arms: Soma

Le Meu Le Purr: Soma

Life or Death: The Jumping Turtle

Longstay: Epicentre

The Material: Epicentre

The Micromaniacs: The Rhythm Lounge

Mika Miko: The Casbah

The Mission of Burma: Brick By Brick

The Modern Day Rifles: The Zombie Lounge

moe.: Belly Up Tavern

Mouthful of Snow: Epicentre

Mower: House of Blues

Mute Math: Soma

Needlemouth: The Blvd. (San Marcos)

Negative Filter: 'Canes

No Dice: The Zombie Lounge

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September 22

September 21

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THU 09.28
DJ G•ROY
FRI 09.29
DJ THERON
SAT 09.30

Calendar
BANDS

ALTERNATIVE
(continued)

Orion Frequency: Dreamstreet
The Outline: Soma
Outside View: The Jumping Turtle
The Ovals of Cassini: 'Canes
Over It: Soma
Panther: The Casbah
The Pillars of Autumn: Epicentre
The Psychedelic Furs: House of Blues
Push to Talk: The Beauty Bar
Ratatat: The Casbah
The Real You: Epicentre
Rogue Wave: Belly Up Tavern
The Rosery: The Jumping Turtle
Reuben's Accomplice: The Casbah
Saosin: Soma
Shiny Toy Guns: Soma
Six Foot Deathtrap: The Blvd. (San Marcos)
The Spots: The Kensington Club
Stripped Down Hollywood: Epicentre
Swan Island: The Casbah
13 Killings: The Jumping Turtle
This Is the Hospital: Soma
Toys That Kill: The Casbah
Treasure Mammal: Whistle Stop Bar

Vaux: Soma
Waterburnbaby: The Kensington Club
Weatherbox: Epicentre
White Buffalo: House of Blues
The Wise Monkey Orchestra: Winstons
Yesterday's Rising: Soma

ROCK

Amber Pacific: Soma
American Hitmen: Dreamstreet
The Army of Me: Brick By Brick
The Bandits: Soma
The Blackout: Soma
The Brat Pack: Henry's Pub
Brazil: Soma
Buddha Grinder: Dreamstreet
The Buzzbombs: Tower Bar
Crash Carter: The Calypso Cafe
Changing Names: Dreamstreet
Chapter 14: The Jumping Turtle
Collage Menage: Fannie's Nightclub
Jason Collett: Belly Up Tavern
Criminal Funk: Patrick's II
Custard Pie: The Kraken
Da Groove: Woody's Sports Bar
The Damnwells: Brick By Brick
The Draft: Soma
The Dukes of Haggard: The Kensington Club
The 86'd: Dick's Last Resort
The Electric Waste Band: Winstons
Exit 21: San Diego Sports Club

NOTE

BY WILLIAM CRAIN

If there's one thing journalists say when they write about **TV on the Radio** (and they write about TV on the Radio a lot), it's that the band sounds like no one else. I decided to put that to a test. Pandora is a new website that promises an Internet radio station tailored to your tastes. Type in an artist or a song title, and it will play music that resembles your choice. What makes the process different from other services is that Pandora uses something called the Music Genome Project, in which a staff of supposed experts describes music according to general musicological terms.

I typed in "TV on the Radio," and Pandora said the band's sound is typified by "extensive vamping, mixed acoustic and electric instruments, mixed minor- and major-key tonality," and other factors. It then played a TV on the Radio song that met the description. But the next song was an electronic-sounding thing called "Blood on the Microphone Part 1" by Gerling. Not quite right. Later I heard "Ways and Means" by Snow Patrol. Not a bad song, but, to my ears, not reminiscent of TV on the Radio. But then Pandora came up with a song by Minimal Compact, an Israeli post-punk band from the early '80s. It had the same kind of intense, claustrophobic feel that TV on the Radio's music has. So is TV on the Radio's sound unique?



TV ON THE RADIO

Apparently not. But if you have to dig all the way to an obscure Israeli post-punk band from 25 years ago, let's say close enough.

TV ON THE RADIO, Soma, Monday, September 25, 7 p.m. 619-226-7662. \$16.

Fish and the Seaweeds: Beaumont's

Foreign Born: Belly Up Tavern
The Forsaken Truth: Dreamstreet
Mike Gardner: Mas Fina Cantina
Geezer: Fannie's Nightclub
Getty: Brick By Brick

The Ghost of Sada: Dick's Last Resort
Gimick: The Jumping Turtle

Gone to Oblivion: The Jumping Turtle

Gross Misconduct: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub
Rich Hardesty: 'Canes
Harmony Road: McP's Irish Pub and Grill

The Taylor Harvey Band: Humphrey's

The Hillstreet Strangers: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

Honeycut: House of Blues

Hot Rod Lincoln: Coyote Bar and Grill
Illicit Behavior: Surf N'Saddle

JX3: Molly Malone's

Justin James & the Sons of Beaches: 710 Beach Club

Joey & the Sting Rays: Downtown Cafe

Johnny Different: Dreamstreet

The Junior Boys: The Casbah

Just Surrender: Soma

Red Lane: Coyote Bar and Grill, Patrick's II

Laserwolf & Thunderbolt: The Zombie Lounge

Led Zepagain: House of Blues

Left Hand Thread: Molly Malone's

Little by Little: Island Sports and Spirits

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6



marc broussard
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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14



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Tribute

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19



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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21

SPAZMATICS
80's Tribute

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Calendar

BANDS

ROCK

(continued)

Maritime: The Casbah

Married by Elvis: Winstons

Me, My Brother, and a Guy Named Ray: The Kensington Club

Moon Dance: Pal Joey's

The Morning Riot: The Zombie Lounge

The Mortars: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

Necrocide: Dreamstreet

The Neon Maniacs: The Jumping Turtle

9 Volt: JP's Pub

The Nipples: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

No Duh: 'Canes

Northstar: Coyote Bar and Grill

Off Track: The Jumping Turtle

One Inch: Dreamstreet

The Perils of Being: The Zombie Lounge

Pickford's Party: Hennessey's Tavern (PB)

The Prey: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

Private Domain: Dick's Last Resort

Race Against Space: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

Ranking Joe: Winstons

Billy Raphael: Dreamstreet

Red Flag Warning: The Zombie Lounge

The Reservoir Tips: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

The Rhythm Method: Coyote Bar and Grill

The Rhythm Stompers: Tower Bar

Riot House: Tiki House

Rock Dirty Raw: Tiki House

The Rocketz: The Zombie Lounge

The Rockoholics: Second Wind (San Carlos)

Ron's Garage: Hotel del Coronado

Eve Selis: The Calypso Cafe

Semi: 710 Beach Club

Serious Guise: Second Wind (Santee)

The Sex Pistols Experience: The Casbah

Sherwood: Soma

Shitgiveits: The Jumping Turtle

Silver State: The Zombie Lounge

The Simple Minded Soldiers: 710 Beach Club

Slab City: Tower Bar

The Slackers: The Zombie Lounge

Spo-Dee-O-Dee: Tower Bar

The Steely Damned: Humphrey's

The Stepping Feet: Whiskey Girl
Stevi Lynn & Triple Threat: Surf N'Saddle

The Stilettos: Island Sports and Spirits, Henry's Pub

Sultry Savage: The Kensington Club

Superna: Dreamstreet

Sweet Tooth: Brick By Brick, O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

George Thorogood: Belly Up Tavern

Unknown Motive: The Jumping Turtle

Uptown Groove: Dirk's Niteclub

When in Rome: Belly Up Tavern

Whiskey Tango: Brick By Brick

The Widows: Tower Bar

The Wild Truth: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

Wonderstruck: 710 Beach Club

Zero to None: The Jumping Turtle

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The Love Rangers: The Alley

Rick Lyon: The Imperial House

The M-80's: Jimmy Love's

The Reaganomics: Viejas Casino

JAZZ / BIG BAND

Burnett Anderson: Cafe LaMaze

The B-3 Four: Vesuvio Gourmet Restaurant

The Ray Barrie Big Band: The German-American Societies

Tom Bishop: Rancho Bernardo Inn

Ray Briz: Hotel del Coronado

Bruce Cameron: Coyote Bar and Grill

Sammy Canonizado: Cafe LaMaze

Sandy Chappel: Cafe LaMaze

The CREDIT Union: Ocean House

Jo Dark: The German-American Societies

Julio de la Huerta: The Westgate Hotel

The Dirty Dozen Brass Band: Belly Up Tavern

Randy Fontaine & the Swingers: La Playa Cantina & Grill

The Jim Gala Jazz Trio: Kitima Thai Restaurant

Karen Giorgio: The Westgate Hotel

The High Society Jazz Band: Tio Leo's Lounge

Alfred Howard & the K23 Orchestra: Belly Up Tavern

Insight: Jimmy Love's

Keith Jacobsen: St. Tropez Bistro and Bakery

Barbara Jamerson: Hotel del Coronado

The Jazz Project Big Band: Padre Gold

Tony Lasley: Hotel del Coronado

Barry Levich: La Valencia Hotel

Chris Lightcap: Dizzy's

Stellita and Dave Lindgren: Hotel del Coronado

Fran Loskota: The Westgate Hotel

Masterpiece: Jimmy Love's

Jerry Melnick: The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe, Rancho Bernardo Inn

The Shep Meyers Quartet: Croce's Jazz Bar

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Ben Monder: Dizzy's

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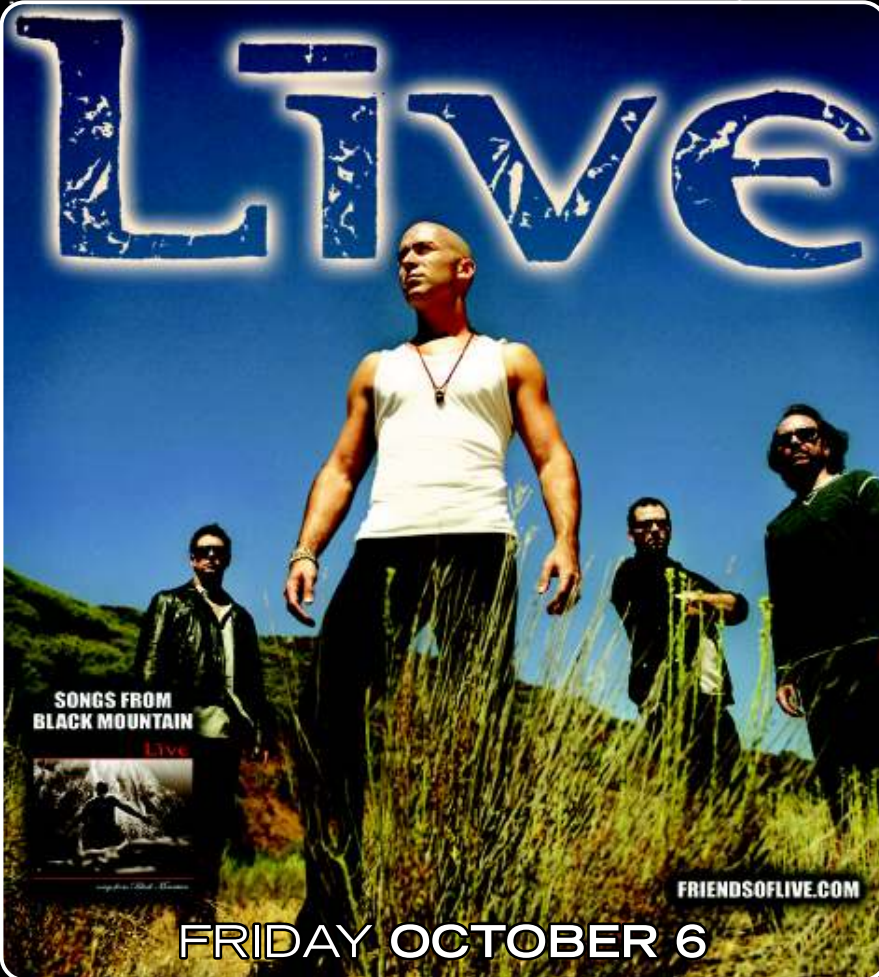
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Calendar BANDS

JAZZ / BIG BAND

(continued)

David Mosby: Vesuvio Gourmet Restaurant

Mike Nelson: Sogno Di Vino, The Lodge at Torrey Pines

The New Breed Band: Dick's Last Resort

Faith Page: The Westgate Hotel

Dan Papaila: The Lodge at Torrey Pines

The David Patrone Quartet: Croce's Jazz Bar

Primo: Belly Up Tavern, Croce's Jazz Bar

Calvin Romance: Humphrey's

Rick Ross: La Valencia Hotel

Sambajazz: Beach Grass Cafe

The San Diego Concert Jazz Band: The Inn Suites

Dave Scott: Croce's Jazz Bar

John Scott & the Magnificents: The Calypso Cafe

Robert Sebastini: Cafe LaMaze

Reggie Smith & Pressed for Time: Humphrey's

The Soul Revue: Jimmy Love's

Soul Seduction: Jack's La Jolla

Peter Sprague: Ki's Coffee On Top

The Swingtime Orchestra: Viejas Casino

The Third Coast Jazz Band: South Bay Fish and Grill

Jaime Valle: Tutto Mare

Vintage Vegas: Martini's Bar and Grill

Scott Wallingford: Cafe LaMaze

Willovealot: Thrusters, Galileo 101

The Wize Guyz: Tommy's Italian Restaurant

Yavez: Croce's Jazz Bar

REGGAE / SKA

Common Sense: Belly Up Tavern

Dread Daze: Winstons

Kush & Blood Fiyah Angels: Winstons

The Mana Poly All-Stars: 'Canes

Rebel Music: Fallbrook Golf Club

The San Diego Island Boys: The Gordon Biersch Brewery

Uplift: The Calypso Cafe

COUNTRY

Benchmark: Don's Cocktail Lounge

The California Rangers: McCabe's Beach Club

Cash'd Out: The Kensington Club

Cowboy Jack: Pala Mesa Resort

The High Rolling Loners: Winstons

Nitro Express: Whiskey Girl

Shoestring Strap: Winstons

Whiskey Ridge: Renegade Inn

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Bluegrass Social: E Street Cafe

J.D. Boucharde: Princess Pub and Grille

Aaron Bowen: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company

Steve Brewer: Blarney Stone Pub, McP's Irish Pub and Grill

The Brothers Nazrat: E Street Cafe

The Buddy Wuddies: Lestat's Coffee House

Phil Carrillo: Beaumont's

Dani Carroll: Lestat's Coffee House

The Celtic Ensemble: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company

Stasia Conger: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company

Tony Cummins: Blarney Stone Pub

Curumin: House of Blues

Christopher Dale: Tiki House

Rosie Flores: AcousticMusicSanDiego

Allison Gill: Blarney Stone Pub

The Green Water District: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company

Tommy Guerrero: House of Blues

Hargo: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company

Harold's Renegade Band: Hooley's Irish Pub and Grill

Bradley Hathaway: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company

Thomas Hodges: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company

Dave Howard: Lestat's Coffee House

John Hull: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company

Ben Ingraham: E Street Cafe

Jedi Israel: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company

Jack the Original: E Street Cafe

John January: E Street Cafe

Jennifer Jayden: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company

Tiff Jimber: Lestat's Coffee House

Johnson, Bosley, & Morin: Borders Books and Music (El Cajon)

Courtney Jones: Humphrey's, Lestat's Coffee House

Darel Junior: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company

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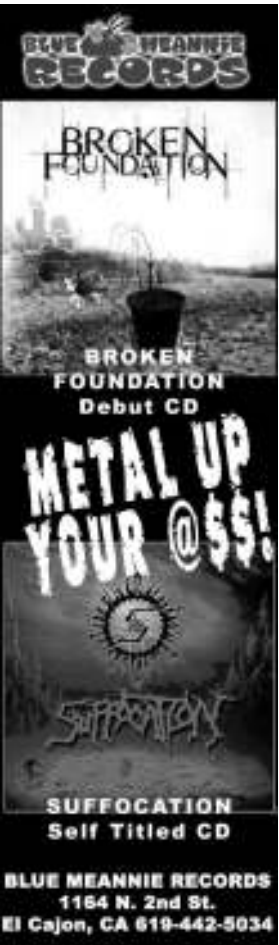
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Near Misses

"I'm the only woman in this business who doesn't have a past."

It isn't fair. Anyone asked to perform as Ella Fitzgerald will trigger comparisons. And no one — not now, not ever — will measure up to "The First Lady of Song." Ella sang circles around everyone else without, it seemed, even trying. Her voice was the exact opposite of effort. Lighter than air, stiletto-sharp, she exuded ballads and scat-sang buoyant bullets and was always Mozart-clear.

REVIEW

JEFF SMITH

Tina Fabrique performs as Fitzgerald in *Ella*, a concert-with-words biography of the musical genius. Fabrique is very good (Broadway credits include *Bring in Da Noise*, *Dessa Rose*, and *Ragtime*) and has an excellent rapport with her audience during the two-act show. It's just that — and it's probably unfair to say this — she isn't empyrean.

Ella never sang the blues because, she says, she "lived them" and refused to parade her suffering in public. "I'm the only woman in this business who doesn't have a past," Fabrique/Ella tells her audience. It's July 1966. A concert in Nice will be taped for posterity. Her producer, Norman Granz wants Ella to "patter" about her life between songs. In Jeffrey Hatcher's script, she speaks of failed marriages, child abuse, and an estranged son (a reunion with whom feels dramatically forced). Some "stars" need their images bolstered by tabloid talk (they wouldn't be stars without it). But Ella put her pain into the music and through some mystical alchemy turned the

dress to gold. Genuine artists don't need *Access Hollywood* exposés. Only their work matters. And quite frankly, I don't give a hoot about Van Gogh's ear. He suffered. Who doesn't? Just give me those sunflowers and that hyper-starry night.

Fabrique looks a bit like Fitzgerald, especially when wearing glasses, and what Fabrique does quite well is evoke Ella in a kind of conjuration — and few can do even that.

Early in the evening, Fabrique demonstrates her own impressive versatility in "You'll Have to Swing It (Mr. Paganini)," a Whitman's sampler that metamorphoses from slow ballad to up-tempo, then shifts gears back and forth, then vaults into improvised scat (Ella called it "loosening" a song). "Paganini" is less known than favorites like "Night and Day" or "That Old Black Magic," but it puts the show on a fast track from which it rarely falters.

A tight four-piece band performs on an art deco stage, a platform of discs backed by tall beaded curtains and baked by John Lasiter's bold lemon and hot pink lighting. In Act Two Brian Sledge, a pinpoint-precise trumpeter, joins Fabrique and mimics Louis Armstrong. Their duet, in Gershwin's "Let's Call the Whole Thing Off," is one of many highlights.

For anyone familiar with Ken Ludwig's farces, an aura of déjà vu will shroud his *Leading Ladies*



Tina Fabrique in *Ella*

Ella, conceived by Rob Ruggiero and Dyke Garrison, book by Jeffrey Hatcher

San Diego Repertory Theatre, 79 Horton Plaza, downtown

Directed by Rob Ruggiero; cast: Tina Fabrique, John Rosen, George Caldwell (piano), Brian Sledge (trumpet), Frank Derrick (drums), Brian Walsh (bass); scenic design, Michael Schweikardt; costumes, Alejo Vietti; lighting, John Lasiter; sound, Michael Micelli; musical direction and arrangements, Danny Holgate

Playing through October 15; Wednesday through Saturday at 8:00 p.m. Sunday at 7:00 p.m. Matinee Sunday at 2:00 p.m. 619-544-1000.

Leading Ladies, by Ken Ludwig

North Coast Repertory Theatre, 987-D Lomas Santa Fe Drive, Solana Beach

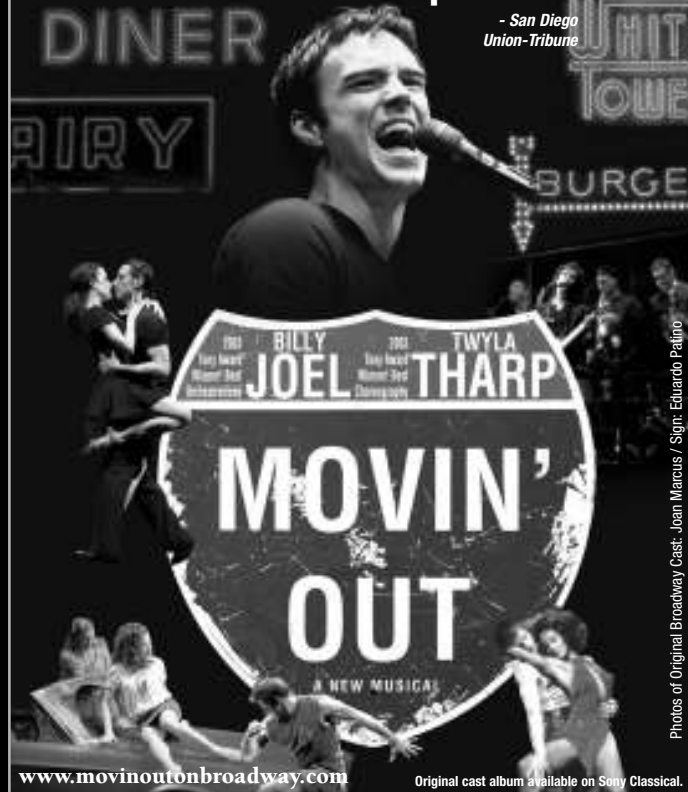
Directed by John Seibert; cast: Marty Burnett, John Herzog, Brenda Hogan, Phil Johnson, Max Macke, Jeannine Marquie, Sally Stockton, Matt Thompson; scenic design, Marty Burnett; costumes, Jeanne Reith; lighting, Chris Rynne; sound, Chris Luessmann

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Phil Johnson, Brenda Hogan, Matt Thompson in *Leading Ladies*

at North Coast Rep. The play's about two down-and-out British Shakespeareans of questionable acting skill. Leo Clark and Jack Gable (the last names, yeah...yeah...) tour small towns in the U.S. Perched financially on "rock bottom," they pose as the long-lost nieces of a wealthy dowager to inherit her fortune. They dress as Cleopatra and Titania and invade the York, Pennsylvania, home of young Meg, who adores things thespian. Shenanigans ensue, slowly.

Ludwig has twin Flo Ziegfelds in his book for *Crazy for You* and twin Otellos in *Lend Me a Tenor*, the 1930s showbiz farce that uses gags from the period. *Ladies* feels like *Tenor* plagiarized. Another showbiz farce, it's set in 1958 and ransacks Ludwig's previous plays — not to mention superior cross-dressing works like *Twelfth Night*, *Some Like It Hot*, and even *Charley's Aunt* — for comedic bits. The show's so formulaic it must be a send-up. It isn't. And its construction's so sketchy it takes almost forever to load in a situation and then reload for the next.

The women's costumes are uncomfortable on the men. This gets a laugh the first time, though not the tenth. Clark's five o'clock shadow's a dead giveaway that all (though maybe not Meg) are blind to. Schemes fail. New ones get devised. Then someone wants to see the woman, and the man playing her, at the same time.

Though farce calls for the lightest of touches, the North Coast cast labors to make the script funny. Genuine laughs come from unscripted mo-

ments: Chris Luessmann's excellent sound design dopplers a ringing railroad crossing every time Leo has an idea; and Brenda Hogan does a terrific Marlon Brando imitation (especially when coming from her unlikely character, Audrey, a literate ditz). Funniest of all: scenic designer Marty Burnett, whose detailed 1950s living room spins on a turntable into a Moose lodge hall, does the scene changes while dancing a strange jig — and you *know* he's putting the furniture exactly where he wanted it.

As if sprung from a chipper '50s sitcom, Jeannine Marquie sparkles as naïve Meg. And Phil Johnson's a kick as harried Leo (though his Maxine gets a mite shrill). Individual efforts make the show, at best, intermittently funny, but they don't overcome the skeletal script's penchant for taking its sweet time to unfold a bit. ■

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.

Ain't You Heard?

Langston Hughes had no idea that when he began writing sketches about Jesse B. Semple ("just be simple"), for the *Chicago Defender* in 1943, that he would continue them for decades and that Jesse and his friends would become an essential part of Americana. For the Ira

Aldridge Repertory Players, multi-talented Charmen Jackson wove the early Semple stories into a dramatic narrative. Though married (and spending late nights with Zarita), Jesse's in love with Miss Joyce. But in order to marry her, he'll need to swing some finances and do some growing up. The opening-night performance was a bit shaky, at first. Once it settled in, the 13-scene, 90-minute piece was both funny and wise. Whether he's acting, reciting Hughes's poetry ("I slept like a rock, or a man that's dead") or singing "Lament Over Love," Leonard Patton's terrific as Jesse, the outspoken man hailed as "the Black Aristotle." Hughes didn't consider Semple an Everyman. "It's impossible to live in Harlem and not know at least a hundred Semples, fifty Joyces, twenty-five Zaritas, or reasonable facsimiles thereof." Andrea Purnell (Joyce), Ida Rhem (Zarita), Lawrence Brown (Sonny), and Patrick Kelly (Darby) bring these immensely popular figures to life.

Worth a try.

EXPRESS STAGE, ACOUSTIC EXPRESS, 2852 UNIVERSITY AVENUE, NORMAL HEIGHTS, THROUGH OCTOBER 7; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:30 P.M. 619-283-4574.

Attorney for the Damned: Clarence Darrow

As Joe Nesnow portrays the life of the famous lawyer, you begin to wonder who the "defender of the underdog" *didn't* represent. Darrow's cases constitute a who's who of American legal history: socialists Eugene V. Debs and "Big Bill" Haywood, the McNamara brothers' bombing of the L.A. Times, the Scopes "Monkey" Trial, Leopold and Loeb. In each he fought injustice — and paid an emotional price for every battle (including his marriage). It doesn't take Nesnow long to become Darrow: a gentle, engaging rapport with his audience, a rage at stupidity and intolerance, and, most of all, a fearless conviction. Nothing stood in his way. Would this were true of David W. Rintels's wordy, overlong, badly paced script. The play moves chronologically through Darrow's life and feels compelled to cover all of it. The result is a two-hour, episodic ramble that begs for a major edit (Rintels often takes longer to set up a scene than present it). After a while, the script works against Nesnow's finely etched performance. The playwright's words upstage him.

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A Conversation with Edith Head

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Copenhagen

Few conversations in the 20th Century have been subject to more speculation than the one Werner Heisenberg had with Niels Bohr in September 1941. Did the famed physicists — Heisenberg working for the Third Reich; Bohr, a Jew, in German-occupied Denmark — talk about the morality of atomic warfare, or about building the bomb? Michael Frayn's play recreates the meeting, again and again, and uses their theories ("The Uncertainty Principle" and "Complementarity") as part of his dramatic structure: as we learn about the event, and we learn a ton, we feel closer to and farther from what actually happened. I don't know how he does it, but for Cygnet Theatre's production, Joshua Everett Johnson turns Heisenberg into a maze of flickering possibilities. He's truly contrite. No. He's lying! So he's sly and manipulative. Jim Chovick's kindly, crusty Bohr does similar flips (he's as fatherly as the Pope, but how many lives did his theories destroy?). The playwright makes Bohr's wife, Margrethe, like the nucleus of an atom. Bohr and Heisenberg whirl around her (literally, at one point) like electrons (now a particle, now a wave; and try

to see both at the same time). Rosina Reynolds gives her pressure-cooker intensity. She's seconds from going atomic. *Copenhagen* is a deep, and deeply cerebral drama. Yet it doesn't feel "thinky." We get the equivalent of lectures on physics. But the mystery's always more important than the math, and, most crucial of all, the answer means so much to these three people. They really need to know.

Critic's pick.

CYGNET THEATRE, 6663 EL CAJON BOULEVARD, COLLEGE AREA, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 24; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-337-1525, X3.

Edward II

The Collective presents Christopher Marlowe's drama about England's King and his love for Galveston, a commoner. Petr Cirino directed.

NEW WORLD STAGE, 917 NINTH AVENUE, DOWNTOWN, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 24; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 858-503-0881.

Ella

Reviewed this issue. SAN DIEGO REPERTORY THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN, THROUGH OCTOBER 15; WEDNESDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY (AND SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23) AT 2:00 P.M. 619-544-1000.

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SUNDAY, TUESDAY, AND WEDNESDAY AT 7:00 P.M. THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-239-2255.

The Green Valley Gusher

As part of Poway Days activities, PowPac Theater stages the melodrama about an oil well that runs dry and poor Sweet Felicity. Will her suitor, William, save the day? POWPAC THEATER, 13250 POWAY ROAD (UPSTAIRS AT THE LIVELY CENTER), POWAY, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, THROUGH SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, AT 7:00 P.M. 858-679-8085.

Leading Ladies

Reviewed this issue.

NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987 LOMAS SANTA FE DRIVE, SOLANA BEACH, THROUGH OCTOBER 8; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 858-481-1055.

Macbeth

The Excellent Motion Shakespeare Company performs Shakespeare's tragedy with "Renaissance style" staging. Benjamin Curns directed. MAR VISTA HIGH SCHOOL, 505 ELM AVENUE, IMPERIAL BEACH, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, AND FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22; NORMAL HEIGHTS COMMUNITY CENTER, 4649 HAWLEY BOULEVARD, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, AND THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, AT 7:30 P.M. 619-283-1752.

Mac Wellman: Live in San Diego!

Vox Nova Theatre Company presents Obie Award-winning playwright Mac Wellman, who will give a talk (on Sunday, September 24) and whose plays will receive staged readings (on Monday, September 25).

"A CONVERSATION WITH MAC WELLMAN," NEW WORLD STAGE, 917 NINTH

AVENUE, DOWNTOWN, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, AT 7:00 P.M., 619-374-6894; STAGED READINGS OF *THREE AMERICANISMS* AND *PSYCHOLOGY*, LYCEUM THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, AT 7:00 P.M., 619-544-1000.

A Midsummer Night's Dream

You could subtitle Darko Tresnjak's staging of Shakespeare's comedy, "Dude, you would not believe how I spent my summer vacation!" Four teens graduate from an academy (late 19th/early 20th Century). To escape repressive Athens they hie to the woods, with suitcases, tennis rackets, and a teddy bear, and things fall apart. The production has Tresnjak's hallmarks: reverence for the text and irreverence for individual moments (there's an infectious sense of play here; the cast's obviously encouraged to invent freely). Imbued with rah-rah idealism, at first, and later with teenage angst, the lovers — Eve Danzeisen, David Villalobos, Owiso Odfera, and Julie Jesneck — are both distinct individuals and a sharp ensemble. The mechanicals, however, aren't "rude" enough (especially Jonathan Peck's stylish, studied Bottom the Weaver), and young Michael Drummond lacks the chops, and the menace, for Puck. York Kennedy's bold-day/mystical-night lighting, Christopher R. Walker's music, and especially Michael Urie's dual roles as Francis Flute and Thisbe are big plusses. In a play full of Ovidian metamorphoses, Urie does one of the best: as Flute is about to play the suffering Thisbe, something touches him, and the character takes over so completely you wonder who was more real, Flute or the role that transformed him. Which was "airy nothing," and which "something of great constancy"?

Worth a try.

LOWELL DAVIES FESTIVAL THEATRE, SIMON EDISON CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, BALBOA PARK, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 29. (NOTE: A *MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM* RUNS IN REPERTORY WITH *OTHELLO* AND *TITUS ANDRONICUS*; FOR DAYS AND TIMES OF EACH, CALL 619-239-2255.)

My Way: A Musical Tribute to Frank Sinatra

The Welk Resort Theatre presents a musical revue of "Old Blue Eyes" opus. WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8860 LAWRENCE WELK DRIVE, ESCONDIDO, THROUGH NOVEMBER 12; TUESDAY, THURSDAY, AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE TUESDAY THROUGH THURSDAY, AND SUNDAY, AT 1:45 P.M. 760-749-3448.

Nothing Sacred

South Coast Repertory Theatre presents George F. Walker's "serious comedy" about Bazarov, a young rebel who effects a reconciliation and tries to "overrun sacredly held principles of the establishment." Martin Benson directed. SEGERSTROM STAGE, SOUTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 655 TOWN CENTER DRIVE, COSTA MESA, THROUGH OCTOBER 8; SUNDAY AND TUESDAY AT 7:30 P.M., WEDNESDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:30 P.M. 714-708-5555.

The Oldest Profession

North Park Vaudeville and Candy Shoppe stages Paula Vogel's comedy about five aging hookers struggling to "stay in the life." NORTH PARK VAUDEVILLE AND CANDY SHOPPE, 2031 EL CAJON BOULEVARD, NORTH PARK, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-647-4958.

On Golden Pond

OnStage Playhouse presents Ernest Thompson's drama about a family's summer home in Maine. Bruce Wilde directed. ONSTAGE PLAYHOUSE, 291 THIRD AVENUE, CHULA VISTA, THROUGH OCTOBER 7; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-422-7787.

Othello

"Have you prayed tonight, Desdemona?" — one of Shakespeare's most chilling lines, in the Jesse Berger-directed production's best scene. When she realizes Othello wants to murder her, Julie Jesneck's Desdemona battles for life and seems to become even more innocent, more loving. Jonathan Peck's sonorous Othello matches this urgency. The clash of the guiltless bride and stone-hearted warrior is at once primal, infuriating beyond belief — because this should *not* be happening — and deeply moving. The only irksome perfor-

mance in an otherwise smartly staged *Othello*: Karl Kenzler runs Iago all over the map, from frat-brother/prankster to Halloween goblin. Kenzler's too facile in a role that requires some effort at dismantling the Moor, some surprise that his schemes are working. Dressed in Elizabethan garb, including white circular collars, the supporting cast does quality work (especially Michael A. Newcomer's two-faced Cassius, and Cileste Ciulla's Emilia, Iago's wife who, the angrier she gets, the more she becomes the play's *raisonneur*). York Kennedy's lighting sculpts scenes and Christopher R. Walker creates moods with half-heard, long-held notes.

Worth a try.

LOWELL DAVIES FESTIVAL THEATRE, SIMON EDISON CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, BALBOA PARK, THROUGH OCTOBER 1. (NOTE: *OTHELLO* RUNS IN REPERTORY WITH A *MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM* AND *TITUS ANDRONICUS*; FOR DAYS AND TIMES, CALL 619-239-2255.)

Readings of August Wilson's Plays: Seven Guitars

The San Diego Black Ensemble and Cygnet Theatre could do for the late August Wilson what "Grassroots Greeks" did for ancient Greek drama in San Diego. The companies present a series of staged readings of one of the American theater's rarely performed, but most important playwrights. Twice winner of the Pulitzer Prize (for *Fences* in 1987 and *The Piano Lesson* in 1990), Wilson wrote a cycle of dramas that probe the African-American experience through the decades of the 20th Century (he concentrated, he said, on the "largest idea that confronted blacks in each decade"). The readings will also be staged at the Performance Annex in City Heights and other locations. The series will culminate in a week-long staged reading festival of all the plays at Cygnet in June 2007. Next offering: Rhys Greene directs *Seven Guitars*. **Worth a try.** CYGNET THEATRE, 6663 EL CAJON BOULEVARD, COLLEGE AREA, THROUGH MAY 8; *SEVEN GUITARS*: MONDAY, OCTOBER 23, AND TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, AT 7:30 P.M. HORACE MANN MIDDLE SCHOOL, 4345 54TH STREET, CITY HEIGHTS, MONDAY, OCTOBER 30, AT 7:30 P.M. FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF READINGS AND LOCATIONS, CALL 619-337-1525, X3.

Romeo and Juliet

For its Tenth Annual Free Shakespeare Festival, the Coronado Playhouse presents the Bard's tragedy of star-crossed lovers. Keith A. Anderson directed. CORONADO PLAYHOUSE PAVILION, 1335 FIRST STREET, CORONADO, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 24; THURSDAY THROUGH SUNDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-435-4856.

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San Diego Theatresports: The FunHouse
A cross between improvisational comedy and *Family Feud*. Improv, making up a funny scene as you go along, is tough enough. Add competitive scene making, with the audience awarding points to the winning team. Purists might balk at the odiousness of comparisons used in this format, but the “game show” — on Fridays — is a hoot. The 90-minute evening offers different bits. The show I caught had “Team Sports” — two pairs of players competed, taking suggestions from the audience; and “Gorilla Theatre” — five directors invented scenes, using the other four as actors. The winner got a banana, the loser a “forfeit” (other formats include “Micetro” and “Improv Survivors”). Some attempts went nowhere (I repeat: improv is tough; I did it in my, as hindsight reveals, callow youth). Others made amazing twists and turns. The group makes the hits much more frequent than the misses. Their guru, Keith Johnstone, wrote one of the very best books I’ve ever read about making theater. And they put his pearls to good use. Their

motto: “Remember, when it’s not funny, it’s art.”
Worth a try.
THE FUNHOUSE, 6822 EL CAJON BOULEVARD (BETWEEN 68TH AND 69TH), COLLEGE AREA, FRIDAY AT 7:45 P.M. SATURDAY AT 7:45 P.M. AND 9:45 P.M. 619-465-7469.

Six Women with Brain Death, or, Expiring Minds Want to Know
Patio Playhouse offers the popular, “take-no-prisoners satire” of life and popular culture.
PATIO PLAYHOUSE, 201 EAST GRAND AVENUE, SUITE 1D, ESCONDIDO, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, THROUGH OCTOBER 7; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, AT 2:00 P.M. 760-746-6669.

The Smell of the Kill
Dramama presents Michelle Lowe’s comedy about three “malicious wives” and their three “miserable, unloving husbands.” Stephen A. Rich directed.
STEVE STORC’S THEATRIX, 155 GRAND AVENUE, ESCONDIDO, PLAYING THROUGH OCTOBER 1; MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. SATURDAY (AND FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29) AT 8:00 P.M. 760-735-2491.

Titus Andronicus
Titus is the runt of Shakespeare’s litter. Most likely it was his first attempt at tragedy, and most critics wish the “lamentable” (in the modern sense) potboiler’d never been penned. The murders, rapes, and massacres of revenge tragedy rule with such ferocity it’s almost as if the play’s a deliberate send-up of the blood-bathed genre. For the Old Globe, inventive director Darko Tresnjak resets the lunacy in modern times. Titus, played by Leonard Kelly-Young as a vaguely sentient being/Fourth Stooge, wears fatigues. When Tamora, the evil Goth brought to Rome in a tiger cage, becomes “incorporate,” her posse dresses like a CEO’s sycophants. There are arresting moments (as when Melissa Condren’s mute, handless Lavinia enters, red powder spilling from her arms, and Charles Janasz applies shoelaces for tournaments while giving Marcus’s long, poetic speech). But way too often the production retreats from genuine emotion, or glosses over it with blatant shtick (as when a limb gets chainsawed off and the Beatles sing “I Want to Hold Your Hand”; or when tongueless Lavinia wants to say “hel-LOW” but can only say

“huh-whoa?”). If the play’s this bad, if it needs this much cutesie business, then why are we here? To learn that violence begets violence? And this should come as *news*? In effect, Tresnjak’s staging is a send-up of a send-up. That’s a double negative. It not only undercuts the play, it takes away an audience’s chance to respond, be it with revulsion or schadenfreudian glee.
LOWELL DAVIES FESTIVAL THEATRE, SIMON EDISON CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, BALBOA PARK, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30. (NOTE: *TITUS ANDRONICUS* RUNS IN REPERTORY WITH *OTHELLO* AND *A MIDSUMMER NIGHT’S DREAM*; FOR DAYS AND TIMES CALL 619-239-2255.)

Win, Place, or Die...My Jockeys Are Killing Me!
Mystery Cafe Dinner Theatre presents James Pascarella and Patricia Harris-Smith’s interactive “race-track romp.” It’s opening weekend at Upson Downs, and the Thoroughbred Club’ll never be the same. Pascarella directed.
IMPERIAL HOUSE RESTAURANT, 505 KALMIA STREET, HILLCREST, OPEN-ENDED RUN; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-544-1600.

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Viva Vivace!

When a respected, deluxe Italian kitchen that's previously featured only chefs FOB from Italy hires a Montana-born, Manhattan-seasoned top toque, it's time to taste again. Vivace's new chef, Bruce Logue, is a protégé of New York superstar chef Mario (Babbo) Batali. Batali is known for his authentic rustic Italian cooking — using every part of any animal that comes into his kitchen (including amateur apprentice chefs, if Bill Buford's best seller *Heat* is to be believed) — and his subtle innovations to the traditions.

Our friends Tom and Alma, themselves Italian-American, live near the restaurant, which is in the hotel at Carlsbad's Four Season's Aviara Resort, and we asked them to join us. Their son Rob and daughter-in-law Jennifer had just returned from a long stint in Italy — teaching, wandering, and enjoying zesty food wherever they roamed. They were mainly in Genoa, where even a workman's lunch is a feast. (Basil! Garlic! Fresh-caught seafood! Carrots two feet long, as sweet as candy!) We invited them, too, hoping to probe their experiences in current Italian cuisine.

You reach Vivace by a short walk through the hotel's first floor. The dining room is fancy but intimate; one area has a fireplace, although, this being high summer, that hardly registered. Outside a heated balcony patio offers a view of the grounds, a quiet alternative for dining in good weather.

We began with a tuna *crudo*. *Crudo*, the Venetian version of sashimi, is a great fad in New York — thanks in large part to chef David Pasternak, who started the craze at Battalli's seafood restaurant, Esca. So far, *crudo* is largely unknown here. If you look for it at the Little Italy restaurant named for it, you'll get regular Japanese/fusion sushi and sashimi, but I've heard that Stingaree may be putting a more authentic version on the menu. "*Crudo* is the freshest fish right off the boat, cut with the freshest, best, most flavorful olive oil, lemon juice, and sea salt," says chef Bruce. "It's gone a little further than that, of course, and some chefs are doing crazy things with it." Vivace's rendition is a standard-setter: An unmolded mini-tower of shredded tuna tartare, held together with red onion-marjoram "aioli" (minus any tastable garlic, so it should really be called "house-made mayo"), was topped with a slick of avocado mousse and surrounded by chilled cucumber broth. It was ethereal enough you could bribe Saint



PHOTOGRAPH BY JOE KLEIN

Peter with a portion to win your cloud in heaven.

A *salumi* plate is another New York/San Francisco food fashion you'll find at Vivace and rarely elsewhere in this area. (Region, which will close in late October, will feature house-made *salumi* the week of October 3.) Here, it arrived as a long dish

REVIEW

NAOMI WISE

showcasing thin slices of artisanal cured meats, topped by a chorus line of marinated mushrooms and a puff of frisée salad. Most of the meats were unfamiliar, and even our intelligent waitress couldn't remember all their names, beyond *sopressata*. These were made by two specialists — Batali's father Armandino, up in Seattle, and Paul Bertolli (formerly of Chez Panisse) in the Bay Area. I've been wondering about *salumi* for a long time — but the carnivore's collection here left me wondering about how people in Italy would eat it — straight up like this, or with just a few slices as part of an antipasti platter? The flavors and textures were zesty and interesting, but I wanted more contrasting ingredients (e.g., pickled or stuffed vegetables) to lend relief from the intensity of the meat pile (although the chef tells me that he includes more varied garnishes than Mario ever would).

While eating at Vivace several years ago, I enjoyed my first memorable taste of *burrata* ("buttery"), a special mozzarella with a seductively creamy center. At that meal, it was served at room temperature. This time, we apparently ordered it at a moment of experimentation, between the previous week's heated version, in a warm tomato broth, and the next week's room-temperature rendition, served as a Caprese with local heirloom tomatoes. Our cheese arrived slightly warmed in a small white bowl, surrounded on the plate by garnishes of imported prosciutto di Parma, Mission figs, and locally grown macadamia nuts. But the moment it was cut open, the cheese cooled, soon solidifying into dairy-flavored chewing gum in a pool of whey. Instead of sharing it around, I guess I should have put a napkin over my head, like a Frenchman embarrassed at eating *ortolans* (little songbirds), and hoovered it down.

All pastas and risotti can be ordered in appetizer-size portions, lending an opportunity to enjoy more of the restaurant's best dishes. The house makes its own soft pastas — orecchiette, papardelle, and stuffed skins, such as ravioli. The

Vivace

★★★½ (Very Good to Excellent)

Four Seasons Aviara Resort, Aviara Parkway and Four Seasons Point, Carlsbad, 760-603-3773.

HOURS: 6:00 p.m.–9:30 p.m. weekdays, until 10:00 Friday–Saturday.

PRICES: Appetizers, pastas, and risotti, \$15–\$29; entrées, \$29–\$38; desserts, \$5–\$10. Four-course chef tasting menu, \$62, or \$87 with paired wines.

CUISINE AND BEVERAGES: Contemporary, seasonal Northern Italian haute cuisine made with first-rate ingredients, including local organic produce. Superb but pricey international wine list emphasizing Italy; plenty by the glass at high markups.

PICK HITS: Tuna "crudo"; sheep's milk cheese agnolotti; risotto; veal tenderloin "al tartuffi"; desserts, especially house-made gelati and sorbets.

NEED TO KNOW: Reservations required, secured by credit card number; may be charged for no-shows. Validated valet parking. Heated balcony patio. "Casual-elegant" to dressy attire. Dining room may be noisy. About a half-dozen vegan starters and pastas.

Ratings reflect the reviewer's reaction to food, ambience, and service, with price taken into consideration. Menu listings and prices are subject to change.

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dough is laboriously mixed and rolled by hand, not by an industrial machine. Our spectacular agnolotti, with skins as thin as tissue paper, were plumped with fluffy sheep's-milk ricotta. They were garnished with young fava beans, shreds of prosciutto, and a "sauce" of melted imported butter thinned with light cream. Equally triumphant was a risotto made from Carnaroli rice (the ultimate risotto rice) cooked in lobster stock, with a firm-creamy texture. The dish included perfectly cooked Maine lobster tail and leaves of Thai basil, sharper and cleaner than the European basils.

"Black spaghetti" (colored with squid ink) with rock shrimp and Calabrese sausage is a close ap-



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proximation of a dish at Babbo. It proved controversial at our table, since the hearty noodles were cooked firm. “Are you happy?” Tom asked Alma. “They made it just right for you — *al dente*.” “Well, I’d rather have it raw, but if they have to cook it, this is perfect,” she admitted (or jested, I wasn’t sure which). For my partner and me, the black strands gleaming with oil were closer to “al Dante,” as in *Inferno*. They looked sinister and required powerful chewing. The shrimp were sweet and mild, the sausage bits so scant and gentle that they were lost among the ebony ropes. But our friends wiped the bowl clean.

We divided our entrée choices between sea and land. The main-dish accompaniments alter frequently, according to what’s available and at its peak, so if you go to the restaurant tomorrow, you’ll probably find changes to every plate. Vivace’s chef and sous-chef do the purchasing for all the restaurants in the hotel, and that task includes foraging among local farms and artisans for the region’s best produce, cheeses, and chocolates.

The wood-fired ahi was a table favorite — a fine piece of fish, with grillmarks on the surface and a center as scarlet as a rare steak. It came with a smoked and sweetened eggplant caponata scattered with currants, along with broccolini and small, tender calamari rings and tentacles. Everything was perfectly cooked and well matched.

Pacific snapper “In Umido” was a skin-on fillet rubbed with seasonings and citrus, then steamed in an Asian bamboo basket. Our waitress said that the process “sucks the spices down through the skin and into the fish.” Well, not exactly —

the skin is an impermeable barrier in fish, and the flesh just tasted like good snapper. The accompaniment was an interesting sweet-sour mixture of corn and citrus juices with a powerfully astringent kick.

An Alaskan halibut fillet was moist and as tasty as this mild species is likely to be. I loved the vegetables around it, including heirloom carrots, fresh shell beans, and especially the tiny sweet cipollini onions from Crow’s Pass Farms.

A combination of “wood-fired pork loin” and braised pork belly reminded me of the similar combination I’d recently enjoyed at Blanca. The belly was rich and soft, but the loin was, to my taste, a tad overcooked. The vegetables included pieces of braised fresh Tuscan artichoke heart pickled in-house and broccolini with sautéed red pepper. Soft polenta provided a soothing note.

Flawlessly cooked veal tenderloin “al Tartufi” came with slices of mild summer truffles mingling with wild mushrooms to form a sauce for the meat. A single medium-size piece of floured fried sweetbread was rich and bouncy. Here, garnishes were fresh golden and red currants, fingerling potatoes roasted too dry, and a few de-veined leaves of mustard greens.

A New York steak arrived with multicolored mustards in separate ramekins — an herbal green one colored with parsley; an olive green honey-mustard; and a dark-red Italian fruit *mostarda*, sharp and sweet and irresistible. The steak came precisely medium-rare, as Alma ordered it. “I think the restaurant is even better than it was before,” she said. “I especially like the way the veggies vary from plate to plate.”

Unbeknownst to us, there

are also off-menu items that the servers offer to — the few? The proud? The hotel guests? These are a 40-ounce dry-aged USDA Prime grade prime rib (for \$95) and a small, juicy roasted “Babbo chicken.” Both are sized for a foursome to share. (Forty ounces of marbled cow? I think you could stretch that to feed a few more.)

The elaborate desserts by French-born pastry chef Frank Riffaud include thick, rich gelati and refreshing sorbetti; we loved the intense black cherry-flavored sorbet. A creamy panna cotta based on yogurt and honey was interesting, although, according to Rob, it strayed far from the airy versions he’d been eating in Italy. A peach and pistachio mousse parfait was topped with so much whipped cream that I lost patience digging through the clouds to reach the fruit, although I’m sure it was delicious under there. A flourless chocolate cake was dense and crackly with nuts, garnished with a very sweet chocolate syrup. Dinner ends charmingly with complimentary *mignardises* (free sweets) — chocolates from the superb Carlsbad candy maker Chuao.

“This has really been an amazing meal,” said Rob. “But of all the dishes we had here, none was Italian, or at least not like anything we ate in Italy.” Well, he was probably right. This is Italian food that’s based on peasant fare but adapted to serve the latter-day Medicis and their friends in that far-off, glittering Italian province called Manhattan. And now, we, too, can eat like big-city mice, albeit for a big-city price.

ABOUT THE CHEF

“I was 14 when I started working at a guest ranch in Montana, where I grew up,” says Bruce

Logue, aged 31. “I was a dishwasher, prep cook, things like that. The first person I worked with was from Staten Island, New York. His name was Steve Petallino and he was obviously Italian and he just made cooking seem really cool.... He lived a pretty cool lifestyle, and he got a lot of respect because he was good at what he did.

“I worked in restaurants and guest ranches from age 14 to 18, and when I got out of high school, I went to culinary school in Vermont, the New England Culinary Academy. After that, I started working — I worked in Jackson Hole at Snake River Grill, I worked in Boston for a few years, I got my B.A. in food and beverage management along the way, worked in Atlanta, and spent a summer traveling in Europe. Since then, I go back to Italy every chance I get, to eat and study.

“I worked just over two years in New York at Babbo, as sous-chef under Mario Batali. He had tons of influence over my cooking. That’s when I turned the corner and decided I really just wanted to do Italian food, learn about Italian food and language and culture. Up until then I leaned more toward French and New American. But when I worked with Mario, I discovered that the way I thought about food was Italian.... He’s very big on handmade pasta and salumi. He’s not just traditional, he has a kind of *twang* to everything he does. He likes things a little lighter — tighter, cleaner sauces. He’s very into meats that are usually waste cuts — ears, feet, the extremities. He gets a whole pig and uses the entire animal, even rendering down the fat.... He covers every region of Italy in his cooking and at his different

restaurants — he’s the full-on expression of Italy to New Yorkers, who are pretty savvy about eating.

“I differ from him in that some of the things I do are more French, or I should say contemporary — for instance, we cook some things in *sous vide*. Our antipasti are a little cleaner and more elaborate than his — and we serve them on decent china. And we have a wood-burning oven, which he doesn’t have in any of his restaurants. That, to me, is the essence of this restaurant — the wood-fired grill and oven. It puts such heart and soul into the food, and you cannot replicate those flavors without an open fire.”

Why did he leave Babbo? “I really didn’t like New York. I wanted to get back out west. The guy who was taking over the property here, the regional manager for the Four Seasons chain, was very into food. He’d worked with Mario 20 years ago in Santa Barbara, and they remained friends. So when he was looking for a chef, he called Mario, and the timing was right for me. They always had Italian chefs here and at all the Four Seasons Hotels restaurants, but they were looking for something fresh, less like ‘hotel food.’ As a company-wide decision, they decided to be more like freestanding restaurants, so they hired a guy from one.

“Working at a hotel, now and then I have to fight to keep something on the menu that I know isn’t gonna sell. We have to include so many things that are right up the middle — a salad! a pasta! an entrée! — and sometimes we have 50 percent of our customers order the ‘right up the middle’ things. Other nights we’ll have some pretty inter-

esting people eating here. In San Diego...you gotta come into the game knowing that you’re going to be educating people as much as you are showing them cool food. You’re bringing them along. Where in New York, they’re already there — ‘What else ya got?’ The biggest problem I have here is the people that *must have* things that aren’t on the menu, like a Caesar salad, or they order a dish we make but want to alter or add or take something away from the way we prepare it. They’re usually here in summer, typically a six-top with three kids. It’s very difficult for us in the kitchen. Whereas in New York, people that have waited two months for a reservation don’t come in to screw around with your menu. But in a hotel dining room in San Diego, you have to learn to be very accommodating.

“But one thing that’s really cool about San Diego — every month there’s something new to make you smile as far as food is concerned. Chefs are coming here, new products are showing up, you start to see new things on menus. It’s really an emerging food scene, and that’s exciting.”

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Bagels for Bikers

"I'm the only person who serves you during your every single entire visit ever."

Dateline: Somewhere on Highway 101. Okay, it's Oceanside. Okay, I am fresh off the Coaster and onboard the 318 bus. Starving. I mention food to Miguel, the driver. "Well, there's Angelo's a couple more blocks down here," he says. "The plates they give you are loaded."

I'm supposed to be looking for a recording studio. Hank'n me're gonna record a song for his great aunt's 100th birthday. Yeah.

But food first. Miguel drops me off at West Street. I see where he's talking about. Square, red-and-white burger-looking place. Trouble is, just before I got off, I noticed this, like, terra cotta house with a balcony and folks sitting out slurping joes and clacking away at their laptop keyboards. The sign said, "Motorcycle Cafe."

This I gotta see. Hmm. There's something about a "\$3.00 breakfast" of toasted bagel with cream cheese and 20-oz. coffee. Bit lite for my requirements. Still, I check out the big wooden deck, then enter a room with a yellow counter and, whoa, pictures of bikes everywhere. They've got glass tabletops set on tires, one of those mini-motorcycles on display, an upright piano, and under the counter glass, which you can sit up to on stools, hundreds of Harley-Davidson trading cards. Behind the counter stands this willowy, beautiful, Oriental-looking gal. Helen Fischetti. I know that's her name because the paper menu has a color pic

of her draped over a Harley in a Stars and Stripes bikini. "The one and only Owner and Founder," it says. "I'm the only person who serves you during your every single entire visit ever!"

And here's the incredible thing. There's a guy sitting a little farther down the counter, eating one of those toasted bagels and drinking a coffee. Shawn - that's his name - turns out to be a musician who's in town for a recording session at the exact studio I'm supposed to be checking out. I order a medium coffee (\$1.75) from Helen.

I ask how she came to set this place up. "I was always interested in bikes, and riding," she says. "But the only places we could go were alcohol places, and I don't drink. So I decided to start this, where you can come and have any kind of coffee, and a little bit of breakfast."

Turns out she is Dutch-Indonesian-Chinese, has qualifications coming out her ears, and also does modeling. "I got a degree in business at UCSD," she says. "And three degrees, in math, history of music, and piano performance. I financed all that studying by giving piano lessons for ten years."

Wow. Gal with four degrees is running a biker coffeehouse while pursuing a modeling career?

But no food. Not enough for this big boy, anyway. So I walk south, heading for Angelo's, when, Oh Lord. I get hijacked again. This time it's a bunch of people sitting on a patio in front of a

blue-roofed stand-alone building. They've got big fat plates of breakfast in front of them. "Coast Highway Cafe and Grill," says the sign.

So, in sight of Angelo's, what the heck, I walk into the Coast Highway and take my place at the counter. You can see it's been around, but someone's recently hit the refresh button. The booths are cream or teal, the carpet's maroon, they have a TV set full-time on video of tiny figures surfing giant rollers, and yes, longboards have become wall art. So has a scowling tiki.

"Morning!"

"Morning!"

The two waitresses are shouting out to customers coming in.

Paola leads the chorus. She's part of the family that took this place over five months ago. Before them, she says, it was called everything from Cheryl's to the Coast Highway Cafe to La Bahia. Now it's back to Coast Highway Cafe and Grill.

"Where are you from?" says a waitress to a couple just sitting down. "Austria," says the boy.

"We're touring California."

Me, I'm touring the menu. Two-egg breakfast's \$4.49. Bacon or sausage and eggs is two bucks more, and the "Oceanside Combo" (pancakes, French toast or waffles with eggs) is \$6.49 too. 'Course the hungrier I am, the greedier I get. I'm thinking the "Coast Classic," \$7.49. It's two eggs with bacon, sausage, or a ham steak, with pancakes, French toast or Belgian waffle.

I go for that, with French toast and the ham steak, just because ham steak sounds like more food than sausage or bacon. And when it comes, yeah, there's plenty. My \$1.59 coffee has endless re-fills too, which I need to plough through the French toast and ham. Yes, Hank would throw up at the cholesterol thought of it all. But it does the job.

On my way out, I see prices next door at Angelo's. They look a little lower. But I ain't complaining. I'll check him out next time.

There's bound to be a next time, right? Just as soon as Hank and I sign our recording deal. Lessee. Gonna need a manager, an entourage... ■

The Place: *The Motorcycle Cafe, 624 South Coast Highway (Highway 101), Oceanside, 760-433-1829*

Type of Food: *Only snacks*

Prices: *Breakfast toasted bagel with cream cheese and 16-oz. coffee, \$3.00; coffees, teas from \$1.75-\$3.80*

Hours: *6:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Monday-Friday; 7:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Saturday-Sunday*

Buses: *101, 302, 318*

Nearest Bus Stop: *On South Coast Highway at Wisconsin*

The Place: *Coast Highway Cafe and Grill, 1034 South Coast Highway, Oceanside, 760-722-7076*

Type of Food: *American, Mexican*

Prices: *Two-egg breakfast (with crumb cake or toast, hash browns), \$4.49; bacon or sausage and eggs, \$6.49; "Oceanside Combo" (pancakes, French toast or waffles, with eggs), \$6.49; "Coast Classic" (two eggs, bacon, sausage or ham steak, with pancakes, French toast, or Belgian waffle), \$7.49; breakfast burrito (scrambled egg, cheese, diced ham, salsa, sour cream, guacamole), \$5.95; coast carnivore omelet or scramble (with bacon, sausage, diced ham, cheese), \$7.49*

Hours: *7:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., seven days*

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A Tour of Baja Vines

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In an odd little way — a way not intended to inflate significances and circumstances beyond their proper size — it’s as if Steve Dryden’s whole life has been leading up to where he is now: living in Baja wine country, writing about wine, and leading tours.

Starting with the tours. “In the mid-’80s, I worked at Deer Park Winery in Escondido. I was really good friends with the owner, Bob Knapp” — a man who also happened to own the world’s most complete collection of post-1946 American convertibles, housed in a museum on the winery grounds. Knapp also owned “about five vintage Cadillac limos, including a 1960 that used to belong to the President of Mexico. I said, ‘Why don’t we do a wine tour?’ We had a gourmet deli at the winery. We would do a picnic lunch for five to ten people, grab some of our great wines — we had a Howell Mountain Zinfandel and a great Petite Sirah.” (The Escondido location of Deer Park was a sort of satellite for the main winery in Napa; the San Diego Chardonnay got trucked north at harvest time.) “We were one of the first to do that kind of tour up in Temecula. I would go to Joe Hart, Vince Cilurzo, the Pooles at Mount Palomar, and Maurice Carrie when they came in.”

It wasn’t Dryden’s first experience as a tour guide. “I majored in nursery and landscape technology at Mesa College, and after I got out of

school, I worked 20 years as a National Parks Service ranger. I’ve done guided hikes, talks, walks, and campfire programs in almost every National Park west of the Rockies,” including a four-year stint in Hawaii. “When I came back in 1982, I

saw an ad in the paper: Bob was looking for a maintenance person. I went over and met him, and I found out part of the maintenance job was his car collection.”

That suited Dryden fine; old cars were old friends. “My dad had a barber shop in Mission Beach. Right next to it was this

guy, Al King, a former Indianapolis race car mechanic who had a garage. They became friends, and they started building cars together.” Young Dryden got in on the action. “I used to restore old cars. Al King would give them to us — some old lady had a ’53 Chevy with a burnt valve, and we’d fix it.”

Dad’s tinkering tied in with Baja. “There was a Gordon Smith surfboard shop in Pacific Beach; they had a 1932 Ford panel truck they hauled surfboards around in. Candy-apple red, with a 300-horsepower Corvette engine in it. It got rear-ended on Mission Boulevard, pretty well totaled. My dad bought it, cut the back off all the way up the windshield, built a little frame with a roll bar, and all of a sudden we had a high-performance off-road vehicle.” Perfect for screaming down the beach. “It was insane.” Another time, “They took

an old 1948 Pontiac, stripped the body off, triple-shocked it, and drove all the way from San Diego to La Paz.”

By 1960, Dad was taking his two boys over the border. “We had a little cabana down where Baja Mar is now, in a place called Castor’s Camp. We’d go almost every weekend. My dad was a really cool guy, a nonconformist, an adventurer. He had this ’31 International flatbed truck that could pull these dune buggies behind. Dad would load up the flatbed with clothing and canned goods and stuff and drive to an orphanage in Tijuana to drop them off. Then he would hit the bakery and the liquor store, get a gallon jug of wine, a six-pack of Carta Blanca; go down to the Caliente racetrack; and place his bet for the weekend. That was all part of the routine.” So was the wine. “I grew up with it. I remember those jug wines distinctly. I think we bought them from a Russian guy who was getting bulk wine from Cetto.”

Knapp was delighted to find Dryden: who better to work at a winery/car museum than a naturalist/mechanic? “I worked at the museum, managed the tasting room, served as chauffeur for his vintage rental-car business. We did the Padres when they went to the World Series the first time. But my love was the winery, the whole ambience of wine culture. I always preferred the rural life, and to me, the wine culture means good wine, good music, good entertainment, good art, and usually, good food. It all goes together, and it’s a nice world to be in. I started working in the vineyard, making sure the irrigation and fertilizer systems were working. I learned basic pruning techniques, crop thinning.” He tracked the fruit as the harvest neared and started following the grapes up to Napa. “I got into sales, became a broker, went to wine tastings up and down California.”



Steve Dryden

The wine gig was part-time, however; Dryden was still spending half the year with the National Parks Service. Eventually, he went full-time and headed back to Hawaii. “But my big idea was always to retire at 50, which is what I did, and continue on with something close to what I loved doing: wine, touring, and education. I took some classes at the University of Idaho in professional tour management and took some extension classes in travel writing at USD. I moved down to Baja and bought a little piece of property in wine country, right there in the heart of the action.”

Dryden found his first tour clients through a friend with a travel business. “She had clients on Carnival Cruises. I’d rent a van, call it Baja Tours,

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Lunch	Dinner
Mon.-Fri. 11:30 am-2:30 pm	Mon.-Thur. 5:30-9 pm
Sat. 11:30 am-2:30 pm	Fri. 5:30-9:30 pm
Sun. 11:30 am-3 pm	Sat. 5-9:30 pm • Sun. 5:30-9 pm

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and pick people up off the boat.” Carnival didn’t care for the competition; they ran tours of their own. So Dryden found work with Daytripper, then a few other outfits. “People call me, and I match them up with the right company.” But his specialty is the private group. “People call me: ‘How much would you charge us for the day?’ If they want a van, I’ll rent a van, take 8 to 12 people down.” But if it’s a smaller group, I say, ‘The best deal for you is to just come to the valley and meet me at Mustafa’s. I’ll jump in your car and show you the valley.’ They pay me \$50, \$60 for a couple of hours. I do that a lot.

“A couple of weeks ago, a woman called me — it was her husband’s and her mother’s birthday. They lived by the halfway house. I put together a tour for \$50 a person. First, we went to Three Women Winery — they loved it, all crammed into this little wine cellar. Then to Mustafa’s for lunch, where I had arranged for a birthday cake. From there, we went to Mogor Badan, which is an organic farm and winery. Natalia, the daughter, grows produce, and she sells it from 11 to noon on Wednesdays. It’s a frenzy in there. Then down the valley to L.A. Cetto,

Domecq, and Doña Lupe. They said it was one of the best tours they’d ever been on — the little place, the medium, the big.” ■

RESTAURANT LISTINGS

The Reader’s Guide to Restaurants are recommended listings written by our reviewers (Ed Bedford, Barbara David, Ambrose Martin, Shari McCullough, Max Nash, Eleanor Widmer, Naomi Wise). Each issue contains only a fraction of over 500 reviews. A complete searchable list is available online at SanDiegoReader.com.

Price estimates are based on the latest information available for a mid-range entrée. Inexpensive: below \$10; moderate: \$10 to \$19; expensive: \$20 to \$24; very expensive: more than \$25. Please call restaurants in advance for reservations.

NORTH COASTAL

Americana 1454 Camino Del Mar (southwest corner at 15th Street), Del Mar, 858-794-6838. Housed in a historic building, this casual breakfast/lunch joint turns into a serious dinner house at nightfall. The cooking represents the American melting pot, featuring world-wide flavors. Mornings, along with flawless eggs Benedict and utopian waffles, you can get a “Roman breakfast” of prosciutto, mozzarella, and fried egg on English muffin. At dinner, don’t miss the lamb chop and eggplant appetizer or the duck breast with fig sauce. During summer, some of the veggies come from chef-owner Randy Gruber’s home garden; the French fries (which don’t come from his garden) are world class. To finish, a banana *tarte tatin* shouldn’t be resisted. Thoughtful, reasonable wine list. Breakfast (until 3

p.m.) and lunch daily, dinner Tuesday through Saturday. Kids’ menu available. Breakfast and lunch inexpensive to moderate; dinner moderate to expensive. — A.M. (1/05)

Big Jim’s Old South Barbecue 190 North Coast Highway 101 (two blocks north of Encinitas Boulevard), Encinitas, 760-635-1166. At this outstanding barbecue, you can “Put Some South in Yo’ Mouth!” The smoking-wood is mellow hickory, and each type of meat (sublime “pulled pork,” smoky skewered shrimp, huge pork ribs, chicken, beef ribs, steak) gets individualized treatment, including a tangy Alabama-style mustard sauce for pork and chicken. (Beef gets the more familiar tomatoey Texas-style sauce.) You don’t eat meat? The ever-expanding menu now includes a delicious, spicy blackened grilled salmon steak. Side dishes are superb: Don’t miss the thick, smoky-sweet Brunswick stew (you’ll not find its like anywhere on this coast), exemplary hush puppies, corn muffins with honey butter, well-balanced slaw...oh, just taste everything you can fit under your belt. Lunch and dinner daily. Low moderate. — N.W. (6/05)

The Bird House Grill 250 North Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-944-2882. A great place to check out real Turkish cuisine. The inside has a fine collection of blue-and-white wall plates and blue glass eyes to ward off evil spirits. Try the house specialty, Iskender Kebab (ground meat kebab, rice, tomato sauce, and house-grown yogurt) — “Iskender” means “Alexander.” Or the Kofte plate (ground meat kebab, rice, salad, pita, and *tzatziki* sauce). The shepherd’s salad is a traditional dish brimming with fresh tomatoes, cucumbers, onions, parsley, oil, and lemon. Good healthy Mediterranean diet. Even the baklavas are less gloopy. Open Monday to Saturday, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — E.B. (12/04)

Calypso Cafe 576 North Coast Highway 101, Leucadia, 760-632-8252. This “Calypso” has nothing to do with Caribbean music (or food), despite its tropical tiki-hut decor. The cuisine is French, ranging from old warhorses like onion soup and *coq au vin* to newfangled Gallo-Cal-Italian-Pacific Rim hyphen-

ates. The traditional dishes are generally the most successful. Mussels are the house specialty, and their rapid turnover here ensures freshness. Although there’s nothing revolutionary coming from this kitchen, the cooking is generally agreeable. Dinner nightly, reservations advised. Upper moderate. — N.W. (9/01)

Cuvee 2334 Carmel Valley Road, Del Mar, 858-259-5878. Seasonal California-Mediterranean cuisine, bolder and more complex than at the original, now-closed La Jolla branch. Cuisine is designed to accompany an interesting, affordable wine list. A reserve list includes fancier choices, still at minimal markups. Corkage fee for BYO is \$10, but waived on Tuesdays. Reservations urged. Lunch weekdays, dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Moderate. — N.W. (12/04)

Jamroc 101 101 North Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-436-3162. At this former site of D.B. Hacker’s, you can still get great fish’n’chips — but the Brit batter now gets its lift from Jamaica’s Red Stripe beer, mon. The shack by the tracks now sports bright tropical designs on its back-patio walls, and the fare is casual Jamaican (plus a couple of Cajun dishes). Check out the bargain-priced samplers which include luscious soft-fried plantains and splendid patties (empanadas to you and me) with a choice of beef, curry chicken, or veggies. The spicing of the jerks and curry entrées are down-turned to suit tourist tastes, but the table bottle of Walkerswood Scotch Bonnet Hot Sauce can kick that right up. Don’t miss the fresh coconut water, served out of a young Thai coconut. Soca, ska, and (clean) reggae set the mood, and there’s live steel pan some weekend evenings. Beer, wine, Bigga soft drinks. Open Sunday through Wednesday until 8 p.m., Thursday through Saturday until 9 p.m. Inexpensive. — N.W. (4/05)

Knockout Pizza 2959 Carlsbad Boulevard, Carlsbad, 760-434-4468. It’s New York pizza only here. They make the pies with traditional thin, crisp crusts and toppings like pepperoni, meatball, garlic, and “whitestone” (mozzarella, Parmesan, ricotta, garlic, and spinach). Maybe their best is the “Bronx Special,” an assortment of pepperoni, sausage,

onions, olives, mushrooms, pepper and garlic. Open daily. Inexpensive. — E.B. (5/02)

Paul’s Place 3671 Mission Avenue (at El Camino Real), Oceanside, 760-721-0124. This restaurant looks like a McDonald’s or Wendy’s (the building used to be a franchise) and the food comes fast, but it’s no chain. The menu strikes a balance between American and Greek fare. The baked Greek half-chicken, the spiced grilled chicken sliced up on a salad with pita bread, and the gyros (all at earthy prices) mix with all-American three-egg breakfast specials with home fries. Lunch offers include meaty hamburgers, gyros with fries, or a surprisingly tasty turkeyburger. Open seven days for lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — E.B. (12/01)

Tip Top Meats 6118 Paseo Del Norte, Carlsbad, 760-438-2620. This geranium-splashed blue-and-white Bavarian chalet is more than a butcher’s shop. It’s a combination butcher-deli-diner. Enter through the bulging deli and listen for the shouts and clatter of serving ladies. Look for the “*Es ist Wunderbar!*” sign over the counter. Try German and American dishes like Big John’s all-you-can-eat bacon, pork-link sausage, bratwurst, or ham breakfast with three eggs, home fries, and toast. Or the sausage plate: bratwurst, knackwurst, and smoked Polish with German potato salad and traditional stuffed cabbage. Owner Big John is a heavyweight Olympic boxer from the former East Germany with an M.A. in meat sciences. Generous portions abound. Friday through Sunday after 4 p.m., he roasts his famous prime rib dinner. Inexpensive. — E.B. (11/00)

Vigilucci’s 505 South Coast Highway 101 (at D Street), Encinitas, 760-942-7332. In the Land of 10,000 Trattorias, this is one of the most popular — and for good reason. The restaurant’s motto, “a little piece of Italy,” is actually accurate. Freshness, simplicity, and savvy seasoning — that’s Italian. The pastas are luscious (try the comforting cannelloni with an unusual stewed meat stuffing) and the flavorful entrées come with honest fresh vegetables. The staff is bouncy and jokey, the wines are mainly affordable, and spirits

run high. Of course it’s crowded, so reserve to avoid a long, hungry wait. Other locations include Vigilucci Cucina in Carlsbad, Vigilucci’s Pizzeria in Leucadia, and Vigilucci’s Seafood and Steakhouse in Carlsbad. — N.W. (10/01)

NORTH INLAND

A Delight of France 126 West Grand Avenue, Escondido, 760-746-2644. This authentic French bakery is one of the best in the region, offering daily baked authentic baguettes, brioches, quiches, and croissants, including a luscious almond croissant studded with nuts and laced with sweet almond paste. They claim to use all-organic ingredients, even the eggs, and locally grown produce. For a hearty breakfast, you can choose omelets, frittatas, French toast, and eggs. Lunch dishes include several savory tarts, a French deli plate, crêpes, salads, and sandwiches. And ooh la la, there are dessert pastries, too. Open for brunch/lunch and pre-dinner snacks Tuesday through Saturday; lunch/brunch only on Sunday. Inexpensive. — N.W. (5/05)

Bolsa Vietnamese Restaurant 9225 Mira Mesa Boulevard #118 (behind Wendy’s), 858-693-3663. “The name ‘Bolsa’ isn’t Vietnamese,” says Kim Trang. “It’s Spanish for ‘bag.’” She’s playing on words here: Trang once owned *Pho Bolsa* on University Avenue, and every Vietnamese knows *pho bo* is Vietnam’s most popular quick meal, a beef rice noodle soup. At this location, Trang still makes excellent *pho bo*, but she has 122 other items as well, including fried catfish with ginger fish sauce, healthy (non-fried) Vietnamese spring rolls, or egg rolls with lettuce and mint in which to wrap them (sprinkled with *nuoc mam*, Vietnamese fish sauce). We’re talking family-style cooking. Come once and Trang will remember you and everything you ate — even if it was just *pho bo*. Inexpensive. — E.B. (2/03)

Golden Egg Omelet House 316 West Mission Avenue (at Escondido Boulevard), Escondido, 760-489-6420. This breakfast-lunch treasure-house is



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vast but cute, its brick walls and open beams festooned with knickknacks (all for sale). This is *the* place on Sunday mornings, when three generations bond over great, generous breakfasts. Omelets are perfect — light, thin crêpe-like eggs wrapped around tall mounds of elaborate fillings. Thick waffles can be topped with fresh seasonal fruit. And then there are eggs, hash, crêpes, humongous burgers, and sandwiches. The potato casseroles, with a choice of a dozen fillings, are as huge in flavor as they are in size. Whatever you choose will carry you through until dinner. No reservations, so expect a wait on weekends. In back of a mall. Easiest entry from Mission is at SDGE driveway; do not pass McDonald's. Good handicap access; sturdy high-chairs; low-salt cooking. Open daily, breakfast and lunch. Inexpensive. — N.W. (9/03)

Hunan 16719 Bernardo Center Drive, Rancho Bernardo, 858-487-8131. This casual family restaurant serves the cuisines of two spicy Chinese provinces, Szechuan and Hunan — each with its own dedicated chef — but both chefs tone the spice way down to a suburban American comfort level. If you don't already know the difference between these neighboring cuisines, you're unlikely to learn them here. But you can have an enjoyable meal: Tea-smoked duck, eggplant Hunan-style, and shredded potatoes with pickled vegetables are the outstanding dishes. If you're planning on a multicourse feast, order your meal a few dishes at a time or everything will be served at once; the staff is accommodating but limited-English. Over 20 vegan entrées. Full bar, Chinese beers, generic wines. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive. — N.W. (8/04)

Madras Cafe 9484 Black Mountain Road, Mira Mesa, 858-695-6229. In the same strip mall as Ashoka the Great, this family-friendly café features the savory vegetarian cuisine of South India. It's distinctly different from the standard North Indian menus, centering on numerous varieties of stuffed pancakes — from thin, crisp (and irresistible) crêpe-like *dosais* stuffed with vegetable curry to lacy rice-flour *aapams* drenched in coconut milk to hefty, frittata-like *uttapams*. (Try the latter with the delicious, not-too-spicy chile-onion stuffing.) Puffy *poori* bread and tamarind rice are spectacular. Order your dishes in the sequence you hope to eat them — that's usually how they come out of the kitchen. And don't expect hovering "Raj"-style service — it's just not the Tamil way. Seasoning is generally mild, to accommodate kiddies; spicy sauces are on the table. No alcohol. Open Tuesday through Sunday with buffet lunches and à la carte dinners. Inexpensive. — N.W. (1/03)

150 Grand Cafe 150 West Grand Avenue (between Broadway and Maple), Escondido, 760-738-6868. Chef Carlton Greenawalt cooks up a seasonal American-Mediterranean menu with a few touches of Asian-fusion, using local and organic produce wherever possible. Among the pick hits: a clever almond-crusted Manchego cheese appetizer and interesting desserts, including a lovely lemon-tinged crème brûlée. Reservations advisable on weekends. Children's and vegetarian meals available on request. Street parking may be difficult; leave time to hunt. Dining rooms often noisy. Moderate prix fixe dinners weeknights; slightly expensive à la carte on weekends. — N.W. (10/03)

Pearl Chinese Cuisine 11666 Avena Place (at Webb Park), Rancho Bernardo, 858-487-3388. At Emerald Restaurant's younger, prettier suburban sister, you'll find modern Hong Kong-style Chinese cuisine, including both familiar and exotic dishes. Daytimes are for dim sum (Chinese tapas), served daily until 3 p.m., plus champagne dim sum brunches on weekends. Along with standard items, the choices here leap to the latest Pacific creations, some rarely found this side of the ocean, including irresistible Shanghai soup dumplings. Dinners range from folk food to showy "gold cup" dishes. For a taste treat and visual hoot, try the sea bass with pine nuts, sculpted to resemble a dish sponge. International wine list at modest markups complements the cooking. Full bar. Frying done in salad (not peanut) oil. Reservations advised. Lunch and dinner on weekdays; three meals on weekends. Moderate, with some expensive specialties. — N.W. (8/04)

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Calendar RESTAURANTS

LA JOLLA

Brockton Villa 1235 Coast Boulevard, La Jolla, 858-454-7393. Pretty and romantic, this sprawling cottage perches above La Jolla Cove and offers heated terraces as well as semi-enclosed tables indoors to admire the view. The culinary masterpiece is "Coast Toast," invented for breakfast but now served all day — it's the French toast of your happiest

dreams, puffy and airy with a lovely orange flavor. (And the coffee is excellent.) Lunchtime features sandwiches on flavorful Bread & Cie breads while dinner runs to San Diego international-eclectic cookery that can be hit-or-miss. Affordable wines and corkage. Steep stairs to all dining areas. All nearby pay parking is uphill in a garage under Trattoria Acqua or up on Prospect. Unisex restroom. Open three meals Tuesday through Sunday; breakfast/lunch Monday. Moderate to expensive. — *N.W. (3/04)*

The Cheese Shop 2165 Avenida de la Playa, La Jolla, 858-459-3921. Used to be the Cheese Shop had 100 varieties of cheese from all over. No more. "The cheese trade is dead," says owner Phil Schutz. They still have all-cheese sandwiches with mixes of provolone, Monterey Jack, Cheddar, Swiss, Muenster, Danish Havarti, or Norwegian Jarlsberg. But today this small, busy café is more famous for its "overstuffed" meat sandwiches. The leg of lamb, top round beef, and roast pork loin are all spit-roasted right beside you as you walk in, to waken your taste buds. Cheeses like crumbled Greek Mizithra add tang to the taste. If

you're into salami and ham, try the foot-long. Free peanuts while you wait. Inexpensive. Other location: 427 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-232-2303, open daily breakfast to late lunch, with delivery to downtown addresses. — *E.B. (10/01)*

French Pastry Shop 5550 La Jolla Boulevard (at Forward Street), La Jolla, 858-454-9094. A longstanding fixture of the Bird Rock area, this bakery/restaurant includes both a simple, spacious dining room and a shaded patio (reputedly San Diego's first dining patio). Breakfast — a highlight of the menu — is served until closing time. The whisper-thin crêpes with luscious stuffings speak in a Gallic accent. Other possibilities include omelets, eggs Benedict variations, and fine-quality brioches and croissants. Pastries are moist, fairly light, and very sweet. Open daily, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. — *N.W. (5/02)*

Harry's Coffee Shop 7545 Girard Avenue (at Pearl), La Jolla, 858-454-7381. When Harry Rudolph II opened Harry's back in 1960, his idea was simple: to create a down-home eatery and soda fountain where all La

Jolla — rich, poor, Brahmins, and gardeners) — could mix and meet with plenty of good eats. Everyone from Joan Kroc to Junior Seau to Brooke Shields has been spotted here, along with regular folks who've been coming in for three decades. Now Harry III reigns quietly among a dozen whirling dervish waitresses at lunch, while his dad still works the breakfast shift. The big ham steak and eggs is a favorite breakfast, as is the simple, rich "Hot Creamy Oatmeal" with strawberries. Pecan pancakes and thin, crisp waffles ring true to many Easterners (though Harry offers thick Belgian-style waffles, too), and for lunch, turkey burgers and the bacon-loaded British Burger are popular. At the counter, the banter between been-here-forever waitresses and customers sounds like family life. Nice sidewalk patio, too. Breakfast and lunch daily. Long lines on weekends. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (2/03)*

Marrakesh 634 Pearl Street (at Draper), La Jolla, 858-454-2500. The North African fare of Morocco is like no other in the world — influenced by Arab cuisines, but more intense and sheerly hedonistic. At our sole Moroccan restau-

rant, the fare is arranged into a nightly five-course prix fixe feast, with superb lentil soup (*harira*), a salad plate, *bastilla* (a chicken-filled filo pie), an entrée, and finally mint tea poured from on high to accompany almond baklava perfumed with orange-flower water. The setting and service are dramatic — tented ceilings, low banquette seating at carved round tables, belly-dancing interludes, servers in fezzes. (You're the Sheik of Araby.) A short list of entrées (a maximum of two choices per table, to be shared) features fine chicken (or lamb) with olives and preserved lemons; moist, fatless duck; lamb with couscous; and rather dry fish. You can request the dreamy lamb with honey, an extravaganza that includes fruits, almonds, sesame, and cinnamon. Lunch and dinner daily; reserve for weekends. Moderate. — *N.W. (4/01)*

Trattoria Acqua 1298 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-454-0709. This popular restaurant has charming decor, with arched doorways dividing a warren of white-painted, high-ceilinged rooms and terraces arranged around a tiled, heated courtyard. The seasonally changing menu could be called "avant-garde Italian," a style that more than pushes the Italian envelope with assorted international influences. The food can be divine — or dismaying. Given Acqua's "destination restaurant" status, there's a surprising air of bean-counting that manifests itself in oddly lightweight silverware, waiters unclear about proper wine service, and, at times, tired veggies. Desserts, though, are superb. Full bar with extensive, wide-ranging wine list that includes half bottles as well as choices by the glass. Walk-ins accepted but weekend reservations advised. Restaurant is two floors down from Prospect, with validated parking in underground garage on Coast Boulevard. Elevator access from both directions (Acqua's stop is the first floor). Lunch or brunch and dinner seven days. Moderate (pastas) to very expensive. — *N.W. (11/04)*

MISSION VALLEY & THE MESAS

Adam's Steak N' Eggs 1201 Hotel Circle South, Mission Valley, 619-291-1103. Morning munchers take heart! Adam's has served nothing but

breakfasts since 1966. The menu runs from healthy — hot oatmeal with raisins, dates, sunflower seeds, almonds, pineapple, and coconut — to corn fritters to a Southern brunch of spicy sausage patties, biscuits, gravy, grits, and eggs, to spiced apple crêpes with whipped cream and pecans. But the signature dish is steak and eggs. The steak's a high-walled chunk of meat almost as thick as it is round. Comes with two eggs, potatoes or grits, and toast or tortillas. You won't need lunch. This brickly, dark wood, clubby, business-convention-tourist kind of place has ver-ry faithful customers. But if you want to walk there, be ready for lack of sidewalks, one-way bus access, and wild morning traffic. Open for breakfast daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (5/02)*

Aladdin's Cafe 5420 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, Clairemont, 858-573-0000; Uptown Shopping Center, 1220 Cleveland Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-574-1111. These cafés offer a bright, clean atmosphere for bright and clean, if rather generic, Middle Eastern favorites (hummus, tabbouleh, kebabs, *shawarma*, etc.), plus imaginative Levantine-flavored pizzas and salads. There are ample choices for vegetarians. The Hillcrest location offers beer and wine. Hillcrest's new owners also offer a more Lebanese cuisine. Inexpensive to moderate. — *N.W. (11/00)*

Dumpling Inn 4619 Convoy Street #F, Kearny Mesa, 858-268-9638. Hole-in-the-wall? Yes. But what a hole-in-the-wall. For those who love the Far East and its food, finding the Dumpling Inn is a little revelation. It's located in the busy Jasmine/Korean Market Center among Oriental herbalists, man-size-vase shops, even feng shui experts. The Inn itself is tiny but charming. Long hanging lanterns, decorative strings of scarlet and gold firecrackers, Chinese flutes, and even the odd conical straw hat. The food is serious but not expensive. Dishes like ten fish and green chive dumplings, spicy stir-fried three-ingredient *lo mein* (thick noodles, jumbo shrimp, calamari, and chicken plus hot red peppers) are challenging and exciting, as is the Dumpling Dinner (including hot-and-sour soup, cold cuts, shredded pork bun, pot-stickers, shrimp and pork dumplings). Don't miss their divine jellyfish salad — crunchy-tender, bright and spicy (but not too) — you'd be hard-pressed to find its like outside of Hong Kong. Open 11 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., closed Monday. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (5/02)*

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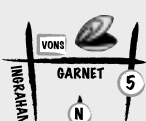
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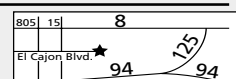
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East Buffet 8998 Miramar Road, Miramar, 858-566-1888. Curly-haired stone lions greet you outside one of the grander dining halls in the county. “The biggest buffet of San Diego” claims the menu, with “over 200 items daily.” Start at the Mongolian grill. Pick your raw prawns, chicken, pork, beef, *satays*, and hand the plate-load to the Iron Chef. He’ll stir-cook them on the hotplate for you. You’ll need hiking boots to cover the endless rows of steaming chafing dishes. Must-eat: the fresh sashimi, like salmon and tuna — mouth-wateringly scrumptious. And try the chicken feet (they taste a bit like cow tongue, or brains). Open daily, brunch through dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (4/05)

Lightnin’ Jacks BBQ Clairemont Town Square, 4705-H Clairemont Drive (near movieplex), Clairemont, 858-270-8227. Clean, cute, and a little self-conscious, this barbecue has black-and-white Western pictures on the walls and some seating on barstools with metal “saddles” (more comfortable than they look). The barbecue mechanism is a Texas-style pit smoker burning sweet hickory. The meats that emerge from it aren’t the smokiest, but they’re tasty enough. Pork ribs are tender and moist, and beef brisket carries enough smoke flavor to pass muster in Texas; other meat choices are less successful. The tomatoey sauce is pleasant but ordinary. A fried catfish plate makes a flavorful alternative (but beware the cat sandwich,

awash in hot sauce). Hush puppies and sweet potato fries are the most savory sides. Check your take-out bag to make sure you’re getting what you ordered, as youthful staff is easily flustered. Kiddie plates available. Draft beer and wine available. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to moderate. — *N.W.* (1/05)

Sunrise Buffet 3860 Convoy #121, Kearny Mesa, 858-715-1608. “Oysters are here!” It’s what everyone here waits for. Apart from the usual array of meats, fish, shellfish, and novelties like stuffed mushrooms, stuffed clams, dragon rolls (cucumber, avocado, asparagus), and *mochi* (sticky rice cake), these plates of raw oysters in their big shells are one of the big draws. This buffet restaurant is smaller than many, but it still looks like a mega-McDonald’s eating barn inside, except for a sky-blue-lit ceiling recess “heaven.” Like McDonald’s, it attracts lots of families, maybe because it’s not just all-you-can-eat, but all-you-can-drink, too — included in the price. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (4/05)

THE BEACHES

Bare Back Grill 4640 Mission Boulevard (at Emerald), Pacific Beach, 858-274-7117. This may be the first New Zealand food place in town, but that’s not what keeps the customers coming

in. It’s BBG’s claim that most of their meat is certified organic. The owners guarantee hormone-free beef and lamb, both from from New Zealand. So, what to eat? Burgers, burgers, burgers — all kinds — from prime NZ Angus to “Bare Li’l Lamb” burgers with wasabi dip. They also offer chicken. Décor inside is strictly Kiwiland, from the all-black rugby shirt on the wall to the declaration of food principles. People who had given up on hormone-treated meat are coming here for their first burger in years. Open seven days, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (11/05)

Fairouz Cafe And Gallery 3166 Midway Drive, Loma Portal, 619-225-0308. Seek out this family-owned-and-operated restaurant for wonderful Lebanese and Greek food. The owner, a noted artist, displays his paintings on the dining room walls. The extensive menu offers excellent lamb, stuffed grape leaves, and a wide selection of exotic vegetarian meals. Copious all-you-can-eat buffet available at lunch or dinner in addition to the regular menu. Given 24 hours, this café will prepare an astonishing Lebanese feast at low cost. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Moderate. — *E.W.*

Great Moon Buffet 1840 Garnet Avenue (Pacific Plaza 2 shopping center), Pacific Beach, 858-273-6868. This is one of the classier Chinese all-you-can-eat buffets in town. They boast a glittering chandelier hanging in the octagonal

entrance, plus “over 150 items daily.” Certainly they have great surf-n-turf, like prime rib and jumbo shrimp or mayonnaise mussels. Or Japanese charcoal-grilled eel with sesame seeds on rice (*unagi-zushi*). It tastes salty yet caramel-y too. Eel-icious. Or Chinese baked crab meat on scallop shells with sesame balls and yummy cream cheese wonton. Add crab legs, and maybe some roast duck. Cramming? Feast today, fast tomorrow. Dessert fruits include loquats, pineapple, peach, longan. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (4/05)

Karinya Thai & Vegetarian Cuisine 4475 Mission Boulevard (SeaCoast Square), Pacific Beach, 858-270-5050. Think of the movie *The Beach*, with a bunch of Leo DiCaprio look-alikes getting off on the coconut curries like *gang ped*, *panang*, and *kang kari*. Or noodle dishes like the famous *pad thai*. But they’re in the right place: Karinya remains true to its Thai origins. The *tom yum kung* (hot and sour shrimp soup) is a meal in itself. Steaming away with its fierce little charcoal fire at your table, the hot pot holds plenty of shrimp, and you can taste the essential mushrooms, lemon grass, ginger, lime juice, cilantro, and of course *nam pla*, Thai fish sauce. A nice counterpart to the hots of the soup are the Fresh Spring Rolls, filled with tofu and vegetables and mint. Another sizzler: *pad talay*, a sauté pan full of mussels, shrimp, squid, and other seafood in a great spicy sauce. The

recipe’s from Koh Samed, an island like the one featured in *The Beach*. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.* (2/03)

Ranchos Cocina 1830 Sunset Cliffs Boulevard, Ocean Beach, 619-226-7619. Also at 3910 30th Street (at University Avenue), North Park, 619-574-1288. At both locations of this delightful mini-chain you’ll find healthy, creative Mexican and vegetarian cuisine in cheerful, tropical-style settings burgeoning with plant life and craft objects. A big plus: zero attitude. You don’t have to be vegetarian to enjoy full-flavored combinations that are as creative as they are wholesome. Try anything with lobster or calamari steak — in fact, all the seafood here is pristine. Try, even, an *antojito* stuffed with beef — it’s stewed, not ground. And sample something with the house-made mole sauce of a zillion ingredients. Actually, try...anything. (Well, the chicken breast is as dry here as everywhere else. Try anything else.) Open daily breakfast through dinner. No reservations, but call ahead for large parties. Inexpensive. — *N.W.* (6/01)

Rum Jungle Smoothies and Deli 4150 Mission Boulevard #153, Promenade Mall, Pacific Beach, 858-273-2227. Why do Brazilians have more fun? *Açaí* (ah-saa-ee). Why do Brazilians settle in PB? Maybe it’s because Rum Jungle Smoothies serves up *açaí*, the flesh of a Brazilian palm nut, for breakfast. The dark purple mush comes from the *açaí* palms that grow around the Amazon

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River delta. Rum Jungle adds granola, banana, strawberries, blueberries, mango pieces, and honey to make a surprisingly filling breakfast. Of course this bright little place has lots of other smoothies, too, along with sandwiches. But the *açaí* power fruit bowl is what keeps them coming back. Open until 7 p.m. weekdays, until 8 p.m. weekends. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (1/04)

Sportsmen’s Seafoods 1617 Quivira Road, Mission Beach, 619-224-3551. Fifty years ago this restaurant-fish market was a tuna cannery, part of San Diego’s late-lamented fishing industry. The same Sicilian family still owns it, and still knows everything about

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Calendar

RESTAURANTS

fish and how to cook it. The menu is devoted to the “fruits of the sea” and includes a wonderful seafood platter (shrimp, squid, clams, fish, fries, and salad). And, of course, a crispy-crunchy fish-and-chips platter. Eat outside on deck, contemplating the small ships on the bay. They buy seasonal catch from local fishboats and also sell it at their attached retail market. They’re famous for smoking fish for the fishermen. Open daily, lunch/early dinner. Retail market closed Monday. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (11/00)*

World Famous 711 Pacific Beach Drive, Pacific Beach, 858-272-3100. World Famous is as on-the-beach as it gets, right on PB’s boardwalk. It has a covered porch, a side-slung patio, and low-slung ceilings, so everything feels intimate. You sit at varnished inlaid wooden tables with lots of diagonal timbering and sexy blue lighting. It’s often crowded and laugh-loud noisy. Who’s gonna be food-picky here? You, when you’re paying twenty-some bucks for a steak or a piece of mako shark. On the other hand, the prime rib, surf-n-turf, and tournedos will fill you fine. If you want to beat the big prices, try the beach burger or a seared ahi Caesar salad. The view is free. Breakfast and lunch inexpensive; dinners moderate to expensive. Open daily. — *E.B. (1/04)*

CENTRAL SAN DIEGO

Elaine’s Coffee Shoppe 1212 South 43rd Street, Southcrest, 619-264-6525. When Su Cha Yang took over Elaine’s a quarter century ago, this was one tough part of town. No problem. Su had survived the Korean war *and* Vietnam before she came here. Now, with Southcrest looking up, she is famous for her fun and her food.

Most customers are regulars — judges, ministers, teachers among them — and they don’t want change. So Elaine’s remains a bright, genuine 1970s-style breakfast-all-day coffee shop. Breakfast: try the ham, bacon, mushroom “Hunter” omelet. Lunch: the pork chop plate is a great filler. Su Cha Yang also cooks dishes for vegetarian, Muslim, and Korean customers. Breakfast and lunch six days; closed Tuesdays. — *E.B. (5/06)*

Huffman’s Bar-B-Que 5039 Imperial Avenue (at Euclid), Chollas View, 619-264-3115. This café has a huge multigenerational following, some famous — check out their wall photos, in which Jesse Jackson and Muhammad Ali are just two — and some not so famous. The big draw is Huffman’s fabulous Southern soul food. Try their gravy-smothered fried chicken served with collard greens, yellow peppers, red beans, rice, and white mopping-up bread, or their Louisiana Creole gumbo, thick with crab, shrimp, links, ham, and chicken. Other fine eats include the catfish sandwich and half-pound rib tips. Open daily, lunch and dinner, to 11 p.m. weekdays, 1 a.m. Friday and Saturday. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (11/00)*

Just Fabulous Kensington 4116 Adams Avenue, Kensington, 619-584-2929. At this usually-packed café, painted in cheerful Creamsickle colors, noted owner and executive pastry chef Beryl Ann Byrd and executive chef Marcello Alvarez offer a full menu of seasonal California-Mediterranean cuisine. At dinner, appetizers are generally fun to eat but entrées can be inconsistent. Weekend brunch dishes are terrific. The primary emphasis is on desserts, of course: Byrd’s pastries are of the Euro-influenced American mode — very sweet, a little heavy, a touch more sophisticated than Mom’s apple pie. The pastry case doubles as a retail counter for sweets-to-go. Affordable international wine list and coffeehouse specialty beverages. Few tables, no reservations. Arrive early or late on weekends or expect to wait. No alcohol allowed at outdoor tables. Street parking only. Dinner daily, lunch Tuesday through Friday, breakfast Sat-

urday and Sunday. Moderate. — *N.W. (9/04)*

Jyoti-Bihanga 3351 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights, 619-282-4116. Oh sure, you’ll be watching Sri Chinmoy, the Bengali guru, on TV juggling, declaring Geneva International Airport a “Peace Blossom,” or boarding his Italian “*Treno della Pace*.” Plus, his books, his portraits, his paintings, and his chant-songs surround you. Apart from that, not only is this heavenly blue-domed restaurant run by his students peaceful, but the fresher-than-fresh Bengali-tinged health food is delicious. Their chutney-topped “Neatloaf” bursts with nutty, intriguing flavors. Even the accompanying mashed potato and gravy tastes different. Also delight: Brahma Burrito, “Infinite Blue” (interesting brown rice salad with bleu cheese dressing), and the Shiva Wrap (tofu and fresh veggies with a well-integrated curry flavor). On cold days, start with a steaming sweet pea soup. Monday through Saturday lunch and dinner (no dinner Wednesday); Sunday occasional brunch only. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (10/01)*

Kensington Grill 4055 Adams Avenue, Kensington, 619-281-4014. This spiffy spot in an old, staid neighborhood proves change can be good, delivering intelligent, inventive cuisine. Preparations follow the convention of contrasts in sophisticated cuisine — sweet vs. salty, soft vs. crunchy, hot vs. cold. Kensington Grill proves a talented, hardworking kitchen. Open for dinner nightly. Moderate. — *M.N. (8/99)*

Phuong Trang Vietnamese Seafood Restaurant 5296 University Avenue, City Heights, 619-582-0603. Original branch at 4170 Convo Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-565-6750. Tired of putting up with the crowds at the popular Convo Street restaurant? Go east, where you’ll find the same menu without the hassles. The fare centers on Vietnamese “people’s food” emphasizing numerous genres of noodle soups, but there are a handful of more elegant house specialties — including the extraordinary “Special Sauce” Dungeness crab from the live tank. (The sauce is tangy tamarind.) Call ahead to order steamed or grilled live-tank catfish. Reservations and credit cards accepted, both branches. Vietnamese beers including “33”; just two generic wines. Also bring

a pad and write down the numbers of your orders to give the waiter, as staffers speak little English. Open daily. Inexpensive to moderate (higher for live-tank seafood). — *N.W. (3/04)*

Zensei 3396 30th Street (at Upas), North Park, 619-546-6171. This much-welcomed neighborhood restaurant in a restaurant-starved neighborhood offers a changing menu of sushi, fusion appetizers, and Japanese entrées emphasizing noodle dishes. The sushi is the main draw. It’s well made and based on seafood from the same fishmonger used by Ota and Nobu. The “party rolls” (such as “stuffed tomato” and “honeymooners”) may not be original, but they’re delicious fun. Free parking behind restaurant (enter by alley on Upas east of Jack in the Box lot). Reservations advised for Friday/Saturday evenings, accepted for two or more at sushi bar, four or more at tables. Japanese and American beers, sakes, and wines. Lunch and dinner daily. — *N.W. (1/05)*

EAST COUNTY & COLLEGE AREA

Cafe Zia 6686 El Cajon Boulevard (at Montezuma), College Area, 619-337-3937. South Asia meets Mexico! Khaled Zia had the brilliant idea of combining tacos (or wraps or bagels) with chicken and South Asia’s great gift to the world: chutney — mango chutney, papaya chutney, peach, apple, even a serrano chili pepper chutney. The combo works with them all. As soon as you smell the chicken strips hissing away on the grills, you’re hooked. Then when they come smothered in peach or mango chutney, or cooling yogurt, along with sweet-sauced potatoes, what can you do? Do as half of San Diego State does: just say yes. Open daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (12/01)*

Chef Taka 7520 El Cajon Boulevard (at Parks), Mesa Plaza, La Mesa, 619-463-0231. This is indeed the same chef Satate Taka who co-founded Taka in the Gaslamp, and then Octopus Garden. In July 2003 he moved his kitchen to La Mesa where he now cooks his inventive Japanese-based fusion cuisine with French, Mexican, and Chinese touches. Try the dreamy soft-shell crab with “salsa cream aioli,” the tender tempura, or the traditional Teishoku din-

ner. Taka generally presides at the sushi bar. The staff is small so for the best cooking and service, dine on a weeknight and make an evening of it — weekends can be hectic. For a bubbly treat try chilled Nigori (unfiltered) sake, served in the traditional manner in an overflowing square wooden cup. Open daily for dinner. Happy hour bargains nightly; regular prices moderate to expensive. — *N.W. (3/04)*

Downtown Cafe 182 East Main Street, El Cajon, 619-440-5687. Surprise! Not far from Magnolia and Main, a French-style sidewalk café. The successful “Por Favor” eateries’ owner launched this as a kind of Mexican patio restaurant, but serving gringo food. And it works, maybe because of reasonable prices for baby-back pork ribs, giant burritos, or Louisiana Chicken strips. Or even the veggie burger. But it’s partly where you dine: out on the patio. The place has lots of ancient doors and wrought iron-and-wood window frames, laced with creepers. Inside is a beautiful long bar with a counter on the street and chess sets so you can play and watch the world go by. Lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B. (5/03)*

Panda Park Buffet 3036 El Cajon Boulevard (near Ohio), North Park, 619-640-2471. Warning: Once you get locked into this kind of all-you-can-eat eatery, no single-serve place seems to measure up. This is smaller than many similar places but still offers a good range of seafood, like salt-and-pepper squid, shrimp, fish, cheese mussels, and meaty regulars like boneless spare rib. Don’t desert desserts — they have butter cake with hidden bursts of custard, almond cake, chocolate cake, and chopped banana that looks as if it’s lying in its own brilliant-red blood. You could polish them all off. It might take two or three runs, but who’s counting? Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (4/05)*

Tyler’s Taste of Texas 576 North Second Street, El Cajon, 619-444-9295. Unfussy home cooking. Some dishes outshine others. The slab of smoky ham steak that comes with the first-rate breakfast is in itself enough to rouse the sleepiest appetite. Expertly sautéed onions and mushrooms lend flavor to fried potatoes and omelets, respectively, while pebbly-smooth hash and gingery sweet potato pancakes give the lineup character. For lunch and dinner, the Texas menu features Texas-style barbe-

cue (chicken, beef, pork, and sausage) that’s sufficiently smoky, but a little uneven in texture. The barbecue beef is reliable and the sweetish sauce shows well on the chicken. Pleasant surprises: a substantial, peppery commel crust on the tender catfish and the fried green tomatoes, and the rich stock in the vegetable soup. All-you-can-eat catfish Wednesdays and Fridays. Open 24 hours. Inexpensive to low moderate. — *A.M. (2/02)*

FAR EAST

Alpine Inn 2225 Alpine Boulevard, Alpine, 619-445-5172. Beef lover’s heaven. Also, try the house special, the Texas burger, ground in-house and served on a Kaiser roll with steak fries. Dark interior with large booths. Very crowded for dinner on Sunday. Inexpensive early-bird dinner Monday through Saturday. Dinner daily except major holidays; call ahead. Moderate to expensive. — *E.W.*

Pablito’s of the Desert 590 Palm Canyon Drive (in The Center, #8), Borrego Springs, 760-767-5753. Pablito’s claims “Authentic Mexican Cuisine, patio dining, and great tequila margaritas.” Well, the gorgeous patio is open only during busy times and the cuisine runs to gringo favorites in the Mexican mode (lots of combo platters), but the flavors are honest and pleasing. The most authentic dishes come from the “Specialties” section of the menu, including a good *chile verde* (pork in green chile sauce), numerous varieties of enchiladas, and several flavors of *chilaquiles*. Full bar, including sangria, margaritas, Mexican beers. Closed in the summer; other seasons, open for lunch and dinner (with a break between), Wednesday through Sunday. Inexpensive to low moderate. — *N.W. (4/03)*

Ramon’s Smokehouse BBQ 1730 Alpine Boulevard, Suite 110, Alpine, 619-445-1008. The smell of mesquite wood burning under fresh-cut beef rib is beyond resistance. The secret Texas recipe draws crowds. Go Sunday morning, especially, when chefs in maroon aprons dance around the fat-spitting fire, disappearing into the clouds of fragrant smoke to flip the racks of beef and pork ribs. In good weather you can eat out back next to an authentic chuck wagon. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (11/00)*

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UPTOWN & OLD TOWN

Bamboo Bistro 3882 Fourth Avenue (at University), Hillcrest, 619-299-9727. How many American chefs do you know who actually went to Asia and learned by working in traditional restaurant kitchens of Vietnam, Indonesia, India? Chef Alexandria did. The result is her Asian Fusion Cuisine. The Bistro is huddled in the corner of a strip mall, but you can still eat under exotic umbrella lampshades (inside) or tropical palapas (outside). The food is fresh, original, and often tasty. Dishes to try include Chinese Chopstick salad (shredded chicken, fried rice noodles, mandarin oranges, toasted almonds), Indo-Chinese burrito with steak (beef, rice noodles covered with a sesame and lime sauce), Drunken Noodles (chicken, steak, shrimp, salmon, or tofu), and Sea Salad (glass noodles, wild salmon, greens). Lunch and dinner six days, closed Sundays. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (12/05)*

Brians' American Eatery 1451 Washington Street (near Lincoln), Hillcrest, 619-296-8268. Also at 7947 Balboa Avenue (off Convoy), Kearny Mesa, and 828 Sixth Avenue, Gaslamp. Note the apostrophe: Not one but two Brians have taken over what had been Topsy's, a venerable coffeehouse/eatery for 40 years. They've done a good job of cleaning it up without gutting the fifties roadhouse character. It's open all night on weekends, and late night is quite a scene. But for a lot of people, breakfast is the thing. The Brians' 8-ounce charbroiled top sirloin steak with eggs and country potatoes is a great Saturday morning treat. Or the "Hey Ricky!!", an omelet with chorizo, avocado, green chilies, onions, and cheeses. Or ask for their off-menu breakfast special — it's always cheaper. Another good thing: You get a pitcher of iced lemon-water, and coffee comes by the thermos-full. Three meals until 10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday; open 24 hours from early Friday morning until Sunday evening. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (10/02)*

Celadon Royalty Thai Restaurant 540 University Avenue (near Sixth), Hillcrest, 619-297-8424. The menu was originally devised by a chef who cooked for the Siamese royal family. Some dishes taste luxurious, and all the dishes taste authentic — and carefully prepared. The

regular entrées offer a choice of sauces (red curry, green curry, etc.) with your choice of protein, but go straight to the Chef's Specialty items on the menu to find the best and rarest. Stuffed chicken wings are extraordinary, seafood soup *talay* is fabulous, and among the entrées, don't miss *choo chee duck* or the Queen of Thailand's favorite, pineapple fried rice. Lunch Monday through Friday, dinner nightly. — *N.W. (5/05)*

City Delicatessen 535 University Avenue (at Sixth), Hillcrest, 619-295-2747. Some folk come for the Jewish food (chicken-in-the-pot, brisket of beef, chopped liver), others to soak in the art-deco colors — the cornucopia of fruit above the entrance, the mustard yellow walls, the black-and-white checker tile, or the flower bunches of red, blue, green, and yellow lamps. And then some come for both: the stuffed cabbage roll (with ground beef and rice inside) is a glowering red ball with maroon, oniony, sweet-and-sour raisin sauce to die for, set off by green parsley and bright orange slices. Scandalously delicious. Downside? Our pastrami sandwich tasted dry and chewy by comparison. But City Deli is less strictly Jewish (they have bacon on their breakfast menu) and more of an everyday New York-style eatery. Wait staff are good-humored, and the Seeburg Wall-o-Matic tableside jukeboxes actually work. Bring plenty of quarters. Breakfast all day; early-bird dinner specials; late-night dining. Open from 7 a.m. till midnight; until 2 a.m. Friday and Saturday. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B. (5/03)*

European Market & Deli 4135 Park Boulevard (north of El Cajon Boulevard), Hillcrest, 619-298-8661. Basically a Greek deli, but charming, especially if you're into patios. Inside has painted grapes, hanging copper pans, and framed pictures of Paris cafés. The most popular dish is the lemon-roasted chicken, but if you love lamb, Paul's Special, with potatoes, salad, and pita — Fridays and Saturdays only — is the way to go. (They do offer lamb sandwiches daily.) Other good dishes include the Veggie Diabolou pita sandwich (hot and spicy), the ground beef moussaka plate (eggplant, potatoes, and béchamel sauce), Greek chicken soup and, of course, gyros. But go just to play bon vivant on the patio. Open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, till 5:30 p.m. Saturday. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (11/05)*

Hamburger Mary's 308 University Avenue (at Third), Hillcrest, 619-491-0400. All the action is on the patio, under ficus trees, ferns, the *palapa* bar, and white umbrellas. Bougainvillea bursts out of tables. Hamburger Mary's mural comes at you in a Stetson, wild red hair, big blue eyes, and a plump butt. Basically it's a gay rendezvous, but everybody's welcome. The burgers are way-big with funky titles like the "I'm Sooo Bleu" burger with bacon and bleu cheese crumbles, or the "Two Tons Of Fun," a six-inch-high double-burger with mushrooms, bacon, lettuce, cheese, and onions. The kicker is they're all served between wickedly crisp, sweet slabs of golden Hawaiian bread. Three meals daily. Open until 2 a.m., grill until 11 p.m. Moderate. — *E.B. (3/01)*

Hong Kong Restaurant 3871 Fourth Avenue (at University), Hillcrest, 619-291-9449. Where to get a good Chinese meal after midnight? This restaurant (next to Column One's statues and fountain shop) serves meals till 2:30 a.m. Inside is typical Asian décor, including black-and-white Chinese brush paintings and carved cherry wood chairs. Their huge menu offers traditional Szechwan and Mandarin fare. The fried, pork-filled wontons on raw cabbage are delish, especially spattered with fiery Chi-

nese mustard. The Singapore Style Rice Noodles (not often featured in Chinese restaurants) are tanged with curry, and excellent, as is the Kung Pao chicken. Also look at egg drop soup, pork chow mein, shrimp with lobster sauce, and scallion ginger chicken. Service is super quick. Lunch and dinner, seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (11/05)*

Kemo Sabe 3958 Fifth Avenue (off University Avenue), Hillcrest, 619-220-6802. Audacity is Chef Deborah Scott's culinary signature. In her cooking, Southeast Asia meets the Southwest, with Japanese touches and towering heaps of garnishes. All the edible frou-frou decorating the appetizers can wear you out, but most entrées are more focused and friendly. Good choices include a starter of mussels in a seductive *chipotle* cream sauce, and entrées of spicy, sweet-sour layered "jerk" chicken or the signature "Skirts On Fire," a miraculously tender grilled skirt steak imbued with a *picante* marinade. Desserts by Sharon Bristol follow the house style — sky-high, ornate, complex. Casual atmosphere, very noisy. Heated patio. Dinner served daily. Reservations strongly advised. Prices moderate. — *N.W. (11/00)*

La Posta de Acapulco's Taco Shop 3980 Third Avenue (at Wash-

ington), Hillcrest, 619-295-8982. (Also in Lakeside and Spring Valley.) People have been coming to this orange-and-white drive-through-without-cars for 20 years. One of the main reasons is the *carne asada* burritos. Rich-tasting, fresh, generous. Folks sit around the outside benches right next to Washington Street, oblivious to the traffic. Also much loved here are the *chile verde* and the quesadilla with *carne asada*. For breakfast, think chorizo burrito. And for value, just to fill you up, you can't beat the bean tostada. You can drink *horchata*, a rice drink, or *jamaica*, made from hibiscus flower, to complete the picture. Open 24 hours. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (1/04)*

Sausage King 811 W. Washington Street, Mission Hills, 619-297-4301. Not too many delicatessens in the county still make their own sausages, luncheon meats, and jerky. But the German couple who runs this place does. They make an unbelievable 34 different sausages and luncheon meats, plus 10 different smoked meats like turkey, beef, Westphalian ham, Black Forest ham, and even bacon. For lunch they will make you a really cheap bun-sandwich filled with anything from home-made liverwurst to blood sausages to salami. Two would really fill you up. As with the nearby cheese shop (see Venissimo), the Starbucks at

Falcon and Washington is a good place to chow down this unique sausage experience. Open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (5/06)*

Taste of Szechuan 670 University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-291-1668. Friendly staff serves up standard Szechuan Mandarin fare at this archetypical Chinese restaurant. Szechuan Garlic Shrimp is number one on the list of twelve House Specialties for good reason. This tangy dish of crispy, deep-fried shrimp is one of their best. Not often seen on the menus of strip mall Chinese restaurants, the Szechuan Orange Fish is also recommended, but don't be misled by the "hot & spicy" star next to this item. As with any of their "spicy" offerings, the heat in this dish barely registers. Spice lovers should ask for an extra kick. The Toffee Banana and Toffee Apple desserts may tempt you, but unless you have a dentist on-call, it's best to pass on these super-sticky sweets. Inexpensive lunch specials. Open late until midnight Monday through Thursday, until 1 a.m. Friday and Saturday, and until 10 p.m. on Sunday. Inexpensive to moderate. — *B.D. (6/05)*

Venissimo Cheese 754 W. Washington, Mission Hills, 619-491-0708. Just don't ask for Velveeta here. Everything

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else, they’ve got: sixty-plus varieties of cheese, most from Europe. But a meal? Yes. You can get a baguette-style sandwich stuffed with cow cheese, sheep cheese, goat cheese, fruity, moldy, runny, stinky, any cheese in the house, same price, around five bucks. Even *Boschetto* cheese, with truffles in it, which sells at around \$30 per pound, or Napoleon’s favorite, stinky *Epouses Berthaut*, or the beautifully tangy *Schloss*. Plus you get grapes or a pear to go with the sandwich. Where to eat it? Starbucks, a few doors down, usually doesn’t mind. Coffee, bread, interesting cheese, fruit — it’s the perfect combo. Open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; closed Sunday. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (5/06)*

DOWNTOWN

Bay Cafe 1050 North Harbor Drive, downtown, 619-595-1083. If you’re hungry at the city ferry landing, you can eat in the bare-bones interior or take your tray upstairs to a handsome bayview terrace (with no wheelchair access). After a chilly crossing, try the enjoyable New England-style clam chowder, which is milky, clean, and not over-thickened, with tender clams and tiny diced potatoes. The menu features breakfast dishes, burgers, sandwiches

(all served with generic fries), variations on fish and chips including prawns, plus some entrée salads. The burgers are genuinely “have it your way” — for a few extra cents each, the kitchen will add extra ingredients (Jack or Cheddar, mushrooms, grilled onions, bacon, jalapeño). Breakfast, lunch and early dinner, daily. Inexpensive. — *N.W. (8/01)*

Dakota Grill and Spirits 901 Fifth Avenue (at E Street), Gaslamp, 619-234-5554. The name may hint at cowboy cooking, but look for simple mid-American comfort food at one of the many local eateries under the Cohn Restaurant Group aegis. A typical entrée includes a hunk of red (or “the other white”) meat cooked on a wood-fired grill, smeared with a precooked sauce that, for better or worse, first meets its mate on the plate. Meat-avoiders will find fish and poultry dishes, too. Tasty taters but dull veggies come with most entrées. Desserts run to fruity favorites like cobbblers, crisps, and upside-down cake. Treats from the wide-ranging beverage list include three-glass wine flights in four styles of wine, and a pleasant house brew, Dakota Pale Ale, that suits the food. The two-floor restaurant offers big plush booths, tall windowed walls, and a piano player gliding from rinky-dink 1950s pop to Fats Waller stylings and Ellingtonian riffs. Valet parking. Full bar. Lunch weekdays; dinner nightly. High moderate to expensive. — *N.W. (9/04)*

Darband Fifth Avenue Grill 1556 Fifth Avenue, downtown, 619-230-1001. Darband is named after an exotic mountain resort north of Tehran. Quite a contrast to this sloping

office-and-car-park strip of Fifth. Lunchtimes, office workers fill the tables. Evenings feel more, well, Persian. It’s mostly men, some playing backgammon, talking, arguing, laughing. With all the Farsi flying round, it feels like a local café back in Tehran. Food is good, fresh, regular Persian. “Khoresh Bademjan” is a tasty baby eggplant and beef stew. “Barg” is a safe bet, too — marinated beef tenderloin with rice. So is the vegetarian plate, though the veggie wrap’s cheaper. Of course, kabobs star, as do yogurt-y, cucumber-y, minty flavors. Open breakfast through dinner; closed Sunday. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (4/06)*

DeMedici 815 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-702-7228. This lovely, cream-and-sepia dining room evokes an Italian Renaissance villa, while its sidewalk patio offers a prime pageant of Gaslamp follies. Either way, you’ll enjoy exceptional service — attentive but utterly unobtrusive — and a menu centered on succulent pastas and refined seafood dishes. The nightly specials and the waiter’s recommendations for the freshest catch will lead you to the evening’s best entrées. Fish dishes are exquisite, and anything with calamari (fresh local catch) is worth ordering: Atlantic shellfish, though, tend to be a tad overcooked. Reserve, and dress on the spiffier side — some Hollywood celebs hang their Borsalinos here, upping the clothing curve. Dinner 5 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. weekdays, 5 p.m. to midnight weekends. Moderate-priced valet parking available. Moderate (simpler pastas) to very expensive. — *N.W. (8/01)*

Dublin Square 554 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-239-5818. The entire pub was hand-crafted in Waterford, shipped over, and installed (by Irish craftsmen) in the Gaslamp. The exterior indeed resembles a real (but very new) Dublin pub; the interior has authentically dim lighting and spirited Irish music, including live bands (acoustic but loud) during happy hours and some evenings. If you’re looking for food, too, there’s a fine corned beef and cabbage, resembling the corned beef of Katz’s Deli on the Lower East Side — it’s that wee touch o’ the garlic that does the trick. Other choices include Guinness beef stew, shepherd’s pie (made with ground beef), steaks, lamb medallion, fish and chips, and grilled fish, plus standard pub grub. Lunch and dinner (including Irish breakfast any time) daily. Moderate. — *N.W. (3/02)*

House Of Blues Restaurant 1055 Fifth Avenue, downtown, 619-299-2583. Best thing HOB did was *not* tear down Woolworth’s old sidewalk canopy. Now it shelters their street-side café, where you can just do coffee and people watch, or get into their Southern-inspired cuisine. This is a classy joint, with heavy flatware, big white cloth napkins, and solid china plates and cups. Can a fellow on a tight budget afford to eat here? Yes and no. Meaning, for a song you will find great chicken gumbo mixing it up with andouille (Cajun) sausage and okra in traditional brown roux with French bread, or skillet-baked rosemary cornbread with maple butter, or their delicious sweet potato fries. But you’ll need bigger notes to finance the all-beef Blues Burger with cheese and fries or the lus-

cious baby back ribs with mashed sweet potatoes. Value dessert? The white chocolate-banana bread pudding with Jack Daniel’s crème anglaise, whipped cream, and a “caramel halo” will have you singing with the angels — not the blues. Open daily, 10 a.m. to midnight. Moderate to expensive. — *E.B. (11/05)*

Kansas City Barbecue 610 West Market Street (at Harbor Drive), downtown, 619-231-9680. Scrumptious smells waft across the tracks at the Seaport Village trolley stop — barbecued pork and beef. And yeah, this is the joint where Tom Cruise and Kelly McGillis did their “sleazy bar scene” in *Top Gun*. And it is kinda sleazy, especially in the shadowy horseshoe bar, with memorabilia like hanging bras, Czech license plates, and stickers (“Grow Your Own Dope: Plant A Man”). The beef and pork ribs (or rib tips or chicken breast) are worth it. They’re cooked over an oak-fueled fire. Nice long happy hour (3:30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m., at bar only) has great food/grub deals. Open daily, lunch until late, serving until 1 a.m. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B. (3/01)*

Max New York Steakhouse and Seafood 827 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-235-8500. As steakhouses go, Max is a good value, offering huge portions of fine, gently raised near-organic meat, cooked to order and offered at relatively gentle prices. You don’t even have to pay extra for your veggies. For beef, there’s full-flavored naturally raised Angus from Idaho or butter-tender Kobe-style Wagyu beef from New Zealand. Or you can choose a giant rack of lamb, so tender it should be called “Certified Angus.” Sauces tend to be pedestrian; re-

quest them on the side. The classic steakhouse appetizers are done with some smart twists. Superb international wine list at below-average markups, including plenty by the glass. Full bar. Valet parking, or inexpensive lot via alley two doors north. Open nightly, until midnight on weekends. Upper moderate to very expensive. — *N.W. (3/04)*

Mediterranean Cafe and Lounge 1352 Fifth Avenue (between A and Ash), downtown, 619-515-2233 or 619-325-1900. Don’t come early. You’ll be all alone. Turn up around midnight, and you’ll see just how social the Lebanese can be. Meals are spread over a couple of hours with lots of conversation, probably finishing with a baklava, Turkish coffee, and a *sheesha* — water pipe (much cheaper by the hour here than down in the Gaslamp; best flavor: rose). They have the whole panoply of Middle Eastern and Greek food, but the best deals are probably the single lamb skewer on a roll of pita bread with hummus, tomato, lettuce, and pickles, or the meat pie on pita. Open 6 a.m. to 3 p.m., seven days. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B. (2/06)*

Morton’s of Chicago 285 J Street (between Second and Third), Gaslamp, 619-696-3369. This famous Chicago steakhouse is swanky, in a manly way: dark, clubby, luxurious, and louche. You go to Morton’s for great steak. Their Nebraska beef is aged and meticulously grilled to your specifications. You can get a one-and-a-half or three-pound porterhouse, which will be juicy, marbled with flavorful fat. You can also get good fish at Morton’s. The big, golden salmon fillet flakes to the fork and is

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moist, sweet, buttery. The pricey à la carte sides are either bad or mediocre. The Morton's Hot Chocolate Cake is exceptional. But go for the steak. Expensive. — *M.N. (9/99)*

Puerto la Boca 2060 India Street (at Hawthorn), Little Italy, 619-234-4900. Argentines love their beef and they love it lean and wholesome — free-range and grass fed. That's what you'll find at this uncompromisingly authentic outpost of Buenos Aires cuisine. The great national entrée is the mixed grill (*parrillada*) for two or more — a massive meatarama featuring numerous grilled cuts of marinated beef, chicken, and sausages. Start with luscious beef or corn empanadas or, if you're feeling hungry and adventurous, *matambre* (rolled beef galantine). Not a steak lover? Try the shrimp "la boca." Don't eat meat? There are vegetarian pastas and pizzas. Gnocchi (*noquis*) are served only on the 29th of each month. International, affordable choice of wines, plus Latin and U.S. beers. Full bar. Patio dining. Lunch and dinner daily. — *N.W. (8/05)*

Rainwater's on Kettner 1202 Kettner Boulevard (at B Street), Little Italy, 619-233-5757. You *could* order the fish, the chicken, or even the lamb, but odds are you're here because you want steak, prepared by people who respect your enthusiasm and offer prime beef in multiple cuts. And you're here because Rainwater's is venerable and local. You can dine old-style and enjoy it — warm cornbread fingers, a fine loose-packed crab cake, a crisp, watery wedge of iceberg lettuce under a blue cheese blanket. As for the beef, New York strip takes the day. You actually have to chew it — it ain't filet — but every chomp gives up scads of flavor. Order a side of greaseless, firm-bodied onion rings and wash it down with something from the exhaustive (and expensive) wine list. Lunch Monday through Friday from 11:30 a.m.; dinner daily. Very expensive. — *A.M. (6/03)*

Sally's on the Water Manchester Grand Hyatt, 1 Market Place (Market and Harbor Drive, adjacent to Seaport Village), downtown, 619-358-6740. On an isolated "island" between the Hyatt and Seaport Village, in fair weather you'll catch great marina views from the terrace. Under inventive young French chef Fabrice Tissier, the fare is California-French with a summery Provençal accent and an accent on seafood. Don't miss the exquisite crab cakes or the classic bouillabaisse. If you'd like to know what the chef can do when he isn't limited by the tastes of hotel diners, with 72 hours to a week's notice you can book "The Chef's Table" inside the kitchen for six to twelve people and collaborate with him on a custom menu. Sally's interior is hard-edged modern and can be noisy. Full bar, good mainly California wine list. Validated parking in hotel garage. Call for wheelchair-access directions. Lunch and dinner daily. Expensive. — *N.W. (10/04)*

Sidebar Deli California Western School of Law, corner of Second and Cedar, downtown, 619-525-1444. The motto of this place is "Every day's a good day, but some days are better than others." It certainly applies to the Sidebar, just because the daily specials can be gone in a flash. Students have fought class actions to secure lunch specials like spaghetti and meatballs with garlic bread. Of course there are always breakfast burritos, breakfast sandwiches like bacon or sausage and cheese, French Dip sandwiches, or California wraps. Open to the public, breakfast and lunch, weekdays. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (10/05)*

Strip Club 340 Fifth Avenue (at J Street), Gaslamp, 619-231-3140. This grill-your-own steak joint is a homage to Golden Hill's Turf Supper Club — but if Turf is a low-budget indie cult film, Strip Club is the Gaslamp's big, brassy, high-budget Hollywood remake (even though prices, like those of movie tickets, are roughly the same). It's loud and handsome, and if the USDA Choice steaks (available in numerous cuts) are not quite as flavorful as Turf's, they're still good enough for the price — and you can take them up a notch with numerous spice blends and sauces on hand at each gas grill. Other choices include burgers, chicken breast, ahi tuna steak, and meat or seafood kabobs (the shrimp is particularly good, with peppers, onions, and meaty hunks of portobello mushroom). Entrées come with salad and puffy, cook-it-yourself garlic bread, resembling hamburger buns with gigantiasis. Six veg and starch side dishes (including two types of gluey mashed potatoes) are available at extra cost; desserts are commercial ice cream novelties. Casual, no reservations, street-patio dining available. Over 21 only, no minors even with adult accompaniment. Dinners nightly, open late Friday and Saturday. Inexpensive to moderate. — *N.W. (11/02)*

Tesoro 548 Fifth Avenue (between Island and Market), Gaslamp, 619-234-5670. Sharp modern decor meets contemporary Mexican resort-style cuisine. Highlights include appetizers of *panuchos de cochinita* (soulful Yucatan-style pork and black bean minitostadas) and *tarta de rajás*, puff-pastry layers covered with strips of poblano chile and melted Oaxaca cheese in cream. Chicken in black Oaxacan mole sauce is an interesting, authentic entrée, and filet mignon in a sauce of *jamaica* (hibiscus flowers) is luscious. Unfortunately, few entrées include any veggies or starches, and since flavors are intense, the mouth yearns for relief. Side dishes (costing extra) are largely limited to rice, good beans, house-made tortillas, chiles. Full bar, including specialty tequila and beer drinks, Baja wines. Elevator available to mezzanine dining room and basement nightclub levels. Smart-casual dress, spiffy on weekends. Open daily, lunch and dinner. High moderate to expensive. — *N.W. (4/05)*

SOUTH BAY & CORONADO

Asian Noodles Bay Plaza Shopping Center, 1430 E. Plaza Boulevard, Suite E-12, National City, 619-477-5390. You've got to be a noodle fan to be into this. It's an outpost of the venerable Ma Mon Luk family's Filipino restaurant empire. Mr. Ma went to Manila from China nearly a century ago and introduced the idea of egg noodles in a chicken soup (instead of rice noodles). His now-famous soup (with beef or chicken these days) came to be called MaMi, (Mr. Ma's "Mi" — noodles). Yes, MaMi's a little bland, but it's filling, and their *siopao* (stuffed steam buns) make a good accompaniment. Most interesting is another invention Ma Mon Luk claims: sweet spaghetti. Open 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (3/06)*

Bistro D'Asia 1301 Orange Avenue (at B Avenue), Coronado, 619-437-6677. The relaxing restaurant attached to the hardy "Lizard Lounge" serves gentled-down dishes from all over East Asia. Among the tastiest are delicate lemon shrimps, vegetarian "monk's curry," and ice creams from Mootown Creamery. Peking Duck is accorded the full service, with a waitress garnishing the table's first round of delicate "flower buns" with crackly duck skin, scallions, and hoisin sauce. Lizard Lounge next door now houses a sushi bar as well as a liquor bar. Reserve for weekend dinners. Street parking. Well-chosen wine list. Lunch and dinner daily. — *N.W. (11/04)*

Canyon Club Cafe 421 Telegraph Canyon Road, Chula Vista, (no phone). You don't get deals like this every day — think 1940s roadhouses. Read the breakfast menu: "All items above include hash browns, toast, coffee, juice and (1) beer." Bikers (especially the U.M.F. of America, and yes, you've probably worked the letters out) appreciate this menu regularly. The food is strictly Americana, from the half plate of biscuits and gravy, to steak and eggs, to omelets with Ortega chili. Biggest threat isn't the bikers (they're "good people" according to the owners), it's gentrification. Good-tasting sandwiches: salmon burger or COBALT (Cheese, Onion, Bacon, Avocado, Lettuce, and Tomato). Open seven days, lunch and dinner, until midnight; breakfast on weekends from 9 a.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (10/05)*

China Super Buffet 3007 Highland Avenue #9, National City, 619-336-9989. This buffet promises "over 100 items daily." Yellow-gloved girls constantly rove the rows checking, stirring, wiping. A lot of the stuff is very good, like the marinated baby octopuses that look like large blushing spiders, or the mussels in their shells, bubbling golden on top with melted cheese, and of course, roast beef au jus.

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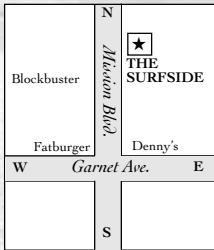
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Calendar RESTAURANTS

If you must be healthy, they have groaning salad bars and adequate sushi. It's an incredible value. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (4/05)*

Giant Pizza King 600 Palm Avenue (at Rainbow), Imperial Beach, 619-423-7601. If pizza size matters to you, try on these nine-inch-wide, foot-long, loaded pizza slices. They can flop, but they can't fail. For alternatives, the fish and chips dish is pretty generous, they make a large lasagna with garlic bread and salad, and the half-pound shrimp combo, fries, and salad is good value. You're near enough here to the beach to get supplies for sunset "green flash" parties — this is a full-on Italian take-out eatery with ham or turkey subs, spaghetti with meatballs, half-pound burgers, and more. Seven days, three meals. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (10/05)*

Lizard Lounge 1301 Orange Avenue (at B), Coronado, 619-437-6677. This venerable saloon, a Navy old-timers' favorite since the era when lounge lizards in leisure suits stalked the earth, now houses a good little sushi bar at one end of its spirits bar. The rice is well-seasoned, the seafood tastes sparkling-fresh, and each *nigiri* is given its own individual garnish (e.g., lemon with the *hamachi* roll). Most of the inside-out party rolls are variations of the California roll formula, with the same center of sweet crab and avocado, but there's also a lively mango-albacore roll, featuring tempura shrimp, avocado, and *ponzu*. For best seats and peaceful eating, come early; the bar fills fast and the room can get downright rowdy as the night rolls on. Street parking. Lunch/dinner daily. Moderate. — *N.W. (11/04)*

Lydia's Cafe and Nightclub 1628 Palm Avenue, San Diego, 619-429-3603. This easygoing dancing/eatery has a faithful following that goes back to 1957. But before you dance, eat! Check out the *birria en su jugo* (goat in its juices) with beans, rice, and tortillas, or enjoy filling snacks like *taquitos*, *cucuracha* (a corn tortilla stuffed with ham, cheese, and sour cream), or the snack Lydia says she invented: *botanas* (beans, pork, and melted cheese over corn chips). Open daily, three meals. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (11/00)*

McP's Irish Pub & Grill 1107 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-5280. With a crowd ranging from Navy retirees to chic singles barely of drinking age, the

perpetual party on McP's' patio is nurtured by above-average Irish-Mexican-American pub grub (burgers, potato skins, nachos, etc.). The Irish fare includes a pleasing Mulligan stew served in a hollowed bread-loaf and an absolutely fabulous corned beef and cabbage plate with tender, thick slices surrounding cabbage so young and sweet it ought to be carded. Good soups, too. Open daily, standard pub hours. (Breakfast Sunday during football season.) Inexpensive to low moderate. — *N.W. (4/01)*

Village Club Card Room 429 Broadway, Chula Vista, 619-425-3333. Yes, it's mostly poker players, but anybody can come in and order a meal. And here's the thing: first-time visitors get their meal free. Really. Players or nonplayers. Of course, the idea is to keep players' bellies full so they can return to the game, so even second-timers get a deal with down-home comfort-dishes like grilled chicken breast sandwich, spaghetti with meatballs and garlic bread, or garlic shrimp with fried rice and egg, plus Chinese dishes including Kung Pao beef or chicken, Mongolian beef, and a good wonton soup with noodles. Open 24 hours. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (1/04)*

B A J A

From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; when calling in Tijuana use only the restaurant's seven-digit number.

Big Boy Restaurant Agua Caliente Boulevard #9892 (across the street from the old bullring), Tijuana, 686-3788. Besides having excellent Mexican-American food, this Big Boy knock-off draws some of the most interesting people in Tijuana — journalists, lawyers, cattle ranchers, politicians, Baja's heavy hitters. Day or night, Big Boy is always busy. Gringo food's no problem. Breakfast includes eggs, bacon, sausage, chorizo or ham, plus hash browns or frijoles, toast, juice, and endless coffee. Nobody will object if you sit sipping the free refills till the moon comes up. But you won't — you'll crack and order more when you smell the popular, macho "royal" hamburger, with two beef patties, smoked ham, onions, lettuce, tomatoes, fries, and salad. Or the chicken breast marinated in tequila with cilantro, guacamole, and beans. Open 24/7. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (11/00)*

Cafe la Especial Avenida Revolución #718 (down the market steps), Tijuana, 685-6654. Café la Especial was once a great favorite of American aficionados of Tijuana's bullfights at the old down-

town Plaza de Toros. Summer Sundays, fans would crowd into the café to chow down before the fights or rush back afterwards for a few drinks and a hearty meal. Inside, little has changed, not even the 50-50 locals-to-gringos ratio. Food is standard Mexican/American border fare, from tacos and tamales to *carne asada* and *bistek ranchero*, from cactus and eggs to steak and eggs. But the atmosphere is the real draw: the low ceiling, varnished wood, black furniture with flowers painted up and down the legs and portraits on the backs, and lots of murals of Mexico on the walls. Owner Humberto Brambila's aunt Justina started it all, he says, in 1948, with the steamed taco stand upstairs. That's still going too. Open daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B. (5/02)*

El Rodeo Boulevard Salinas #1647, Tijuana, 686-5640. This 30-year-old steak haven sits on traffic-drowned Salinas, but climb onto its porch and you're at some Sonoran desert rancho, saguaro cacti and all. Inside it's dark wood and brick, wagon wheels, lariats, rifles, longhorns, and generous amounts of cattle-ranch food. Entrée price includes a delicious soup of roast beef juices, beans cooked in their own juices, a quesadilla, a salad, two *botana* (snack) plates, of, say, vinegary veggies and potatoes, and a beef liver medley, flour tortillas, chips, and hot sauce. You can get any cut of steak you want. A *parrillada* — BBQ dish — gives you marinated beef rib, *carne asada*, and barbecued chicken, all sizzling on a rancho-style metal table-top grill that glows with hot coals. Best part: the roasted spring onions played across the meat. Dessert and coffee also included. Good place for a party. Open 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. — *E.B. (5/05)*

La Baguette Boulevard Lázaro Cárdenas #1030 (a.k.a. Boulevard Costero, opposite Sanborn's between Castillo and Blancarte), Ensenada, 646-178-2814. For those who take their java straight and strong, this is a good stop for a quick continental breakfast or dessert, with quite possibly the best French Roast coffee in town. Open daily during the day. Inexpensive. — *N.W. (4/03)*

La Escondida Santa Monica #1 (in Fraccionamiento Las Palmas), Tijuana, 681-4458. This hidden ("*escondida*") mansion has been a restaurant for three decades. The terrazzo and garden overlooking the Tijuana River valley make breakfast and dinners a treat. House specialties are more interesting than the regular fare. Try the seafood casserole (*cacerola de mariscos*), the *tambor* (a dish of layered beef, cheese, and pork), or the roasted baby Monterrey goat ("*cabrito tatemado*"). Desserts include the house *especial*, mango and ice cream with

rompo (Mexican egg nog), and *crepas de cajeta* con *nieve*, crêpes with walnuts, green pistachio ice cream, and "burnt milk" caramel sauce — the nearest thing to liquid fudge this side of paradise. On weekends the place rocks with parties and live music. The big downside: It's hard to find. Take Agua Caliente Boulevard one half mile past the racetrack, turn right at Las Palmas, then left at the Rey del Pollo sign. The La Escondida entrance sign is in red neon at the road's end. Open daily for breakfast, lunch, dinner. Moderate. — *E.B. (1/05)*

La Vuelta Avenida Revolución #8210 (above 11th), Tijuana, 685-7309. Bring your lover here and hide away in one of the cuddly *carretitas* — nooks. Even if traffic is ghastly at "the turn" ("*la vuelta*") where Revolución hooks left, you forget all that inside this vestige of Olde Tijuana, with balcony seating, resident mariachis, and food and drink all day and night. Dive into a *combinación mexicana* (chile relleno, taco, and enchilada) or *carne asada* served in an *olla de barro*, an earthenware pot from Guadalajara. Even the gringo-sounding *filete mignon* with mushroom sauce somehow comes out Mexican. Most Mexicans actually turn up about 1 a.m., after their own parties, to be serenaded by the excellent 10-piece mariachi band. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (6/03)*

Restaurante Don Quijote Hotel El Conquistador (ground floor), 10750 Boulevard Agua Caliente, Tijuana, 681-7955. This tribute to the great windmill tilter himself serves as breakfast, lunch, and dinner anchor for the town's truest colonial Mexican *posada* (inn). It's a world of glowing stained-glass windows, heavy doors, and black wrought iron. You expect Zorro himself to come clattering out from the shadows on his horse. The food is standard middle-class Mexican fare, but between quail dishes and enchiladas, creations like cheese-stuffed shrimp wrapped in bacon pop out. Nicest surprise? *Sopa Azteca*, with tortilla strips, grated cheese, chopped dark red chiles, and avocado. Inexpensive to moderate. Open three meals, seven days. — *E.B. (2/06)*

MULTIPLE LOCATIONS

Buca di Beppo 705 Sixth Avenue (at G Street), Gaslamp, 619-233-7272. Also at 10749 Westview Parkway, Mira Mesa, 858-536-2822; 1921 Calle Barcelona, Carlsbad, 760-479-2533. People come here to celebrate, in party droves, by gobbling huge plates of "themed"

Italian. Buca di Beppo ("Joe's Cellar") is a mighty national chain — but it works. Downtown's rabbit-warren of low-ceilinged dining rooms is plastered with Italian photos (check out Sophia Loren, transfixed by Jane Mansfield's breasts) and crowded with customers chowing down from portions large enough to feed two or more. Try the *penne arrabiata* with its spicy sausage or the popular chicken parmigiana. Standard stuff, but what the heck — you're having fun. Don't leave without conquering the mountainous, wicked Bella Festa, two huge balls of ice cream on double chocolate cakes running with sambuca sauce, caramel, and nuts on an 18-inch plate. Open for lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B. (12/05)*

California Pizza Kitchen 3363 Nobel Drive, La Jolla Village Square, La Jolla, 858-457-4222. Also at Beachwalk Plaza, 437 South Coast Highway 101, Suite 601, Solana Beach, 858-793-0999; Carmel Mountain Plaza, 11602 Carmel Mountain Road, Carmel Mountain, 858-675-4424; and Fashion Valley Mall (second level), Suite 901, 7007 Friars Road, Mission Valley, 619-298-4078. Two Beverly Hills lawyers started this chain in 1985 to exploit "the premium pizza segment." Some 150 restaurants later, guess it worked. The place is all shiny chrome, glass, etched palm trees, golden wood and black furniture, and two pizza ovens with real logs burning inside. The Original BBQ chicken pizza, the chain's first hit, is still their top seller. It has barbecue sauce, smoked Gouda and mozzarella cheeses, BBQ chicken, red onions, and cilantro. The BBQ chicken chopped salad is good too, as is the jambalaya. If you've got a sweet tooth, but are embarrassed to order "Hawaiian" pizza, try the pear and Gorgonzola. It has caramelized pears, caramelized onions, Gorgonzola and other cheeses, and hazelnuts. At night, the Nobel Drive branch features a view of the shining Mormon cathedral. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B. (2/03)*

Joe's Crab Shack 7610 Hazard Center Drive, Mission Valley, 619-574-8617; 4325 Ocean Boulevard, Pacific Beach, 858-274-3474; 525 E. Harbor Drive, downtown, 619-233-7391; 314 Harbor Drive, South Oceanside, 760-722-1345. A seafood chain with a good Cajun corporate name (Landry's) based in southern Louisiana wouldn't survive without some pluses besides a Bourbon Street party atmosphere. Joe's is silly with crab-shack ambience (campy nautical paraphernalia on down to souvenir gimme caps), but the food's not bad. You can choose buckets of steamed, barbecued, or garlic crab (of various subspecies), or

go for fried or grilled seafood or steaks, or salads. Grown-ups may prefer the patio to the rockin', raucous interior. Full bar, not much wine. Inexpensive to low moderate. — *N.W. (5/01)*

The Original Pancake House 3906 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-565-1740. Starve yourself for eight hours, then come in here and order up an Apple Pancake — a foot-wide, batter-filled, five-egg paradise pelted with slices from two Granny Smith apples and baked till it puffs up like a golden mini-superdome. Cinnamon cinches it. The German Pancake, or its kid brother, the Dutch Baby, are good oven-baked alternatives, as is the really, really filling mushroom omelet, which comes with three pancakes. Oh, and the Eggs Michael: sausage patties and poached eggs lost somewhere under a mushroom-sherry sauce. The whole atmosphere — striped gold-and-cream wall-paper, dainty cups, shelves of ceramic dogs — feels like it's the Fifties and your granny took you here when you were five. OK, it's a nationwide franchise, but it's a comfy franchise, from Oregon. All-day breakfast only, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Inexpensive. Other locations at 14905 Pomerado Road, Poway, 858-679-0186; 160 South Rancho Santa Fe Road, Encinitas, 760-943-1939; 435 South Melrose Drive, Vista, 760-758-3441. — *E.B. (4/02)*

Ruth's Chris Steak House 11582 El Camino Real (at Arroyo Sorrento), Sorrento Hills, 858-755-1454. Flash-cooked steaks from the finest wet-aged, corn-fed USDA Prime, seasoned with salt, pepper, butter, and parsley, are the hallmark of this 95-location chain. If you aren't a salt offender, ask the kitchen to use a lighter touch. All side dishes are à la carte but come in portions large enough to feed two. The broiled tomatoes, caramelized with a touch of sugar, are a delight, and potatoes are offered in eight guises. A pecan-topped sweet potato casserole, although delicious, would be better as dessert. Non-beef-eaters can choose from numerous luxurious seafood dishes, a cheese-stuffed chicken breast, grilled portobello mushrooms, and six salads. Award-winning wine list is steep but serious, with an average bottle price of \$70 but reasonable markups and wines over \$100 offered at retail price. The main room harbors a fabulous view of the ocean if you arrive before sunset, but it's noisy — tables upstairs are quieter. Dinner nightly; lunch Friday only. Also downtown, with equally stunning views, at 1355 North Harbor Drive, 619-233-1422. Very expensive. — *B.D. (5/05)*

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Calendar

MOVIES

MOVIE LISTINGS

All reviews are by Duncan Shepherd. Priorities are indicated by one to five stars and antipathies by the black spot. Unrated movies are for now unreviewed. Thousands of past reviews sorted alphabetically, by year of release and by rating, are available online at SanDiegoReader.com.

Accepted — A seven-time college reject (Justin Long) creates his own fictitious college — South Harmon Institute of Technology, or SHIT for short — to appease his parents and to accommodate fellow rejects. “A bad idea from the get-go,” counsels a close friend — a movie review within the movie. A couple of appealing young actresses, Maria Thayer from *Strangers with Candy* and Blake Lively from *The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants*, are held down in a class of dunces. Jonah Hill, Adam Hershtman, Columbus Short; directed by Steve Pink. 2006.

● (FASHION VALLEY 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18)

All the King's Men — Steven Zaillian's new version of the Robert Penn Warren novel, with Sean Penn, Jude Law, Kate Winslet, and Anthony Hopkins. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; ENCINITAS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 9/22)

Barnyard — Formulaic computer cartoon



The Black Dahlia

rounds up a group of pop-aculturated, smart-mouth, bipedal farm animals who all look like kitsch knickknacks from a souvenir shop, a menagerie of cream pitchers, salt shakers, piggybanks, paperweights, and toothpick holders; rubber, plastic, ceramic; felt-covered, feathered, frosted. The focal figure is a bovine party animal who is expected to follow in his father's hoofprints after the latter has been torn to bits by coyotes and mourned for half a day. Father and son each appear to have a plumber's helper affixed to their abdomens (males with udders?) and more closely resemble gorillas than cows. Director Steve Oedekerk brings some experience, if not exactly expertise, from live-action films, *Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls* and *Nothing to Lose* most notably. Or rather, most notoriously. With the voices of Kevin James, Sam Elliott, Courteney Cox, Danny Glover. 2006.

● (MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24)

Beerfest — And also, as night follows day, Belchfest: an underground Olympics

of drinking games held annually in Munich under the cover of Oktoberfest. From the Broken Lizard comedy troupe (Jay Chandrasekhar, director as well as troupier), this is lowest-common-denominator stuff — notwithstanding the esoteric allusions to *Das Boot* — and its sense of humor is only marginally more sophisticated than the standard TV beer commercial in which that beverage is pictured as lifeblood, precious as heroin, dearer than loved ones, center of the universe. Still, it's a tolerable sports spoof, stray though it may in quest of laughs: phallic sausages in the hands of granny, laboratory frog masturbation, nickel-and-dime male prostitution, whatever. The German accents (more than most accents, even) are reliably amusing, and if no actual laughs escape your throat, the possibility of one is kept tantalizingly open to the end. Paul Soter, Erik Stolhanske, Kevin Heffernan, Steve Lemme, Cloris Leachman, Jurgen Prochnow. 2006.

★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; MISSION VALLEY 20)

The Black Dahlia — James Ellroy's theory of the case — the unsolved murder, disembowelment, and bisection of Hollywood wannabe Elizabeth Short in 1947 — as expounded in 325 dense pages of fiction, fitted on screen into the *film noir* boilerplate: the laconic first-person narration of a two-fisted cop (Josh Hartnett), the moody solo trumpet of Mark Isham in the background, and a blonde and brunette brace of *femmes fatales* (Scarlett Johansson, Hilary Swank). Brian De Palma, the director, has never had much grasp of narrative, and here the tangle so overwhelms him that he neglects even his baroque stylistics. A complicated piece of slo-mo action, akin to his *Potemkin* plagiarism in *The Untouchables*, is not only unpersuasive in its staging, but fails to conceal the identity of the killer despite going to great pains (short of cheating with a stand-in) to do so. The highlight, if there must be one, would probably be K.D. Lang's rendition of “Love for Sale” in a subterranean lesbian nightclub. A lower but steadier light comes from the nice waxy

sheen of Vilmos Zsigmond's cinematography. With Aaron Eckhart, Mia Kirshner, Fiona Shaw. 2006.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; ENCINITAS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; GALAXY 6; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Boynton Beach Club — It is difficult to locate the director of *Smitherens* and *Desperately Seeking Susan* in this multicharacter romantic comedy (original title: *The Boynton Beach Bereavement 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 marginal 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 singles in a 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 chosen clothes and hairdos are plainly intended as satirical, it's possible that some of the obvious surgeries are intended that way too. Dyan Cannon, Brenda Vaccaro, Sally Kellerman (no boob job for her — see?), Renée Taylor, Len Cariou, a well-preserved Joseph Bologna, and Michael Nouri, the pup of the group, are among the specimens on exhibit. 2006.

★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

Confetti — A British brides' magazine runs a contest, with the grand prize of a half-million-pound dream home, for the

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Calendar MOVIES

Most Original Wedding of the year. The themes of the three finalists: Hollywood musicals, tennis, and naturism, i.e., nudism. Shot, plausibly enough, in the mockumentary style (the magazine would naturally want a record of the event), but that style depends for its humor on the maintenance of a close contact with reality at all points, and this specimen loses contact early and often. In light of that, it seems an unwise decision to have prominently cast Martin Freeman, one of the key players in the Ricky Gervais TV series, *The Office*, which was also shot in the mockumentary style, rather implausibly for starters (why would anyone be recording the day-to-day activities of this nondescript workplace?), but which otherwise maintained close contact with reality. The comparison is unavoidable and brutal. *The Office*: funny. *Confetti*: not funny. With Jessica Stevenson, Stephen Mangan, Meredith MacNeill, Robert Webb, Olivia Colman, Vincent Franklin, Jason Watkins, and Alison Steadman; directed by Debbie Isitt. 2006. ● (HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA 12; FROM 9/22)

The Devil Wears Prada — Working-girl comedy in the vein of, oh, say, *Working Girl*, the eager, gifted, underemployed, and underpaid secretary (“A million girls would kill for that job”) and the imperious, capricious, queen-bee boss. An ice queen, more descriptively, with snow-white hair, just a bit of sludge showing through at the neck, and an anemic, cryonic complexion. Meryl Streep, in the latter part, is interesting as always, talking in a narcotized, uninflected voice that betrays no emotion deeper than a sigh. But Anne Hathaway, talking with a clothespin on her nose, doesn’t quite fill the bill as “the smart fat girl.” Or to put it more flatteringly, the offenses of her weight and her wardrobe are not overstated. Disappointingly, the possibilities of the fashion-industry setting, from Lauren Weisberger’s fang-baring novel, largely go by in a blur of montages and a blizzard of name-dropping. With Stanley Tucci, Emily Blunt, Simon Baker, and Adrien Grenier; directed by David Frankel. 2006. ★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15)

Duck Season — Modest little Mexican comedy by Fernando Eimbcke, shot in black-and-white, or anyway low-contrast gray, with an impassive static camera and a strong compositional eye for the artless, graceless lines and planes of a drab urban-scape. (The few grainy flashbacks with a mobile hand-held camera add nothing, and the one that exposes the barbarities of the Dog Pound even subtracts something.) A bit of a shaggy-dog story, or perhaps a ruffled-duck story (the title alludes to a nature painting of disputed ownership in a divorce settlement), it passes a single leisurely day in the company of two early-teen boys left alone in a middle-class apartment. The slightly older neighbor girl (a very engaged and engaging actress, Danny Perea) comes over to use the oven and warms up to one of the boys, and a pizza-delivery man won’t go away without his payment despite missing his guaranteed delivery deadline by maybe a minute. A standoff ensues, and a video-game soccer match fails to settle the argument when the power goes out in sudden-death overtime. The business of the marijuana in the birthday cake might be pretty stale, but the bigger business of human isolation and tentative connection, when observed with the patience and perception of Eimbcke, remains ever-fresh. Enrique Arreola, Diego Cataño, Daniel Miranda. 2005. ★★ (SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY, 9/25, 6:30 P.M.)

Everyone’s Hero — Computer-animated baseball yarn, a project of Christopher Reeve’s at the time of his death, taken over by co-directors Colin Brady and Dan St. Pierre.

(CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ENCINITAS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GROSSMONT

CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKET-PLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Fearless — Martial-arts period piece starring Jet Li and directed by Ronny Yu. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKET-PLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 9/22)

Flirting with Disaster — This is perhaps, just barely, recognizable as the work of the *Spanking the Monkey* man, if not for its gerundial title, then for its morbid fascination with family dysfunction. David O. Russell’s move into or toward the commercial mainstream, though, has meant an accelerated, assembly-line manufacture of jokes, and damn quality control. Right along with the intermittently funny, we get the merely naughty (the boner in the boxer shorts), merely nervy (the senior citizen’s push-up bra), merely kinky (the armpit fetish), merely what-have-you. Certainly the premise — the search of an adopted son, now with a wife and four-months-old, as-yet-unnamed son of his own, for his biological parents — affords plenty of latitude to explore different types of familial embarrassment, especially because the adoption agency sends him twice to an incorrect address. (Plenty of latitude there, too, to explore different types of geography: sunny San Diego, snowy Michigan, spooky New Mexico.) And the cast is surprising, if not consistently and equally amusing, in its breadth and diversity: Ben Stiller (a little too sitcommy or comic-sketchy), Patricia Arquette (natural as can be, under the circumstances), Téa Leoni, Mary Tyler Moore, George Segal, Alan Alda, Lily Tomlin, and lessers. But the fresh material — blood-drawing jabs at the hallowed institution of B&B’s — is overpowered by the stale: the caricatured Jewish couple, the pop-song montage, the bonking with a frying pan. The term “screwball comedy” will inevitably come to mind, prudently to be followed by a reminder that that’s just a label, not a laurel. 1996.

★ (CINEMA UNDER THE STARS, 9/21 THROUGH 23, 8:30 P.M.)

Flyboys — WWI aviation adventure with James Franco, Martin Henderson, and Jean Reno, directed by Tony Bill. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 9/22)

Gridiron Gang — Not unpalatable, but predictable and corny anti-gang message movie, based on the “TRUE STORY” (in prelude capital letters) of an experimental football program at Camp Kilpatrick juvenile detention center. Filmed in an in-your-face style by director Phil Joanou, with emphasis on coarse-grained closeups and pushy telephoto shots. Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson, billed under both his names for this “serious” acting effort, does a creditable job as the haranguing coach. With Xzibit, L. Scott Campbell, Leon Rippy, Jade Yorker, David Thomas, Setu Taase. 2006. ★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CINERAMA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ENCINITAS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKET-PLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN; SOUTH BAY DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Half Nelson — Ryan Gosling has his arms full as a do-gooding, dedicated,

young, white, liberal history teacher and girls’ basketball coach at an inner-city middle school, a voluntary role model who develops a special friendship with a fatherless black girl and a rivalry for her affections with a neighborhood dope peddler. Oh, and his usefulness as a role model, friend, or rival is somewhat compromised by his own crack addiction. That’s a recipe for complication, if not quite complexity, and the film — the first fictional feature by Ryan Fleck, an expansion of his twenty-minute short, *Gowanus, Brooklyn* — feels fairly authentic at any second (no credit to the obligatory grainy, wavery photography), but it generates no flow, no pace, no momentum. And the authenticity is compromised a bit, too, by the self-regarding, actorish work of Gosling. With Shareeka Epps, Anthony Mackie, Monique Gabriela Curnen. 2006.

★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS)

Haven — High crime and low in the Cayman Islands, with a motley cast of characters. A doubling-back storyline suppresses suspense, and the jumpy, manic visual style stirs up mainly annoyance. With Orlando Bloom, Zoe Saldana, Bill Paxton, Agnes Bruckner, Stephen Dillane, and Anthony Mackie; written and directed by Frank E. Flowers. 2006.

● (CHULA VISTA 10; ESCONDIDO 16; GASLAMP 15; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18)

Hollywoodland — The speculative investigation into the death of Superman — i.e., the man who played him on television, George Reeves — by gunshot on June 16, 1959, divides itself into the present-tense, but in no other sense tense, nosing-around of a shady private eye (Adrien Brody) and a past-tense review of the third-tier career of the deceased actor (Ben Affleck, a stiff even prior to death, several degrees colder and less supple than the real Reeves). An on-the-set vignette of Fifties grade-Z special effects is amusing in an *Ed Wood* sort of way; and the digital insertion of Affleck alongside Burt Lancaster in footage from *From Here to Eternity*, although not quite an exact match, is amusing in a different sort of way, a *Dead Men Don’t Wear Plaid* way. And the vintage clothes and cars are nice. However, the parallel plotlines take a long time to shed any light on each other, and never very much light even by the end; and the present-tense one, padded out with the case of an extraneous jealous husband, doesn’t hold up its end of things, is more of a rude interrupter, despite the anecdotal interest of the impact of the reported suicide on the detective’s young son. None of the three possible scenarios restaged for the cameras alters the essential facts of the matter: *Rashomon* this is not. Suicide, for an actor imprisoned in a single role, made sense at the time. Suicide still makes sense. The further speculation never seems more than idle. First-time filmmaker Allen Coulter (a TV veteran, albeit “quality” TV, *The Sopranos*, *Six Feet Under*, *Sex and the City*, etc.) keeps trying and trying to make it more of a story. And failing, failing. With Diane Lane, Bob Hoskins, Robin Tunney, Molly Parker. 2006.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ENCINITAS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14)

The House of Sand — Brazilian film of a mother and daughter (real-life mother and daughter Fernanda Montenegro and Fernanda Torres) marooned in the desert, directed by Andrucha Waddington. (HILLCREST CINEMAS)

The Illusionist — Ponderous amplification of a Steven Millhauser short story about a thaumaturge in turn-of-the-century Vienna (a fiercely scowling if not terribly intimidating Edward Norton), arrested on stage in the film’s first scene and fast start. There follows a tedious childhood flashback to a forbidden friendship across class barriers and a clichéd shot of clutch-

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complicated than need be, longer and slower as well, but the sentiment (or sentimentality) is always straightforward. With Ken Takakura, Shinobu Terajima, Qiu Lin, Jiang Wen, Li Jiamin, and Yang Zhenbo. 2005.

★★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE, FROM 9/22)

Scoop — A companion piece to Woody Allen’s *Match Point* only insofar as it prolongs his revitalizing sojourn in England. The half-year interval between their releases is nothing out of the ordinary for the chop-chop Woodman. Nor is the repeat appearance of Scarlett Johansson in the female lead any more remarkable than repeat appearances in the past by Diane Keaton or Mia Farrow. And the mood, in sharp contrast to the immediate predecessor, has turned decidedly light and playful, which is to say that when (inevitably) the filmmaker contemplates death, it’s in childish terms of a literal barge on the River Styx, manned by a scythe-wielding Grim Reaper. The strictly functional comedy-thriller plotline is more on the order of *Manhattan Murder Mystery*, albeit with an element of the supernatural. There is no earthly reason, outside of the bold harmonies between the whiny older man and the throaty young woman, why the Allen character should be dragged along by the Johansson on this Nancy Drew adventure (“Excitement in my life is dinner without heartburn after it”), and the steady manufacture of amusing lines runs out of steam toward the finish, and the plot premise will not stand up to scrutiny from the vantage point of the denouement. But none of that detracts from the generous supply of chuckles and cackles strewn along the way, still less does it detract from the calm and assured camera that Allen brings to the proceedings (in the right place at the right time for the right duration), and still less does it detract from his mastery and durability, at age seventy, as a comic leading man, defying every precept of polish and precision, creating a persona dependent upon verbal groping and fumbling and sputtering and stumbling, mining a private vein we might label as Lifelike Stylization. With Hugh Jackman and Ian McShane. 2006.

★★★ (GASLAMP 15; LA PALOMA)

Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby — Will Ferrell vehicle, on the NASCAR circuit, goes too far, too fast, too often, but the excesses are usually easy-

going (the bratty brothers’ response to the news of their parents’ divorce: “Yeah! Two Christmases!”), and the nonstop product plugging is satirically motivated (i.e., dramatically justified), and John C. Reilly and Gary Cole, along with Ferrell, have good eyes and ears for rednecks. With Sacha Baron Cohen, Leslie Bibb, Amy Adams, and Michael Clarke Duncan; directed by Adam McKay. 2006.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; MISSION VALLEY 20; SANTEE DRIVE IN)

This Film Is Not Yet Rated — Kirby Dick’s video documentary on the inconsistencies, injustices, etc., of the anonymous and arbitrary MPAA ratings board. The blabbedy-blah of the talking heads — filmmakers, critics, lawyers, scholars — is intermittently alleviated by some Michael Moore-style mischief, whereby a lesbian private investigator attempts to ferret out the identities of the current board members. With John Waters, Kevin Smith, Kimberly Peirce, Wayne Kramer, Maria Bello, David Ansen, Stephen Farber, among others. 2006.

★ (KEN, 9/22 THROUGH 28)

Time to Leave — François Ozon carries on in the vein of his immediately preceding and best film to date, *5x2*, the reverse-chronology account of marital disintegration. That vein — stopping short of ninety minutes in both instances — evades the campy artifice of his *8 Women* and his *Water Drops on Burning Rocks*, as well as the catty ambiguity of his *Swimming Pool* and his *Under the Sand*. It perhaps, in its emotional directness and emotional intensity, verges on the sentimental; and yet, just as that seemed unobjectionable in a film about the end of a relationship, it again seems so in a film about the end of a life: that of a self-absorbed thirty-one-year-old homosexual fashion photographer, every bit as gorgeous as his models, who blanks out in the midst of a humdrum photo shoot, learns he has an inoperable cancer (emphatically not AIDS, not a lifestyle thing, not a political thing), and chooses to go to his grave without a struggle, sooner rather than later. Unresolved personal issues — the sponging live-in lover, the mother who obstinately continues to look to him for grandchildren, the rejected divorced sister and the two unembraced children of her own — now become irresolv-

able, to be dealt with in untidy ways, as best as he’s able. Hard for him though this is, the unfolding narrative remains free-flowing, even when diverted into flashbacks, smooth as a train of thought, unencumbered by heavy drama or profound epiphany. A few moving, movie-ish moments fight through the messiness: the final goodbye to his beloved grandmother, the only family member who, dying herself, has been entrusted with his bad news; the clandestine snapshots of his sister and her children in a public park, in violation of his strict aesthetic rule against family portraits; the solitary trip to the beach for a last ice cream, a last swim, a last sunset. Ozon’s camerawork — cinematographer Jeanne Lapoirie’s camerawork — is steady and controlled, the shots chosen with care and economy, as if to put a value on vision, a price on perception. And the color palette lays out a bright, rich, wide-screen world that seems a shame to leave. Melvil Poupaud, Valeria Bruni-Tedeschi, Jeanne Moreau, Marie Rivière, Daniel Duval. 2005.

★★★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS, THROUGH 9/21)

Tron — Disney’s leap into the artistic future is also into an artistic void. Computer-generated movie images have plainly come a long way (one way or another, outwards if not forwards, breadthwise if not depthwise) from the 1960s avant-garde abstractions of the Whitney brothers, John and James, and on back to the experiments of pre-computer pioneers like Len Lye and Norman McLaren. And writer-director Steven Lisberger, with his first live-action movie, may have achieved something of a breakthrough in his full-length intertwining of experimental filmmaking techniques and a conventional narrative line. At the same time, there is a sense that the arranged marriage between these two elements has been rather rushed into, without due care taken to ascertain whether the two parties possess similar interests and goals, and without working out an equitable division of tasks. The emergent problems may not suggest an inherent incompatibility, but rather just an unreadiness on one side or the other to pitch in and do its fair share. The urge to anthropomorphize and geographize computer programs is perhaps excusable as an idle daydream, but its palpable realization here, when Lisberger takes us on a tour of computer innards, suggests nothing so much as the sort of TV commercial in which stomach acid or carburetor sludge

is given form as a human miscreant (or perhaps better yet, nothing so much as the concluding episode of *Everything You Always Wanted to Know about Sex*, with Woody Allen impersonating a drop of semen). And the software landscape, though filled with multiform wonders, looks quite like a cartoon — albeit with a plasticky, Pop-art surface to it — and quite uninhabitable by human actors. With Jeff Bridges, Bruce Boxleitner, and David Warner. 1982.

★★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE, 9/23 MIDNIGHT)

The Wicker Man — A needless remake, though not as big a time-waster for the viewer (an hour and three-quarters) as for the writer and director, Neil LaBute, known for less generic stuff like *In the Company of Men* and *Your Friends and Neighbors*. He has weeded out some of the silliness of the 1973 British original, but that bit of gardening is offset by his transplanting of the action to a Goddess-worshipping, organic-farming colony on a private island in Puget Sound, where a California motorcycle cop (Nicolas Cage, not altogether serious about the assignment) has come on a personal invitation from his former fiancée to search for her missing child. Further, the pruning of the protagonist’s Christian faith and the grafting-on of a fresh mental trauma and some cheap-thrill dreams are no help at all. If the film serves no other purpose, it at least allows the filmmaker’s suspected undercurrent of misogyny to erupt unambiguously and unapologetically into a geyser. The ad campaign — “A psychological thriller. A mind blowing conclusion” — leaves no possibility, even if you missed the original, that the ending is going to sneak up on you. Unless, that is, the campaign strategists thought your mind might be blown by the unannounced guest appearance of James Franco in a redundant epilogue, or by the closing dedication of the film to the late punk rocker, Johnny Ramone. (Whoa.) With Ellen Burstyn, Kate Beahan, Molly Parker, Frances Conroy, and Leelee Sobieski. 2006.

● (CHULA VISTA 10; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN)

World Trade Center — Looking on the bright side of 9/11: the fact-based story 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, and survived the collapse of it on top of them. This feel-good approach seems a particularly unexpected one, 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 freshness of the 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. 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 re-created 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 the first tower, 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 fire-fighters 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. 2006.

★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24)

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YORK TIMES

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MOVIE SHOWTIMES

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information. Bargain
showtimes are in parentheses.

CENTRAL

CLAIREMONT

Town Square 14

4665 Clairemont Drive (858-274-1234)

All the King's Men (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (12:15, 3:45) 7:05, 10:10; **The Black Dahlia** (R) Fri.,-Sun. (12:55) 4:20, 7:00, 9:35; **The Covenant** (R) Fri.,-Sun. (1:05) 5:15, 7:35, 9:45; **Everyone's Hero** (G) Fri.,-Sun. (12:00, 2:10) 4:40, 6:50, 9:20; **Fearless** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (12:30) 5:00, 7:30, 9:55; **Flyboys** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (12:35) 4:25, 7:20, 10:15; **Gridiron Gang** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (12:25) 4:45, 7:25, 9:50; **Hollywoodland** (R) Fri. (12:50) 4:15, 7:10, 10:00 Sat. (12:50) 4:15, 10:00 Sun. (12:50) 4:15, 10:00; **The Illusionist** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (12:45) 5:05, 7:40, 10:05; **Invincible** (PG) Fri.,-Sun. (12:05, 2:30) 5:25, 7:50, 10:15; **Jackass Number Two** (R) Fri.,-Sat. (12:05, 1:00, 2:20, 3:15) 4:55, 5:30, 7:15, 7:55, 9:30, 10:20 Sun. (12:05, 1:00, 2:20, 3:15) 4:55, 5:30, 7:15, 8:10, 9:30; **The Last Kiss** (R) Fri.,-Sat. (12:20) 5:35, 8:00, 10:25 Sun. (12:20) 5:35, 8:00, 10:20; **Little Miss Sunshine** (R) Fri.,-Sun. (12:10, 2:35) 5:20, 7:45, 10:10; **School for Scoundrels** (PG-13) Sat. 7:10

DOWNTOWN

Gaslamp 15

701 Fifth Avenue (619-232-0400)

The Black Dahlia (R) Fri.,-Sat. (1:45) 4:40, 7:35, 10:30 Sun. (1:45) 4:40, 7:35, 10:15; **The Covenant** (R) Fri.,-Sat. (2:50) 5:30, 8:10, 10:35 Sun. (2:50) 5:25, 8:05, 10:30; **The Devil Wears Prada** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (1:35) 4:35, 7:20, 10:00 Sun. (1:35) 4:35, 7:20, 9:50; **Fearless** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (1:40, 2:40) 4:20, 5:20, 7:00, 8:00, 9:50, 10:40 Sun. (1:40, 2:40) 4:20, 5:15, 7:00, 8:15, 9:40; **Flyboys** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (1:05) 4:15, 7:30, 10:45 Sun. (1:05) 4:15, 7:25, 10:25; **Haven** (R) Fri.,-Sat. (2:25) 5:15, 7:55, 10:25 Sun. (2:25) 5:10, 7:55, 10:15; **Idlewild** (R) Fri.,-Sat. (1:20) 4:25, 7:10, 10:05 Sun. (1:20) 4:25, 7:10, 9:50; **Invincible** (PG) Fri.,-Sat. (1:55) 4:50, 7:40, 10:15 Sun. (1:55) 4:50, 7:40, 10:10; **The Last Kiss** (R) Fri.,-Sat. (2:55) 5:35, 8:15, 10:50 Sun. (2:55) 5:30, 8:00, 10:20; **A Scanner Darkly** (R) Fri.,-Sat. (2:10) 4:55, 7:45, 10:20 Sun. (2:10) 4:55, 7:45, 10:05; **Scoop** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (2:20) 5:05, 7:50, 10:20 Sun. (2:20) 5:05, 7:50, 10:00; **The Wicker Man** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (2:30) 5:25, 8:05, 10:35 Sun. (2:30) 5:20, 8:10, 10:30; **World Trade Center** (Pg-13) Fri.,-Sat. (1:00, 3:55) 7:05, 10:10 Sun. (1:00, 3:55) 7:05, 9:55; **You, Me and Dupree** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. (1:30) 4:30, 7:15, 9:55 Sun. (1:30) 4:30, 7:15, 9:45

Horton Plaza 14

Horton Plaza (619-444-FILM)

All the King's Men (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (12:50, 3:40) 7:05, 10:20; **Beerfest** (R) Fri.,-Sun. 9:25; **Crank** (R) Fri. (12:40, 2:55, 5:15) 7:40, 9:45 Sat.,-Sun. (12:40, 2:55) 5:15, 7:40, 9:45; **Everyone's Hero** (G) Fri. (12:10, 2:30, 4:45) 7:10 Sat.,-Sun. (12:10, 2:30) 4:45, 7:10; **Gridiron Gang** (PG-13) Fri. (12:35, 1:05, 3:50, 4:20) 6:50, 7:20, 10:00, 10:30 Sat.,-Sun. (12:35, 1:05, 3:50) 4:20, 6:50, 7:20, 10:00, 10:30; **Hollywoodland** (R) Fri. (12:45, 4:05) 6:55, 10:10 Sat.,-Sun. (12:45) 4:05, 6:55, 10:10; **The Illusionist** (PG-13) Fri. (12:05, 2:35, 5:05) 7:45, 10:15 Sat.,-Sun. (12:05, 2:35) 5:05, 7:45, 10:15; **An Inconvenient Truth** (PG) Fri. (12:15, 2:40, 4:55) 7:25, 10:05 Sat.,-Sun. (12:15, 2:40) 4:55, 7:25, 10:05; **Jackass Number Two** (R) Fri. (12:00, 12:30, 2:20, 2:50, 4:40, 5:10) 7:00, 7:30, 9:20, 9:50 Sat.,-Sun. (12:00, 12:30, 2:20, 2:50) 4:40, 5:10, 7:00, 7:30, 9:20, 9:50; **Monster House** (PG) Fri. (12:20, 2:45, 5:00) 7:15, 9:30 Sat.,-Sun. (12:20, 2:45) 5:00, 7:15, 9:30; **The Protector** (PG-13) Fri. (12:55, 3:10, 5:20) 7:35, 9:55 Sat. (12:55, 3:10) 9:55 Sun. (12:55, 3:10) 5:20, 7:35, 9:55; **School for Scoundrels** (PG-13) Sat. 7:00; **Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby** (PG-13) Fri. (12:25, 3:05, 5:35) 8:05, 10:35 Sat.,-Sun. (12:25, 3:05) 5:35, 8:05, 10:35; **You Are So Handsome** (Not Rated) Fri.,-Sun. 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

LA JOLLA

La Jolla 12

8657 Villa La Jolla Drive (858-558-2262)

All the King's Men (PG-13); **The Black Dahlia** (R); **Confetti** (R); **Everyone's Hero** (G); **Fearless** (PG-13); **Flyboys** (PG-13); **Gridiron Gang** (PG-13); **Haven** (R); **Invincible** (PG); **Jackass Number Two** (R); **The Last Kiss** (R); **Little Miss Sunshine** (R)

La Jolla Village

8879 Villa La Jolla Drive (619-819-0236)

Boynton Beach Club () Fri. (2:20, 4:50) 7:20 Sat.,-Sun. (11:50) 2:20, 4:50, 7:20; **Hollywoodland** (R) Fri. (1:50, 5:00) 8:00 Sat.,-Sun. (11:10) 1:50, 5:00, 8:00; **The Illusionist** (PG-13) Fri. (2:00, 4:30) 7:00, 9:40 Sat.,-Sun. (11:30) 2:00,

4:30, 7:00, 9:40; **Only Human** (R) Fri.,-Sun. 10:00; **Riding Alone for Thousands of Miles** (PG) Fri. (2:10, 4:40) 7:10, 9:50 Sat.,-Sun. (11:40) 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:50; **Tron** (PG)

MIRA MESA

Mira Mesa 18

10733 Westview Parkway (858-635-7700)

Call theater for program information

MISSION VALLEY

Fashion Valley 18

7037 Friars Road (858-558-2262)

Accepted (PG-13); **All the King's Men** (PG-13); **Beerfest** (R); **The Black Dahlia** (R); **The Covenant** (R); **Crank** (R); **The Devil Wears Prada** (PG-13); **Everyone's Hero** (G); **Fearless** (PG-13); **Flyboys** (PG-13); **Gridiron Gang** (PG-13); **Hollywoodland** (R); **Invincible** (PG); **Jackass Number Two** (R); **The Last Kiss** (R); **The Protector** (PG-13); **Step Up** (PG-13); **Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby** (PG-13); **The Wicker Man** (PG-13); **World Trade Center** (Pg-13)

Mission Valley 7

7510 Hazard Center Drive (619-685-2841)

All the King's Men (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. 11:15 (2:15) 5:15, 8:00, 10:45 Sun. 11:15 (2:15) 5:15, 8:00; **The Black Dahlia** (R) Fri.,-Sat. 11:15 (2:00, 4:45) 7:30, 10:15 Sun. 11:15 (2:00, 4:45) 7:30; **Everyone's Hero** (G) Fri.,-Sat. 12:00 (2:30, 4:45) 7:00, 9:15 Sun. 12:00 (2:30, 4:45) 7:00; **Gridiron Gang** (PG-13) Fri. 11:00 (2:00) 5:00, 7:45, 10:30 Sat. 11:00 (2:00) 5:00, 10:30 Sun. 11:00 (2:00) 5:00, 7:45; **Hollywoodland**

(R) Fri.,-Sat. 11:00 (4:30) 10:00 Sun. 11:00 (4:30); **The Illusionist** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 1:45, 7:15; **Jackass Number Two** (R) Fri.,-Sat. 12:45 (3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45 Sun. 12:45 (3:15) 5:45, 8:15; **The Last Kiss** (R) Fri.,-Sat. 11:30 (2:15) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30 Sun. 11:30 (2:15) 5:30, 8:00; **School for Scoundrels** (PG-13) Sat. 7:45

Mission Valley 20

1640 Camino Del Rio North (858-558-2262)

Accepted (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 11:50, 2:15, 4:40; **All the King's Men** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. 10:20, 1:15, 4:10, 7:20, 10:20 Sun. 10:20, 1:15, 4:10, 7:25, 10:25; **Beerfest** (R) Fri.,-Sun. 11:00, 1:55; **The Black Dahlia** (R) Fri.,-Sat. 10:25, 1:20, 4:25, 7:25, 10:25 Sun. 10:25, 1:20, 4:25, 7:20, 10:15; **The Covenant** (R) Fri.,-Sat. 11:55, 2:45, 5:30, 8:10, 10:40 Sun. 11:55, 2:45, 5:30, 8:10, 10:35; **Crank** (R) Fri.,-Sat. 10:30, 12:35, 2:50, 5:15, 7:50, 10:05 Sun. 10:30, 12:35, 2:50, 5:15, 7:50, 10:00; **The Devil Wears Prada** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 10:35, 6:40, 9:25; **Everyone's Hero** (G) Fri.,-Sun. 10:00, 12:15, 2:35, 4:55, 7:10, 9:40; **Fearless** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. 10:40, 1:25, 4:05, 6:45, 9:30 Sun. 10:40, 1:25, 4:05, 6:45, 9:20; **Flyboys** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. 10:00, 1:05, 4:20, 7:35, 10:50 Sun. 10:00, 1:05, 4:20, 7:25, 10:30; **Gridiron Gang** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. 10:10, 10:55, 1:00, 1:45, 3:55, 4:45, 6:55, 7:45, 9:50, 10:45 Sun. 10:10, 10:55, 1:00, 1:45, 3:55, 4:45, 6:55, 7:45, 9:50, 10:35; **Hollywoodland** (R) Fri.,-Sat. 10:05, 12:55, 4:15, 7:15, 10:15 Sun. 10:05, 12:55, 4:15, 7:15, 10:05; **Invincible** (PG) Fri.,-Sun. 10:50, 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45; **Jackass Number Two** (R) Fri.,-Sat. 10:15, 11:15, 12:30, 1:50, 2:55, 4:35, 5:25, 7:05, 8:00, 9:55, 10:35 Sun. 10:15, 11:15, 12:30, 1:50, 2:55, 4:35, 5:25, 7:05, 8:00, 9:30, 10:15; **The Last Kiss** (R) Fri.,-Sat. 11:05, 1:40,

4:30, 7:30, 10:10 Sun. 11:05, 1:40, 4:30, 7:30, 10:05; **The Protector** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 7:15, 9:35; **Step Up** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 1:10, 3:50; **Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. 11:40, 2:20, 5:00, 7:55, 10:35 Sun. 11:40, 2:20, 5:00, 7:55, 10:25; **The Wicker Man** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sat. 4:50, 7:40, 10:30 Sun. 4:50, 7:40, 10:20

STATE UNIVERSITY

Cinerama 6

5831 University Avenue (619-287-8990)

Crank (R) Fri. (2:40) 5:05, 7:20, 9:30 Sat. (12:35, 2:40) 5:05, 7:20, 9:30 Sun. (12:35, 2:40) 5:05, 7:20; **Fearless** (PG-13) Fri. (2:50) 5:30, 8:05, 10:30 Sat. (12:15, 2:50) 5:30, 8:05, 10:30 Sun. (12:15, 2:50) 5:30, 8:05; **Gridiron Gang** (PG-13) Fri. (2:45) 5:25, 8:00, 10:40 Sat. (12:05, 2:45) 5:25, 8:00, 10:40 Sun. (12:05, 2:45) 5:25, 8:00; **Idlewild** (R) Fri. (2:30) 5:20, 7:50, 10:20 Sat. (12:00, 2:30) 5:20, 7:50, 10:20 Sun. (12:00, 2:30) 5:20, 7:50; **Jackass Number Two** (R) Fri. (2:55) 5:15, 7:30, 9:40 Sat. (12:25, 2:55) 5:15, 7:30, 9:40 Sun. (12:25, 2:55) 5:15, 7:30; **Step Up** (PG-13) Fri. (2:35) 5:00, 7:40, 10:05 Sat. (12:10, 2:35) 5:00, 7:40, 10:05 Sun. (12:10, 2:35) 5:00, 7:40

Ken

4061 Adams Avenue (619-819-0236)

This Film Is Not Yet Rated (Not Rated) Fri. (4:45) 7:15, 9:45 Sat.,-Sun. (2:15) 4:45, 7:15, 9:45

UPTOWN

Cinema Under the Stars

4040 Goldfinch Street (619-295-4221)

Flirting with Disaster (R)

Hillcrest Cinemas

3965 Fifth Avenue (619-819-0236)

Confetti (R) Fri. (2:10, 4:50) 7:30, 9:55 Sat.,-Sun. (11:30) 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 9:55; **Feast** (R) Fri.,-Sat. 10:00; **Half Nelson** (R) Fri. (1:50, 4:30) 7:10, 9:45 Sat.,-Sun. (11:10) 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:45; **The House of Sand** (R) Fri. (1:40, 4:20) 7:00 Sat. (11:00) 1:40, 4:20, 7:00 Sun. (11:00) 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40; **Little Miss Sunshine** (R) Fri. (2:00, 4:40) 7:20, 9:50 Sat.,-Sun. (11:20) 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 9:50; **Poster Boy** (R) Fri. (2:20, 5:00) 7:40, 10:05 Sat.,-Sun. (11:40) 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:05

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center

1875 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-238-1233)

Alaska: Spirit of the Wild (Not Rated) Fri. 7:00; **Antarctica** (Not Rated) Fri. 6:00; **Deep Sea 3D** (G) Fri. 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 9:00 Sat. 10:00, 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00 Sun. 10:00, 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00; **Greece: Secrets of the Past** (Not Rated) Fri. 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 8:00 Sat. 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00 Sun. 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00

EAST COUNTY

EL CAJON

Parkway Plaza 18

405 Parkway Plaza (619-401-3456)

Accepted (PG-13) Fri. (11:45, 2:15, 4:40) 7:15, 9:45 Sat.,-Sun. (11:45, 2:15) 4:40, 7:15, 9:45; **All the King's Men** (PG-13) Fri. (11:00, 1:55, 5:05) 8:05, 11:00 Sat.,-Sun. (11:00, 1:55) 5:05, 8:05, 11:00; **Barnyard** (PG) Fri. (11:30, 1:55, 4:25) Sat.,-Sun. (11:30, 1:55) 4:25; **The Black Dahlia** (R) Fri. (11:15, 1:20, 2:10, 4:10, 5:00) 7:00, 7:45, 9:55, 10:35 Sat.,-Sun. (11:15, 1:20, 2:10) 4:10, 5:00, 7:00, 7:45, 9:55, 10:35; **The Covenant** (R) Fri. (12:00, 2:30, 5:05) 7:50, 10:25 Sat.,-Sun. (12:00, 2:30) 5:05, 7:50, 10:25; **Crank** (R) Fri.,-Sun. 6:55, 9:20; **Everyone's Hero** (G) Fri. (11:15, 1:50, 4:20) 6:50, 9:10 Sat.,-Sun. (11:15, 1:50) 4:20, 6:50, 9:10; **Fearless** (PG-13) Fri. (11:40, 2:25, 5:10) 8:00, 10:40 Sat.,-Sun. (11:40, 2:25) 5:10, 8:00, 10:40; **Flyboys** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. (12:30, 3:50) 7:10, 10:30; **Gridiron Gang** (PG-13) Fri. (11:05, 12:45, 2:00, 3:45, 4:55) 6:50, 7:50, 10:00, 10:45 Sat.,-Sun. (11:05, 12:45, 2:00, 3:45) 4:55, 6:50, 7:50, 10:00, 10:45; **Haven** (R) Fri.,-Sun. (11:35); **How to Eat Fried Worms** (PG) Fri. (11:40, 2:00, 4:35) Sat.,-Sun. (11:40, 2:00) 4:35; **The Illusionist** (PG-13) Fri. (11:25, 2:10, 4:50) 7:30, 10:20 Sat.,-Sun. (11:25, 2:10) 4:50, 7:30, 10:20; **Invincible** (PG) Fri. (11:10, 1:45, 4:30) 7:10 Sat.,-Sun. (11:10, 1:45) 4:30, 7:10; **Jackass Number Two** (R) Fri. (11:30, 12:15, 2:05, 2:50, 4:40, 5:25) 7:15, 8:15, 9:50, 10:55 Sat.,-Sun. (11:30, 12:15, 2:05, 2:50) 4:40, 5:25, 7:15, 8:15, 9:50, 10:55; **The Last Kiss** (R) Fri. (11:20, 2:05, 4:55) 7:35, 10:15 Sat.,-Sun. (11:20, 2:05) 4:55, 7:35, 10:15; **The Protector** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 9:50; **Step Up** (PG-13) Fri.,-Sun. 7:05, 9:40; **The Wicker Man** (PG-13) Fri. (2:20, 5:10) 7:45, 10:40 Sat.,-Sun. (2:20) 5:10, 7:45, 10:40

LA MESA

Grossmont Center

Grossmont Center (619-465-7100)

All the King's Men (PG-13) Fri. (12:30, 3:35) 7:00, 10:05 Sat. (12:20, 3:35) 7:00, 10:05 Sun. (12:20, 3:35) 7:00, 9:55; **The Black Dahlia** (R) Fri. (1:45) 4:45, 7:30, 10:20 Sat. (11:00, 1:55) 4:45, 7:30, 10:20 Sun. (11:00, 1:55) 4:45, 7:30, 10:10; **Everyone's Hero** (G) Fri. (1:25, 3:45) 5:55, 8:00, 10:10 Sat. (11:10, 1:25, 3:45) 5:55, 8:00, 10:10 Sun. (11:10, 1:25, 3:45) 5:55, 8:00, 10:00; **Fearless** (PG-13) Fri. (12:20, 2:55) 5:30, 8:10, 10:45 Sat. (12:10, 2:50) 5:30, 8:10, 10:45 Sun. (12:10, 2:50) 5:30, 8:05, 10:30; **Flyboys** (PG-13) Fri. (12:50, 3:55) 7:15, 10:25 Sat. (12:40, 3:55) 7:15, 10:25 Sun. (12:40, 3:55) 7:15, 10:15; **Gridiron Gang** (PG-13) Fri. (2:00) 4:50, 7:45, 10:30 Sat. (11:25, 2:10) 4:50, 7:45, 10:30 Sun. (11:25, 2:10) 4:50, 7:45, 10:20; **Invincible** (PG) Fri. (12:10, 2:40) 4:55, 7:20, 9:45 Sat.,-Sun. (11:50, 2:20) 4:55, 7:20, 9:45; **Jackass Number Two** (R) Fri. (12:00, 2:35) 5:00, 7:35, 10:15 Sat. (11:55, 2:25) 5:00, 7:35, 10:15 Sun. (11:55, 2:25) 5:00, 7:35, 10:05; **The Last Kiss** (R) Fri. (12:40, 3:05) 5:40, 8:20, 10:50 Sat. (12:30, 3:05) 5:40, 8:20, 10:50 Sun. (12:30, 3:05) 5:40, 8:10, 10:35; **Little Miss Sunshine** (R) Fri. (1:55) 4:35, 7:05, 9:30 Sat.,-Sun. (11:35, 2:05) 4:35, 7:05, 9:30

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SEEN ON
DVD

MARY LOU MORREAL

Art director, San Diego Natural History Museum

If I were to name three movies that are must-sees, the first would be any movie by Spanish filmmaker Pedro Almodóvar. His movies (the most recent being *Bad Education*) always have a great story with interesting characters and colorful sets.

Roman Polanski's *Chinatown* is just a perfect movie. I could watch it a million times. The characters are so well developed and the pacing is so great that even though I know what's going to happen, I'm still captivated throughout the whole movie.

And forget the remake, the original version of *The Manchurian Candidate* is the only way to go. Chinese Communists brainwashing Frank Sinatra, and Angela Lansbury is pure evil — what's not to love?

PEDRO ALMODOVAR *FOUR PACK: BAD EDUCATION, FLOWER OF MY SECRET, ALL ABOUT MY MOTHER, TALK TO HER* (Spain), Columbia Tristar
List price: \$129.95 (four discs)
CHINATOWN (USA) 1974, Paramount
List price: \$12.98
THE MANCHURIAN CANDIDATE (USA) 1962, MGM
List price: \$14.98

HALLIE SHERE

Marketing coordinator, San Diego Natural History Museum,
www.sdnhm.org

The San Diego Natural History Museum hosts classic dinosaur movie nights this fall. These DVDs complement the series. Since we're showing a newly colorized version of the 1935 fantasy *She*, watch the original and decide if colorizing adds or takes away from its appeal. The story involves an expedition seeking an all-powerful female with the secret of eternal life. The production design is amazing as is Max Steiner's score.

After watching the classic *King Kong* at the museum, check out Peter Jackson's 2005 version and see if \$207 million makes a better movie. The billboards in Times Square are the same ones used in the 1933 film.

Finally, the great silent movie *The Lost World* offers the first film of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's book. Special-effects legend Willis O'Brien used more than 50 miniature models of dinosaurs for his stop-motion photography. The result was revolutionary for its time.

SHE (USA) 1935, Image Entertainment
List price: \$29.95
KING KONG (New Zealand/USA) 2005, Universal
List price: \$29.98
THE LOST WORLD (USA) 1925, Image Entertainment
List price: \$19.99

MITCHELL JOHNSON

Visitors' services supervisor, San Diego Natural History Museum

My all-time favorite is *Big Fish*. Throughout the movie you never know exactly what's real and what's imaginary. But in the end it doesn't matter. The love story and the relationship between the main character and his son offer great messages about perseverance, forgiveness, and faith. Every time I watch it, I see something new.

Another movie everyone should see is *Braveheart*. Say what you want about Mel Gibson as a person, but in this movie he's amazing. The story's unpredictable and you never know what's going to happen. I know not everything is historically accurate, but I don't care; it's that good.

In a similar vein is *Gladiator*. There are some very graphic scenes, but the acting and writing are so well crafted that every bit of violence is justified. This movie makes me feel like I am right there in Rome watching everything happen.

BIG FISH (USA) 2003, Sony Pictures
List price: \$19.94
BRAVEHEART (USA) 1995, Paramount
List price: \$19.99
GLADIATOR (England/USA) 2000, Dreamworks
List price: \$29.99

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Calendar
MOVIES

TON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

An Inconvenient Truth — A documentary for the Don't-Blame-Me-I-Voted-for-Gore crowd. It has a nominal director, Davis Guggenheim, but it's Al Gore's show, a self-described "slide show," or illustrated lecture, and not really a movie, to do with the causes and effects of global warming. This is laid out explicitly as less a political issue than "a moral issue," and laid out, tacitly, as a doomsday science-fiction scenario (think *The Day after Tomorrow*, think *Waterworld*, or if you're a reader, think *The Drowned World* or *The Kraken Wakes*), with a wealth of facts and figures for substantiation. "I've been trying to tell this story for a long time," remarks our lecturer, who estimates that he has delivered the presentation a thousand times around the globe, "and I feel as if I've failed to get the message across." Thus the movie. A new medium, a new conveyance. Needless to say, the identity of the messenger will by itself be enough to persuade a large fraction of the public to stay clear, on the presumption that all he wants to do is to take away from their annual stock dividends. They will miss an interesting, entertaining, and alarming show. 2006.

★★ (HORTON PLAZA 14; LA PALOMA)

Invincible — From the busy Disney sports department, an implausible but true story made more implausible and less true (and not made "better" in the process), the football equivalent of baseball's *The Rookie*, wherein a thirtyish laid-off schoolteacher, part-time bartender, and abandoned husband in South Philly, name of Vince Papale, earns a spot on the Eagles roster at an open tryout under new coach Dick Vermeil in 1976. (Same year as that purely fictional Philly fairy tale, *Rocky*.) Glossy photography by Ericson Core, who also, à la Peter Hyams, directed; a luxuriance of Seventies hair and explosion of garish fashions; an occasional anachronism ("You disrespecting me?"); a nice, low-key, uncocky portrayal by Mark Wahlberg in the lead role and a complementary one by Kevin Conway as the pessimistic but proud papa; and a passable impersonation of Vermeil by the geeky Greg Kinnear. Vivid vignette: the rookie coach and rookie player throwing up in side-by-side stalls in the locker room (audio only, thank you) before the opening game against the fearsome Cowboys. With Elizabeth Banks, Michael Rispoli, Kirk Acevedo, Dov Davidoff, and Michael Kelly. 2006.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CINERAMA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ENCINITAS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Jackass Number Two — Don't-try-this-at-home hijinks with Johnny Knoxville, Bam Margera, Chris Pontius, and Steve-O, directed by Jeff Tremaine.

(CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CINERAMA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ENCINITAS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; SOUTH BAY DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; FROM 9/22)

The Last Kiss — Americanization, and if it doesn't go without saying, vulgarization, of the Italian film of the same name, a fear-of-adulthood seriocomedie centered around a tight-knit group of pushing-thirties. The young cast has some glaring weak spots — Zach Braff looks as if he'd prefer to turn it into a lighter comedy, Rachel Bilson can barely deliver a line — and all of them are outshone by the oldsters, Tom Wilkinson and Blythe Danner. With Jacinda Barrett, Casey Affleck, Michael Weston, Eric Christian Olsen, and Marley Shelton; directed by Tony Goldwyn. 2006.

★ (DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14)

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 System. Sample pearl, in casual conversation: "Sarcasm is the refuge of losers." Mom (Toni Collette) is not such an arrant embarrassment, is not really much of anything, except that she has taken responsibility for and custody of her homosexual brother (Steve Carell), a failed suicide and the self-professed, as opposed to acknowledged, "pre-eminent Proust scholar in the United States." Dad's dad (Alan Arkin), who resides in the same household, is a scurrilous cokehead. And the kids are a Nietzsche-reading teenage boy (Paul Dano) who has held fast to a vow of silence for nine months, though he is not averse to communication via notepad ("I hate everyone"), and an owlishly bespectacled younger sister (Abigail Breslin) in competition for the crown of Little Miss Sunshine in Redondo Beach. Since the family lives in Albuquerque, a road movie ensues, with all members of the family packed into a yellow-and-white VW bus. You wait with dread for the moment that will cause the boy to break his silence, and even greater dread for the first public performance of the girl's "talent" as nurtured in secret by Granddad; and the dread in each case proves fully justified. Quirkiness does not preclude sappiness. There are ample compensations, however. Little Miss Breslin is a good crier, and her competitors in the beauty pageant are a frightening collection of JonBenét 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. 2006.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; ESCONDIDO 16; FLOWER HILL 4; GROSSMONT CENTER; HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Poster Boy — Matt Newton as the gay son of a conservative U.S. Senator (Michael Lerner), directed by Zak Turner. (HILLCREST CINEMAS, FROM 9/22)

Riding Alone for Thousands of Miles — After the spectacle of his historical martial-arts epics, *Hero* and *House of Flying Daggers*, Zhang Yimou returns to the simplicity of modern life: the quixotic quest of a taciturn Japanese fisherman — cutting through miles and miles, if not thousands, of Chinese red tape, reminiscent of *The Story of Qiu Ju* — on behalf of his estranged dying son. He — the father or the filmmaker, either one — makes the quest more

ing fingertips poignantly pulled apart. The separated friends are destined to meet again in adulthood when Crown Prince Leopold (Rufus Sewell with a joke-shop mustache) volunteers his presumptive fiancée as a pi-

geon in the magic act, whereupon the magician immediately recognizes his long-lost sweetheart (Jessica Biel), while she fails to return the favor, perhaps because of his beard or perhaps because he has aged at

twice the rate. The entire story, until at long last it makes its way back to its starting point, is ostensibly told to the Crown Prince by the Chief of Police (the unprepossessing Paul Giamatti), including information he couldn't know or wouldn't share. Questions of whether the magician's powers are supernatural or just prestidigital cannot be answered without Plot Spoilers, or Bean Spillers, though it's fair to say they are answered with trivial tricksiness. Production and photography, nevertheless, are sufficiently evocative of bygone times, even without the antiquated iris-out transitional device. Directed by Neil Burger. 2006.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; ESCONDIDO 16; FLOWER HILL 4; GALAXY 6; HOR-

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complicated than need be, longer and slower as well, but the sentiment (or sentimentality) is always straightforward. With Ken Takakura, Shinobu Terajima, Qiu Lin, Jiang Wen, Li Jiamin, and Yang Zhenbo. 2005.

★★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE, FROM 9/22)

Scoop — A companion piece to Woody Allen’s *Match Point* only insofar as it prolongs his revitalizing sojourn in England. The half-year interval between their releases is nothing out of the ordinary for the chop-chop Woodman. Nor is the repeat appearance of Scarlett Johansson in the female lead any more remarkable than repeat appearances in the past by Diane Keaton or Mia Farrow. And the mood, in sharp contrast to the immediate predecessor, has turned decidedly light and playful, which is to say that when (inevitably) the filmmaker contemplates death, it’s in childish terms of a literal barge on the River Styx, manned by a scythe-wielding Grim Reaper. The strictly functional comedy-thriller plotline is more on the order of *Manhattan Murder Mystery*, albeit with an element of the supernatural. There is no earthly reason, outside of the bold harmonies between the whiny older man and the throaty young woman, why the Allen character should be dragged along by the Johansson on this Nancy Drew adventure (“Excitement in my life is dinner without heartburn after it”), and the steady manufacture of amusing lines runs out of steam toward the finish, and the plot premise will not stand up to scrutiny from the vantage point of the denouement. But none of that detracts from the generous supply of chuckles and cackles strewn along the way, still less does it detract from the calm and assured camera that Allen brings to the proceedings (in the right place at the right time for the right duration), and still less does it detract from his mastery and durability, at age seventy, as a comic leading man, defying every precept of polish and precision, creating a persona dependent upon verbal groping and fumbling and sputtering and stumbling, mining a private vein we might label as Lifelike Stylization. With Hugh Jackman and Ian McShane. 2006.

★★★ (GASLAMP 15; LA PALOMA)

Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby — Will Ferrell vehicle, on the NASCAR circuit, goes too far, too fast, too often, but the excesses are usually easy-

going (the bratty brothers’ response to the news of their parents’ divorce: “Yeah! Two Christmases!”), and the nonstop product plugging is satirically motivated (i.e., dramatically justified), and John C. Reilly and Gary Cole, along with Ferrell, have good eyes and ears for rednecks. With Sacha Baron Cohen, Leslie Bibb, Amy Adams, and Michael Clarke Duncan; directed by Adam McKay. 2006.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; MISSION VALLEY 20; SANTEE DRIVE IN)

This Film Is Not Yet Rated — Kirby Dick’s video documentary on the inconsistencies, injustices, etc., of the anonymous and arbitrary MPAA ratings board. The blabbedy-blah of the talking heads — filmmakers, critics, lawyers, scholars — is intermittently alleviated by some Michael Moore-style mischief, whereby a lesbian private investigator attempts to ferret out the identities of the current board members. With John Waters, Kevin Smith, Kimberly Peirce, Wayne Kramer, Maria Bello, David Ansen, Stephen Farber, among others. 2006.

★ (KEN, 9/22 THROUGH 28)

Time to Leave — François Ozon carries on in the vein of his immediately preceding and best film to date, *5x2*, the reverse-chronology account of marital disintegration. That vein — stopping short of ninety minutes in both instances — evades the campy artifice of his *8 Women* and his *Water Drops on Burning Rocks*, as well as the catty ambiguity of his *Swimming Pool* and his *Under the Sand*. It perhaps, in its emotional directness and emotional intensity, verges on the sentimental; and yet, just as that seemed unobjectionable in a film about the end of a relationship, it again seems so in a film about the end of a life: that of a self-absorbed thirty-one-year-old homosexual fashion photographer, every bit as gorgeous as his models, who blanks out in the midst of a humdrum photo shoot, learns he has an inoperable cancer (emphatically not AIDS, not a lifestyle thing, not a political thing), and chooses to go to his grave without a struggle, sooner rather than later. Unresolved personal issues — the sponging live-in lover, the mother who obstinately continues to look to him for grandchildren, the rejected divorced sister and the two unembraced children of her own — now become irresolv-

able, to be dealt with in untidy ways, as best as he’s able. Hard for him though this is, the unfolding narrative remains free-flowing, even when diverted into flashbacks, smooth as a train of thought, unencumbered by heavy drama or profound epiphany. A few moving, movie-ish moments fight through the messiness: the final goodbye to his beloved grandmother, the only family member who, dying herself, has been entrusted with his bad news; the clandestine snapshots of his sister and her children in a public park, in violation of his strict aesthetic rule against family portraits; the solitary trip to the beach for a last ice cream, a last swim, a last sunset. Ozon’s camerawork — cinematographer Jeanne Lapoirie’s camerawork — is steady and controlled, the shots chosen with care and economy, as if to put a value on vision, a price on perception. And the color palette lays out a bright, rich, wide-screen world that seems a shame to leave. Melvil Poupaud, Valeria Bruni-Tedeschi, Jeanne Moreau, Marie Rivière, Daniel Duval. 2005.

★★★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS, THROUGH 9/21)

Tron — Disney’s leap into the artistic future is also into an artistic void. Computer-generated movie images have plainly come a long way (one way or another, outwards if not forwards, breadthwise if not depthwise) from the 1960s avant-garde abstractions of the Whitney brothers, John and James, and on back to the experiments of pre-computer pioneers like Len Lye and Norman McLaren. And writer-director Steven Lisberger, with his first live-action movie, may have achieved something of a breakthrough in his full-length intertwining of experimental filmmaking techniques and a conventional narrative line. At the same time, there is a sense that the arranged marriage between these two elements has been rather rushed into, without due care taken to ascertain whether the two parties possess similar interests and goals, and without working out an equitable division of tasks. The emergent problems may not suggest an inherent incompatibility, but rather just an unreadiness on one side or the other to pitch in and do its fair share. The urge to anthropomorphize and geographize computer programs is perhaps excusable as an idle daydream, but its palpable realization here, when Lisberger takes us on a tour of computer innards, suggests nothing so much as the sort of TV commercial in which stomach acid or carburetor sludge

is given form as a human miscreant (or perhaps better yet, nothing so much as the concluding episode of *Everything You Always Wanted to Know about Sex*, with Woody Allen impersonating a drop of semen). And the software landscape, though filled with multiform wonders, looks quite like a cartoon — albeit with a plasticky, Pop-art surface to it — and quite uninhabitable by human actors. With Jeff Bridges, Bruce Boxleitner, and David Warner. 1982.

★★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE, 9/23 MIDNIGHT)

The Wicker Man — A needless remake, though not as big a time-waster for the viewer (an hour and three-quarters) as for the writer and director, Neil LaBute, known for less generic stuff like *In the Company of Men* and *Your Friends and Neighbors*. He has weeded out some of the silliness of the 1973 British original, but that bit of gardening is offset by his transplanting of the action to a Goddess-worshipping, organic-farming colony on a private island in Puget Sound, where a California motorcycle cop (Nicolas Cage, not altogether serious about the assignment) has come on a personal invitation from his former fiancée to search for her missing child. Further, the pruning of the protagonist’s Christian faith and the grafting-on of a fresh mental trauma and some cheap-thrill dreams are no help at all. If the film serves no other purpose, it at least allows the filmmaker’s suspected undercurrent of misogyny to erupt unambiguously and unapologetically into a geyser. The ad campaign — “A psychological thriller. A mind blowing conclusion” — leaves no possibility, even if you missed the original, that the ending is going to sneak up on you. Unless, that is, the campaign strategists thought your mind might be blown by the unannounced guest appearance of James Franco in a redundant epilogue, or by the closing dedication of the film to the late punk rocker, Johnny Ramone. (Whoa.) With Ellen Burstyn, Kate Beahan, Molly Parker, Frances Conroy, and Leelee Sobieski. 2006.

● (CHULA VISTA 10; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN)

World Trade Center — Looking on the bright side of 9/11: the fact-based story 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, and survived the collapse of it on top of them. This feel-good approach seems a particularly unexpected one, 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 freshness of the 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. 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 re-created 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 the first tower, 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 fire-fighters 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. 2006.

★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24)

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North County Reader September 21, 2006 155

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CUSTOMER SERVICES REPS. Rescue Rooter of San Diego. Requires previous customer service experience and PC proficiency. Strong communication and interpersonal skills a must. Flexible schedule required, 24-hour service center. Medical, vision, dental insurance available. Apply at www.rescueroooterjobs.com or 866-852-5404.

CUSTOMER SPECIALIST. Looking for a stable career? Geico is looking for candidates with a competitive spirit and great attitude to quote and sell auto insurance.

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No cold calling! Sales experience not required, we will train you. \$14.90-\$17.47/hour. Monthly bonuses, advancement opportunities, day and evening shifts, medical, dental, life, 401(k), profit sharing, on-site credit union and fitness center. Drug test, physical, credit and background check required. EOE. Please apply online and select the "Customer Contact-Sales Agent" position: www.geico.com/careers.

CUSTOMER Service Reps for collections at GC Services. Career opportunity in a fun, positive atmosphere with great pay and benefits. No experience necessary. Will train. For consideration, call: 858-577-2301 or e-mail: sandiegohr@gcserv.com or fax resume to: 858-577-2353. Visit: www.gcserv.com/Career/resumeNext.asp?JobID=126.

DANCE/SPORTS/THEATER Instructors: Gymnastics, Theater/Impro/Comedy, Swing, Hip-hop, Sports, Cheerleading, Yoga. Kids 3-12, beginning levels. Experience required. Mobile gym program. Part time. North County. \$15-\$35/class. 760-917-4800.

DATA ENTRY. Part-time Customer Service and Data Entry positions available. 20+ hours per week. Must have pleasant phone manners, and be able to work weekends. 1 year Customer Service experience with emphasis on heavy phones. 619-702-6067.

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DELI PART-TIME COUNTER Attendant for fast growing deli in Encinitas. Call between 7am-11am or 1pm-3pm, 760-943-8809.

DELI/CAFE. Sandwich Maker/Prep. Fun atmosphere. Minimum 1-year experience.

Full-time. Long term benefits. Hourly plus tips. La Mesa location. Leave a message, 619-318-0187.

DELIVERY DRIVER, \$12-\$17/hour. Friendly, good customer service, reliable, clean DMV record. Apply in person: Pita Pit, 4516 Mission Boulevard, #C. 92109. Cell: 619-253-8410.

DELIVERY DRIVER/HELPERS. Full-time and part-time. Experienced, heavy lifting (75-150 lbs). Includes weekends. Great benefits. Apply in person: Raphael's Party Rentals, 8606 Miramar Road. E-mail: hr@raphaels.com; Fax: 858-689-8040. Drug-free workplace/EOE.

DELIVERY DRIVERS, part time, for restaurant delivery throughout San Diego County. Days and weekend nights available. \$10+/hour average. Must have own vehicle, clean DMV, insurance. 858-490-3930.

DELIVERY DRIVERS. Part time, evenings, \$10-\$15/hour. Bring DMV print-out. Apply Tuesday-Saturday, after 3pm: DiMille's Italian Restaurant, 3492 Adams Avenue, 92116. 619-283-3153.

DELIVERY/PRODUCTION. North Park coffee roasting company seeks a dependable, energetic, hard working driver. Clean driving record required. Warehouse production required. Bring Motor Vehicle Record from DMV. Apply in person, Monday-Friday, 9am-3pm: Caffe Calabria, 3933 30th Street, San Diego 92104.

DEPUTY SHERIFF and Deputy Sheriff Detentions/Courts. Hiring new Deputies now! San Diego County Sheriff's Department. Hiring two positions; take one exam, apply for either or both! Exam date: Saturday, October 7, 2006, 6:30am arrival: Southwestern College Cafeteria, 900 Otay Lakes Road, Chula Vista 91910. Detentions and Courts: \$37,924-\$61,610 annual salary, plus yearly benefits package. Must be 18 years old. Deputy Sheriff: \$47,316-\$72,793 current annual salary, plus yearly benefits package. U.S. citizen or applied for citizenship; 20-1/2

years old. High school graduate or G.E.D. required. Bring valid photo ID, #2 pencil and \$3 for parking. Valid California Driver's License prior to appointment. Effective oral and written communication in English. EOE. For additional test dates, go online at www.joinssdsheiff.net. E-mail: Recruit@sdsheriff.org or call 858-974-2000.

DEPUTY SHERIFF and Deputy Sheriff Detentions/Courts. Hiring new Deputies now! San Diego County Sheriff's Department. Hiring two positions; take one exam, apply for either or both! Exam dates: Saturday, October 7, 2006, 6:30am arrival: Southwestern College Cafeteria, 900 Otay Lakes Road, Chula Vista 91910. Detentions and Courts: \$37,924-\$61,610 annual salary, plus yearly benefits package. Must be 18 years old. Deputy Sheriff: \$47,316-\$72,793 current annual salary, plus yearly benefits package. U.S. citizen or applied for citizenship; 20-1/2 years old. High school graduate or G.E.D. required. Bring valid photo ID, #2 pencil and \$3 for parking. Valid California Driver's License prior to appointment. Effective oral and written communication in English. EOE. For additional test dates, go online at www.joinssdsheiff.net. E-mail: Recruit@sdsheriff.org or call 858-974-2000.

DESIGNER (AUTO)-Nissan Design America, San Diego, CA. Develop 2-D and 3-D representations and design projects, interfacing with all phases of the design process. Bachelor's (or equivalent) in Industrial or Transportation Design +4 years experience as designer in auto industry required. Proof of U.S. work authorization required. Send resume to atharp@ndii.com. EOE.

DISC JOCKEYS: Can you mix, scratch and keep a beat? Excellent communicator and performer? The Channel 933 Dance Party is looking for you! Immediate opportunities. Must have resume! 619-252-0947.

DISPATCHER. Transportation company needs experienced Dispatchers as well as Accounting and Clerical staff with computer and telephone skills. For more information, call 619-224-1141 or e-mail resume to: ray@careysandiego.com.

DOG BATHER/BRUSHER/GROOMER. All experience levels welcome. Excellent working environment, pay, benefits. Will train/apprentice. Full time availability: days/evenings/weekends. 24 hours, 858-270-8883.

DOG BRUSHER/BATHER needed Wednesday-Saturday days. Fun, busy environment. Experience helpful. Call 858-456-1552 or apply Wednesday-Saturday, at 508 Nautilus Street, La Jolla.

DRAIN CLEANERS. Rescue Rooter offers: medical/dental, 401(k), vans/tools, paid vacations/overtime, high income, drug-free workplace. To apply, please call toll free: 866-852-5404; or go to www.rescueroooterjobs.com. License# 744542.

DRIVER, VENDING ROUTE, Full time. Experienced preferred or will train. Bring clean DMV. Good pay plus benefits. Apply Monday-Friday: 7988 Stromesa Court, San Diego.

DRIVER. Bus tours of San Diego and Tijuana, charters and SPAB. Class B/P/A license required. To \$14/hour plus medical, dental, and vision benefits. Call: 619-520-5200.

DRIVER. Commercial Copy center. Monday -Friday, 8am-4:30pm. Compensation negotiable and linked to experience. Must be over 21 with neat appearance and good attitude. Must be able to lift 50 pounds/drive our Nissan/Toyota truck. Must have clean DMV background with printout for interview. Vacation, holiday, health, 401(k). Apply: A Copy World, 980 Buenos Avenue (off West Morena Boulevard). 619-275-5560. Fax, 619-275-5466. Web: www.acopyworld.com.

DRIVER. Full-time available for Light Duty Driver. Clean DMV. Knowledge of Riverside area required. \$10/hour to start. 21 years of age or older. 858-451-7979.

DRIVER/DISTRIBUTOR for magazine distribution in San Diego. 2-3 days/week. Truck/van with insurance, good DMV record. \$120-\$150 per day. John G., 323-258-6000 x240.

DRIVER/LAB AIDE for medical lab. Part time, Monday-Friday, 2-6pm. Use your own car to pick up/deliver medical specimens, also help in lab. \$7.25/hour plus mileage. 619-226-2854.

DRIVER/LEGAL MESSENGER. Great opportunity in busy, growing litigation support service. We will train an enthusiastic team player. Good driving record. \$8.50 to start, company car. Full time, 8:30am-5:30pm. 619-298-2385.

DRIVER/DISHWASHER. Oceanside, 25 hours plus per week, \$9/hour. Must have a clean driving record. Call between 8am-12noon, 760-757-5522.

DRIVER: TRANSIT BUS DRIVER. Chula Vista Transit/Veolia Transportation! Bus Drivers needed. We provide paid training to obtain your class B license. Benefits include medical, dental, 401(k) and paid holidays. Apply with current DMV H-6 printout: 1800 Maxwell Road, Chula Vista, CA. 619-656-2300. EOE.

DRIVER: Part time to full time. Must have own truck with shell or van. Clean DMV a must. Some heavy lifting. Afternoon, evening and weekend shifts available. Company is 24/7. Able to read Thomas Guide a plus. Please call between 10am-5pm, Monday-Friday, 858-560-9337.

DRIVERS WANTED. Requires valid CA driver's license, current H-6 DMV printout and good, safe driving skills. Hourly/commission/tips. Call 619-591-0303 or fax resume to 619-591-0300. Xpress Shuttle, 1065 Bay Boulevard, Suite B, Chula Vista, CA 91911.

DRIVERS, DELIVERY. Sleep Train Mattress Centers. Over 21, clean DMV, background check. Good customer service. Days, nights, weekends. Mira Mesa. Full-time, \$10-\$13/hour, great benefits. 858-693-6354.

DRIVERS. Attention owners/operators - 99% drop and hook! Excellent home time! Company drivers-paid family insurance! CDL-A, 2 years experience. 800-373-9001.

DRIVERS. Deliver AT&T phone books to new customers in San Diego County. North County positions also available. Good pay! Year-round work. Full-time or part-time hours. Day time hours only. Use your own car. Paid car allowances. Social Security card, proof of insurance. Drug screening required. Apply or call 9am-1pm Monday-Thursday at 9586 Distribution Avenue, Suite K, Miramar, San Diego, 91211; 858-547-4427.

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Send resume to: jsaway@cpk.com • Fax: (310) 568-7767. EOE

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SALARY: \$34,028.80-\$43,430.40 ANNUALLY
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Test Date:

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Montgomery Middle School

2470 Ulric Street • San Diego, CA 92111

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DRIVERS. Delivery service, seeking drivers class A or B for local deliveries, full time. Experience a plus. Also, drivers with own pickup and shell or van for full and part time delivery routes. Clean DMV. Excellent benefits. Apply in person: 5985 Pacific Center Boulevard #210, San Diego, 92121 or call 800-743-1139.

DRIVERS. Earn more at Warner Enterprises! Western region runs. Also seeking experienced and seasonal drivers. 800-346-2818 x123.

DRIVERS. Go-Staff has immediate long-term positions for Class A & B, and Class C (with 1 year experience). Full benefits immediately, 401(k) after one year. Earn up to \$23/hour! San Diego/Imperial County, 858-292-8562; Riverside/Orange County, 951-760-7100. E-mail: help@gostaff.com or apply online, www.gostaff.com.

DRIVERS. Must have Class B license with passenger endorsement and at least 6 months experience. Fixed route, Monday-Friday, 31-40 hours/week with benefits. Call 619-287-0628.

DRIVERS. Trader Distribution is looking for part-time Drivers to deliver free publications on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. You must have a truck, van or SUV and be currently insured. Call Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm, 858-279-3137 x243.

DRIVERS. Transportation services provider for seniors and disabled. Great pay! At Your Home Familycare. E-mail: homecarejobs@atyourhomefamilycare.com. Call toll free: 1-877-903-JOBS.

DRIVERS/DELIVERY. Employees wanted! Use your own mini-pickup. \$440/week starting. Openings countywide. Gas bonus paid. Growth opportunity. 619-230-1532, 858-578-7812, 760-639-5400. www.databay.net/applicant/formsd.asp.

DRIVERS: MORTUARY DRIVERS. Growing transportation company has full- and part-time openings for reliable employees. Good driving record, heavy lifting and clean background check required. Healey, Scott & Bradt, 1068 Broadway, Suite 207, El Cajon, CA 92021. 619-441-9867.

DRIVERS: Catering/Delivery. Part time. 10am-1pm, Monday-Friday. You pick the days you want to work. No experience necessary. Corporate catering and deliveries from nice restaurants. Call today, start tomorrow. Need car, insurance, decent DMV. Call 888-DDI-WORK or go to www.d-d-i.com

DRIVERS. Delivery Drivers for Catering needed. \$8/hour starting. Must have own car insurance insurance. Must be dependable, and have a good driving record. Call Monday-Sunday, 760-809-8539.

DRIVERS. You're hired! 5 positions opened. You need your late model vehicle, 1997 or newer, small trucks preferred. Earn \$500-\$800 per week. \$500 guaranteed for the first 2 weeks. 619-294-4160.

DRIVING INSTRUCTOR. \$300 sign-on bonus. Top pay. Partnership opportunity. Company vehicle and insurance provided. If DMV certified, will pay more. 858-401-2925.

DRY CLEANER. Experienced dry cleaner/spotter required for busy dry cleaners in Pacific Beach. Customer service positions are also available. Please call 858-581-0830.

EATING DISORDER STUDY. Females between 18-25? Do you or your sister have (had) bulimia? Eating disorders study and sister-sister relationships. 2-hour interview. Compensation. 858-349-4496.

ELECTRICIANS. Great opportunity for Electricians! Seeking qualified Electricians with experience working on ships. This is a full-time position, Monday-Friday with overtime and benefits offered, starting at \$20/hour. Candidates should be shift flexible (1st, 2nd, or 3rd). Interested candidates please feel free to contact Mary Dang at 619-278-3018 (mdang@aerrotek.com), Keri Beagle at 619-278-3016 (kbeagle@aerrotek.com), or Corinne Holstedt at 619-278-3071 (cholsted@aerrotek.com) to apply. EOE.

ELECTRONIC ASSEMBLY and Entry-level Assembly, in Carlsbad; 1 year experience. Immediate openings. Various shifts. MDI offers paid holidays after 520 hours and vacation bonuses after 2000 hours. MDI Staffing, San Diego: 8316 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, #204; fax 858-277-5621. Call 858-277-5680.

ELECTRONIC PRESSMAN needed for up-and-coming printing company. Requires computer-to-plate knowledge and 3 years experience in pre-press. Contact: Javier: javier@gotmadcow.com. Call: 858-483-4638.

EMT: Immediate openings for entry-level and experienced EMTs and Wheelchair Drivers. Full time and part time available, flexible schedule, competitive pay plus benefits. Must provide certifications at time of interview: ADL, MEC, CPR, EMT-1 card and current DMV report. Priority One Medical transport, 800-600-4633. Fax 800-600-4596. E-mail: ssuon@prioritylink.com. www.priorityonemedical.com.

Chef / Kitchen Manager (Gaslamp District)

Seeking experienced Kitchen Manager with organizational and leadership skills for active Irish pub in Gaslamp Quarter, downtown San Diego. Good salary, benefits package and bonus plan to qualified candidate.

Apply in person, fax résumé to: 619-239-5828 or e-mail: dublinsquare@yahoo.com

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- **Finance Administrators** (good-00012700, 11825, 11926, 10615, 12874)
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Exam Date: October 7, 2006 6:30 am Arrival

Southwestern College Cafeteria
900 Otay Lakes Road
Chula Vista, CA 91910



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Deputy Sheriff

- Must be 20.5 years old
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Deputy Sheriff Detention/Courts

- Must be 18 years old
- Current annual salary \$37,924-\$61,610 plus yearly benefits package

Applications are handed out at the door – first come, first served.

Bring valid photo ID, a #2 pencil and \$3 for parking at Southwestern College.



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FITNESS TRAINER for active seniors at large retirement home. Develop/conduct fitness programs and aquatics. Seeking candidate with practical hands-on experience, appropriate training and education. 3-day, 20-hour work week. Apply at: Wesley Palms, 2404 Loring Street, Pacific Beach 92109. Fax resume to Donna, 858-581-8630.

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Bernardo. Sound knowledge of anatomy required. E-mail resume: donawilson@fitnesstogether.com or call 858-451-6051.

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FITNESS: PERSONAL TRAINER. Part time for private one-on-one training facility. Degree/certification preferred. Knowledge of weight training/nutrition and health issues. Many career opportunities available. No sales required. 858-454-7774.

FLIGHT ATTENDANTS: Sky West Airlines will be recruiting in San Diego on September 26 and 27. Flight privileges, stock purchase, training bonus, medical/dental/vision, profit sharing, 401(k) plan and more! Previous flight attendant experience is not necessary. We provide free training! For details, visit www.skywest.com/careers/.

FLORAL DESIGNER, full time/part time. Experience required. Call A Flower Factory, 858-974-1231, 7276 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard.

FLORAL DESIGNER. Full/part time. 1 year experience. Mission Gorge area. Flexible schedule, some weekends. Apply Michael's Flower Girl, 10450 Friars Road, Suite V, San Diego, 92120. Thomas, 619-516-5544.

FLOWER SHOP Sales and delivery. Part time, including some weekends. No experience necessary. Must have clean DMV. Call El Camino Flower Shop, 858-458-6555.

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FRONT DESK. Part-time positions, some weekends included, for luxury high-rise condo in La Jolla. Supervising valets, answering phones. Must be neat, courteous. Call 858-454-0311.

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FUNDRAISING for national charities and Democratic Party. Full time or part time (evening and Sunday shifts). Paid training. Medical, dental, 401(k). Hourly plus bonuses, regular raises. Apply at Gordon & Schwenkmeyer, 2221 Camino del Rio South, Suite 201, San Diego 92108. 619-497-5600.

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GENERAL. Housekeepers, Laundry Aides and Janitors for Healthcare Services Group. Apply in person: Pleasant Care of San Diego, 2828 Meadow Lark Drive, 92123; Country Villa La Mesa, 5696 Lake

Murray Boulevard, 91942; Telecare San Diego Choice, 3853 Rosecrans, 92110.

GOODRICH AEROSTRUCTURES Career Fair, Monday September 25 3pm-8pm, Mission Valley Hilton, 901 Camino del Rio South, San Diego, CA 92108. On-the-spot interviews with hiring manager. We have great opportunities for: Buyers/Supply Chain (good-00010509, 10733, 10811, 12046, 12836, 12590, 12032, 12352); IT Specialists (good-00011904, 11905, 10469); Business Advisors/SAP (good-00012700, 11492, 11251); Finance Administrators (good-00012700, 11825, 11926, 10615, 12874); HR Specialist (good-00012346); Senior Test Lab Technician (good-00011869). Can't attend? Please apply online, referencing job number, at goodrich.com/careers. To learn more about us, view our career video at http://www.view-career-video.com/videos/goodrich. EOE.

GOVERNMENT/POSTAL JOBS. \$16-\$45/hour plus full benefits. Immediate openings. San Diego and Southern California jobs. Call for info & interviews, 858-277-2029.

GROCERY/NATURAL FOODS. Meat Cutter, Cashiers, Grocery and Produce Clerks needed. Employment bonus up to \$500. Great work environment, bonuses and benefits! Jimbo's Naturally! 12853 El Camino Real, Del Mar, fax: 858-793-7732. 1923 Calle Barcelona #149, Carlsbad, fax: 760-334-7733. 1633 South Center City Parkway, Escondido, fax: 760-489-7773. hr@jimbos.com, www.jimbos.com.

GROUP FITNESS INSTRUCTORS needed for Luxury Residential and Corporate locations all over San Diego. All classes, all days, all times. Certified and experienced preferred. Join our team and make a difference! www.fitxsandiego.com. Fax: 858-715-8681. Call 858-715-8611.

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HAIRSTYLIST. Booth Rental, \$135/week. 2 weeks free! Backbar, towels, janitorial, utilities included. Friendly staff, clean modern salon. Good parking. CutZ n ColorZ, 3755 Murphy Canyon Road, Suite B, 92123. 858-573-9832.

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LOAN ORIGINATORS. No real estate license or experience required. Work from home or office, part/full-time. Orientations: Tuesday 7pm and Saturday 10am: 4617 Ruffner Street #200, 92111. 858-278-4993.

LOAN PROCESSOR. Loan broker seeking processor who has 2 years minimum experience in lending. California Real Estate license a plus. Job@globalendersinc.com or fax resume: 619-330-1988.

LOBBY AMBASSADOR/SECURITY. Join the #1 Security Team, where people make the difference. We offer free Guard Card training. Call Securitas, the largest, most respected security company in the world! Countywide positions available. Medical/dental/vision and 401(k), excellent working environment, monetary incentives, free uniforms. San Diego: 619-641-0049; San Marcos (North County): 760-591-3733; Temecula: 951-676-3954. EOE/drug free.

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MAINTENANCE TECH for busy property management company. Roving, general repairs, tile work. Tools and truck a plus. Fax resume to 619-299-2611 or come by office, Centre City Property Management at 930 West Washington Street suite #11 or e-mail resume to propkid@aol.com.

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MAINTENANCE. AvalonBay now hiring Assistant Supervisors, Lead Maintenance Technicians and Groundskeepers! AvalonBay Communities, Inc. has exciting opportunities to join our dynamic maintenance team. We are looking for customer-focused maintenance associates to fill several positions in our San Diego area properties. Excellent benefits including health, 401(k) and up to 100% free housing! We invite you to build your career at AvalonBay! Please apply online at www.avalonbay.com/careers or fax resumes to: (408)-287-9657. EOE.

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OFFICE: CAB DISPATCHER. Answer phones, dispatch cabs. Customer-oriented, computer-literate, familiar with city of San Diego. Training provided. Part/full-time, afternoon/evenings. Bernie, 8am-2:30pm, Monday-Friday. 619-280-5555.

OUTSIDE CUSTOMER SERVICE. Western Towing seeks self-motivated, detailed-oriented individual. Full time, entry level. No

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PACKAGERS. The San Diego Union Tribune in conjunction with The Eastridge Group is seeking Packers, \$8.50-\$8.75/hour, 1st and 2nd shifts. Eastridge is also seeking: Medical Assemblers, Warehouse Clerks, Packers, Microscope Inspectors, Mechanical Techs and Chemical Handlers. Apply 8am-6pm Monday-Friday: The Eastridge Group, 10717 Camino Ruiz, 2nd Floor, Suite #252, San Diego, CA 92126. 858-566-9111. sandiego@eastridgelightindustrial.com. www.eastridgelightindustrial.com.

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PART TIME. Actors auditions. Calling all ghouls, monsters and zombies! San Diego County's largest haunted attraction Scream Zone is holding open auditions on Saturday September 9th between 2pm-4pm at the Del Mar Fairgrounds. Please enter Solana Gate and look for signs. No experience is necessary, just a love of Halloween and lots of energy. On the spot hiring. Must be 18 and over. Starting salary: \$7 per hour plus incentives. EOE. Apply online at www.sdfair.com or call 858-792-4257 for more information.

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RESTAURANT CHEF/COOK. Experienced Greek-style cook, National City location. Flexible hours. Loui, 619-213-3521.

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RESTAURANT SERVERS: Part-time and full-time Dining Room Servers. Will train. Starting at \$9 per hour. Senior residential community. Various shifts available, weekends and holidays required. Must pass background check. Apply in person, ask for Bonnie/Alvin, 4025 Pulitzer Place, San Diego, CA 92122. 858-455-9188. EOE.

RESTAURANT SUPERVISOR. Postcards American Bistro is seeking service-oriented individuals. Competitive salary and excellent benefits. Please apply to: 950 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, CA, 92108 or fax resume to: 619-298-3948.

RESTAURANT. Assistant Food Service Manager. UCSD Dining Services needs a high energy, customer oriented Assistant Manager to manage on-site catered events and front of the house operations for a beautiful campus restaurant. Requires 3 years successful supervisory experience in a restaurant, hotel, retail or catering environment. We offer excellent benefits and 3 weeks vacation/13 paid holidays per year. Full time, (Job #40715). Hiring salary: \$2484/month. Background check is required. Apply by 9/26/06 by visiting: <http://joblink.ucsd.edu> and reference job #40715. Call 858-822-1827 for information and instructions. EEO/AEE.

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RESTAURANT. Immediate openings for sushi chef, sushi helpers and servers. Full and part time, experience necessary. Apply in person: 2662 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-272-2275.

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RESTAURANT. Pick Up Stix is now hiring! Front Staff: \$7.50+/hour to start, depending on experience. Shift Leaders: \$8-\$10/hour, depending on experience. EOE. Please apply in person at the location nearest you: Hillcrest, 619-295-7849. La Jolla, 858-552-1566. Mission Valley, 619-299-9793. Pacific Beach, 858-483-9588. Point Loma, 619-758-9041. Chula Vista, 619-482-2789. Clairemont Mesa, 858-274-3220. Torrey Hills, 858-794-0450.

RESTAURANT. Responsible, fun-loving Counterpersons, Pizza Makers, and Drivers needed. Full/part-time available. Reasonable pay, eat well. Apply Monday-Friday, 2pm-4pm: Joe's Pizza, 5583 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard.

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RESTAURANT: TAKA needs Bussers. Popular Japanese sushi restaurant in Gaslamp. Apply in person 3pm-5pm, Monday-Friday: Taka Restaurant, 555 5th, 92101. Or call, 619-338-0555.

RETAIL CASHIER CANDY STORE. Seaport Village. Experienced, motivated, energetic. Full/part-time; days, evenings, weekends. Apply: Company of Nuts & Candy, 809 West Harbor Drive, 619-234-7688.

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RETAIL JOB FAIR: TARGET Sport Arena is hiring Team Members and Team Leaders (hourly Department Managers). Positions available in Logistics and Backroom (Stocking, Overnight and 4am-11am), Sales Floor, Food Service, Garden Center, Guest Service. We offer competitive pay, flexible scheduling and Target merchandise discount. Great benefits for Team Leaders. To apply, come interview at our Job Fair: 10am-7pm Sunday, October 1, and Monday, October 2, at 3245 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego, CA 92110. EOE/drug-free workplace.

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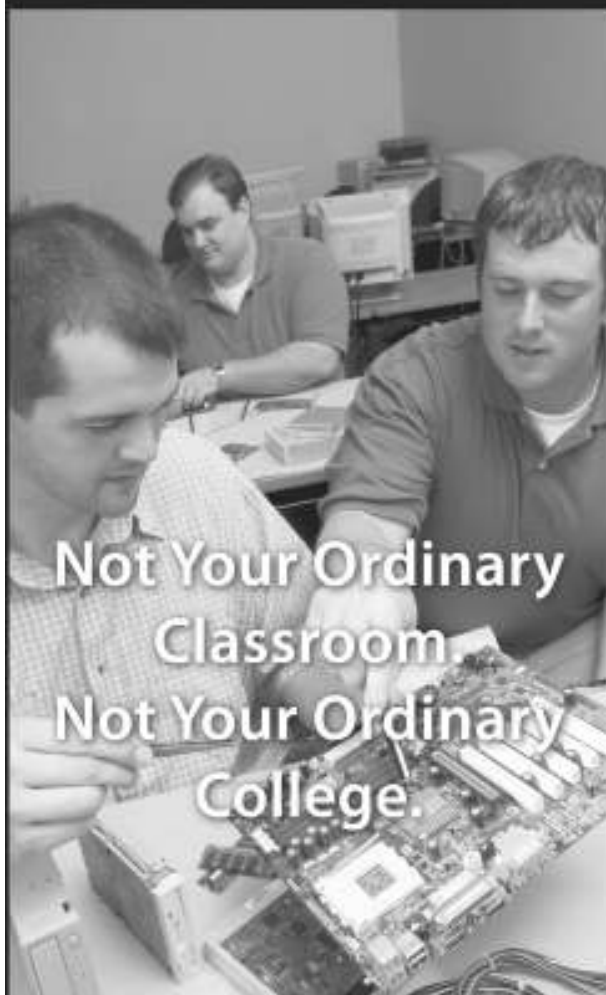
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Last week's place: (clue: Montgomery's First War Pin-Up?) World War I replica aircraft at 94th Aero Squadron restaurant, 8885 Balboa Avenue. The restaurant's built like a French farmhouse. Beside camouflage netting and a vintage Red Cross ambulance sit flying replicas from the era, including this SE-5 canvas-and-wood war plane (with restaurant customer Lisa Latimer standing beside it). (Last week's winners: Doug Barton, Hal Weim, Ralph Masi, Stephen McVeagh, John Contreras)

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CAR SEATS, baby gym \$10/each, stroller \$7. Walker \$12, small portable baby chair \$5, baby bath \$5, little tyke's basketball hoop \$8. 760-688-8291.

GRACO, stroller/infant car seat. Light green, blue. Used, but works good. Car seat attaches to top of stroller. For boy or girl. \$50. 619-470-7734.

HELP OUR CHILDREN. You've considered it. Is it time to become a Foster Parent? Seeking qualified single or dual-parents to provide our children a stable, supportive environment. Training and ongoing education. A committed and talented treatment team. 24/7 support from expert staff. Weekly home visits. Compensation for your time and commitment. License #370602780. www.waldenfamily.org. Call Walden Family Services today. 619-584-5777.

INTERIM FOSTER PARENTS. The stay is short, but the rewards are sweet! Seeking optimistic adults to provide a supportive home to youth for a 9-12 month period. Walden's MTFC program is a nationally recognized, evidence-based model developed by the Oregon Social Learning Center. A team approach to treatment. 24/7 support from expert staff. Compensation for a high level of commitment. License #370602780. www.waldenfamily.org. Call Walden Family Services today. 619-584-5777.

PREGNANT? Considering adoption? Talk with caring people specializing in matching birthmothers with families nationwide. Expenses paid. Toll free 24/7, Abby's One True Gift Adoptions, 1-866-413-6293. (AAN CAN)

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AFFORDABLE PHOTOGRAPHY and Minister. Married couple with over 30 years experience in wedding business teams up to cover your event. www.brianhowarthphotography.com. Call Brian or Valerie: 619-583-0411.

ALL-INCLUSIVE WEDDING PACKAGES. Great wedding locations! Budget packages include Minister, permit, license, flowers, catering, cake tasting, equipment rentals, photographers, DJs, coordinating. www.sandiegodeestinationweddings.com, 866-704-9333, 760-807-3175.

AMAZING DJs AND BANDS! San Diego Parties & Entertainment--private, corporate, weddings! Excellent DJs, fabulous bands, specialty entertainment. 20 years of experience. Call 619-444-2389. Book your holiday party today!

AWARD-WINNING PHOTOGRAPHER. See your wedding day unfold in DVD. On a budget? Digital photography. \$650. (5 hours). Kidnapper of Images, Beverly, 858-736-4472; 858-274-4472.

BAND, "HOT PURSUIT." Weddings; corporate, private parties. High-energy dance band featuring sax player, female vocalist. Swing, jazz, rock, R&B, country, dance hits. 760-751-1876. www.HotPursuitMusic.com.

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ENTERTAINMENT AND PRODUCTIONS. We put the wow in your corporate events, weddings, holiday parties! Best music, sound, lighting, video services. Call-free DVD demo: 619-216-4770. www.boogienightsinc.com.

WEDDING DJ, \$735 WOW! Play music/MC your wedding. With contract, add free lighting, fog, bubbles, sound (ceremony). Bob, formerly Hot Country 99.3/Magic 92.5, 760-807-6904.

WEDDING DRESS, Melissa Sweet, strapless, size 10, beaded, off-white, needs cleaning, \$2500/best. 619-249-5494.

STAGE NOTES

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ABANDON YOUR ACTING FEARS! Actors' Workshop Studios. San Diego's number 1 film/TV studio! Professional 3-camera set. Weekly in-house auditions with Hollywood/local casting directors, producers, agents. www.actorsworkshopstudios.com; 858-587-6666.

ABILITY THROUGH TRAINING. The Robert Wald Actor's Studio focuses on moment-to-moment reality training. These classes unlock the actor's ability to work spontaneously and with the realism and intensity advocated by the industry's creative legends. Beginners welcome. Thursday evening class available, 6:30pm-10:30pm or Saturday morning. Call for information. 619-542-1216.

ACTORS, needed for UCSD production classes. Send headshot to Prof. Hastert, 3510 Pershing Avenue. San Diego, CA 92104.

AUDITION: Waiting for Lefty by Clifford Odets. Directed by Francis Gercke. Prepare a one-minute monologue that you feel best represents you. October 2, 2006, 6:30pm. Howard Brubeck Theatre, Palomar College, San Marcos. 760-744-1150 x2453. www.palomarperforms.com.

AUDITIONS, ACTORS WANTED. Calling all ghouls, monsters and zombies! San Diego County's largest haunted attraction Scream Zone is holding open auditions on Saturday September 9 between 2pm-4pm at the Del Mar Fairgrounds. Please enter Solana Gate and look for signs. No experience is necessary, just a love of Halloween and lots of energy. On the spot hiring. Must be 18 and over. Starting salary: \$7 per hour plus incentives. EOE. Apply online at www.sdfair.com or call 858-792-4257 for more information.

AUDITIONS. Shine in Osaka. Japan! Universal Studios Japan. Singers who can dance, Dancers who can sing. Actors, Stunt Performers. Must be 18 years of age. Friday, 9/29/06, 10am: Stunt Performers, Golden State Gymnastics, 1828 North Keystone Street, Burbank. Saturday, 9/30/06, 10am: Dancers; 3pm: Actors, Screenland Studios 2, 10501 West Burbank Boulevard, North Hollywood. Sunday, 10/1/06, 10am: Singers, Screenland Studios 2, 10501 West Burbank Boulevard, North Hollywood. All expenses, paid travel. Fantastic pay! Living allowance. Free private housing. Athletic club membership. Learn more online: www.UniversalAuditions.com/Japan.

FEMALE MODELS. No experience necessary, all sizes. Wanted to help build photo portfolio. Trade model time for photos and compensation. 858-204-7650.

HAIR MODELS WANTED! Up to \$800 cash! Females 18-40, with mid-back hair or longer willing to go short, clipper hairstyle for professional styling video 619-760-0236.

HEADSHOTS BY PAUL SAVAGE: Award-winning photographer. Our mission is to provide you with affordable high-end photos. Visit our galleries. www.savages4hire.com or call 858-496-9629.

HEADSHOTS WITH MAKEUP, \$99. Three outfit changes. 36 or more photos all on CD. Zed cards available. 25 years experience. Member, BBB. 8"x10"/name, \$5 each. Call Kosmicki Photography, www.mgk-shooter.com; 619-583-2229.

INSTRUCTORS FOR CHILDREN: Gymnastics, Cooking, Theater/Improv/Comedy, Swing, Sports, Yoga, Hip-hop, Cheerleading Instructors: Kids 3-12, beginning levels. Experience required. Mobile gym program. Part time. North County. \$15-\$35/class. 760-917-4800.

MODELS. Amateur models needed for photo, video, web work. Ages 18-60. All types. No experience necessary. Cash paid. Professional setting. Call Jenn, 619-379-4964.

MODELS/ASSISTANT/INTERVIEW. Video. Females 18+. Reality-based/art photography. Excellent pay. Flexible hours. Seeking all body types/races. Open-minded a plus. Paid daily. David, 619-203-3327, 1kingdavid@sbcglobal.net.

MOVIE EXTRAS, ACTORS, models! Make \$100-\$300/day. No experience required. Full time, part time. All looks needed! 1-800-799-6215. (AAN CAN)

TEEN ACTING CLASSES. La Jolla Playhouse offers special Acting Classes for teens, ages 13-17, every Saturday from September 30-November 18, 9am-12pm. Explore various elements of acting including: improvisation, scene/monologue work and audition technique! Visit http://www.lajollaplayhouse.com/educ/or call Johanna Range at 858-228-3046.

TV COHOST/PRESENTER/INTERVIEWER needed for 90-minute TV special September 30. Female, 18-24. Additional duties as production assistant/personal assistant. Hourly wage plus bonuses. TV, modeling, dancing experience helpful but not necessary. Experience in sales, even waitressing a plus. E-mail resume epic3@cox.net, attach photo.

VOICEOVER WORKSHOP. Break into voiceover! Taught by voice actor/author James Alburger. Learn interpretation, character voices, microphone technique, more for radio/TV. www.voiceacting.com; 858-484-0220.

COUNSELING & SUPPORT GROUPS

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ARE YOU MAD? Learn how to manage your anger constructively. Gain power, control, reduce conflict and improve your relationships. Classes begin soon. Mis-

sion Valley. Jay Schneider, LCSW. Lic-9573. www.manageangerdaily.com. 858-538-5587.

CLINICAL HYPNOTHERAPY. "What the mind can conceive, the body can achieve." All issues addressed. Free consultation. Patricia R. Parlin, Ed.D. CHT403-250. Call 619-442-3661 or 619-504-1935.

COUNSELING/DREAM STUDY. Curious, unsettled by your dreams? Jungian dream study helps with life issues, transitions, relationships. \$40/session. Paul Hartsuyker, MFT-15896. www.sandiegotherapist.com/hartsuyker.html. 619-269-8939.

COUPLES/FAMILY THERAPY. 26 years' experience. Marriage counseling. Specializing in relationships, individuals, substance addictions/abuse, depression, anxiety. Samuel A. Newman. M.A., MFT-25066. Sliding scale. 619-944-1346.

FEELING STUCK? STRESSED? Experiencing crisis? Relationship issues? Career problems? Family conflicts? Grief? Sexual issues? Take back your power. Free consultation: 619-723-9244. Trish Deignan, LCSW21861.

FIND THE ULTIMATE Relationship. Are you tired of going from relationship to relationship and not finding happiness? Free consultations, individual coaching and seminars. www.sheilahenry.com. Sheila Henry, MFT-8408. 858-450-1965.

GAY/BISEXUAL MEN. Supportive individual therapy. Depression, anxiety, confusion, addictions, spiritual/religious issues. Married, closeted welcome. Discretion, confidentiality assured. Mel Karmen, PhD, MFC-12709. 619-296-9442.

HEALTHY ADULTS learning to heal childhood traumas. Emotional recovery from wounds of dysfunctional family. Includes Thought Field Therapy for eliminating anxieties and traumas. Counseling for individuals, couples enrichment and family bonding sessions. Sharon Goodlove, TFT Diagnostician, and Glenn Goodlove, LCSW-1450. Goodlove Counseling Center, 858-569-8975. www.goodlove-online.com.

MALE GROUP MEMBER NEEDED for mixed process/support group. Relationship difficulties, intimacy, self-esteem, childhood issues. Tuesday evenings, UTC area, fee. Susan Jorgensen, MFT-22281, 858-622-0632.

NOTICES

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A PROSPERITY MINDSET can be yours. Discover and apply spiritual principles that activate prosperity and success in your life. Call Michael or Michele. 858-627-9509.

ADDED TO Internet pornography/sex? Out of control? You are not alone. Call Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous, a 12-step fellowship. PO Box 3791, San Diego 92163 or 619-685-7211 or www.slaa-sandiego.org.

ADDITION PROBLEMS? Women for Sobriety is a non-12 step self-help program meeting Monday, Wednesday, Saturday. www.womenforsobriety.org or 858-549-3533.

ADULT CHILDREN OF ALCOHOLICS. Get group support at San Diego Area meetings. Adults who grew up in alcoholic, other types of dysfunctional households. Feel better about yourself. 619-276-6232, www.adulthoodchildren.org.

ALS ASSOCIATION welcomes you to join the Walk to D'Feet. Sunday, October 22, 7:30am, De Anza Cove at Mission Bay. Marsi, haney.marsi@alsasd.org or 858-271-5547.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL works for human rights. Meetings: 7pm, 2nd and 4th Wednesdays. First Unitarian Church, 4190 Front (opposite UCSD Medical Center). Information, 858-576-3811.

ANXIOUS, depressed? Recovery Inc. has been holding self help mental health meetings since 1937. Many suffer from nervous symptoms, and fears. Free will offering. 619-275-0364.

ART/CRAFT SALE, Sunday September 24, 9:30am-4pm. Casa Del Prado, Room 101, Balboa Park. 619-236-6905.

ATTENTION DEFICIT DISORDER Support Group, Monday, 6:30-8pm. 12-week session, Clairemont area. Learn to stay focused on daily/weekly goals. 619-298-4818.

BHAGAVAD-GITA CLASSES: Monday through Thursday 7:15-8pm. Discourse

and discussion, by a Vedic scholar. Hare Krishna temple, 1030 Grand Avenue, Pacific Beach 92109. Friday evening vegetarian feast. 858-483-2500.

CANNABIS PATIENTS ACT. (Association Cannabis Therapeutics.) Nonprofit. Seeking patients in need of free assistance with personal cannabis garden. In accordance with Proposition 215. Local guidelines 619-528-0907. edzepp@yahoo.com.

DIVORCECARE meets Sundays at 9am at CVCF Campus, 10791 Tierrasanta Boulevard. DC is a free support group caring for the broken hearted in or out of divorce or live-in relationship. Bruce, 619-461-4480, bfarley@calltoday-cashtomorrow.com.

EARN \$100 BEFORE YOU MOVE! If you are moving soon. Call us to schedule a home interview and environmental sampling. For just 2 hours you will earn \$100. SDSU Healthy Homes Study, 619-594-0501.

EXPLORE THEOSOPHY: A fountain-source of perennial wisdom. Nonsectarian, nonprofit. Mission Valley Public Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. Sunday, October 15, 1:30-3pm. 619-987-9920.

FELLOWSHIP OF OLDER, Gays (FOG) social club, full calendar of activities. Free strictly confidential information. PO Box 4271, San Diego, 92164-4271. Call 619-291-4480.

FOUND: DIGITAL CAMERA. Found on Monroe Street in University Heights. Think it belongs to you? Leave contact info at either Korova or Twigg's Coffee Shops.

FREE BIBLE STUDY course by mail. Non-denominational. Increase your knowledge of God's word. Palomar Church of Christ, Minister Bill Sisco. Postage paid. PO Box 1473R, San Marcos 92078. 760-436-3730. San Diego. 619-299-6812.

FREE CASH GRANTS 2006. \$5,000-\$100,000+. Personal bills, school, business/housing. Approximately \$49 billion unclaimed 2005! Almost everyone qualifies! Live operators! Listings call 1-800-274-5086 x233. (AAN CAN)

FREE CONCERT/ART SHOW. 9/23, 7pm-10pm: Salon Bella, 1605 West Lewis, San Diego 92103. Big BackYard: www.bigbackyard.band-sites.com/, stylized surf sound. Great art: photographer Ramon Purcell, www.repphoto.com. 619-291-9095.

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San Diego Reader September 21, 2006 181

Across

- 1. "Good" cholesterol, briefly
- 4. Weave's partner
- 7. "Well, ____ monkey's uncle!"
- 10. Tear
- 13. Polish site
- 15. Tic-____-toe
- 16. Many a Monopoly sq.
- 17. She's told "don't you cry for me" in song
- 18. ____ Lanka
- 19. Synonym of choke or joke
- 20. 2001 Ridley Scott film
- 23. Suffix meaning "inflamed"
- 24. Capital of Dominica
- 25. Classic soft drink brand
- 27. Watch closely
- 32. Harris and O'Neill
- 33. Hardly Einsteinian
- 34. Drive in Beverly Hills
- 35. Election Day lands on it: Abbr.
- 36. Its currency is the nuevo sol
- 38. Merman of Broadway
- 41. Dermatologist's concern
- 42. Calif. clock setting
- 45. Some cars have it
- 49. Explorer Vasco da ____
- 50. It may be smoked
- 51. Got a score of 100% on
- 52. Cable channel that inspired this puzzle's theme
- 57. Cry at the card table
- 58. Do some sums
- 59. Greets from afar
- 61. No one in particular
- 62. Where the buoys are
- 63. Stockpiled
- 64. Its films begin with a roar
- 65. Big name in ice cream
- 66. Homer's neighbor
- 67. Refinable rock

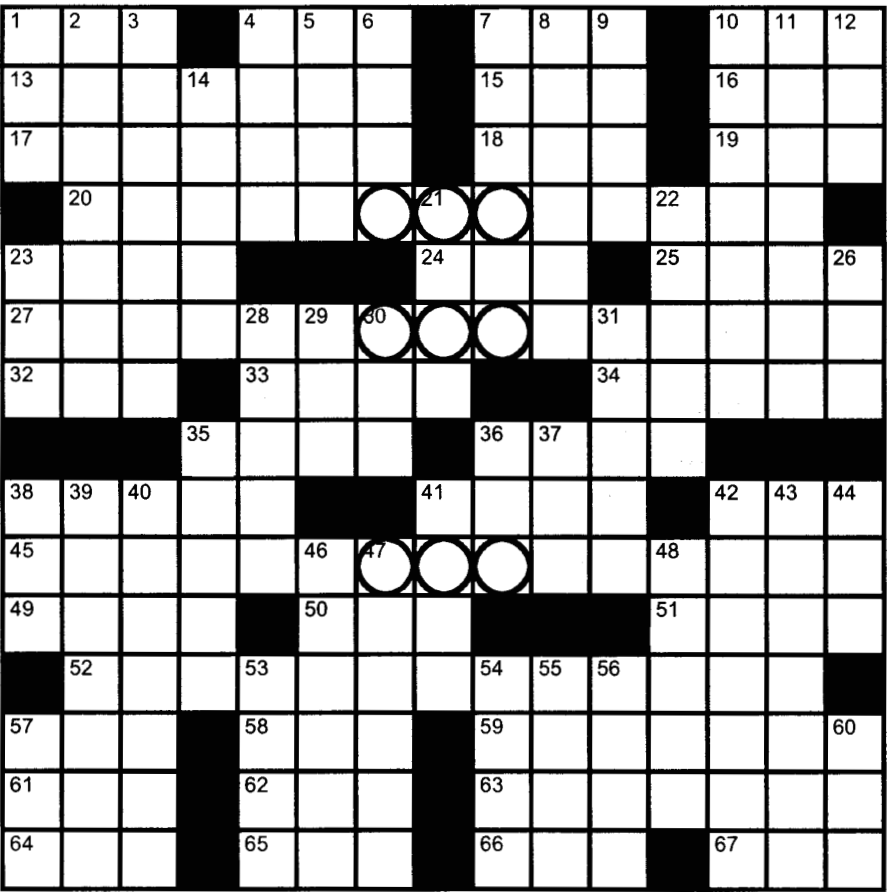
Down

- 1. Elevs.
- 2. Was skeptical about
- 3. Caron and Nielsen
- 4. Judge's seat
- 5. Porker's plaintiff
- 6. "Been there, done that" feeling
- 7. 12/7/41 headline
- 8. Sell at a higher price
- 9. Boric ____
- 10. Allergy sufferer's bane
- 11. Sir Walter Scott hero
- 12. Place to hang your hat
- 14. Org. that publishes the Crisis magazine
- 21. Palestinian, e.g.
- 22. "Shame ____!"
- 23. 1950s prez

- 26. Daughter of Cadmus
- 28. Mature
- 29. Take to court
- 30. "____ Pinafore"
- 31. Made a mistake
- 35. When "Today" ends
- 36. "Ulalume" poet
- 37. Building wing
- 38. Alphabet run
- 39. Copy of a sketch
- 40. "Fleet," "plain" or "sow"
- 41. The Spice Girls' Sporty Spice
- 42. "Guernica" painter
- 43. More slender
- 44. A Kennedy
- 46. Tied the knot
- 47. The best of times
- 48. Some steak orders
- 53. Comfort
- 54. McGregor of "Star Wars" films
- 55. Finger, in a way
- 56. 30-second spot, e.g.
- 57. Looker's leg
- 60. Literary piece

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 619-231-0489 or U.S. Mail to *Reader* Puzzle, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803).
- 3. All entries must be accompanied by your name and address.
- 4. Employees of the *Reader* and their immediate families are not eligible.
- 5. In the event of disputes or ties, decisions of the judges will be final and arbitrary. We've only got five prizes each week to give away, so if there are more than five winners, we'll have a lottery.
- 6. All answers must be entered in the space allowed on the puzzle page. And please, no phone calls or trips to our office.
- 7. One entry per person.



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Solution to and winners of the *Reader* Puzzle for 9/14/06.

There were 116 entrants. The winners are:

- 1. Jane Maxwell, *Lemon Grove*
- 2. Simon Davis, *San Diego*
- 3. Brian Hart, *Santee*
- 4. Tom McAllister, *La Jolla*
- 5. Barbara Osburn, *Escondido*

HERPES/HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS. (HSV/HPV) Support group. Accurate medical information and support. Recorded message. 619-491-1194. www.SanDiegoCityHELP.org.

LOST: Men's wedding band. Lost at Qualcomm Stadium on 8/28/06. Much sentimental value. Generous reward. 619-521-2858 or 619-250-2838.

MEDITATION. Free classes Tuesdays 7pm, Wednesdays 7:30pm, Saturdays

11:30am. Dharma Center, 5059 Newport Avenue, Suite 303, Ocean Beach. 858-616-6308. or www.dharmacenter.com.

MIND-BODY exercise by Clifford C. Oliver, DC, RN, Free. Thursday October 19, 7-9pm. Price-Pottenger Nutrition Foundation. 7890 Broadway, Lemon Grove. RSVP 619-462-7600.

MOVIE BUFFS, Interested in watching movies then discussing it afterwards, like a book club? Ages 25 to mature wel-

come. Please call 619-850-6075 or 858-272-8727.

NATIVE COUNCIL PROGRESS, Incorporated, non-profit, supports the repatriation of Mexican Indian immigrants. 4000+ dead. Derechas para los migrantes sin papeles! Amnesty, yes! Wall? No! sancho69ya@yahoo.com.

OBSESSIVE COMPULSIVE Anonymous 12-step meeting for people with OCD. Mondays, 6-7pm, Free, Department of Health Services Complex, 3851 Rosecrans Street, Mission Room, San Diego. 619-757-6603.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS. Overweight? Anorexic? Bulimic? Can't stop eating? There is a 12-step solution. Meet-

ings daily. No dues or fees. www.oasandiego.org or 619-521-2538.

PATHWORK DISCUSSION, "Love, Eros and Sexuality." September 25, 7-9pm. 3180 University Avenue, Suite 200. San Diego, CA 92104. Open meeting, no fee, materials available. 619-296-9046.

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RECOVERY GROUPS for men and women seeking freedom from addiction/co-dependency. Fridays, 7pm. Celebrate recovery, First Lutheran, 867 South Lincoln Avenue, El Cajon. 619-444-7444. www.recovery4u.cc.

SINGLE, and searching for God? Visit the Pacific Beach ward congregation at 5151

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Fanuel in PB. Sundays, 11:30am. Call Alvin for details 619-322-2707.

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SURVIVORS OF INCEST Anonymous. Free 12-step support groups for men and women molested as children. Call Tim, 619-282-4798; www.slawso.org.

TENNIS LEAGUE, Flexible, North County, now forming. Fall matches start September 29-December. All levels welcome. Online stats, easy scheduling, playoffs. Complete details northcountytennis.com.

TWELVE STEPS NOT working for you? Try a self-empowering, skill-building approach with S.M.A.R.T. Recovery, free support groups. 858-546-1100.

VOLUNTEER childbirth assistants needed. UCSD Medical Center Double Program needs women to help mothers during labor. Big commitment, lots of gratification! 619-543-6269.

VOLUNTEERS, San Diego's abused/neglected children need your voice. Serve as a Court Appointed special Advocate (CASA). Bilingual needed. Next information sessions: Wednesday, 11/8 and 12/13. Voices for Children, 858-569-2019 or visit www.voices4children.com.

TRAVEL & GETAWAYS

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LAS VEGAS TIME SHARE, Highest bidder by midnight 9/30/06. One of Monarch Grand Vacations, all over the world. Las Vegas Boulevard, south of the strip. By owner, 858-456-8199.

TOUR MEXICO without fear. Rosarito day trips. Hourly rates. Fabulous beauty, scenery, resources, real estate bargains, furnishings, art, accessories, furniture, art galleries, restaurants, hotels. Peter, 858-254-4212.

TOUR MEXICO without fear. Rosarito day trips. Hourly rates. Fabulous beauty, scenery, resources, real estate bargains, furnishings, art, accessories, furniture, art galleries, restaurants, hotels. Peter, 858-254-4212.

TRAVEL DISCUSSION group for singles 40s-50s forming. Share travel experiences, make new friends. Interested? Call 858-292-7321.

PERSONALS

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ALLEGED FORTY MILLION, Fetuses aborted to date (USA) sans "freedom of choice", unlike their parents (or, compulsory sex/pregnancy??). Souls need babies for re-entrance--- woefully denied rebirth, some very angry....

BEVERLY and Marge H who lived in Imperial Beach and East County in the 60s, write Jerry. PO Box 731 El Cajon, California 92022.

DAVIEBABE, in Boston. There were four, they always gave me a kiss when I came through the door. Without you and them, I am poor.

DEAR SAINT JUDE TADED, Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! No wonder you're a saint!

HGS, while at my ex-sister's, I named a star after you. Now the wheels what S in HGS stands for. TYS MICHAEL IRDLY 24/7/365.

IF SINNERS TEMPT YOU, do not consent. They ambush their own lives. Peace now.

MY BO BOY, I miss you, and love deeply for you. The wheels have finally fallen off this ride. Let's enjoy the fall.

NICOLE, You are my light, it doesn't matter what happens in this life, as long as you're with me. When I look at you I know there is a God, and that he loved me so much, that he took the time to create you just for me. Happy 4th-Lips.
ZOE MCFARLAND, Dear Zoe: Would love to see you again. You can find me OB Jazz Festival, Julian Bluegass Festival, Adams Avenue Street Fair.

MATCHES
SHARED INTERESTS
SEEKING 50ISH Male or female for friendship, conversation, occasional casual dinners out, maybe 24 Hour Fitness, keeping in touch. We are easy-going and genuine. (9/27) 📞70323

MATCHES
WOMEN SEEKING MEN
LOOKING FOR HONEST, Sincere, compassionate, male to share good times with. Someone who can talk about anything and make me laugh. Young at heart. (9/27) 📞69869
EUROPEAN EDUCATED, Gorgeous, petite. Seeking successful, truthful, generous, educated, anti-war, stylish, monogamous, (com)passionate, no baggage man, friendship, sportive, no previous kids, spiritual/nonreligious, 35-53, 5'9"+. (10/4) 📞69884
THIRTY-SOMETHING Female, smart, successful. Seeks midwest male counterpart for friendship, fun, walks, talks, dining, concerts, trips, romance, adventure. Only those wanting commitment need apply. (9/27) 📞69864

3

Ways to Respond to

READER MATCHES ADS!

Call 1-900-844-6282

The cost is \$1.99 per minute. You must be at least 18 years old to call. Call and enter the number at the end of an ad to hear the advertiser's introduction and leave a message. The date in the ad is the last day to reply. The charge will appear on your phone bill as "Dating." Questions? 619-235-8200.

Use your credit card

No 900# access? Call anytime day or night to purchase a block of calling time and charge it to your Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express... for as little as \$1.25 per minute.
Call 1-800-360-9496 24 hours
No refunds. You may also purchase time at our office with cash or check only.

Send an e-mail

Matches ads are now on the Web. You may search them by specifying criteria such as age, ethnicity and nonsmoking. Respond to most ads by sending an anonymous e-mail for a nominal charge. You may also listen to intros online.
SanDiegoReader.com
From this page, click on "Matches."

INSPIRED GODDESS, Summonds un-encumbered white male, with above average mentality. This childless black beauty awaits. Posses character, diverse interests 30-50, life's too short to settle! (9/27) 📞69867
YOU HAVE FINALLY FOUND Your pretty lady with good figure and pleasing personality. If you are 59+, fun-loving, sexy, adventurous, romantic, don't hesitate to call. (10/4) 📞69885
SINCERE, ADVENTURESOME, Loving lady, 5'6", trim, no dependents, enjoys outdoors. Seeks tall, white, healthy, 57-69, to blend our many nice qualities for lasting relationship. (10/4) 📞69883
SMILING FLOWER CHILD Seeks liberal stud for protesting civil disobedience and love. Seriously, where are you? Only smart, silly, sweet, open-minded, tall, need apply. (9/27) 📞69871
FRANCES, Black hair, brown eyes, 145lbs, 47 years old. Want to meet man 55 to 67. (9/27) 📞69865

WANTED, SMART, SLIM, Gentleman, 30s to 50s, intellectually stimulating. I love sailing. I'm blonde, funny, pretty and would like to hold hands with a winner. (10/4) 📞69889
LATINA, 51, Hazel eyes, good-looking, sensual. Enjoys dancing, movies, dining out. Seeks gentleman, preferably North County area, 53-57, nonsmoker, with same qualities. (9/27) 📞69874
VERY ATTRACTIVE, Petite, long hair, feminine, artistic. Into yoga, meditation, ocean, outdoors, travel. Seeks educated, kind, soft-spoken, loving, fun, gentleman, best friend, sweet-heart forever. (10/4) 📞69880
YOU'VE GOTTA BE Middle-age. It's like you're 45 going on 25, but no baggage, no issues. Alas, too much to ask. (10/4) 📞69882
ADVENTUROUS, WORLDLY, athletic, slim, tall, Jewish female. Nonsmoker. Seeking tall, 40-57, fit compassionate, humorous, Jewish man of integrity. Enjoy sports, culture and travel. Let's talk. (9/27) 📞69868

ATTRACTIVE MEXICAN, Long hair, nice legs, easygoing. Wants to meet very attractive guy, 42-55, healthy, generous, honest, financially secure, nonsmoker, for friendship or possible relationship. (10/4) 📞69890
BRITISH GENTLEMAN Desired by green-eyed white lady, 47, nature lover, world traveler, great sense of humor, healthy lifestyle. Please have similar interests/lifestyle. (10/4) 📞69892
WARM, TRADITIONAL, Creative, attractive, blonde blue, medical/fashion careers, navy widow, retired. Seeks secure Christian gentleman who wants to enjoy healthy, pleasant retirement, swimming, cruises. (10/4) 📞69881
ATTRACTIVE ATTORNEY, Romantic, passionate, loyal and considerate. Likes traveling, dancing, fine dining, theatre, jogging and tennis. Seeks successful, well-educated, slim, honest man, 40-49. (10/4) 📞69888
JAPANESE, PETITE, CUTE, Former pianist, shy but sociable, great cook.

Seeks ethical man, who can be reliable. (9/27) 📞69877
FUNNY, PLAYFUL, 44. Looking for love in all the wrong places. You, fun, honest, spontaneous, great sense of humor and ready to rock my world. (9/27) 📞69861
ATHEIST HUNK WANTED by sexy black lady, I'm 40. You under 40, fit, adventurous, loving, happy, self-confident; me same. Ready for love? Any race. (9/27) 📞69873
ATTRACTIVE, AFFECTIONATE, Christian, 60s, 5'0", 150lbs, travel, nature, gardening, birds, honest, art, music. Seeking educated professional, financially secure, generous, loving nonsmoker, white male, 55-70, 5'6"+. (9/27) 📞69876
WELL TRAVELLED, Slim, attractive, blonde, real estate agent, 60. Loves outdoors, arts, wine. Seeks partner who enjoys a similar lifestyle for fun and more. (10/4) 📞69879
49, SINGLE MOM, Looking for someone to make lifelong memories with.

Could that be you? Single mom 49 in SDReader Matches. (9/27) 📞69862
OUTGOING, WARM, Photography lover, 62 years young. Museums, going out, staying in, outdoors, family, friends, travel, adventurous, pets, music, computers. Laughing and hugging. No smoke. (9/27) 📞69870
BIG GAL, Tall Latina, 50ish searching for fun loving, friends first kind of man. (9/27) 📞69866
CHOCOLATE SENIOR LADY, Not from New Orleans; Central America. Would like to meet senior gentleman to enjoy each other's company, dancing, movies, short trips together. (10/4) 📞69924
SMART, PROFESSIONAL, fit, fun, petite, 50s, love to travel, outdoors. Seeking nice, honest, fun, educated guy. I'm English/Spanish speaking. Call! (9/27) 📞69863
LA MESA EBONY WOMAN, Youthful 50 down to earth, kool, likes old school music, jazz. Seeks attractive, mature, kool, fun guy with a little soul. (10/4) 📞69923
ARTICULATE, ATTRACTIVE, Affectionate, 40-something, professional woman. Seeks educated, professional, honest, good-hearted man, 39-65, for lasting relationship. (9/27) 📞69875
SLIM, CHEERFUL, HEALTHY, Tall, warm, affectionate, white female, 68. Seeking good-natured, fit, 6'1"+, gentleman, near age 68, for fun, companionship, TLC, friends first. Nonsmoker please. (10/4) 📞69891
ASIAN EXOTIC SEXY, Nice legs, curvaceous figure, 5'3", 115lbs, professional, childless homeowner. Desires fun, fit, nonsmoker, upscale, successful, compatible, generous, 36+ Asian/Caucasian stable gentleman. (10/4) 📞69886

Try online placement for your Reader Matches Ad!

Meet Your Match. Get a free ad in the *Reader* and on the Web at SanDiegoReader.com, and a free voice mailbox for recording and receiving messages. Questions? Call 619-235-8200, 8:30-5:00, Mon.-Fri.

Free Online Placement: Ads submitted online receive e-mail responses and voicemail responses. Tell more about yourself and upload a photo, too! These features are free. Online placement deadline: 7 am, Saturday.

More Free Placement Options: Can't get online? Fill the form below and mail or fax it to us. If faxing, please photocopy first. Fax/mail deadline: 7 am, Saturday.



Meet your match! Use the form below to place your free, 2-week Reader Matches Ad and get your free Voice Mailbox.

OPTIONAL HEADLINE: 20 characters per line including spaces; the first initial of each word is capitalized; abbreviations and unusual punctuation will not be accepted; the cost of each line is \$12. Continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

1	2	3	4
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PRINT CLEARLY: First 25 words are FREE. \$1.20/additional word. Do not abbreviate words. Continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24
25/FREE	26	27	28	29	30

FREE AD DEADLINE: 7 am Saturday
Mail: Reader Matches, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186 **Fax:** (619) 233-7907
Online: SanDiegoReader.com
LATE AD DEADLINE: 5 pm Tuesday
Fax: (619) 233-7907 **Phone:** (619) 235-8200
Walk-in: 1703 India St. (at Date St.) downtown

Matches ads are available for any 18+ single person who is seeking a sincere relationship with a member of the opposite sex. Ads containing explicit or implicit sexual/anatomical language will not be accepted. Ads in the "Shared Interests" category must list the primary interest as the first words; these ads will be sorted alphabetically. Either gender may be sought in "Shared Interests" ads; however, physical descriptions are not allowed. No last names, addresses or personal phone numbers will be permitted. No dating services, singles clubs or commercial businesses may advertise in this section. The San Diego *Reader* does not assume any liability for the content or reply to any Reader Matches advertisement. Advertiser assumes complete liability for content of, and all replies to, any advertisement or recorded message and for any claims made against the San Diego *Reader* as a result thereof. The advertiser agrees to indemnify and hold the San Diego *Reader* and its employees harmless from all costs, expenses (including all attorney fees), liabilities and damages resulting from or caused by the publication or recording placed by the advertiser or any reply to any such advertisement. By using Reader Matches, the advertiser agrees not to leave his/her telephone number, last name or address in his/her voice greeting message.

We must have the following information. Please print.

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Address _____
City _____ Zip _____
Phone (day) () _____
Phone (evening) () _____
Signature _____
To receive e-mail responses, simply provide your address below. (Don't worry, your e-mail address will not be revealed.)
E-mail: _____

Choose One: ☐ Woman seeking a man
☐ Shared interests ☐ Man seeking a woman

Reader Matches Voice Mailbox\$ **FREE**
Headlines _____x \$12 each line\$ _____
First 25 words of printed ad.....\$ **FREE**
Additional words _____x \$1.20 each.....\$ _____
Late fee/walk-in fee: \$20.....\$ _____
TOTAL\$ _____

No cancellations. No refunds. Make check or money order payable to San Diego *Reader*. To order using Visa, MasterCard or Discover, please fill out the following:

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Expiration date _____
Signature _____

MATCHES
MEN SEEKING
WOMEN

CHRISTIAN 47 WIDOWER, Considerate, compassionate, sensitive, kind, likes meaningful conversation, communication, healthy living with purpose staying in shape, hiking, reading, god first marriage minded. (9/27) ☎ 70318

EASY ON THE EYES, 40-something, 6', brown/blue, loyal listener, intelligent with great smile, big heart. Seeks white female 30-46 for mellow, sweet relationship. (10/4) ☎ 70344

JEWISH MAN, 6'2", eyes of blue, into tennis, swimming. Seeking Jewish woman 35-50, health conscious, long walks with similar interests. (10/4) ☎ 70337

NOT BAD LOOKING, 50 years young, cleans up very nicely, no kids, easygoing, financially sound, athletically inclined. Looking for same in exotic looking woman, 38-50. (9/27) ☎ 70307

CAPPUCCINO, CARROT JUICE, Or Kugel? Tall, 55, enjoys Ocean Beach, food co-op, the pier, Fiesta Island, beaches at sunset, Lake Murray walks. Seeking slenderish female. (9/27) ☎ 70326

I LIKE LONG WALKS, Especially when they're taken by people who annoy me. 55, 5'11", 160lbs. Author, docent, trail guide. Playful, educated. Seeking same. (10/4) ☎ 70358

40 YEAR OLD PHYSICIAN With great sense of humor, loves dancing, music, painting. Looking for woman, early 30s, petite, cute, fit for long-term relationship, possibly more. (70347) ☎ 5643

ACTIVE, ATTENTIVE, Affectionate, 6'3", 206lbs, 59, personable, professional. Seeks mutually fulfilling relationship with nonsmoking, attractive, educative, 50s lady to share time, support, laughs and joy. (9/27) ☎ 70327

YOUNG, 60-YEAR-OLD MAN. Looking for nice, sweet woman in North County, with good sense of humor, nonsmoker, who wants good nice man. (10/4) ☎ 70342

BLACK MALE, 6'2", 46, playful, modest, logical. In search of Asian female with similar interests, for friendship or more, 35-60, attractive, honest and sincere. (10/4) ☎ 70340

3 Ways to Respond to READER MATCHES ADS!

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Use your credit card

No 900# access? Call anytime day or night to purchase a block of calling time and charge it to your Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express... for as little as \$1.25 per minute.

Call 1-800-360-9496 24 hours

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

Send an e-mail

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

SanDiegoReader.com

From this page, click on "Matches."

Good-Looking

Attractive, slender, sincere, warm-hearted, honest, fun, kind, caring, adventurous, spiritual, vivid, energy, white male, 40s. Seeks romantic friendship/relationship for dinners, parties, dancing and travel. (10/4) ☎ 70348

LONELY OLD GEEZER, 80s, retired, affluent. Seeks young chick 70s-80s for friendship, companionship, on cruises, trips, tours, dinners, shows, whatever we would enjoy doing together. (9/27) ☎ 70313

TALL, BLUE-EYED, Good-looking Norwegian man, 55, athletic, energetic, romantic, great kisser. Seeks attractive woman 40-60, sparkling eyes, enticing smile. Fun times, romance, more. (10/4) ☎ 70359

WOULD LIKE TO MEET Female who attended Grossmont High, El Cajon, Helix, class of 1959 to ? Let's share memories and steam up the windows. (9/27) ☎ 70310

YOUNG LOOKING, ATTRACTIVE, 50. Seeks tomboy, hikes/backpacks 15 miles per day, nicely shaped, blue jeans, to come out and play. No loud voices. AA big plus, NE County. (9/27) ☎ 70314

I'M 57, 5'10", 175lbs. Looking for companionship with nice lady. I'm loyal, honest, caring. I enjoy working out, movies, dining, simple pleasures. 619, 858 areas. (10/4) ☎ 70362

Seeking Black Female

You 40 to 50, beautiful and white, average build, 5'8", loving and caring, I'm worth knowing. (10/4) ☎ 70346

Black Princess

Movie Critic. Well, almost! Attractive sexy white male, slim and trim, mid 40s, born in October, 5'11", brown hair, green eyes, adventurous, good listener, warm-hearted, thoughtful, generous, dog lover, fun, sense of humor, nonsmoker, romantic, flirtatious, loves to cuddle, good kisser. Searching for that special black lady, who still believes life and love can be like it is in the movies, age open. Long term relationship or get married and live happily ever after. (9/27) ☎ 70331

TALL, SLIM, MECHANIC, 71. Seeks woman for travel, your RV or mine. Baja or ? (10/4) ☎ 70353

39 WHITE MALE, 5'10", dark brown hair, hazel eyes, affectionate, romantic, loves to cook, cuddle, enjoys moonlit walks on beach. Seeks lady 26-43 for relationship. (10/4) ☎ 70354

ATTRACTIVE PROFESSIONAL Hispanic, 48, sense of humor. Likes dancing, traveling, outdoors, romantic dinners, movies. Seeking Hispanic, Caucasian, middle-age, attractive female, possible long-term relationship. (10/4) ☎ 70334

SEEKING A LADY, 65-75. I am well-groomed. Enjoy cruises, movies, walks, picnics, quiet time. East County. (9/27) ☎ 70317

Midnight At The Oasis

Handsome Hillcrest musician, very youthful 58, 5'11", 185lbs., financially secure. Seeks delicious lady to share my sensuous oasis of music, dance, film, humor and the sweet taste of intimate communication. (9/27) ☎ 70321

6'4" SINGLE DAD, 38, financially secure, sense of humor, drama-free, easy-going, smart. Give me a chance,

I'll give you the world. Age 28-38. (10/4) ☎ 70338

TALL, FIT, ATHLETIC MALE, 6'0", 190lbs, good looking, brown/blue. Seeking tall, thin, fit female with appreciation of culture and athletic endeavors. 20-40. (9/27) ☎ 70333

HISPANIC BUSINESS MAN, 52, fit. Enjoys barbecuing, hiking, thrills, yoga, travel, theater, concerts, movies, most sports. Clean, neat, homeowner, a gentleman, lives alone with doggie. (10/4) ☎ 70351

TALL, ATTRACTIVE, Blue eyes, 56, white male, fun, fit, romantic, financially stable. Seeking slender to average woman for quality time together. Is that you. (10/4) ☎ 70341

PERSONABLE SENIOR GENTLEMAN. Enjoys dancing, theatre, bridge, short trips. Seeks 70 to 80, up-to-date lady who is sincere, thoughtful, rather tall, plus size. (10/4) ☎ 70356

Looking For Love

Just moved here from the east coast, I'm looking for sincere relationship. Black, handsome, 30, look 20. Searching for attractive, affectionate, slim woman, any race. (9/27) ☎ 70312

OLD SCHOOL ROCKER. I'm 43 and looking for a kool chick to hang out with. Call me. What do you have to lose? (10/4) ☎ 70336

1963 CLASSIC AQUARIUS, Good looking with long hair. Seeks honest, fun-filled, energetic, humorous, beautiful, intelligent, talented, charming hottie, 30-50, for movies, dining, boating, motorcycling. (9/27) ☎ 70311

NICE-APPEARING BACHELOR, early 50s, trim, successful, childless, blue, brown, North County coastal homeowner without encumbrances. You: 40-something, well groomed, not overweight, serious-minded. (9/27) ☎ 70316

SINCERELY SEEKING a quality relationship. I'm 55, 5'3", good looking, in good shape. I love music, fitness, nature, and fun at home! La Mesa. (10/4) ☎ 70357

HANDSOME, CARING, SUCCESSFUL, 36-year old homeowner who is non-smoking and looks only 30. Seeks 25-34 year old Asian woman who likes to hold hands. (10/4) ☎ 70352

Asian Nurse

6', 200lbs., construction owner, 55 years old. Seeks friend for sunsets, walks, biking, golf, drives, companionship. Financially secure, 45-55, slim, fun loving, waiting for you. (9/27) ☎ 70320

Soul Surfer, 56, Hispanic Gentleman

Seeks healthy, fit female companion, 35-45. Sun, moon, air, water, walk, talk, laugh, spirit, wine, coffee. (9/27) ☎ 70319

EARLY 70s. Seeking shared love and heartfelt understanding of each other. (10/4) ☎ 70360

63 WHITE MALE, Retired. Looking for lady for fun, romance, weekend trips, indoor/outdoor fun. (9/27) ☎ 70322

SINCERITY, HONESTY DESIRED? These qualities, many more, offered by fit, secure, Lakeside homeowner, 79, liking outdoor activities, quiet homelife. Seeking lifetime togetherness with compatible lady. (9/27) ☎ 70328

BIKER WITH A GOOD HEART, Looking for nice woman, no games, non-smoker, love, hug and kisses, ready to give all my heart, call me. (10/4) ☎ 79355

LOOKING FOR WOMAN That cooks, cleans, fishes and has boat. Please send picture of boat. (9/27) ☎ 70329

SLIM, SINGLE, SINCERE, Good looking, in good shape physically/spiritually, with sense of humor, common sense, ready to settle down with one loving woman. 40-50. (9/27) ☎ 70309

49, POLICE OFFICER. Healthy Caucasian, gentleman's standards/morals, Fashion Valley. Seeking motivated lady, 42-50, to enjoy life's adventures and experiences with possible commitment. (10/4) ☎ 70335

ADVENTUROUS, SPONTANEOUS, Outdoors, active lover of life. Seeking partner for travels to beach, mountains, deserts and beyond! Handsome 57 classic! You: happy, healthy, fun, ready! (9/27) ☎ 70308

PRO JAZZ MUSICIAN, 6'1", 160lbs., 54, blue/red, shaved, swing dancer, road bicycle racer, Buddhist, child-free. Seeking chemistry/connection! (10/4) ☎ 70339

HIGH REGARD FOR WOMEN, Including equal treatment. Unselfish, sensitive, personable, adventurous, liberal, well-traveled. Music, arts, politics, tennis, outdoor adventures, animals. Agnostic. 6'1". Young 59. (10/4) ☎ 70345

ATTRACTIVE, 6'1", 50-ish, healthy, energetic, outgoing, stable, fit, good sense of humor. Looking for 40ish-50ish, same qualities, loving lady for good fun times. (9/27) ☎ 70315

I HOPE YOU LIKE PASTA. I'm 39, fit, tall, Latin, and attractive too! I love to travel and I'm searching for an outgoing lady. (10/4) ☎ 70361

WAKE ME UP WHEN September ends! Good looking, friendly, outgoing, spontaneous, tall man. Searching for pretty, enthusiastic, romantic woman to chill in San Diego. (10/4) ☎ 70363

FULL-BODIED WHITE FEMALE, 180+lbs wanted, by attractive black artist, property owner, building mountain home. Seeking to share it with large passionate woman wanting permanent relationship. (10/4) ☎ 70343

YES MA'AM. Strikingly handsome, 51, 6'1", 185lbs. Seeking mature, assertive, sublime, beautiful curvaceous woman for mutually beneficial companionship, respect, devotion, pleasing you. (10/4) ☎ 70350

SEEKING TAN SKIN, 30-44. White professional, 47 (looking 39). Toned, smooth skin, shaven face, brown/green, 6', 200lbs. Sweet. Give you wonderful back rubs. (9/27) ☎ 70325

SPIRITUAL PATH, Humorous, caring, honest, intelligent, 52, 5'8", 170lbs, black/grey, enjoy coffeehouses, conversation, movies, rock music, nature books. Seeking someone to share life with. (10/4) ☎ 70349

MUSIC
EQUIPMENT /
INSTRUMENTS

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ABANDON ALL GEAR! Top dollar paid! Guitar Trader buys, sells and trades everything: Electric, acoustic, bass guitars, guitar amps, bass amps, PA amps-- anything to everything! Guitar Trader, 7120 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. Call toll free: 888-4-A-GUITAR (888-424-8482). www.GuitarTrader.com.

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BABY GRAND, Beautiful, petit piano with bench. White with blue accents--professionally restored. Ivory keys. Early 1900s piece. Dimensions: 44" wide, 48" deep, \$950/best, 619-542-0356.

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DRUM KIT, Gretsch Catalina Club Roll, 5 piece, with Gibraltar rack, \$1100. Ludwig Fab Four 4-piece kit, \$1100. Like new, stored. 619-766-4276.

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Oct. 9th - Monday 8pm-9:15pm ~ Slack Key Guitar Workshop!

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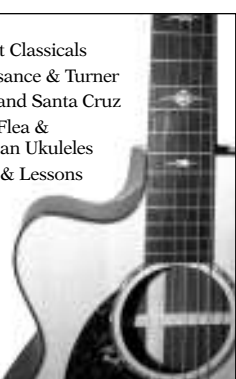
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BASS PLAYER who sings backup needed to form band. Have stellar frontman, guitarist, and drummer. Cover band Matchbox 20, U2, Tom Petty. Bud, 480-980-8080.

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DRUMMER WANTED. Established hard-rock band, "Tainted society." Have strong meter, creative fills, must have pro gear, willing to practice in Escondido, 2-3/week, www.myspace.com/taintedsociety, 760-738-0173.

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GUITARIST WANTED, To share leads, for established hard rock band, "Tainted Society." Must have pro gear, willing to practice in Escondido 2-3/week, www.myspace.com/taintedsociety, 760-738-0173.

GUITARIST WANTED, For East County death metal band "Gutted". Influences, morbid angel, bloodbath, grave ect. Have rehearsal space, pro gear a must. Call Shane, 619-438-8284.

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SMOOTH JAZZ, Pop guitarist wanted for new band. Have members and songs, serious, longterm, profitable project for the right person. Call Frank 858-560-2946, Drew 619-527-4745.

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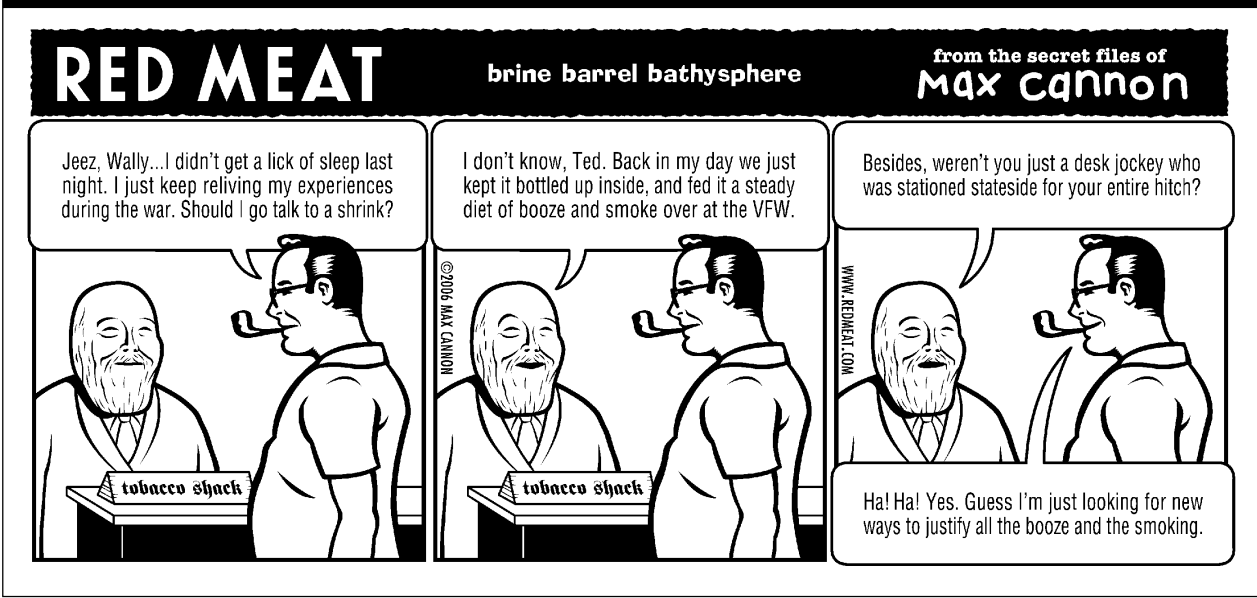
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MISSION BEACH. \$1260. Small 2 bedroom, 1 bath house. Beach side. No pets. Nonsmoking. New carpet/paint. Appliances. Cozy. Clean. 731 San Jose Place. Juno, 619-275-3455.

MISSION HILLS. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Updated, bright Craftsman home. Fireplace, hardwood floors, appliances, garage, deck. Sublet, \$2600/month. Agent, 619-248-4991.

MOUNT HELIX. \$2100. 4 bedroom, 2 bath, yard, cul-de-sac, double garage, fireplace, air conditioning, hookups, wood floors. Lease. Pet? 4013 Corte Tierra Alta. 91941. 619-469-0031.

NORMAL HEIGHTS/UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$775-\$820. Charming cottages close to all. Refrigerator and stove. Hardwood floors. Indoor cat OK. 619-291-5555. www.utopiamanagement.com.

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NORTH PARK, spacious remodeled 1 bedroom bungalow. Near Morley Field, off-street parking, wood deck, washer/dryer in unit. Pet negotiable. Ideal for 1 person. Rent \$1300 with deposit. Available now. Call 619-282-7980.

NORTH PARK, \$1000. 1 bedroom, 1 bath cottage with hardwood floors, built-in china cabinet, set in lushly landscaped complex. Available 10/10. 4060 Hamilton Street, #4060. 619-295-1100, www. cethron.com.

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NORTH PARK. \$2000. Beautifully remodeled (interior) 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. Remodeled inside, 1600 square feet, new kitchen with granite countertops, new bathrooms with upgraded fixtures, hardwood floors, stove, refrigerator, washer/dryer, fenced yard. No pets. 3531 Cooper Street. Deposit negotiable. Dave, 619-686-6456.

NORTH PARK. 92104. \$1400/month. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 1 car garage. New stove, oven, washer/dryer, private yard, available 10/1/06. 2508 Vancouver Avenue. Peaceful. 619-280-3342.

OCEAN BEACH/SUNSET CLIFFS. \$1750. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, pristine condition, view/steps to ocean, garage, private yard. No dogs. Nonsmoking. 4862 Pescadero. Dave 858-812-2018.

OCEAN BEACH. 2 bedroom, 2 bath house. \$1650. Living room, family room, fireplace. 4765 Saratoga Street. Available 10/7. Call 858-583-0182 or 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

OCEAN BEACH. 2 bedroom, 2 bath duplex. Private courtyard, Jacuzzi, washer/dryer, separate bonus. 1059 Alexandria Street. Call Donya, 619-231-2727.

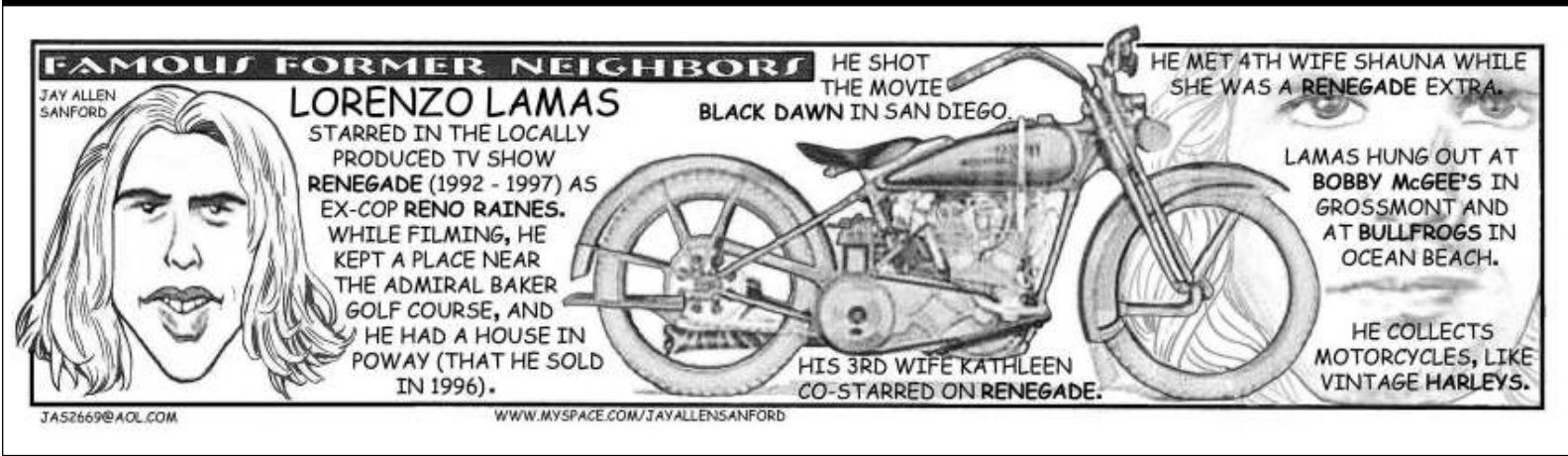
OCEANSIDE/Ivy Ranch, \$1800. Gated 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-car garage. Excellent condition, near pool. Pets on approval. Panda Realty, 858-748-8850.

OLD TOWN. \$910. 1 bedroom cottage, includes utilities, dishwasher, and microwave. No pets. 2363-1/2 Linwood Street. 619-295-6005, agent.

PACIFIC BEACH. 3 bedroom, 2 bath home, patio, parking, ready now. \$2250. Studio, nice location, clean, quiet, \$850. Store Room, secure, storage only. \$145. 858-756-1296.

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PACIFIC BEACH. \$2995. New construction. 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath house. Additional work space off garage, rooftop view deck. Hardwood floors, stainless appliances. 2-car garage. Call Coldwell Banker Property Management, 858-488-4090.

PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedroom plus loft, 2-1/2 bath house. \$2300. Dishwasher and fireplace. 1 year lease. 4014 Promontory. 858-200-9408.

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POINT LOMA. \$2595. Brand-new spacious 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhome. Private rooftop deck, views, fireplace, stainless appliances, granite countertops, secured underground parking. 4115 Udall. 858-213-4107.

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RAMONA. 5 bedroom, 5 bath. Foreclosure, only \$150,000! Must sell! More homes available from \$50,000. For listings and information call, 1-800-690-3990 ext. 1172.

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RANCHO BERNARDO/Sabre Springs south. \$3100. 5 bedroom, 3 bath house. Large yard, gardener, island kitchen, 3-car garage. Pets on approval. Panda Realty, 858-748-8850.

RANCHO SAN DIEGO/EL CAJON. 4 bedroom, 3 bath house. 1950 square feet. On large lot, hardwood floors, full bed/bath downstairs, 2 car garage, large yard with gardener included, fireplace, washer/dryer hookups. 12172 Via Hacienda. Available 10/10. Call 858-583-0182 or 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

SAN CARLOS/LAKE MURRAY. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, 2 story, complete remodel, private yard with gardener. Washer/dryer. No pets/smoking. \$2000. Available 10/1. 760-787-1088.

SAN CARLOS. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. \$1795. Spacious, large back yard, enclosed patio, 2-car garage, washer/dryer. 6906 Mewall Drive. Call 858-967-0014, www.cal-prop.com.

SAN CARLOS. 8076 Dicenza Lane. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. \$1950. Deposit \$1500. Fenced yard, Fireplace. 2 car garage. Ed, 858-597-6100.

SAN MARCOS. Newly remodeled 3 bedroom, 2 bath plus den home. Attached garage. All appliances. Yard. Near CSSMU. 848 Snowberry Court. Available 10/1. \$1795. 619-518-2005.

SAN MARCOS. \$2750. Nice single-level 4 bedroom home, 1/2 acre corner lot, pool.

Quiet neighborhood. Pets OK with approval/deposit. Mike Alcorn, Pinnacle Properties, 858-342-9177.

SAN MARCOS. La Cienega/Twin Oaks Golf Course. \$2295/month. 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath house. Cul-de-sac, large yard, 3-car garage. Gardener included. Panda Realty, 858-748-8850.

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SANTEE. 10071 Blitser Court. 4 bedroom, 2 bath house. Large yard, cul-de-sac. Close to shopping. Pet on approval. \$1750. CSPM, 619-229-2440.

SERRA MESA. \$1600. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house, 1 level, approximately 1100 square feet, 2-car garage, patio, large yard, washer/dryer hookups, vaulted ceiling. 8351 Neva Avenue. Centre City Property Management, 619-296-6699.

SERRA MESA. \$1825, security deposit \$1500. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. 9102 Huntington Avenue. New carpet, newer, vinyl, stove, refrigerator, blinds, garage, laundry hookups. 10-12 month lease. Gardener included. Available 9/25. Call Ed, 858-597-6100.

SOUTH PARK/BALBOA EAST. Very large, old Spanish 2 bedroom, 2 bath.

Hardwood floors. Washer, dryer hookups. Off-street parking, in quiet residential neighborhood. 1514 29th Street. \$1475. 619-299-9695.

SOUTH PARK. \$1925. 2 bedroom, 2 bath house, large backyard with jacuzzi. Built-in bar and china. Hardwood floors. water is paid. 1645 Grove Street. 619-640-7530. www.sdforrent.com.

SPRING VALLEY. \$1995. 3 bedroom, 3 bath house with views. Spa, fireplace. New paint, crown molding in living room and vaulted ceilings. 858-598-1111, x192. www.utopiamgmt.com.

SPRING VALLEY. \$2395. Lovely 4 bedroom, 3 bath, great view, fireplace, garage, all appliances, multiple balconies, air conditioning. Small pet OK. 1107 Coronado. Leasing Unlimited, 760-436-7273.

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UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. Small 2 bedroom, 1 bath house. Hardwood floors. \$1195/month. 619-339-4311.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. Remodeled 2 bedroom Spanish-style cottage, near Adams Avenue. \$1550. Stainless steel appliances. Wood flooring living

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BANKER'S HILL/DOWNTOWN. Recently remodeled 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Granite counters, slate tiles in bathroom, wood floors. Downtown and harbor views. Pets OK. \$1295. 612-1/2 West Laurel. 619-993-3971.

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BANKER'S HILL. \$2250. Extra nice 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath split-level condo. Open and bright! Garage, fireplace, storage. No pets. 2233 5th Avenue. Agent, 619-469-7790. www.westmanproperties.com.

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BANKER'S HILL. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Private, quiet complex. Very clean. Off-street parking. Laundry. No pets. \$925/month; deposit \$925. Available now. 3588 First Avenue #7. www.timeassidy.com. Cassidy, broker, 619-275-LIST.

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CARDIFF. Full ocean view! Beautiful 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Garden patio, sun room. Fireplace, washer/dryer, parking. Near tennis, park, surfing. \$1750. 858-535-0833 or 858-775-7429.

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CARLSBAD. \$1600. Nice upgraded 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath, 2-story townhome. End unit, garage, parking space. Washer/dryer hookups, community pool. Available 9/30, month-to-month. Lorraine, 760-717-3626.

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CHULA VISTA. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$775-\$795; 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$995. Great freeway access, on-site laundry and parking. 583 Park Way. 858-200-9408.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$750. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, upstairs apartments. New paint (both), new carpet (#17), laundry onsite. Available 9/15. 4058 51st Street, #17 and #1. 619-295-1100. www.cethron.com.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$1200 rent, \$600 deposit, OAC. Large 2 bedroom 2 bath townhouse style apartment. Parking, laundry, patio. No pets. 4245 47th Street, #A. 619-299-8515.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$800/month. Large upstairs 1 bedroom, light and clean. Garage, onsite laundry, freshly painted, quiet neighborhood, small complex. 4245 Central Avenue, Apt. #7. 760-788-3618.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$675. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. No pets. Security gated, parking, laundry, appliances. Paint/carpet. Clean. 4370 51st Street #7. Hector, 619-740-1124.

CITY HEIGHTS. Condos from \$995-\$1400. 1 and 2 bedrooms. All new granite, dishwasher, microwave, washer/dryer, air conditioning. Parking. Available now. 5310 Rex Avenue. 619-281-4698.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$695. 1 bedroom. Downstairs. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, carpet. Assigned parking. Laundry on site. No pets. 4330 Estrella Avenue #2. Agent, 619-298-7724.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$715-- move-in special! 1 bedroom, 1 bath, laundry on site, parking, near all, 4057 Marlborough Avenue, available now. 619-701-1221. Spanish: 619-284-8396.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$550. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. 2nd floor. Water and trash included. Shared yard. Refrigerator, stove only. 858-598-1111 x192. www.utiopiamanagement.com.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$1150. 2 Move-in special: 1/2 off 1st month's rent! 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo, beautifully remodeled, gated, off-street parking, laundry, upgraded kitchen, large living room with separate dining area, glass shower door

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CITY HEIGHTS. \$750. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, upstairs. New paint, #17, new carpet, laundry on-site. Available 9/15. 4058 51st Street #17 and #1. 619-295-1100. www.cethron.com.

CLAIREMONT/KEARNY MESA. Wexford Manor. Large 1 and 2 bedrooms in beautiful complex with pool, spa, laundry, air conditioning, dishwasher. Sorry, no pets. \$950-\$1225. www.WexfordLiving.com. 7870 Stalmer Street. 858-277-4843.

CLAIREMONT. \$1000/month. New condo! Furnished 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Leather couch, dining table. Pet ok. 1 year lease, \$300 deposit. 619-602-4938.

CLAIREMONT. 1 bedrooms, \$950 and up. 2 bedrooms, from \$1200 and up. Looking for clean, quiet and peaceful? All bedrooms big enough for king size beds. Walk to all your needs. Patios and garages available. 619-276-3222. For photo, floor plans, directions, see website: www.sdreader.com/rent/1028.

CLAIREMONT. \$1350. 1st/last month deposit, 6 month lease. Large, beautiful, 2 bedroom, 2 baths. One covered parking spot. Swimming pool/jacuzzi. Convenient area. Available 10/5. 619-300-9498.

CLAIREMONT/MISSION BAY. Designer 1 bedroom, 1 bath from \$1035, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, from \$1205. \$199-\$299 deposit special! Dishwasher, microwave, Tennis, basketball. Theatre, pool, gym. Garage \$75. Pets welcome, \$300 pet deposit. Monday-Saturday, 8:30am-5:30pm, Sunday, 10am-5pm. Coral Bay Park, 3309 Cowley Way. www.CoralBay-CanyonAndParkApartments.com. 888-500-0471. www.sdreader.com/rent/1070.

CLAIREMONT, NORTH. \$1600. Unfurnished townhouse. Remodeled 1 bedroom, 1 bath with attached garage. No pets. Nonsmoking. Washer/dryer, refinished floor. Pool, spa, tennis. 619-335-3276; 619-334-3276.

CLAIREMONT/MISSION BAY. Coral Bay Canyon, 3309 Cowley Way. www.Coral-BayCanyonAndParkApartments.com. "Fabulous specials!" \$199-\$299 deposit specials! Designer 1 bedroom starting \$1035, 2 bedrooms starting \$1205. Pets welcome (deposit required). Microwave, dishwashers. Fitness center. Cool breezes, Olympic size pool, tennis, basketball, movie theatre. Garages, \$75. Toll free: 888-500-0471. www.sdreader.com/rent/1031.

CLAIREMONT. \$1550. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Carpet and hardwood flooring, stainless steel appliances, granite counters, travertine in kitchen and dining room, 1 parking space, laundry room. 1 year lease. 6666 Beadnell Way. Available now. Call 858-583-0182 or 858-688-0287, www.cal-prop.com.

CLAIREMONT. \$1200. Nice 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Remodeled! Small yard, garage. Walk to park and shopping. Cat OK. 4429 Manitou Way. Agent, 619-469-7790. www.westmanproperties.com.

CLAIREMONT. \$1125. 2 bedroom, available 9/15. Pool, Laundry. Off-street parking. No pets. 7322 Mesa College Drive. 858-279-6299.

CLAIREMONT. \$1095 rent. \$900 deposit. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Lower unit. Stove, refrigerator, new paint, fireplace, washer/dryer, off-street parking. Close to shops, restaurants. Easy freeway access. 4910 Longford St. 619-804-3325.

COLLEGE AREA. Lovely 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment available in new building. Spacious, quiet, upgraded. Air conditioning. \$1300/month, trash/water paid. Call for walk-through, 619-287-9890.

COLLEGE AREA. \$1500/month. Newly remodeled, spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Beautiful view, berber carpets, granite countertops, washer/dryer, balcony. Quiet community, secure garage. 619-300-1050.

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COLLEGE AREA. \$1800. Spacious 3 bedroom, 2 bath end unit. Huge master, granite counters, stackable laundry, private patio/yard. Small complex near shopping/freeways. Available now. 4748 68th. 619-980-4123.

COLLEGE AREA. Final 1 bedrooms open from \$895! Walking distance to campus! Air conditioning. Pool. Barbecues. Gated. Laundry. Parking. Near bus, shopping, and freeways! Cat friendly, \$300 deposit per cat. 9am-6pm, Monday-Friday. 6-12 month leases. Aztec Pacific Apartments, 6663 Montezuma Road. Toll free: 800-

433-6120. www.pacificliving.com or www.sdreader.com/rent/1042.

COLLEGE AREA. \$1350. Move in special, 1/2 off a month's rent. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, security, underground parking, year lease, 4742 Seminole Drive. Call 619-469-0031.

COLLEGE AREA/DEL CERRO. View, move-in special \$1695-\$1895. Pets extra. Spacious, 3 bedroom, skylight. New appliances, Roman tub, carpet, fenced. Canyon views, cul-de-sac. 858-270-0214.

COLLEGE AREA. \$1350 and up, extra large 3 bedroom. 1 off-street parking, laundry. No pets. Section 8 OK. 4205 49th. 619-584-0931 or 619-465-6588.

COLLEGE AREA. \$925. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, patio/balcony. Parking. Coin-operated laundry. Close to stores/restaurants and public transportation. No pets. 619-465-6988.

COLLEGE AREA. From \$825. Remodeled 1 and 2 bedrooms. Near shopping. Pool. Air conditioning. Parking available. Laundry. Barbecue area. Pets considered. 3635 College Avenue. 619-582-3993.

COLLEGE AREA. \$1295. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex, 2-car garage, laundry, Great location. Walk everywhere, near everything. Available now. 6055 Arosa. Appointment only, 619-889-6771.

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COLLEGE AREA. \$760. 1 bedroom, sparkling pool, on-site laundry, parking, barbecue. Central location. No pets. 4333 College Avenue. 619-287-8380.

COLLEGE AREA. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Newly remodeled with granite, upgraded appliances, new paint, carpet. Large sun room, off-street parking, laundry. \$1795/month. 6036 Estelle Street. 619-683-9274.

CORONADO. \$1950. Spacious 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath condo in quiet neighborhood. Refrigerator, stove, dishwasher, washer and dryer inside unit. Parking. www.utiopiamanagement.com. 858-598-1111, x193

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DEL MAR. Block to beautiful ocean! 3 bedroom, 2 bath in serene setting. \$2395. Free cable, pool, spa, sauna. Gated, nonsmoking community. 201 Fourth Street. 858-481-9585; mikealta@aol.com.

DEL MAR. From \$2995. 1552 Camino Del Mar #601 (almost oceanfront). Some ocean views. Interior laundry. Call for other available properties. Free rental/buying information by e-mail. Pictures at www.iLoveDelMar.com. Kohn & Burke, Inc., 858-755-8580.

DEL MAR/SOLANA BEACH. Move-in specials! Live west of I-5! Low \$500 deposits! 1 bedrooms from \$1250. 2 bedrooms from \$1480. 3 bedrooms from \$1885. Ocean views! Patio, balcony. Pool. Tennis. Parking. Near entertainment, shopping. Pets welcome! Solana Highlands, 701 South Nardo. www.solanahighlands.com, 1-888-543-1952. http://www.sdreader.com/rent/1057.

DEL MAR/SOLANA BEACH. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 2nd floor, available 9/1, only \$1475! Spacious studio loft, vaulted ceilings, view, only \$1275! Dishwasher. Pool. Jacuzzi. Sauna. Fitness center. Near freeways and beach. Cat OK. Ocean Crest, 873 Stevens Avenue. 858-481-1155. www.sdreader.com/rent/1038.

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DOWNTOWN, MARINA DISTRICT Place. Luxury condominium. Fully furnished 2 bedroom, 2 bath plus den/office. 2 balconies, fully upgraded appliances, carpet and Brazilian wood flooring. Garage parking, gym, pool and spa. Ocean/bay/city views. Spectacular! 1 year lease. \$4500/month. 619-296-8555.

DOWNTOWN, NORTH. \$850. 1 bedroom. Stove, refrigerator, coin laundry, no parking, convenient location. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. Downstairs unit available 9/26. Upstairs unit available 10/29. 117 West Fir. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, 858-270-2071; www.delsolpm.com.

DOWNTOWN, LITTLE ITALY. New 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 15th floor, incredible water/city views. 2 car 24 hour valet parking. Pool, spa, gym. Pets upon approval, furnished or unfurnished. Available now. \$2600. Nancy 858-692-5802.

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DOWNTOWN, MARINA DISTRICT. \$1850. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, 2 balconies, central air. Stainless steel appliances. No pets. Nonsmoking. 620 State. Agent, 619-279-2183.

DOWNTOWN. San Diego's first hip hybrid hotel. Sleep small. Dream big. Monthly: \$604, utilities included, income qualified. Weekly: \$215-\$225. Internet access in room. Near bus/train. Flat screen TVs. Gourmet eat-in kitchen. European-style detached bathrooms. 500 West Hotel. 500 West Broadway. 619-234-5252. Toll free: 1-888-895-0875. www.500WestHotel.com, www.sdreader.com/rent/2114.

DOWNTOWN/EAST VILLAGE. September move-in special! Only \$650/month for 6 months! Utilities included! Monday-Friday 8am-6pm, Saturday 8am-3pm. Near Petco Park, bus/trolley. Fully furnished. Bay/ballpark views. Underground parking. Air conditioning. Laundry. Internet. Clubhouse/library. Income qualify! Island Village. 1245 Market Street. For details, 1-800-351-0613. www.sdreader.com/rent/2070.

DOWNTOWN. Air conditioned studio apartment with kitchenette and full bathroom. No smoking/pets. \$775, including utilities. 728 Market at 7th. Hughes Management, 619-239-1639 x103.

DOWNTOWN. Brand new! Affordable luxury! Large 1, 2, and 3 bedroom, 2 bath townhome apartments. Two blocks to Petco Park. Balconies/patios. \$1,239-\$1,762. Now leasing for November 2006. Lillian Place Apartments. 619-668-1532, x306.

DOWNTOWN. Comfortable rooms, \$450/up. Studios, \$650/up. Near Gaslamp District. Very quiet and clean. Free cable TV, on-site laundry, vending machines, community kitchen, shared bathrooms. Near shopping, restaurants, movie theatres and Horton Plaza. No pets. Arlington Apartments, 701 7th Avenue. Hughes Management. 619-231-2385. www.sdreader.com/rent/2097.

DOWNTOWN. Cozy rooms, \$450-\$625, grab these little jewels today! Very comfortable, convenient location, historic building near C Street trolley. Choice of shared or private bathrooms. Free cable TV, on-site laundry, vending machines, modern elevator, no pets. Southern Hotel, 1159 6th Avenue at B. Hughes Management, 619-239-3808. www.sdreader.com/rent/2099.

DOWNTOWN. Economical furnished rooms, \$400-\$500, best price, save money. Conveniently located on C Street trolley line, near restaurants, free cable TV, shared bathrooms, on-site laundry facilities, vending machines, elevator service, no pets, 636 C Street (between 6th and 7th). C Street Inn, Hughes Management, 619-234-4165. www.sdreader.com/rent/2098.

DOWNTOWN. Gaslamp area. Move-in special, \$280. Community kitchen, shared bath, on-site laundry, vending machines, no pets, Star Hotel, 522 7th Ave.

enue. 619-235-6068. Hughes Management.

DOWNTOWN. Outstanding furnished rooms, \$400-\$500. Heart of Gaslamp. Shared bathrooms. Community kitchen. Free cable TV. No pets. 843 4th Avenue. Windsor Hotel. 619-235-6068. Hughes Management.

DOWNTOWN. Attractive rooms. Shared bath. Utilities included! Near City College! \$400-\$595 per month. Weekly rates from \$125! 719 14th Street, Villa Victoria. Hughes Management, 619-231-2385.

DOWNTOWN. Beautiful building, new furnished rooms. Refrigerator, microwave, TV, cable. \$175, weekly. 920 Beech Street. Call 619-234-1952.

DOWNTOWN. Newer 3 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Near Gaslamp, Petco, trolley, library, park, freeways. Security gate. Underground parking. New appliances. Fitness center. Section 8 OK. Available now! \$2350 plus deposit. 858-472-0861.

DOWNTOWN. New 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo, fully furnished. Across from Petco. 900 square feet. Available 10/15/06 till 4/15/07. 1025 Island. \$2250/month. Colin, 619-200-4937.

DOWNTOWN. Treo. 7th floor. Quiet, corner 1 bedroom. Stainless appliances, washer/dryer, granite. Pool, spa, fitness center. Underground parking. Storage. No smoking/pets. \$1650. 805-341-3326.

DOWNTOWN. Beautiful condo in Renaissance complex across from Horton Plaza. Very spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 parking spaces, fitness center, pool, washer/dryer, granite countertops, stainless steel appliances. Walking distance to Gaslamp Quarter, Seaport Village, Petco Park, etc. \$2500/month. 714-317-9314 or 714-317-9161.

DOWNTOWN. \$2000/month. 1153 estimated square feet. Large LCD flat-screen TV, fireplace. Park Boulevard East building. 2 underground parking spaces. Near trolley, restaurants, freeways. Agent, 619-471-1755.

DOWNTOWN. Studio, \$750/month. Quiet complex. Gated parking with remote entry. Laundry on premises. 1830 Market. No pets. Available 9/20. 619-405-RENT(7368).

DOWNTOWN. \$1850. Fabulous unfurnished 1 bedroom. "Atria," 101 Market Street #409. Stainless appliances, underground parking, gym. Steps to Horton Plaza. 858-565-6420.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. Bright, corner studio, \$820. Bearclaw tub and shower. Charming, secure, quiet building with laundry. Ideal location. 1534 Front, near Beech, 619-233-7428.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. From \$780. Private bath, cable TV, microwave, refrigerator. Utilities included. Secure, quiet, charming. Efficiency apartments with laundry. Near trolley/bus lines, blocks from harbor. On-site manager. Villa Caterina, 1654 Columbia Street. 619-232-3400.

DOWNTOWN/Marina District, Renaissance. Luxurious 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, bay view, 7th floor. All amenities, concierge, parking, pool, 1-year lease. Available October. \$2750/month. 619-813-0458.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. \$2550. Loft with panoramic views of downtown/bay. Granite kitchen, 2 bathrooms. Laundry. Large deck across the whole unit. 2 parking. 619-997-8807.

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. From \$675-\$800. Beaumanoir, unique urban mini lofts, located between Petco Park and Horton Plaza. Approximately 250 square feet, 12-foot ceilings, exposed brick, wood floors. Solid wood furniture when available. Paid: cable/electric/water. Includes refrigerator and microwave. Internet access available via Cox or PacBell. On-site laundry, barbecue deck. Impeccable renovation. 927 6th Avenue, at 6th and "E" Streets. No pets. To view: www.sdreader.com/rent/2127. Call Michael, 619-232-1517.

DOWNTOWN/, LITTLE ITALY. Elegant penthouse! Brand new 2 bedroom, 2 bath, breathtaking bay views on 29th floor. Resort style pool/spa. Starting at \$4050/month. Maria, 619-817-9677.

DOWNTOWN/EAST VILLAGE. Brand new community! Now pre-leasing. Studios from \$1095, 1 bedrooms from \$1290, 2 bedrooms from \$1950. Dishwasher, microwave, washer/dryer. Pet-friendly. Large patio/balcony. Rooftop deck. Pool, jacuzzi, theater, fitness center, clubhouse, lounge. Underground parking. Market Street Village, 699 14th Street. 1-888-352-4584. http://www.sdreader.com/rent/2154.

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. Las Flores Hotel. Small, quiet. \$121/week and up. Four-week minimum. Color TV with basic cable. Refrigerator in most rooms. Secure. 619-235-6820.

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. Move-in Specials. Live/Work Lofts in the heart of The Gaslamp from \$1,100! Roof decks with barbecue. Laundry on every floor. Parking available. Seven locations Downtown. Select pets OK. Visit loft leasing office: 315 Fourth Avenue. 619-231-1505 x12. www.trilogymanagement.com. Also visit www.sdreader.com/rent/2064.

DOWNTOWN/GOLDEN HILL. 1 bedroom. Tropical setting, private, tile floors, tile countertops. Gated, quiet. Close to downtown. Cat OK. \$850. 2559 C Street. 619-994-0449.

DOWNTOWN/HARBOR VILLAGE. \$750. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Balcony. Laundry. Parking. Close to base, Downtown, Coronado, NASCO. Bay views. 2850 Main Street. 619-857-0365.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. \$2300/month. Brand new, extra large, oversized 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment next to the bay. Washer/dryer, stainless steel appliances, fireplace. Large balcony, resort style pool. Call Maria, 619-817-9677.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. \$2500, furnished luxury loft with bay views, parking. Available end of August. Call 619-255-0526. www.sdurbanliving.com.

DULZURA. \$1200. Country-style living! Newly remodeled. Large 2 bedroom. Washer, dryer. Lots of room for horses, pets. Beautiful mountain views. Available now! 619-807-0359.

EL CAJON. \$750. Spacious 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Gated complex. Amenities include: A/C, laundry facility, pool, parking, barbecue area. 2 bedroom also available, \$895. 619-401-0306.

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CAT/KITTEN ADOPTIONS. Adopt a friendly rescued kitten with up-to-date services. Petpeople, Mission Valley, 5664 Mission Center Road. Saturday, September 23.

CATS/KITTENS, 10+ weeks, need responsible, lifetime homes. Cute, friendly, virus-tested, neutered, vaccinated, dewormed, defleaed. Tuesday/Thursday, 6-8pm; Saturday and Sunday, noon-4pm at PetSmart, La Jolla, 8657 Villa La Jolla Drive (I-5 at Nobel). Fee. www.sdcats.org.

DACHSHUND 18TH ANNUAL Hallo-wiener Picnic, Balboa Park, Sunday, 10/29, noon. Costumes optional for dogs but encouraged. Meet other Doxies and their friends. www.sddc.us or 858-755-9270.

DOGS. FOCAS is a trusted name in pet adoptions. Call for information on a variety of wonderful rescued pets. Always altered, microchipped, vaccinated. Most \$150 donation. 619-685-3536.

GREAT DANE PUPPIES, Beautiful brindle puppies, wonderful family pets, ready for new homes. September 23. 7 boys, 1 girl. \$400, must meet. 858-449-2697.

KITTENS Wanted. 5-8 weeks. 619-287-3430.

KITTENS/CATS. Darling, rescued, many colors. Shots, FeLV and FIV tested nega-

tive, fixed, \$60. Calico, torties, tuxedo, gray tabbies, Russian blue type. 619-466-4391.

LOST CAT. "Gus," male gray tabby with white, green eyes, pink nose. He's loyal, gentle, much loved family pet. Lost 7/10/06 near Fallbrook. Reward. 760-728-7979.

PUGS, Male, 8 weeks, fawn. Friendly, loving, beautiful \$550. 619-454-3821.

SCOTTISH TERRIERS, AKC CH bloodline, 3 males, 1 female, adorable, 5 weeks old. Call 760-489-9730.

SHIH TZU, Spayed female, black and white, slight mix with poodle, 3 to 5 years, precious, rescued with heart disease, needs compassionate home, \$100. 619-466-0426.

SWEET KITTY needs loving home. 10 months old. Silky soft. Gray and white. She's vaccinated, spayed, loyal, and co-operative. Adoption fee \$75. Julie 619-285-7977.

TERRIER MIX, 9 months old, neutered, cute, light brown, Maltese mix? Under 10 pounds, not barksy, no small kids, shots, license, microchip \$100. 619-583-5122.

WEIMARANERS, 2 adult, 1 male/1 female. Must stay together, both fixed, needs loving home, and yard space. \$500/pair. 760-277-7757.

PICTURE STORY

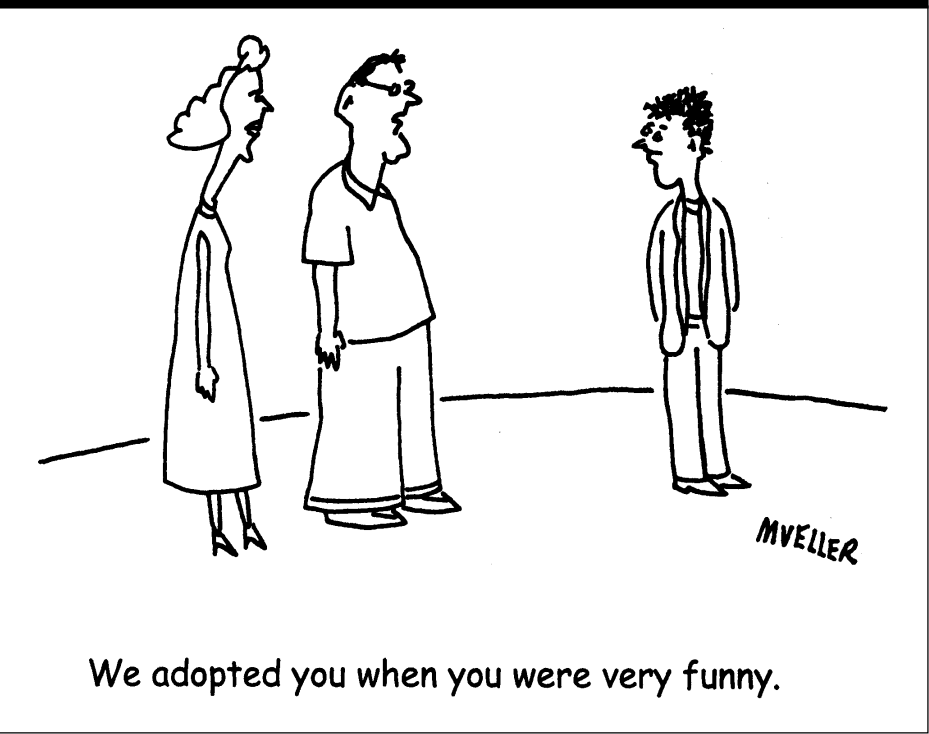
Photograph from the San Diego Historical Society



Russ School girls' basketball team, 1900. "Mr. [Joseph] Russ, the founder of the Russ Lumber Company," had the school named after him, according to the 1906 yearbook. "Mr. Russ offered to give the lumber for a school if the Board of Education would build

it.... So, accordingly, in the year 1883 this hill was crowned with the building dear to our hearts." By 1907, due to the city's population increase, "The Old Gray Castle" had been built on the property and San Diego High School was established.

— by Robert Mizrachi



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EL CAJON. Award winning community! \$870/up. Extra large 1 bedroom, 1 baths. 6-14 month leases. Ceiling fan. Linen closet. Garbage disposal. Sparkling pool. Clubhouse. Barbecues. Pets are resi-

dents too, with deposit! Large dogs welcome! Dog exercise area. Assigned parking. Evergreen Gardens, 291 Jamacha Road. www.sdreader.com/rent/2113. Call 619-442-9935.

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EL CAJON. \$795. Very large 1 bedroom, 740 square feet. New carpet/paint. Air. Yard. Quiet. Sparkling pool, sauna, lagoon. Onsite laundry. 848 North Mollison. 619-442-9044.

EI CAJON. Half off first month! Newly remodeled apartment building. Immaculate grounds. Large 2 bedroom units. New carpet/paint. Pool. Quiet neighborhood. \$850. 961 South Sunshine. 619-444-4317.

EL CAJON. \$750. 1 bedroom spacious downstairs in quiet 11-plex. Dishwasher, air, gated parking, on-site laundry, picnic area. Section 8 OK. 222 Lincoln/Main. 619-957-7272.

EL CAJON. \$1375. Newly refurbished 3 bedroom, 2 bath mobile home. Parking included. Pool. Available now. No pets. Easy freeway access. 619-447-0706.

EL CAJON. 2 bedroom, 1 bath flat, \$1025. Freshly painted. Newer appliances, carpet. Patio. Small gated community. Laundry facilities. Pool. No pets. 1397 East Washington. 619-593-6602. stratfordarmsapts.com.

EL CAJON. \$825-\$925. Upgraded 2 bedrooms, 2 baths. A/C, pool, laundry, parking. Onsite management. 1019 Peach. Available to show 7 days/week. Call Sandra, 619-588-4773.

EL CAJON. Fabulous 7 Motel. Furnished rooms starting \$224 per week. Parking. Pool. Cable. Maid service. Laundry. 24 hour security. 1527 East Main Street. 619-442-0457.

EL CAJON. \$750. 1 bedroom. Ask about move-in special. Clean, quiet, off-street parking. Pool, barbecue, laundry room. Gated. Central air and heat. Section 8 welcome. 346 South Mollison. 619-312-0606.

EL CAJON. \$800/month. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Great amenities, A/C, laundry on-site, pool, recreation room, secure parking. Lushly landscaped, convenient to all. No pets. 294 Ballantyne. 619-440-3044.

EL CAJON. \$1125. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath townhome. Granite Hills school district. 1 parking space. Laundry hook-ups. 951 Amistad Court. Available 10/20. Call 858-583-0182 or 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

EL CAJON. \$960, 2 bedroom. \$1280, 3 bedroom. Gated pool. Parking. Air conditioning. No pets. Central location. 933 Peach Avenue. Call 619-447-9193.

EL CAJON. 536 East Lexington Avenue. Remodeled! 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$950. Washer, dryer. 700 square feet. Pets OK. vr@ajprop.com. A&J Property Management. 619-220-4840.

EL CAJON. 3 bedroom, 2 baths apartments. Full size Washer/dryer hook-ups. Patio. Pool. Indoor cats accepted. Immediate openings. Specials starting at \$1199. 619-441-0511.

EL CAJON. 1341 Oakdale Avenue. 2 bedroom 1.5 bath, 2 story. Washer, dryer in unit. Parking. Close to freeway and shopping. Air conditioning. \$1150. CSPM, 619-229-2440.

EL CAJON. \$750. 1 bedrooms, air conditioning, pool. Gated community. Call 619-441-2752.

EL CAJON. \$975. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath, central air conditioning, dishwasher, outside storage. Pool, jacuzzi. Gated community. Call 619-444-5799.

EL CAJON. \$895. Nicer 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, patio, dishwasher, central air/heat, on-site laundry. 241 East Bradley Avenue. Available 9/25. Chris, 619-504-4995.

EL CAJON. \$820. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. El Cajon's best maintained property with lush courtyard and sparkling pool. No pets. 1072 East Madison Avenue. Move-in special! TPPM, 619-444-1614. www.fourwindsapts.info.

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EL CAJON. \$755. 1 bedroom. Well maintained property with lush courtyard. Gated access and quiet location. 340 Orlando Street. TPPM, 619-818-9939. www.northwindapts.com.

EL CAJON. \$725. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Move-in special. Air conditioning. Gated. Pool. Laundry. Parking. Available now. 452 Emerald Avenue. More Property Management. 858-514-8201.

EL CAJON. 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo. \$1200/month. Stainless steel appliances and granite countertops. www.sandiegobestrentals.com. 619-696-7968.

EL CAJON. Large 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath townhouse. Brand-new stainless refrigerator, stove, microwave, in-unit washer/dryer. Off-street parking, storage. Pool, barbecue. \$1150. No pets. 619-820-0003.

EL CAJON. \$995. Spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Parking, laundry. Close to shopping. No pets. 444 Ballantyne. 619-440-1909.

EL CAJON. Rent-to-own condos. 1 bedrooms from \$850/month, 2 bedrooms from \$1050/month. Completely renovated. Air conditioning, barbecue area, parking. Great location. Gated, pool, fitness center. 619-447-6534.

EL CAJON. \$1200-\$1300. Condo style living. Spacious 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhome. Laundry hookups, central heat/air, quiet, gated, private patio. Lush garden, 8 unit complex away from busy streets. No pets. Military discount! 858-353-6112.

EL CAJON. Special \$250 off! All new 2 bedroom, from \$875. Spacious. Sparkling clean! Lovely, new carpet, dishwasher, much more! Walk-in closets, laundry. Pleasant, garden community. Near all! Easy freeway access. No pets, immaculate. To see call, 619-442-4644.

EL CAJON. \$950. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, Lincoln-Washington Apartments. Very large units, pool, on-site laundry, covered parking, in great location, clean and quiet. 685 South Lincoln Avenue. Agent, 619-444-8191 or 858-560-1178.

EL CAJON. \$775. 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Large upper unit. Air conditioning, balcony, appliances, pool, laundry, Cat OK. Move-in special! 297 Chambers Street #38. 92020. 619-698-6913.

EL CAJON. Studio and 1 bedrooms, \$655 and \$755. Large apartments in quiet, gated complex. Air conditioning, pool and secure parking. Month-to-month lease. 1362 East Main Street. Jason 619-334-3151, 858-200-9408.

EL CAJON. 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath, \$1250. Large 2 story condo with patio, dishwasher, A/C, washer/dryer hookups, garage and parking. Great freeway access. 278 South Pierce Street. 858-200-9408.

EL CAJON. Downstairs, 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, \$995. Quiet, secure complex with gated parking. On-site laundry. Great freeway access. 411 South Emerald. 858-200-9408.

EL CAJON. \$695. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Small complex, all utilities included, laundry, no pets. 7232 El Cajon Boulevard, #4. 619-698-6913.

EL CAJON. \$1525. 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse. Patio, A/C, fireplace, all appliances, washer/dryer hookups, 1-car garage, 1 covered space. 1466 Robin Lane. 619-698-6911.

ENCINITAS. Duplex 2 bedroom 2 bath, 2-car garage, washer/dryer, wood/granite, private yard. 1133 Bonita Drive #B, \$1800, plus deposit. No smoking/pets 760-635-2334.

ENCINITAS. Ocean view 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Fireplace, decks, garage. All appliances, washer/dryer on premises. Village, Coaster, beach close. Nonsmoking. \$1550/month. 858-481-2604.

ENCINITAS. \$775 and up. Sick of room-mates? Cozy beach trailers in quiet park. Close to beach, coaster, restaurants and shops. 760-753-4101.

ENCINITAS. \$2295. 2 bedroom, 1 bath oceanfront apartment. Fireplace, deck, steps to Moonlight Beach. Spacious, private upstairs unit. 409 4th Street. 760-753-4101.

ENCINITAS. \$500 off first month's rent with 12 month lease! 1 bedrooms from \$1200. 2 bedrooms from \$1400. Low \$500-\$600 deposits! Balcony/patio. Dishwasher. Fitness center. Laundry. Courtyard. Pool, spa. Lush landscaping. Parking. Pets welcome. Quail Pointe Apartments, 924 Encinitas Boulevard. Toll free: 888-626-6864. www.sdeader.com/rent/2149.

ESCONDIDO. Unique, private, 2 bedroom 2 bath condo. Garage, washer/dryer in unit, refrigerator, pool/spa. Remodeled, new paint/carpet/tile, air/heat, \$1400/month. 949-439-9445.

ESCONDIDO. \$875-\$1695. Tired of apartment living? Half off first month's rent, OAC. Beautiful manufactured homes offer spectacular hilltop views. Attached private 2-car covered carports. Small yards, full-size washer/dryer most homes. Sorry, no pets. 1924 Sheridan Avenue. 760-745-1677.

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ESCONDIDO. \$500 off first month. OAC! 12 month lease. 1 bedrooms from \$900. 2 bedrooms from \$1120. \$500 deposits. Pool/spa. Fireplace. Laundry facility. Garages available. Cat friendly. Tennis. Clubhouse. Barbecues. Patio/porch. Ceiling fan. Dishwasher. Storage. River Village, 1845 North Broadway. Toll free: 866-653-9046. www.sdreader.com/rent/2151.

ESCONDIDO. Spacious 1 bedrooms from \$815. Deposit \$400. 2 bedrooms from \$975. Deposit \$500. Great roommate floor plan. Pool, spa. Covered parking. Laundry. 640 West Lincoln Street. 760-489-8989.

ESCONDIDO. Granny flat with separate entrance. One bedroom, kitchen, bath. Very private in quiet neighborhood. No pets/smoking. \$850 includes all utilities and cable. 760-739-1200.

ESCONDIDO. \$795. \$595 moves you in! 1 bedroom with private balcony/patio surrounded by lots of open space. Gated entrance, air conditioning, fireplace. Pool, spa. Small pet OK. Open Sunday 9/24, 10am-12pm. 720 East Mission. TPPM, 760-815-6210.

ESCONDIDO. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Fully upgraded with granite counters, stainless steel appliances, air conditioning and new carpeting. Located conveniently off Highway 78. This unit is available for immediate move-in! \$1295. Call 858-598-1111 x190. www.utiapiamangement.com.

FASHION VALLEY. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1200. Near USD. Dishwasher, refrigerator, oven, microwave, patio. Available now. 9 month to 1-year lease. No pets. 858-717-6003, www.belvueterrace.com.

FASHION VALLEY. \$850 rent. \$600 deposit, OAC. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Parking, laundry. No pets. At 1330 Eureka Street #19. 619-298-5820.

FASHION VALLEY. The Courtyards. \$1275. 960-square-foot 1 bedroom, 1.5 bath, underground parking, resort-like: pool/spa/sauna/tennis/gym. Lease. No pets/smoking. ETS Realty, 619-296-6200.

FASHION VALLEY. \$1150. Beautiful 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo with hardwood floors, fireplace, dishwasher, balcony and cable with HBO included! Must see! Call 619-222-4836 or 619-857-4828. www.sunsetpacificrealty.com.

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pets. At 5510 Mildred Street #C. 619-291-1755.

FASHION VALLEY/USD. \$1250 rent. \$600 deposit, OAC. 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse. Parking for 2 cars. Laundry. No pets. At 5550 Mildred Street #25. 619-291-1755.

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HILLCREST. \$875. 1 bedroom, 1 bath at 1278 Essex Street. Gated complex, parking, laundry on-site, walk to all! Call 858-583-0182 or 858-688-0287, or www.cal-prop.com.

HILLCREST. \$1250. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. 1263 Pennsylvania Ave. Dining area, built-ins, laundry on-site, street parking. No pets. Available 9/30. Call 858-688-0287 or 858-583-0182, or www.cal-prop.com.

HILLCREST. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. \$925. Close to Balboa Park. Spacious downstairs unit with open floorplan. Street parking. Laundry on site. 9-month lease. Available 10/14. 3632 Park Boulevard. Call 858-688-0287, or 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

HILLCREST. \$1275/month, 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Pool, parking, laundry, gated entrance, dishwasher. No pets. 1810 Cypress. 619-295-6005, agent.

HILLCREST. \$895/month, unfurnished 1 bedroom apartment. Ground floor, parking, hardwood floors. Close to all. No pets. 4030 3rd Avenue. 619-295-6005, agent.

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HILLCREST. \$1250. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Dishwasher. Air conditioning. Laundry on-site. 1 parking space. 1033 Robinson Avenue. Call resident manager at 619-295-1210. www.kandproperties.com.

HILLCREST. Studios, \$850 and \$865. 1 bedrooms, 1 bath, \$955. Pool, canyon view. Close to all. Rec room. Sleepy Hollow Apartments. 4201 Sixth Avenue. Harry, 619-298-1059.

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HILLCREST. 3652 Park Boulevard #7. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. \$1195. Deposit \$900. Stove, refrigerator, laundry, 1st floor, 10-12 month lease. Call Ed. 858-597-6100.

HILLCREST. \$1200. 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath. Available 9/25. Downstairs, gated, parking, 1 year lease. 4032 Centre Street #C. 619-435-2700, mckeecompany.com.

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HILLCREST/MISSION HILLS. \$995. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Parking, laundry, balcony. Cat OK. Great location, near shops and restaurants. 3782 First Avenue. 858-273-6429.

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IMPERIAL BEACH. Beachfront apartments for ocean lovers! \$850-\$995. 1 bedrooms. Stove, refrigerator. Laundry room. Off-street parking. Pet? Available now. 1080 Seacoast Drive. Call 619-424-9233.

IMPERIAL BEACH. \$745, 1 bedroom. Garden setting. Pool. Parking. Laundry. No pets. 1445 Grove Avenue. TPPM, 619-575-0778.

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LA JOLLA/UTC. 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhouse, fireplace, partial hardwood floors, full size washer/dryer, attached garage, patio and balcony. 619-296-2787.

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LA MESA. \$1195. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. Ask about our move in special! Large, extra storage, air conditioning, remodeled. Garage available. Large private patio. Small pet OK. Call Barbara, 619-589-0802. SanDiegoApartments.com.

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LA MESA. \$1295 rent, \$900 deposit. O.A.C. 3 bedroom 2 bath duplex townhouse style apartment. No pets. 4857-1/2 Jessie Street. 619-299-8515.

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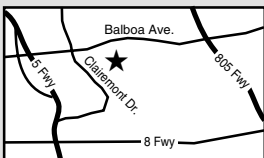
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1 BR from \$925, 2 BR from \$1075

Pool, Spa, Barbecue Area, Fitness Center, Patio/Balcony, Laundry Facility, AC/Heat, Dishwasher, Vaulted Ceilings, Walk-in Closets, Assigned Parking, Pets Welcome



Quail Pointe Apts

924 Encinitas Blvd., Encinitas, CA 92024
Toll-free: **888-626-6864**

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1 BR from \$1200, 2 BR from \$1400
Low \$500-\$600 deposits!

Pool, Spa, Fitness Center, Patio/Balcony, Lush Landscaping, Dishwasher, Courtyard, Laundry Facility, Covered Parking, Walk-in Closets, Ceiling Fan, Pets Welcome



River Village

1845 N. Broadway, Escondido, CA 92025
Toll-free: **866-653-9046**

River_Village_Apts@prmc.com

\$500 Off First Month!
OAC, 12-month lease

1 BR from \$900, 2 BR from \$1120
Low \$500 deposits!

Pool & Spa, Fireplace, Full Kitchen, 24-hour Laundry, Garages Available, Cat Friendly, Tot Lot, Tennis Court, Clubhouse, BBQs, Parklike Landscape, Patio/Porch, Ceiling Fan



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OAC

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Shadowridge_Meadows_Apts@prmc.com

One Month Free Rent
OAC, 12-month lease

2 BR from \$1215, 3 BR from \$1495

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2/1 from \$1,480

2/2 from \$1,505

3/2 from \$1,885

14 acres of beautifully landscaped grounds

private patio or balcony

panoramic ocean views (*select plans*)

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lighted tennis court

sports and picnic areas

large pets welcome

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Office Hours: Monday-Saturday 9 to 6
Sunday 10 to 5



LA MESA. \$1275/month. Available for your consideration is a newly renovated 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment located in one of La Mesa's most popular areas. Currently undergoing a major renovation, this unit will feature all new ceramic tile kitchen countertops and Italian ceramic floors with granite accents. All new decorative interior doors, crown mouldings, all new fixtures. Appliances upgraded as needed. All new carpet, new baseboards and new window treatments. Master bedroom has a walk-in closet with a built-in organizer. Mirrored closet doors in the other bedroom. Painted in designer colors. Range, microhood, refrigerator, dishwasher and air conditioning included. Off-street parking, laundry onsite. Year lease required. \$850 deposit. Credit check fee \$30. 5543 Shasta Lane. Call 619-725-3648 for more details. Available now. To schedule a showing, call the resident manager at 619-460-9107.

LA MESA. \$1195 AND \$1295. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment and 3 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Garage, pool, laundry, fireplace, patio. 5530 Jackson Drive #8 and #4. AMI Property Management, 619-697-6314.

LA MESA. \$655 including utilities/cable. Furnished studio with private entrance, deck, kitchenette. Clean, quiet, nice neighborhood. Near all. Off-street parking. 619-463-2639.

LA MESA. \$890/up, 1 bedroom apartments. Across Grossmont Center, trolley and Costco. Quiet, spacious units. Resort living pools. Mellmanor Apartments. 8750 Mellmanor Drive. Call 619-461-1940.

LA MESA. \$1180. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 baths. 2-car carport. Spacious apartments. Near Grossmont Center. Great neighborhood. Convenient to all! 5545 Morro Way. 619-985-3500.

LA MESA. \$965, 2 bedroom. Garage. Air conditioner. Garden courtyard. Dishwasher. Intercom entry. Laundry. 4311 Parks Avenue. 619-460-5406.

LA MESA. \$925, 1 bedroom, \$1195, 2 bedrooms. Great community, superior location, lush landscape. Pool, spa, parking. No pets. 5500 Morro Way. TPPM, 619-884-7900, www.villageaptslamesa.com.

LA MESA. \$925 includes utilities. 1 bedroom, 1 bath downstairs apartment in gated hillside home. New paint, laminate flooring, shared laundry, on-street parking, patio. Agent, 619-463-2971.

LA MESA. 1 bedroom and studio apartments for rent. Tile floor. Gas, water, and trash paid. No pets. Quiet complex. \$800 and \$600, respectively. 619-463-1773.

LA MESA. 1 bedrooms from \$795. 2 bedrooms from \$950. Great special, OAC. Best location with beautiful interior courtyards surrounding pool and barbecue area. Off-street parking and 3 convenient laundry rooms in smaller, cozy community. Chevy Chase Apartments, 3743 Fairway Drive. 619-698-3467.

LA MESA. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$925. Available October. \$600 security deposit. Close to downtown La Mesa, trolley, shops and freeways. Cats welcome upon approval. Crestview Apartments, 4515 3rd Street. Call on-site manager, 619-469-5010 or Bob Cota Realty, 619-465-9934.

LA MESA. Huge 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1200. Upstairs, fenced yard, air conditioning, covered parking. Available October. 5428 Lake Murray Boulevard. Agent, 619-260-1368. View at www.sevillamgmt.com.

LA MESA. Huge 1 bedrooms, \$725-\$850. 2 bedroom, 2 baths, \$1100. Parking, pool, laundry, balcony, air conditioning, dishwasher. 7481 Mohawk Street. Call 619-466-6149.

LA MESA. Move-in special! Good credit equals first 2 months at \$725 each. \$900 security deposit. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Water included. Pool, parking, laundry. 7629 Normal Avenue. 619-303-0895.

LA MESA. Pets OK! Spacious 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath townhome, remodeled kitchen/bath, central heating/air, laundry, private gated yard. Available now. \$1335. 949-636-2329, 619-726-4822.

LA MESA/Near Village. WOW! Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath, completely renovated. New paint/carpet, very large patio, washer/dryer hookups or laundry facilities. Convenient, comfortable, and cozy. Great location! No section 8. From \$1075/month, lease. 858-558-8879.

LA MESA/CASA DE ORO. 3 bedroom, 2 baths, from \$1325! 2 bedrooms from \$1075! 1 bedrooms from \$850. Elegant, sculptured courtyards with flower gardens, fountains, gas lamps, park benches. Charming, New Orleans ambience. Huge patios/balconies. Gated access and gated parking. Small pet OK. 3903 Conrad Drive. Call 866-894-6343. www.sdreader.com/rent/1017.

LAKESIDE. \$825. 55+ Community. 1 bedroom, 1 bath mobile homes available now. Coin laundry. Pool. Parking. No pets. Easy freeway access. 619-443-3600.

LAKESIDE. \$895, 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Parking, laundry on site. Available now. 12718 Mapleview Avenue, #11. 619-295-1100; www.cethron.com.

LAKESIDE. \$900. 2 bedroom, 1 bath unit. Blocks from El Capitan High School. Off street parking. On site laundry. Available immediately. Kyle 760-828-8994.

LAKESIDE. \$1800. 3 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Brand new, never lived in. All appliances, washer/dryer. Walk-in closet. Pool, recreation room. 9728 Marilla #101, 92040. 619-698-6911.

LEMON GROVE. \$825 per month. 1 bedroom available. Great community. Pool, laundry on-site. Close to shopping. \$300 off move-in special! Please call 619-464-0416.

LEMON GROVE. Sundance Trailer Park. Trailer space rental, \$430 monthly. Trailer with space, \$680 monthly. Upgraded shower facilities available. New coin laundry onsite. Peaceful, gated community. Near trolley/freeway. Lease. Deposit. No dogs; cats considered. Manager, 619-668-0864. 619-370-5102.

LINDA VISTA. 2 bedroom, 1 bath with backyard, \$995-\$1025. Deposit \$900. Hardwood floors, assigned parking, townhouses and single level apartments. No pets. Office at 2451 Ulric Street. 858-278-3610.

LINDA VISTA. \$1100. Lower 2 bedroom, 1 bath, recently remodeled with patio. Parking. 6752 Kelly Street. Agent 619-281-4698.

LINDA VISTA. \$685. Studio, utilities included. Laundry, gated parking. \$400 deposit. No pets. Astro Vista Apartments, 2249 Ulric Street. Call Monday-Friday for appointment. 858-565-6400.

LINDA VISTA. 1307 Colusa Street #6. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. \$1195. Deposit \$1000. Stove, refrigerator, carpet, parking, laundry. Year lease. Available now. Call Ed, 858-597-6100.

LITTLE ITALY. New luxury 2 bedroom 2 bath penthouse. Hardwood floors, granite countertops, stainless steel appliances. Must see. \$2400. Available now. 858-967-1820.

LOGAN HEIGHTS. 2 bedroom, \$950. Upstairs unit. Gated community. 2151 Logan Avenue. Se habla español. Call Ana at 619-823-6036.

LOGAN HEIGHTS. \$1850. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, plus den. 2-story house. Available now. New carpet/paint. Washer/dryer. 1960 Kearney Avenue. 619-435-2700, mckeecompany.com.

LOGAN HEIGHTS. \$1225. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. 4-plex. Available now. New paint/carpet. Hookups. 2238.5 Ocean View Boulevard. 619-435-2700, mckeecompany.com.

MIRA MESA. \$850 rent. \$700 deposit. Special! 1/2 off 1st Month's rent. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, beautiful upstairs unit with stove, refrigerator, garbage disposal, off-street parking, and on-site laundry. 8767 Mira Mesa Boulevard. 619-804-3325.

MIRA MESA. \$875 rent. \$700 deposit. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Beautiful upstairs unit with stove, refrigerator, off-street parking, on-site laundry. 1/2 off first month's rent! 8787 Mira Mesa Boulevard #7. 619-804-3325.

MISSION BAY, EAST. \$795 rent. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. \$500 deposit. Laundry. Assigned parking. Cat OK. Close to I-5. 1450 Morena Boulevard. Call 619-890-4340.

MISSION BEACH. \$1395. Spacious 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, independent units. Very clean, parking, block to beach. No pets. 809 Island Court. Cell 619-944-4536, 858-459-7391.

MISSION BEACH. \$2200. 2 bedroom 1 bath, luxury downstairs unit, totally remodeled. Granite countertops, stainless appliances, 8 month lease. No pets. Available October 1 through May 31. 619-249-3009.

MISSION BEACH. Super clean 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Parking. New stove, new refrigerator. Nonsmoking. No pets. \$1500. 735-1/2 Isthmus Court. Call 562-445-7493.

MISSION BEACH. Half block to ocean! Super clean 1 bedroom with parking. Nonsmoker. No pets. \$1100. Available now. Call 562-445-7493.

MISSION BEACH. \$1795. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Steps to beach. Parking. Partial utilities included. New paint/floor tile/bathrooms. 1 year lease. No dogs. 858-488-1759.

MISSION BEACH/South. \$895. Cute studio, Murphy bed, parking, utilities paid, year-round. Steps to beach. 2826 Mission Boulevard. No Pets. 858-488-5463.

MISSION BEACH/South. \$1950. Beautiful 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 3rd-floor condo. Steps to beach. Cherrywood cabinets, granite countertop. Private balcony. No pets. 760-419-9806, 294-5166.

MISSION BEACH. South Mission. \$2600/month. 9 month lease. Mostly furnished 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Steps to beach! 2-car garage, washer/dryer. 806 Coronado Court. Call 858-583-0182, www.cal-prop.com.

MISSION BEACH. \$1395. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. 715 Santa Barbara Pl. Steps to beach! Newly remodeled, ocean view, 1 parking space. No pets. Owner pays utilities! Call 858-583-0182 or 858-688-0287, www.cal-prop.com.

MISSION BEACH. \$2000/month. 2 bedroom, 1 bath upstairs unit. Newly remodeled, parking. No pets. 715 Santa Barbara Place. Available 10/1. Call 858-688-0287 or 858-583-0182, www.cal-prop.com.

MISSION BEACH. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. \$995. Steps to beach, bay. Walk-in closet, parking. 9 month lease. Available 10/7. 3586 Mission Boulevard. Call 858-483-3534/858-583-0182/858-688-0287, www.cal-prop.com.

MISSION BEACH. \$2350. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath, Bay front apartment. All appliances, washer/dryer, 1-car parking. No pets. 3416 Bayside Walk. Available now. 858-488-1580. www.billluther.com.

MISSION BEACH. \$2395. Oceanfront, furnished 2 bedroom, 1 bath. September-June lease. All appliances, washer/dryer. Garage. 3253 Ocean Front Walk. 858-488-1580. www.billluther.com.

MISSION BEACH. \$2150. 2 bedroom 2 bath townhouse, garage, 1250 square feet. Living, dining, and laundry. Courtyard. Very nice, quiet, water included. 820 Ormond. 858-504-1529.

MISSION BEACH. \$1220. 1 bedroom, 1 bath ground floor unit. 750 square feet. Garage. Close to beach. Sorry, no pets. Available for viewing by appointment only. www.kandrproperties.com. Call 858-490-1600.

MISSION BEACH. Luxury 2 bedroom condo. 717 Rockaway Court. 2-car garage. Ocean views. Completely furnished vacation rental. \$2300. Available now-6/15/07. WagonerPacific.com, 858-349-9977.

MISSION BEACH. 2 bedroom, completely remodeled, luxury. 1-1/2 blocks to ocean, close to bay, new tile bath. Must see. \$1500 references. Henry 1-800-535-3063.

MISSION BEACH. \$1795. Steps to beach! 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment with garage space. Open floor plan. New carpet and paint. Fireplace, dishwasher, laundry facilities. 735 Santa Clara Place. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

MISSION BEACH. \$765. Studio. Steps to the ocean/bay. Includes parking, utilities, stove, refrigerator. Large closet. No pets. 3665 Mission Boulevard. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

MISSION BEACH. \$1195. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Block to ocean/bay. Parking space. Includes stove, refrigerator. 802 Jamacia Court. No pets. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

MISSION BEACH. \$1075. Nice 1 bedroom apartment, totally remodeled, ocean view, large balcony, steps to the beach. 721 Queenstown Court. #C. Gas/water paid. No pets. 858-689-0602.

MISSION HILLS/HILLCREST. Lofts: 2 weeks free! 1 bedrooms: 1/2 off first month, Crane floor! Lofts, 1, 2 bedrooms from \$1580. Underground parking. Crown moldings. Vaulted ceilings. Fireplaces. Walk-in closets. Washer/dryer. Internet. Elevator. Gym. Great location! Cats welcome. Mission Hills Commons, 4021 Falcon Street. missionhills@propemail.com. 888-404-7952. www.sdreader.com/rent/2032.

MISSION HILLS/OLD TOWN. Nice 2 bedroom, 1 bath, first floor. Tile floors, new paint, on-site laundry. Exterior improvements in progress. Pets OK. \$1400/month, \$1000 deposit. 3776 Keating Street. 858-613-1069.

MISSION HILLS. \$1200/up, 1 bedroom, 1 bath. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Laundry. Parking. Pets OK. La Paloma Apartments. Open daily, 1-5pm. 3911 Dove. 619-297-1134.

MISSION HILLS. \$1450. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, 2 story. Hardwood floors. Balconies overlooking canyon. Fireplace, washer/dryer in unit. Quiet cul-de-sac. Minutes from Downtown, Hillcrest, Balboa Park. Agent, 619-303-0821.

MISSION HILLS. 2 bedroom 2.5 bathroom luxury townhouse. 1250 square feet. 2 fireplaces, 2 decks, 2 car garage. Ocean and bay views. \$1900/month. 619-423-3618.

MISSION HILLS/HILLCREST. \$1100 and up. Extra large 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Carpeted, appliances, laundry, parking. Nice patio. Near everything. Available now. 1 cat OK. 3330 Reynard Way. 619-295-7570.

MISSION HILLS. \$700 studio. Approximately 550 square feet. Downstairs unit. Small shared balcony with canyon view. 3790-1/2 Curlew Street. Centre City Property Management, 619-296-6699.

MISSION HILLS. \$1075 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Patio, parking, view, laundry. 805 Torrance. AMI Property Management, 619-697-6314.

MISSION HILLS/HILLCREST. \$935. 1 bedroom with patio. Quiet, pool, barbecue, dishwasher, on-site laundry, covered parking. No pets. EOH. 619-299-8746.

MISSION HILLS. \$925. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, washer/dryer hookups, patio, fireplace, 2722 Reynard Way #A. Centre City Property Management, 619-296-6699.

MISSION HILLS. \$1695. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, downstairs condo. Berber carpet. Formal dining area. Views. Mirrored closet doors. Washer/dryer. Covered parking. www.goldenhillpm.com. Agent, 619-234-9553.

MISSION HILLS, SOUTH. \$1395. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Bay view, hardwood floors, washer/dryer, garage. Great location! Cat OK. 858-273-6429.

MISSION HILLS. \$750/up. Studio and 1 bedroom available. Hardwood floors. Murphy bed. Intercom entry. Some utilities included. No pets. 630 West Washington. Agent, 619-298-7724.

MISSION HILLS. Very spacious view apartment. 1 bedroom plus large den, top floor. Garage, laundry room, eat-in kitchen. 3154 Horton. \$1800/month. No pets. 619-291-8777.

MISSION HILLS. \$2200. Very large 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath in triplex with gorgeous harbor views. 2-car garage, balcony, private entrance. 3166 Horton Avenue. No pets. 619-291-8777.

MISSION VALLEY. Pristine, tastefully furnished condo with sweeping views! 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, garage, balcony, washer/dryer, air. Available October-May. No pets. \$2195/month. Broker, 619-275-5989.

MISSION VALLEY. \$1345. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Includes water, gas, cable. Like new! New paint. All appliances. Pool/jacuzzi. Covered parking, laundry room onsite. Lots of amenities! Close to all. Ideal location. 619-302-2156; 760-720-0849.

MISSION VALLEY. River Colony. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, hardwood floors, gorgeous condo with pool. \$1600/month. www.sandiegobestrentals.com, 619-696-7368.

MISSION VALLEY. \$1150 and up. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Near USD. Walk to the Y. Bike to beach. A quiet, no pets complex. 619-683-7805.

MISSION VALLEY, EAST. \$1050/up. 2 bedroom, 1 and 2 baths. Spacious! Air conditioning. Pool. Easy freeway access. Near trolley/SDSU. No pets! Lease. 619-265-1645.

MISSION VALLEY. Newly renovated studios/suites-\$345+/week. \$1299+/month. Off-street, covered parking. Full kitchen. Complimentary continental breakfast. Hot coffee/tea, 24 hours. On-site laundry. Free high speed Internet, 80 cable channels, HBO. Fax/copy service. Pool/spa. Near SDSU. Days Inn & Suites, 1-888-298-5168. www.sdreader.com/rent/2139.

MISSION VALLEY. 1 month free! From \$1495/month. 1 bedroom, 2 bedroom and 3 bedroom apartments, lofts and townhomes. Brand new! Trolley stop, shops, dining all at your doorstep! Free trolley 'til 2007, restrictions apply. The Village at Morena Vista, 5175 Linda Vista Road. Toll free: 888-571-0840. www.sdreader.com/rent/2153.

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(619) 298-3225

ParkEastApts@att.net

Sorry, no pets.



MISSION VALLEY. \$1495. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. 2nd story townhome. Gated community. Air conditioning. Pool, spa. Water, trash and basic cable included in rent. Pergo floor. 858-598-1111, x192. www.utiapiamangement.com/property-management-missionvalley/7982-mission-center-court-g-5304.htm.

MISSION VALLEY. \$2295. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. 2 story townhome. Gated community. Air conditioning. Pool/spa. Small yard. New appliances. Barbecue areas. 858-598-1111 x192. utiapiamgmt.com.

MISSION VALLEY. Large, 1 bedroom. \$925. Park Villas. Free basic cable. Air conditioning. On-site laundry. No pets. Mission Center Court. Agent, 619-692-4121.

MISSION VALLEY. \$1495. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-story condo. Granite countertops. Large patio off dining room. Hardwood floors/Berber carpet. Parking. All amenities. Cats OK. www.goldenhillipm.com. Agent, 619-234-9553.

MISSION VALLEY. Gorgeous 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Amenities. Gated. Pool, spa, exercise. Balcony. Washer/dryer. Granite counters. Custom paint. Great central location! \$1650. 619-823-7002.

MISSION VALLEY/TALMADGE/Kensington. 1, 2 & 3 bedroom apartment homes, \$985-\$1665. Spacious apartment homes include: microwave, dishwasher, balcony/patio. Gated community with tropical landscape, pool, spa, sauna and fitness center. Underground parking. Pet friendly! Mission Pacific. 4454 44th Street. 1-800-372-9146. www.pacificliving.com.

MISSION VALLEY. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, \$1600. 2 parking spaces, central air and laundry in unit, in River Colony. www.sandiegobestrentals.com. 619-696-7968.

NATIONAL CITY. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. \$1050/up. Spacious. Balcony. Washer/dryer hookups. Gated. Lease. No pets. 940 Palm Avenue. 619-336-0436.

NATIONAL CITY. Move in special! 2 bedrooms, 1 baths. \$975, \$600 deposit. Studio, \$600, \$400 deposit. On-site laundry, off-street parking. No pets. Gabby, 858-736-0001. www.melroyproperties.com.s

NATIONAL CITY. \$725/month. 1 bedroom fully furnished. Low \$150 deposit. No SDGE deposit or hookup required. 624 East 24th Street. Office open daily. 619-474-3787.

NORMAL HEIGHTS, \$825, 1 bedroom. Gated community, parking, laundry on site. Great location! Available now. 4515 35th Street, #8. 619-295-1100, www.cethron.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$100 off first month! 1 bedroom, \$825. Security gate, pool. Laundry room. No pets. 4566 36th Street. Call 619-284-2104. www.melroyproperties.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$1025. Extra large 2 bedroom, 1 bath upstairs duplex, laundry, eat-in kitchen, off-street parking. 4584 32nd. \$1100/deposit, \$200/pet, \$25/application. Appointment only, 619-743-9253.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$900. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. New appliances, on-site laundry, off-street parking. Gated community. Call 619-255-0382.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$900. Nice, clean, quiet 2 bedroom, 1 bath, downstairs, new paint, carpet. Well maintained. Refrigerator. Laundry on premises. No pets. Conveniently located. 619-563-0779.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$875 rent. Deposit \$700. 1/2 off first month's rent. 2 bedroom, 1 bath upper unit. New paint. Air conditioning, stove, refrigerator, off street parking, onsite laundry. One block from Adams. 4625 35th Street #7. 619-804-3325.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. 2 bedrooms from \$925 and up. \$600 deposit. Spacious 2 bedrooms, charming, upper apartment, refrigerator, stove, balcony. On-site laundry. Off-street parking. Close to freeways/

shops/restaurants. 4524 40th Street. 619-379-2896.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$795 rent. \$600 deposit. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, lower/cottage-style unit with stove, refrigerator, new paint, gated community. Off-street parking. Garage. Pets OK. 2 blocks from Adams Avenue. 4575 Hawley Boulevard. 619-804-3325.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$1050. Huge 2 bedroom, 2 bath. New paint and carpet throughout. Dishwasher, balcony, air conditioning. Parking and laundry onsite. 4580 Illinois Street. 619-279-2183.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$850. Newly remodeled 1 bedroom, 1 bath with assigned parking space. Dishwasher, air conditioner. Laundry on site. Easy freeway access to I-8, I-15, I-805. Available now. Move-in special! No pets. 4561 Hawley. 858-483-5111 x10. www.melroyproperties.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. Newly remodeled 1 bedroom, assigned parking space, easy freeway access to freeways. Available now. \$925. Move-in special! 868-483-5111 x10.

NORMAL HEIGHTS, 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. 6 units in courtyard setting. Hardwood floors, washer/dryer, stove/refrigerator. Owner pays water, trash, gardener. \$845/month.

NORTH PARK. Open Saturdays, 12-3pm. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Move-in special! A/C, bamboo floors, Travertine bath, stainless appliances, granite counters. Pool, off-street parking. No pets. 4050 Swift Avenue. 619-247-0036.

NORTH PARK. \$1550. Antique Row. Canyon top, end unit 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse, off street parking. Washer/dryer. Small pet ok. 619-287-1780. oksendittome@hotmail.com.

NORTH PARK. \$795. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, recently remodeled. Tiled living room, kitchen, bathroom. Elevator, on-site laundry, security building. 3949 33rd Street. 619-280-2658.

NORTH PARK/UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$1175. Gigantic, upper 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment near Adams. Spacious rooms. Light and bright. Huge walk-in closet. New carpet, appliances, mirrors, lighting. Fresh paint. Squeaky clean! Sweet neighborhood. Parking. Laundry. No smoking. No pets. Clean credit required. 4622 Hamilton. 858-454-2024.

NORTH PARK/UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$850-\$975. Junior 1 bedrooms. Completely remodeled. 4780 Arizona, just north of Adams Avenue. Cat ok. Parking. Laundry facilities. For viewing call Robert, 619-531-0826.

NORTH PARK. \$950. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment with new carpet, newly remodeled. On-site laundry. Assigned parking. No dogs. Call Patty, 619-933-9898. www.floit.com.

NORTH PARK. 1 bedroom unit, \$725/month. 2 bedroom unit, \$975/month. Laundry on site. No dogs. Available 9/15. Call Ms. Butler, 619-339-4311.

NORTH PARK. \$825. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Upstairs with balcony. Laundry. Private complex. Trees/nice landscaping. No pets. 2030 Cypress Avenue. Agent, Mercedes, 619-850-8013.

NORTH PARK. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Close to freeways, Balboa Park, Morley Field, Hillcrest restaurants. Gated. Underground parking. Section 8 welcome. No pets. \$1850. 858-472-0861.

NORTH PARK. 2 bedroom, 1 baths. \$995 and up. Some with hardwood floors. Quiet complex, gated, spacious. Lease. Parking. No pets. 619-303-4969.

NORTH PARK. \$995. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment with garage. Remodeled bathroom. Gated. Quiet. New appliances. Laundry hookups. No pets. Available now. Don, 619-563-9727.

NORTH PARK/UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$895. Extra large 1 bedroom apartment near Adams Avenue. Spacious rooms. New decor. Squeaky clean! Sweet neighborhood. Parking. Laundry. No smoking. No pets. Clean credit required. 4622 Hamilton. 858-454-2024.

NORTH PARK. \$975 rent. \$600 deposit, OAC. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath triplex unit. Laundry. No pets. At 3640 Bancroft Street #101. 619-299-8515.

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PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$1495. 2 bedroom, 1-3/4 bath. 1 block from Sail Bay. Great location! Open Saturday 9/23, 10-11am. 3825 Riviera Drive #4. TPPM, 858-699-3851.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$975. 1 bedroom, 1-car garage available for \$100 extra. Close to Sail Bay and Ski Beach. Open Saturday 9/23, 11-30am. 12:30pm. 3710 Yosemite. TPPM, 858-699-3851.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. \$1495. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Large balcony, hardwood floors. Steps to Sail Bay. Open Saturday 9/23, 10-11am. 3807 Riviera Drive. TPPM, 858-699-3851.

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POWAY. Ask about our fabulous move-in specials! 8-12 month lease. \$300-\$500 deposits. OAC! Remodeled 1 bedrooms from \$1085; 2 bedrooms from \$1315; 3 bedroom, 2 baths, \$1825. Pet friendly! New appliances! Patios/balconies. Tennis. Pool, spa. Fitness center. Silver Oak Apartments, 13409 Midland Road. 888-264-8776. www.sdreader.com/rent/2150.

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RANCHO PENASQUITOS. \$1500/month, 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Stove, refrigerator, pool, garage. No pets. 858-695-8951.

RANCHO PENASQUITOS/Casa Blanca. \$1300/month. 2 large bedrooms, 2 baths. New paint, gas-log fireplace, washer/dryer, dishwasher, refrigerator. Patio, storage, coverage parking, pools. Shopping, library, YMCA within walking distance. 503-650-3647.

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SAN CARLOS. 3 bedroom, 2 bath condo near SDSU. Hardwood floors, new carpet/paint, patio, pool, Jacuzzi, sauna, laundry. \$1650 plus security deposit. No pets. 619-250-4864.

SAN CARLOS. \$2000/month. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhouse in great condition. 2-car garage, washer/dryer, fireplace, balcony, pool. No pets. 9357 Lake Murray Boulevard. Available now. Call 858-688-0285 or 858-583-0182. www.cal-prop.com.

SAN CARLOS. \$1350. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, 3rd floor, hardwood floors, new carpet, all appliances, air conditioning, balcony. View of golf course. Spa, sauna. Water and trash paid. 7858 Cowles Mountain Court #26D, 92119. 619-698-6911.

SAN DIEGO, new 2 bedroom condo, with full size washer/dryer. Resort style amenities including, pool, private carport/garage. Close to all highways. \$1400/month. 619-881-7331.

SAN DIEGO, CENTRAL. Private canyon setting. Newly remodeled 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse. Laminated floors. 2 parking spaces. Laundry. 4485 Quince, #2. Near Fairmont and Thorn. \$899. Call for directions. 619-236-1186.

SAN MARCOS. \$1295. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, private, upstairs, washer/dryer, fireplace, air conditioning, amenities available. Near colleges/shopping. 203 Woodland Parkway #242. 858-232-4413. 858-513-1701.

SAN MARCOS. Large private studio, lower unit. Trees. Patio. Seclusion. Bath. Kitchenette. Near UCSM. \$650, including utilities. 760-532-1275.

SAN MARCOS. \$1300. 1 bedroom, 2 bath. 2-story, 921 estimated square-foot.

LEAD STORY

— Soon before the one-year anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, John M. Lyons Jr. filed a lawsuit in New Orleans against Mark Morice, who admits to commandeering Lyons’s 18-foot pleasure boat after Katrina hit in order to rescue more than 200 people (according to his count), including a 93-year-old dialysis patient whose wife praised Morice in a *Times-Picayune* story. Nonetheless, said Lyons, Morice (who voluntarily identified himself to Lyons for taking the boat) didn’t have permission to use it, and because it was lost (Morice said he abandoned it for other rescuers to use), and insurance covered less than half of its value, Lyons says Morice should pay him \$12,000.

The Entrepreneurial Spirit

— (1) Salon facials available in New York City now include one (at the Nabi Med Spa) that uses stem cells from pregnant cows to rejuvenate damaged skin (\$250) and another (from La Prairie) that firms the face through direct application of caviar (\$270), according to a June United Press International report. (2) The British Egg Information Service announced the imminent availability of a “smart egg” to solve the contentious issue of when are soft-, medium-, and hard-boiled eggs properly boiled. (An invisible ink on the shell turns the egg black at the right moment.) — According to a *Los Angeles Times* report, the Christian Retail Show in Denver in August demonstrated nearly a parallel commercial universe, with hundreds of “Christian” versions of products and services, such as sweatbands, pajamas, dolls, health clubs, insurance agencies, tree trimmers, and fragrances (“Virtuous Woman” perfume). One retail-show visitor, though, was dismayed at the efforts to just “slap Jesus on [merchandise].” Among the tougher sells would appear to be *Book22.com*, a Christian sex-toy website

that sells condoms, vibrators, and lubricants to married couples, but stocks no pornography or toys that encourage multiple-partner scenes.

Bright Ideas

— In August, zookeepers at Apenheul ape park in Apeldoorn, Netherlands, said they had arranged with counterparts at a park in Borneo to establish a live Internet video connection to provide companionship to their respective rare orangutans, treating the connection as sort of a visual dating site. An Apenheul spokeswoman suggested the apes might learn to push buttons to transfer food to each other, creating a mutual fondness that might lead to mating (if transportation can be arranged). — Randy Bailey was on house arrest in St. Paul, Minn., with an ankle monitor that alerts police if he strays more than 150 feet (but also with a four-minute delay before notification). Hungry on Aug. 12, Bailey thought he could race to the Burger King (nearly a mile away) and get back in time. However, the drive-through line moved slowly and an irate, impatient Bailey allegedly kicked in the restaurant’s window before he sped away. Employees got his license-plate number and alerted police, but since Bailey had made it back home in just under four minutes, he claimed to be house-bound and never to have left. However, police soon figured it out and charged Bailey with felony destruction of property.

Science on the Cutting Edge

— Weird disorders in the news recently included prosopagnosia, the inability of a person to remember people by their faces, even one’s immediate family, and trimethylaminuria, the inability to process a chemical that, left in the body, causes a putrid odor. Researchers will soon declare that prosopagnosia (which also, obviously, inhibits sufferers’ ability to enjoy movies) is less rare than previously believed, according to a June *Boston*

Globe story. Trimethylaminuria remains basically untreatable (although bathing several times a day and ingesting chlorophyll reduce the stink, according to an August ABC News report). — A Connecticut company (454 Life Sciences) and Germany’s Max Planck Institute have made recent breakthroughs in developing the genome of a Neanderthal man, which shows a 99 percent-plus similarity with that of humans, according to a July *New York Times* report. If they succeed, it might be possible to bring the species back to life by implanting the genes into a human egg (provided, of course, that some woman volunteers to bear a Neanderthal baby). — The Tokyo Institute of Technology said in July that it is building a database of 96 scents that will be machine-reproducible, with uses ranging from helping online shoppers smell a product before buying, to helping doctors diagnose illnesses by sniffing a patient’s bile. Sensors will trigger a library of chemicals to accurately reproduce “almost any odor, from old fish to gasoline,” according to one researcher, and that recipe of chemicals would remotely re-create the scent.

Least Competent Criminals

— Joshua Shores, 34, a Subway restaurant employee in North Platte, Neb., who was allegedly caught on surveillance video pocketing the \$502 he was supposed to drop into the restaurant’s safe, tried to tell police and a judge in August not to worry, that he is not a thief but an undercover CIA operative and that the agency would reimburse the money. He had lost his CIA badge, he said, which is why he was working at the Subway, waiting for the agency to send him a new one.

Latest Economic Indicators

— In July, India’s Medical Association began investigating three doctors who appeared on television to promote their amputation services to

beggars whose income prospects grow with the more sympathy they engender. One doctor said he would remove a leg below the knee, leaving it fairly easy to fit a prosthetic, for the equivalent of about \$200. — Employees who need expensive surgery under their U.S. employers’ health-insurance plans may soon be asked to go overseas for the operation because surgeries in India, Thailand, and Indonesia typically cost about 20 percent less than U.S. prices, according to an August report in the *Christian Science Monitor*. However, employers may share part of their savings with the worker, who might turn the trip into an exotic family vacation before or after the surgery.

Gas Pedal? Brake Pedal? Whatever

— Accidents by elderly drivers who police suspect momentarily confused the gas pedal for the brake (or accelerated in the wrong gear): Age 89, Dearborn, Mich. (backed into his own garage, panicked, accelerated into a neighbor’s house across the street, July); age 89, New London, Conn. (plowed through a summer festival crowd, injuring 27, July); age 89, Rochester, N.Y. (plowed full-throttle through an open-air market, injuring 10, August); age 87, Orlando (slammed into eye doctor’s office, July); age 86, Brookfield, Wis. (drove through front doors of a McDonald’s, August); age 86, Columbus, Ohio (crashed fatally through the wall of an aquarium supply store, July); age 85, El Monte, Calif. (slammed into a Starbuck’s patio, injuring 10, July); age 84, Tamarac, Fla. (backed over her landlord, then panicked and drove over him again, then panicked and backed over him again, with one of the drive-overs fatal, July).

Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186 or to WeirdNewsTips@yahoo.com

Upgraded wood and carpet floors. Water and trash paid. Front green belt. Pets on approval. Panda Realty, 858-748-8850.

SANTEE. \$720, 1 bedroom, 1 bath. \$815, 2 bedroom, 1 bath. On-site laundry, off-street parking. No pets. 8527 Graves Avenue, 619-258-2584.

SANTEE. \$950. Large 2 bedroom garden apartment. Appliances, air conditioning. Off street parking. Laundry on site. Close to all. 8832 Olive Lane. 619-562-8331 or 619-253-5802.

SANTEE. Remodeled 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Pergo flooring, new cabinets, washer/dryer. Pool. Garage, additional space. Near Santee Trolley Center. Available 10/1. \$1400. 619-723-4871.

SANTEE. Why rent when you can own? Beautiful 3 bedroom condo. Garage, fireplace, A/C. \$5400 total cash needed, good credit. \$1152/monthly payment includes taxes and HOA. Agent, 619-596-8888, 619-723-3333.

SCRIPPS RANCH. \$1500 includes water/trash. 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath condo. 1-

car garage. 1-reserved parking. Washer/dryer. New paint/carpet/tile. 619-972-0101. 858-435-0702.

SCRIPPS RANCH/Sabre Springs. \$1595/month. Gorgeous townhome, rent or lease-to-own. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, garage. Great location! Community pool/spa. Cats okay. 760-752-7796, 858-405-2597.

SERRA MESA. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath condo. \$2500/month. 2 car garage, laundry inside, yard, in Stonecrest. Looks new. www.sandiegobestrentals.com. 619-696-7968.

SERRA MESA. Spacious 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Fireplace, large walk-in closet, ceiling fans, storage, 2 parking spaces. Pool, great complex! No pets. \$1000/month. Agent, 619-583-1095.

SHERMAN HEIGHTS. Half off first month! 532 21st Street #1. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$675. Free utilities. Section 8 OK. Unit #5 also available. vr@ajprop.com. A&J Property Management, 619-220-4840.

SOLANA BEACH. Attached guest quarters-1 bedroom, 1 bath. Whitewater ocean view! Totally furnished. West of I-5. \$1,250. No pets or smoking. Available now. Louise Abbott Real Estate, 858-755-8046.

SOLANA BEACH. \$1250. Cute 1 bedroom, 1 bath, upstairs near Fletcher Cove. Large front balcony, freshly painted, new carpet. 118-C South Acacia. Leasing Unlimited, 760-436-7273.

SOLANA BEACH. 55+ community. 1/2 off first month! \$1025. 1 bedroom. Courtyard setting. Elevator. Laundry. Gated. Clubhouse. Close to shopping, bus, ocean. No pets. 858-755-5995.

SOLANA BEACH. Architectural delight! Secluded 2 bedroom, 1 bath with skylights, fireplace, 16' high ceilings. Walking distance to shopping/restaurants. No smoking. \$1495. 858-794-7880.

SOUTH BAY/CHULA VISTA. \$775. Move-in special! Beautiful 1 bedroom in gated community. Laundry, off-street parking. No pets. 619-691-9377.

SOUTH PARK. \$1295. Large, remodeled 2 bedroom, 1 bath upstairs corner unit. New tile/carpet/appliances. Steps to restaurants/cafes. 3067-1/2 Juniper. WesternHills1.com. 858-495-1798.

SOUTH PARK. \$1295. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. 1000 square feet, newly remodeled, parking. 4651-B 30th Street. Available for viewing. www.kandproperties.com. Call 858-490-1600.

SOUTH PARK. 3035 Ivy Street #6. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. \$995. Deposit \$800. Stove, refrigerator, new carpet, laundry, parking. 10 month lease, no pets. 858-597-6100.

SPRING VALLEY. \$1095. Townhome, 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. All appliances, washer/dryer hookup, air conditioning, patio, pool. No pets. No section 8. Quiet. Call 619-464-7046.

SPRING VALLEY, large upgraded, clean, 2 bedroom apartments, in a quiet 7 unit complex. New appliances, air conditioning, parking, laundry. Section 8 OK. Julie 619-251-0742.

SPRING VALLEY. \$100 off move-in OAC. Spacious 2 bedrooms from \$795. Garages available for rent in gated community. Casa Granada, 9121 Kenwood Drive. Office hours: Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm. progressmanagement.net or call 619-698-1356.

SPRING VALLEY. 2 bedroom, 2 bath and 3 bedroom, 2 bath, \$900 and \$1100. Gated complex with on-site laundry, parking and swimming pool. Garages available for additional rent. Less than one mile from the 94. Cats OK. 9233 Kenwood Drive. 858-200-9408.

TALMADGE. \$900. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. New flooring and paint throughout. Very nice unit in great area. Must see. Close to SDSU. Available now. 619-295-1230.

TALMADGE. \$1200. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. 1200 square feet. Centrally

located. Newly remodeled. Very large backyard. No pets. Washer/dryer in unit. Section 8 OK. Call 760-685-2111 or 760-741-3564.

TALMADGE. \$775, #7, 1 bedroom, 1 bath, upstairs. \$1150, #2, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, downstairs. #7 with gleaming wood floors. #2 has new carpet/paint. Situated in small gated complex. Laundry onsite. #7 available 10/05; #2 now. 4533 Contour Boulevard. #7, #2. 619-295-1100, www.cethron.com.

TALMADGE. \$825. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath with two private patios. Downstairs unit, extra storage and 1 car garage. 4465 48th Street. Call 858-751-6336.

TALMADGE. \$1100. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Small building. On-site laundry, off-street parking. \$500 deposit. O.A.C. Call today! 619-280-0061.

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- Clean battery terminals

- Check all hoses
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UNIVERSITY CITY/UTC. \$2495. 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhouse unit in Avanti in Renaissance. 1619 square feet. Lovely hardwood floors, balcony, fireplace, tri-level, 2-car garage. Call Coldwell Banker Property Management, 858-488-4090.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. Historic building. Charming secluded 1 bedroom, walled tiled patio, garden, hardwood floors, \$1050. Large 3-room studio, clawfoot tub, Murphy bed, \$900. Pet OK. 619-368-5270.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$995. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment near Park Boulevard, 1 parking spot, laundry on site, 9 month lease. Available 10/7. 4615 Hamilton Street. Call 858-688-0287 or 858-583-0182/858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$895. Lower 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Upper 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1300. Laundry on site, parking, dishwasher. Refurbished. 4522 Utah Street. Centre City Property Management, 619-296-6699.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$750. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Courtyard setting, coin laundry, controlled access. Near shops, restaurants, public transportation and freeway access. 3848 42nd Street. Call 619-255-2850.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$775. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Utilities included. Gated community, coin laundry. Near shops, restaurants, public transportation and freeway access. 3829 Marlborough Street. Call 858-571-1970.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS/NORTH Park. \$795. 1 bedroom. Remodeled, front up-

stairs apartment, large closets. Fresh carpet, matching vinyl flooring. Off-street parking, laundry. Great, quiet area. 4475 Hamilton Street #6. TTPM, 619-296-8802.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 1 bedroom, 1 bath seniors' community or disabled apartments. \$695, move-in special: 1/2 off first month's rent, with \$200 security deposit on approved credit. Upper and lower units available. On-site laundry, in gated community, close to bus lines. Small pets OK! 4086 Swift Avenue. Agent, 858-560-1178.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, \$895. Large unit located in cat-friendly complex. On-site laundry and parking. 4469 Alabama. 858-200-9408.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. Large two bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Quiet, gated complex of 9 apartments with on-site laundry and parking. Walk-in closet, gas stove, newer carpet and paint. Cats OK, no Section 8, \$1195. 4519 Campus Avenue. 858-200-9408.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. Downstairs, 1 bedroom, 1 bath. \$925. Located in charming complex of 5 apartments, just 2 blocks from the 163 pedestrian bridge. 1041 Hayes. 858-200-9408.

USD. \$1400. 3 bedroom, 1 bath. Downstairs. Washer/dryer. Common patio. Parking. Tile. New paint. Available 9/5. 5601 Mildred Street. More Property Management, 858-514-8201.

UTC. \$2100. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, downstairs. Upgrades/updates. Centrally located. 1450 square feet. New paint, car-

peting, dishwasher. Washer/dryer. Pets OK. 619-370-4211. www.bettingonacure.com/tisha.

VALENCIA PARK. \$1095. 3 bedroom, 1 bath. Spacious corner apartment on secluded street. Parking. Laundry. Courtyard. 5337 Groveland Drive #2. 619-683-7638. Xlarent.com.

VALENCIA PARK. \$725. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, upstairs spacious apartment. Sunny. Parking and on-site laundry. 4854 Market Street. 619-683-7638, Xlarent.com.

VISTA. 1 month free rent with 12-14 month lease. Look and lease specials! \$99-\$199 deposits, OAC. 2 bedrooms from \$1215. 3 bedrooms from \$1495. Pool, spa. Parking, garages available. Laundry. Patio/balcony. Dishwasher. Woodburning fireplace. Ceiling fan. Storage. Pets welcome. Shadowridge Meadows, 1515 South Melrose Drive. 866-578-0583. www.sdreader.com/rent/2050.

VISTA. Move-in special: 1/2 off first month! Renovated 2 bedrooms, \$1075. Appliances, air conditioning. Gated, landscaped complex. Laundry, parking, balcony, storage room. 760-672-6405. www.melroyproperties.com.

WANTED TO RENT. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Near San Diego beaches. Up to \$1000/month. On or near bus line. Deposits must be workable. Please call 619-804-7199.

REAL ESTATE Houses

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A RARE FIND! El Cajon, large single-level 4 bedroom (large rooms). Pool, 24' x 12' covered patio, newer roof, shuffleboard court. Move in now! Call Agent Kelly Kelly 619-662-6999. \$550K-\$560K on huge lot!

A SWEET DEAL! 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 bonus rooms! Upgraded! New appliances, workshop, garden room. Large lot, garage. Spring Valley, \$491,999. Diann, agent, 619-322-8771.

ALPINE. 4 bedroom, 2 bath, ranch style, detached granny flat. 1-acre horse property. Central air/heat. Updated kitchen, bath. Pool. \$875,000. RE/MAX, Bill, 619-980-2455.

BOULEVARD. By owner, new 1920 square feet, 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom, with 24x24 2 car garage, on 3 flat acres, with panoramic view. Family room with fireplace, formal dining room, bonus room/office. Laundry room with washer/dryer. Refrigerator, build-in microwave, jacuzzi tub, tile floors, central air, redwood deck and more. First time homebuyer financing available, \$390,000. Cell 619-980-6424 home 619-669-6424.

BRING ALL OFFERS! \$195,000 to 220,000! Artists, retirees, income property, Jacumba. Amazing 3 bedroom, fenced. Appliances, hardwood floors, enclosed patio, cozy wood stove. Margo Monroe, Agent, 619-307-9996.

CLAIREMONT. Cutest house in Clairemont. By owner, 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 2-car finished garage, lots of amenities, backyard to die for, 4525 Melissa Way. 858-270-9998.

CLAIREMONT. Cul-de-sac location. Light, skylights, open beams. Fully landscaped.

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- Change oil filter
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- Check suspension
- Top off fluids
- Check radiator, radiator cap & all hoses
- Check tire balance

- Inspect fuel filter
- Check differential fluid
- Check manual transmission fluid
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Plus \$8.25 for certificate. Most cars. 1996 and newer trucks, SUVs, vans extra.

Radiator Flush \$24^{95*} + labor

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BACK WHEN

In the Reader

Thirty Years Ago

SALLY, why keep kissing frogs when there's a prince standing behind you? Turn around. It's the magic frog you kissed long ago. You're loved. Prince.

BWANA. Crystal Pier is a beautiful idea. We'll laugh and be happy. I'll show you the stars at night and we'll play in the sand and sun in the day. I really do care. I love you. Sparling.

—CLASSIFIEDS, September 23, 1976

Twenty-Five Years Ago

Concert promoter Marc Berman will pay \$85,000 to rent San Diego Jack Murphy Stadium for the Rolling Stones' October 7 appearance, and if he's not cautious, Berman may contribute even more to the stadium's bank account. His contract with the stadium calls for the 3:00 p.m. concert to end by 8:00 p.m., with "absolutely no amplified sound...after 10:00 p.m." Should the Stones rock on past the deadline, Berman must pay a \$1000-per-minute fine.

—CITY LIGHTS: "GET YER YA-YA'S OUT," Paul Krueger, September 24, 1981

Twenty Years Ago

Tufuku was upset. Over the weekend, an old "running partner," his "road dog," had been shot in a drive-by killing. His assailant was unknown, said Tufuku. Studying my frown and knowing, by then, that it was incomprehension he saw on my face, he added, "Your road dog, he's the guy, he's got two dollars when you go to eat, you know you got a buck when the time comes to pay."

—"AT THE CORNER OF POVERTY AND CRIME, PART II," Judith Moore, September 25, 1986

Fifteen Years Ago

Mojo Nixon: "When I did a cross-country bike trip ten years ago, I gave to my close personal friend Buck Parker my funeral instructions. I've been to a few traditional Christian church, organized-religion deals and thought they were lacking in vitality, humor, and the acceptance of death as part of life.

"So my instructions to him are as follows: I don't want to be buried in a coffin; I want people to carry me, hopefully, like in a sheet — I have this Dale Earnhardt race car blanket that would be nice. It would be good if it was a full moon, raining, bonfires, and dogs howling.

They can just be carrying me in the sheet while they sing, whatever song they're singing — possibly an Elvis song or maybe a Pogues song."

—"DROP DEAD GORGEOUS," Edited by Sue Greenberg, September 26, 1991

Ten Years Ago

A few years ago, Mike Wilken and some friends with a professional video camera drove to a village southeast of Ensenada. There they met with a Baja Indian named Benito Peralta. With the camera running, Peralta recounted in the Paipai Indian language an ancient story about a monster who lived in a cave in the arroyo running through the community. Later, Wilken and his friends went to the cave and recorded some of the children playing where the mythic monster crunched his victims' bones.

—"ONE THOUSAND SURVIVORS," Jeannette De Wyze, September 19, 1996

Five Years Ago

The drawback to asking Steve Esmedina to write a movie review in my stead, ostensibly to give me a break, was that it would then fall to me to edit it. A drawback, first, because of his habit of testing the limits of a deadline, and



San Diego Reader, September 19, 1996

second, because the further he pushed the limits, the more he needed editing. For me, as for others in my position, it was always a question of weighing what Steve had to offer against what he would exact in toll. I can't be sure what ultimately tipped the balance, but memory tells me it might have been the review of *Slap Shot*. Memory again must tell me, because the printed version will not, that the opening line ran something like, "Slap Shot should have been called *Slap Shit*."

—BLUBBO'S WORLD: "BETTER ON THE MUSIC PAGE," Duncan Shepherd, September 20, 2001

Columns archived at SanDiegoReader.com

Tongue/groove ceiling in living room opens to private backyard/covered patio. \$445,500-\$462,500. Agent, 858-229-6889.

EL CAJON, new paint, carpet, lots of amenities. Fireplaces, backyard, patio, RV parking. Open house Saturday/Sunday 10am-5pm. 503 North Pierce, \$485,000-\$495,000. By owner. 619-442-2974.

EL CAJON. Beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2050' square home. 3-car garage. RV parking. Gated courtyard. Lighted circular driveway. \$649,900. RE/MAX, Bill, 619-980-2455.

ESCONDIDO BEAUTY. 4 bedroom, 3 bath set against natural reserve. Formal dining, vaulted ceilings, 2 fireplaces, jacuzzi/master bath, new roof. Great neighborhood! \$555,000. 760-532-9518.

FIXER-BUILD YOUR EQUITY. 2003 values! 3 bedroom, 3 bath townhome in Carlsbad needs TLC. Priced way below

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HIGH ON A HILL. Rancho Penasquitos. Incredible 5 bedroom, 3 bath, 2880 square feet. 3-car garage, family room, formal dining, 8'x 8' skylight in stairwell. All for only \$759,000. Call Kraig at One Source Realty, 858-592-2130.

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ILLINOIS. 1 bedroom, cute home, nice area, ready to move into, a young, solid, well built house near all, low taxes, \$14,000/best. 858-220-1540.

IMPERIAL BEACH, BRAND NEW HOME: 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 2400 square feet, fireplace, carpet/tile flooring, custom cabinets, granite counters. Ocean views. More information: www.HonestReid.com. \$649,900. Robert, 619-328-0844.

LEASE OPTION TO BUY. 10 minutes from Palm Springs. Brand-new home, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, master suite with hallway, walk-in closet, glass shower, private toilet. Swimming pools, golf course, tennis. 10% down. Sale by owner. 619-278-9169.

MILLION DOLLAR VIEWS! Half acre Lakeside fixer. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Newly landscaped. Wraparound wood deck. Laundry room. Emma Lefkowitz, agent. Showings/information, 858-880-5989, www.TheBarronTeam.com.

MISSION VALLEY, EAST, by owner. 6837 Halifax. Almost new, 3 bedroom plus of-

fice, 2-1/2 bath, double garage, 2 stories. Very private, views, \$689,900. Ed, 619-795-9419.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. Price change! Considering offers of \$395,000-\$435,000. Open Saturday and Sunday, 1pm-4pm: 3834 Madison Avenue, 92116. Move-in ready! Completely renovated 2 bedroom house on huge lot. 1/2-block to new Normal Heights Elementary and city park. Beautiful neighborhood. Ample off-street parking. Large fenced yard. hdr1@cox.net. 619-281-8869; 619-823-8166.

NORTH PARK. Stunning contemporary! 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath, remodeled! New custom kitchen, central heat and air, parking for 6 cars! Only \$599K to \$649K. Call Greg, 619-249-7846.

NORTH PARK. \$595,000. Classic 1930s spanish bungalow in premier neighborhood with original charm. 3 bedrooms. 1 car garage. Hardwood floors, mint condition. Rare, large backyard. Zoned R-2.

3409 Bancroft Street. Realtor, Marilyn Hanes, 619-540-6750.

PINE VALLEY. Beautiful modular home on cul-de-sac. Mountain view. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Pergo floors, new dishwasher. Security system. Great neighborhood. Pool. \$75,000. Agent, 619-302-3639.

POWAY. 2002 Golden West manufactured home. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, large wood deck off master bedroom, vaulted ceilings, open, airy plan, pools, \$153,000. 858-603-2091.

RAMONA. 3 bedroom, 2 bath San Diego Country Estates home. Mountain views. 1/2 acre lot. Partial owner financing/rent-to-own. \$497,500. www.alpshomesales.com/property/index.cfm.

RANCHO PENASQUITOS. Woodcrest Hill, 4 bedroom/2-1/2 baths house, cul-de-sac, view lot huge deck off master bedroom. Call. Top Notch Realty Inc. 619-807-0327.

RANCHO SAN DIEGO. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, newer windows and door, near school and shopping, low HOA, includes pool, tennis courts, more. \$485,000-\$510,000. Owner, 619-248-1204.

SAN DIEGO. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Bank foreclosure only \$93,500. Won't last at this price! More foreclosures and repos! For listings, 1-800-690-3990 xR831.

SANTEE FAMILY PARK! Double-wide 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Seller will carry with \$15K down. Space rent only \$552 per month. So total per month, \$852.00. Why rent? Call Greg, 619-249-7846.

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- Inspect differential fluid

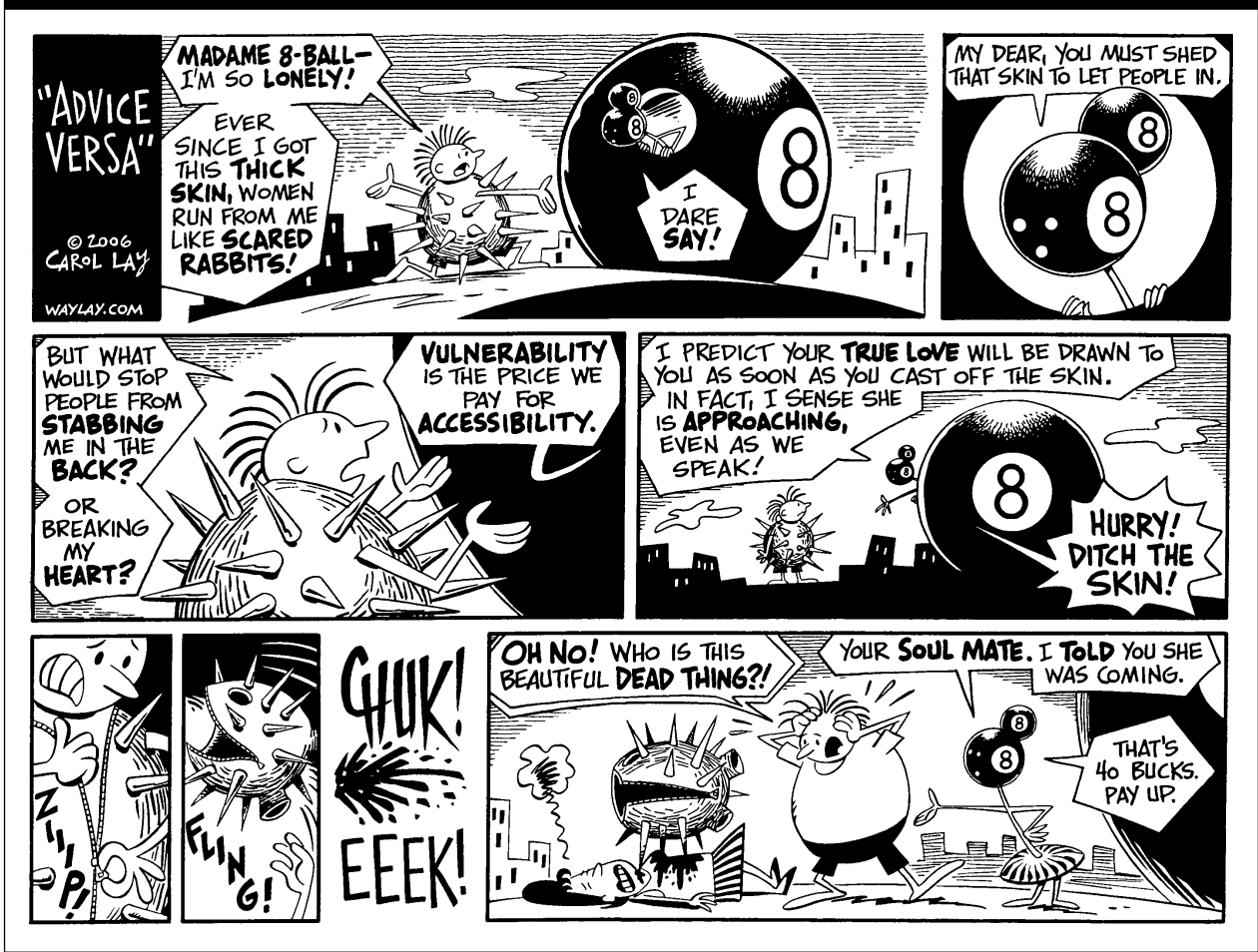
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SANTEE, 2+ bedrooms 2 baths, older but comfortable, double wide 20x45 rose garden senior 55/35 convenient to all \$54,000. Call Pat leave message 619-448-9459.
SANTEE. 4 bedroom. Family room. Vaulted ceiling. Updated kitchen, new

stove, dishwasher, microwave. Central air/heat, covered patio, 2-car garage. \$539,000. RE/MAX, 619-980-2455.
SHOWS LIKE A MODEL! Lakeside 4 bedroom, 3 bath, 2800 square feet. Pool, spa, fireplace in family room, huge RV parking, views! 2 master bedrooms, 1 with Jacuzzi tub. Cul-de-sac, upgraded throughout. Call agent, Kelly, 619-562-6999. Wow, only \$650,000. Hundred thousand less than seller paid!
SOLANA BEACH. Incredible ocean/bluff front 1 bedroom, 1.75 bath condo. Totally remodeled, furnishings done by interior decorator. Ocean view from kitchen, living and bedroom! Amazing sunsets! Move in to this turn-key unit. Stairs to ocean, tennis courts, pool and spas on

site. Clubhouse. This is the best ocean-front you will find! Reduced \$175,000; owner will carry with right buyer! Tricia Clarke, Willis Allen Real Estate, 858-229-6889.
SOUTH SAN DIEGO. 1300+ square feet. 3 bedroom, 2 bath manufactured home. Open house: Saturday, 9/23, 1pm-4pm. 2888 Iris Avenue, #88, 92154. \$80K. Agent, 619-459-8678.
TIJUANA/ROSARITO. Newly decorated, secure, tiled floors/bathroom, inside parking for 4 cars, fruit trees, beautiful landscaping. Terms possible. \$86,000. Manuelito, owner, (044664)179-13-43 or 00152-664-624-0161.
UNIVERSITY CITY, 3 bedroom 2 bathroom, additional den/office. Major upgrades, new kitchen, appliances, Hardwood, granite fireplace. Large deck, 6600 square foot lot. \$695,000- \$735,000/owner, 858-344-5870.
WOW! Everything new in this 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, 2 story home on cul-de-sac in Lakeside. All new granite countertops, cabinets, carpet, paint and floor tile. 1350 square feet. \$390K to \$415K. Call Kraig to see, 858-592-2130.
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CLAIREMONT. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Upper corner unit. 23X15 living/dining room with balcony. Fresh paint, new flooring in entry, kitchen and bath. Master has 8X6 walk-in closet. Pools/spas, on-site laundry and gated parking. Close to shopping, Mesa College, easy access to I-5 and 805, 52 and 163 freeways. \$299,000. R.A. Properties, 858-483-3989.
CORTEZ HILL RARE FIND! Stunning, spacious 2 bedroom. Upgraded, hardwood floors, granite/stainless, balconies, city views. Huge master suite, pool/spa. \$499,000-\$519,000. Diann, agent, 619-322-8771.
DEL MAR. Lovely, sunny 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with pool and Jacuzzi. Monthly interest \$1695. \$15,000 down. APR only 5.9%. Call Agent, Elizabeth, at 619-286-5813.

FASHION VALLEY, Studio, 432 square feet. 6202 Friars Road #101, Near USD, trolley, I-5. New kitchen cabinets/countertops, heater/air conditioning, all appliances. \$179,000/owner, 619-980-6083.
GUTTED and completely remodeled, gorgeous Mission Valley 3 bedroom, 2 bath, \$395,000. Incredible amenities! See it at www.sandiegocondos4sale.net. Open on Sundays, 2-6pm. Call 949-294-9549.
IMPERIAL BEACH. \$224,5000. Affordable beach condo. 1 bedroom ocean conversion. 9 blocks from ocean. 1 yea HOA fees free. Sales office open daily 10am-6pm. 619-565-2258
LA COSTA CONDO. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Steps from golf course. Remodeled. Stainless appliances. Sunset view from deck. Entertaining offers-- \$385,000-\$435,876. Karen Carter, Prudential, 619-990-9904.
LA JOLLA. Sunny, lovely 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with pool and Jacuzzi. Monthly interest \$1695. \$15,000 down. APR only 5.9%. Call Agent, Elizabeth, at 619-286-5813.
LA MESA. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Great Views! Central air conditioning and heating. Garage. \$399,000. 5430 Baltimore Drive #84, Coldwell Banker, Quyen Doan, 619-850-2571.
LAKESIDE. Best value in San Diego: 1 bedroom, 1 bath 616 square foot condo, \$135,000. Call Robert/agent today! 619-328-0844.
LITTLE ITALY. La Vita. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, granite counters, stainless steel appliances, fireplace, balcony, views of courtyard, fountain, more. Pool, spa, gym, recreation room. Washer/dryer with extra storage in unit. Approximately 706 square feet. Secured entry and underground parking. Short walk to bay, restaurants, and trolley. Comps available on request. No agents. Serious inquiries only. 619-316-2846.
LUSH, PRIVATE COURTYARD. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath home. Formal dining room. Hardwood floors. Vaulted ceilings. 2-car attached garage. Terrasanta. \$550,000-\$579,000. Sandra, Coldwell Banker, 619-838-4663.
MIRA MESA. Beautiful townhome in Mesa Village, 3 large bedroom, 1.25 bath. Fireplace, appliances, washer/dryer. Two car garage/carport. No common walls. \$375,000/owner, 619-993-8447.
MIRA MESA-CONCORD SQUARE. Spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Huge "his/hers" closets. Large combo living/dining room. Laundry. Private patio. \$325K. Slavens Realty, 619-370-2417.
MIRA MESA. Open house Sunday 9/10, 12-3:30pm. 8460 Capricorn Way. #58, 1 bedroom, \$225,000-\$239,000. #61, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$325,000-\$335,000. Coldwell Banker, Quyen Doan, 619-850-2571.
MISSION HILLS, 3972 Jackdaw #203. 1 bedroom 1 bath, 2nd floor. \$295,000, owner will carry loan of \$261,000/5 years.

AUTOMOTIVE

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Jerry Sample, Jr. (General Manager) is an ASE Master Technician who is also **Acura/Honda factory-trained**. With well over a decade of experience, including several years working as a top mechanic at a well-known local Acura dealership, you can be assured of top-notch quality service. Jerry takes pride in what he does. His diagnostic skills are well-known throughout the industry. Often when customers are unable to achieve satisfaction elsewhere, they are directed to Jerry for an analysis. He thrives on a good challenge. Jerry will also take the time to explain to customers what he believes the problem is and how he would go about fixing it.

Greenlight Honda Acura Care prides itself on quality and service. We are proud to have more than 1,000 customers in San Diego and surrounding areas. The loyalty of our customers attests to Jerry and his crew's integrity.

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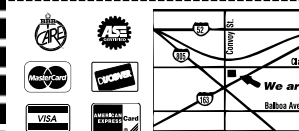
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Dear Saffron,

My niece, my sister's kid, is 13. She had a birthday in August, and as a gift my wife and I got her a two-year subscription to a slick fashion magazine (which cost \$40, and we are not zillionaires) that she had mentioned she wanted. Instead of a thank you, now I hear from my dad that both my sister and her daughter feel that our gift was not expensive enough. They didn't use the word "expensive" but complained by saying to him, "Is that all?" My father, who is one reason my niece is as spoiled as she is, agreed. He said, "A magazine subscription isn't much — you guys really should get her something else as well." I am furious. I want to take the subscription back. If it's too paltry for her, fine. She can have nothing and see how she likes it. In my day you didn't critique a gift based on its price tag. My wife, who has had to deal with gross behavior from my family before, says you can't take a gift back once it's given, no matter how much of an

ingrate the recipient is. I say I can. Your take on this?

INCENSED IN IMPERIAL BEACH

Dear Incensed,

I think your sister's and niece's manners stink. Using Dad as a go-between is also lame. And what happened to "It's the thought that counts"? No way should you ante up with additional gifts. Canceling the subscription would send a strong message, but you could be even more straightforward. Tell your father, nicely, that you don't want him bringing you complaints from your sister anymore. If she has gripes about something you did, she can tell you herself. Then inform sister and niece that although Dad delivered their request for more presents, you're eliminating him as middleman and going directly to them with a message of your own: "I'm upset and hurt." Tell them you feel that it's wrong to react to a gift, given as a gesture of affection, by demanding more loot. That's a sure way to crush a gift-giver's spirit and make that person less than likely to send a present in the future. If your niece doesn't want the subscription, tell them you'll be happy to donate it to a needy library or school, but she definitely isn't scoring anything else.

Dear Saffron,

My sister has three children and an on-again, off-

again husband. She is struggling to make ends meet and complains a lot about being in debt, not being able to give her kids all she would like to, etc. Because both my husband and I are doing well in our careers, we send her a bit of money each month so that she and the kids will not be so strapped. We do this with no strings attached. Last week I was visiting the family, and they had two new puppies. The kids were thrilled. I was asking some questions about the new dogs, and the seven-year-old girl piped up, "They are purebred Boston Terriers, and they cost \$500 each!" My mouth fell open, and I asked my sister, who was sitting right there, if this was true. She said, "Yes." I don't understand how my sister, who is always talking about being poor, could have thought it was a good idea to spend a grand on purebred dogs. If she wanted to get the kids puppies, there are loads of perfectly good ones for free or very little money at the pound. Good dogs that need a home. Also, I feel a lot less inclined to send her a check every month to help out with essentials if this is where it is going. Do I have a right to mention this to her?

PISSED NORTH PARK SISTER

Dear Pissed,

Sounds as if your sister is making some dumb choices. You should have a friendly, gentle conversation with her to express your concern about her and the kids' financial welfare, and talk through this issue. Tell her that

you know she's having money troubles and therefore wonder why she felt it necessary to go out and buy pricey show dogs. See what she has to say. Best-case scenario is that this opens up a continuing dialogue between the two of you about what's going on with her finances, how they can be improved, and maybe creates a forum for brainstorming about how she can use the scarce money she has more wisely. It's clear she could sure use some good counsel about practical strategies for living within her means.

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4x4, twin cam extra. Up to '89 models.

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starting at **\$59*** **\$79*** **\$119***

GOOD BETTER BEST

Front or rear. Call for details! Parts & labor. Resurfacing rotors additional for the \$59 price. \$79 or higher includes resurfacing rotor.

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URBAN ENCOUNTERS

1. This morning I was walking up the subway stairs right behind one of *those girls*. You know, with the hair? And the fingernails? And the ass pants? Her ass was pretty much right in front of me, all snug in the stretchy ass-pant fabric, and this ass was tiny. I have seen, and eaten, baked goods bigger than her ass. Her ass was pathetically small and wan, like an orphan selling matches in the snow. WHERE? IS? YOUR? ASS? I wanted to cry aloud to the heavens, shaking my fists. Weeping and rending my garment. Because I have a fairly tenuous grip on reality this morning, I came real close to saying something. Damn. I am not a large person, but even I have more booty than that.

2. There is a sign on Lawrence for a package-delivery place called Order Express, but I always misread it as Odor Express. A place where you can go to pick up little vials of different odors. "I'll take a whiff of 'decaying whale shark' to go." With every ten orders of "cheap tequila," you get a free "pee-stained sheets!" I wonder if the good odors, such as "towels right out of the dryer" or "oatmeal cookie" or "Thom Yorke's neck" cost more. (Disclaimer: Thom Yorke could smell like hobo crotch, for all I know. His pleasant fragrance is all conjecture on my part.)

3. Here are some more signs from the multicultural carnival that is my neighborhood:

WE WATCH BATTERIES WHILE YOU WAIT (Missing verb or new form of meditation?)

MANGO PULP \$5.99 FOR SIX CANS. NO DISCOUNT FOR ONE! NO DISCOUNT FOR SEVEN! MULTIPLE [sic] OF SIX ONLY! (Okay, okay, I get it. This one was handwritten — whoever wielded that Sharpie needs to lay the hell off the caffeine.)

APARTMENT FOR RENT INQUIRE ABOVE GOAT STORE (I am assuming this means the butcher's next door.

Unless there is a secret goat store and I am missing it.)

PURVEYORS OF FINE LUGGAGES AND HOUSEWARE (I find the perfect incorrectness of the plurals inexplicably charming.)

4. Slicked-back hair, mirrored sunglasses, suit and tie, this jag-off in a Jaguar is speeding through a yellow light in River North, and — for real — he is blasting the Phil Collins song "Sussudio" on what is no doubt a very expensive car stereo. I was, like, *Wait, was that Patrick Bateman?* Please tell me that was some sort of prank, like the guy is participating in a rousing game of Rich Person's Truth Or Dare, because why, why, why would you listen to "Sussudio" in the car, where other people can hear you? I mean, maybe you are allowed to keep the Phil Collins CD in a dark closet and throw on "Sussudio" when you are cleaning the house or something, but even that is skating on some very, VERY thin musical-taste ice, mister. The only possible use I can see for that song is possibly to clear the last few cokeheads out of your house when dawn is breaking and you need the party to be OVER, NOW. (Somebody call Sartre, quick, I am having a new vision of existentialist hell

where it is always five in the morning and everyone is doing coke and there is always Phil Collins on the stereo. Oh, my god, I have to go lie down.)

5. Scene: I am at the baked potato place getting a baked potato for lunch. Mmmm, baked potato. I order my potato (broccoli, cheddar, black olives) to go, and sit



Phil Collins

down to read until it is ready. Soon, the diminutive Hispanic lady yells out, "Potato!" (even though I had an order number — I guess she prefers the direct approach). When I go to the counter to retrieve it, this guy in hideous wraparound sunglasses is right behind me. "Uh-uh, no no no!" he sings out in this weird Pee-Wee Herman voice. "That's not your potato!"

I don't enjoy being spoken to like a preschooler, but, whatever. I only want the potato that is rightfully

mine. I am not trying to usurp your potato, dude. He has his hand on the bag and is trying to wrest it away from the counter lady, who refuses to relinquish it. "No," she keeps saying. "Hers. Her potato."

"I don't THINK so," says the guy. "I ordered first, and this is my order: broccoli, cheddar, black olives. This is my potato." For fuck's sake, I am thinking. Do we need some kind of potato paternity test here? 1-800-WHO'S-THE-SPUD-DADDY? Two potatoes of the same genus and species were ordered, so you can take this one, you silly git, if you want it so badly. Some of us don't mind waiting a whole extra two

minutes. The counter lady insists, through broken English and pointing, that I take the potato, so I do. Now I am wondering if she insisted just for the pure comic value of seeing the sunglasses guy sigh and pout and curse her out under his breath, throwing a fit like some horrible child actor or stereotyped queen-y interior decorator, because it was quite funny. I left chuckling, *avec* potato.

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7183.

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brake special **\$24⁹⁹ off** Complete Brake Service

Includes free safety inspection (most cars). Installation of new pads or shoes. Repack non-drive wheel bearings. Inspect rotors or drums, master cylinder, wheel bearings, hardware, lines, hoses & seals. Front or rear. Semi-metallic pads \$20 extra. Valid with this coupon. Not valid with other offers. Large vehicles extra.

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Call for details.

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Includes up to 5 quarts oil & filter. EPA extra. **\$24⁹⁵** from

timing belt
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- Tire rotation • Suspension inspection
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- Check steering linkage and chassis
- Inspect cap, rotor, wires, fuel filter

*Most 4-cyl. OE or platinum spark plugs extra.

60K Service with Timing Belt
Starting at \$199

'Check Engine' Light & Failed Smog Diagnostic **\$29⁹⁵**

Free if repaired here.

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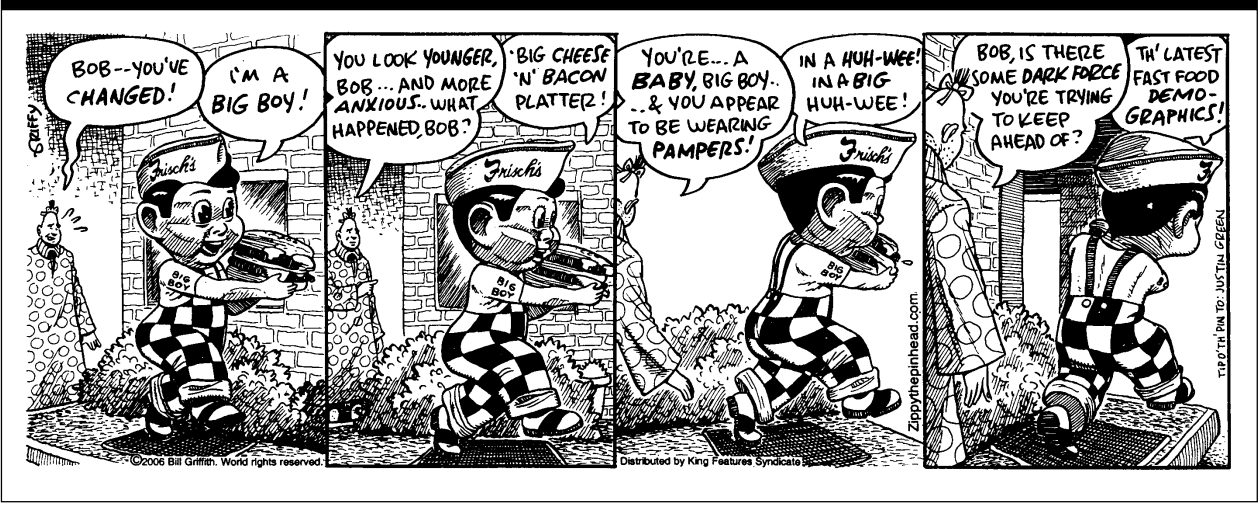
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Garage Sales

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DEL MAR. Garage sale. Saturday, 9/23, 7am. Estate items, home accessories, jewelry, baseball cards, paintings, lamps, videos, books, typewriter, needlepoint, fabrics, dishes, and lots more. 1726 Coast Boulevard (3 doors down from Jake's restaurant).

DICTIONARY HILL. Garage/moving sale. Saturday, 9/23, 8-? Framed pictures, furniture, kitchen items, clothes, some free stuff old roommates left behind. 919 Banock Street (91977).

ABUNDANCE OF CASH FOR RECORDS. We have lots of money to buy vinyl collections. Jazz, soul, punk, rock, metal. Record City, 3757 Sixth, Hillcrest. 619-291-5313.

LAKESIDE. Moving sale. Saturday, 9/23, 8am; Sunday, 9/24, 1pm. Jewelry, collectibles, linens, silver, crystal, solid copper items, chandeliers, piano, organ, furniture. 8952 Westhill Road. 619-561-6032.

MISSION HILLS, community garage sale. Saturday September 30, 8am-12. 80+ homes in gorgeous metro neighborhood. Map/addresses available day of sale. 1621 West Lewis. 619-574-5116.

MOVING SALE. All new Palliser brand poppy seed red leather modern sofa, chair, and ottoman. Will sacrifice all three pieces for \$2300. Call Joe. 619-857-2121.

NORTH PARK. Estate sale. Saturday, 9/23, 9am-noon. Foosball table, TV, and everything else. 4375 Mississippi Street (off of El Cajon Boulevard).

NORTH PARK, 4015 Iowa Street. Saturday 9/23, 7-40am. Electronics, small appliances, furniture, clothes, TVs, stereos, miscellaneous.

PACIFIC BEACH. Huge 3 family yard/moving sale. 9/23/06 and 9/24/06, 7am-2pm. Refrigerator, washer/dryer, microwave, telescope, lawn mower, dishes, toys, 2232 Oliver Avenue, 92109.

POINT LOMA. Garage sale. Saturday, 9/23, 8am-noon. Home office, computer equipment, electronics, home decor, wireless router, wireless phone, printer. 3120 Zola Street (92106).

SAN DIEGO. Estate sale. 9/23-9/24, 7am. Christmas decorations, cookie jars, household goods, costume jewelry,

women's clothing, assorted items. 1961 Frankfurt Street.

SERRA MESA, Brugmensia plants. Most colors. About 20 plants. Small/large. \$20 up. Interested, please call prior to looking at plants, 8659 Jenny Avenue 858-268-9749.

SPRING VALLEY, Huge sale. 9/16/06-9/17/06. 7am-2pm. Household appliances, TVs, microwave, sofas, clothing, beds, freezer, dinner table/12 people. 10426 Elmdale Drive. Spring Valley, CA. 91977.

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APPLIANCES: Refrigerator frost-free energy saver, stove, washer/dryer: \$135 each. 1-year warranty. Leon's Appliances Pick-Up and Delivery. Repairs. Can deliver free. 619-702-3270.

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WASHER and dryer \$99 a piece, \$175/both. Hotpoint stove, standard, tan, \$145. Tall microstove wipe top, \$275. 619-957-6223.

WASHER/DRYER SETS: Both pieces from \$250. Refrigerator, 2 doors, \$145. 1-year warranty. Leon's Appliances Pick-Up and Delivery. Repairs. Can deliver free. 619-702-3270.

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WASHERS AND DRYERS. Guaranteed. \$100-\$195 each. Over 200 to choose from. In-shop/in-home service and we sell parts. Stoves, refrigerators, dishwashers, too. Can deliver. Calwest Appliance Exchange, 619-723-1545.

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FISHING TACKLE. Collector wants for his personal collection wooden lures, reels, miscellaneous by Heddon, Pflueger, Creek Chub, South Bend, Shakespeare, to name a few. 619-972-3488.

I AM looking for a person who knows carpentry, exchange for housing. Please call me at 619-479-4212 after 9am.

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LOOKING FOR TRAILER, Or Mobile home, in family park. Young family, cash buyer, private party, 760-340-2699.

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RACK, (2) folding bike racks holds two bikes, Mountain or Road. On back or car or van, folds flat. \$30/each. 619-280-1642.

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\$15⁹⁵

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BURGLARY

Location: 2545 El Camino Real, Carlsbad
Time/Date: 6:39 a.m. on 9/4/06

Report: Communications received a call from an employee of Firestone Tire. The employee stated that he had just arrived at work and the business appeared to have been burglarized and that the suspect may still be inside. Officers responded and secured the business.

A search of the interior of the business was done with a K-9 and officers. Officer Parra located the suspect, Michael M., hiding in the second story attic. The K-9 was deployed and the suspect was taken into custody. M. sustained minor injuries from a K-9 bite. He was taken to Tri-City Medical Center for treatment. After M. was treated for his injuries, he was booked into the Vista Detention Facility for burglary.

A vehicle that is associated with M. was located near the scene. It contained possible stolen property including baseball cards and a comic book collection.

HOME INVASION

Location: [1900] Diamond Street, Pacific Beach
Time/Date: 3:45 a.m. on 9/4/06

Victim's Statement: I came home from a party and there was someone in my apartment. I didn't know this person was there at first. He must have broken in through the window. I turned on the lights and noticed there was food and drink on the kitchen table. I didn't leave it out. I don't have a roommate. There was also several cans of cat food opened and the cat food was in my cat's bowl. I didn't put the food there. In my bathroom, there was urine all over the floor. This is when I heard a loud snoring coming from my bedroom. I looked inside and saw a large man sleeping on my bed. He smelled bad. He wasn't wearing any shoes and he had a thick beard. I

saw that my bedroom window was open and figured he must have broken in and helped himself to my kitchen and my bed. I didn't want to wake him because I was afraid what he might do. I didn't know if he was violent, or what his intentions were. I quickly left my apartment and called the police.

BOMB THREAT

Location: 1173 Front Street, Downtown
Time/Date: 2:00 p.m. on 9/12/06



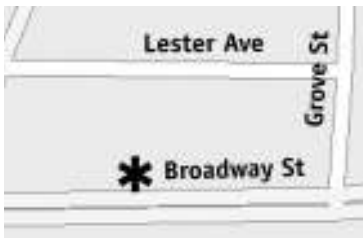
Incident: A man dressed as a woman entered the lobby of the San Diego Central Jail...and told jail staff that he needed to be arrested. He also said that the bags he was carrying contained a bomb. He immediately left the lobby and was detained by officers from the San Diego Police Department who were responding to assist at the jail.

The Sheriff's Bomb/Arson Unit responded, x-rayed the bags in question, and determined that neither contained an explosive device. The suspect, identified as 27-year-old Alex C., [was] questioned by jail investigators who...determined that he is on parole and that he suffers from psychiatric challenges.

Jail operations were interrupted for approximately two hours during which time jail staff and inmates were removed from the first floor as a precaution.

CARJACKING

Location: 7900 Broadway, Lemon Grove
Time/Date: 9:06 p.m. on 9/12/06



Report: Lemon Grove units were dispatched to a report of a fight in progress (involving 5 or 6 individuals). As deputies began arriving on scene, they received information about this being a possible carjacking or auto theft and they began following a possible suspect vehicle leaving the scene.

A short traffic pursuit (30 seconds) was initiated that quickly terminated in a traffic collision at Hardy Drive and Palm Street in Lemon Grove. Deputies performed a felony stop, attempting to remove the occupant.

The San Diego Police Department air support helicopter (ABLE) assisted with observation above the crash scene during the arrest. Less lethal force was used in the incident and one suspect was taken into custody.

Other suspects remain at large.

ASSAULT WITH A DEADLY WEAPON
Location: [600] Market Street, Gaslamp
Time/Date: 1:10 a.m. on 9/3/06

Victim's Statement: There was a fight. My boyfriend got involved in the fight. I don't know what happened or who started it. There were like 7 or 8 guys fighting.

They were all drunk. Someone threw a beer bottle and it hit me in the face. I didn't know what hit me. I saw the broken bottle on the ground. I felt something wet on my forehead and something wet getting in my eyes. It hurt my eyes. I touched my forehead and there was blood on my hand. When they heard the sirens, the guys stopped fighting and all ran away to the parking building.

ATTEMPTED KIDNAPPING
Location: [3100] Bancroft Drive, Spring Valley
Time/Date: 10:12 p.m. on 9/9/06

Investigation: Deputy Brian Tucker saw an attempted kidnapping suspect, identified as Robert A., DOB: 09-06-84, drive past the victim's residence. Earlier in the evening, A. drove to the home of his 17-year-old girlfriend and attempted to kidnap her by pulling her into his vehicle by her hair and arms. This incident was witnessed by the victim's mother, brother and cousin.

Approximately four hours later, A. drove back to the victim's address. At gunpoint, Deputy Tucker made a traffic stop on the suspect and vehicle. A's vehicle was blocked in by Corporal Dave Knight's and Deputy Mike Villalobos's patrol vehicles. A. refused to get out of his vehicle when ordered by the deputies and began revving his vehicle's engine to take off. He had to be forcibly removed. A. then resisted the deputies' efforts to enter the patrol vehicle and was...stunned by Corporal Knight's Taser.

CHP responded and determined A. was driving under the influence.

— Michael Hemmingson

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YAMAHA VIRAGA, 1985, 1000cc, 19,233 miles, engine strong. Good price, \$850. 619-266-3045.

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HAVE YOU EVER MADE AN ASS OF YOURSELF? I mean, somewhere public, involving a loud hissy. Ever done anything like that?

I did. I was in a coffee shop in Little Italy last week, getting an ass full of eavesdropped conversation while I waited in line for my cup of love.

“What were those little bears that bounced?” a blonde in a blue oxford and khaki pants asked her circle of friends seated by the window.

“Wait a minute, I know this one,” another answered. “Did they really bounce? Are you sure they were bears because Tigger bounced.”

“The Gummi Bears,” I said to my reflection in the pastry case and moved up one closer to the register. “Duh.”

While the coffee girl was fussing with the magical machine that gives me the will to carry on, the group continued to mangle cartoon trivia. “Skullator,” one answered. “He was He-Man’s enemy.” Another asked about crime fighters that wore masks and drove custom assault vehicles and was answered with, “I think those were GoBots.”

I was stirring in a touch of cream when I couldn’t take it any longer. “Oh, yeah, yeah. He was on the Smurfs,” one of them shouted. “His name was Gorgon. He was the cat who tried to eat the Smurfs.”

I hung my head and slapped the stir stick against the counter. Feeling that my childhood was somehow assaulted by their misinformation, I put that little cardboard band around my cup and headed for their table. “It’s Azrael,” I said, probably a little too loud. “Azrael is the cat on the Smurfs. He belonged to Gargamel, the Wizard.”

Four heads turned toward my invasion. “And He-Man’s enemy was Skeletor, not Skullator. GoBots are like fake Transformers; they’re robots that turn into cars!” I was in a tizzy and I was using my “you’re all idiots” voice now. “And the guys who wore masks that could shoot things from their masks were called — and this is an easy one — MASK! They were the Mobile Armored Strike Kommand, with a *K* — Kommand.”

Whenever you really flip out in public, there’s always an awkwardness that can drag on for minutes, or, if you’re like me and this sort of thing is common, you can turn and march out anonymously without that uneasy feeling that accompanies an inappropriate outburst.

Yes, sir, now I know that irritating morons can get the blood flowing better than a double shot of caffeine. And knowing is half the battle.

WHAT I WILL AND WON'T WATCH THIS WEEK

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21
CAPTAIN RON (1992)
TBS 10:00 A.M.
Sometimes I think I’d look good in an eye patch. Then my hair stands on end because I’ve caught myself tempting fate. Please. Please. Please. Whoever’s up there listening, please don’t blind me in one eye to teach me a lesson.

CELEBRITY DUETS
FOX 9:00 P.M.
You can’t bedazzle turtle poop.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22
CALIFORNIA CONNECTED
PBS 9:00 P.M.
I used to like to take a bunch of ketamine and

go for a drive. It was a mystery to solve when I ran out of chems and woke up in a gazebo. What town am I in? What day is it? Where is my truck? You know, things to do before you’re old enough to drink.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23
AN OFFICER AND A GENTLEMAN (1982)
WGN SAT 12:00 P.M.
The sequel, *A Real Nice Bus Driver Who Maybe Drinks Too Much*, wasn’t as successful, but I think it’s the better movie. Richard Gere doing pushups in the rain because he’s “got nowhere else to go”? Who believes that tripe? Now, smoking a pack of Kools on the Blue 13A route. That’s real life.

MAXIMUM OVERDRIVE (1986)
SPEED 9:00 P.M.
When the squirrels revolt and start taking back the earth, I’m getting Emelio, a 50-gallon drum of San Jose biker crank, and a big rig and we’re driving to Scotland to dig up Bon Scott. I may pick up John Wayne and a kindly orangutan along the way.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24
MISS CONGENIALITY 2: ARMED AND FABULOUS (2005)
MAX 10:15 P.M.
If this were France, I would have that little accent thing over the “e” when I yell, “Lamé! Lamé!” at the screen.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25
FUTURAMA
TOON 10:30 P.M.
Let this stand as fair warning to the U.S. scientific community: Unless there’s a rocket pack on



The Flavor of Love

my doorstep by Tuesday, you can all line up for a hideous Indian burn and the swirly of a lifetime. I came here for two things: dehydrated food pills and to kick some ass. And you nerds haven’t invented dehydrated food pills yet.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26
THE FLAVOR OF LOVE
VH1 9:00 P.M.
If you tilt a bottle of water back and while you’re drinking you think, “Hmmm, this water smells like bad breath,” brother, it ain’t the water!

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27
JOHNSON FAMILY VACATION
FX 8:00 P.M.
Just when I was about to release my screenplay of *Wangs Take Manhattan*. Looks like I’ve got some stiff competition. But, I’ll come out on top. You’ve got to get up pretty early in the morning to beat me.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28
NAKED SCIENCE
NGC 108 9:00 P.M.
I prefer home improvement in women’s lingerie and a rhinestone cape.

\$4000/best. Must see to appreciate. Call Tim at 858-270-0636.

CHEVY BERETTA GT, 1992, V-6, low miles, fully loaded, premium wheels, runs and drives great, must see to appreciate, owner will help finance, \$2500. 619-896-0779.

CHEVY CORVETTE, 1984, new brakes, rotors, major tune up, fuel pump, injectors, battery, transmission fluid, oil change, plugs, etc. Needs Targa, transmission work, paint, \$2300. 619-264-9167.

CHEVY CORVETTE, 1978, Anniversary with Rally Sport Package, white, 350ci/330hp, 4-speed automatic, air conditioning, power brakes, windows, over-

size pistons, full cam, sacrifice \$18,000. 808-989-3858.

CHRYSLER CIRRUSS, LX, 2000. 64,000 miles white, great mileage, great condition. Very clean interior. 1 owner. \$7200. Call for details, 858-658-9225, mollychen1005@yahoo.com.

CHRYSLER LHS, 1996, 94K miles, gold, 3.5L, V-6, Infinity audio, Alpine CD changer, leather seats, alloy wheels, \$3900. 858-354-7656.

CHRYSLER PT CRUISER, 2001, limited, automatic, fully loaded, \$8995 or trade for stock Model A. 619-588-2280.

DODGE COLT, 4 cylinder, electric sunroof, new clutch, cable, struts, axle, 4th gear

out, heads. Headwork. \$700. 619-264-9167.

FORD CONTOUR SE, 1998, great condition, well maintained, great mpg, new tires, brakes, air conditioning, CD player, 87K miles, \$3100. 858-699-0709.

FORD CONTOUR, GL, 1997 4 door, low miles, automatic, air conditioning, power steering, brakes, windows, locks, tilt, cruise, stereo cassette, premium wheel \$2975. 619-838-0779.

FORD ESCAPE, XLT, 2003. Good condition, V6, sunroof, 6 CD changer, 40,000 miles. Great car! \$12,500, 619-540-5478.

FORD THUNDERBIRD, 1993, good condition, 5.0 liter, V-8, AM/FM cassette, air

conditioning, good tires, runs great, 91K miles, \$2100. Don, 619-334-3276 or 619-335-3276.

HONDA ACCORD LX, 1996, LX, dark green. Automatic, power steering, power windows, tilt and cruise, CD player, like new, \$4550. 619-607-7079.

HONDA ACCORD, V6 2003. Loaded, first owner, 59,000 miles, beige. Immaculate. \$17,999. 858-350-6052.

HONDA ACCORD COUPE EX, 2004, silver, automatic, power windows, 6-CD changer, sunroof, black interior, mint condition, clean record, all maintenance done, \$15,000. Elad, 408-591-4628.

HONDA CIVIC, 1999, LX, 4 door, 5 speed, power windows, tilt and cruise,

air conditioning, CD player, 116,000 miles, \$4500/firm. 619-623-7296.

HONDA CIVIC, DX, 1993. 2 door, 1100 mile, white, AM/FM, CD player, air condition, good condition. \$3200. 619-675-6554 or 619-295-2639.

HONDA CIVIC DX, 1994, 4 door, tinted windows, great gas mileage, \$3700/best. Only selling because we are moving. Salvaged but very reliable, 93,000 miles. 619-582-2474.

HONDA CIVIC EX, 2000, silver, gray interior, manual, sunroof, CD/MP3 player, tinted windows, aftermarket tail lights, great condition, \$8500/best. Husband in military. 619-278-1776; 619-563-4660.

HONDA ODYSSEY van, 2000, loaded, new tires, pride of ownership, 97,000 miles. Asking \$11,500/offer. 619-589-9002, or 619-741-4840.

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THE DINETTE SET

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HYUNDAI ELANTRA, 2003, 46,000 miles. Salvage title, runs great. New looking auto, no air conditioning, \$3400 or trade for Asian light van. 619-255-6053.

LEXUS, 1991, ES400, smooth running, luxury car. All power all extras. \$3900. Call 858-824-0486.

MERCEDES 500SEC, 1982. For sale. 2 door, interior fair condition, exterior good. Runs great, \$3000 or best offer. Call Lucy 619-804-4494.

MERCEDES BENZ, C230 Kompressor 1999. 43,000 miles, all dealer maintenance. New tires/brakes. Fully equipped,

dual front/side air bags, sunroof. Leather interior, \$12,999, 619-988-6356.

MERCEDES BENZ, 2001. S500 sedan, black beauty, 20 inch color matched wheels, super carfax certified 6 year/100,000 mile warranty. Leather, air conditioning, \$36,995/best, 619-992-7454.

MERCEDES BENZ, 82300, CD, turbo, diesel, runs strong, sleek 2 door model, rare collector's edition, straight body, power windows, sunroof, needs work/restoration. \$3900. 858-272-4866.

MERCEDES C230, sedan, 1998, 4 cylinder, exceptional condition, glacier white, leather interior, second owner, full maintenance records, sunroof, 98K, \$9500. John 619-222-4721.

MERCEDES E320, 1996, 4 door sedan, by owner, all records, a silver diamond, loaded, \$8995/best. 858-259-9044.

MERCEDES, 1987 red convertible. Recently restored, for \$12,500. Must sell, all reasonable offers considered. 760-500-5007.

MERCEDES-BENZ 380SL, 1985 roadster, excellent condition, 141K original miles, always maintained, rebuilt engine, new convertible top, new paint, newly registered and smogged, \$8900. 619-293-3155.

NISSAN MAXIMA, 1996. V6, automatic, power steering, air conditioning, power seat, power mirrors, sunroof. Mag wheels, \$3995. 619-623-7296.

NISSAN MAXIMA, 1993, automatic, V-6, 4 door, power windows/locks, keyless entry, alloy wheels, 158K miles, runs great, \$2600. 760-845-4662.

TOYOTA CELICA, 2001, great condition, great car, power windows, locks, CD, moonroof, spoiler intake, tinted windows, only 55,500 miles, \$15,500. 619-368-9063.

VOLVO, 1987 wagon, smogged, air, power windows, cruise, sunroof, 5 speed, third row seat. Seats, very nice. \$1950. 858-279-6086.

VW BUG SUPER BEETLE, 1972, ditch gas guzzlers! Excellent condition, original black, near new 1600cc engine, carburetor, battery, generator, well loved and maintained, \$5000. 619-546-0840.

VW JETTA GLS, 1995, white, 4 door, gray fabric interior, 5-speed manual, tinted windows, power sunroof, spoiler, 6-disc CD changer, am/fm stereo, \$2900. 619-846-2310.

VW VANAGON, 1982 Westfalia camper, pop top, vintage original, good looking, fun, needs a little work, must come check it out, \$2800/best. 858-220-1540.

WANTED: BMW 3 series, 1995-2000. Please call, 760-758-5454.

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ACURA MDX TOURING, 2002, light blue metallic, 59K miles, excellent condition, 1 owner, new brakes, new tires, running boards, XM radio, factory maintenance, \$24,500. 858-692-0252.

CHEVY CARGO VAN, 2005, 3/4-ton Express, with rack, low mileage, \$18,000. 1991 Ford cargo van, 1 ton, with rack, new rubber, automatic, \$3500. 808-989-3858.

CHEVY GMC, 1973 3/4 ton new motor, radiator, tires, smog-, rust-free. Straight, \$3300. Dodge 80-1/2 ton long bed, \$975. Dodge Caravan 1992, \$1880. 619-660-8491.

CHEVY K5 BLAZER, 1989. 4x4, 33" tires, 6" lift, 4-11 gears, Alpine stereo, power and more, runs great. \$4800, 559-303-0810.

CHEVY S-10, 2000. Stepside, 4 cylinder, 5 speed, power steering, air conditioning, CD player, cruise control, 80,000 miles. Real sharp. Custom wheels, \$4795. 619-607-7079.

CHEVY, S-10, LS, 2001. With extended cab. Like new, all options. Bedliner and V6 Vortec engine, 61,000 miles. \$10,490. Bob 858-457-4152.

DODGE 1500 PICKUP, 1998, truck cab, short bed, V-8, 5.2L, 5-speed manual, 2-wheel drive, 100K miles, looks and runs great, hitch, step rails, \$5900. 619-303-2358.

DODGE DAKOTA, 2005, black, auto, 24K, V6, alarm, air, CD, power steering. Moving, must sell, great condition. Under Blue Book. \$15,000. 619-787-1992.

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To call them energetic would be to call the IRA enthusiastic.

By John Brizzolara

A Friday night's diversion, without making a point of looking for any, presented itself when I walked into Borders Books downtown, at Sixth Avenue and G Street. Shelf-surfing at Borders (any bookstore) is a kind of default entertainment for me; that is, I don't have to think about it, I just gravitate there, given free time and a disinclination for movie decision-making or music venues. I'd forgotten that Borders often hosts live music on Friday nights. I was reminded by a trio of Taylor acoustic guitars on stands, including a 12-string, and also a banjo, an instrument with which I have a love/hate relationship. Banjos spell bluegrass to me, not a favorite category of mine, but I love playing the wonky five-string gizmo.

Eying the cornball instrument, wondering how I might finagle a few plucks, strums, fans, a single chorus of *Suwannee River*, I saw that the stuff all belonged to either singer/songwriter Patty Hall (her stack of CDs sat on an amplifier) or the musicians that accompanied her that night. Curiosity compelled me to hang out until show time, but I had timed it wrong; I was too early. While waiting, I read *War and Peace*; it was about Russia. I met Patty Hall, a pleasant, bookish blonde, and she gave me one of her CDs, *Just Be Glad!*, featuring the single, "Native Daughter of the Golden West." They struck up what I later discovered to be "Solo Blues" as I was leaving, and it whetted my appetite for a quiet evening with headphones and maybe more Tolstoy.

Back in my million-dollar, air-conditioned condo, I listened to "The Coo-Coo," "Native Daughter," "I Know This

Town," "Confidence Man," "Amelia Earhart's Last Flight," and more. The guitar playing was clean and accomplished, the melodies pleasant, and Hall's tanned thighs on the CD cover were appreciable. Her original lyrics, for example those to "The Coo-Coo," gave credence to the bio's assertion that Hall was, in fact, a children's book author as well as a songwriter and performer.

Oh, coo-coo, she's a pretty bird. She wobbles as she flies
She never says coo-coo till the fourth day of July
I've played cards down in England. I've played cards in Spain.
I'll bet you ten dollars I'll beat you next game....

The CD made a thoughtful, sensitive gift on my part to a lonely neighbor woman with a Southern drawl and a great figure who, rightfully, appreciated my manly attentions.

Music found me again the following night. With no plans whatever in mind, I sat on my terrace, garden, patio whatever (it is surrounded by chain-link fencing and has an expensive-looking barbecue unit left by a previous tenant, and several ashtrays) and realized I had no real column for the week, so I thought I'd better drum one up. I thought I might have literally done just that as I heard the crashing of cymbals, the booming of electrically enhanced tom-toms, bass, and snare all echoing down the artificial canyon between condos along Island Avenue; buildings both newly peopled and some still under construction. Though coming from the general direction of a nearby park, it was actually much closer. Peering over the fence I could see more pedestrians than usual around Island and Ninth, and I could also see parking attendants in fluorescent orange vests. I smelled concert.

And I smelled right. Sponsored by Southern Comfort, the musical extravaganza covered two-plus days in that roughly four-block area in the East Village. The lineup included: Holiday and the Adventure Pop Collective, Family Force Five, Cowboy Mouth, Flogging Molly, American Princes, the 'Legendary Shack*Shakers (the asterisk is for no apparent reason, as is the 'preceding Legendary), Spank Rock, Mudhoney, the Roots, and several bands not included on the "SoCo Music Experience" free CD and press kit.

One of the unheralded bands was a slightly aging punk group called Fifty on Their Heels. An intriguing enough name that I immediately assumed was a reference to the band or band members being now in their 40s. Not true, as it turns out. The appellation derives from a Max Brand pulp western; "It's too long a story and not worth it," shrugged bassist Nicky Shingles. When I mentioned my assumption, he smiled, "That's not it, but it could be." He definitely liked the idea but left me no wiser as to the age of members; they could just be a really worked group of 35-year-olds.

No review here other than to dutifully record the guitarist theatrically reeling against speaker cabinets, randomly fanning his Telecaster with an insouciant



Patty Hall

and discordant musical flip-off accompanying a side business of placing his red-rimmed sunglasses over his eyes only to tear them off and discard them in seeming disgust.

And it would hardly be fair to review Irish metal/folk perpetrators Flogging Molly as I took them in from the comfort of my own cage (or terrace or patio) a few blocks away. Molly played with sufficient volume to induce gastric-reflux disorder from a good half-mile away, but I was only three blocks distant. To call them energetic would be to call the IRA enthusiastic; musically they were solid as brick and tight as a thong. When I asked a random pedestrian coming from that direction if he had seen Flogging Molly and got an affirmative answer, I then asked if I had indeed heard a flute, and I had. An accordion? "Yeah, one of those," and he mimed playing one. And how many guitars did I hear? It seemed like a full dozen, but that can be done electronically. "Must have been, like, 40 or something." I was willing to bet it was no more than 29, but I thanked him.

As I write this on a Saturday night, I just received a visit from my new musical partner, Isaac Curtiss, who asked if I would like to play on Sunday at a halfway house for convicts and parolees whom, Ike assured me, make an eager audience.

So a musical weekend it is — uncontrived and unforeseen as it may have been, it is not unlikely after all. Music, believe it or not, is everywhere in this burg.

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