

It is a quiet weeknight in early February at the Chula Vista downtown library when Dr. Dan Davis of UCSD, wearing pale green cotton hospital scrubs, arrives in the auditorium. He's come to make the case for an unorthodox medical trial being conducted by the Resuscitation Outcomes

Consortium.

He unpacks his laptop computer and sets up his portable projector, then launches into a PowerPoint presentation about the need for the federally funded study. As he speaks, Donna Kelly, an RN who serves as the trial's coordinator, hands out a ten-page brochure. "Nearly 95% of patients who have an out-of-hospital cardiac arrest die before reaching the hospital," it explains.

[story continued on page 24]

NEWS & FEATURES

Just Save My Life	-
Our hearts are in their hands. By Matt Potter	Cover
City Lights	
Pump up the revenues; and City Lights shorts	6
Another Peregrine whitewash	6
The culture of high school uniforms	7
Letters	
Straight From the Hip	
Unity candle revisited	14
The Sporting Box	
When Oregon and Las Vegas were small-time	16
Sheep and Goats	
Logan Heights is the footwashing	18
Best Buys	
Do you want to keep bees?	20
Diary of a Diva	
Five centimeters dilated at the mall	22
I Ran, Ran	
When a classmate dies. By Judith Moore	40
A Taste of Wild Honey	
Each bee in her little Mao jacket. By Susan Luzzaro	62
La Semana en Español	
A week's worth of stories in Spanish	142
Puzzle	165
Name This Place	166
Picture Story	168
Off the Cuff	
Dumped	
Maybe we'll hear from her next week	183
News of the Weird	
Back When	
Aliso Creek is home	187
Blog World	
Natural selection, New Zealand style	189
Blog Diego	
I became the music	191
Remote Control King	
Extreme measures for the male cheerleader	193
T.G.I.F.	
Fantasy band in fantasy land	195
<u>C A L E N D A R</u>	
Local Events	77
Roam-O-Rama	
A rough hike to Combs Peak	84
Art Review and Museum & Gallery Guide	
More Demi Moore. By W.S. Di Piero	86
Classical Music Guide	
Theater Guide	
Pop Music	
Blurt	92
Molly Jenson, Beastmaster	
Crasher	
Dalí, Dolly, or Dalai?	121
Restaurant Reviews and Guide	
Romesco comes to Bonita	123
Look out for the guy in the big sombrero	
The joy of wine	
Movie Review and Guide	
Duncan Shepherd divides his attention	134
- anom onephera arriaco mo accention miniminimi	— •



March 22, 2007



Exposing Mexican Stereotypes in America. See Page 77

ADVERTISING

assified Ads
Antiques & Collectibles190
Appliances190
Automotive: Cars192
Automotive: Trucks/Vans/SUVs194
Automotive: Classic/Custom Cars194
Automotive: RVs194
Automotive: Parts194
Automotive: Services195
Bicycles
Business Opportunities165
Career Training162
Classes/Lessons
Computers
Counseling/Support168
Electronics 190
Employment Agencies
Employment Services
Furniture
Garage Sales
Health & Fitness
Help Wanted144
Massage
Motorcycles
Music, Equipment/Instruments 170
Music, Musicians Avail/Wanted170
Music, Services
Notices
Parent Resources
Personals
Pet Central
Photo
Real Estate, Condos187
Real Estate, Houses
Real Estate, Miscellaneous187
Rentals, Commercial172
Rentals, Apartments/Condos174
Rentals, Houses172
Roommates170
Roommate Services172
Services Directory172
Sports
Stage Notes168
Tickets188
Travel & Getaways170
Wanted/Trade190
Wedding/Party Guide168
Display Ads
Apartment Rentals
Automotive
Career Training

Apartment Rentals	177
Automotive	180
Career Training	156
Getaways	76
Great Escapes	79
Health and Beauty	49
Help Wanted	144
Instruction	165
Music	.170
Real Estate	176
Research Studies	36
Services	.166
Singles Events	84
Wedding Guide	

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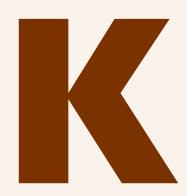
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as a girl had to be avoided. In fact I



photos because of the glare in my glasses. But worse. I couldn't get out of bed or see the clock because my sight was 20/400 with astigmatism in both eyes."

couldn't even remember what it was like to wake up and see. When I walked into Dr. Yaghouti's office I was very nervous. But the staff put me at ease and the procedure was over in minutes. When I woke up the next day I screamed, 'I CAN SEE!' And the tears came. For the first time in 42 years I could see the clock on the wall and other things in my room. No more

discomfort from contacts. I can swim, snorkel and do anything I want with perfect sight. I thank you from the bottom of my heart."

- Michelle Stewart, San Diego

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Q: Is the surgery painful or difficult?

"I had no pain during the procedure and no discomfort or pain afterward. Best of all, I can see without my glasses or contacts. It feels great." - Greg Schwenk, San Diego, CA

Q: How soon after the process can I begin normal daily activities again?

"When I came out of the surgery room I could see the hands of the clock - I was doing normal things the next day...amazing immediate results!" - Glenna T. Casey, Chula Vista, CA

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"I had the surgery done over 8 years ago and my sight is still a perfect 20/20." - Sandra Macias, San Diego, CA

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- Darush Mohyi, M.D., La Jolla, CA



MEET DR. YAGHOUTI Refractive Eye Surgery specialist from Harvard University.



MEET DR. LAKHANI Refractive Eye Surgery specialist from UCSD Medical Center.

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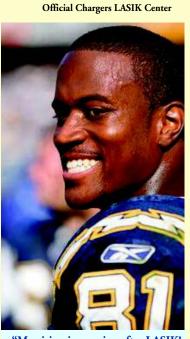
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E tickets of politics It's conflict-ofinterest filing time again for state legislators, and as usual, financial disclosures by members of the



local delegation reveal that many have been living high on the hog. Take 80th District Republican assemblywoman Bonnie Garcia, who's announced her intention to run for the seat of soon-to-be-termed-out senator **Denise Ducheny**. Among the freebies Garcia picked up last year were \$148.51 in food and

drink from 21st Century Insurance; \$296 in "tickets and lodging" from Pacific Life Insurance; \$306.60 for a "speaking engagement and award acceptance at conference" from the California Mobilehome Parkowners Alliance; and a \$3375 trip to Israel from the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles. Ducheny herself picked up a \$290 ticket to a Charger game from San Diego Harbor Excursion and a \$187.11 dinner from the Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians. She also bagged a \$6500 July trip to France from the French Embassy for a "fact finding mission on high speed rail." Then in November she was off to Japan on a \$3100 trip including "hotel and meals for tour of Shinkansen high speed train and meeting with officials." The taxpayer-funded California High-Speed Rail Authority paid for that.

Fellow senate Democrat Chris Kehoe also hit the road, spending the second week of December on a "study travel project to the Netherlands and Ireland." The \$11,500 junket was paid for by the California Foundation on the Environment and the Economy, a foundation backed by some of the



Christine Kehoe

biggest special interests in the state capital, including Chevron, PG&E, and Sempra, according to a recent report in the San Francisco Chronicle. The paper noted that the three corporations spent almost \$4 million lobbying the legislature last year.

Democratic assemblywoman Mary Salas of Chula Vista didn't

do nearly as well as Kehoe, picking up a \$122.45 dinner from the L.A. law firm of Kiesel, Boucher & Larson and admission to a reception by the California Democratic Party valued at \$277. Her assembly colleague **Lori Saldaña**, on the other hand, was a frequent free rider; from the California Latino Leadership Fund Saldaña got wine worth \$64.50, a \$94.65 robe, and a \$152 dinner. General Motors gave her a \$122.69 dinner. She got a \$50 gift bag and \$30 in food from the American Heart Association and two tickets worth \$400 from Cirque du Soleil. (Saldaña's disclosure says that she reimbursed



Lori Saldaña

the Montreal performance group \$40 for that one.) She also got \$12,500 from the California Foundation on the Environment and the Economy for a 'South America Study Travel Project" in November.

Republicans stuck closer to home than the Democrats, but they still managed to rake in plenty of meals, drink, receptions, and tickets. In

the case of GOP senator **Dennis Hollingsworth**,

the Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians spent \$197, covering Hollingsworth's dinner with his wife and tickets to a Sacramento Kings game. An outfit called ACC Capital Holdings treated the couple to a \$128 wine tasting and two baseball tickets worth \$104. Hollingsworth received a \$101 "wine tasting" from 21st Century Insurance, dinner worth 162.39 and baseball tickets worth \$65 from Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman, and a \$300 "football reception" from Pacific Life. The Golden Ranch Plantation in Gheens, Louisiana, which features alligator and quail hunting, gave him "lodging, meals & educational tour" worth \$300, and the Walt Disney Corporation provided four tickets to Disneyland worth \$332.

Assemblywoman **Shirley Horton** got a \$152.20 dinner from the Recording Industry Association of America, the group trying to stamp out MP3 file sharing. Democratic Speaker Fabian Núñez gave her a \$90 bottle of wine.

Way-cool Copley Customarily reticent **David Copley** is speaking out, but it's not about future plans for the Union-Tribune now that the rest of the newspaper chain left him by his late mother Helen has been sold for \$380 million. Instead,



David Copley

some impressive bling, including a gold band on the ring finger of his left hand, and wearing a maroon jacket with a paisley hankie tucked into the left pocket - shows off his super-sized condo next to Petco

Copley — sporting

Park in this month's San Diego Home/Garden magazine. Actually,

Copley himself doesn't say very much in the sixpage spread, letting his interior designer Walter J. Nelson and the lavish decor featured in the photos do most of the talking.

There's an "Andy Warhol floral study" above the dining room fireplace; "copper cactus sculptures" from Paris; a "pair of lamps from Barbara Hutton's famous estate"; a copper nightstand in a guest bedroom "with patterns in relief made by a repoussé hammering process"; bar stools originally designed for Joan Crawford; "original costume sketches from the movie Hook": an "outsized shower with twin overhead lighted shower fixtures"; and drawings by "wrap artist" Christo.

"The master closet is home to Copley's treasured Padres jersey, a gift from the team," the magazine reports. The 3600-square-foot unit with a 300-degree panoramic view was created from two standard-sized 26th-floor units purchased by Copley Press, Inc., from Padres owner John Moores, who the publication says owns "a suite of family condos" on the floors above Copley's. "The condo also doubles as a very popular venue for business meetings" held by the "bachelor media mogul."

— 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.

Feeble Alibis

By Don Bauder

ew Mexico governor Bill Richardson sometimes called "Dollar Bill" Richard-

son — is running for president. It's not an

ideal time. Richardson was on the board of San Diego's Peregrine Systems from February 2001 to June 2002 — the period in which the directors were trying to put a lid on the billowing financial scandal that would ultimately send the company into bankruptcy and many of its executives into criminal proceedings. Now, as the Richardson campaign struggles to gather momentum, the U.S. attorney's case against four former executives and service providers begins on April 10 and should make headlines for many months.

This means Dollar Bill is going to have to sharpen his Peregrine alibis for a national audience. In 2002 when he ran for governor, he got away with some lame excuses that



Bill Richardson

may have worked in New Mexico then but won't fly nationally now. For exam-

ple, when his opponent noted his role in the fraud, Richardson replied that "I had no involvement because I was what was called an 'outside director." Today, post-Enron, post-WorldCom, people realize that so-called outside directors have a solemn responsibility to monitor what is going on inside a company. Indeed, the directors, including outside directors, rightly get the blame when sales figures are inflated, and that was Peregrine's primary sin: revenues were pumped up artificially by almost 40 percent.

In that gubernatorial campaign, Richardson's opponent put out ads saying, "A Richardson contributor pocketed half a billion dollars while 1400 people lost their jobs." That was a reference to John Moores, the San Diego real estate mogul and Richardson contributor who amassed \$650 million bailing out of Peregrine stock before the company collapsed.

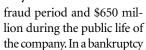
continued on page 8

Employees Tossed Under the Bus

By Don Bauder

t next month's Peregrine Systems criminal trial, defense lawyers will probably ask if the U.S. attorney's office selected

defendants on the basis of a highly biased report prepared after the company plunged





into bankruptcy in late September 2002. The report, by the law firm of Latham & Watkins, was coordinated by Chuck La Bella, then a lawyer for John Moores, the former director who unloaded \$487 million worth of stock during the the company. In a bankruptcy



Eugene Iredale

filing, the unsecured creditors' committee called the report a "whitewash" - a gentle way to put it.

In hearings prior to the criminal case, a defense lawyer asked the judge if his side would be precluded from argu-

ing that the government had fingered defendants from a report prepared for Moores. U.S. District judge Thomas J. Whelan said he would permit such argument. The government won't introduce the Latham & Watkins document, but it can be used for evidentiary purposes. (Most defense lawyers did not respond to requests for information.)

La Bella, a former U.S. attorney, had gotten Moores off the hook in the federal investigation of his gifts to former city councilwoman Valerie Stallings. In early February 2002, eight months before the bankruptcy, when the government was investigating Peregrine for inflating its sales through a swap deal, Moores e-mailed Richard T. Nelson, a longtime close associate and top Peregrine executive, "I wonder if Peregrine should bring in Chuck La Bella." It was a prelude to the Latham & Watkins whitewash. The general public, however, had no idea then that Peregrine continued on page 10



Uniform Agreement

By Ernie Grimm

he Colegio de Bachilleres high school sits about five miles east of downtown Tijuana on the Vía Rápida, the highway that straddles

the Tijuana River channel. The campus looks like public high schools in San Diego two concrete-and-glass, threelevel classroom buildings face each other across a landscaped quad 50 feet wide and 200 feet long, students hustle from classroom to classroom, a maintenance crew repairs some old concrete steps. But there are differences. There's no student parking lot jammed full of cars, for one. And, for two, the 1000 students hanging out in the rain-soaked quad and congregating in cliques on the hallway balconies wear uniforms, something you could see at only one public high school in San Diego County.

"From my point of view," Jesús Alberto Osuna Olivas, the school's director, says, "having a uniform takes care of two things: first, it develops a sense of belonging among the students. Second, it helps us provide security for our students because we can identify persons that are nonstudents."

Osuna, 49, is dressed in pressed tan corduroys and a wool coat over an olive green dress shirt. His brown dress shoes have been polished to the shining point, and his spiky

black hair strains against the gel holding it to the left. On his lapel is pinned a tiny Mexican flag, the flagstaff of which is a map of the Baja California peninsula. He sits in a sunny second-floor office overlooking the Vía Rápida and the Tijuana River. Though he uses the word "uniform," Osuna explains that student clothing at the Colegio de Bachilleres is dictated by a very limited dress code. "They have several options in order not to just put them in one specific uniform. For example, for the boys it is black jeans or black Dickies. And the top part could be a white dress shirt, a white polo shirt, or just the T-shirt. The T-shirt can be blue, gray, or white, but it has to have the name or logo of the school. Shoes have to be what they call school shoes, which are a specific type of shoe sold in all the stores here, or any color tennis shoe. Sometimes, the kids want to come in flip-flops or sandals, but they would be sharing their odors with 40 other people in class. That is why we don't allow them. We want a pleasant atmosphere in the classroom.

"The girls," Osuna con-



Colegio de Bachilleres students

tinues, "wear a plaid uniform skirt, or they can wear black jeans or black Dickies. It is almost the same as the boys', but they can wear a white blouse or a white women's polo shirt, or they can wear the T-shirt too. And then school shoes or tennis shoes. Both boys and girls have the option to wear a sports uniform, which consists of sweatpants and a jacket, like a warm-up suit."

While in the United States school uniforms at the high school level usually indicate private school, in Mexico that's not the case. "Here," says Osuna, "it's a custom to wear uniforms in public schools of all levels. It starts in kindergarten and goes through elementary school and junior high. And when they come into this school the uniform custom persists. The students don't think of it as an obligation but as a custom."

Across the border in the U.S., Hector Espinoza, principal of San Ysidro High School, says he wanted to create that custom of uniform wearing when he decided to employ uniforms at the five-year-old high school."Before the school even opened," Espinoza says, "I was given the opportunity to come in and look at ideas on how to build a school, to develop a climate, develop a school culture. I believe philosophically, and also as a parent of kids that went to uniform school, that they work in terms of setting not only the appearance standard but also setting the climate of academics, if you will, on the campus. And we feed in from San Ysidro School District, and they have uniforms as well. So it was kind of a natural progression into the high school. The only difference with the high school I recognize was that the kids needed a little bit more of a variety."

Similar to the Colegio de Bachilleres, San Ysidro's uniform policy is really a strict dress code. "It is not just a standard blue pants or skirt with a white top," Espinoza says. "In our case, they can wear skirts, shorts, or pants that are blue, black, or gray. But the top has to be a white collared shirt. They can be polo shirts or dress shirts; it's up to them. We have no rules about shoes, but state law says they have to wear close-toed shoes, they can't wear flipflops or sandals."

Asked what the noticeable result, if any, of having a uniform policy at his school has been, Espinoza, who was principal at Hilltop Middle School before moving to San Ysidro

this campus in the first two and a half years that we were open. And we had fewer than five fights all of last year. There are high schools — you read about them in the paper — that have two fights a day."

Though there are school districts in California — though none in San Diego County that have implemented uniform use through 12th grade, San Ysidro High, Espinoza says, is the only "stand-alone



Jesús Alberto Osuna Olivas

High, answers, "It's in the ambience of our school. In any high school, the tendency of kids sometimes is to compare themselves to each other — who is wearing the \$100 pants or the \$100 shoes, that type of thing. I think that has really diminished here. As an example, there is very little tension here in terms of the way people identify themselves. There are cliques, but because of the standard uniform, it is hard to identify the cliques. Fighting is almost nonexistent on this campus. We did not have a fight on high school that has done that." As such, Espinoza receives frequent media interview requests about his uniform policy. The school was part of a Harvard study on school uniforms, and "I've gotten a lot of calls [from school administrators] from out of state, $\stackrel{\circ}{\mathbb{H}}$ Arizona for instance. But interestingly enough, I've gotten no calls from schools in our district [Sweetwater] or from district [Sweetwater] or from any other schools in the county."

And what has he told those who have called? That "it has 87

continued on page 10 🔻

Neal Obermeyer

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Feeble alibis

continued from page 6

To isolate himself from Peregrine, Richardson said he missed some board meetings and "didn't have time" to

read corporate reports. Nonetheless, he claimed he had fulfilled his duties as a director. That's impossible. If you don't have time to read corporate reports, you are a derelict director.

Records show that Richard-

son attended, in person or by phone, 15 board meetings. In those meetings, directors were hearing that the company might get caught cooking the books. For example, Richardson attended the meeting of July 18, 2001. The company's chief executive, Stephen Gardner (the brotherin-law of Richardson's wife), informed board members of a barter transaction that had occurred with Critical Path, a Bay Area company headed by a Rancho Santa Fe executive known around Peregrine as an FOJ (Friend of John [Moores]). In a barter transaction, two companies swap each other's products whether they need them or not and both fraudulently ring up the transaction as a

sale. The directors were told that the Securities and Exchange Commission had questioned three Peregrine top executives and a national business magazine was on the story. Directors discussed how to spin it.

On March 13 of this year, Gardner pleaded guilty to conspiracy, securities fraud, and obstruction of justice. The government charged him with helping to rig company sales in a number of ways and making false and misleading testimony to the SEC over the Critical Path swap deal.

During Richardson's period on the board, Gardner was regularly telling directors that the Peregrine boat was sinking — but the public knew nothing about it. The company was releasing official reports telling how revenue was soaring. The stock was roaring upward as the company was coming asunder, as civil suits reveal in graphic detail.

On October 15, 2001, Gardner told board members, including Richardson, that a report Gardner had given financial analysts 11 days earlier was already out of date; things were worsening. At year-end 2001 and in early 2002, Gardner told board members of cancers that had been shielded from the public. And so it went in the first part of 2002. In May, the company announced it had found accounting irregularities, the stock collapsed, and regulators began investigating. Richardson resigned in June. Before that, he had issued some eyebrow-arching statements. After the horse was out of the barn, he sent a letter to the board saying there should be an accounting investigation. Talk about ass-covering! Then he told New Mexico voters that he had helped to uncover the cooked books because he had voted to replace the accounting firm of Arthur Andersen with a new firm, KPMG.

But there were two things wrong with this claim: (1) Heaping the blame on Andersen was ridiculous, and (2) KPMG was fired after only two months on the job, and only then did it reveal the fraud. Richardson got away with his assertion in the New Mexico election. But Dollar Bill will have to hone his deception skills in the presidential campaign. ■

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- 27 HIV AS A DISABILITY

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- 80 EVICTING A TENANT
- 81 CAN I BEAT MY LEASE?
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- 85 ENFORCEMENT OF THE LEASE
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- 62 CHILD SUPPORT HOW MUCH?
- 63 CHOOSING A PARALEGAL
- MILITARY FAMILY ISSUES
- 65 PREPARING FOR DIVORCE
- 66 MEDIATION AND THERAPY 67 WILLS AND TRUSTS

■ EXTENSION 1003 INSURANCE CLAIMS



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- 40 INSURANCE BAD FAITH
- 41 DUTIES OF INSURANCE CO.
- 42 FIRST PARTY CLAIMS/HEALTH/ UM/UIM/AUTO/PROPERTY
- 43 TIME LIMITS
- 44 DISPUTES WITH INSURANCE CO.
- 45 DEPT. OF INSURANCE HELP LINE
- 46 DO I NEED AN ATTORNEY?

■ EXTENSION IOIO ■ **IMMIGRATION**



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- 22 BUSINESS VISAS
- 23 EMPLOYMENT VISAS
- INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS 25 CHANGING & EXTENDING VISAS
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- YOUR WORK-RELATED INJURY
- 51 WORKERS' COMP BENEFITS
- 54 THIRD-PARTY ACCIDENTS
- 56 WRONGFUL DISCHARGE
- 57 HARBOR & LONGSHOREMAN'S ACT

■ EXTENSION 1008 ■

TAX & ESTATE PLANNING

- 90 FILING TAX RETURNS
- 91 CRIMINAL TAX ISSUES 92 TAX LIENS
- 93 STATE TAXES
- 94 FEDERAL TAXES
- 95 AUDITS & APPEALS 96 TAX PLANNING
- 97 ESTATE PLANNING

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- 71 DISCRIMINATION
- 72 WRONGFUL TERMINATION
- 73 EXECUTIVE TERMINATION WHISTLEBLOWER-RETALIATION
- FRAUD AGAINST THE U.S. GOVERNMENT (FALSE CLAIMS ACT)
- 76 LEGAL FEES

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CITY LIGHTS

Under the bus

continued from page 6

was bleeding.

In the upcoming criminal trial, San Diego attorney Eugene G. Iredale represents a former Peregrine executive who raked in comparatively little during the fraud period. "I have a client who only made \$500,000, and here is somebody who made \$650 million," says Iredale. "I have questions about that, and I think anybody who looks at this would have questions about that."

Iredale continues, "The other thing that gives me some skepticism is that the government's case was based on a template based on the Latham & Watkins internal investigation [controlled] by Moores." In preparing for trial, Iredale interviewed a number of people who had supplied information to Latham & Watkins researchers. "They said with a surprising degree of unanimity that the thrust was to exculpate Moores and the board and point fingers downward, not upward." Matthew Gless, another close Moores associate who confessed early and is a key government witness, testified that "the Latham & Watkins report was designed to cover for the board of directors," says Iredale.

CITY LIGHTS

Attorney Mark F. Adams, whose client pleaded guilty sometime ago, says that such studies are common: "The corporation will conduct an internal investigation and hire former prosecutors at large law firms like Latham & Watkins. Their job is to protect the board. Employees can find themselves thrown under the bus. The reports are oftentimes a roadmap for the prosecution."

If that's true in this case, it is disgraceful. The report "was done too early to be relied on today," says Robert Friese, San Francisco lawyer and the litigation trustee appointed by the bankruptcy court. "A lot more is known now" and has been incorporated into civil suits such as the one he is steering. "We're waiting to hear more testimony if and when some people cease asserting their Fifth Amendment rights."

The Latham & Watkins report is under seal but has been leaked to some reporters. According to the publication Corporate Counsel, the report is particularly hard on Moores's friend and colleague, Nelson. He goes to trial later this year, charged with concealing evidence, helping the company

to book fraudulent revenues, and misrepresenting the company's financial state. As corporate counsel, he should have stopped some of the sales manipulation practices, according to the Latham & Watkins report. But what would have

CITY LIGHTS

Uniform agreement

happened to him if he had? ■

been phenomenal," he answers. "We did a random poll of parents, and basically it was, 'Do you support the uniform policy, or do you not support it?' And of the 1100 responses, about 99.8 percent of the poll came back favorable. They like it. The parents like it. Needless to say, the kids don't like it that much, but I am really proud of our kids because they respect it. And we reward their respect with non-uniform days. A few Fridays out of the year, rather than starting at 9:00, we start at 10:00, so teachers can do planning and things like that. On those Fridays the kids get to come out of uniform"

There are no non-uniform days at the Colegio de Bachilleres, and there are strict penalties — including suspension and expulsion — for persistent uniform violations. But Osuna says he tries to cultivate a relaxed atmosphere surrounding the issue. For instance, if girls have piercings outside of one in the earlobe or boys have any piercings whatsoever - both against the uniform code —"I request that they take them out and give them to me. When school is over, they can come and pick them up from me."

The uniform code at his school, Osuna says, is less rigid than at most Mexican high schools."We want to give them several options," he explains, "so that within the restrictions they can also participate in the integration of the school and experience a bit more freedom. We try at this age, because they've had 11 years of uniform culture, to let them loose a little bit."

Why not just toss the uniforms and let the kids wear what they want, as they do at most American high schools? "Because," Osuna answers, "culturally, we are not prepared for that freedom. In my opinion, a lot of students would lose track of the fact that they come to school to study." ■



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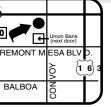


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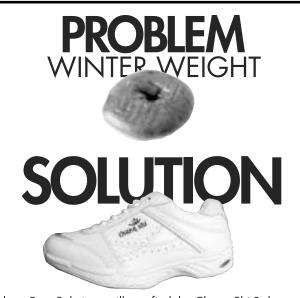




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Comments from Reader Website

T.G.I.F. Published March 14

Posted by Bubba McCullough on 03/14/07 @ 8:21 p.m.

I read the novels of Nathanael West and I was depressed for the next 20 years.

Posted by Meat Puppet on 03/14/07 @ 11:27 p.m. I love the idea that mediocrity is nearly impossible to avoid. That's quite true, and this is coming from a 22-year-old. (Age is, in some ways, irrelevant to experience.) I also appreciated the reference to Nathaniel West. Good comparison. And, unlike Bubba, above, West did not depress me for any length of time.

Brizzolara's response:
Meat Puppet — Whoever
you are, you seem to be the
ideal reader for the column.
Don't go away. Ah, The
Meat Puppets. You seem to
be a fine, young cynic and
Nathanael (with an "a")
West never depressed me
either. Bubba is my old English teacher.

Posted by Bubba McCullough on 03/16/07 @ 5:03 a.m.

Nathanael West's real name was Nathan Weinstein. He was a mediocre student in high school, but he was admitted to Brown University, because that year there were two Nathan Weinsteins who applied to Brown, and their records got switched. Nathanael West got involved with the literary magazine at Brown, and the rest is history. The other Nathan Weinstein became a dentist. And that is a true story from your English teacher. I had to look up "meat puppet" to see what it means, and now I understand the concept, but I would be fascinated to know the derivation. How did "meat puppet" come to mean what it means?

Editor's response: "Meat puppet" is just fashion industry slang for a model.

"City Lights," Published March 14

Posted by Makalani Dingane on 03/17/07 @ 1:08 p.m.

I have lived in SD since 1969 and I have noticed that many San Diegans have a snug — superior attitude about corruption in Tijuana. The only difference in the corruption there and on this side of the border is the language spoken. San Diego needs about 5 more Don Bauders to keep up with and write about the corruption in San Diego.

Posted by Anthony St. John on 03/18/07 @ 5:09

Don, Harvard evolutionary biologist E.O. Wilson's work teaches us that corruption for power and wealth trumps humanity every time, a hardwired part of our Paleolithic heritage, producing conflict between short-term and long-term values. Thus insatiable greed for personal conspicuous consumption defines the paramount cultural value of the U-T establishment, making them more than willing to completely ignore problems they create for future generations as proven by their track record of corrupting city democracy. This fact of life most certainly provides "Reader" readers with an imperative to fight back for their future.

"Chasing Game," Restaurant Review Published March 14

Posted by lucipaz04@ya-hoo.com on 03/15/07 @ 4:59

I enjoy the Tractor Room for its ambience and agree with what Mr. Rivera said about calling back to a simpler time. I know that the big meats may not serve everyone's palate, but there are many items on the menu, like the salmon, salads, and hearty side dishes, that are outstanding! The cocktails are "honest" and tasty! I've tried a few on the cocktail menu like the Lemon Lavender Martini (a vodka variety) and it is divine! I think the atmosphere is grown-up and cool without being pretentious. Ms. Wise, I think you were a little harsh in your review. IMHO....

Movie Review Published March 14

Posted by John on 03/15/07 @ 11:41 p.m. The phrase "come back with your shield" is historical document of what Spartan woman would tell their husbands before going into battle. The significance of the phrase is that the shield in Spartan culture was considered the core of the warrior's honor. Unlike other cultures where the sword was viewed as the symbol of honor for a soldier, Spartans saw the sword as merely a means of protecting oneself (therefore replaceable). The shield represented one's duty and protection to a comrade (as Leonidas explains in his lecture about Spartan "failings"). Not only was the phrase said readily (if not constantly) by Spartan women of the time, it highlights a core principle set down by the people as a whole. Perhpas the film does in its own way offer some history we have yet to learn.

Posted by LtCol George Murray USMC (ret) on 03/17/07 @ 10:11 p.m.

Spartan infants with birth defects were left to die. At the age of seven, boys were taken from their mothers to began 11 years of rigorous preparation for entrance into the army; not the boys and girls army we know either. The training included fighting and killing; the final phase of training ended with a requirement to strangle one of the local villagers, undetected. Spartan woman were renown for their physical strength; and all citizens lived for the state. What historical accounts of the final stand of the 300 Spartans fail to cover is the force, that faced the Persian Immortals, was really augmented by nearly 1000 Greek Thesbian soldiers, who chose not retreat out of a sense of duty. Spartan bravery at Thermopylae was a critical delaying action that saved democratic Greece. It seems easy to offer conjecture about the shield while you're in the rear with the gear. To get a better feel for what military life is about, respectfully recommend reading some Kipling.

continued on page 73

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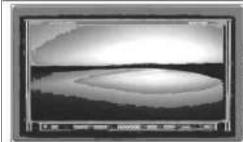




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STRAIGHT FROM THE HIP

MATTHEW ALICE

~

A question for Matthew Alice:

Ilustration by Rick Geary

What with Darfur, Iraq, and Anna Nicole Smith, it is probably shameful to ask, but...what is the difference between topcoat and basecoat in the world of nail polishing? Same formula, double the product to purchase?

— SD, via e-mai

Chin up, SD. I think it's exactly because of Darfur and Iraq and Anna Nicole and Bobby Brown and Lindsay Lohan and Jessica Simpson that we occasionally need to slip into a deep funk ("We're doomed! We're doomed!"), overanalyze some body part, and see if we can't at least do something about that. Nail-polish purchases we can control. Sudan and Britney's underwear, we can't.

Grandma understands your weasely-eyed view of cosmetics in general. Her favorite online purchase used to be an all-natural, organic, ethically tested, horoscopically correct, freerange purple eyeliner based on an ancient Egyptian formula and handmade in a redwood forest by real hippies who had made at least three pilgrimages to India. Grandma was paying \$15 for 1/20 of an ounce of the stuff. One day — I think it was the day she short-sheeted the elves' beds — we penciled out the price and showed her she was buying, basically, ground-up rocks for \$4800 a pound. Made the elves feel better and put an end to Grandma's brief practical-joke career.

Anyway, after that experience we were plenty amazed to find out that in the world of nail polishing, there is a chemical and functional difference among top coat, base coat, and even the stuff billed as clear nail polish.

All basic formulas for nail goo include the same chemicals. Specialized formulas for base or top coats involve tweaking the basic ingredients — a little more of this, a little less of that. Base coats are designed to stick to your fingernails with special tenacity. It's like priming a wall before you paint it; the paint adheres better if you wash and prime the wall first, and prime it with something formulated for that job only. A base coat also keeps cheesy, dye-based nail color from staining your fingertips.

Top coat formulas are jiggered to stick well to the colored layer of polish; to form a very hard, very shiny film; and (sometimes) to block UV rays that would fade the colored layer. The stuff billed as clear nail polish is somewhere in between. If there is a significant difference in price among the three within a single brand, well, that's a little harder to support. But the three polishes are slightly different in chemical ratios and should behave differently.

Whether the differences are significant enough to encourage you to spring for two or three bottles of what looks like identical, colorless nose drool with a brush, well, that's up to you. Stop reading here if you don't want to know some of the chemicals you're applying to your body: nitrocellulose, vinyl polymers (film formers); formaldehyde, vinyl resins (slightly different film formers); dibutyl phthalate, tricresyl phosphate (for flexibility); acetates, ketones, toluene, xylene, ethyl alcohol (diluting agents); mica, fish scales, guanine, gold, silver, copper, titanium dioxide, bismuth oxychloride (coloring agents). All swimming in a base of ethyl acetate.

Notes from Googleland

Since the advent of the *Reader*'s Comments feature (the chance for you Alicelanders to stick it to the elves directly or say sweet things to Grandma), we've had some follow-ups to ancient questions hidden away in the dizzying, online M.A. archives. It occurred to us that these gems would go unmined if we didn't dig them up and point them out, unless you stumbled on them during a late-night Googlefrenzy. Grandma and I feel a strong loyalty to you Team Matthew Alice OGs — the "Hey, you debutante, I've been reading Matt since before there were computers" crowd — ink-stained, locals-only types for whom "Straight from the Hip" wouldn't be readable without Rick Geary's illustrations. So from time to time, we'll mention worthy new contributions to the archives, usually submitted by digital immigrants who arrived in Aliceland on the wings of Dogpile or some such.

This first one is a definite must-know, as far as I'm concerned. It's not often someone steps up and says, "Blame it on me!" In this case, the subject is the origin of the unity candle, the tedious wedding-ceremony prolonger. The original question came from about-to-be-wed Bill H., published August 30, 2001. At the time, no one knew the origin for sure. Since then, Wikipedia has addressed the question, and we have this M.A. archive comment from Alan and Kathy Chattaway, somewhere in e-mail land. Their ceremony was in the Mennonite church.

We believe we originated this ceremony in May 1969. We used only two candles and merged their flames after we were pronounced husband and wife. We had never seen or heard of the ceremony before but began seeing it after that. Wikipedia traces it to Illinois in 1976, which is consistent with our claim.

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

Got a question you need answered? Send an *email* to heymatt@cts.com or *fax* to 619-231-0489 or *mail* to Matthew Alice, c/o the *Reader*, Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186.

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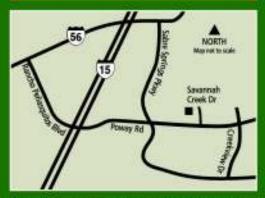
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Tale of Two Cities

t 7:30 a.m. on the morning of November 21, 1980, Charlie Wright and me were drinking at the Barbary Coast, a midsized casino adopted by locals on the corner of Flamingo and the Strip. Caesars Palace was out the front door and the MGM Grand was out the side entrance.

We'd been up all night, started 50 miles southwest of here in the Pioneer Saloon, a biker bar in Goodsprings, and worked our way back in. We were tending to our second beers when a middle-aged man walked by and said to no one in particular "The MGM is on fire."

I asked, "Really?" "Yeah," the guy said.

"Big one?"

"Can't tell."

We ordered another round. There was one blackjack table open, no craps, no roulette, and less than a dozen people feeding the slots. Ten minutes passed. Tourists began to rush in through big, double-wide glass doors. I say "tourists," but that's not quite right. The clothes, the lost look are tourist enough, but they had a dazed "Where am I?" refugee countenance. First, Vegas doesn't do refugees. Second, people in a casino always look like they know where they are. They may be bored, they may be laughing, they may be drunk, but they always look like they know they're in a casino. These people looked like aliens had just tossed them onto the sidewalk.

We got up and walked outside. There was more fire department than I'd ever seen. I stopped counting fire trucks at 40. There were units from every firehouse in Southern Nevada. Utah, Arizona, and California would be here shortly. This would be the second most deadly hotel fire in America's history: 84 people died, 679 injured.

Police lines were set up, and we were told to stay behind them. Flamingo Boulevard was closed, and hundreds of people (probably a lot more — 5000 workers and guests were in the hotel when it went up) were zombie-milling around. Clean-cut young men wearing navy blazers (I take them to be employees of the Grand) worked the crowd, offering clothes, plane tickets home, hotel rooms.

Charlie said, "Any place you want to go?" 'Naw." The Runnin Rebels were playing

that night, and I had seats. The team had become a Las Vegas fascination, the hottest ticket in town. Finally, Las Vegas had something legit to be proud of. Plus, coach Jerry Tarkanian fielded Vegas teams, beautiful teams, greyhound-fast, with great defense. "No, I like it here."

In November 1976 I wintered in Eugene, Oregon. My habit was to work in Alaska springs and summers, take the winter off, and travel. I had good friends in Eugene, so I decided to stay there that winter and see if I liked the town.

It was good to be in Eugene in 1976 and be a fan of Ducks basketball. Richard, an old friend, had pushed me to attend a game at McArthur Court, then a 50-year-old basketball facility referred to as "The Pit." The court holds 9000 fans, still the best place I've ever seen college basketball. When students stomped and shouted, they made the building shake, not metaphorically, but actually.

Since forever, the Ducks have played UCLA twice a year. The Bruins won ten national titles between 1964 and 1975. That record will never be broken. Oregon might as well have played basketball against the Los Angeles Lakers during that time. One good thing — UCLA's dominance made for a firstclass rivalry, although I should say the rivalry was a one-way street, intense on the Oregon side, unnoticed by UCLA.

On a Thursday night in November of 1976, I was walking down 14th Avenue toward campus. Hunter Thompson was doing his college tour, appearing at the student union that evening, and I was eager to see him. Also, the Ducks were playing UCLA, thereby presenting me with an agonizing entertainment decision.

And I was late. I'd stayed home to listen to the first half of the Oregon/UCLA game on the radio (no TV coverage), and by the time I got going, I was one and a half hours late, which I judged to be about right; Hunter Thompson could not possibly be on time.

I walked along a winter-dark residential street. I slowed. And now slower. Slower still. Yes, that's it! I could hear the game from somebody's house. I walked a few more steps and picked up the game again, this time from a radio in the next house. There was a parked Datsun pickup truck near the end of the block. Four men stood around its hood. The game was on the truck's radio. And in this manner I was able to follow the game, uninterrupted, all the way to the student center.

Oregon won.

Oregon and UNLV have made it to the Sweet 16 and will play each other in the regional semifinals on Friday at 6:40 p.m.

The Vegas Line

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<u>Favorite</u>	Spread	Over/Under	Underdog		
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Ohio State	4	144 1/2	Tennessee		
Kansas	8 1/2	125 ½	Southern Illinois		
UCLA	3	123	Pittsburgh		
		<u>Friday</u>	_		
Georgetown	7 1/2	131	Vanderbilt		
North Carolina	8 1/2	150 ½	USC		
Florida	10 1/2	125 ½	Butler		
Oregon	2 ½	140	UNLV		

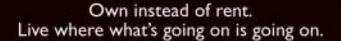
16 San Diego Reader March 22, 2007







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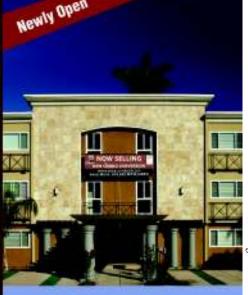




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SHEEP AND GOATS

PLACES OF WORSHIP REVIEWED

Denomination: Southern Baptist **Address:** 2100 Greenfield Drive, El Cajon, 619-440-1802

Founded locally: at this location, around 1973 **Senior pastor:** Dr. David Jeremiah

Congregation size: about 6000 Staff size: 32 department leaders, including

Sunday school enrollment: about 1000 Annual budget: over \$10 million

Weekly giving: n/a Singles program: yes

Dress: semiformal

Diversity: majority Caucasian, but diverse Sunday worship: 9 a.m., 10:45 a.m., 6 p.m. Length of reviewed service: 1 hour, 20 minutes Website: www.shadowmountain.org

"Signs of Life," read the banners affixed to the light poles in the parking lot. In the church vestibule, piles of take-home magnets bore images and Scripture verses explaining the

signs. Week three was Worn-Out Knees: "If you ask anything in my name, I will do it." This was week four, Rolled-Up Sleeves. "For even the son of man did not come to be served, but to serve..."

After the opening songs and a baptism ("My first act of submission and obedience to the Lord," said the recipient before being tipped back into the water), a female soloist stepped forward to perform a worship ballad. As the lights dimmed and the spotlights set the mood, at least five cameras provided a seamlessly shifting array of images on the giant side screens: the singer, the populous choir behind her, the piano from overhead. the violinists and trumpeters in the sizable pop orchestra, the flutist's fingers, the cellist's bow. Other songs featured the full orchestra (tuba, bassoon, trombone), the

modern-rock ensemble (drums, bass, electric and acoustic guitars), and the organ, sometimes all together — a huge sound, filling the auditorium. "There's no God/ Like Jehovah/ There's no God/ Like Jehovah..."

Pastor Jeremiah led the opening prayer—eyes closed, gripping a Bible between clasped hands. "We thank you for this season in our church, as we have taken some time to get our focus away from our own congregation and to a place that is distant from us....

"As you know," announced Jeremiah, "we're in the midst of a very special time. The Lord has given us an opportunity to take some of the things we've been learning and put them into practice. This weekend, at Logan Heights School, we're doing a one-day extreme makeover...and right in the middle of this project, a truck will drive up to the school, and we'll unload 30,000 pounds of food to be distributed to families of that school." Someone had notified Sony, and the company had offered to donate electronic equipment to the makeover. "Maybe what you learn from

all this is, if you just take a little initiative, there are a lot of folks who want to be a part of making a difference.... Pray for these guys. The Bible says, 'Let your light so shine, that men may see your good works and glorify your father who is in heaven.' It's about Him, and it's about His getting the glory."

To bring home the point about service, lights went down for a sketch featuring an exchange between two men: a Christian and a fellow who had lost his home to a storm.

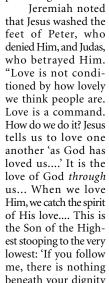
"I finally saw Him today," said the stormwrecked man.

"I thought it might take a tragedy in your life for God to finally get your attention."

"No, I think it took a tragedy in my life for God to finally get *your* attention. I did see Him, but it wasn't in the storm. It was in your rolled-up sleeves.... You've been telling me about Jesus for years, but today, you showed me."

The congregation read aloud from John

Chapter 13 — Jesus washing the feet of the apostles at the Last Supper. "There are many people who believe that John Chapter 13 records the greatest sermon that Jesus ever preached," said Jeremiah, "because it was more than an audible sermon. It was a live demonstration. Jesus did what he was preaching."



beneath your dignity if it is involved in serving.' For us, Logan Heights is the footwashing.... If you ever have an opportunity to do something for someone who has no possible way to return anything to you, you will discover the joy of Jesus. Don't let Logan Heights be a moment that comes and goes."

What happens when we die?

Pastor Jeremiah had retired from the scene, so missions pastor Dr. Gary Coombs provided an answer at the reception for first-time visitors. "Nobody goes out of existence.... For those who know the Lord, God gives them eternal life. For those who reject the Lord, there's hell. We believe that based on what Scripture says. But we do have compassion; we don't want to see people lost. That's why we have the spiritual element.... We want to do good to all men, not only to help in this life, but to have eternal life."

— Matthew Lickona



DAVID JERE

Shadow Mountain Community Church El Cajon **\pm^1/2

★★ ¹/₂	
Sermon	
content★★★	7
delivery★★★	7
Liturgy★★	
Music	
congregational★★¹/	2
band★★★	
Snacks★★¹/	
Architecture★★ Friendliness	7
Triendiniess	2
Poor to satisfactory(none)
Good	7
Very good★★	7
Excellent	
Extraordinary***	7

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-EVE KELLY

■ call my husband Patrick "Renaissance man." Five years ago he discovered his tenor voice while singing along with a Three Tenors CD I bought him on a whim. He started taking lessons, won an award at the local Metropolitan Opera auditions, and joined the San Diego Opera chorus. The

next year it was woodworking. He spent an hour a day carving and whittling away chunks of wood. Last year he dug deep into gardening. Then shortly after the New Year, he read an article on beekeeping. Eve knew what was coming. "Let's

keep bees," he said over his morning coffee. "Wouldn't that be fun?" I couldn't honestly say "Yes, honey," but I offered to find out what that would entail.

I spoke with Al Goulart, owner of A-Action Bee Removal (619-444-9292) who has been keeping bees for 40 years. "My father had bees when I was about seven years old," he explained, "so that is how I learned beekeeping. I keep European honeybees out here in East County, in empty areas. We don't have African bees in this county," he added.

"We put them in bee boxes which are square boxes, 12-by-10 inches with wax frames in there, so it gives them something to get them started. You can have up to three pounds of bees in one of the boxes and there are around 19,000 to a pound."

When a customer needs bees removed, Goulart removes the swarm with "a very low suction vacuum system that I designed myself, which does not damage the bees. As soon as I get them I medicate them. And then I know they are healthy bees when I get them in the box. I mix an antibiotic with shortening and powdered sugar to make a flat pancake that I squish down underneath the lid of the box. The bees will eat that, and as they eat that, it medicates them. The problem that we have now is with a mite that eats on the bee larvae. But I treat my boxes with an insecticide that doesn't hurt the bees but gets rid of the insects.

"When I turn the bees loose, some go away and find another place to live, a tree for example. But a lot of them will go to the boxes." Currently Goulart has about 12 hives.

The bees live four to six weeks, the queen up to six years.

"When there isn't anything blooming," he explained, "when we're having a dry season, we feed them sugar water in a jar right in the front entrance to the bee box."

Are bees low maintenance, can you leave them for a few days?

"Bees are low maintenance," he said, "and you can leave them and they will do their thing. The only time we have to work with them is usually around February, when we divide the hives up so that we don't get a lot of swarming problems. When the hive

"I was stung 174 times on one occasion," he says. "Another time, I got stung 42 times in the neck."

gets too full, the queen will usually take off with half of the colony. And there is a new queen there due to hatch within four to five days. I don't want that to happen, so I usually separate the old queen with part of the

bees and let them hatch a new one. And when you get too many males — the larger, fatter, blackish bee — you have to get rid of a lot of them because that causes swarming."

How do you tell which one is the queen bee?

"She has a pretty body, and she is much longer."

What supplies do you need for beekeeping?

"You just need a smoker, a hat, and a veil. But I am not like the average beekeeper. I just use a smoker. I process smoke into the hive and they think the house is on fire and

they ingest honey. They get to where they are so full of honey, they can't bend their tail over

to sting you. I do that whenever I am working with hives, I smoke the bees."

> Are there different types of honey?

"Yes, there is avocado, citrus, alfalfa, clovers...it just depends on what fields they are in. We make what is called non-descript honey or wild honey; it is off of everything."

Are there a lot of beekeepers in Southern California?

"Most of the beekeepers are out of state now, in different areas where they have a lot of produce. If you are around a lot of agriculture, beekeeping is very productive. There are some beekeepers in the San Joaquin Valley. In Southern California, most of them are going out of business. A friend of mine is trying to sell his 150 hives because he has had to feed them tons of sugar. We have had three to four dry years now."

Goulart avoids that problem because "when I remove honey out of structures, I don't use chemicals. And that honey I use to feed my bees. So I have a good honey source to feed my bees."

Goulart warned of taking on beekeeping without serious interest. "You can keep bees anywhere in [rural] East County, but elsewhere there are many restrictions. There have been many people that have tried to raise them but they didn't know what they were doing with them, didn't know how to maintain their boxes or control their bees. It takes a bit of time to learn all about beekeeping."

Beekeeping is also not for the faint of heart. "I was stung 174 times on one occasion," he says. "Another time, I got stung 42 times in the neck. I took antihistamine, lay down on the roof, waited for the medicine to circulate into my system, got up, and finished the job."

Goulart says all beekeeping supplies can be bought at Knorr Candle Shop in Del Mar (858-755-2051).

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Happy Birth Day

If you lay down, the baby will never come out!

— Native American saying

didn't think she'd take me seriously. Then again, I was pretty sure she was physically incapable of granting my request. I should have known better. After all, this was the same woman who spray-painted a cat's ass to ensure its adoption; this was my clever sister, who once magically convinced me to dress as a snow fairy and read storybooks to a bunch of doctors' kids for

It was as if the child wanted to prove a point —
I'm calling the shots this time, lady, and your job is to sit back and make the milk.

hours on end. "Hold it in, Jane," I'd said, watching through the window as cotton-ball—sized puffs of snow floated to the ground 3000 miles away from her. "I want to be in town when this baby is born. So think like a rabbit and *don't let go* until I get back." Jane promised to do her best, but not for my sake — she needed time to prepare for baby number two.

At the time of my request, Jane was "three centimeters dilated." If you

don't know what that means, it's probably for the best. Just think of it as "The garage door is partially open." When I returned to town, Jane's "garage door" had opened a few centimeters more, reaching the halfway mark. On Monday, Jane's doctor told her not to venture too far from the hospital and said she'd be surprised if Jane made it through the weekend.

Tuesday came and Jane offered to take me to lunch. She didn't tell me we'd be going to Chuck E. Fucking Cheese's, or that she'd get a great big kick watching me chase her three-year-old through the bright, loudly bleeping gauntlet, but I didn't mind as much as she thought I would. The place was nearly empty and my niece was

star struck by the giant animatronic mouse. Sure, we were frightened by the yellow hair and fuchsia talons of a few deep-cleavaged Vegas mommies, and every surface was probably coated in kiddie germs and fecal matter, but upbeat attitudes and a bottle of Purell ensured our fun.

Jane had finally tied up all those loose ends, and she was ready to meet her new family member. Unfortunately for her, the itty bitty body in her belly had plans of its own. Jane was not worried — she had the kid's room number and knew how to send a wake-up call. When she'd wanted Bella to arrive before the hectic Thanksgiving holiday, Jane spent a full day power shopping at Fashion Valley with her friend Marissa pacing her and then went home and ate a large portion of Simon's spicy chili con carne. Sure enough, after one massive contraction, a phone call, lies about how many contractions she'd had and for how long, she arrived at the hospital with her garage door open almost all the way and just enough time to have drugs injected into her spine before Bella came tumbling into the

Now, with a three-year-old in tow, it's not as easy to power shop, so Jane resorted to power walking around her neighborhood (apparently, when trying to coax a little one from your loins, assigning the word "power" to your physical activity of choice is imperative). A few blocks away from

Jane's house, we saw a woman pushing a stroller across the broad street. She smiled our way and then, holding her hand a few feet above her stomach to indicate Jane's impressive paunch, she shouted, "How long?"

"I'm *five* centimeters *dilated* and *70* percent *effaced!*" Jane yelled back to the woman and everyone else within the same zip code. The woman rewarded this graphic declaration by spurting a series of "Wow"s and "My God"s before she finally ended with, "Then it's any minute. It's *now!* Good luck!" and continued on her way.

I quickly dismissed the notion of asking Jane to explain the term, "effaced." As someone who gets grossed out by her own saliva, I'd had quite enough biology talk for one day. That night and the following, I was on baby watch — if Jane went into full-blown labor, I would be at her house in 15 minutes to keep an eye on a sleeping Bella so that Simon could take his wife to the hospital.

My phone rang early Thursday morning. When I picked up the receiver, I heard, "Still five centimeters, 70 percent effaced, I'm not in labor, want to go to Target?" Sick of being asked the same question at the beginning of every phone conversation, Jane had taken to blurting out her status before even saying hello.

I agreed to join her, but first I had to look up that term Jane kept repeating. I





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assumed it was akin to the baby saying, "I just need to put on my socks and shoes and then I'm out the door." In this case, the dictionary was no help, as it defined "effaced" as meaning either "to rub away," or "someone who is shy." A quick Google search turned up something about the cervix thinning and shrinking. Hmm, rubbed away and shy.

Jane laughed when I suggested I follow her around Target with a towel in my hands, "just in case." I was unable to adopt my sister's cavalier attitude about her physical state; every time she bent over to check the price on something, I instinctively grabbed a corner of Bella's pink blanket.

While the guy in red was ringing up Jane's cartload, I said I needed to call home and check in. Jane cooed sarcastically, "David, I need you to run me a bath."

"No, it's not that," I said, smiling mischievously. "I had my bath last night."

"Oh, David," Jane continued, her voice dripping saccharine, "can you feed me cheese while staring longingly into my eyes?"

"Shut up, prego. You're just jealous."

"Hm, beh beh? Wine and chocolate in the bath?"

"That's it," I said in mock anger. "You keep this up, and I will punch you in your stomach." Jane laughed. Encouraged, I continued, "Don't think that getting knocked up is going to protect you or your belly from a noogie." Realizing we hadn't moved in a while, I glanced over to see what the hold-up was and found the guy in the smock staring at my card as if I'd spit on it before handing it to him. "Don't worry, I'm not going to hit her," I said by

That evening, Jane and I were sprawled side by side on her couch. "It's so frustrating to not know when it's going to happen," she said. "I tried everything. Exercising, eating spicy food..." That left one. Earlier, she'd told me that the third and most doctor-guaranteed way to induce labor was sex. But, understandably, she and Simon decided against this method to spare themselves the trauma.

way of comfort. "At least

not here.'

"Here, feel this," Jane said. I placed my hand on her stomach. A second later, I felt pressure on my hand, like knuckles rubbing against the length of my palm.

"Okay, that's just freaky," I said, keeping my hand pressed firmly against the thin wall between my

flesh and the baby's. "It's like you're growing this thing and it's going to come alive and burst forth from you, like an alien."

"Yeah, it's pretty crazy," Jane agreed. We sat there like that for a while, my hand on her stomach, every few minutes saying something like, "Wow," or "Do you think that's a knee or an elbow?'

To her doctor's surprise, Jane made it through the weekend, despite the miles of power walking, extra red pepper flakes on her food, and telepathic urging. It was as if the child wanted to prove a point — I'm calling the shots this time, lady, and your job is to sit back and make the milk. But Monday night, seven days after Jane's doctor said "any minute now," the child finally decided it was time to say hey. All that power walking and fiery food probably contributed to the quick and easy labor of less than an hour.

With so few surprises in life, Jane and Simon decided to leave the baby's gender a mystery while in the womb. Now it's Tuesday, and everyone in the family is speed dialing their phones to spread my clan's happy news to friends and family near and far: "It's a girl! And her name is Olivia." Welcome, Olivia.

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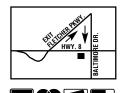
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(continued from front page)

The odds against surviving

cardiac arrest, unlike the odds on old TV shows such as *Emergency*, are daunting, Dr. Davis tells his Chula Vista audience. In the words of the brochure: "Someone must recognize the arrest, call 911 to summon the EMS providers, and perform CPR promptly (ideally before the EMS providers arrive). The EMS providers or trained lay rescuers

must be able to provide defibrillation or other therapies if needed."

Surprising though it may seem to many, the state of emergency medical knowledge, according to Davis, is still pretty primitive. As the brochure says, "Many existing and proposed therapies have not received rigorous scientific evaluation in the prehospital setting."



Then Davis gets to the reason he has come. There are new, still experimental ways for paramedics to combine CPR and the use of defibrillators — devices that check for a heartbeat and shock a stopped heart back to life — that might improve those dismal survival rates. There's also a compact plastic device, a valve that attaches

to the air tube or facemask of a patient with cardiac arrest. During CPR, the valve "creates a small vacuum inside the patient's chest, which increases the return flow of blood to the heart," according to a news release from the Resuscitation Outcomes Consortium — ROC for short. But the doctors don't know for sure that the device improves the odds.

Like all of the experimental procedures, it has yet to be fully tested on humans.

The cardiac trial is ROC's second study. The first, which began in San Diego County in mid-February, involves saline solution given trauma patients — victims of traffic accidents, gunshot, or falls who have suffered massive blood loss, which can quickly lead to brain death.

Conducting a scientific test involves arbitrarily giving one kind of treatment to some patients and another kind to others, decided in a random manner, much like flipping a

For instance, giving one cardiac patient a three-minute period of CPR between shocks and giving another only 30 seconds first. The "standard of care" for the past 15 years has been to go quickly to the defibrillator, but some doctors believe the longer period of CPR prior to defibrillation may be more effective.

Or, in the case of the saline study, giving one trauma patient the normal saline solution (.9 percent salt concentration) and giving another either a high-concentration (7.5 percent, referred to as hypertonic) saline solution or high-concentration saline with dextran, a circulationenhancing substance.

The studies are "blinded," meaning that the paramedics who administer the treatment do not know the kind of saline solution they are using or whether the plastic airway device works or instead is a dummy model. With enough carefully recorded random attempts, a pattern might emerge that would validate one treatment over the other.

In most medical experiments, the subjects are well enough to decide if they want to participate. Trauma victims and people in cardiac arrest usually aren't; in fact, they are unconscious.

But someone has to be the guinea pig — at least that's the idea behind the Resuscitation Outcomes Consortium. The Food and Drug Administration has exempted ROC from the usual requirement that

experimental subjects furnish their "informed consent" prior to being enrolled in a study in which they may not receive the current standard of care.

In the ROC trials, paramedics in cities across the country have been given special training, equipped with hypertonic saline solu-

11 centers throughout the United States and Canada, including one in San Diego County, will eventually conduct multiple trials on various cardiac and trauma resuscitation techniques. The University of Washington in Seattle, ROC's Clinical Trial Center, is coordinating the consortium. For its part, UCSD

Someone has to be the guinea pig at least that's the idea behind the **Resuscitation Outcomes Consortium.**

tion and the plastic airway devices, and provided with a way to randomize treatment on all of their runs.

Thus, every member of the general public, potentially, is fair game.

Initial funding for the Resuscitation Outcomes Consortium is \$50 million. The consortium, which comprises

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is getting an initial \$2.3 million from the project's principal sponsor, the government-run National Institutes of Health.

In exchange for the exemption from the informed-consent requirement, ROC and its participating medical schools and hospitals are required to minimize

risk as much as possible.

They are also supposed to spread the word to the public that the experiments are taking place. According to the theory under which the Food and Drug Administration exemption was granted, once the citizenry is apprised of the "risk-benefit ratio" and given the option not to participate by wearing a wristband, the study has met its ethical obligations.

But turning that theory into practice is problematic. Dr. Davis's Chula Vista appearance, part of the university's so-called outreach effort, is a case in point: his audience is composed of just three people. Two are journalists; the third is a friend of one of the writers. One reporter leaves halfway through the talk.

Looking around the virtually empty auditorium to which he has been speaking for almost

90 minutes, Davis says that the study doesn't have enough money for lots of TV spots and other expensive ways of reaching people; despite that hurdle, he insists, the university is trying to get the word out.

But the story is more complicated than that. Though Davis mentions it only fleetingly, the city of San Diego, which was expected to provide many of the subjects for the trials, is not taking part. It quietly opted out last fall after Mayor Jerry Sanders and his staff vetoed a previous agreement to participate.

A vigorous, behindthe-scenes debate between the mayor's office and UCSD then ensued about the merits and risks of the trial — a discussion that, had it been conducted in public rather than behind closed doors, would doubtless have been of interest to San Diegans.

E-mails obtained

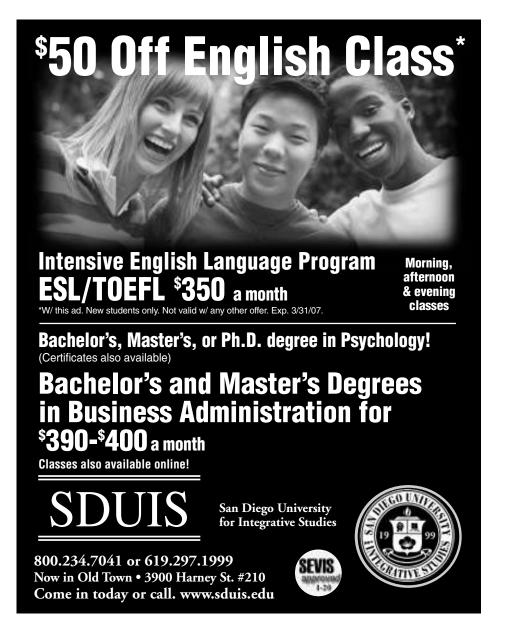


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Hablamos Español Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 10 am-7 pm Fri. & Sat. 9 am-7 pm | Sun. 9 am-5 pm under the state Public Records Act show that from the very beginning of the university's attempt to gain the mayor's favor, researchers were shadowed by controversy from another UCSD trial involving an experimental blood substitute called PolyHeme.

As with the ROC study, the rules of the PolyHeme trial did not require that its subjects — trauma victims who were comatose — give their consent to the procedure, the infusion of PolyHeme, a concoction of synthetic hemoglobin and other ingredients that its proponents maintained would be better than saline solution at saving lives in the minutes before patients reached the hospital and received regular blood.

In the PolyHeme trial, which began in San Diego in May 2004, small plastic bags of the blood substitute developed by the trial's sponsor, Northfield Laboratories of Evanston, Illinois, were deployed in three of the city of San Diego's poorest neighborhoods on paramedic trucks: Oak Park's Medic 26, San Ysidro's Medic 29, and Nestor's Medic 62, as well as at the downtown fire station. Other paramedic units in the county and an air medical transportation service were also enrolled in the study.

The reason for restricting the initial deployment in the city of San Diego to the three low-income neighborhoods was that Northfield had provided UCSD with only limited supplies of the substance, according to a May 2003 e-mail by study coordinator Beth Romeril.

But neither UCSD nor San Diego officials ever made public the specific locations of PolyHeme deployment within the city. Instead, the university issued a press release, took out small newspaper advertisements to announce the trial, and held a public briefing in August 2003 at University Hospital in Hillcrest. It also provided plastic bracelets

to be worn by people who did not wish to be given the blood substitute.

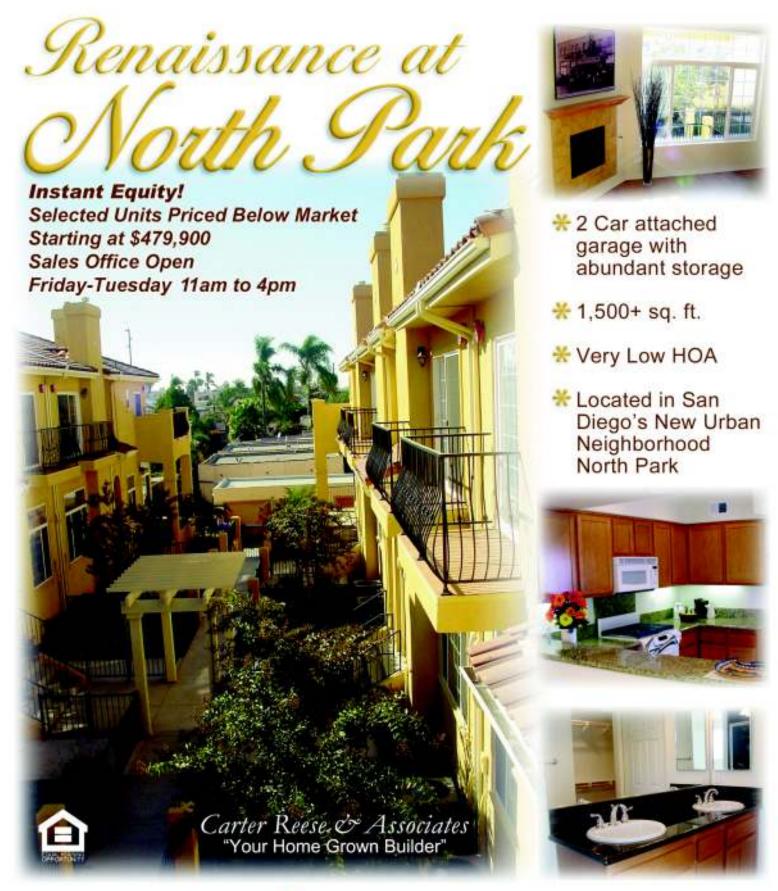
The trial received

The trial received brief mentions on several TV news broadcasts and a March 23, 2004 story in the *Union-Tri*- bune headlined "A new hope for saving of lives," in which Dr. David Hoyt, then trauma director at UCSD Medical Center and principal investigator for the San Diego part of the study, touted the substance's potential

and downplayed its risks.

But for those seeking to know how the trial was proceeding, the university was tight-lipped. It refused to provide information regarding the well-being of the subjects participating, arguing that doing so would violate a trade secret agreement it had signed with Northfield, the project's sponsor.

One example of the information gap was a heavily redacted letter dated August 26, 2004,



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from Daniel Masys, MD, then director of UCSD's Human Research Protections Program, to Hoyt concerning an "adverse event" - a serious complication or death encountered by one of the study subjects and reported to the university's Institutional Review Board, a group set up under federal law to review the ethics and integrity of the university's medical research.

"Your July 22, 2004 adverse event report for Project 030443 has been reviewed and accepted by the IRB Committee at the August 2004 meeting. This report concerns the following subject: 1)."

The description that followed, describing the cause of the incident and what happened to the patient, was blacked out by the university. Hundreds of other documents requested by a reporter under the state's Public Records Act were similarly censored on the grounds that making them public would violate patient privacy or reveal Northfield's trade

And though UCSD repeatedly insisted that it wanted the public to be fully aware of the Poly-Heme study and the ethical issues it raised, a June 21, 2005 e-mail showed that Romeril and Kelly, the coordinator of the upcoming ROC trials, were wary of fielding pointed media inquiries.

"Could you send me the name of the reporter that has been asking about PolyHeme and now ROC," wrote Kelly to Romeril. "I saw [Dr.] Danny Davis today and wanted him to know that this person was out there asking questions about ROC and PolyHeme with a history of stirring up trouble. He wanted more information i.e. what newspaper, what has he written in the



past, 'have you googled him' etc.

"I just wanted Dan to be aware that if someone does start asking questions that he be sure that the intent was sincere and not malicious. Dan was more of the impression that reporting to the media was not necessarily a bad thing. I agree but would prefer it be in a good light with positive spin rather than someone just looking for dirt to stir up."

Romeril replied the same day: "The reporter is

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James Dunford

Matt Potter, an 'investigative reporter' for the Reader here in town. You can look at the Reader web site to see stories he has had printed in the past they tend to be long, wandering exposé types about possible corruption in city government....

"He is not a science or medical reporter and he is definitely not looking for good news to share. Also be aware that there are legally binding confidentiality agreements in place with Northfield regarding this study, and rest assured we will be sued (by Northfield) if we breach that contract, so check with them before saying anything to a reporter!"

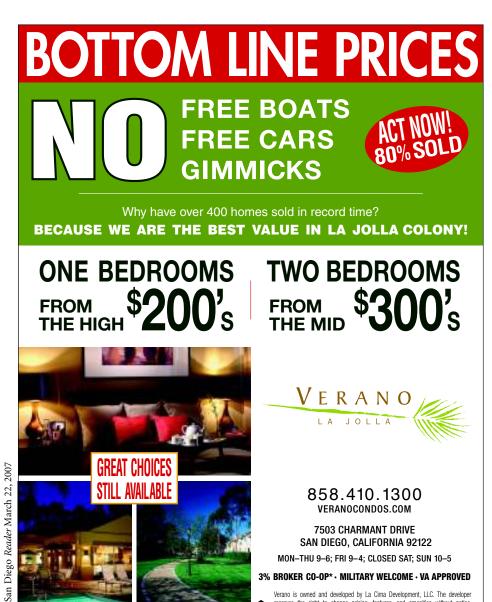
Concluded Romeril: "In general, media attention is not a bad thing; in fact Channel 10 is planning a follow-up piece for some time in July. Dr. Hoyt will be interviewed for that again. The problem with Mr. Potter is that he seems to be on a fishing expedition and just wants carte blanche access to all sorts of study files etc. without giving any kind of reason or explanation as to what it is he is looking for...does not inspire confidence in his motives!'

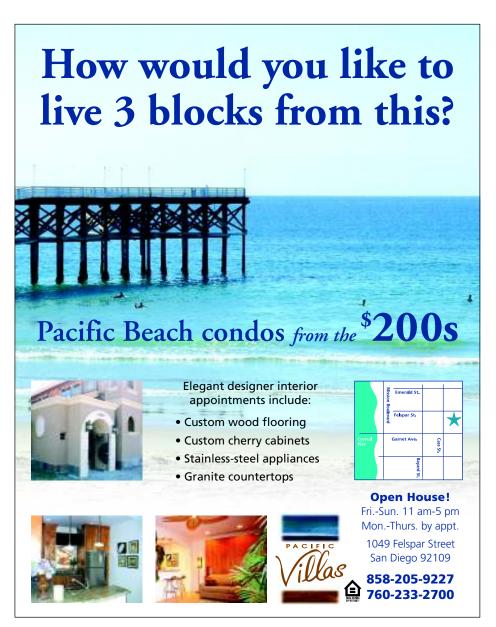
A month later, in a brief July 2005 interview, Hoyt defended the PolyHeme trial, saying that it was safe for its subjects and fully compliant with federal regulations that cover drug trials involving lack of

informed consent. He also minimized the adverse event report, but he would not describe what had happened to the patient.

Hoyt acknowledged that alerting residents of the low-income and minority neighborhoods where PolyHeme was deployed within the city of San Diego "wasn't something we specifically considered" in complying with the government's requirement for public notice. The limited deployment was the university's way of dealing with a "cost containment problem," he explained, and poor people or minorities were not deliberately targeted.

UCSD abruptly ended its role in the PolyHeme trial in the spring of last year, saying that it needed to clear the decks for the Resuscitation Outcomes Consortium program. "As previously planned, due to





preparation for the ROC trials, UC San Diego Medical Center and Scripps Mercy Hospital will no longer be able to enroll PolyHeme study participants as of Friday April 21st 2006," Hoyt wrote in an April 18 e-mail.

"The PolyHeme will be collected up over the next few days and there will be no more available to the medics as of Thursday afternoon. The study itself will continue for another month by other sites. We would like to thank everyone who has helped to get this trial done as it was not easy and we appreciate all the efforts it took to do it." On June 30, Hoyt left UCSD to become chairman of surgery at UC Irvine's medical school, handing the reins of ROC to his colleague, Dr. Dan Davis.

Six months later, Northfield Laboratories announced the first results of its PolyHeme study, and the news was not good. "Blood substitute 'a disaster' in trial," said a December 20, 2006 headline in the Chicago Tribune. Of the trauma subjects who received PolyHeme, 13.2 percent died, versus 9.6 percent of those who received the standard saline solution. No details about where or when the deaths had occurred were provided.

"If you look at the absolute number of deaths, it kills more patients than saline does," observed Martin Shkreli, a hedge-fund manager at New York-based Elea Capital who was following the ups and downs of Northfield stock.

Steven Gould, Northfield's chief executive officer, blamed protocol errors made by researchers in the various trials around the country and said that further number-crunching would show that Poly-Heme benefited patients. He said the company still

planned to submit the product for federal approval sometime this

Critics, however, have been pounding the company and the federal government for allowing the trials to occur in the

first place. The most formidable opponent is Charles E. Grassley, the powerful Republican senator from Iowa.

In a letter last March to the Food and Drug Administration, Grassley wrote, "I am personally

troubled that, for all intents and purposes, the FDA allowed a clinical trial to proceed, which makes the inhabitants of 32 communities in 18 states...potential 'guinea pigs,' without their consent." He demanded that

Food and Drug Administration policies be changed to forbid such trials in the future.

Grassley's criticism came at an inopportune time for UCSD. The university was attempting to persuade the City of San

Diego and its new mayor, Jerry Sanders, that the ROC studies should be conducted using city paramedic rigs. Two years before, during the administration of Mayor Dick Murphy, the City had agreed

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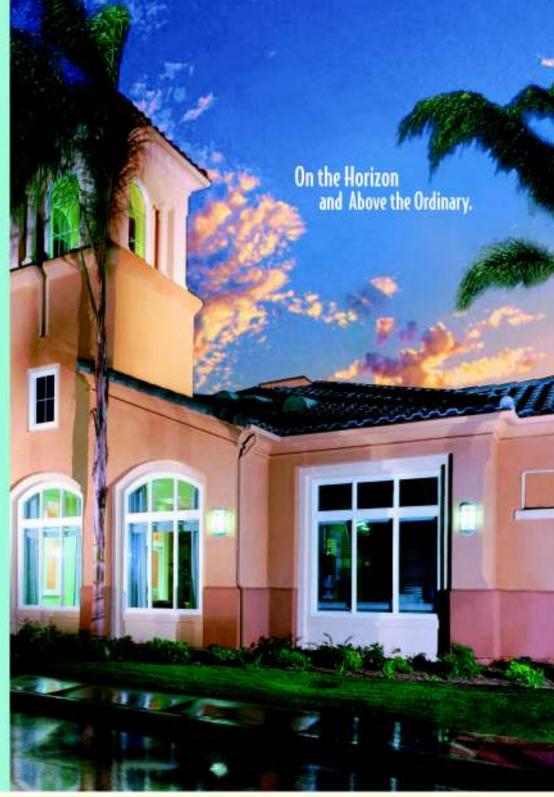
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to participate, but the new mayor's people had questions.

The university had a formidable point man in Dr. James Dunford, a popular faculty member of the UCSD medical school who is also employed as the medical director of the city's **Emergency Medical** Services.

In an April 25, 2006 e-mail to his UCSD colleagues, Dunford outlined a plan to go public about ROC's first study, the saline trial, and to deal up front with its exemption from the Food and Drug Administration's requirement of informed consent. He would arrange to "meet with Jill Olin, the new Deputy COO, Public Safety and Homeland Security — Jill will need to give the idea her ok and then take it to Mayor Sanders before it can go to the Council's PSNS [Public Safety and Neighbor-

What are the ethical considerations with this kind of research?

For most research, one of the primary mechanisms for protecting subjects is obtaining their informed consent before enrolling them in a research study. In an emergency, there is not time to obtain informed consent from the patient or their legally authorized representative. Thus, pre-hospital emergency medical research must operate under a "waiver of consent" or "exception to the requirement to obtain informed consent". Institutional Review Boards that approve research can grant a waiver of consent when the research involves no or minimal risk to potential subjects. When more than minimal risk is involved, but it is impossible to do the research using the normal process of obtaining informed consent because of the patient's acute medical condition, rules have been developed to allow for an "exception to the requirement to obtain informed consent".

Local community consultation and public disclosure are needed before a trial using an exception from obtaining consent can proceed, Community consultation is a two-way process in which investigators

hood Services] Committee."

The same day, after a morning meeting, **ROC** administrator Donna Kelly sent an email to Dunford and others. "PSNS will need an initial notification that we are planning to do a county wide community notification and consultation for the [hypertonic saline] trial," she said.

"Jim is going to be in touch with Brian Mineshine (sp.) [San Diego city councilman Brian Maienschein] to determine how to proceed with the PSNS for the initial intro that we are going to be doing

this followed by a more formal presentation after the IRB [Institutional Review Board] approves it."

But the council hearing didn't happen. Instead, Dunford became mired in a series of meetings with Sanders and his staff. At his first session with Olen on

May 24, he seemed to appreciate the lingering credibility problems that the controversies enveloping the Poly-Heme study had created for the university.

"I underscored the lessons learned from PolyHeme and a commitment to adapt and improve our processes of community outreach," Dunford wrote in a May 24, 2006 e-mail to his UCSD colleagues.

"I did inform her of the concerns that Senator Grassley has expressed with the FDA regarding (in particular) the inpatient aspects of the PolyHeme trial," Dunford added. "While it was agreed that ROC might bring prestige to the City this was felt to be distinctly less important than tangible benefits (or risks).

"As I have previously mentioned, it is clear that the City is not in the same position it was when it originally enthu-

siastically endorsed our ROC application several years ago. Cost and risk:benefit are major concerns confronting city leaders every day, and ROC will be similarly assessed."

A month later, Dunford was beginning to sound impatient. "I am waiting to hear back from the Mayor's office regarding ROC, having submitted a letter of explanation 10 [days] ago that I believe was compelling as to why they should support ROC," he said in a June 22 e-mail to Kelly. "I will be following up next week if I do not hear back before then....

"Lastly, remember it is not the City Council that 1st determines the worthiness of this or any big issue in the City — it is the Mayor's office," Dunford added. "Now that the city has adopted a 'strong mayor' form of government, the City Council only becomes

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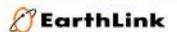
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involved if the Mayor's policy advisors recommend something...this is a big change since January. I am quite optimistic we will be all right."

"I will have to get used to the new mayor's office business process," replied Kelly. "Glad to

hear you have a new SD Fire Chief and that she will be a supporter of our efforts."

Throughout the summer, UCSD anxiously awaited a final decision. On July 6, according to a July 20 message from Dunford to San Diego Fire Chief Tracy Jarman, Dunford had talked to Olen again, and "Jill informed me the issue was still under review."

In July 2006, UCSD received the results of an \$18,000 public opinion survey it had commissioned earlier that year.

The study, conducted for the university by Bellevue, Washington-based Herbert Research, polled 502 San Diego County residents over the telephone. Before they began asking questions, the pollsters told respondents that the current state of the art for emergency medical treatment was bleak and that the experimental treatments prescribed by the study were largely risk-free.

"Currently, very few cardiac arrest victims survive to be discharged from the hospital, and many patients with serious traumatic injuries die in the field or hospital," respondents were told. "All of the experimental ways of treating cardiac arrest and trauma victims that are

being considered have appeared safe in animal and small human studies," the pollsters added.

Respondents were then asked a series of questions, including whether they would want to be included in the hypertonic saline study "without providing consent if there was a one in three chance of dying with standard treatment." To that, 74.3 percent said yes, 19.7 percent said no, and 6











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percent responded, "Don't know/Refused."

Regarding the second trial of experimental treatment for cardiac arrest, respondents were asked whether they would want to participate without their prior consent "if there was less than a 10 percent chance of surviving with standard treatment." Given those slim odds, 84.3 percent said yes, 13.5 percent said no, and 2.2 percent responded, "Don't know/Refused."

In the words of one person interviewed by the pollsters: "The options are pretty grim, so why not try! Try anything as long as it's not black magic!" The study's sponsors soon began thinking of ways to use the poll to lobby the Sanders team. "How should we approach the Mayor's office with this overwhelming mandate?" Davis wrote Dunford on July 14. The poll was not released to the public.

In late July, Sara Steinhoffer, UCSD's manager of Public Affairs and Community Relations, e-mailed Dr. Dan Davis and UCSD Institutional Review Board administrator Michael Caligiuri. "And just so we are all on the same page, on Friday I left the press release with the aide to San Diego City Councilmember Donna Frye and asked him to call if she had any questions. She had initially raised concerns with the PolyHeme trial."

But Sanders's participation seemed to be growing more uncertain. "I have been in a bunch of meetings and press conferences this summer with the mayor and he is a great guy with vision," Dunford wrote Dr. David Hoyt, by then chairman of UC Irvine medical school's Department of Surgery but still cochair for trauma on the ROC steering committee.

"The issue is that his

leadership team is almost exclusively focused on the \$1.5 billion pension problem & its enormous implications. I'm concerned they might decide we're not essential to the immediate needs no matter how good the

Later in the same message, dated August 27, Dunford voiced other worries. "Even if the mayor gives his endorsement, we may still have to take it to [city council] committees like public

safety where it would be debated, so the process could take longer yet."

Dunford then complained that few local government officials were willing to go public with their backing of the potentially controversial

experiments, even if they privately backed the idea.

"What's frustrating is the county EMS folks can't give a formal endorsement to ROC. I think that would be the single biggest assist we could have right now.

But when I spoke with [county EMS director] Bruce Haynes about it he said they wouldn't be able to give much assistance officially, even though he has said openly that he supports ROC. It's another exam-

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Let me start by explaining the photo in this letter. Let's start with me. You know, when I meet people in town they usually say, "Oh yeah, I know you. You're Dr. Steve. I've seen your picture with that cute dog." Well, my dog is the one with the football. Fifteen years ago, I was finishing up a four-year tour of duty with the United States Navy. I had decided that when I was discharged I was going to become a Los Angeles County Deputy Sheriff. I wanted to do

something that I thought would make a difference. About a month after being discharged, a life-changing event occurred. My wife, Jennifer (who was not my wife at the time), injured her back on the job. She's a veterinarian and was injured while restraining a large dog that did not want to be restrained. She called me and asked if I could take her to her chiropractor. She was in such bad shape that I had to literally carry her into the chiropractor's office. She was in tears, unsure if she could even work again because the pain was so bad. And she had trained a very, very long

time to become a veterinarian. Well, to make a long story short, fifteen minutes later she actually walked out of his office with almost no discomfort. At that point I completely changed direction in life and decided that Chiropractic was the way for me to go. So I decided to go to school and become one.

A few years later, after moving to San Diego, she reinjured herself. This time it seemed much worse. She saw orthopedic surgeons and neurologists, all of whom recommended surgery. I told her that if she was going to be married to a chiropractor, she had to at least consult with one before deciding on surgery. I was still in school at the time, so I got a referral from one of my instructors and away we went. She saw another chiropractor and decided on a chiropractic course of adjustments. Within a week she was back to her old self. She is able to continue her job. She can bowl, hike, lift weights, and do all the things that people with back injuries often cannot do. The dog in the picture is mine, and, yes, he receives chiropractic care. He gets chiropractic care, my wife gets chiropractic care, my son gets chiropractic care, and so does our cat!

It's funny how life works. Years ago I was carrying my soon-tobe wife into a chiropractor's office, and now I have people carried into my own office. People don't come to me just for back problems either. They come in to see me with their headaches, migraines, chronic pain, neck pain, shoulder/arm pain, whiplash from car accidents, backaches, ear infections, asthma, allergies, numbness in limbs, and athletic injuries, just to name a few.

Here's what some of my patients had to say:

"I'm sleeping better. I don't wake up at four in the morning anymore. I'm able to actually sleep in because my back doesn't hurt." - Elizabeth M.

"Dr. Steve helps our whole family feel better." - Andrea M.

"I stand straighter with chiropractic." - Frances H.

"Life is tolerable thanks to Dr. Steve's help." - Jane G.

Several times a day patients thank me for helping them with their health problems. But I can't really take the credit. My confession is that I've never healed anyone of anything. What I do is perform a specific spinal adjustment to remove nerve interference, and the body responds by *healing itself*. We remove interference to healing so that The Power that made the Body can heal the Body! We get tremendous results. It's as simple as that!



Many Americans no longer have health insurance, and those who do have found that their benefits are reduced. That's where I come in. Chiropractic actually helps you save money. Why? Studies show that many people actually pay less for their long-term overall health care expenses if they are seeing a chiropractor. Another way to save: studies show that chiropractic can double your immune capacity (your resistance) naturally and without drugs. The immune system fights colds, flus and other sicknesses. With a

higher resistance, you may not be running off to the doctor as much.

You Benefit from an Amazing Offer!

Look, it shouldn't cost you an arm and a leg to correct your health. If you mention this article by April 30, 2007, you will receive my entire New Patient Exam for \$27! That includes X-rays (if they are necessary) and examination (adjustments are not included). This exam could cost you \$150 or more elsewhere! You see, I'm not trying to seduce you to come see me with this low start-up fee only to make it up with hidden fees after that.

Great care at a great fee

Please, I hope that there is no misunderstanding about quality of care just because I have a lower fee. I've been entrusted to take care of tiny babies, elderly and everyone else in between. You'll get great care at a great fee. I practiced on Convoy Street in Kearny Mesa before moving to my present location, and we have been here for 7 years! My care is just as good as anyone else's; I just have that low fee to help more people who need care.

My office is both friendly and warm, and we try our best to make you feel right at home. We have a wonderful service at an exceptional fee. Our office is called HALEY FAMILY CHIROPRACTIC and it is at 4310 Genesee Ave., Suite 104 (we are across the street from Home Depot, right next to Conroy's Flowers and Supercuts, kitty corner from Hollywood Video). Our phone number is 858-974-1292 or visit us at www.dochaley.com. Call us today for an appointment. We can help you.

Dr. Steve Haley

P.S. When accompanied by the first, the second family member will receive this same exam for just \$17.

ple of the county [Health and Human Services Agency] attempting to smother strong medical direction, in my opinion."

(Haynes responded to Dunford's criticism last week, saying by phone, "I'm not sure of the context of that email, but it may have had to do with wanting the county to go to the city as an advocate for [ROC], and I'm not sure that that was our role." He added, "I know Jim has strong feelings about good medical [direction] and everything, but it's not been my experience with regard to the ROC or anything else that the county is trying to squelch or impair medical [direction]. It's not been my experience at all."

(Haynes said that the county EMS office's decision to approve the ROC

deployment had never been brought to the board of supervisors at a full public hearing, though aides of individual supervisors had been briefed privately. "I don't think there was any request that the board formally act on it — it just didn't seem like something they needed to do.")

On the afternoon of September 5, 2006, after Dunford had lobbied the city for months, the ceiling fell in. Maurice Luque, public information officer for the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department, e-mailed Dunford. The subject: "no go for ROC." "Jim: I don't know if you've heard about this officially or not," wrote Luque, "but unofficially ROC is a no go. Call me and I can fill you in."

Based on their subsequent reaction, Dun-



ROC test sites

ford and his UCSD colleagues were caught by surprise. They appeared unable to believe that Mayor Sanders's decision was final and began a behind-the-scenes campaign to pressure him into changing his mind.

On September 11, Dunford fired off an email to mayoral aide Cynthia Lewis. "I would appreciate an opportunity to speak with Mayor Sanders regarding a recent decision that would prevent our City from participating in the National Institutes of Health's prestigious Resuscitation Outcomes Consortium (ROC). As the City's EMS Medical Director, I believe this federally-sponsored program would enhance the health of our citizens for years to come."

One message illustrated the secretive nature of the university's efforts to overturn the mayor's verdict. "I have been working with Melanie in Assemblymember Saldana's office

on the hearing and mentioned your contact," wrote Sara Steinhoffer, UCSD's manager of Public Affairs and Community Relations, to UCSD's Dr. Dan Davis in a September 13 e-mail.

"I shared with her that we have not received official word from the Mayor/City that their position on ROC participation has changed and that therefore it would be premature for that office to make inquiries. I thanked them for their interest and told them I would keep them apprised.

"This is a delicate matter on several fronts, so let's stay consistent and internal to the greatest extent possible."

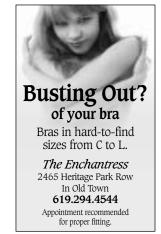
The mayor wasn't the only source of worry. On September 15, 2006, Institutional Review Board administrator Michael Caligiuri dispatched an e-mail to Dan Davis and his associates saying that the office of University of California president Robert Dynes "has recently expressed con-

cern over potential third party liability associated with" the saline trial. "The [hypertonic saline] trial is unique in that there are no subcontracts between UCSD and the participating hospitals that would normally spell out conditions of indemnification of the parties involved," wrote Caligiuri.

"A solution is needed that: 1) protects the study participant from costs associated with research-related injury and that this is clearly disclosed in the consent form; 2) clarifies the responsibilities of UCSD and the participating non-UCSD entities, including hospitals, EMT personnel, etc. throughout the study period; and 3) satisfies 1 and 2 above in an efficient manner without further delay in study approval."

Dunford made a personal pitch to Sanders on Tuesday morning, September 19. Two days later, on the morning of September 21, Dunford sent an e-mail to Olen.













"The person about whom I referred Tuesday AM in our meeting with of safety and allay concerns about risk."

But despite intense

"The withdrawal of San Diego from the ROC project will threaten our site's ability to fulfill our commitment to the NIH, Department of Defense, and American Heart Association."

Mayor Sanders as the prime military 'mover' for ROC is Colonel John Holcolm, MD, FACS. John is the Commander and Director of the U.S. Army Institute for Surgical Research, Fort Sam Houston, TX. I've met John previously and he is a terrific individual."

Dunford went on to list other doctors who he said would vouch for the trials and their safety. "I would be glad to arrange for any of these folks to speak with our City leaders to provide assurance university lobbying, Sanders did not change his mind. That afternoon, Dunford e-mailed Olen asking for an audience with her. "I called Ronne Froman's office to see if I might be able to help sort through the ROC issue. Ronne informed me that a decision had been made this morning and that you would be the person with whom I should speak....

"After 8 years in this position, I thought I had a pretty good handle on what would be best to improve cardiac arrest and trauma care for San Diego," said Dunford. "I need to regroup now,



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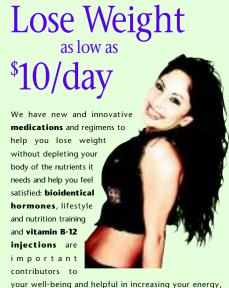
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Robert F. Sterner, Jr., MD Harvard 1978/UCLA 1982 Serving San Diego Since 1984 and would like to know where the leadership team wants me to direct my energy since ROC will no longer be on the radar screen."

On September 24, an e-mail from Dr. Dan Davis appealed to Sanders and Olen. "While I was aware that some specific issues had been identified that would need to be addressed, I had no idea that the non-participation of San Diego Fire Department was being considered," said Davis in his email to the pair. "The withdrawal of San Diego from the ROC project will threaten our site's ability to fulfill our commitment to the NIH, Department of Defense, and American Heart Association."

On September 26, Dunford sent an e-mail to a colleague, relaying the bad news. "I spoke with Mayor Sanders 1 week ago, providing my recommendation that the City maintain its commitment to participate in ROC," Dunford related. "As you might imagine, the University is concerned about the potential impact of the City's decision on this landmark NIH grant and the future of funding to the region."

A week later, Davis was still trying. "Please let me know if you'd like to meet at some point to go over some details regarding ROC and how it might affect the city," Davis wrote in an October 8 e-mail to Jill Olen. "You might conclude that it would be less disruptive to participate than to withdraw, given the amount of preparation and infrastructure development."

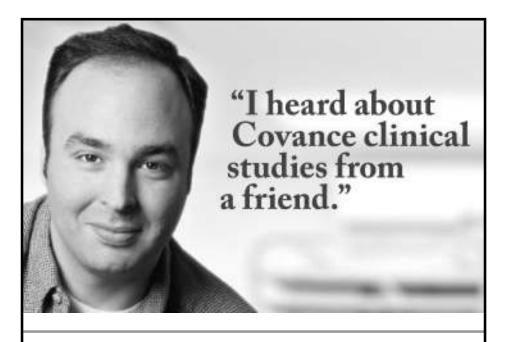
He presented a list of training services and equipment that he said the study would provide the city for free, then added, "And that's not to mention the disaster training opportunities and high quality education provided by me as study PI [principal investigator] (priceless!)."

Olen replied the next day: "Dan — the decision not to participate in ROC at this time has been made. No further discussion needs to be held."

On December 8, Dunford e-mailed Karen Wentworth of the American Heart Association, a cosponsor of the project. "The NIH was understandably upset by this development and has told UCSD it should do whatever it can to grow the site (over 1/2 the expected patient recruitment was to have come from the City)...to that end Dr. Dan Davis has been communicating with Orange County's acting EMSA Medical Director to expand up there ASAP."

(UCSD medical school spokeswoman Leslie Franz said that

RESEARCH STUDIES



Qualified participants must be:

- Healthy Men and Women
- Age 18 to 55
- Non-tobacco users
- Willing to stay at Covance for up to 33 nights and make
 1 outpatient visit

Participants will receive all study-related exams and investigational medication at no cost. Participants may receive compensation from \$4300 to \$6500 for time and participation based on the number of overnight stays required. Call Sun. - Fri. for more information. 866-818-3253



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Study 207565



Healthy Men & Women Needed for a Medical Research Study at Covance.



To qualify, you must be:

- Healthy
- Age 18-65
- A non-tobacco user
- Willing to make overnight stays

Participants will receive all study-related exams and investigational medication at no cost.

Compensation up to \$1400 is available for time and participation.

Call Sun.-Fri. for more information: 866-818-3253



Study 207581

9665 Chesapeake Dr., Ste. 200 San Diego, CA 92123 www.TestWithTheBest.com Davis would not respond to questions unless university officials vetted them first. Even then, she made clear, there was no assurance Davis would be allowed by the university to be questioned by a reporter. Read portions of the documents over the phone last week, Franz said she would call back to further discuss the matter but did not. Davis did not respond to

repeated messages left with his office and on his voice mail line. Dunford also did not return repeated phone calls.)

(At city hall, Fred Sainz, the mayor's press secretary, did not return phone calls. Olen's secretary said she was traveling outside the country and was not available for comment.)

Meanwhile, things weren't going all that

Athlete's Foot Study

Affiliated Research is currently enrolling people with visible signs of athlete's foot to participate in a research study. This study will compare an investigational generic cream to an already-marketed prescription cream and a placebo.

You may be eligible to participate if you:

- · Are 12 years of age or older · Can visit our office 3 times in 6 weeks
- $\boldsymbol{\cdot}$ Have burning, itching or redness on your feet or between your toes

Study participants will receive:

• Free foot exams • Compensation for participation • Study drug or placebo

For more information about this study, please contact:

(619) 688-6565

See our website: www.ari-inc.com



RESEARCH STUDIES



Has a decrease in

sexual desire

come between you and your partner?

Information About an Important Women's Health Research Study

A research study is underway for pre-menopausal women who are concerned about their decreased sexual desire. The study will help evaluate an investigational drug for a condition called Hypoactive Sexual Desire Disorder (HSDD). HSDD is the most common form of female sexual dysfunction. It is characterized by decreased thoughts or desire for sex.

You may qualify if:

- You are a pre-menopausal woman over the age of 18
- \bullet You have experienced a decrease in your sexual desire
- You are using a medically approved form of birth control or are surgically sterile

If you would like more information or think you may qualify, please call UCSD Prevention Studies at: **858-534-0950**

Too Shy?

Trouble with dating? Parties? Public speaking?
Starting conversations? Speaking to authority figures?
Always worried about what other people think of you?

Confidential help is available. You may be eligible to

Receive Free Treatment

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Combined Inpatient/Outpatient

Bipolar Disorder/Manic Depression Research Study

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

To learn more about this research study or to schedule an appointment with our staff, call us today:

(619) 688-6565 See our website: www.ari-inc.com





Is your schizophrenia medication making you heavy?

If you have been diagnosed with schizophrenia and would like to participate in a study that monitors weight, you might consider participating in a medical research study that is studying an investigational drug for schizophrenia.

You may qualify if you are:

- · Diagnosed with schizophrenia · Between 18 and 65 years old
- · Have taken Zyprexa (Olanzapine) or Risperdal (Risperidone) for the past 3 months
- Have not been hospitalized for schizophrenia in the past 3 months

Those who qualify will receive studyrelated procedures, such as physical exams, laboratory tests and study medication.

To learn more about this research study or to schedule an appointment with our staff, call us today:

(619) 688-6565 See our website: www.ari-inc.com





Are you depressed?

You may be eligible to participate in a clinical research study for depression if you meet the following criteria:

- · At least 18 years old
- · Have a history of depression
- · Currently depressed for at least 2 months
- $\boldsymbol{\cdot}$ Current episode of depression not lasting more than two years

Eligible participants will receive study medication, study-related care and diagnostic exams at no cost.

If you would like additional information regarding this study and are at least 18 years old, please contact:

(619) 688-6565 See our website: www.ari-inc.com





We are looking for men and women diagnosed with Bipolar Disorder.

Volunteers at least 18 years of age are needed to participate in a clinical research study testing the safety and effectiveness of a marketed drug for the treatment of Bipolar Disorder, also known as Manic Depression. Patients suffering from Bipolar Disorder must be currently experiencing a major depressive, mixed, or manic episode. All necessary office visits, medical evaluations, and study drug will be provided at no cost to qualified patients.

For more information about this study, please contact:

(619) 688-6565 See our website: www.ari-inc.com



Do You Suffer from **Excessive Shyness?**

Have you experienced intense fear of being embarrassed or evaluated negatively by others in a variety of social and performance situations such as:

Meeting new people? Talking in front of a group? Going to parties? Interacting with those you are attracted to? Dealing with authority figures? Eating or writing in front of others?

You may be eligible for a research study at UCSD Department of Psychiatry.

If you are 18 years of age or older, and are interested in this research program, please call:

1-877-UCSD-SHY (1-877-827-3749) or e-mail: veryshy@ucsd.edu

smoothly for the saline portion of the study, which was preparing for launch in Chula Vista, National City, and other parts of the county outside the city of San Diego.

On October 26, local investigators got word that the Food and Drug Administration had halted the study. "The FDA has just informed the CTC [Clinical Trial Center] that the HS [hypertonic saline] trial is on clinical hold," said an e-mail from Berit Bardarson, a trauma nurse con-



sultant working for the study at the University of Washington in Seattle. "ALL ENROLLMENT INTO THE HS TRIAL MUST BE SUSPENDED IMMEDIATELY."

From Portland, Oregon, Jerris Hedges emailed the same day: "Portland is pulling the investigational fluid off the EMS units. We hope to have this complete by this weekend."

ROC spokeswoman Judy Powell, reached by phone last week at her office in Seattle, explained that the Food and Drug Administration temporarily called a halt to the trial because it wanted "more intensive monitoring." Specifically, the agency concluded that follow-up blood tests of patients enrolled in the experiment were not being conducted uniformly at all trial sites. "The initial schedule was whatever the doctor at each location ordered,"

Powell said. "The FDA wanted a standard of three blood draws within each 24-hour period, and that has now been implemented."

Regarding other details of the study, Powell is more reticent. "There have been expected adverse events," she acknowledges, but as to the number and character of such incidents, "I can't tell you that right now." None of the events, which have been reviewed by the Food and Drug Administration and ROC's data safety management committee, has been directly related to the study, she said. Members of the public interested in knowing more will have to wait until the publication of scientific papers about the trial's outcome, not expected for several years. ■

- Matt Potter

DIABETES RESEARCH

Inhaled Insuli

Covance is seeking men and women with Type 1 Diabetes who are currently taking insulin and are age 18 to 80 to participate in a clinical research study testing inhaled insulin.

Qualified participants will receive study-related evaluations and study medication at no cost and may receive compensation for their time and participation. Call us at the number below to see if you qualify.

Call Mon-Fri for more information

1.800.949.8518

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Study 206576

COVANCE



RESEARCH STUDIES

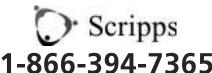
Restless legs keeping you awake at night?

A clinical study is being conducted in your area to research an investigational treatment for Restless Legs Syndrome (RLS). Eligible participants will be compensated for time and travel.

You may be eligible to participate if you are 18 years or older and experience the following symptoms at least 3 times a week:

- Creeping, crawling, tingling sensations in your legs
- Compelling urges to move your legs for relief
- Unpleasant sensations in your legs that get worse at night

Call today for more information.





We believe we can help.

Well-known pharmaceutical companies are conducting important research studies for a limited number of qualified participants.



Depression

Loss of interest or pleasure? Sadness or hopelessness? Sleep disturbance?

Are you or someone you know 18 or older and suffering from depression? If so, you may qualify to try an investigational medication being studied for depression.

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

If you participate, there is no cost to you...instead:

- You receive up to \$500 for your participation.
- You receive no-cost study-related medication and medical care.
- No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.



Anxiety doesn't just stress your mind.

We know it can...

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

If you are 18 or older, you may qualify to take part in a research study of an investigational medication for Generalized Anxiety Disorder.

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

If you participate, there is no cost to you...instead:

- You receive up to \$450 for your time and travel.
- You receive no-cost study-related medication and studyrelated medical care.
- No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.



Weight Gain is often part of taking medications for Schizophrenia

People taking medications for schizophrenia often worry about gaining weight. If you are taking an antipsychotic, you may qualify to participate in a clinical trial of an investigational drug that might not lead to weight gain.

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

If you participate, there is no cost to you...instead:

- You will receive up to \$780 for time and travel.
- \bullet You receive no-cost study-related medication and study-related medical care.
- No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.



Finding Answers Together - Since 1982



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

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

If you have chronic problems returning to sleep after waking up in the middle of the night, you may qualify for a research study in our state-of-the-art sleep clinic and receive an investigational medication for poor sleep.

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

Qualified participants:

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

Does Your Pain Medication Make You Too Tired To Function?



Many chronic illnesses require strong pain medications that can make you tired and fatigued. If your current medication helps your pain but leaves you unable to function, you may qualify for a research study of an investigational medication designed to help pain patients function better on their current pain treatment.

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

If you participate, there is no cost to you...instead:

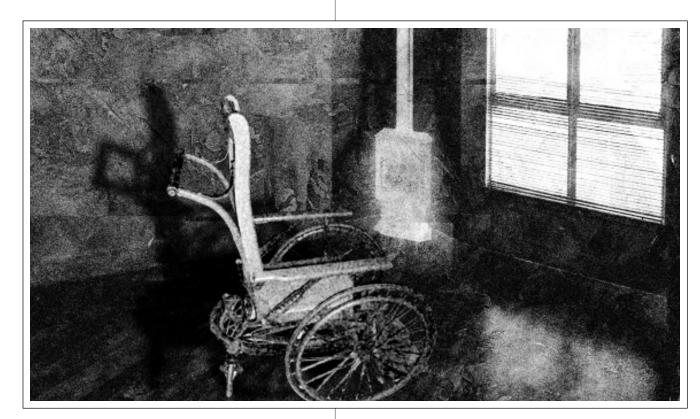
- You receive up to \$300 for your participation.
- You receive no-cost research study medication and medical care.
- No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.
 - We provide transportation.

858-571-1188

Toll-free 800-571-1188 www.cctstudy.com

IRan, Ran, Ran

Penny was skinny as a stick figure, and her face and arms looked white



hen you're young and someone your age is dying, you get scared. Penny was dying the year I was 10 and right after she turned 11.

Penny was in a class two doors down from ours. We didn't know she was sick until we came back to school in the fall. Mrs. Raskin, our teacher, told us.

After Mrs. Raskin said, "Penny's

got leukemia," somebody asked how you get it. Mrs. Raskin said, "No one knows."

David started running his hands through his hair and asked in a trembly voice, "Is it contagious? Can I catch it?" One of my two best friends, David, sat across the aisle from me. His glasses were so thick you could hardly see through the lenses to his blue eyes. He weighed 50 pounds and had a sunken chest and got sick a lot and sometimes didn't come to school for two weeks. He was so smart it didn't matter; he could multiply double digits in his head and sit at the big Chickering upright at the back of our room and play by ear any song we asked. Nobody didn't like David. Even though David talked mostly to girls and didn't have a boy best friend and was lousy at softball and terrified by soccer and in swim class absolutely refused to dive, still the school's rough boys never called him "Four Eyes" or "Sissy" or "Queer."

Mrs. Raskin said no about catching leukemia from Penny. Mrs. Raskin looked you right in the eyes and spoke in a soothing alto that floated into your ears as easily as the dinner music they played on WQXR. Everybody liked Mrs. Raskin. She had pale blonde hair she curled with a Toni home permanent; she wore lots of navy blue, and she collected pins that she stuck on her blouse. Her rhinestone Scotty dog was my favorite. She also smelled good from the Camay soap she used and Coty face powder she kept in her top desk drawer; the powder came in a gilded orange box complete with pink powder puff. She never had bad breath, which in those days everybody called "halitosis."

Mrs. Raskin said leukemia didn't pass from person to person like cold germs did if you sneezed and forgot to put your handkerchief over your face. She said leukemia came from

as white sheets looked in those days when all sheets were 100 percent cotton and mothers bleached them in hot water and Clorox.



SYNERGY CLINICAL RESEARCH CENTER

"Together...we can make a difference!"

www.synergysandiego.com



Are you:

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

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

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

If interested, please call: 1-888-619-7272

Worry Too Much?

If you worry excessively, can't relax; have persistent anxiety, tension, nervousness; have difficulty sleeping, concentrating, worrying about how you'll deal with each day; or upset stomach and muscle tension, you may have Generalized Anxiety Disorder.

You may qualify for a no-charge medical research study to test an investigational medication for the treatment of anxiety. All inquiries are confidential and no insurance is requested. Study-related evaluations, blood test, study-related pills and exams are at no cost and you will be compensated for visit, travel and expenses.

For information or appointment, call the study coordinator, James Goldberg, Ph.D., at:

619-327-0155

Depression Research Study

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

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

Call: 1-888-619-7272

Alzheimer's

Clinical Research Trial

- Do you have a family member diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease?
 - Have they become more confused?
 - · Do they require closer supervision?
 - Does their condition seem to be getting worse?

If so, then your loved one may qualify for a clinical research trial. All study-related visits, investigational medication and study-related care will be provided at no cost to qualified study participants or caregivers. If you are a caregiver of someone at least 50 years of age who has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease, then you may want to find out about this study.

For more information, call: **1-888-619-7272**

We're trying to get a leg-up on Osteoarthritis

You may be able to help...

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



Call Synergy Research: 1-888-619-7272

www.arthritisoftheknee.com



BIPOLAR DISORDER

Mania

- Racing thoughts
- Increased activity
- Decreased sleep
- Increased spending

Depression

- Sadness
- Lack energy
- Difficulty concentrating
- Feel restless or irritable

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

Some qualifications are:

- > Aged 18-65 years
- Non substance/alcohol dependent
- ➤ Using reliable contraceptive
- > Not pregnant or lactating
- ➤ Non diabetic

For more information, please call: **1-888-619-7272**

Is your schizophrenia medication making you heavy?

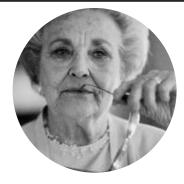
If you have been diagnosed with schizophrenia and would like to participate in a study that monitors weight, you might consider participating in a medical research study that is studying an investigational drug for schizophrenia. You may qualify if you are:

- Diagnosed with schizophrenia
- Between 18 and 65 years old
- Have taken Zyprexa (Olanzapine) or Risperdal (Risperidone) for the past 3 months
- Have not been hospitalized for schizophrenia in the past 3 months

Those who qualify will receive study-related procedures, such as physical exams, laboratory tests, and study medication. For more information, please call:

CNRI-San Diego **858-566-8222**

vaginal dryness itching/irritation painful intercourse



Vaginal Atrophy?

Covance is seeking post-menopausal women, age 30 to 80, who are experiencing symptoms of vaginal atrophy to participate in a clinical research study of an investigational medication.

Qualified participants will receive all study-related care and investigational medication at no cost and may receive compensation of up to \$350 for their participation.

Call Mon. - Fri. for more information.

1-866-818-3253

9665 Chesapeake Dr., Ste. 200 San Diego, CA 92123



www.TestWithTheBest.com

Study 206191

the Greek word for "white," and when you had leukemia. white cells multiplied too fast. She said we shouldn't worry. Leukemia happened to hardly anybody.

Our school sat on the 110th Street edge of Central Park. Our room was on the third floor. When you looked out our windows you could see down into tree tops, you could see crowns of people's hats, you could see parts in the hair of people who went bareheaded. When Mrs. Raskin left the room, sometimes we leaned out the windows and spit down on people. Our school wasn't far from the Museum of the City of New York. Afternoons when we got restless, Mrs. Raskin lined us up, two-by-two,

a dozen, maybe 14 in our class that year. It was a private school and what, back

"Why," Mary Margaret asked, running her fingers through her own auburn poodle cut, "did Penny's hair all fall out?"

and we walked there, skittering the rusty, littering, fallen leaves with our brown oxfords' blunt toes. We had

then, was called "progressive"; we were permitted to do pretty much what we pleased. You didn't have to

RESEARCH STUDIES



UCSD Research Study on ANXIETY

Do you suffer from these symptoms?

- · Worried, nervous, on edge
- Difficulty sleeping
- · Tense, keyed up, restless
- Unable to concentrate, agitated

The UCSD Psychopharmacology Research Initiatives Center of Excellence is conducting a research study of the effects of an investigational drug, not approved by the FDA, versus a placebo (sugar pill) on Generalized Anxiety Disorder.

Participants will be compensated for

To find out if you may qualify and how to participate call 1-866-UC-PRICE(1-866-827-7423) today for more information. UCSD



Attn: Heavy Drinkers

The Scripps Research Institute is conducting 3 investigational studies associated with drinking:

- Heavy drinkers not seeking treatment
- Heavy drinkers seeking treatment
- Drinkers with depression seeking treatment



For more information and to find out if you can earn compensation for participating in one of these studies, contact:

(858) 784-7867 (STOP)



raise your hand to go to the restroom, you could chew gum, you could get up from your desk and stretch, you could read whatever you wanted, even comic books and Nancy Drew and Clara Barton. We had no dress code; girls could wear dungarees.

Even though Mrs. Raskin said not to worry, we did worry. We'd been born during World War II. We'd grown up seeing *Life* magazine photographs of dead soldiers and dead children and death camps and Japanese (whom we called "Japs") atom bomb survivors. The bomb survivors' faces were burned off, and the skin lay in ropes along their arms and legs and looked like chenille bedspreads. Before Saturday matinees we watched newsreels that showed starving Europeans in refugee camps and bombed-out European and Japanese buildings. We knew people who died in the war. The Nazis killed one whole side of David's mother's family in Buchenwald. His mother was still scared Jews would be rounded up again. So was David.

The Bentons, who lived in the apartment next to me and my mother, were in a Japanese concentration camp for two years. Anne and Jane Benton, who were my age, almost starved to death in the camp, and when they got out and came to America, they had to get false teeth. Plus, we regularly had bomb drills at school; and all around the city, yellow signs showed you where to go in case of bombs, and we'd read about what the A-bomb could do to us, how at the epicenter we wouldn't know what hit us, we'd fry so fast. I looked at my arms and legs and thought, "These would fry up like Sunday chicken." I heard myself sizzle the way the drumsticks sizzled when my mother dropped them into hot fat in the deep-fat fryer. So Penny's dying scared us more than it would have if all we'd known about death was a dead pet or seeing Bambi or having to kiss a dead grandpa that the undertaker put a big smile on.

Mrs. Raskin ran off United States maps on the mimeo. The sheets of paper were so big that the Atlantic and Pacific oceans flopped over the sides of our desktops. The map showed all 48 states but didn't give states' names. We were supposed to print those in, from memory. Then we were supposed to print in state capitals, also from memory. When we got all through with this project, we would know all America by heart.

The afternoon Penny's mother brought her to school for her birthday party was the afternoon we were printing in each state's impor-

tant agricultural products. These we didn't have to know by memory; we were allowed to use our geography book.

Wheels squeaked across the hallway tiles when my pencil was right over North Dakota, whose principal agricultural product was wheat. I was just singing to myself about "amber waves of grain" when through the open door I saw Penny's mother pushing a high-backed wooden wheelchair. Penny's mother was tall,

with blonde hair in a chignon. She wore a hat, as all women did then, and she wore gloves. The wheelchair back was woven rattan, the rattan a gold color, and shellacked. I thought the chair looked like a chariot, as in

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.

Do you have trouble falling or staying asleep?



Pacific Sleep Medicine Services is participating in a national research study of individuals who regularly have trouble falling asleep or awake and unable to get back to sleep.

Interested participants must:

- Be 18 64 years of age
- Have trouble falling or staying asleep for at least 1 month

Study related care is provided at no charge, including a physical exam and investigational medication.

Qualified participants could be compensated up to \$1,350 for participation in this study.



Frustrated with Type 2 Diabetes?

Are you taking metformin/glucophage, exercising and eating healthy? If you are doing everything right to control your diabetes...

And your blood sugar level is still too high, we may have an option for you.

Local physicians are conducting a research study of an investigational medication for Type 2 Diabetes.

If you qualify, you will receive all study-related care and medication at no cost.

Qualified participants could be compensated for time and travel.



Do you think you have the flu?

You may qualify for a clinical research trial of a new investigative drug for the treatment of influenza.

To qualify, you must be 18 years of age or older, and have experienced a combination of the following symptoms within the last 48 hours:

- ♦ Fever of 100.4°
- Cough, sore throat or stuffy nose
 Headache, fatigue
- Sweating/chills

Qualified candidates will receive a medical exam, laboratory tests, and study medication at no charge. Participants could receive up to \$300 for time and travel.



Do you have Narcolepsy?

If you have Narcolepsy, we know how difficult it can be for you to stay awake during the day, to concentrate at work, to stay alert while driving, or just enjoy time with your family.

Pacific Sleep Medicine is testing a new investigational drug to treat the symptoms of Narcolespy. If you are 18-55 years of age, you may be eligibile to participate in this clinical study.

Qualified participants will receive study-related care and study medication at no cost. Participants will be compensated for time and travel.

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

877-927-5337

Pacific Sleep Medicine Services

Bridging the paths of medicine and science.™

DEPRESSION SCHIZOPHRENIA







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

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



MV36A @2006 SHC

the song "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot," another song I sometimes sang to myself. Penny's mother had stopped and was leaning over Penny, who slumped in the chair. Penny's blonde braids were gone. A ski cap, blue with white snowflakes, was pulled down over her head. She was skinny as a stick figure, and her face and arms looked white as white sheets looked in those days when all sheets were 100 percent cotton and mothers bleached them in hot water and Clorox. Penny and her mother were whispering. Penny didn't so much seem to make words as

noises, like cats' noises when cats meow and scratch because maybe it's raining and they're starving and cold and want back in the house.

I stared down again at my map. "North Dakota, whose capital is Fargo and whose principal agricultural product is wheat," I said to myself. I thought a minute about North Dakota and that it might already be winter there and the wheat long gone, already made into bread. I thought I was going to cry, so to keep the tears back I started again with "for purple mountain's

majesty" and "amber waves of grain." The next time I looked out the door, Penny and her mother were gone.

I wasn't all that close to Penny, except for our sitting next to each other on the small bus that took us to school and brought us home. I knew Penny was her parents' only child, and her father taught history at Columbia, a few blocks from where we both lived. Penny's apartment was on Riverside Drive, down the street from mine. Penny, from our seat together on the bus, one day showed me her bedroom window. Like one of my bedroom windows, hers also looked out over the Hudson River and the big Crisco sign on the Jersey shore that at night glowed across the black water. Sometimes when I looked out my window at night, I wondered, "Is Penny looking out her window, too?"

Penny and I, in good weather, almost daily played jacks together. We were both better at jacks than about everyone else. We played up on the school roof, ten stories up from the street, in a corner out of the wind. We



RESEARCH STUDIES



If you can cry a large amount of tears we will compensate you.

Please contact Dr. Bart Chapman 858-875-6700, ext. 108 or bchapman@oculir.com



Are you
experiencing
moderate to severe
Pelvic Pain associated
with Endometriosis?

You may qualify for participation in a clinical research study being conducted at the Genesis Center for Clinical Research.

Qualified participants:

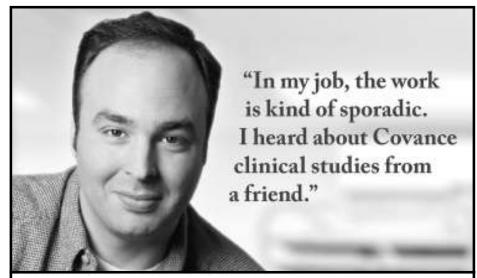
- Women 18-45 years of age
- Regular menstrual cycles
- Surgically documented history of Endometriosis

Qualified participants may receive at no cost:

- Monthly study-related examinations
- Consultations with a board-certified reproductive endocrinologist
- Study medication or placebo

You may be compensated for your out-of-pocket expenses and inconvenience.

If you are interested in learning more about this research study, please contact the Genesis Center for Clinical Research at: 619-260-0010



Qualified participants must be:

- Healthy Men and Women
- Age 18 to 65
- Non-tobacco users
- Willing to stay at Covance for 13 overnights

Participants will receive all study-related exams and investigational medication at no cost. Compensation up to \$3675 is available for time and participation.

Call Sun.-Fri. for more information: 866-818-3253

COVANCE.

9665 Chesapeake Dr., Suite 200 San Diego, CA 92123

Study 207530



to participate in Women's Health Research.

Participants must be 18-45 years of age.

Typical Studies Include:
Compensation for Time & Travel
Study Medication & Exams
Provided at No Cost

Call Accelovance today to learn more!

619-291-2845

5920 Friars Road, San Diego

Feeling Depressed?

Ask us about the SAPPHIRE Trial.



This research study is evaluating the effectiveness and safety of an investigational drug compared to placebo for the treatment of **DEPRESSION** in adults.

Call today to learn more about the **SAPPHIRE Trial** if you:

- Are at least 66 years of age
- Have been feeling depressed for at least
 4 weeks but no more than 1 year

Additional criteria will be assessed to determine your eligibility for this study. All qualified participants will receive study drug or placebo and study-related exams at no cost.

To learn more about the **SAPPHIRE Trial**, call:

PCSD~Feighner Research 1-877-FOR-INFO (367-4636) played straight "onesies, twosies, threesies, foursies," and so on; and we played "Cherry in the Basket," "Flying Dutchman," "Over the Fence." She had big hands and long fingers. I had small hands, but I was quick. We never talked much while we played. We concentrated on the metal jacks and tossing up the red rubber ball.

Natalie Oliver, who had frizzy black curls and slightly bucked teeth like the actress Gene Tierney, was Penny's best friend since first grade. Natalie and Penny often dressed alike, right down to the same embroidered edelweiss on their anklets. They had Black Watch plaid dresses the same and silver charm bracelets with the same charms: banjo, strawberry, unicycle with a wheel that you could twirl around and around, teddy bear, American flag, violin, ballerina. Poor Natalie, though, was more than chubby; she was one of the girls at whom boys and rough girls sang, "I don't want her, you can have her, she's too fat for me," until teachers came along and put a stop to them.

Natalie, ever since school started in the fall, got thinner and thinner. Also, she was quiet instead of her usual loud-mouthed and bossy way. She was a very bossy girl, always telling you, when we were up on the roof for recess, to not forget to take down your class's basketball or warning you that you'd better not get the jump rope so close to her when you were jumping hot peppers. After Penny got sick, when Natalie was up on the roof, she'd glance around at all of us, as if searching for something she'd set down, like maybe her sweater, and then when she came back to pick it up, it wasn't there.

Natalie went to Penny's apartment and visited. When we were up on the roof for recess or eating lunch, girls in my class who were nosier than I was asked Natalie, "How's Penny?" When they asked Natalie that, she always said, "Penny's okay," and her bottom lip trembled under her bucked teeth and she walked away from her questioners and stood alone and fretted her fingers and twirled the unicycle wheel on her charm bracelet. I felt sorry for Natalie and thought how sad I would be if anything happened to David or Mary

DO YOU HAVE TYPE 2 DIABETES?

If the answer is yes, Profil Institute for Clinical Research invites you to participate in a clinical research study testing an investigational medication for people with Type 2 diabetes. You may qualify for this study if you:

- ❖ are 18-70 years of age, inclusive
- are overweight
- have Type 2 diabetes and not using insulin to control your diabetes

Study-related medical care provided at no charge.

Compensation up to \$2,640 (some overnight stays required).

Please call our office for more information

and to see if you qualify:

(866) 308-7427 (toll-free)
or e-mail: studies@profil-research.com
Profil Institute for Clinical Research
855 3rd Ave., Ste. 4400
Chula Vista, CA 91911



Profil Institute for Clinical Research, Inc. is conducting research with an investigational insulin for people who have Type 1 Diabetes.

You may qualify if:

- you have Type 1 Diabetes for at least 5 years
- you are age 19-70

Benefits of participating in this study include:

- Study-related medical care at no charge Compensation up to \$2,900 for time and travel
 - 4 visits lasting approximately 12-14 hours each
 - 2 visits need to stay overnight
 - 1 visit lasting 2 1/2 hours

To learn more about this clinical research study, please call our office at:

(619) 409-1257

or e-mail: studies@profil-research.com 855 3rd Avenue, Suite 4400 Chula Vista, CA 91911

We are located on a major bus line (929) and a shuttle is available from the H Street Trolley Center.

Are you one of the 17 million people in America who currently have diabetes?

If you have type 2 diabetes...

Or, if you have experienced symptoms such as increased thirst, increased urination, increased appetite, and fatigue, and a diagnosis is confirmed by your doctor...

You may be eligible to...participate in a clinical research study for a potential study drug for diabetes that is not approved by the Food and Drug Administration. You may be eligible if:

- You have been diagnosed with type 2 diabetes
- You are between 18 and 75 years of age
- You are not currently being treated with insulin

For more information, please call: 858-552-8585 extension 6449

The Center for Metabolic Research at the VA San Diego Healthcare System



Smoking too much pot?

WE WANT TO HELP YOU STOP!

Researchers at the Scripps Research Institute are working to develop treatments to help you quit smoking marijuana. This 12-week program involves medication.

For more information and to see if you qualify,

please call **858-784-7867**

or visit www.pearsoncenter.org

for more detailed information.



Margaret, who was my other best friend at school, or to my best friend at home, William, who lived in the same apartment house I lived in. I felt most sorry though for Penny, especially when I walked over to the spot on the roof where we'd

splayed out our legs in front of us and scattered out our jacks and tossed up the red ball. I thought, "Penny won't ever get to play jacks again." You couldn't play in bed. I'd

One look at Penny and even a kid knew Penny was

RESEARCH STUDIES

Did You Overdo It?



Lower **Back Strain, Sprain or Back Spasms?**

We are conducting a clinical research trial with an investigational dose of a medication that has been prescribed by physicians for more than 40 years to treat these uncomfortable symptoms.

18-65 years of age. 3 visits within 7 days. Qualified participants receive study-related care, study medication, and may be compensated for time and travel.

Next time you have low back pain/spasms, please call. (Must be within 3 days of first symptoms.)

San Diego Sports Medicine and Family Health Center

6699 Alvarado Rd., Suite 2100 San Diego, CA 92120 619-229-3909

dying. Penny, who only the year before, when we had swimming class, got teased because she had little rolls of fat under her arms and chubby legs, and Penny, who only the year before came to Halloween Night as Cinderella and looked pretty as a picture in a blue taffeta ball gown, and Penny, who could scoop up all ten jacks in her big hand, now didn't weigh even maybe 50 pounds, and she didn't look like she could even toss the little red ball up in the air. much less scoop up a palmful of jacks.

Our room was two doors from Penny's, so we heard her class saying, "Hello, Penny! Hello!" A few minutes later, while we were still penciling in agricultural products, the sweet burning wax smell drifted in from Penny's birthday candles. Penny's class sang, "Happy Birthday, dear Penny, Happy Birthday to you!" I looked down at my geography book, and it all seemed to have turned to print and picture. I couldn't make any sense

Mary Margaret, who sat in front of me, told David and me that she thought Penny might die during her party. David said to Mary Margaret not to say that, because already he felt sick to his stomach. I felt sick to my stomach too. David thought maybe he'd throw up. I was afraid I would too. David politely told Mary Margaret to shut up about people dying at school.

(continued on page 50)

MEDICINE EDUCATION RESEARCH RESEARCH LATSCRIPPS CLINIC SCRIPPS CLINIC



HEPATITIS

Have you been diagnosed with hepatitis C and not yet been treated?

We are conducting a clinical trial with investigational treatments for people with hepatitis C

To be eligible you must:

- Not have been treated with interferon for hepatitis C
- Not have recent drug use or alcohol abuse

Other restrictions will apply.

If you qualify for a study, you will receive study medication, lab work and study related physician visits at no cost.

> For more information, please call (858)554-6952

The pain of Diabetic Neuropathy can be Intense.

Trying to find better ways to relieve it is the point of our research study. Join us.

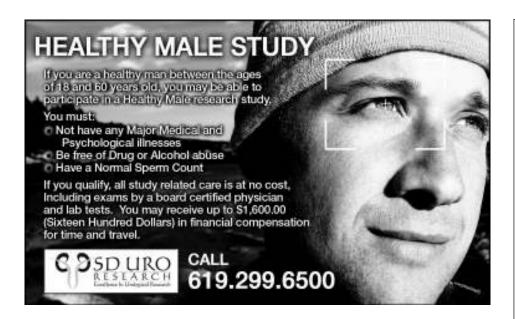
You may be eligible to participate in a clinical research study of an investigational oral drug for hand, foot, and leg pain caused by diabetes-related nerve damage if you:

- Are at least 18 years old
- Have been diagnosed with type 1 or type 2 diabetes with stable blood sugar levels for the last 4 weeks
- Have had painful diabetic peripheral neuropathy (nerve damage to the limbs) for the last 6 months to 10 years
- Have not had a stroke or heart attack within the last year

Study participation lasts about 6-11 weeks and requires 8 office visits. All study-related office visits, medical evaluations, and study medication will be provided to qualified study participants at no cost.

For more information, please call:

Diabetes and Endocrine Associates 619-466-4899



Considering Dental Implants?

The American Dental Implant Institute Baja is looking for qualified patients to assist us with an ongoing teaching program in a top facility 100 yards from the U.S. border in Tijuana.

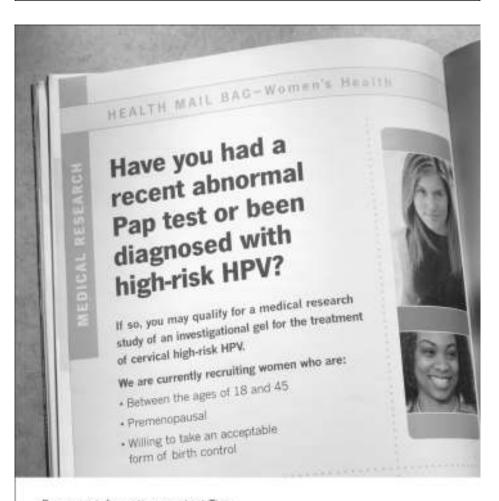
Work performed by U.S. Dental Director, internationally published,

U.S. dentist of 25 years, Fellow of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry.

Participants allowing others to observe patient treatment will be offered greatly reduced fees and top-quality care. Why pay thousands more?

For a free consult call: 619-884-5352

Second opinions welcome. We accept most U.S. insurance companies.



For more information, contact Tina Genesis Center for Clinical Research 3651 Fourth Ave., Suite 200, San Diego, CA 92103 619-542-0560 www.indigo4women.com



Research Studies Offered by Medical Center for Clinical Research



Has a decrease in sexual desire come between you?



You're invited to see if you may qualify for a medical research study for women concerned about their decreased sexual desire. The purpose of the study is to determine the effectiveness and safety of an investigational medication for Hypoactive Sexual Desire Disorder (HSDD). Physicians right in your area are conducting the medical research study.

Each individual will be evaluated to determine her eligibility. If you qualify, you'll receive study medication, medical exams, and lab tests at no charge. Financial compensation for time and travel may also be available.

Medical Center for Clinical Research 619-521-2841

PERIODS

...Too Long?...Too Heavy? ...Too Frequent?

If your periods have increased in length, gotten too heavy, or seem to be coming far too often, a research study is underway using an investigational oral medication taken daily to address one or more of these issues. If you are over 18 years of age and struggle with any of these menstrual problems you may want to consider this research study.

To possibly qualify:

- Be at least 18 years or older
- Have either heavy, long, or too frequent menstrual periods
- Not presently on oral contraception or willing to go off

Participants may receive:

- Exam and consultation by a board-certified physician
- Study-related lab studies, sonogram, and mammography (if over the age of 34)
- Compensation up to \$1150 for your time and travel

For more information, call:

619-521-2841

MEDICAL CENTER FOR CLINICAL RESEARCH

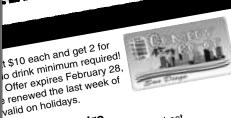
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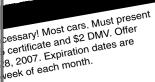
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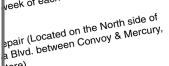
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Buy one entree plus 2 drinks and get a 2nd entree of equal or lesser value free. One coupon per table. Not equal or lesser value free. One coupon per lable, valid with other offers. Offer expires February 28, valid will office of 2007. Expiration dates are renewed the last week of each month. Coupon not valid on holidays.

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Acien quicine Highlights are Balinace Eigh Bali Sate Thai Denayo Dall Thai Cale's menu symbolizes a journey throughout Southeast Asian cuisine. Highlights are Balinese Fish, Bali Sate, Thai Papaya or benead by our wine and hear collections. Reader Coupons 619-235-3000

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I Ran, Ran, Ran

(continued from page 46)

Because everyone knew that David was sensitive, Mary Margaret didn't say it again.

Mary Margaret turned around to me, her face so close I could see the tiny dark hairs quiver in her nose holes. Mary Margaret had gigantic, pretty hazel eyes and fluffy eyelashes, but her left eye wandered, especially when she was nervous or excited. I could see that the iris of her bad eye had floated off to the side. She asked what I thought people gave Penny for birthday presents.

Her breath smelled like lunch, which had been tomato soup and toasted cheese sandwiches. I couldn't answer her question. I couldn't guess.

I was clear to South Dakota, capital, Pierre, and chief agricultural product also wheat, by the time Penny's class was telling Penny good-bye and get well soon. The next thing we knew, Penny's mother was rolling Penny back down the hall, Penny still slumped over, except this time her long bony fingers gripped a cardboard box stacked up with presents. The box sat on her lap. Some of the girls in our class waved. I didn't. My hand felt heavy as lead. It didn't matter. Penny didn't look our way. She just kept slumping and gripping her box. The box teetered. The wheelchair's sounds of squeaking retreated down the hall.

Probably a minute passed, and Penny's class started crying loud sobs. Their crying started Mary Margaret and several other girls in our room crying. Mrs. Raskin walked from desk to desk and handed out Kleenex and patted people's shoulders with her cool hands. She said, "Let's take a time out and put our heads on our desks."

You could hear us breathing in and breathing out. You could hear Mary Margaret's nose snurfle. You could hear Mrs. Raskin riffle papers. You could hear the big Fifth Avenue busses' brakes whine down below in the street. You could hear footsteps and whispers out in the hall; you could hear sobs from Penny's classroom. You could hear the pigeons land on the windowsills and flutter up again into the sky. But you couldn't see anything except what went on in your mind because during time outs you kept your eyes closed tight.

During time outs, my mind worked the way it worked at night when I lay

in my bed, watching the yellow eye of the radio and listening to my programs. I saw what was going on in the radio show also going on in pictures in my mind. What I saw wasn't like movies; it was a series of still shots, usually black-and-white. That afternoon while I lay my head in the cradle of my crossed arms, I "saw" Penny in her apartment. She was in her bed. Her dolls were propped up around her. Her mother was feeding her milk toast, torn pieces of toasted white bread afloat in buttery, warm milk. "Let's take another bite," her mother said. Penny turned away her head, clamped shut her lips.

I knew Penny had a cat, so I added a fat tortoise shell tom to Penny's bed. The cat purred. Penny stroked the cat with her skinny hand. Then I took away the cat, lifted his tubby, warm body off the bed, and stood him on the carpet, figuring Penny's parents wouldn't let the cat get on her bed, because it might carry germs.

The next picture I saw was Natalie. I had her bring Penny the newest Little Lulu comic to cheer Penny up. I stopped for a while and imagined Little Lulu. I really liked Little Lulu's funny Dutch-boy haircut and her big round eyes. I liked the way she was always getting into

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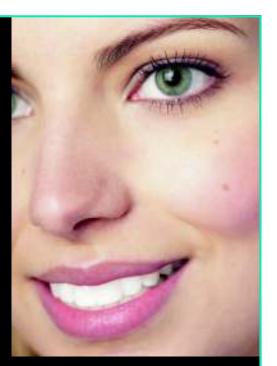




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trouble. Then Natalie crawled up on Penny's bed and sat cross-legged across from Penny. The next picture I saw was a night picture, a lurid, white full moon hanging outside Penny's window and from Jersey, the Crisco sign glowing. Penny's mother knelt by Penny's bed and prayed that her little girl might live. She offered her life and her husband's in exchange for Penny's. Penny's father stood behind Penny's mother, his hand on her shoulder. I had never seen her father. I gave him brown hair, brown eyes, a face with a goofy grin like the movie star Dana Andrews, who was in The Best Years of Our Lives, with Fredric March and Myrna Loy. I dressed him in the brown suit, white shirt, tie, and brown fedora the father wore in one of my readers. Tears streamed down his cheeks. I started to cry a little too.

After our time out, Mrs. Raskin said Penny's parents and her doctors were doing everything for her that they knew to do. She said, "They are making her comfort-

able." She asked if we had questions.

"Why," Mary Margaret asked, running her fingers through her own auburn poodle cut, "did Penny's hair all fall out?"

"Penny's radium treatments," said Mrs. Raskin, "made her hair fall out." The radium treatments were to David right away said he'd vomit and was going to go home. Mary Margaret gripped onto my hand, and her hazel eyes got big and wide; and the eye that wandered, wandered so far off to the side that I thought it might disappear altogether. Me, I sank down inside myself like a stone.

I wrote my will. I left David my books, including my Homes and Habitats of Wild Animals that he liked so much.

kill the bad cells.

Exactly two weeks after Penny's birthday party, when Mrs. Raskin told us *Penny died last night*, all of us girls fluttered nervously about each other, touching each other's fingertips and rubbing our own fleshy arms, the skin dry from steam heat.

This was a school where liberals sent their children. We were careful about bringing religion into the classroom, except in history class, which was alright with me. So when the principal, Mr. Harris, who had salt-and-pepper crewcut hair and big shoulders that stretched his

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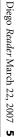


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jackets tight, came to our room to say Penny died, and when Mrs. Raskin told us Penny died, neither said God called Penny to heaven to be with Him. No one said that angels with clean wide wings pulled a beautiful gold chariot, Penny holding on tight to a roll bar that stretched across the front seat like the roll bar on the roller coaster at Coney Island, up through the dark sky. No one said God so loved Penny that He wanted her with Him. They iust said, "Penny died last night. Penny's dead."

Mary Margaret bawled. When she turned around in her seat, I saw the tears spurt out of her drifting eye. Her tears smelled like rain falling on hot pavement. Me, when we first heard, as I said, I sank like a stone. I knew Penny had gone beyond us, that she was more like a faraway twinkling star now instead of a living being you could talk to who would talk back to you. I couldn't help thinking she'd rather be here with us, crying so hard like Mary Margaret did that snot ran in strings out

her nose. I thought she'd rather be here, even wetting her pants or something that embarrassing, than already dead, just a sack emptied of herself like the grocery sack that sits empty on the kitchen counter after you take out

mother sent you for to the store on the corner of 120th and Broadway.

David did vomit, and after he vomited, he went home. Mary Margaret worked herself up into an asthma attack and had to

My mother, wrapped up in her pink quilted sateen bathrobe, and her high heels off and her pink scuffs on her bare feet, said, "You hardly knew her. Eat your peas."

the hamburger meat, the elbow macaroni, the celery, and the Birdseve frozen peas, and the two cans of Vienna sausages, and the can of Dutch Cleanser to clean out the tub and sink that your

use her Benzedrine inhaler and spend all lunch period on the infirmary cot. Outside it was cold, and our windows were closed, and the steam heat puffed from the immense silver radiators.

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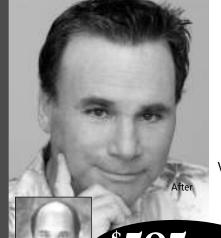
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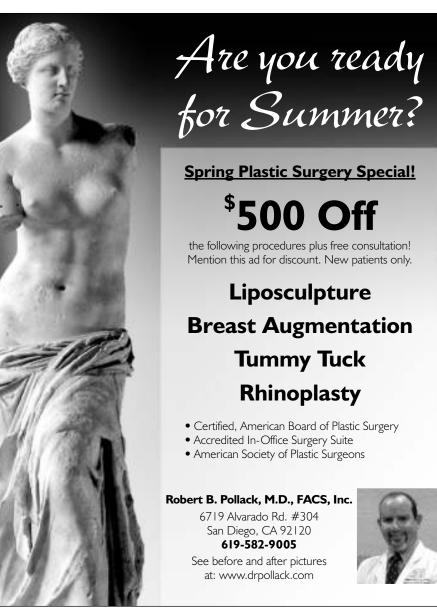
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The room smelled of David's vomit, which made me keep feeling I'd vomit. But I didn't dare try to go home, because my mother was at work and nobody was at my apartment. I whispered to Mrs. Raskin, "Couldn't we open the windows for a while to get out David's vomit smell?" Poor Mrs. Raskin said she was afraid she'd give us a chill if she did that, and she called for a time out, and I put my head down on my arms and thought about Penny's dolls, still propped up against the pillows on her bed. I thought about her plaid dresses on hangers in her closet; her arms never would slip into their sleeves again. I wondered if she bled and vomited and screamed before she died and asked myself if I could tolerate such misery and bear up bravely when pain chased me out of my body up into the dark sky.

Late that afternoon, during the day's last recess, the wind was high enough on the roof that I wrapped my wool scarf around my neck. Bronze shadows heaped up in the corner where Penny and I'd played jacks. The pigeons fluttered down and settled atop the wall that ran round the roof. I was scared of the pigeons; I was scared to walk into those shadows. I thought, Is Penny looking down on us? I thought, Is she sad that life's going on without her? I thought, Is she clawing at heaven's gate to get out and back to her mom and dad and Natalie Oliver? I was also afraid that if I went and stood in that corner, that it would be bad luck, that God might just reach down and pluck me up, the way hawks pluck up mice.

At home that evening I wasn't hungry for the meat loaf and mashed potatoes and onion gravy and Birdseye frozen green peas. My mother said, "What's wrong with you?"

I said, "Penny died," and started crying.

My mother, already wrapped up in her pink quilted sateen bathrobe, and her high heels off and her pink scuffs on her bare feet, said she'd had a bad day. She said, "You hardly knew her. Eat your peas."

Natalie Oliver did not come to school all that week, and when she did come back, she looked even thinner than before Penny died. When we went down to the basement to the pool for swim class and she walked out to the pool in her bathing suit, she looked almost skinny. She said to no one in particular that she felt really cold. Goose bumps rose up on her arms and legs. She went up to the swim coach, who had as much white hair on his chest as you'd guess a polar bear had, and said she was too cold to swim that day. He put a big hairy arm around her, and they stood that way for a long time at the side of the pool. His silver whistle nestled deep in his chest fur. The whistle chain sometimes got caught in his chest hairs, and he'd have a hell of a time getting the hairs uncaught.

All that fall and winter, our class had symptoms. Ulcers were big in the news that winter. David thought he had them. Mary Mar-

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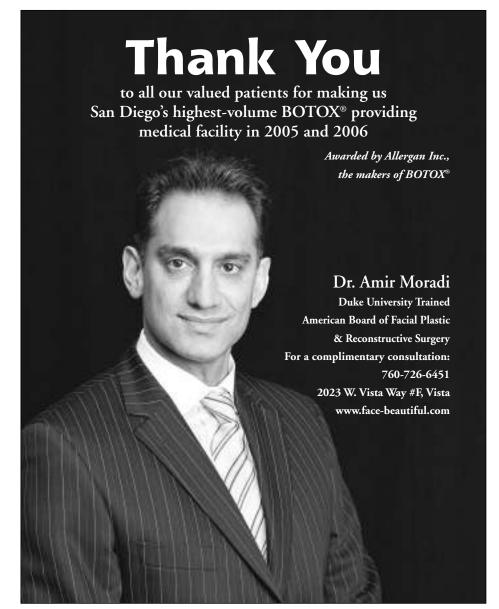
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garet got rashes and a huge ugly crusty sty in her good eye. I had stomachaches and dizzy spells and, after lunch, often felt weak and so sleepy I couldn't keep up my head.

I had little sense of the body's interior, of organs and arteries, liver and bladder and intestine. When I tried to imagine my body's inside, I saw pink smoked ham, a marrow-filled bone running down its middle. Any twinge or ache, any rumbling through my stomach, this inexplicable drowsiness, I'd be scared that death was coming at me with its mouth open and sharp, jagged teeth showing. A filthy, dirty, skinny, smelly gray wolf showed its teeth. Drool dribbled out the sides of its long mouth. I'd think, That wolf's mouth's watering for tastes of me. When I was asleep and dreaming, this wolf chased me. The wolf's claws clacked on concrete and made rasping screeches against my bedroom window

sill. I ran, ran, ran, and its dirty breath burned my heels.

My death waited around every corner. Every belching Fifth Avenue bus or speeding Checker cab might hit me. I hung back from open windows on high floors. I worried in the elevator that lurched up to our fifth-floor apartment that the cables might break and I'd drop down into the basement. I examined all my moles for black spots and my tongue for white coating. When I

did Number Two, I looked into the toilet for blood. And there was always the bomb, which would fry us all together, like some terrible leftover mess my mother scrounged together for Sunday supper.

My death was like those scary movies I saw that I reassured myself were only movies, play-acting. But I knew that someday, somewhere, the story about my dying would come true. I would drop dead or get killed. Knowing for sure I was going to end up dead, I couldn't figure out how I could get through seven more years of school, get married, and have babies, who also had to die. I thought maybe it would be better to end it right then and there, simply to stop the terrible suspense about when I would die and how.

I wrote my will. I left David my books, including my Homes and Habitats of Wild Animals that he liked so much. I left my Uncle Carl, my mother's brother, all the snapshots I took with the Brownie camera he gave me. I left my rock and mineral collection to David, even the box of labeled minerals and big hunk of pink rose quartz I bought at the Museum of Natural History. I left my dresses to Mary Margaret, also my paper doll collection. I didn't leave William anything; I didn't have anything he

Before Penny got sick, when I said my prayers, the "If I should die before I wake, I pray the Lord my soul to take" always made me feel comforted. I would imagine God in His long white robes. He walked around Heaven all day, just like the song. Heaven was green meadows where beautiful, spotlessly white sheep delicately chewed daisies and Kentucky bluegrass. I'd see golden harps and angels with wide white wings. I'd drift off to sleep, happy about green grass and white sheep and God drifting through meadows, a big smile on His face. After Penny died, the "If I should die before I wake, I pray the Lord my soul to take" kept me awake. I worried. Long gone were meadows and sheep, harps and winged angels. I tried to figure how God would take my soul, which I saw as looking something like a fortune teller's crystal ball. How

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would He get my soul? What would He do with it? Would it hurt, His taking my soul? Would it feel like having a loose baby tooth pulled?

One evening during dinner, when my mother wasn't tired, I asked her what she thought happened after you died. She said beetles and worms ate you. She said she wanted to be cremated, because burials and coffins were a waste of money and gravestones and graveyards a waste of space.

"But where do you go after you die?" I wanted to know.

"You live on," my mother said, breaking open her baked potato, the steam from the hot potato rising up into her pretty face, "in the minds of people who loved you." She tucked a pat of butter into her potato and worked the butter around with the tines of her fork."People remember you for the good that you did."

I didn't want to be remembered. I wanted to be the one who did the remembering.

Over the Christmas hol-

idays, my mother and I one morning walked down the hill from our apartment house. We were going many blocks away to a butcher shop to buy a duck for a dinner party my mother was giving. Snow was falling, and the air was so cold my breath breathed out white in front of me. Mama and I were wrapped up warm and had on wool socks under our galoshes and wool gloves on our hands. When we got to the block where the butcher shop was, I heard birds squawking. Mama said they killed the chickens, the ducks, and geese out behind the shop. Which meant they were really fresh when you bought them. Right before we walked into the shop, I saw Penny's mother. She walked hunched over, the way Penny was hunched in her wheelchair that day. She wore all black — black coat, black gloves, black widebrimmed felt hat, black scarf wound round her neck. The scarf rose clear up over her mouth. Her eyes looked out at me from under the brim of her hat and then, quickly,

she looked away. It was one of those mornings that Mama and I were getting along and holding hands. I thought that Penny's mother saw us and thought, "I wish my little girl were still alive and that we were walking through the snow and holding hands." I wanted to go up to her and say, "I am sorry Penny died." But I didn't. For two reasons I didn't. One was that my mother would've gotten mad at me, because she hated what she called "emotional displays," and the other was that how I really felt was that I was glad it was Penny dead and not me.

Natalie Oliver that spring got fat again, but I don't think anybody all that year sang the "she's too fat for me" song to her. Not even the meanest boys, I guess, thought that would have been right. Natalie was quiet, too, and no matter how close the jump rope got to where she was walking when we were hitting hot peppers, she didn't say one word. ■

- Judith Moore

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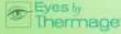




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A Taste of Wild Honey

All winter I have struggled to hold the bees in the hive of my head. Because I had no time to write about them, they threatened to rise up as a single blonde body and desert me. Or fall out of my head and die in disuse, like the drones

When he opened the door he saw a well-developed hive pulsing like a spaceship.

thrown out of a hive when the food supply is low. I am so far away from that summer moment when I held

a piece of comb in my hand, tasted wild honey.

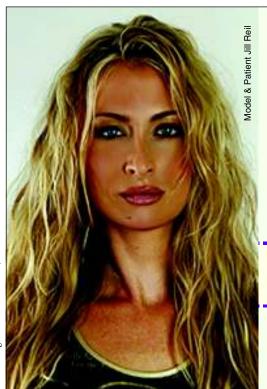
In order to write about the bees, since they are irrevocably gone now, I must immerse myself in beeness. In 1924, E.M. Forster wrote, in Aspects of the Novel, that "one day, 200 years hence, we shall have animals who are neither symbolic, nor little men disguised, nor as four-legged tables moving, nor as painted scraps of paper that fly. It is one of the ways where science may enlarge the novel..."



I went to the health-food store to get some propolis, a thick, black sticky substance that bees use to glue together their hives. A friend has been urging me to take propolis because it pumps up your immune system. I consulted the vibrant woman in her 60s who clerks at the health-food store. She told me she's been taking propolis for years. Then she shared her deeper secrets with me. She mixes a heaping teaspoon of bee pollen with a bit of honey and a dab of royalbee jelly; she chases this with a propolis capsule. "This way," she said, "you get the whole bee. This potion keeps you youthful from the inside out." Swayed by

her energy and her beauty, I left the store with "the whole bee"; perhaps that's the closest I can get to immersion.

The whole bee thing really started last spring when my husband looked out the second-floor bedroom window and saw a cloud of bees moving in the direction of the house. He lost sight of them, thought no more of them; a passing phenomenon. During the summer we noticed a disproportionate number of drowned bees, or frantically swimming bees, on the otherwise smooth surface of our grandson's wading pool. But the yard is bordered by ice plant, whose purple flowers shiver their



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delicate tines to seduce passing bees, and the garden is planted with brilliant orange day lilies with wide yellow throats that beg bees to enter. In the heat of the day, if you saw with your ears you would take the pepper tree for a hive; so many bees working so many blossoms. So it was that we didn't realize that a hive had taken up residence in our yard.

It was late summer, the dog days of August, when my son discovered the hive. An abandoned playhouse in the backyard safeguards forsaken toys, broken tennis rackets, ancient bicycle handlebars, rusted tools, and spiders. Really, we should toss a stick of dynamite into it, but we are the types who are surrounded by things whose sole value is sentimental. My son said he noticed a lot of bees going in and out of a hole that had rotted through the wood. When he opened the door he saw a well-developed hive pulsing like a spaceship. The bees had to work to accommodate our memorabilia; perhaps that is why the hive had such an odd shape. It looked like Michelangelo's hand of God, only pointing downward. A number of distinct runnelshaped combs spread wide at the top and narrowed at the end. It was nothing like the straight-arrow combs in beekeeper's boxes. And nothing like the wild hive I once discovered fleshed into a tobacco tree in the canyon behind my house.

Though we knew it was necessary, we were reluctant to call someone to come and get rid of the bees. The choices weren't good extermination or removal. Some years back our friends had a wild bees' nest in their chimney. They called an expert out to transfer the bees. Everything went wrong and the bees ended up in the house, flying wildly around, trying to escape. Still, we felt the hive had to go; in recent months "killer bees" had been seen in the area.

In our society there are dog people, cat people, horse people; people who attach their happiness and even a bit of their identity to an

animal. I can understand why in certain tribes individuals go on quests to find the animal that is their spiritual correspondent. Maybe it's because we look at our fragile bodies and say: Is this all? All we get to experience the world with? Or maybe it's because our animal self is buried beneath so much aftershave or nail polish. I have reluctantly accepted pigeons as one of my totem images, but bees were my first love.

When I was younger I used to pinch bees inside of orange honeysuckles and chase my enemies with them; briefly they lent me their ferocity and their power. As an adult I fell in love with them for real. I was walking my dog in the small oasis of undeveloped land behind my house, when I ran across a wild beehive. The hive was about four feet tall, and I came within inches of brushing my leg against it because I wasn't paying attention. But the bees were so busy they didn't give me a second look. They were crawling all over

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one another; not randomly, but rather intent on a purpose I could not decipher. Their translucent wings were flattened to their backs as if flying were a dream they sometimes had. Around the bottom of the hive were the dry husks of bee bodies. Why did they seem to know exactly what they should be doing? How could so many bodies work to one purpose? Why were their dead strewn around the threshold to their hive? This

wasn't the Burning Bush; still it seemed the hive posed a question that would be worthwhile answering.

At the time I was taking a poetry seminar at San Diego State University. My professor, Fanny Howe, had assigned us to write ten poems on the same subject. By then I was fascinated with the beehive; I checked on it every day and was able to sit in front of it and study it for long periods of time without anger-

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ing the bees. In the same field a professional beekeeper kept dozens of white drawer-like boxes filled with bees. I speculated that my hive might not have been wild, rather a renegade hive, a breakoff from the orderly, civilized bees, living domesticated little lives in white, high-rise boxes. My hive was statuesque, architectural, the bees' own design; it looked like a golden Gaudi cathedral. Yet for all my speculation I knew nothing about bees, so I decided to research them, to make them the subject of my poems.

One of the most vividly descriptive books I found on the subject was Sue Hubbell's Book of Bees. I learned from that book that the bees I saw crawling all over each other were the worker bees — which are females with atrophied sexual characteristics. They do nearly all the work of the hive: gather nectar and

pollen, make propolis, raise young bees, build comb, make honey, defend the hive, and take care of the queen. Whew!

The queen bee doesn't have to sully her hands with domestic work. According to Hubbell, "She is long, elegant, wasplike...easy to find among the short, stubby workers.... She will be able to lay fertile eggs for one, two, or even more years.... [Her] only purpose within the hive is to lay eggs. She cannot even take care of herself. The queen's attendant bees feed, stroke, groom her and carry away her feces. The workers are, as a result, aware of her condition, and when she begins to fail...they raise a new queen. When the virgin queen emerges from pupation, she roams the hive to murder any other queens.... The worker bees will not allow her to linger in the hive because she is not yet mated, so they urge her toward the hive entrance." How classic to be displaced by Lolita; perhaps bees and humans have more in common than it appears.

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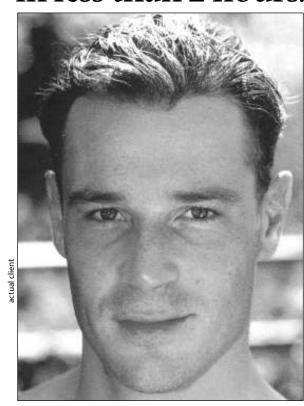
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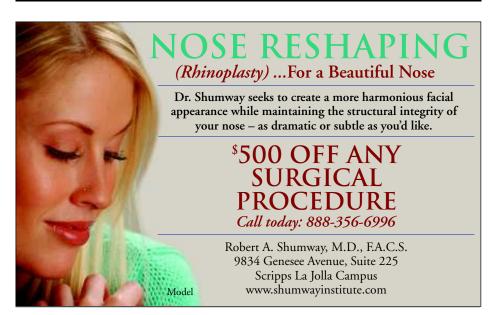
So the worker bees have a hard road to hoe, and the queen has to be nubile or else, but your heart has to go out to the drones. First of all, the drones only get half of the genetic material, which rather limits their possibilities in the work world. Their only role in the colony is to mate. According to Hubbell, "They are big bees, with big eyes, and they hang out in groups watching for a virgin queen. They are not very bright...and they have been known to try to mate with a swallow flying by.... But it is the drone's tragic fate that touches us. When a drone sees a queen, he flies high in the air to mate with her. He mates by everting his penis into her sting chamber, which closes around it, causing it to rip loose from his body, and he bends backward and

falls lifeless to the ground." An ugly way to go. But if the drone doesn't have his penis ripped from his body, a less dramatic but equally terminal fate awaits him. "Drones are found in bee colonies during the spring and early summer, when the workers regard them with favor....But after the queens are mated, the drones are...a drain on resources, so when the nectar flow begins to taper off in the summer, the workers bar the remaining drones from the hives, and they die." Could these have been the dry husks of bees I saw scattered around the bottom of the hive?

Perhaps the queen seems a tad vicious, the workers a bit dull, the drones' treatment barbaric, but there is another way of seeing bees: altruistically. According to Pulitzer prize-

winning Harvard professor Edward O. Wilson, "It is only among the lower animals, and in the social insects, that we encounter altruistic suicide comparable to the human level.... Ants, bees, and wasps are ready to defend their nests with insane charges against intruders." As we know, after the bee stings, she dies. A Kamikaze sacrifice for the good of the hive. Worker bees also pull together against the forces of nature. In cold temperatures they vibrate their wings to maintain the temperature of the hive. Bees are the dream of a perfect world. Each bee in her little Mao jacket working to feed the entire population — to feed the world not meat and potatoes, not the bare necessities, rather the frivolous, the golden — pies, ice cream, and mead.

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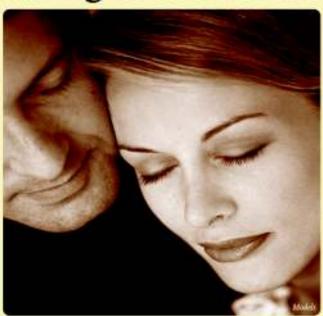
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Which makes the next thing my husband and I did seem so bad. We called the beekeeper who seasonally places hives in the canyon behind our house. We hoped that he could somehow use the bees. He told us he could help us with the bees and drove all the way from Fallbrook the following morning. Enter the beekeeper: Bill Mathewson. When Mathewson emerged from the playhouse, he said, "Oh, these bees are gentle bees, calm bees — they didn't mind at all when I disturbed them." He told us he doesn't tolerate bees that aren't gentle; if he gets an aggressive hive he requeens them, which takes care of the problem. Nevertheless, he said he couldn't use this hive because it was too well established. That the bees

were gentle only made us feel more troubled about our decision to exterminate the hive. We asked Mathewson if he could suggest any alternatives.

Mathewson was patient, came in for a cup of coffee and some bee talk, while I called the places he suggested might be interested in a hive. Sometimes a 4-H club or similar groups would be interested in acquiring some bees, he said. If the bees had just swarmed, he told us, he would be able to capture the hive and use it. When Mathewson said, "It's the old queens that swarm; that's what brought these bees here," I felt even more empathetic. Sylvia Plath wrote a number of bee poems in England the year before she committed suicide. She, too, identified with the aging queens:

Is there any queen at all in it? If there is, she is old, Her wings torn shawls, her long body Rubbed of its plush— Poor and bare and unqueenly and even shameful.

I stand in a column Of winged, unmiraculous women, Honeydrudgers.

I am no drudge Though for years I have eaten dust

And dried plates with my dense hair. And seen my strangeness

evaporate, Blue dew from danger-

ous skin. Will they hate me, These women who only

scurry, Whose news is the open cherry, the open clover?

The ragged wings of a newly swarmed queen are more than metaphor; the worker bees will clip the wings off a queen to keep her hive bound.

Bee products are Mathewson's primary source of income, though he also inspects bees for the State of California. Aside from honey, he sells beeswax to a large local company that makes candles. Some of his honey is purchased by local bakeries, and one customer uses honey as part of his barbecue sauce. Mathewson says it's getting increasingly hard to just raise bees for honey and wax. The cost of the hive frames, the queens, and the medicine keeps increasing, while imported honeys from Argentina and China are being sold cheaply in the U.S. and are driving the price of honey down. And,

though we are all conscious of the many problems that accompany overdevelopment, we fail to imagine everything. Mathewson said that he has lost many locations for hives due to the explosive development San Diego has experienced. The lower Sweetwater Valley behind our house is one of the last good places. The beehives he places there thrive on the mellaluca and the eucalyptus in the area. He said development has contributed to local beekeepers' decision to rent their bees for pollinating groves as opposed to collecting honey.

I asked Mathewson how often he got stung working with bees. He laughed and said, "As much as I want to because I usually don't wear gloves. It's easier to assess the temperament of the bees with

bare hands." Then I asked, "Is there any truth to the idea of bee stings helping arthritis?" He told me that this was a proven fact. "If I haven't been stung in eight or nine months," Mathewson added, "my hands swell up." He also said that healthfood stores in the area purchased his honey because many people believe that the honey from local flora and fauna can help to immunize you against allergies.

My phone calls for a home for the bees were to no avail. No one wanted the hive, and we finally had to make a decision about the hive, the dog, the grandchildren, and the trip this man had made from Fallbrook to Chula Vista. Mathewson donned his veiled helmet and strapped a red plastic container to his back, which was filled with

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70 San Diego Reader March 22, 2007

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nothing more vicious than soapy water, and entered the playhouse. Attached to the plastic container was a narrow hose, which he used to drown the bees. It was all over in a matter of minutes. The miniature civilization was washed away, and only the Greek columns were left as a reminder. Mathewson broke off some small pieces of hive and brought them out for us to see. As we handled them, the voluptuous scent of honey overtook us, and we had to lick our fingers. Then he broke the seals of chambers and showed us where the would-be queens slept like little poisoned Juliets.

Throughout the day bees returned from foraging and buzzed confusedly, as if afflicted with Alzheimer's, around the entrance. What ultimately became of them I don't know. The sight of them filled me with regret. I realized I had taken bees for granted, common as flies, birds, people. How could I know that they were disappearing, ravaged by mites and disease. That a feral nest of bees is a rare occurrence nowadays. Think of the Butterfly Effect in the Chaos Theory. James Gleick says, "The modern study of chaos began with the creeping realization in the 1960s that quite simple mathematical equations could model systems every bit as violent as a waterfall. Tiny differences in input could quickly become overwhelming differences in output — a phenomenon given the name 'sensitive dependence on initial conditions.' In weather, for example, this translates into what is half-jokingly known as the Butterfly Effect — the notion that a butterfly stirring the air today in Peking can transform storm systems next month in New York." I could only begin to imagine the rippling repercussions of the Bee Effect. The extinction of a feral hive is no small thing in a part of the world where nature itself is being extinguished. Where will wild oats, wild honey, wildness come from?

The more I looked into the subject, the more the stain of spilt honey stuck to my hands. Apparently wild honeybees in England are "racing toward extinction." And according to

James Taw, an associate professor of entomology at Ohio State, "Honeybees in the wild are decimated by bee diseases, pesticide problem...the mites, however, were clearly and definitively the last straw..." Taw goes on to discuss the repercussions this will ultimately have on us; he speculates that backyard gardeners and small farm owners will be most impacted as big farms can afford to rent bees to do the pollination. Doomsday, doomsday. I looked out my window to see if the world was still flowering.

Oddly, Thomas Lindemood of AALL Pest Control offered comforting news. I phoned him to find out if, in his experience, the report of wild-bee decimation was true. He told me that last year there weren't very many wild hives at all but that this year the bees are making a comeback. He said only recently he had to remove wild hives from numerous locations, including eight schools. Currently, the calls about feral hives do not equal the 30 or so a week he had before the mite invasion, but he believes the stronger bees have sur-



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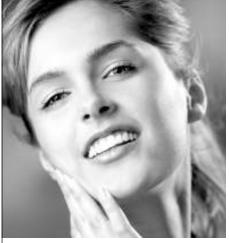
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vived, and the future looks good. Lindemood is the kind of man who knows his business and knows how to tell a colorful story. He's the one who told me that when bees swarm, after herding the queen for miles and establishing her in the new home, they chew off her wings to make her stay. "The queen," Lindemood said, "is nothing but a glorified egg-layer." He also told me that it's not uncommon for bees to wear their wings down to nothing when they flap them to heat the hive. When I commented that I thought a bee's life looked good because of all that community spirit, he reminded me that bees work from sun up till sun down. That took the wind right out of my anthropomorphism.

I asked Lindemood if he experienced any problems with the "killer bees" that have been in the media. His opinion was that to a large extent the threat has been exaggerated. He suggested that their poisonous sting derived from the poisonous flowers they fed on in Latin America — a phenomenon that diminished as they moved north. They are already working Africanized hives in Texas, he told me, which suggests that the bees can be domesticated. Lindemood mentioned something odd but very canny about approaching bees. He said that like dogs, bees can sense fear, and that fear manifests itself in heat radiating from the eyes and the mouth. According to Lindemood, the bees see ultraviolet red

coming from those two areas, which operates as an attack signal. To avoid triggering this response, he says, look down or cover your eyes and mouth when moving around a hive.

It's that time of year again. As Plath ends another poem, "The bees are flying. They taste the spring." I am more and more aware that for the most part, the bees want to be left alone, to go on about their own industrious business. Each morning when I cut across the field behind my house, hundreds of Mathewson's bees fly into me and around me. I know they have been out spreading the wealth, and I know the little baskets on their rear legs are laden with pollen. Mathewson reminded me of the crucial part that bees play in perpetuating so much of what we love. The beauty of a honeybee is that it is a generalist; it will pollinate many different kinds of plants. Besides working the flowers, they pollinate that is to say bring into existence - new avocados, melons, cucumbers, almonds, apples, not to mention alfalfa, which feeds the meat crops. Mathewson told me the one thing he wished he could communicate to the larger world: "A bee is so much more than just something that will sting you." ■

— Susan Luzzaro



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LETTERS

continued from page 12

Posted by Michael Rooney on 03/18/07 @ 11:13 a.m. "All citizens lived for the state": isn't that the sort of fascist or communist ideal our military nominally despises? Oh, and the majority of human beings who lived in Sparta were the helotes (the ones Spartan aristocrats proved their "manliness" by murdering), that is to say, slaves. The Spartan army was reluctant to fight far from home as they were terrified of the prospect of a slave revolt. Some heroes.

Posted by LtCol George Murray USMC (ret) on 03/18/07 @ 9:43 p.m.

Mr. Rooney is entirely correct: facism and communist ideology, much of which is promoted by left-leaning academics, is not something our military espouses. The intention was to provide information, not to promote their system. Yes, Leonidas was both a product of a nasty system (that did fail) and the harsh rigors of military life; and at a very critical moment, his personal leadership and decision to hold his ground in the face of death was commendable and saved democratic Greece. To some degree it was a less sophisticated period of time. And while it may offend the sensibilities of some, unimitigated violence does occasionally come with the duty. It's only celluloid heroes that never really die. Thanks Ray!

Blurt Published March 14

Posted by Parrothead1 on 03/14/07 @ 5:34 p.m. Jimmy Buffett's last name

has 2 T's... Posted by Monkey Bucket

on 03/15/07 @ 6:18 a.m. I discovered RoMak and the Space Pirates via Die Bene Tleilax's page while surfing My Space about a year and a half ago. I purchased two CDs of The Tleilax Music Machine, and decided to check this other out that he was in when they played DiPiazza's in Long Beach. They played an amazing perfrormance that was beset by a computer crash that wiped out most of their set. RoMak took the mic and went off on a strange but wonderful little monologue that seemed to keep things

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moving. They were able to get the computer back up and running enough to do a couple more songs, and managed to blow me away. We have since become very good friends, and they are definetely my favorite band period. I see quite a few bands, and I haven't seen anybody else yet that does what they do. They are truly original, work very hard at their craft and I think they deserve to have big time success.

Diary of a Diva Published March 14

Posted by Crystal on 03/15/07 @ 2:05 p.m.

I always find your articles very pleasant to read no matter the subject. I think the quotes at the begining of your articles are genius. Keep your great stories fresh. Loyal D.O.A.D reader

Posted by Chanel Bouvier on 03/15/07 @ 3:05 p.m. Naomi Wise, Tin Fork, Crasher then you, save the best for last(seriously). Am a wanna be foodie, like to see how the party-people

live and then I read your column, it's like reading an autobiography, kinda. (I love films/movies, don't like D.S.'s column). You are very witty and you keep that wit (along with your tongue) very sharp. I love your relationship with David. My husband's name is David so when you talk about your relationship (like this column in particular) there are often some eerie similarities. Your "advice" on how to diffuse a potential fight and the ability to be selflessly loving and attentive towards ones significant other is right on. Though my David hasn't quiet gotten down the "it's-not-the-eggnor-him" thing we're getting there. Fav stories "New Hire" & "Encountering Ex Friends". Kinda wish I lived south just for the possibility of "bumping into you" in

"Sweatin' with the Oldies," Diary of a Diva Published March 7

your element but I live in

No. County so unless I'm

down there whoop'n it up

it's not likely we'd ever meet.

As if you'd want to...

Posted by I Like Pilates on 03/13/07 @ 12:39 a.m. Barb, I thought the EXACT same thing about Pilates. My mom does it, and she is seriously out of shape. I thought, if she can do it, then it must be so easy. So one day (recently) I tried Pilates at my gym. After one class with a bunch of blue hairs, I was sore and more aware of my breathing. Now, I'm hooked. I love Pilates! I get a good workout and I'm not stuck on the hidious treadmill. This may be a backhanded compliment, but I usually don't like your column. I just read it because it was next to Crasher (I also like to party when I'm not doing Pilates). But, I saw your take on Pilates and really liked what you had to say!

T.G.I.F. Published March 7

Posted by gizmo on

03/14/07 @ 8:17 a.m. Dear John, I read your column last year about losing Judith Moore. I am sorry for your loss. It must be tough to break in a new editor. You can tell your editor for me that your loyal readers do not perceive last week's column as a personal gripe that abuses the nature of your forum. Your column has a unique identity that is solidly within the tradition of good confessional writing, like the poetry of Diane Wakoski, only more emotionally accessible to the reader and a lot funnier. If you are not going to be allowed to share your personal burdens, it will not be the same column.

Movie Review Published March 7

Posted by Peteykins on 03/12/07 @ 2:32 p.m.

Oh my, you're allowing comments now? This should be fun! Duncan, I moved to Washington DC six years ago, but I still check in every week to read your thoughtful, intelligent views on movies. Stephen Hunter, perhaps the worst film writer on the planet, still has a choke hold on the Washington Post, and the City Paper is strictly amateur hour. Thank goodness for the internet! I've been curious about The Host, and you've certainly helped me make up my mind to go see it. Cheers!

Collateral Damage

I feel compelled to respond to rabid attacks on Mimi Kotner because she documented my claims (her letter of March 1) that the U.S. military resembles a band of criminals and is responsible for triggering the retaliatory attack of 9/11. As a result, members of the drool-patrol (Albert Reingewirtz and Michael Fuentes, Letters, March 15) came sliding from their hideyholes — wielding baseless claims that Ms. Kotner is an "anti-Semite" and "ignorant" because she criticized Israel as a land-grabbing apartheid state. Unlike Kotner, who cited well-known experts, her accusers cited no facts. So here are a few. Within the original, pre-

1967 territory of Israel, all citizens must carry cards that identify them as Jew, Muslim, or Christian. Non-Iews are second-class citizens and are subject to more than 20 discriminatory laws. These laws define different levels of land-ownership rights, access to private and public employment, the availability of loans and mortgages, and access to a university education. There also are vast, intentional disparities in public spending for schools, health care, roads, electricity, clean water, and social services between Jews and non-Jews. Never mind the constant searches by soldiers at checkpoints that block your way when you leave home. It can take hours to get to a job. Finally, there is the infamous 25-foot-high wall. Studded with guard towers, armaments, and high-tech sensors, it has been built to separate Jews and Palestinians — grabbing up even more Palestinian territory. So Israel is not an apartheid state? To Reingewirtz and Fuentes, awareness of these facts makes one an anti-Semite or ignorant. Perhaps they would not be so confused if they opened a dictionary and learned the difference between "Zionist" and "Jew." The term anti-Semite does not apply to Ms. Kotner, who said nothing about Jews whatsoever. She did, however, criticize the state of Israel, which throws love-it-or-die Zionists into a spit-flying rage. But shrieking "you're no Zionist" doesn't have the knee-jerk cachet that a false charge of anti-Semitism has. Oops, I just dropped a bagel. Does it mean I'm an anti-Semite too? The fact is that Palestinians are paying the price for European anti-Semitism, an injustice that

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too many people refuse to acknowledge.

As to Fuentes's worthless charge that Kotner loves terrorists, he never does anything but throw out this piece of bloody meat and hope that the wolves howl. Ms. Kotner only pointed out the obvious: the socalled terrorists did not start the violence. Their homes were invaded and occupied, and they have nothing but their bodies to use in retaliation. Understanding this does not excuse it, but it does point to the source of the problem: those who initiate violence. Why is it that when uniformed military personnel slaughter noncombatants from the safety of high-tech tanks, planes, and unmanned aerial vehicles they are not called terrorists? It is euphemized as "collateral damage" by vapid military propaganda hacks and their media poodles. But when people in occupied lands abandon all hope because they are bullied, starved, and robbed by the USA and its proxy governments, they are demonized as extreme by those who began the violence. Fuentes should read Dying to Win, by Professor Robert Pape of the University of Chicago. Pape documented every case of suicide bombing from 1980 to 2006, and what he found should make us squirm with guilt. Instead of the popular image of religion-crazed jihadists (which more accurately characterizes pro-war false Christians and Zionists), Pape shows that suicide bombing is not a product of Islamic fundamentalism but a response to the invasions by democratic governments.

I also don't recall Ms. Kotner claiming to be a progressive. She did not hypocritically praise invasions in Bosnia or Darfur while turning her nose at the Iraqi bloodbath as progressives do. She did not advocate the forcible victimization (i.e., robbery) of her fellow man by means of redistributionist taxes that subsidize activities that progressives love but refuse to fund with their own cash. Please don't insult her with the "P" word. Expend your hate-energy on something good for a change.

> Lawrence Ludlow via e-mail



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Speedy Gonzales, Our Favorite Mexican

The Sting of Stereotypes

aco Bell had that Chihuahua talking on the TV, and people would always ask me, 'Hey, doesn't that little dog piss you off?' and I'd say, 'No,'" says San Diego State English professor William A. Nericcio. "Chihuahuas are indigenous animals to Mexico, the Aztecs had Chihuahuas, and yes, he had an accent, but accents by default are not derogatory. When the person speaking with the accent is a caricature who's a moron, then you get into the terrain of the hurtful stereotype.'

On Saturday, March 24, Nericcio will

LOCAL **EVENTS**

discuss his new book Tex[t]-Mex: Seductive Hallucinations of the "Mexican" in America at D.G.

Wills Books in La Jolla.

Nericcio seeks to understand how and why certain generalizations become popular beliefs. "One of the most universal figures of 'Mexicanicity' in American mass culture would be Speedy Gonzales," he says. Nericcio recalls that the "cultural tapestries" in which the animated shorts were set included poor, thieving characters with strong Mexican accents living amongst trash, drinking liquor, and chasing ladies. Not even the clothing was accurate, Nericcio explains. Speedy is dressed not like a Mexican but like a working-class man from the city of Veracruz.

'If you look into history, the Marines invaded Veracruz three times after 1880." Those servicemen sent postcards to their families containing photos of the local workingmen wearing white outfits, big

hats, and bandannas.

"You don't turn to Hollywood animators for provocative and challenging representations of other cultures," says Nericcio. "They're not anthropologists they want to give you something you've seen before and you'll want to see again. Even in the film A Bug's Life, the criminals, the grasshoppers, where do they hang out? In a giant thrown-away sombrero, and the sombrero is a cantina, and the music is Mexican, and they're getting drunk. I love Pixar, but when push comes to shove, the bad guys are going to be shown in an ethnic context.'

The most "bizarre" stereotype Nericcio has analyzed is that of Mexican laziness. "If any people are busting their asses right now, digging ditches and building things, it's Mexicanos. The stereotype of the lazy Mexican sleeping on his cactus is a hangover of English attitudes toward the Spanish because in Spain, they took siestas. It's a hotter climate, and it makes sense to take a nap those two hottest hours of the day. It's cold in England; you've got to keep moving, and you can't take a nap because you'll freeze to death. English attitudes towards the Spanish became the watered-down and morphed views Americans have of Mexicans.'

Nericcio, a Chicano from Laredo, Texas, has himself been on the receiving end of some of the stereotypes he has studied. "I used to shoot pool at Club Kensington with my friend, Jack Webb. One time Jack and I were there late shooting pool and there were a few bikers at the bar. One guy looked at Jack and said, 'You better be careful, you're shooting pool with a Mexican.' The first thing I did was laugh and look behind me for the scary Mexican. I didn't know I was the thing they were talking about."

On a recent flight, Nericcio intervened when he saw a flight attendant being rude to a Spanish-speaking woman. "The stewardess got all frustrated and told her partner, 'Attend to that lady, I don't know what she's saying or what she wants.' It was as if the language itself carried with it the odor of a sewer to this stewardess. I chewed her out and told her she should learn some Spanish if

she's going to work on an airplane in this country. Nericcio sees stereotypes as the articulation of the human need to express hate. Though he admits there are positive examples out there (e.g., anyone with a British accent is distinguished and intelli-

gent), he believes that Mexican stereotypes tend to be "pejorative, negative, and derogatory." The stereotypes that hurt Nericcio the most are those that deal with hygiene. "The idea that Mexicans are dirty, that we are filthy, is one that you'll

most often encounter in bars with drunk gringos. Nericcio

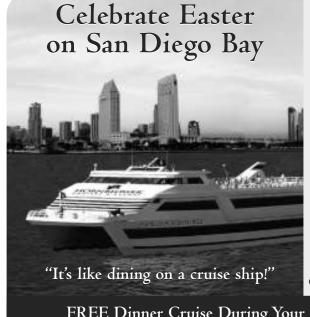
includes in his book New Yorker ads for the Four Seasons Hotel that were published in the early 1990s. "They say, 'Jose will press your slacks just the way you like them' and 'Maria will fluff your pillows the way you like them.' The one thing that I see all the time in Hollywood is the idea that we're all maids. The only time you'll see a Mexican on TV other than George Lopez, even on Friends, they're

— Barbarella

Tex[t]-Mex: Seductive Hallucinations of the "Mexican" in America **Book discussion with author** William A. Nericcio Saturday, March 24 D.G. Wills Books 7461 Girard Avenue La Jolla **Cost: Free** Info: 858-456-1800 or

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Events that are underlined occur after March 29.

HOW TO SEND US YOUR

LISTING: Contributions must be received by 5 p.m. Friday the week prior to publication for consideration. Do not phone. Send a complete description of the event, including the date, time, cost, the precise address where it is to be held (including neighborhood), a contact phone number, 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

Acclaimed Mexican Guitarist Nicho Hinojosa in concert, Thursday, March 22, 8:30 p.m., at Restaurant Mango Mango (Avenida

rant Mango Mango (Avenida Lopez Mateos and Avenida Ruiz). Tickets: \$20, \$25. Proceeds benefit Cruz Roja Mexicana. 011-52-646-178-3883. (ENSENADA)

El Alamo 200 Off-Road Race for motorcycles, ATVs, and fourwheel vehicles runs Friday–Sunday, March 23–25. Racers from both sides of border compete in challenging four-lap race on 50-mile circuit course at El Alamo, 50 miles southeast of Ensenada. 011-52-646-176-1637. (ENSENADA)

Alejandro Casona's Play Prohibido Suicidarse en Primavera continues its run at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, in Zona Río) with performances on Friday and Saturday, March 23 and 24, 5 and 8 p.m. Tickets: \$10, \$25, \$30 U.S. 011-52-664-687-9636. (IUJUANA)

Eek-a-Mouse in Concert along with Astrorumberos, Yumanos, Kush and Blood, Saturday, March 24, 9 p.m., at El Foro (on Avenida Revolución). 619-734-2333. (TILIJANA)

Copa Powerade 2007 — first stage of event promises more than 400 riders from both sides of border competing in first race of Mountain Bike State Championships at Rancho El Olvido (northwest of Ensenada), Sunday, March 25. All ages and genders are invited to participate in six-mile cross-country event. Registration (\$17 general) is 7–9 a.m.; first race at 9:30 a.m. Fee for spectators: \$2 per car. Directions: 619-664-4123.

The Comedy *Aventurera* may be seen Tuesday and Wednesday, March 27 and 28, 7 and 9:30 p.m., at Fex Palenque. 011-52-686-567-2720 x135. (MEXICALI)

The Famous Mexican Voice Actor Jorge "El Tata" Arvizu performs in comedy *El Privilegio de Transar*, Thursday, March 29, 7 and 9:30 p.m., in Mexicali's Teatro del Estado.

Busy on Thursday? Catch show on Friday, March 30, 7 and 9:30 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, Zona Río). Tickets: \$25, \$30 U.S. 011-52-664-687-9636. (MEXICALI, TIJUANA)

OUT & ABOUT

HAVANA BROWN,

Egyptian Mao, Balinese — Americans West Cat Club show, Saturday and Sunday, March 24 and 25, San Diego Concourse.

(SEE SPECIAL)



OUTDOORS

India Hawthorn, one of the most common flowering shrubs used in landscaping as hedges and dividers in San Diego, is blooming best right about now. The plant, which has several varieties, covers itself with blossoms ranging in hue from pinkish white to vivid pink.

Nature Cruises to Los Coronados Islands offered by San Diego Harbor Excursions, Thursdays—Sundays through May 20. Look for whales, dolphins, seals, sea lions, elephant seal rookeries, up to 80 varieties of birds, other marine life. Tours feature a professional guide. Fee: \$50 general, \$40 children. 619-234-4111.

The Pleasantly Pungent Odor of sage is filling the air wherever native vegetation grows on the county's coastal and lower-foothill slopes. Most common are the

black sage, with tight clusters of small, white flowers; the grayishleaved white sage; purple-blossomed, sweet-smelling Cleveland sage; and California sagebrush, characterized by soft, needle-like leaves.

With More Sunshine and warmer temperatures lately, sycamore, liquidambar, and other decorative deciduous trees around San Diego have responded with tender bright-green foliage. Cruise down 163 through Balboa Park to appreciate the vernal splendor of the sycamores growing in the land-scaped center divider. Or walk across the arched El Prado bridge and look down upon the same.

Yuccas of two varieties normally bloom in San Diego County from now through May. Year after year, the Mojave yucca (*Yucca schidigera*) sends up a blunt flower stalk of white, waxy blossoms from the same base — a rosette of daggerlike leaves. The shimmering white

exclamation point that unfolds above "Our Lord's Candle" (Yucca whipplei), on the other hand, is a prelude to the plant's imminent death. Mojave yucca is widely distributed along San Diego County's coastal strip and throughout the higher elevations of the Anza-Borrego Desert. Our Lord's Candle prefers the scrubby coastal foothills and the drier slopes of the Palomar, Cuyamaca, and Laguna Mountains. The two vuccas coexist with each other in a few areas like Torrey Pines State Reserve and Anza-Borrego's Culp Valley area.

Look for Migrating Swallows with Audubon Society birders at Santee Lakes, Saturday, March 24. Considerable hiking on level ground. Join group at 8 a.m. in parking area between first and second lakes within Santee Lakes Regional Park. Bring a scope, twoway radio if you have them. Directions: 619-692-3246. Vehicle day-use fee. (SANTEE)

Scat Happens! Look for signs of wildlife — tracks, browse, fecal matter — on trails during guided hike, Saturday, March 24, 8:30 a.m., in Mission Trails Regional Park (Two Father Junípero Serra Trail). Free. 619-668-3281. (SAN CARLOS)

Blarney Stone in San Carlos? No, but visit historical Kumeyaay grinding rock site during guided interpretive walks, Saturday, Sunday, Wednesday, March 24, 25, and 28, 9:30 a.m., in Mission Trails Regional Park (One Father Junípero Serra Trail). Free.

Audubon Society Bird Walk in Tecolote Canyon on Saturday, March 24, 9 a.m., at Tecolote Nature Center (5180 Tecolote Road). Free. Bring binoculars and drinking water. 858-581-9944. (CLAIREMONT)

Help Remove Invasive Plants and refuse along San Diego River — from I-5 west to river mouth — with Audubon Society volunteers, Saturday, March 24, 9 a.m.—noon. Wear work clothes; bring work gloves and weeding tools if you have them. Free. Directions: 858-273-5242 or 619-682-7200. (MISSION BAY)

Trail Repair Work in Paso Picacho continues in Cuyamaca Rancho State Park on Saturday, March 24, 9 a.m. Bring work shoes, gloves, hat, water, snack. Group gathers at Paso Picacho campground maintenance area behind fire department building. Free. Registration: 619-851-2285. (CUYAMACA RANCHO STATE PARK)

Bizarre Trees, cacti, and succulents star when Offshoot Tours hosts its monthly hour-long guided stroll through desert garden, Saturday, March 24, 10 a.m., starting at Balboa Park's visitors' center. Free. 619-235-1122. (BALBOA PARK)

Explore the Egyptian District, Vermont Street bridge, Irving Gill architecture, more when Patty Fares leads Urban Safari walking tour, Saturday, March 24, 10 a.m. \$10. Reservations and departure point: 619-944-9255. (HILLCREST)

Hike Rice Canyon, easy walk-through offers opportunity to observe a diversity of chaparral plants, Saturday, March 24, 10 a.m. To reach trailhead, take I-805 to H Street; head east to Buena Vista Way just past Paseo Ranchero, turn left, and continue to end of street. Rice Canyon parking lot is across from Discovery Park. Free. 619-425-5771. (CHULA VISTA)

How Do Native Plants Thrive on Low Rainfall? Find out during native plant walk in Crest Canyon, Saturday, March 24. "Gentle hike" hosted by California Native Plant Society focusing on common native plants, their uses and value, starts at 10 a.m. at intersection of San Dieguito Drive and Racetrack View Drive. Free. 619-501-3789, (DEL MAR)

Have Fun on the Trails when naturalist/biologist Carol Stanford leads moderate four-mile hike along sage trails in Daley Ranch. Meet in main parking lot (on La Honda Drive) at 9 a.m. on Saturday, March 24, with water and hiking boots. Reservations: 760-839-4680. Free. (ESCONDIDO)

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TALENT UPDATE

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

REI Paddle Demo and Beach Cleanup, Sunday, March 25, 10 a.m.–2 p.m., at Coronado Tidelands Park. Try canoes, kayaks, accessories; wear shoes that can get wet. Beach cleanup runs throughout event. Free, 858-279-4400. (CORONADO)

See Water Birds on Lake Miramar during easy Canyoneers hike, Sunday, March 25, 1 p.m. Free, Directions: 619-255-0203. (MIRAMAR)

DANCE

Dance Studio Hour presented by students in MiraCosta College's dance classes, Thursday, March 22,

7:30 p.m., in room 204 at San Elijo campus (3333 Manchester Avenue). Informal show promises dance in variety of styles. Free. 760-795-6815, (CARDIFF)

Mambo Lounge, dance to salsa music, as well as some bachata, merengue, cha-cha, Thursdays and Fridays, in Mission Room at Mission Valley Resort Hotel (875 Hotel Circle South). Dance lessons at 8 p.m., followed by open dancing 9 p.m.-midnight, \$7, 858-735-4159. (MISSION VALLEY)

"Viennese Waltz: Intro to Basics" covered at beginnerfriendly dance on Friday, March 23, in room 207 of Casa del Prado. Lesson at 7:30 p.m. followed by open dancing (8:30 p.m.). All ages. Partners not required. Donation: \$1. 619-583-9956. (BALBOA PARK)

Day of Dance is Saturday, March 24, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., in 5100 building (dance studio) at Mira-Costa College (One Barnard Drive). Day promises dance workshops, performances in styles including modern, jazz, African, Latin, Middle Eastern, hip-hop, lyrical, musical theater, ballet, ballroom, more, \$25 in advance. 760-757-2121, x6302. (OCEANSIDE)

Contradance Party hosted by Hester and Peter, Saturday, March 24, 6-9 p.m., at War Memorial Building (3325 Zoo Drive). Music by Frankenfriends, calling by Susan Michaels. Bring food or beverages to share for potluck. Free. 619-237-0503. (BALBOA PARK)

Romanian Dance Workshop by guest dance instructor Daniel Sandu, Saturday, March 24, at Folk Dance Center (4569 30th Street), Traditional Romanian (4-5:30 p.m.), Romanian folk fusion (5:30-7 p.m.), dance party (7 p.m.). Fee: \$7 per workshop or \$12 for both, \$20 for workshops and party. 619-281-5656.

All Things Swing Dance Party with music by Voo Rendezvous, workshops, dancing, performances, games, on Saturday, March 24, at Dance North County (535 Encinitas Boulevard, suite 100). Intermediate "Dips and Tricks" workshop (7:15 p.m.), total beginner lesson (8:30 p.m.), swing music for East Coast, Lindy, jitterbug, West Coast, more! Open dancing 8:30-midnight. Dance only: \$13; additional fee for lessons. 619-291-3775. (ENCINITAS)

American Latin and Ballroom Dance Party, Saturday, March 24, 7:30 p.m., at Pattie Wells Dancetime Center (1255 West Morena Boulevard). Dancing for singles and couples of all ages. Nightclub twostep lesson at 8 p.m. \$7; first time free. 619-275-3533. (BAY PARK)

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)

English Country Dancing takes place every Sunday, 6-9 p.m., at Jean Hart Academy of Dance (Oak Knoll Plaza, 12227 Poway Road). Callers are Karin and Chris on March 25, \$6, 858-676-9731.

Bellydancers Manisha and Carmen perform to live music by Middle-Earth Ensemble, Sunday, March 25, 8 p.m., at Turquoise Cafe Bar Europa (873 Turquoise Street). Open dancing. No cover. 858-488-4200, (PACIFIC BEACH)

Country/Line Dancing with Luis Sumaya, Wednesdays, 7:30-10:30 p.m., in Mission Room (upstairs at Mission Valley Resort Hotel, 875 Hotel Circle South). \$10, 619-985-5168, (MISSION VALLEY)

FILM

"The Secret," a film "everyone...from Oprah to Larry King" has been talking about, screens Wednesdays, March 21 and 28, 7 p.m., at Vision Center for Spiritual Living (11260 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard). Offering. 619-303-6609. (TIERRASANTA)

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, currently screening in the IMAX theater: Hurricane on the Bayou, Coral Reef Adventure. "Fridays at the Fleet" showcases Stormchasers (6 p.m.) and Volcanoes of the Deep Sea (7 p.m.) on March 23. Ticket prices and showtimes: 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

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"Illusion," starring Kirk Douglas as a legendary Hollywood director who receives a deathbed visitation "from a ghostlike character from his past," screens Thursday, March 22, 7 p.m., at Unity Center (8999 Activity Road). Informal concert by Canadian singer/guitarist Christoper Barran (6 p.m.). \$10. 858-452-2255. (MIRAMAR)

Banff Mountain Film Festival

returns for 31st edition, screening Thursday, March 22, at La Paloma Theatre (471 South Coast Highway 101; 760-436-7469). San Diego Natural History Museum hosts festival — with different films each night — Friday–Sunday, March 23-25. Featured films include: Anomaly, The Best of Jo, Cayesh — The Calling, Fatima's Hand, Kids Who Rip, Conflict Tiger, Yes to the No, many others. Screenings begin at 7 p.m. Tickets: \$10 in advance, \$12 at door, 619-255-0203. (ENCINITAS, BALBOA PARK)

"Walkabout," Nicholas Roeg's classic film (1971) exploring "modern man's estrangement from nature with picturesque and startling images of the Australian outback" screens for winter film series, Thursday, March 22, 7 p.m., at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (700 Prospect Street). \$7, 858-454-3541

Busy on 22nd? Film also screens on Thursday, March 29, 7 p.m., at Museum of Photographic Arts. \$10. 619-696-1969, (BALBOA PARK, LA JOLLA)

The Italian Film Ciao Professore! (1994) screens for International Film Series at MiraCosta College on Friday, March 23. See film at 1 p.m. in room 201 at MiraCosta's San Elijo campus (3333 Manchester Avenue). Film also screens at 7 p.m. in room 3601 on campus at One Barnard Drive. 760-795-6612. Free. English subtitles. (CARDIFF, OCEANSIDE)

The Sundance Grand Jury Prize Winner Quinceañera (2006) screens — in English and Spanish with English subtitles for Film Forum on Monday, March 26, 6:30 p.m., at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Free. 619-236-5800. (DOWNTOWN

Oscar-Nominated Films showcased during ongoing Carlsbad Library film series, showcasing Clint Eastwood's Letters from Iwo Jima, Wednesday, March 28, 6 p.m., in Schulman Auditorium (1775 Dove Lane). Free. 760-602-2026. (LA COSTA)

OUT & ABOUT

ANCIENT FOLK ART pysanky workshops, Saturday, March 24, St. Mary Protectress Ukrainian Orthodox Church.

(SEE LECTURES)



"The Secret," a film "everyone...from Oprah to Larry King" has been talking about, screens Wednesday, March 28, 7 p.m., at Vision Center for Spiritual Living (11260 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard). Offering. 619-303-6609. (TIERRASANTA)

LECTURES

"Mi Corazón Escondido (My Hidden Heart)" discussed by artist David Avalos during gallery

talk, Thursday, March 22, 5:30 p.m., at California Center for the Arts Museum, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). Included in gallery admission. 760-839-4120. (ESCONDIDO)

Chicago-Based Artist Brian Ulrich plans art talk at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (700 Prospect Street) on Thursday, March 22, 7 p.m. Assistant curator Lucía Sanromán will lead conversation with artist about his work currently on view in museum's galleries. Included in museum admission, 858-454-3541, (LA JOLLA)

"Lessons I Learned from the Duke" related by surfer Paul Strauch, Thursday, March 22. Strauch, winner of 1963 Peru International, developed his freestyle surfing skills under guidance of Duke Kahanamoku (a.k.a. the father of modern surfing). Free. Lecture begins at 7 p.m. in Manchester Auditorium at University of San Diego (5998 Alcalá Park). 619-260-4682. (LINDA VISTA)

"Islamic Art" is subject when Islamic scholar Renee Almassizadeh gives a general introduction to Islamic art, focuses on an overarching theme found in select pieces from SDMA's collection of Persian illustrated manuscripts during docent guest lecture at San Diego Museum of Art on Friday, March 23, 10 a.m. \$10. 619-696-

"For Every Season, Tern, Tern, Tern," Robert Patton illuminates this interesting species, shares research and photos for Audubon Society meeting on Friday, March 23, 7 p.m. at Tecolote Nature Center (5180 Tecolote Road). Free. 619-682-7200.

"Oasis of Stone: Visions of Baja California Sur" shared during slide-illustrated lecture by Jennifer Redmond for Sierra Club, Friday, March 23, 7:30 p.m., at

To place your ad in

the Wedding Guide,

call 619-235-8200.

Joyce Beers Center (3900 Vermont Street). Program includes photographs from book by Miguel Angel de la Cueva. 619-299-1743. Free, (HILLCREST)

Ancient Folk Art, Ukrainian pysanky (Easter egg decorating) workshop offered Saturday, March 24, 9 a.m.-noon, at St. Mary Protectress Ukrainian Orthodox Church (9558 Campo Road). Participants will complete two pysanky using wax-resist process with beeswax, dves, kistka (writing tool) by end of three-hour session. \$30 fee includes materials. Required reservations: 619-742-2720. (SPRING VALLEY)

"Prescription for Genealogical Addiction" offered by genealogical author Sharon DeBartolo Carmack for spring seminar hosted by North San Diego County Genealogical Society, Saturday, March 24, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., at Carlsbad Senior Center (799 Pine Avenue). \$30 general. Recommended reservations: 858-453-8469. (CARLSBAD)

The San Diego County Bird Atlas, and birds most often found in Hellhole Canyon examined by Gillian Moreland of Palomar Audubon Society for Friends of Hellhole Canyon Open Space on Saturday, March 24, 10 a.m., at Valley Center Library (29200 Cole Grade Road). Free. 760-749-5320. (VALLEY CENTER)

"Designing Landscapes with Native Plants," landscape designer Yvette Anderson speaks Saturday, March 24, 10 a.m., at Cuyamaca College's Water Conservation Garden (12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West). Care and placement of drought-tolerant natives, more. \$10. 619-660-0614. (EL CAJON)

Verdi's Il trovatore showcased in multimedia presentation by musicologist Ron Shaheen, Saturday, March 24, 10 a.m. (tickets distributed at 9:15), in Schulman Auditorium at Carlsbad City Library (1775 Dove Lane). Free. 760-434-2904. (LA COSTA)

"Benefits of Home Ownership" addressed during workshop by Amber Anderson of California Equities, Saturday, March 24, noon, at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Free. 619-238-6630. (DOWNTOWN)

Inspector Gadget, chef Bernard Guillas demonstrates culinary gadgets, demonstrates recipes, Saturday, March 24, noon, at Macv's School of Cooking (in Mission Valley shopping center, 1555 Camino de la Reina). Fee: \$6 or donation of

edding Gu A free, 24-bour line for planning your wedding. Call 619-233-9797 (on the Web at San Diego Reader.com/wedding)

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- 1011111111111111111111111111111111111	
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Bridal Attire	12
Bridal Shows 512	
Caterers	
Ceremony Sites	ii
Cl E11	ייי
Clergy	2
Consultants	
Dance Lessons	7
Decorations	3
Disc Jockeys 511	0
Florists	11
Formal Wear	13
Gift Registries	6
Health & Beauty 511	ğ
Honeymoon	ıĔ
1 tolley 110011	3
Invitations	
Jewelers 510	JU
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Reception Sites	17
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six nonperishable food items for San Diego Food Bank. Reservations: 888-424-3663. (MISSION VALLEY)

Parrot Body Language explained (1 p.m.) during seminar hosted by Parrot Education and Adoption Center, along with "Behavior Problems" (2:45 p.m.) on Saturday, March 24. "Everything Your Parrot Wants You to Know is focus on Sunday, March 25, at 1 p.m., followed by look at "Truth About Cockatoos" at 2:45 p.m.

Classes offered in room D-6 at Marina Village Conference Center (1936 Ouivira Way), \$15 per day. Reservations: 619-287-8200. (PACIFIC BEACH)

"Colcannon — It's Not Only for the Irish," states chef Elizabeth, who leads cooking class, Saturday, March 24, 1 p.m., at Quail Botanical Gardens (230 Quail Gardens Drive). Participants also learn to cook mulligatawny soup, strawberries in balsamic and red wine reduction sauce. \$35. Registration: 760-436-3036. (ENCINITAS)

"Voices in Wartime: A Poetry Workshop," the Langston Hughes Poetry Circle presents video with words of past poets "distilling the grim realities of war," followed by poetry workshop, Saturday, March 24, 3 p.m., at Malcolm X Library (5148 Market Street, at Euclid). Free. 619-285-9737. (ENCANTO)

Learn to Grow Plumeria Trees during Southern California Plumeria Society meeting at 1 p.m. on Sunday, March 25, in Casa del Prado room 102, Free, 619-443-4795 or 760-451-1472. (BALBOA PARK)

"Impossible to Forget: The Nazi Camps Fifty Years After" - opening events for exhibition of 88 photographs by Michael Kenna slated for Sunday, March 25, in Cannon Art Gallery at Carlsbad City Library (1775 Dove Lane). Holocaust survivor Si Frumkin — who spent time in several concentration camps, was liberated from Dachau at age 14 by U.S. Army — discusses his experiences at 3 p.m. Opening reception follows at 4 p.m. Free. 760-602-2021. (LA COSTA)

"Soul of Kazakhstan," photographer, world adventurer Wayne Eastep presents photographs, talks about culture, history, people of Kazakhstan in conjunction with "Of Gold and Grass" exhibit, Sunday, March 25, 4 p.m., at Mingei International Museum. \$15. Reservations: 619-239-0003 x116. (BALBOA PARK)

Religously Based Child **Abuse** — such as withholding of medical treatment — is topic for Keith Taylor when San Diego Association for Rational Inquiry gathers on Sunday, March 25, 7 p.m., in Joyce Beers Community Center (1230 Vermont Street). Free. 619-421-5844. (HILLCREST)

"The Maritime Museum and Its Star," Elizabeth Schlappi, native San Diegan and volunteer crew member on Star of India, presents history of this local historical gem for 12 O'Clock Scholar program at San Diego Museum of Man, Monday, March 26. The Star, a.k.a. "Iron Lady of the Sea," is now 143 years old, has sailed around world 21 times. \$6. 619-239-2001. (BALBOA PARK)

"Surviving the Next Pandemic: Bird Flu and Other Emerging Infectious Diseases" discussed by Michael Greger, M.D., Monday, March 26, at San Diego County Health Building (3851 Rosecrans Street). What is human role in evolution of this virus? What can you do to protect yourself? Lecture sponsored by Last Chance for Animals and All Vegan starts at 7 p.m. at Health Services Complex (3851 Rosecrans Street). Speaker followed by vegan pizza, salad, chocolates (6:30 p.m.). Requested donation: \$3. 619-583-9LCA. (SAN DIEGO)

Grand Canyon National Park Clinic, promising "insider tips on gear, permits, trip planning, routes" presented by Grand Canyon expert Bob Wade, Tuesday, March 27, 7 p.m., at Adventure 16 (4620 Alvarado Canyon Road). Free. 619-288-2374. (MISSION GORGE)

"SANDAG Service Bureau — What It Can Do for You" explained by representative of



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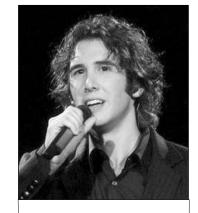
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Tool May 2, 3

Richard Marx May 4 Kathy Griffin May 5

Rod Stewart

March 24



Josh Groban

Vince Gill May 11 Harry Connick Jr. May 17 Chayanne May 26 Manu Chao June 5 Keith Urban June 10 John Mayer June 12 Alejandro Sanz June 13 **Kenny Loggins** June 15 **LeAnn Rimes** June 27 Brad Paisley June 29 Katharine McPhee June 29 **Moody Blues** July 2 **The Fray** July 17

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SANDAG (San Diego Association of Governments), Wednesday, March 28, 6:30 p.m., at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Free. 619-238-6630. (DOWNTOWN)

"Raising a Well-Adjusted Child Who Happens to Have Food Allergies" illuminated by author Linda Coss when San Diego Food Allergy Support Group meets Wednesday, March 28, 7 p.m., in assembly room #2 at Tri-City Medical Center, 4002 Vista Way. Free. Requested reservations: 760-505-9984. (OCEANSIDE)

"Petra: The Rose-Red City Half as Old as Time" presented by Professor Andrew Jameson, former history lecturer at Harvard University and UC Berkeley, Thursday, March 29, 1 p.m., for San Diego Museum of Art's Asian Arts Council. Jameson will reveal "splendor of Petra, considered by many to be the eighth wonder of the ancient world." \$10 general. 619-543-9810, (BALBOA PARK)

"Through the Lens: San Diego Photographers Take a Closer Look" - local photographer Philipp Scholz Rittermann offers gallery talk in conjunction with current exhibit "Annie Leibovitz: A Photographer's Life, 1990-2005," Thursday, March 29, 6 p.m., at San Diego Museum of Art. Included in museum admission. 619-232-7931. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Home Gardening Seminar offered by Master Gardener Association, University of California Cooperative Extension, Saturday, April 14, 7:45 a.m.-4:20 p.m., at University of San Diego (5998 Alcalá Park). Classes cover myriad topics, including

"The Good Bugs and the Bad Bugs in the Garden and Landscape,"
"All About Lemon Balm," "Taking the Mystery Out of Landscape Garden Design," "Training Young Trees for Structure and Form, "Bulbs for Southern California. many, many more. \$40. Registration: 858-694-2860. (LINDA VISTA)

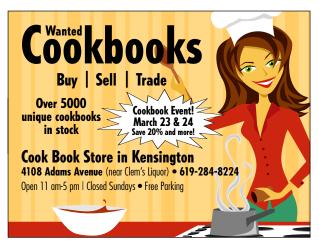
Master Paper Folder Robert Lang — recently profiled by Susan Orlean in The New Yorker — will fold a "monumental structure" on Saturday, April 14, 9 a.m., at Mingei International Museum — North County (155 West Grand Avenue). Included in regular admission.

Lang presents "From Flapping Birds to Space Telescopes: The Modern Art of Origami" at 1:30 p.m. on 14th. \$35 fee includes morning demonstration. Events are in conjunction with exhibit "Paper Transformed." Reservations: 760-735-3355. (ESCONDIDO)

IN PERSON

What If Everybody Read the Same Book, say, The House on Mango Street by Sandra Cisneros? And what if Cisneros herself presented a lecture and book signing on Thursday, March 22, 7 p.m., at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard)? Great! 760-839-4601.

"The Accidental Mind: How Brain Evolution Has Given Us Love, Memory, Dreams, and God" discussed by author and neuroscientist David Linden, Thursday, March 22, 7 p.m., for Brain-Mind Series at Book Works in Flower Hill Promenade (2670 Via de la Valle). Book offers "compelling explanation of how the brain's serendipitous evolution has resulted in noth-





OUT & ABOUT

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"Lessons I Learned from the Duke" -University of San Diego, Thursday, March 22.

(SEE LECTURES)



ing short of our humanity." Free. 858-755-3735. (DEL MAR)

Author and North County Times columnist Tom Morrow discusses his new book, For Love of Their Country, Thursday, March 22, 7 p.m., at Cole Library (1250 Carlsbad Village Drive). Free. 760-434-2870. (CARLSBAD)

African and World-Beat Music performed by Damaru with guest kora player Anadou Fall of Senegal, African dance by Lisa Ezzard, and bellydance by Shalimar, Friday, March 23, 8 p.m., at 101 Artists' Colony (90 North Coast Highway 101). \$10. 760-632-9074.

From Kitsch to Classic, "Charles Phoenix's Retro Slide Show Tour of Southern California" offered March 23-25 at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). Humorist Phoenix is expert on midcentury design, American culture. Performances begin at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, 2 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets: \$20 general. 800-988-4253. (ESCONDIDO)

Pat Metheny and Brad Mehldau in concert together on Friday, March 23, 8 p.m., at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). Their album is Methenv

800-988-4253. (ESCONDIDO)

"The Essential Medina, Father of Philippine Atomic Energy," memoir discussed and signed by author Kelly Medina, Saturday, March 24, 2 p.m., at House of the Philippines (Presidents Way at Pan American Plaza). Medina's father was Brigadier General Florencio Medina, founder and first Commissioner of Philippine Atomic Energy Commission. Free.

"Harp Guitars: Past, Present, and Future" with John Doan, described as master of "rare 20-string harp guitar...reinventing the way people hear the guitar today. Concert on Saturday, March 24, 7 p.m., at Museum of Making Music (5790 Armada Drive). \$18. 760-438-5996 (CARL SBAD)

SDSU Professor William Anthony Nericcio discusses his new book, Tex[t]-Mex: Seductive Hallucinations of the "Mexican" in America, Saturday, March 24, 7 p.m., at D.G. Wills Book (7461 Girard Avenue). Free. 858-456-1800. (LA JOLLA)

The Call to Life benefit performance, described as "a multimedia personal growth drama/musical" performed by Wendy Hill, Saturday, March 24, 7 p.m., at 4407 Manchester Avenue, suite

Mehldau. Tickets: \$45-\$60.

619-804-8424. (BALBOA PARK)

those under 14. (MISSION VALLEY) Bikers for Christ Concert by Darrell Mansfield, along with fifth annual bike blessing and blood drive, Sunday, March 25, noon, at Kennedy's Custom Cycles (3028 San Luis Rey Road). Also planned: barbecue lunch, bike games, bike show, vendors, more. Tickets: \$15 for adults, \$10 for teens, \$5 for those younger than 13. 760-295-

4861. (OCEANSIDE)

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The Psalmist Hour convenes for

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Fulfillment, poet Debi Mason,

Tinika Wyatt, Lucia Barrera-

Davidson, Saturday, March 24,

7 p.m., at Arts and Entertainment

Center (3026 University Avenue).

Open-mike opportunities. Emcee

is Danny-Boy. \$10. 866-815-6550.

Holly Near Concert that cele-

brates "her 35 years of peace ac-

tivism and social change music,"

Saturday, March 24, 7:30 p.m.,

First Unitarian Universalist

Church of San Diego (4190 Front

Street). Near will be joined by

Quinn Van Antwerp, pianist John

Boswell. Tickets \$20 general, \$15

for those under 18. 619-298-9978.

"Comics That Kill 14" — laughs

provided by Erik Lundy, Jason

Bang, Mark Gonzales, Stephanie

Escajeda, Christina Pazsitsky, and

Stu Swanson during stand-up

comedy show, Saturday, March 24,

8:30 p.m., at Milano Coffee Com-

pany (8685 Rio San Diego Drive,

suite B). \$6. 619-263-3335. Not for

(NORTH PARK)

tions: 760-635-3722, (ENCINITAS)

Supernatural Afternoon! Kim Harrison signs For a Few Demons More, and Vicki Pettersson signs Scent of Shadows, Sunday, March 25, 2 p.m., at Mysterious Galaxy Books (7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, suite 302). 858-268-4747, Free, (CLAIREMONT)

"Looking at Jazz" Series includes concert by pianist Richard Thompson at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street), Sunday, March 25, 2:30 p.m. Free. 619-236-5810. (DOWNTOWN)

Ian Tordella Quartet performs for mini-concert at noon on Monday, March 26, at Athenaeum Music and Arts Library (1008 Wall Street). Free. 858-454-5872, (LA JOLLA)

"Lost Boys of Sudan," lecture, booksigning by San Diego authors Benjamin Ajak and Judy A. Bernstein, two of four writers of true story of three lost boys from Sudan, Monday, March 26, 6 p.m., Malcolm X Library (5148 Market Street). They will answer questions, sign They Poured Fire on Us From the Sky. Free. 619-527-3405.

Author Russell Andrews reads, signs Hades, Monday, March 26, 7:30 p.m., at Warwick's Bookstore (7812 Girard Avenue, 858-454-0347). Free. (LA JOLLA)

Pierre Bensusan in Concert for AcousticMusicSanDiego, Monday, March 26, 7:30 p.m., at Normal Heights United Methodist Church (4650 Mansfield Street). \$18, \$22. 619-303-8176. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

"The Invention of Hugo Cabret," author and illustrator Brian Selznick reads and signs his highly praised new book, Tuesday, March 27, 7 p.m., at Warwick's Bookstore (7812 Girard Avenue). Free. 858-454-0347. (LA JOLLA)

"Stand-Up for Dummies Comedy Show" planned by Comedy Grill, Tuesday, March 27, 8 p.m., at La Jolla Brew House (7536 Fay Avenue). Performances by Kevin Johnson, Claude Shires, Tim Palmer. Cover: \$5, plus two-item minimum. 858-550-8088. (LA JOLLA)

"Who's Your Muse? Women Who Artfully Guided Technology" continues through March in honor of Women's History Month in UCSD Arts Libraries (lower level of west wing of Geisel Library). Short Attention Span Chamber Music Series continues with performance by flutist Ann Erwin of solo flute music by female composers on Wednesday, March 28, 12:30 p.m. Free. 858-534-8074. (LA JOLLA)

Storyswap — tell a story, folk tale, or myth — or just listen — Wednesday, March 28, 7 p.m., at Barnes and Noble Bookstore (10775 Westview Parkway). Story must be suitable for family audience. Free. 858-684-3166. (MIRA MESA)

"Pretty, Funny Women" — Lisa Sundstedt created and hosts evening with Natasha Leggero, (the always fabulous) Vicki Barbolak, Sarah Colonna, Rebecca Corry, Courtney Cronin, Wednesday, March 28, 8:30 p.m., at Comedy Store (916 Pearl Street). Cover: \$15. 858-454-9176. (LA JOLLA)

Jazz Vibraphonist Tim McMahon joined by bassist Rob Thorsen, guitarist Joey Carano for Concert Hour performance, Thursday, March 29, 12:30 p.m. in Palomar College Performance Lab (room D-10 at 1140 West Mission Road). Free. 760-744-1150 x 2316. (SAN MARCOS)

Science Fiction Author Cory Doctorow signs, discusses Overclocked: Stories of the Future Present, Thursday, March 29, 6:30 p.m., at Mysterious Galaxy (7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard), 858-268-4747. Free. (CLAIREMONT)

Author Discussion and signing planned by John Fitzgerald Med-







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ina (Faith, Physics, and Psychology), Thursday, March 29, 7 p.m., Barnes and Noble Bookstore (10775 Westview Parkway). Free. 858-684-3166, (MIRA MESA)

"Purlie" continues March 29-31 at San Diego School of Creative and Performing Arts (2425 Dusk Drive). Performances begin at 7 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, 2 p.m. on Saturday. \$10 general. 619-470-0588, (PARADISE HILLS)

Original Works presented by Coronado School of the Arts Repertory Company, Thursday and Friday, March 29 and 30, 7 p.m. Find campus at 650 D Avenue. Tickets: 619-522-8969. (CORONADO)

"Rain: A Tribute to the Beatles" is presented on Thursday, March 29, 7 and 9:30 p.m., at Sycuan Casino Showcase Theatre (5469 Casino Way). Tickets: \$25. 619-659-3380.

Double Feature Night with authors Indu Sundaresan (Splendor of Silence) and Tinling Choong (Fire Wife) reading from and signing their books, Thursday, March 29, 7:30 p.m., at Warwick's Bookstore (7812 Girard Avenue). 858-454-0347. Free. (LA JOLLA)

Jazz Jam Session hosted by Paul Ingram, Thursday, March 29, 7:30 p.m., at Caffe Salotto (2240 Otay Lakes Road). Bring your own axe. Expect "semi-pro" jamming. 619-421-8674. (CHULA VISTA)

Saving Baseball from Self-**Destruction?** San Diego Padres and Yankees Hall of Fame baseball player Dave Winfield visits Warwick's Bookstore (7812 Girard Avenue) on Wednesday, April 4, 7:30 p.m. He'll read and sign Dropping the Ball. 858-454-0347. Free.

Three-Time Pulitzer Prize Playwright Edward Albee discusses his new book, Stretching My Mind, Sunday, April 8, 3 p.m., at D.G. Wills Book (7461 Girard Avenue). Book collects Albee's writings on theater, literature, political and cultural battlegrounds. Free. 858-456-1800. (LA JOLLA)

SPORTS

Take Me Out to Spring Training!

San Diego Padres continue spring training with games most days through Saturday, March 31. Regular season begins Tuesday, April 3. Tickets: 619-795-5005.

Palms Classic Horse Show continues at Del Mar Fairgrounds through March 25, beginning at 8 a.m. each day. Highlight events are at 5 and 7 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. Dog agility speed challenge, Saturday, March 24, 7 p.m. Details: 949-496-4064. (DEL MAR)

Tough Enough? SoCal Scorpions are holding open tryouts for their Women's Professional Football League team, Saturday, March 24. Details: 877-717-8464.

San Diego Race for Autism, Saturday, March 24, at Sixth Avenue and Laurel Street. Registration starts at 7 a.m.; 5k run at 8 a.m., 5k walk at 8:35 a.m., onemile family walk at 9 a.m. 858-679-

Walk for Kids to benefit San Diego Center for Children, Saturday, March 24, 7:30 a.m., at De Anza Cove on Mission Bay. Registration at 7:30 a.m., walk steps off at 9 a.m. 858-277-9550 x244. (MISSION BAY)

Walk for Hope to Cure Breast Cancer sponsored by City of Hope, Saturday, March 24, University of San Diego's Institute for Peace and Justice Plaza (5998 Alcalá Park). Leashed dogs welcome. Registration: 7:45 a.m., 3k and 5k walks start at 9 a.m. Pledge. 858-452-6846, (LINDA VISTA)

Run for the Arts, fundraiser for Lakeside Union School District arts education is Saturday, March 24, 9 a.m.-noon, at Lindo Lake Park. Organizers plan "part iogathon/2-mile (sanctioned) race, fun/walk, arts festival, and student art/performance showcase." Registration at 8 a.m. Fees: \$8 for those up to 17, \$15 for adults. 619-390-2600. (LAKESIDE)

Kayak El Capitan Reservoir during excursion sponsored by San Diego Natural History Museum, Saturday, March 24, 9 a.m.-noon. Reservoir is nesting site for spotted sandpipers, willow flycatchers, great egrets. Fees: \$65 for adults, \$20 per child 6-12 in double kayak with parent (price includes equipment, paddling instruction). Reservations: 619-255-0203. (SAN DIEGO)

Bicycle South, Coaster North, join Sierra Club bicyclists on Saturday, March 24, for ride beginning trackside at Oceanside Transit Center (195 South Tremont Street) at 11:45 a.m. Riders will head south, with stop in Encinitas for lunch, ride back north via Coaster. Bring money for Coaster fare, snack. 858-453-5787. (OCEANSIDE)

Paws in the Park, walk benefiting Escondido Humane Society, Sunday, March 25, 8 a.m., at Kit Carson Park. Bring your canine pal to walk either 1.5-mile or 2.5-mile routes, enjoy festival/expo. Donation, 760-888-2235, (ESCONDIDO)

Bridges of San Diego County Ride some with Knickerbikers bi-

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Guitar

April 9th 6pm

cyclists, Sunday, March 25. The 25-miler starts at 9 a.m. at PS Business Park (4901 Morena Boulevard), includes Spruce Street footbridge. Free. 619-787-7427. (BAY

> Lucha Libre Live! Superstar "mini-luchadores" including Octagonsito, Piratita Morgan, Mini-Espanto, Mr. Tempest, Inferno, Mortiz, Angel Negro, many others perform Sunday, March 25, 5 p.m., at Blanca's Fiesta Hall (1770 Palm Avenue). Tickets: \$20 adults, free for children, 619-977-4323. (IMPERIAL BEACH)

> Del Mar Criterium Series. Swami's Cycling and Raceplan Coaching and Racing sponsor "community-oriented event centered around fast-paced cycling" at Del Mar Fairgrounds. Races take place on Wednesday, March 28, 2-6 p.m., and Saturday, April 7, 8:30 a.m.-3:50 p.m. Vendor booths, skill-building classes "for racing and riding," more. Free admission for spectators; fees to compete. 858-755-1161. (DEL MAR)

> The 34th Annual San Diego Crew Classic - with over 3400 rowers from across U.S. competing - is Saturday, March 31, and Sunday, April 1, at Crown Point Shores. Competition starts at 7 a.m. both mornings. Admission: \$7 per day, \$10 parking. Free viewing is possible from vantage points around bay. 858-225-0300. (MISSION BAY)

SPECIAL

Fred Hall's Fishing Tackle. Boat, and Travel Show continues through March 25 at Del Mar Fairgrounds, Expect to see boats, all manner of fishing gear, vendors' booths, and seminars. Hours: 1-9 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday. Tickets:

\$12 general, free for those under 15. 805-389-3339. (DEL MAR)

Artful Readings, join fellow readers for discussion of Princeton philosophy professor Kwame Anthony Appiah's Cosmopolitanism: Ethics in a World of Strangers, Thursday, March 22, 6 p.m., at San Diego Museum of Art. Free. 619-232-7931, (BALBOA PARK)

Can You Be Moral without God? Enlighten others in P&R Discussion group, Thursday, March 22, 7 p.m., at Other Side Coffee House (4096 30th Street). Free. 619-421-1879. (NORTH PARK)

Celebrate 200th Birthday of San Diego's first Jewish settler, Louis Rose, on Friday, March 23, in plaza of Old Town State Park. Yale Strom and Hot Pstromi perform 19th-century music from Germany, New Orleans, and San Diego at 10 a.m.; ride the "Louis Rose" Old Town Trollev (1-6 p.m.) for mini-tour of Presidio Hill and Old Town, birthday cake with costumed "historical figures." Donald H. Harrison signs books at 12:30 p.m. at Schiller's Bookstore. Free. 619-952-4033. (OLD TOWN STATE PARK)

San Diego Renovate, Decorate, and Landscape Show at Coors Amphitheater, March 23–25. Home improvement ideas, vendors. Show opens at 10 a.m. each day, closes at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 5 p.m. Sunday. \$6 general, free for those younger than 18. 866-367-3976. (CHULA VISTA)

"Orchids — Varied Treasures" show, sale hosted by San Diego County Orchid Society, March 23-25, at Scottish Rite Center (1895 Camino del Rio South). Many of world's 30,000 species and 200,000 hybrids will be on display; show includes orchid culture and educational seminars, 35 vendors with orchids and supplies. Hours: 4–9 p.m. on Friday, 9 a.m.–6 p.m. Saturday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday. Admission: \$6 general, free for children under 12. 619-405-0412.

Navy Heritage Day commemorated at Maritime Museum of San Diego on Saturday, March 24, 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Navy Band performs (noon), museum unveils its newest permanent exhibit "San Diego's Navy." Included in regular admission; children (12 and younger) of active duty Navy and Marine Corps personnel with valid military identification admitted free. Find museum at 1492 North Harbor Drive, 619-234-9153 x101.

The 18th Annual Juried Circle of Art show and sale is March 24 and 25 at Christmas Circle in Borrego Springs. Show features art by over 70 fine artists working in a variety of media. Free. Show opens at 9 a.m. both mornings, closes at 5 p.m. on Saturday, 3:30 p.m. on Sunday. 760-767-0042. (BORREGO SPRINGS)

Biosciences Day is slated for Saturday, March 24, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., at Reuben H. Fleet Science Center. Seven local researchers will be on hand to discuss their work; hands-on activities. 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

Book and Craft Sale, Saturday, March 24, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., at Athenaeum Music and Arts Library (1008 Wall Street); 858-454-5872. (LA JOLLA)

Havana Brown, Egyptian Mao, **Balinese** — time for Americans West Cat Club cat show, Saturday and Sunday, March 24 and 25, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., at San Diego Community Concourse (202 C Street).

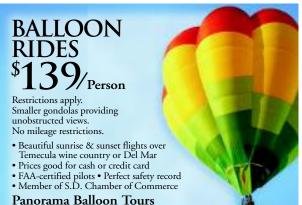
See up to 225 felines from among 41 breeds, household pet competition, breeders, vendors. Admission: \$8 general; \$6 for seniors, children, and military, 619-475-2001, (DOWNTOWN)

Belgian Beer Bonanza, annual 12-hour Belgian beer party, Saturday, March 24, 11 a.m.-11 p.m., at Pizza Port (571 Carlsbad Village Drive). More than 75 different Belgian and Belgian-style beers on draft and in bottles. Fee: \$35, includes glass and ten tasting tickets: pay \$1 per additional sample. 760-720-7007, (CARLSBAD)

Bring Walking Shoes and an Empty Stomach! Wine and dine through historic downtown with local food/wine writer and native historian Steve Dryden during tour on Saturday, March 24, noon-3 p.m., beginning at San Diego Wine and Culinary Center (200 Harbor Drive, suite 120). Explore a new winery, brewery, local chocolates, more during leisurely three-mile walk over level terrain. \$49. Reservations: 619-300-4976.

Old Timers Activist Reunion for all civil rights and social action activists and supporters involved during period that began in 1960s - set for Saturday, March 24, 2-4 p.m., at Neighborhood House Association (841 South 41st Street). Expect tribute to "people who are no longer with us." Free. 619-264-9827, 619-263-4929. (LOGAN HEIGHTS)

California Walk for Recovery and Art of Recovery Expo, Sunday, March 25, at Sixth Avenue and Laurel Street. Threemile walk begins at 8 a.m., followed by expo (7 a.m.-4 p.m.) with exhibits, family activities, en-



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Thursday, March 29 • 6:30 pm

at the Catamaran, 3999 Mission Blvd. • Mission Beach RSVP to Ron Moore • rcmilas@aol.com or 702-525-0088





Last chance to enter to win a 7-night stay at Jtaly's Premier Bed & Breakfast, JI Luppolo Nero! (www.luppolonero.com)

> Jtalian Night at Firefly Boutique Tuesday, April 3 • 6-9 pm DJ Arthur • Cocktails • 15% off all yogawear



928 Ft. Stockton, Suite 107, Mission Hills • 619-299-4FLV (4359) Monday-Friday 11 am-7 pm, Saturday 10 am- 6 pm

tertainment, speakers including Christopher Kennedy Lawford, author Chris Beckman (former cast member of MTV's *Real World*). Free. 760-692-2900, (BALBOA PARK)

"Zine Picnic — Revolution Outside!" Bring your zines, independent media, ideas to share, discuss or create during event hosted by Grrl Zines a Go-Go slated for Sunday, March 25, at 1–4 p.m., in zine picnic tent at Sixth Avenue and Laurel Street. Supplies provided. Bring food item to share (optional). All ages. 619-282-5469. (BALBOA PARK)

House of Iran presents songs and dances for lawn program at International Cottages, Sunday, March 25, 2 p.m. Free. 619-234-0739. (BALBOA PARK)

"Grunion Greeters, Unite!" Pepperdine University's Grunion Greeter Project allows volunteers to help researchers and experience grunion runs. Participants monitor local beaches, collecting basic information for about two hours during grunion runs, April through early June. Greeters select nights and beaches to monitor. Volunteers (18 and over) must attend a training workshop prior to spawning season, Wednesday, March 28, 6:30 p.m., at Birch Aquarium-Museum (2300 Expedition Way). Free. RSVP required by

3-D Stereo Photo Exhibit planned Wednesday, March 28, 7:15 p.m., in Photo Arts Building (on Village Place, off Park Boulevard, adjacent to Spanish Village). High-quality 35mm stereo slides are projected; polarized glasses for guests. Free. 619-595-7856. (BALBOA PARK)

March 22. 619-733-0725. (LA JOLLA)

Is China Becoming a Capitalistic Juggernaut? Discuss with P&R Discussion group, Thursday, March 29, 7 p.m., at Other Side Coffee House (4096 30th Street). Free. 619-421-1879. (NORTH PARK)

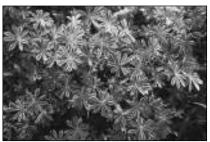
Ranunculus Rainbows, the Flower Fields with nearly 50 acres of giant ranunculus flowers are blooming again, open for tours through Sunday, May 13. Visitors may stroll pathways through fields 9 a.m.–6 p.m. daily. Admission: \$9 general, \$8 seniors, \$5 for children 3–10. Exit I-5 at Palomar Airport Road, head east for two blocks,

www.thesocialplace.com 1-866-635-7241 (Toll Free) A GUIDE TO UNEXPECTED SAN DIEGO AND BEYOND | BY JERRY SCHAD

ROAM-(__)-RAMA

The northernmost stretch of the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) in San Diego County traverses the flank of the colorfully named Bucksnort Mountain. Combs Peak is the highest summit on that mountain ridge, and rates as one of the highest elevations within the county. To reach the top you must be prepared for some off-trail, cross-country hiking.

The getting-there-by-car phase is a mini-adventure in itself. From Highway 79, 11 miles north of Warner Springs, turn east on Chihuahua Valley Road. Go 6.3 miles east to a sharp right bend in the paved road. Straight ahead at that juncture is unpaved Lost Valley Road (bumpy but normally suitable for ordinary



Lupine above Pacific Crest Trail

cars), leading 10 miles to the Lost Valley Boy Scout Camp. Drive for about 5 miles on this road and look for the place where the PCT crosses the road. There's space to park on the left, and a sign indicating distances northward along the Pacific Crest Trail.

From your parking spot, follow the PCT as it wends its lazy way gradually uphill

through scattered chaparral, most of which has been singed in recent wildfires. Some fire-following wildflowers, such as lupine, may be in bloom depending on

the amount of recent rainfall. Rocks strewn about the trail sparkle with sunlight reflected from the large mica crystals within them. The ridgeline of Bucksnort Mountain on the left is bewhiskered with the blackened trunks of thoroughly incinerated Coulter pines. This stark scene is mirrored by the spacious and completely empty (as it appears from here, anyway) terrain of the Anza-Borrego Desert on the right and below.

After 2.7 miles of walking on the PCT, you'll come to a crest on the east shoulder of Combs Peak. From this point, leave the PCT and simply go uphill through the chaparral vegetation in the most direct manner possible, following a rough route worn in by hikers. The way is marked somewhat obscurely by "ducks" — small piles of stones placed as trail markers by hikers.

After considerable huffing, puffing, and foot sliding, you stand upon Combs Peak, which overlooks many mountain ranges and valleys in the northern San Diego County/southern Riverside

County region. Most impressive, perhaps, is the great wall of the Santa Rosa Mountains just east, culminating at 8716-foot Toro Peak. Lost in the reverie of the view, you may be startled by the sudden "whoosh" of a sailplane sneaking up behind you and barely clearing the peak.

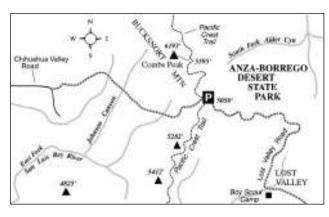
The quickest way to get back is by the same route. Take care when negotiating the sometimes-slippery slope that takes you back down to the PCT.

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.

COMBS PEAK

Climb to the top of Bucksnort Mountain, a high but littleknown mini mountain range in northeast San Diego County.

Distance from downtown San Diego: 95 miles Hiking Length: 6.1 miles round trip Difficulty: Moderately strenuous



turn left on Paseo del Norte Road. 760-431-0352. (CARLSBAD)

Tomatomania! and herb festival Eleventh annual festival and spring plant sale, Saturday and Sunday, March 31 and April 1, 9 a.m.—4 p.m., at Quail Botanical Gardens (230 Quail Gardens Drive). Lectures, demonstrations, herb walks, herbal products on offer. \$10 general. 760-436-3036.

Easyriders Bike Show Tour 2007 hits San Diego Convention Center (111 West Harbor Drive) on Saturday, March 31, 10 a.m.–10 p.m. Over 100 custom v-twin motorcycles compete for honors; live music, fashion show, more. Admission: \$16 general, \$7 for

those 6–12. 800-962-9857. (DOWNTOWN)

FOR KIDS

Old-Fashioned Kite-Flying Puppeteers present *Pele's Pail* through Sunday, March 25, in Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theater. Next up: *Peter Rabbit* by Puppet Express, March 28–April 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)

"Peace through Children's Eyes" presented by students 3–17, Friday, March 23, 7 p.m., at Seaside Center for Spiritual Living

(1613 Lake Drive). Piece was written by Kids for Peace organizer Jill McManigal. Free. 760-753-5786 x*848. (ENCINITAS)

"To Kill a Mockingbird," meet courageous Scout and her friends in 1932 small-town Alabama in current production for San Diego Junior Theatre South Bay, continuing through March 25. Directed by Desha Crownover and Glynn Bedington, based on Harper Lee's Pulitzer Prize-winning book. Recommended for those 13 and older.

Performances begin at 7 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, 2 p.m. on Sunday at Theatre on Third (250 3rd Avenue). Tickets: \$10 adults, \$5 youths. 619-239-8355. (CHULA VISTA)

If You Give a Mouse a Cookie... there's likely to be mischief. Meet "Cookie Mouse" on Friday, March 23, 7:30 p.m., at

Barnes and Noble Bookstore (10775 Westview Parkway). Free. 858-684-3166. (MIRA MESA)

Farm Day at Stein Family Farm Museum, take in working antique farm machinery, tractor parades, petting zoo including baby farm animals, docent-led house tours, other activities, Saturday, March 24, 10 a.m.—4 p.m. Plant seeds, take home souvenir plants, do crafts, washboard laundry. Donation. Find farm at 1808 F Avenue. 619-426-5109 or 619-477-4113. (NATIONAL CITY)

"Carlsbad Loves Kids" — expect demonstrations in gymnastics, summer camp information, basketball shoot-outs, soccer goal kicking, arts and crafts, drama/performing arts activities, cooking, live entertainment, carnival games, rock wall, on Saturday, March 24, 11 a.m.–2 p.m., at Stagecoach Community Park (3420 Camino de los Coches). Free. 760-602-7519. (LA COSTA)

Eternity Skate session for youths 10–18 years old, Saturday, March 24, 11 a.m.–3 p.m. Expect large wooden ramps for experienced skaters, smaller "Freshpark" ramps for beginners, music by Christian bands, skate demonstrations. Free. Valley Baptist Church, 4701 Sweetwater Road, 619-479-4155. (BONITA)

Youth Fitness Exposition hosted by California School Fitness, Saturday, March 24, 1–4 p.m., in Spreckels Organ Pavilion. Children may enjoy obstacle course, basketball shoot, beanbag toss, karate kicking contest, cake walk, coloring contest. Free. 619-464-7093. (BALBOA PARK)

Round-Robin Chess tournaments continue through June for those from kindergarten through 12th grade at La Colonia Community Center (715 Valley Avenue). Series three is Saturday, March 24, 2:30 p.m. Points awarded at each tournament, with overall winners determined after June 23 competition. Preregistration is \$27 per tournament, or \$140 for all six tournaments; space-available day-of-tournament fee is \$30. 760-721-4400. (SOLANA BEACH)

The Musical Disney's Beauty and the Beast is presented by J*Company Youth Theatre through March 25 at David and Dorothea Garfield Theatre, Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center (4126 Executive Drive). Music by Alan Menken, lyrics by Howard Ashman and Tim Rice, book by Linda Woolverton. Show featuring 68 children begins at 8 p.m. on Saturday, 1 and 4:30 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets: \$12.50 children, \$16.50 adults. Reservations: 858-362-1348. (IA JOLLA)

"The Invention of Hugo Cabret," author and illustrator Brian Selznick reads and signs his highly praised new book, Tuesday, March 27, 7 p.m., at Warwick's Bookstore (7812 Girard Avenue). Free. 858-454-0347. (LA JOLLA)

"Cinderella," this magical fairy tale, adapted and directed by Joe Powers, is current production for Theatre School at North Coast Repertory Theatre. Curtain rises at 7 p.m. Thursday–Saturday, March 29–31, and at 2 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, March 31 and April 1. Tickets: \$12 general, \$9 for children. 858-481-1055.

Every Child Plays is motto for United States Youth Volleyball League, with teams meeting Tuesdays, 6–7 p.m. and Saturdays, 9–10 a.m., at North Clairemont Recreation Center (4421 Bannock Avenue). Season begins Tuesday, April 10. Focus is on teaching basic skills of volleyball to children

SINGLES









between 7–14. Fees, registration: 888-988-7985. (CLAIREMONT)

Poetry Workshop for Teens led by local poet Karen Kenyon, Monday, April 16, 6:30 p.m., at North Clairemont Library (4616 Clairemont Drive). Participants will "learn the basics," write haiku poems. Registration: 858-581-9931. (CLAIREMONT)

MUSEUMS

Antique Gas and Steam Engine Museum, the museum locates, collects, documents, and preserves historical gas-, steam-, and horse-powered equipment related to agriculture and the general development of America. The collection is made up of equipment used in lumbering, mining, oil drilling, and construction industries. Blacksmith and wheelwright shop, country kitchen and parlor, steam-operated saw mill, and 1/3-scale train. Find the museum at 2040 North Santa Fe Avenue. 760-941-1791. (VISTA)

Bonita Museum and Cultural Center, 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)

Chinese Historical Society and Museum, "Threads of Love: The Art of Chinese Needlework" showcases a collection of Chinese embroidery from late Qing Dynasty and early Republican periods. During Ming Dynasty embroidery artists became daring and began using non-silk materials such as lace, paper, and hair. Embroidery has progressed from practical functions to an artistic form. Through March.

See artifacts from San Diego's Chinese and Chinese-American

history, culture, and art. Current museum artifacts include a 1920s warlord's bed, exhibits on Chinese footbinding and Chinese-American veterans. The museum is in a building originally built in 1927 for the Chinese Mission. Adjacent to the building is an Asian garden with koi pond and waterfall. Find the museum at 404 Third Avenue (at J Street). 619-338-9888. (EAST VILLAGE)

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)

Creation Museum, a museum contrasting the evolution and creation world views is found at 10946 Woodside Avenue North. For more information, call 619-448-0900 x231. (SANTEE)

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)

OUT & ABOUT

VIOLINIST JOSHUA BELL

with Academy of St. Martin in the Fields, Friday, March 23, Copley Symphony Hall

(SEE CLASSICAL MUSIC)



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)

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

Marine Corps Recruit Depot Museum, housed in a historic building, the museum features five permanent galleries with artifacts, uniforms, vehicles, weapons, and photographs depicting Marine Corps history. The museum is located in Building 26 at MCRD, just inside Gate 4, off Pacific Highway. 619-524-6038. (DOWNTOWN)

Parsonage Museum of Lemon Grove, "The Sonka Centennial, 1907-2007" commemorates immigrant German-Austrian family that fostered growth of modern Lemon Grove, laid cornerstone of its postagricultural economy with a successful general store. Exhibition recreates part of store, replete with horse collars, cheroots, textiles, feed, canned goods, and more. Through December. Find the museum at 3185 Olive Street; 619-460-4353. (LEMON GROVE)

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center,

why does every body produce "mushy, oozy, crusty, scaly, and stinky gunk"? Find out in "Grossology: The (Impolite) Science of the Human Body." Exhibition uses animatronics and imaginative exhibits to explore ways a body's biology does what it needs to do to keep us healthy. Closes Sunday, April 29.

"Origins in Space: Spin-Offs in Science and Technology" chronicles scientific accomplishments and technological spin-offs resulting from NASA missions. How have these discoveries entered our everyday lives?

Ongoing exhibitions include "More Than Meets the Eye" (through May), "Aging for All Ages," "San Diego Science Showcase," "Kid City" (for preschoolers), "The Best of Symmetry and Signals," and "TryScience!" "Comet Impact" is theme for motion simulator ride. Films are shown daily in the IMAX theater. 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Archaeological Center, "A Letter from the Ocean Hotel: Victorian Lady Traveler's Adventures in San Diego, 1888" includes glassware, dishes, bottles, personal items dating from late 1880s that were excavated from a block in East Village area downtown in 2002.

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, "Law Enforcement Vehicles" star through Sunday, May 27. Show highlights last century of law enforcement in San Diego County. Vehicles represented include vintage paddy wagon, 1941 cruiser from Oceanside Police Department, 1951 Studebaker police car used in several *Batman* movies, more.

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 athelic achievement — is located at 2131 Pan American Plaza. 619-234-2544. (BALBOA PARK)

Museum of San Diego History, career of local artist is highlighted in "Belle Baranceau: The Artist at Work." Baranceau was "one of the foremost expressionist painters of the 1920s and 1930s" who moved to San Diego in 1933 and received assignments from the WPA. Two of her murals are still in their original locations at Balboa Park Club and La Jolla post office. Exhibit provides broad overview of her career, look at her creative process. Through Tuesday, May 29.

The museum is located in the Casa de Balboa building; 619-232-6203. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Maritime Museum, "San Diego's Navy," opening on Saturday, March 24, based upon book by same name written by Bruce Linder, is said to be "the only comprehensive exhibit depicting the extraordinary contri-

bution the Navy has made to the

history of the San Diego region."

The museum features permanent exhibits documenting the history of San Diego's waterfront and the building of the West Coast by sea, the old San Diego-Coronado ferryboats, the tuna fishing industry, and the military. The museum fleet consists of the 1863 bark Star of India, the 1898 San Francisco ferryboat Berkeley, and the 1904 Scottish steam yacht Medea. The H.M.S. Surprise, used in film Master and Commander, is permanently on exhibit; see artifacts, costumes, props used in making of the flick. Also open for touring: a B-39 Soviet attack submarine, among the largest conventionally powered submarines ever built. This Project 641/Foxtrot class diesel-electric submarine was designed to track U.S. and NATO warships throughout the Earth's oceans. There are also nautical exhibits, ship carpenters, model building, ships in bottles, woodcarvers, and a complete research library.

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

San Diego Museum of Man, "Edward S. Curtis Refocused" offers Native American insight into Curtis's photo documentation of their lives. Curtis is famous for his photographs of recreated scenes of traditional life and ceremony, for portraits of tribe members wearing historic garments. Exhibition features prints of his photogravures taken in locations throughout U.S. and Canada and examines some controversial elements of Curtis's work, techniques

"Guatemala! Celebrations of Weaving" features hand-woven clothing items, plus musical instruments such as oboes, a drum, and a marimba with gourd resonators. Items included in exhibit, on display through March, were selected "principally for their timeless beauty."

he used.

"Body Ornamentation: Artistic Representations of Self," continuing through Tuesday, March 27, examines this enduring art form. Exhibit focuses on many different types of body art in variety of cultures around the world, as well as underlying reasons behind the ornamentation. See examples of body painting, tattooing, scarification, piercing; documentary videos, photo murals.

"Reflections" showcases rare and significant objects representing 90 years of the museum's collection history; some of the objects have never been displayed for public. Items include a *Seri* woodcarving of a whale; bronze sculpture by Alan Houser; more. Through Saturday, March 24.

Permanent anthropology exhibit "Footsteps through Time: Four Million Years of Human Evolution" features "more than a hundred touchable replicas of early humans, primates, and futuristic cyborgs (part human, part machine)." 619-239-2001. (BALBOA PARK)

SINGLES







Singles Happy Hour from 5:30-8 pm complete with drink specials and a live band.

Friday, April 13

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Star Light, Star Bright

A celeb photographer has to be joltingly iconic and vacuum up all available attention.

can only guess at the pact, tacit or otherwise, arrived at between celebrities and photographers. In the mid-19th Century, Baudelaire said that a portrait — he was talking about paintings, not photographs — is a model complicated by an

artist. But if your model is Bruce Willis, Cindy Crawford, Jamie Foxx, or Jim Carrey, my guess is that they have a say in those complications. Celebrities become

celebrities by crafting camera-ready images of themselves. They know how to look "caught off guard" or "casual" because they train to master appearances. One of the most provocative magazine photos ever was Annie Leibovitz's Vanity Fair cover shot of a naked, pregnant Demi Moore in 1991. There she stands, in proud profile, large with child, flesh burnished by a deep tan I hope someday to acquire for myself, one hand (demurely covering her breast) weighted with a Rock-of-Gibraltar diamond ring, the other tucked under her belly. She looks at the camera as if looking straight through us, daring anyone and everyone not to take her seriously. Her baroness hauteur is scary. Who's finally in control here? Not the photographer, that's for sure. The contract between model and artist reads: I'll expose myself if you swear allegiance to the edgy glamour of what I'm offering.

The Moore picture is one of many star portraits included in the splashy exhibition of Leibovitz's work currently on view at the San Diego Museum of Art. Leibovitz is the most famous and, given the restrictions of working to assignment, the greatest glossy-magazine photographer of our time. She has made portraits of stars of varying magnitudes from varied fields of endeavor: a suave Daniel Day-Lewis slouching like a 19th-century Russian nihilist; a skeletal Mick Jagger folded up like something you'd find hanging in a bat cave; an unbudgeable General H. Norman Schwarzkopf; the art star and Day-Lewis look-alike, Brice Marden; and pinup boy-toy Brad Pitt in velour, leopard-spotted pants. The portraits would seem to be about self-exposure, but the opposite is going on. I'm as enthusiastic a gawker and gossip hound as the next person, but in none of Leibovitz's high-profile portraits did I feel surprised by something found. A celeb photograph has to be joltingly iconic and vacuum up all available attention, so that if you put too many of them in one place, the tang of surprise and mischievous spying turns bland. The star portraits just aren't very exciting as photographs. They're all

about hot content playing it cool, nowhere cooler than in the picture of the ruffled dark prince, Al Pacino. I'd exempt the stiff formal poses of Schwarzkopf and Colin

Powell, however; in both pictures, the eye is pulled not to the stolid faces but to the stars and bars and ribbons blazoned across each man's chest. It's these that bespeak extraordinary experience of the world. (The pictures also suggest that power lies in decoration.) Very little in the pictures of actors, painters, and dancers — Baryshnikov poses like an art deco hood ornament — bespeaks any experience other than that of self-regard. This can lead to a certain moral slippage in the installation. Item: Brad Pitt's shot hangs too close to one that Leibovitz took on her many travels with her companion, Susan Sontag, a picture titled Traces of the Massacre of Tutsi Schoolchildren and Villagers on a Bathroom Wall: Shangi Mission School, Rwanda. The smears of blood and gore running down the wall are nearly identical to the scarlet and yellow palette of Pitt's portrait. The proximity is perverse: each mocks the other in historical weightedness.

Leibovitz started out working for Rolling Stone in the early 1970s and during her ten years there produced over 100 covers as well as important photo-essays on, among other events of that disordered time, the resignation of Richard Nixon and the 1975 Rolling Stones tour. She later worked for Vanity Fair and Vogue, while along the way helping to create ad campaigns for assorted enterprises like the Milk Board and The Sopranos. The career suggests not only extraordinary industry but also Leibovitz's peculiar adaptability to just about any assignment. Other well-known photographers like Robert Frank, Louis Faurer, and Diane Arbus worked for awhile in the fashion world, but their ambition was too squirmy and independent to allow them to shape their gifts to the ostentatious perfectionism required by the kind of work Leibovitz does. The only Hollywood image here that



Patti Smith with her children, Jackson and Jesse, 1996

Annie Leibovitz: A Photographer's Life, 1990–2005 San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado, Balboa Park On view through Sunday, April 22. For additional information, call 619-232-7931.

got under my skin shows Todd Haynes directing Julianne Moore in a scene from *All That Heaven Allows*. The picture maps out a pattern of intimate concentration and manipulation. Director and actress sit side by side in a car's front seat. He's in recessed shadow watching Moore watch whatever her motivation compels her to see in the rearview mirror. She's softly lighted in costume and full make-up, possessed by the diamond-tipped energy good actors concentrate in a passing gesture or expression. He's rumpled, and his dark-circled eyes glare at her like a stalker's.

This too-big exhibition — it includes nearly 200 images — opens up the full range of Leibovitz's work, including dozens of photographs she took of her family in uneventful domestic situations (in kitchen and bedroom or at the beach), as well as what amounts to a mini-essay on Susan Sontag, her partner of many years. Sontag was a different kind of celebrity, an intellectual-cultural one. In addition to the nudes and portraits Sontag posed for, as well as candid shots of her in faraway locales like Sarajevo (where she staged Beckett's *Waiting*

for Godot), Leibovitz also photographed Sontag's objects — her manuscripts, her books, her rock and shell collections. They're viewed as workaday relics and reveal Leibovitz's adulation of writing and the word: the images are moments of self-disclosure that never creep into her glam shots. Photos of boring family activities don't have to be boring, but Leibovitz's pictures of her family induce tedium. The vulnerability or shadow of contingency that sometimes spill out of family albums and grabs us by the throat is somehow lost in the ordinariness of these images. A picture of an overweight aunt in a bathing suit mugging for the camera can make the heart ache, but the family pictures in this exhibition don't evoke such feelings. I don't doubt these domestic moments touch and call to her, but they don't call to us in the same way. Though she possesses formidable gifts suited to high-end magazine photography, I don't think Leibovitz has the instincts that allow photography to uncover the marvelous, the deeply or obliquely strange, in what's casual and familiar.

The rich exception, and the real surprise of the







Susan at the house on Hedges Lane, 1988

show for me, is a handful of huge landscapes. Leibovitz's pictures of Venice, probably the most photographed city in the world, are fresh and visionary. Her Venice is a fog-washed phantasm, its surfaces smudged and pricked with pinpoints of color. And I love the nebulous, heroic picture — a Romantic dream-vision — of VerKeerderkill Falls in New York State. These pictures, so free of personality and pose, have a quivery looseness and vagueness that her other work doesn't allow. When shooting tighter landscapes, she adjusts the scale to emotional attachments. Views she took from Vanessa Bell's bedroom in Sussex have a wiry wildness. Leibovitz was excited by the place because she associated the English countryside, and this spot in particular — Vanessa was Virginia Woolf's sister — with Sontag, whose favorite book was Woolf's Mrs. Dalloway.

Entire passages of the exhibition, in fact, are a brooding eulogy to Sontag, who died in 2004 after a second occurrence of breast cancer. The photographer's relationship to her subject and lover is the exhibition's shadow narrative. Leibovitz doesn't have to complicate her model: Sontag was as camerasavvy as Brad Pitt. (She made films, and two of her many books were on photography.) Some of the images, like the one of Sontag in the brick-and-dust ruins of the Sarajevo National Library, document history's murderousness. Others, when she was sick, document nature's fatal course, when Sontag's camera-savviness gives way increasingly to a disturbing helplessness. Her self-composure breaks down. Time takes over, and Leibovitz records — coolly, methodically — its erosions. ■

ART LISTINGS

Events that are underlined occur after March 29.

HOW TO SEND US YOUR

LISTING: Contributions must be received by 5 p.m. Friday the week prior to publication for consideration. Do not phone. Send a complete description of the event, including the date, time, cost, the precise address where it is to be held (including neighborhood), a contact phone number, 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

"A Sense of Place," painter Stan Goudey exhibits regional mountain-area plein air and studio landscapes in oil, acrylic, and watercolor beginning with reception for artist, Saturday, March 24, 4 p.m., at Santa Ysabel Art Gallery (30352 Highway 78, at junction of Highway 79, 760-765-1676). Closes Sunday, April 29. (SANTA YSABEL)

"Impossible to Forget: The Nazi Camps Fifty Years After," opening events for exhibition of 88 photographs by Michael Kenna slated for Sunday, March 25, in Cannon Art Gallery at Carlsbad City Library (1775 Dove Lane). Holocaust survivor Si Frumkin - who spent time in several concentration camps, was liberated from Dachau at age 14 by U.S. Army — discusses his experiences at 3 p.m. Opening reception starts at 4 p.m. 760-602-2021. Closes Sunday, June 3. (LA COSTA)

ART MUSEUMS

California Center for the Arts Museum, "Translucent Visions: Frederic Whitaker and Eileen Monaghan Whitaker - A Retrospective in Watercolor" examines, through a selection of more than 130 watercolors, the variety of subjects these artists explored over the years." Paintings include land-

still-lifes, Mexico. "Personal Connections: An Intimate Portrait of Frederic Whitaker and Eileen Monaghan Whitaker" boasts "selection of personal photographs taken from the collection of Frederic Whitaker and Eileen Monaghan Whitaker,"

documenting life and times of

these American watercolor artists.

scapes, cityscapes, animal studies,

figurative genre, fruit and floral

Printmaking is a creative process known for its abundance of materials, processes available creating a wide range of effects; it is "in a constant state of renewal, experimentation, and innovation.' Select artists from San Diego & North County Printmakers have work on view in "Following the Paper Trail: Exploring the Art of Contemporary Printmaking,' highlighting different techniques, styles. On view: collection of lithography, monoprints, etchings, collographs, intaglios, aquatints, linocuts, and woodblock prints.

"Mi Corazón Escondido (My Hidden Heart)" by David Avalos focuses on life in contemporary Escondido. Avalos worked in collaboration with county artists, poets, activists, and residents to transform everyday objects into art works suitable for chapels, flea markets, museum galleries.

All of these exhibitions close on Wednesday, July 4. The museum is located at 340 North Escondido Boulevard; 760-839-4120. (ESCONDIDO

Mingei International Museum,

"Eva Zeisel — Extraordinary Designer Craftsman at 100," draws on two large private California collections to chronicle the artist's 75-year career. By Zeisel's accounting, she's designed more than 100,000 objects for home and table.

She was the first designer in this country to produce an all-white dinner service and first to teach ceramics as industrial design for mass production rather than as handcraft. Closes Sunday, June 10.

"Of Gold and Grass — Nomads of Kazakhstan" focuses on important archaeological discoveries, including those in 1998-1999 at frozen burial site of Berel. Exhibit includes gold, silver, and bronze artifacts fashioned into small animal forms along with their stories of recovery, overview of the history and culture of Kazakhstan, and mythology of the Steppes. The art objects are being shown in the U.S. for the first time. Through Sunday, April 22.

The Mingei is located on square with San Diego Museum of Art. 619-239-0003. (BALBOA PARK)

Mingei International Museum — North County, "Paper Transformed," exhibition made up of "Crowning Glory — From Paper Bag Hats by Moses" and



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"Origami — The Art of Paper Folding" from Mingei's permanent collection continues through Saturday, July 21. For "Crowning Glory," Moses created more than 250 hats from paper bags contributed by merchants in his Hawaiian neighborhood. "Origami" boasts nearly 100 examples of traditional and contemporary paper folding; exhibition honors acclaimed local paper folder, author, teacher Florence Temko. Find the museum at 155 West Grand Avenue. 760-735-3355. (ESCONDIDO)

Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, Downtown,

"Morris Louis Now: An American Master Revisited" offers a "critical re-examination of this influential painter's legacy." Exhibit boasts 27 canvases produced from 1951–1962, with examples from three significant bodies of Louis's work. Artist is said to have "played an essential role in shaping postwar American art." Closes Sunday, May 6.

Brazilian artist Ernesto Neto exhibits his largest and most intricate installation to date. Finnish video artist Eija-Liisa Ahtila presents *The Hour of Prayer*, a short tale about attachment and death based on the artist's own life. The material is split into four parts; story has been edited to unfold on four screens. Through Sunday, May 27.

"Cerca Series: Héctor Zamora," on view through Sunday, May 6, includes site-specific installation by Mexico City-based artist. Zamora's piece, entitled *Specular Reflexions*, consists of "application of two layers of two-way mirror film on all 16 gallery windows, creating a surface that functions both inside the Museum as well as outside the gallery."

Richard Wright, an artist from Glasgow, Scotland, created two site-specific works in Strauss Gallery of the Jacobs Building during his August and September 2006 residency at MCASD. They're on view through Sunday, September 23.

Find the museum at 1001 and 1100 Kettner Boulevard (at Broadway), directly across from the Santa Fe Railroad Depot. 858-454-3541. (DOWNTOWN)

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.

Concurrently, see site-specific installation by Milwaukee-based Argentinean artist Santiago Cucullu. His art juxtaposes images of progressive, historical figures and events with his personal experiences. This piece engages the architecture and oceanfront site of museum.

"Brian Ulrich: Copia" features 14 large-scale photographs documenting shopping habits of Americans. Photographs were taken in "big-box" retail stores such as Target, Wal-Mart using medium-format film camera with waist-level viewfinder; covert vantage point allowed artist to capture "massive scale and halogen clarity of the hyper-real spaces." Closes Sunday, May 13.

Find the museum at 700 Prospect Street. 858-454-3541.

Museum of Photographic

Arts, images by contemporary artists addressing issues of narrative showcased in "Tell Me a Story: Narrative Photography Now," continuing through Sunday, May 13. Exhibition of work by Tracey Moffat, Gavin Hipkins, Pipo Nguyen-Duy, Polixeni Papapaetrou, Nikki S. Lee, Jem Southam, and others was curated by Merry Foresta, director of Smithsonian Photography Initiative.

"Rebels and Revelers: Experimental Decades 1970s-1980s, Gifts from the Joyce and Ted Strauss Collection," showcases images by Thomas Barrow, Barbara Kasten, John Pfahl, Jo Ann Callis, Arthur Taussig, Ivan Pinkava, Barbara De-Genevieve, Leland Rice, and Ruth Thorne-Thompson, others. Exhibition highlights photography's move beyond traditional blackand-white documentary school of artists like Ansel Adams to more expressive, personalized imagery. Closes Sunday, May 6.

"Woman: A Celebration," also running through May 6, includes photographs of women by celebrated photographers such as Henri Cartier-Bresson, Ruth Orkin, August Sander, Mary Ellen Mark, Hiroshi Himaya, others.

Find the museum in the Casa de Balboa building, at 1649 El Prado. 619-238-7559. (BALBOA PARK)

Oceanside Museum of Art,

"Jusour wa Kusour: The Work of Doris Bittar, 1989-2007" continues through Sunday, April 1. The title translates as "A Bridge and a Chasm" — solo exhibition featuring paintings, photographs expressing Bittar's reflections on cultural landscape of Middle East and her family's history in the region. She was born in Baghdad to Lebanese parents, and she spent her childhood in outskirts of Beirut. Find museum at 704 Pier View Way. 760-721-2787. (OCEANSIDE)

San Diego Museum of Art,

"Annie Leibovitz: A Photographer's Life, 1990-2005" features approximately 200 photographs by Leibovitz, including family photographs and portraits of public figures such as Colin Powell, Nicole Kidman, Brad Pitt, Merce Cunningham, Bill Clinton. Photographs provide glimpse into range of subjects captured by Leibovitz. Exhibition encompasses work Leibovitz made on assignment as a professional photographer, personal photographs of her family and close friends. Closes Sunday, April 22.

"Tastes in Asian Art," continuing through Sunday, May 20, introduces new and rarely exhibited works, exploring "diverse tastes of different social groups" — the imperial ruling class, scholars, warriors, common people, features separate section devoted to religious art, section dedicated to Persian art.

For further information, call 619-232-7931. (BALBOA PARK)

Timken Museum of Art, permanent collection includes European old master paintings, 18th-and 19th-Century American paintings, and Russian icons. *Saint*

Bartholomew, the only Rembrandt painting on public display in San Diego, is featured. 619-239-5548. (BALBOA PARK)

CLASSICAL LISTINGS

Events that are underlined occur after March 29.

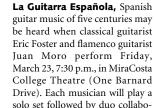
HOW TO SEND US YOUR LISTING: Contributions must be received by 5 p.m. Friday the week prior to publication for consideration. Do not phone. Send a complete description of the event, including the date, time, cost, the precise address where it is to be held (including neighborhood), a contact phone number, and a phone number (including area code) 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.

CLASSICAL

Hyperion Piano Quartet plays piano quartets of Mozart and Robert Schumann, Friday, March 23, 7:30 p.m., at Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of San Dieguito (1036 Solana Drive). \$12. 858-755-9225. (SOLANA BEACH)

"A Brilliant Skewering of England's Political Party System, as true today as it was then" promised when Lyric Opera San Diego presents the Gilbert and Sullivan operetta *Iolanthe*. Cast includes J. Sherwood Montgomery, Martha Jane Weaver, Laura McBroom Bueno, Priya Palekar, Martin Sola.

Performances start at 7:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, March 23 and 24, and Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, March 29–31; 2 p.m. on Sundays, March 25 and April 1. Enjoy *Iolanthe* at Stephen and



rations. \$10 general. 760-795-

Mary Birch North Park Theatre

(2891 University Avenue). Tickets:

\$30-\$50, half price for children

5-17. Reservations: 619-239-8836.

(NORTH PARK)

6815. (OCEANSIDE) **The Formosa Quartet** — winner prestigious London International String Quartet Competition in 2006 — plans concert Friday, March 23, 8 p.m., at Taiwanese Community Center (7170 Convoy Court). Ensemble members: Jasmine Lin (violin), Joseph Lin (violin), Che-Yen Chen (viola), Ru-Pei Yeh (cello). Free. 858-560-8884.

Violinist Joshua Bell joins Academy of St. Martin in the Fields for La Jolla Music Society's Celebrity Series concert, Friday, March 23, 7 p.m., at Copley Symphony Hall (750 B Street). Program includes Vivaldi's "Four Seasons," "String Quintet" by Brahms. Tickets: \$20-\$95. Reservations: 858-459-3728. (DOWNTOWN)

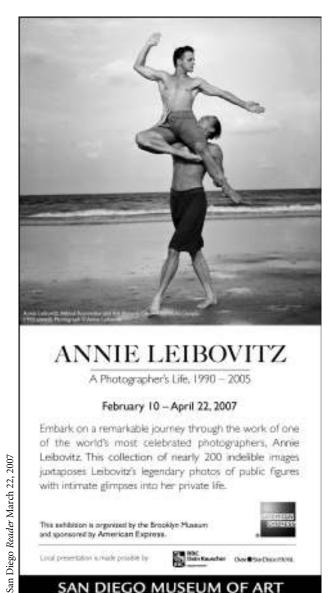
Scholarship Benefit Concert featuring Irina Tseitlin (violin), Pavel Petrov (piano), Saturday, March 24, 7 p.m., at Carmel Valley Library (3919 Townsgate Drive). Listen for Janácek's "Sonata for Violin and Piano," Medtner's "Piano Sonata Tragica No. 5," as well as pieces by Tchaikovsky, Schubert, Gluck, Kreisler, Wieniawski. \$15 general. 858-259-5508. (CARMEL VALLEY)

Time to Be Romantic! Daniel Swem conducts North Coast Symphony Orchestra on March 24 and 25 in MiraCosta College Theater (One Barnard Drive). Program includes "Rob Roy Overture" by Berlioz, Schumann's "Symphony No. 1," works by Strauss, Dvořák. \$10 general. Concerts begin at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, 2 p.m. on Sunday. \$10. 760-795-6815.

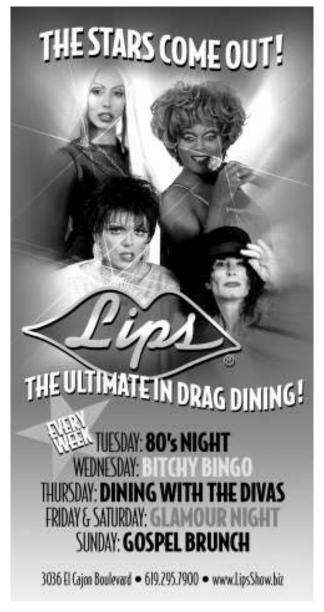
Former Civic Organist Jared Jacobsen presents concert in Spreckels Organ Pavilion, Sunday, March 25, 2 p.m. Free. 619-702-8138. (BALBOA PARK)

Works by Claude Bolling, J.S. Bach, Handel, Gluck, Bloch promised when Sheldon Rosenbaum (piano), Adrienne Nims (flute) perform for "Sundays at 4:00 Concert Series," March 25, 4 p.m., at Bethlehem Lutheran Church (925 Balour Drive). Requested donation: \$15.760-753-1026 x10. (ENCINITAS)





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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.

The Adoption Project: Triad

A story with no villains, but packed with loss, denial, fear, rejection, secrets, and questions that won't go away. A child was born July 12, 1971 - or was she? Kimber Lee's "mosaic" looks at three sides of adoption: the birth mother who "did the right thing," but the decision still haunts her; the adoptive mother who gave the child a home by the lake and a Yale education; and the daughter. now pregnant, who burns to know her true identity. As with all of its socially conscious projects, Mo'olelo Performing Arts company gets to the core of the subject. At the same time, the production's surprisingly funny — a cameo by Barbara Walters wanting to exploit the story for her show, soap opera scenes, a knockout monologue by a computer geek (performed by Linda Libby) who wonders what all the shouting's about. The 90-minute script needs tighten ing and some rethinking, since the entertaining scenes sometimes intrude on the drama. Gifted director Seema Sueko puts three top local actors through their paces in multiple roles: JoAnn Glover as Aggie, the

daughter adamant about the truth; Linda Libby as Madeleine, the birth mother; and Sandy Campbell as Bernice, the adoptive mother (whose best moment, among many, is voiceless: when she meets Madeleine and sees her daughter's face). Erika Malone's graceful choreography includes spinning white umbilical silks. Worth a try.

CENTRO CULTURAL DE LA RAZA, 2125 PARK BOULEVARD, BALBOA PARK, THROUGH APRIL 1; WEDNESDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 3:00 P.M. 619-342-7395

Au Revoir, Cyrano

Vanguard Productions presents the world premiere of Robert Landis's comedy, based on Edmond Rostand's *Cyrano de Bergerac*. Landis directed.

WESTMINSTER THEATRE, 3598 TALBOT STREET (CORNER OF TALBOT AND CANON), POINT LOMA, THROUGH APRIL 1; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. 619-224-6263.

Because of Cain

Community Actors Theatre stages the world premiere of Earl Hamilton Jr.'s drama about "truths, lies, friendship, and revealing secrets." COMMUNITY ACTORS THEATRE, 2957 54TH STREET, OAK PARK, THROUGH APRIL 15; THURSDAY AT 7:00 P.M. FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 3:00 P.M. 619-264-3391.

Cabaret

Patio Playhouse stages Kander and Ebb's popular musical about the Kit Kat Club, decadence, and the rise of the Third Reich. Deborah Zimmer directed.

PATIO PLAYHOUSE, 201 EAST GRAND AVENUE, SUITE 1D, ESCONDIDO, THROUGH APRIL 1; FRIDAY AND SATUR-DAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 760-746-6669.

Company

Poway Performing Arts Company presents Stephen Sondheim's musical about Robert. On his 35th birthday, he contemplates his confirmed bachelorhood.

POWAY PERFORMING ARTS COMPANY, 13250 POWAY ROAD, POWAY, THROUGH APRIL 1; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 858-679-8085.

The Farnsworth Invention

La Jolla Playhouse's Page to Stage New Play Development Program presents a workshop production of Aaron Sorkin's drama about Philo T. Farnsworth, the invention of television, and the legal battle between Farnsworth and David Sarnoff of RCA ("one of the great tragic examples of legal and industrial force combining to crush a rightful patent owner"). Des McAnuff directed. POTIKER THEATRE, LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE UCSD THEATRE DISTRICT, THROUGH MARCH 25; THURSDAY THROUGH SATUR DAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 858-550-1010.

Fiddler on the Roof

The Welk Resort Theatre stages the popular musical about tradition and Tevye, a dairyman in the Russian village of Anatevka.
WELK RESORT THEATRE, THROUGH APRIL 1; TUESDAY, THURSDAY, AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. TUESDAY THROUGH THURSDAY, AND SUNDAY, AT 1:45 P.M. 760-749-3448.

Foreign Bodies

Vox Nova presents a staged reading of Susan Yankowitz's new psychological thriller about a lawyer, a controversial case, and "long-held beliefs about the true states of guilt and innocence." Kirsten Brandt directed. A discussion with the play-

wright, director, and cast follows the reading.

LYCEUM THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN, MONDAY, MARCH 26, AT 7:30 P.M. 619-544-1000.

Glengary Glen Ross

Willy Loman wouldn't last ten seconds with this crowd. The real estate salesmen in David Mamet's comedy-drama don't die, like Willy, and maybe that's their curse. They exist in a Darwinian pressure-cooker and are so desensitized that savage, fourletter slurs just bounce off them, as if the words were understated truths they've known all along. 6th@Penn's production has some suspect choices: the weaker characters are just that but should be fighting for something too. Nonetheless, this is one of the company's best efforts in years. Jonathan Dunn-Rankin's Shelly "the Machine" Levine and Jonathan Sachs's Ricky Roma bookend the piece as the once and current Alpha Male: Levine desperately crawling from the slime into the light; slick Roma certain of his MVP status, And Dale Morris excels as Dave Moss, a frothing pit bull who chews up and spits out the two-locale set Morris designed. Uncredited period costumes define status by shirt color, or the lack. Another smart choice: 6th@Penn brought former San Diegan Bryan Bevell back to dramaturge (would he were here to stay). The salesmen's motto is ABC, "always be closing." At one point Glengarry will sell you a bill of goods, and you'll buy, proving one of Mamet's key points: sales pitches come in all kinds, and don't think vou're immune.

Critic's pick.

6TH@PENN THEATRE, 3704 SIXTH AVENUE, HILLCREST, THROUGH
MARCH 25; THURSDAY THROUGH SAT-URDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY
AT 2:00 P.M. 619-688-9210.

The Graduate

OnStage Playhouse presents Terry Johnson's adaptation of the Calder Willingham/Buck Henry movie. Daniel Zisko directed.
ONSTAGE PLAYHOUSE, 291 THIRD AVENUE, CHULA VISTA, THROUGH APRIL 7; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-422-7787.

If The Shoe Fits

Coronado Playhouse stages Matt Thompson's farce about an allegedly foolproof murder. Thompson directed. CORONADO PLAYHOUSE, 1835 STRAND WAY, CORONADO, THROUGH APRIL 8; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-435-4856.

Iolanthe

Lyric Opera San Diego presents Gilbert & Sullivan's popular love story, told as a "fairy opera." Leon Natker directed. STEPHEN AND MARY BIRCH NORTH PARK THEATRE, UNIVERSITY AVENUE AT 29TH STREET, NORTH PARK, FRIDAY, MARCH 23, THROUGH APRIL 1; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-239-8836.

Joey and Maria's Comedy Italian Wedding

Joey and Maria tie the knot in "not-so-ordinary interactive dinner theater."
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The Long Christmas Ride Home — A Puppet Play with Actors

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Diversionary Theatre stages Paula Vogel's experimental drama (puppetry and Japanese theater techniques) about a snowy Christmas Eve and a troubled family of five. Lisa Berger directed.
DIVERSIONARY THEATRE, 4545 PARK
BOULEVARD, UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS, SATURDAY, MARCH 24, THROUGH
APRIL 15; THURSDAY AT 7:30 P.M. FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT
2:00 P.M. 619-220-0097.

Love or Drunkenness

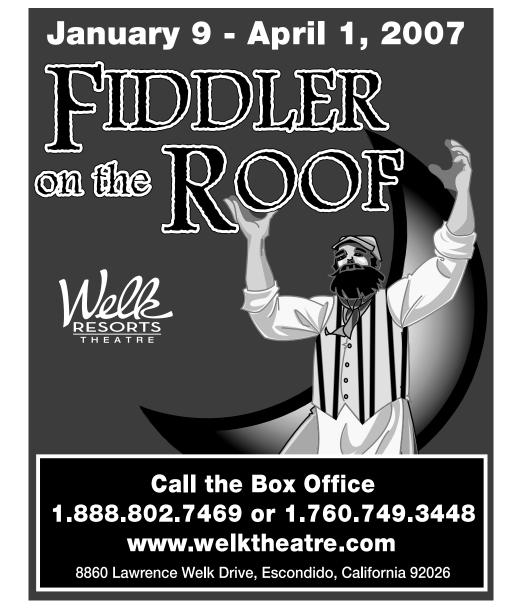
North Park Vaudeville & Candy Shoppe stages a traditional melodrama that asks: "Will the Temperance Ladies reform any drunks? Will Daisy be run over by a train?" NORTH PARK VAUDEVILLE & CANDY SHOPPE, 2031 EL CAJON BOULEVARD, NORTH PARK, THROUGH APRIL 1; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-220-8663.

Marat/Sade

The Old Globe/University of San Diego graduate theater program presents Peter Weiss's monumental drama: the Marquis de Sade stages a play, about the assassination of Jean-Paul Marat, performed by asylum inmates. Sabin Epstein and Robert Barry directed.
UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO, STUDIO THEATRE, THROUGH MARCH 23; THURSDAY AND FRIDAY AT 7:30 P.M. 619-260-2727.

The Matchmaker

In Thornton Wilder's comedy, source of the musical Hello, Dolly!, it's as if everyone is a balloon, filled with repressed emotions. A trip from Yonkers to Manhattan sets feelings free (for example: Cornelius Hackl is 33; he wants to have an adventure that will include "kissing a girl"). Cygnet Theatre's gifted director Sean Murray has done a retro-staging; instead of locating a period play now, he does the reverse: he puts Matchmaker in its period, the 1880s, scenic designer Sean Fanning creates a wondrous music hall set (with striking,





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San Diego Reader March 22, 2007

one-point perspective drops for each act), and the actors perform in a broad 1880s style. This is how they would have done it. And most of Murray's cast has a lark, especially Sean Cox (doing bowler hat tricks, sporty vaudevillian moves, and even a spit-take, as Cornelius Hackl) and Amy Biedel (who shines as Mrs. Irene Molloy, a milliner out for just one adventure). Jason Connors and Rachel Van Wormer team with Cox and Biedel and create rollicking, highspeed farce. On opening night, the leads didn't match this energy: Sandra Ellis-Troy got much of Dolly Levi but had yet to internal ize the famous matchmaker completely, and David Gallagher's odd Horace Vandergelder seemed in a different play, doing pseudo-W.C. Fields takes and straining to be an endearing villain. One shouldn't take Jeanne Reith's costume designs or Eric Lotze's lighting for granted, but it's easy to: their work is so consistently apt. As Malachai Stack, Antonio "T.J." Johnson stops the show with one of Thornton Wilder's great soliloquies: while all around him run amok from convention, Stack urges the audience to nurse only one vice at a time.

Worth a try.

CYGNET THEATRE, 6663 EL CAJON BOULEVARD, COLLEGE AREA, THROUGH APRIL 8; THURSDAY THROUGH SATUR-DAY AT 8:00 P M SUNDAY AT 7:00 P M MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-337-1525, X3.

Menopause the Musical

The San Diego Rep hosts a produc tion of Jeanie Linders's musical about "the change." Songs include "I Heard It Thru the Grapevine; "You'll No Longer See 39" and a remake of the disco tune "Stayin' Alive" called "Stayin' Awake.' LYCEUM THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN, THROUGH AUGUST 26: THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. MATINEE WEDNESDAY AT 2:00 P.M. SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 3:00 P.M. 619-544-1000.

Maria Irene Fornes's grim tale unfolds like a series of snapshots. Each marks a change: risings and fallings more volatile than the stock market. Mae and Lloyd live on a farm, of some sort. To make ends meet, she irons clothes; he's sick (but won't go to the clinic without his hatchet — so he doesn't). Mae wants an education, wants to "have value." Enter thoughtful Henry. Unlike primitive Lloyd, spiritual Henry makes Mae feel she has "something inside" her brain. You can see a clash coming (a rifle leans against the wall, stage left, throughout the intermissionless drama). But Fornes, one of the most inven-

tive playwrights of our time, spins and turns the tensions, making the outcome both inevitable and surprising. Fornes has a knack for making the mundane suddenly special. At one point, the gift of lipstick becomes almost miraculous (Fornes sees males as troublemakers, either of the body or the mind; now surely there are decent men in the world - okay, maybe not in this state or this hemisphere, but somewhere...). Ion Theatre has given this bleak play a smart, minimalist staging. Claudio Raygoza (the brute Lloyd), Glenn Paris (kindly Henry), and especially a stark, pummeled, but hopeful Julie Sachs, make the subtexts, what isn't said, more eloquent than the dialogue. Raygoza's lighting includes ghostly blue-grays for the freezeframes that conclude each scene: faces stare, often in horror. Worth a try.

ACADEMY OF THE PERFORMING ARTS, 4580-B ALVARADO CANYON ROAD, MIS SION VALLEY, THROUGH MARCH 25; FRI-DAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUN-DAY AT 7:00 P.M. 619-374-6894.

The Odd Couple

Kinney Productions presents Neil Simon's longest-running Broadway show about mismatched roommates: the slob and the neat-freak Scott Kinney directed. Dinner-theater packages available. BORREGO SPRINGS PERFORMING ARTS CENTER, 590 PALM CANYON DRIVE, BORREGO SPRINGS, THROUGH MARCH 31; FRIDAY, MARCH 23, SATUR-

DAY, MARCH 24, TUESDAY, MARCH 27, FRIDAY, MARCH 30, AND SATURDAY, MARCH 31, AT 7:30 P.M. 760-765-1688

The Odd Couple

Vista's Broadway Theatre opens its 2007 season with the popular Neil Simon comedy about bipolar apartment-mates. Randall Hickman directed. BROADWAY THEATRE, 340 EAST BROAD-HOUSE). VISTA, THROUGH MARCH 25;

WAY (DIRECTLY BEHIND THE AVO PLAY-THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 760-806-7905

Our Town

Cygnet Theatre presents a staged reading of Thornton Wilder's minimalist drama about life (and death) at Grover's Corners. CYGNET THEATRE, 6663 EL CAJON BOULEVARD, COLLEGE AREA, MONDAY, MARCH 26, AT 7:30 P.M. 619-337-1525

The Piano Teacher

South Coast Repertory Theatre offers Ilia Cho's drama about a retired piano teacher, Mrs. K. haunted by an event long ago: why did students stop coming to her? Kate Whoriskey directed. SOUTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE. JULIANNE ARGYROS STAGE, 655 TOWN CENTER DRIVE, COSTA MESA, THROUGH APRIL 1; TUESDAY THROUGH SUNDAY AT 7:45 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 714-708-5555.

Readings of August Wilson's Plays: The Piano Lesson

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 play-

of vintage champagne!

wrights. 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: The Piano Lesson Worth a try.

CYGNET THEATRE, 6663 EL CAJON BOULEVARD, COLLEGE AREA, THROUGH MAY 8: TUESDAY, MAY 8, WEDNESDAY, MAY 9, AND TUESDAY, MAY 15 (SPACE TBA) AT 7:30 P.M. FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF READINGS AND LOCATIONS, CALL 619-337-1525, X3.

Restoration Comedy

When Amanda's philandering husband, Loveless, returns to England after a decade celebrating "the diversity of God's creation" on the Continent, she decides to win him back by becoming just like him. At the Old Globe, performed by Caralyn Kozlowski, Amanda's education in the wiles of dalliance is one of the funniest scenes in recent memory. Amy Freed's Restoration Comedy combines Colly Cibber's Love's Last Shift (1696), which has a happy ending (if you believe Loveless will remain , faithful) with John Vanbrugh's hastily composed riposte The Relapse (which didn't). Act One's so full of schemes and wit it's a tough act to follow; Act Two has to tie up many loose ends, including a trio of love trysts, and tends to sprawl. The production has buoyant energy, fueled by Marco Barricelli's lust-addled Loveless and Danny Scheie's scene-stealing Lord Foppington, in a lion's-mane wig and several of Robert Blackman's majestic costumes. Restoration is both a homage to, and a parody of, the period. Freed includes many an anachronism, and the Globe production adds more (including the Rolling Stones singing "Start Me Up"). Some anachronisms irk (a gratuitous, but funny, Chippendales fashion show), as if the production and director John Rando has done this before — has to apologize for its subject and pad it with shtick. But most make sense as modern correlatives for the play and the Restoration Era's unrepressed spirit. Worth a try.

OLD GLOBE THEATRE, SIMON EDISON CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, BAL-BOA PARK, THROUGH APRIL 8; SUNDAY, TUESDAY, AND WEDNESDAY AT 7:00 P.M. THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUN-DAY AT 2:00 P M 619-234-5623

Taking Flight

The San Diego Repertory Theatre stages Adriana Sevan's comedydrama about her "finding the goddess within, while dedicating her life to saving her best friend." Giovanni Sardelli directed. SAN DIEGO REPERTORY THEATRE. LYCEUM SPACE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN, THROUGH APRIL 1; WEDNESDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 6129-544-1000.

The Uneasy Chair Captain Josiah Wickett tells us he's

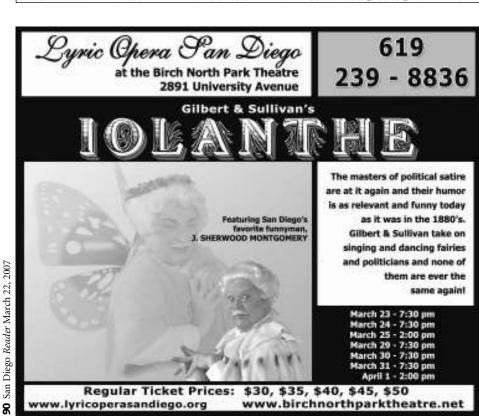
found a "cool and distant intimacy at the boarding house at #15 Telfair Circle. But the Captain, like his landlady, Miss Amelia Pickles, talks more clearly in asides to the audience - of Evan Smith's Victorian comedythan he does to the onstage characters. Most of the two marital boondoggles that follow stem from literate people unable or afraid to articulate feelings, so they back into situations that direct assertion could have avoided. Of course, those few occasions when they do get them into even more grief. The Uneasy Chair is lengthy (and the third act really recalls Robert Anderson's absurdist I'm Herbert). A sparkling performance by Lynne Griffin, as Amelia, and frequent, often hilarious, cameos by Craig Huisenga (at one point playing a barrister arguing both sides at a trial) give the North Coast production comic appeal. Rhianna Bashore and Christopher M. Williams do capable work as Alexandra and John, who escape wedlock though married (the playwright has dim views, at best, of the institution). I think I caught Robert Grossman, a talented actor, on an off-night; as the Captain he sputtered many lines and threw director Brendon Fox's stopwatch-precise timing off. Marty Burnett designed a candy-striped Chelsea drawing room enclosed by a bright red curtain, Paloma H. Young's costumes define not only the periods (which change with a different portrait of Queen Victoria on the wall) but the characters' financial status. And Chris Rhynne's expert lighting includes a footlit stage and stark, high-def, 21st Century effects. Worth a try.

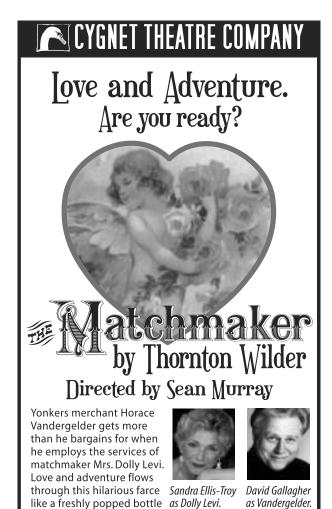
NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987 LOMAS SANTA FE DRIVE, SOLANA BEACH, THROUGH MARCH 25; THURS-DAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 858-481-1055

The Vagina Monologues

San Diego Mesa College stages Eve Ensler's monologues as part of the "V-Day 2007" college campaign. SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE, ROOM G-101, 7250 MESA COLLEGE DRIVE, KEARNEY MESA FRIDAY MARCH 23 AND SATURDAY, MARCH 24, AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-212-9930.







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No Comet Ride I heard it on the news today/ 39 people dead they say/ A madman had led them astray... Triangles on their faces and money in their

impromptu, one-on-one street battles.

"We would battle each other at the beach for, like, \$40 or \$60; whoever wins gets the money." The crowd would decide who won based on who had the best punch lines ("Not even your own family supports you/ Your mother only kept you were not too many Mexicans who could flip a script like that." Uno included Blaze songs on the Sicko Records compilation *Lifestyles of the Sick and Famous*, which was released last summer.

"He got money from [the sale of] the CD, but he never gave us any money," says Blaze. "He always would say, 'Next week I'll give you \$1000,' but it never came through."

Blaze spent last summer in Guadalajara.

When he came

back, he took

a trip to the

about publishing [rights], he told me that that doesn't mean anything, that I shouldn't worry about it. He told me that he was getting my name out there, and I should be happy for the recognition. Then out of nowhere, I go back to the mall again and see the CD again. This time it's on EMI Latin [label]. I was, like, 'Wow, he really did get international distribution.' But I also was, like, 'I need to sue this dude.'"

license his music to another

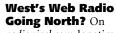
"When I asked [Lil Uno]

company.

Lil Uno responds via e-mail: "Not only did I give him a couple hundred bucks for these songs, I did him a favor and added him to one of my compilations and gave him some justice. I think the only time his name has ever been on the shelf was because of me.... I haven't heard anything about him until now. I would expect a thank you from him once again for the free promotion."

Blaze, who now performs with Puerto Rican rapper Numbiz as LPLD (Lost Product Latin Division), says he is not sure what he is going to do.

— Ken Leighton



radionigel.com, longtime 91X DJ Steve West has played Depeche Mode, Cure, and Ramones hits for the past two years. "Basically, it's what I play on my Resurrection Sunday show [on 91X] and more."

A March 6 ruling by the Copyright Royalty Board (a group of judges appointed by Congress) may shut down West's small business and those of other Internet-radio broadcasters; the copyright judges ruled that webcasters would be required to pay royalties on songs played since the beginning of 2006.

"We may be forced to go offshore," says West. "Or we

may have to move [the server] to Canada. Those [webcasters] who can't will probably just fold up and go away."

Rich
Brother
Robbin, a
'60s and
'70s DJ
(KGB-AM
KCBQ-AM,
"K-Best
95"),
launched

his own oldies Web station (*richbroradio.com*) from his home in O.B. recently. He won't play any of the songs that have been "played to death" by oldies radio.

"No 'Brown Eyed Girl,'
no 'Doo Wah Diddy
Diddy,' " says Robbin. "My
website was set up strictly as a
hobby to share all these
wonderful songs that aren't
available anywhere else. I did
this as a labor of love.... But I
gratefully accept donations."
— Ken Leighton

On the Rox Fox Rox, San Diego's only televised local-music show, has been canceled. The program began in 2002 with XETV executive producer Mark Jacobs, who brought in music writer Troy

Johnson as host. Jacobs left

the station in '04, and Scott Richison took over as producer.

"Three to four people poured their heart and soul into that thing," says Richison. "I think it's amazing that we were able to



FOX ROX PUT GRAND OLE PARTY ON THE SMALL SCREEN

do it with the staff we had.... A vast majority of the studio performances are available on *youtube.com/foxroxvideos*."

Fox Rox hosted over 60 local bands and solo artists, including the Locust, the Sultans, Rocket From the Crypt, Cattle Decapitation, Switchfoot, Grand Ole Party, the Bloody Hollies, and the UV Tigers. Nationally touring artists included Maroon 5, the Aggrolites, TV on the Radio, and the Damned.

Because of the show's termination, Richison and two other employees will be looking for new jobs. Fox Rox cohost Patrick C. Sheehy remains at Fox 6, working full-time in the news department.

The last show airs on Fox

the inside track

hands/ he told them they would venture to faraway lands.

"I was shocked and surprised when I heard about the Heaven's Gate cult, and I wrote the song shortly after it happened," says Mark James Haemmerle of "39 Dead." The song refers to the mass suicide that occurred in Rancho Santa Fe ten years ago this week. Eighteen men and 21 women took their lives at the instruction of music professor Marshall Applewhite, who'd promised his followers a comet ride into the afterlife with aliens.

Haemmerle's tune is playable online at *myspace.com/11925402*. He currently plays with Starcrossed, which has appeared at the Zombie Lounge, Scolari's, and the Ken Club.

— Jay Allen Sanford

Mind on the Money

Latino rapper Raul "Blaze" Cervantes's first public appearances were

mall. "I went to F.Y.E. because it was too late to abort vou"). "If you make the other guy nervous and he chokes and can't say nothin' back, you win. Sometimes you go two out of three.... Most of the time I battle black dudes. Sometimes even their own homies have to tell them, 'Come on, give him the money. He beat you.' " Blaze, 21, raps in

BLAZE HAS LISTENERS, NEEDS MONEY

English. In
2003, he won \$1000 in a Z90–sponsored MC battle and
was interviewed on the air.
Then Blaze got a call from Lil
Uno, the local rapper who
owns Sicko Records.

Spanish

and

"[Lil Uno] told me there

[a record store] and I saw that the [Sicko compilation] was now on a label called Low Profile; Uno sold the record to them."

Blaze says he never allowed Lil Uno to sell or

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All shows are 21+ unless otherwise noted. Those under 18 must be accompanied by an adult in the music hall.



6 at midnight, Thursday, March 29, and will be repeated on My TV 13 at 11:30 p.m., Saturday, March 31.

— Ken Leighton

Beware of Manic Fiddle Player Though

Tokyo might not seem like a stronghold for Celtic music, local quintet Skelpin reports otherwise. In 2005, the band did a three-month stint at

While the band's mix of traditional Celtic sounds and flamenco music is unique, it's likely that the Japanese are impressed with Petrie's manic performing style. She recalls the night her skirt flew off mid-twirl during a performance at downtown's St. Patrick's Day street fair: "I was in the middle of playing a fast tune, jumping all around, and couldn't stop to grab

loves all kinds of music."

At a corporate gig in 2006 at the Embarcadero Marina, Petrie's wirelessly miked fiddle slipped from her hand as she danced. Because she was still in motion, Petrie inadvertently dropkicked the instrument into the audience. No one



Disney's Tokyo Sea theme

park; the band was asked to return to headline this year's Tokyo Irish Music Festival, held on March 16 and 17. The group's front

woman and fiddler Patric Petrie describes Skelpin's previous visit to Japan: "We had people who showed up for every show and who would wait for us at the train station on our way home. It didn't matter if they had never heard Irish songs. They're just a very sophisticated audience that

PETRIE MAINTAINS HER GRIP

in the crowd thought to catch it; everyone moved out of the missile's way. "It was like watching the Red Sea part," Petrie says with a sigh. "I'll never forget the sound it made when it hit the concrete.

— Bart Mendoza

Sea Jammer Few people outside of the military know of guitarist Jim Earp's career as a sailor.

"Discharged from the Navy in 1979, I've been working for the Department of Defense/Navv



from them.

JUST ONE

SCREEN? ONE MOVIE.

"I would usually pick with them after hours, which could go anywhere from 6 p.m. at night to 2 a.m. in the morning.... If the weather was nice, I would often go above decks and play outside. Everything was unplugged, of course, so hearing the guitars outside over the waves crashing was difficult and sometimes impossible.... We couldn't play down in the berthing areas or up in the crew's TV lounge or such places where nonplayers would congregate....

"I performed for the Navy recruits at San Diego's now-defunct Naval Training Center from the mid-'80s to early '90s. [Our band was | raw, loud, and sweaty, and these guys were on their feet and hollering for most of the night. When

we finished our last song, we certainly were fussed over like rock stars and showered with appreciation. The recruits would then file out of the auditorium, orderly and quietly, and assemble outside in ranks to march back to their barracks.'

Overheard in San Diego: Ken Cinema

"Eventually, our band broke up...as bands do when personal expectations often clash with the reality of how things go down, and I turned solo. I'm twice as busy as a soloist and make three to four times more money than when I'm with a band.

Earp broke up with his last rock band in 2000.

Don't Tread on the

– Stefanie Howell

Soundman "I knew the sound guy's stress level was rising [after] one of us said

a microphone should go on one side of the stage and then we changed our mind," says Matt Rhea of Manganista, which played L.A.'s Viper Room on March 10.

"The head honcho sound guy started yelling at people left and right — I mean really yelling, to get everything either on the

stage or out of the venue. I couldn't figure out what the big deal was. He said,

DON'T LIKE THE

PLAYING?

NO *SNEAKING*

INTO ANOTHER

who was working directly with us," continues Rhea. "Despite their military-like

PEOPLE DID GO TO

REMOTE CONTROL.

MOVIES BEFORE THE

JAY ALLEN SANFORD



MANGANISTA ANNOYS AN L.A. PERSON

'We're opening in two minutes. Move, move, move,' like a drill sergeant. Everything was kind of a blur and then, right before they opened the [club] doors, they closed this curtain around the stage and we had to work behind the curtain. They have some rule that the band can't be seen setting up....

"There were a couple more outbursts from the head honcho sound guy, mainly riding the sound guy

tactics, they were pretty damn efficient when everything was said and done. I'll take a little getting yelled at any day in exchange for a decentsounding set." Manganista appears April 7 at the Ken Club.

- Jay Allen Sanford

CONTRIBUTORS

William Crain, Dave Good, Larry Harmon, Michael Hemmingson, Ken Leighton, Ryan Loyko, Derek Plank, Eric Rife, Jay Allen Sanford



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The Short Skirt **Dilemma**

"One of my top shows was the first time I played the Hotel Cafe in Los Angeles."

MICHAEL HEMMINGSON

thought he was crazy [to want to produce me]," Molly Jenson says about San Diego colleague Greg Laswell, "but we met one afternoon and wrote a song in our first meeting." Laswell eventually produced her 2005 debut CD Maybe Tomorrow, an independent

release available online. "I feel that independent musicians are getting more attention

with music supervisors looking for unsigned artists to put on TV shows and movies," says Molly. "That is extremely encouraging, and I hope that interest pushes indie artists to create more music and push harder to reach their goals. Musicians will try to do this on their own and not look so much to labels for

Molly Jenson opens for Tyrone Wells at the House of Blues this Friday, March 23.

TRICKIEST PROBLEM PLAYING LIVE?

"Trying to decide what to wear. I never know if the place is going to be too cold or too warm or just right. If there is a high stage with no stairs going up to it, I can't wear a short skirt. It can be quite a dilemma.

YOUR GUITAR?

"I only have one guitar. Bought it off a guy I was in a band with. It's a great guitar, but I'd like to get a new, smaller one. I'm not attached."

EARLIEST MEMORY?

"Being bathed in the sink. I know that's kind of weird, and you may think my memory is amazing if I remember that far back, but I was just a really small child, and I could fit in the sink till I was about four.'

BEST GIG?

"I love playing house concerts; those have been some of my favorite shows. One of my top shows was the first time I played the Hotel Cafe in Los Angeles. It was a perfect night in every way.'

WHAT'S IN YOUR CD PLAYER?

"A mix CD my brother made me. Our favorite gifts to give each other are mix CDs with new mu-

sic that we think the other doesn't know anything about."

END-OF-THE-WORLD CDs?

1. Harry Nilsson, The Point! "Harry Nilsson is a genius, and this record is my favorite. It's a soundtrack he did for a cartoon in the '70s called The Point! He wrote these amazing songs for the show and then has these couple-minute narrations in between each tune. This record makes me happy.' 2. Eddie Izzard, Glorious. "Okay, he's not a musician, but he's my favorite comedian, and he'd help me take my mind off the fact that the world was ending.'

3. Butterfly Boucher, Flutterby. "This record always makes me feel like I'm a lot stronger than I think I am. That may be why I always listen to it when I work out.'

4. The Cardigans, Long Gone Before Daylight. "I just love this record. It is such a nice mix of soft, mellow songs and kick-ass rock. I listen to this record on my iPod when I'm walking downtown. It always makes me feel like I'm in a movie or another world.'

5. Antonio Carlos Jobim, 20th Century Masters, The Millennium Collection. "His voice is so mellow, and I have no idea what he's saying so I can't get stuck in the lyrics."



IF YOU WERE INVITED TO THE OSCARS...

"Greg Laswell would be my date. I imagine he and his music will be really well known by the time we have a reason to be at the Oscars; he could introduce me to famous people. I imagine it would get boring, too, and he's really good at making up fun games when things get boring. I'd want to sit next to Ellen De-Generes — we could crack jokes throughout the night."

FAVORITE SAN DIEGO HANGOUT?

"I'm really a homebody these days and don't hang out much unless I'm out after a show. This is very much unlike me, but I like the change. If I had to choose my favorite spots, I'd say Balboa Park, Hillcrest, and the Ould Sod in Normal Heights."

IN AN ALTERNATE UNIVERSE, YOUR PROFESSION IS...

"Beastmaster." ■













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Diego Reader March 22, 2007











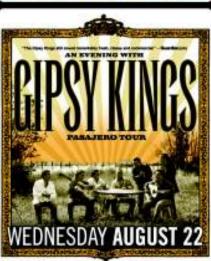


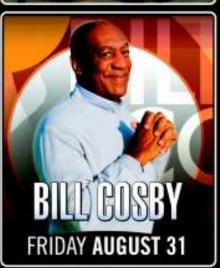














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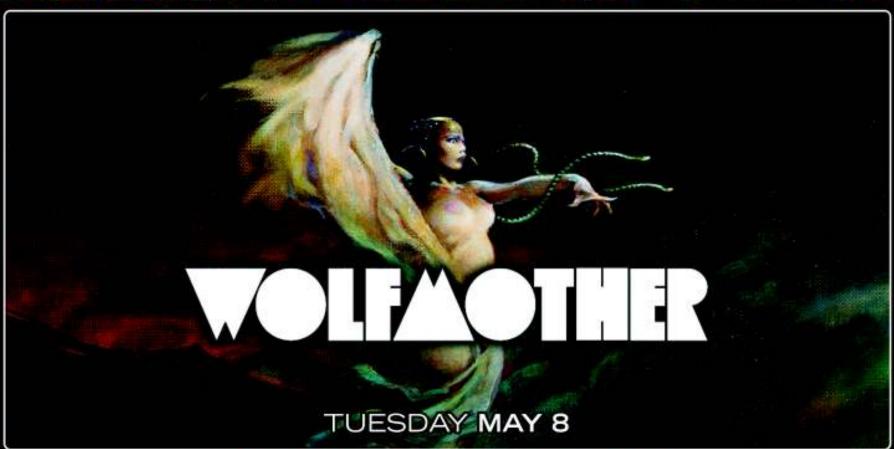




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THIS WEEK'S CONCERTS

THURSDAY

Kenny Wayne Shepherd: Viejas Casino DreamCatcher Show Room Thursday, March 22, 5000 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Killswitch Engage: Soma, Friday, March 23, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-7662.

The Whispers: Spreckels Theatre, Friday, March 23, 121 Broadway, downtown. 619-235-9500.

Pat Metheny and Brad Mehldau: California Center for the Arts, Friday, March 23, 340 N. Escondido Boulevard, Escondido. 800-988-4253.

SATURDAY

Rod Stewart: Cox Arena, Saturday, March 24, SDSU campus, College Area.

"Hip-Hoppalooza" with DJ Quik, the Kneehighs, and Bone Thugs-N-**Harmony:** RIMAC Arena, Saturday, March 24, UCSD campus, La Jolla. 858-534-8497.

SUNDAY

Earth, Wind, and Fire: Vieias Casino Concerts in the Park, Sunday, March 25, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

MONDAY

Pierre Bensusan:

AcousticMusicSanDiego, Monday,

March 26, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal

TUESDAY

The Hoodoo Gurus and the **Shambles:** Belly Up Tavern, Tuesday, March 27, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

WEDNESDAY

Boney James: Spreckels Theatre, esdav. March 28, 121 Broadway downtown. 619-235-9500.

Jeremy Camp: House of Blues Wednesday, March 28, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Cowboy Mouth: Belly Up Tavern, Wednesday, March 28, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Aterciopelados: 'Canes, Wednesday March 28, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach, 858-488-1780.

UPCOMING CONCERTS

MARCH

Lily Allen: House of Blues, Friday March 30, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Unwritten Law: 4th & B, Friday, March 30, 345 B Street, San Diego 619-231-4343.

Switchfoot: Soma, Saturday, March 31, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-7662.

Sevendust: House of Blues, Saturday, March 31, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp 619-299-2583.

Static \boldsymbol{X} and $\boldsymbol{Otep:}$ House of Blues, Sunday, April 1, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

TV on the Radio: Belly Up Tavern, Sunday, April 1, 143 South Cedro Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

April 2, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

South, 619-445-5400.

John Legend and Corinne Bailey

Rae: Vieias Concerts at Bayside Wednesday, April 4, Embarcadero Park

The Ataris: House of Blues, Monday,

Rickie Lee Jones: 4th & B, Thursday, April 5, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

Josh Groban: ipayOne Center, Friday, April 6, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard 619-224-4171.

3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-7662.

De La Soul: 'Canes, Friday, April 6, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780.

Geoff Muldaur:

7662.

AcousticMusicSanDiego, Saturday, April 7, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Molotov: House of Blues, Sunday, April 8, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Saves the Day and Say Anything: Soma, Tuesday, April 10, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-

Relient K: House of Blues, Wednesday, April 11, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Toots & the Maytals: $\operatorname{Belly} \operatorname{Up}$ Tavern, Thursday, April 12, and Friday, April 13, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

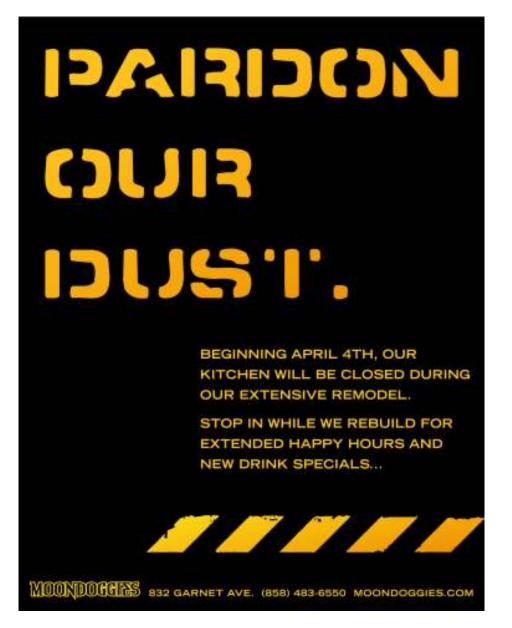
The Shins: Soma, Thursday, April 12, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-7662.

Fu Manchu: The Casbah, Friday, April 13, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego 619-232-4355.

Fonseca: House of Blues, Friday, April 13, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

The Mother Hips: Belly Up Tavern, Saturday, April 14, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Montgomery Gentry: Vieias Casino



5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-

Boz Scaggs: Pala Events Center, Saturday, April 14, 5 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala, 760-510-4580.

moe.: 4th & B, Saturday, April 14, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

Chicago: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Sunday, April 15, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Moenia: House of Blues, Wednesday, April 18, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Eek-A-Mouse: House of Blues, Thursday, April 19, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Huey Lewis & the News: Pala Events Center, Friday, April 20, 5 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-510-

Five for Fighting: 4th & B, Friday, April 20, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

Jet: House of Blues, Friday, April 20 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-299 2583.

Stone Sour: House of Blues, Sunday, April 22, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Gwen Stefani, Akon, and Lady Sovereign: Coors Amphitheatre, Sunday, April 22, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600.

Engelbert Humperdinck: Pala Events Center, Sunday, April 22, 5 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-510-

Ricky Martin: ipayOne Center, Sunday, April 22, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

ZZ Top: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Monday, April 23, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Brian McKnight: Spreckels Theatre, Wednesday, April 25, 121 Broadway, downtown. 619-235-9500.

Sean Lennon: Belly Up Tavern, Wednesday, April 25, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Stephen Marley: House of Blues, Wednesday, April 25, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Mute Math: House of Blu Thursday, April 26, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Arcade Fire: Spreckels Theatre. Thursday, April 26, 121 Broadway, downtown. 619-235-9500.

Heaven and Hell, Megadeth, and Machine Head: Coors Amphitheatre, Thursday, April 26, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600.

David Wilcox:

AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, April 27, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Blonde Redhead: Belly Up Tavern, Friday, April 27, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach, 858-481-8140.

Pepe Aguilar: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Friday, April 27, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Fall Out Boy and +44: Coors Amphitheatre, Saturday, April 28, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600.

The Kumbia Allstarz: House of Blues, Saturday, April 28, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

ZZ Top: Palomar Starlight Theater Sunday, April 29, 5 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-510-4580.

Regina Spektor: House of Blues nday, April 29, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Ghostface Killah: Belly Up Tavern, Monday, April 30, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Damien Rice: Spreckels Theatre, Tuesday, May 1, 121 Broadway, downtown, 619-235-9500.

Nas: 4th & B, Wednesday, May 2, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

Tool: Cox Arena, Wednesday, May 2, and Thursday, May 3, SDSU campus College Area. 619-594-0429.

Melissa Ferrick: The Casbah, Thursday, May 3, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego. 619-232-4355.

Richard Marx: Viejas Casino DreamCatcher Show Room, Friday, May 4, 5000 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-

The Yonder Mountain String Band: House of Blues, Friday, May 4, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-299

2583.

Stranger: 'Canes, Saturday, May 5, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780.

Taylor Hicks: Palomar Starlight Theater, Sunday, May 6, 5 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-510-4580.

Vienna Teng: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Sunday, May 6,

4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights.

Black Rebel Motorcycle Club: use of Blues, Sunday, May 6, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-299-2583.

Jason Michael Carroll: Viejas Casino DreamCatcher Show Room Monday, May 7, 5000 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Bright Eyes: Soma, Tuesday, May 8, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego 619-226-7662.

Wolfmother: Vieias Casino Concerts in the Park, Tuesday, May 8, 5005

J Mascis: The Casbah, Thursday, May 10, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego. 619-232-4355.

Fairport Convention:

AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, May 11, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Particle: 'Canes, Saturday, May 12, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach, 858-488-1780

Joss Stone: Vieias Casino Concerts in the Park, Saturday, May 12, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Harry Connick Jr.: Viejas Concerts at Bayside, Thursday, May 17, Embarcadero Park South, 619-445-5400.

The Be Good Tanyas: Belly $\mathrm{U}p$ Tavern, Friday, May 18, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Berkley Hart:

AcousticMusicSanDiego, Saturday, May 19, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Tish Hinojosa:

AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, May 25, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights

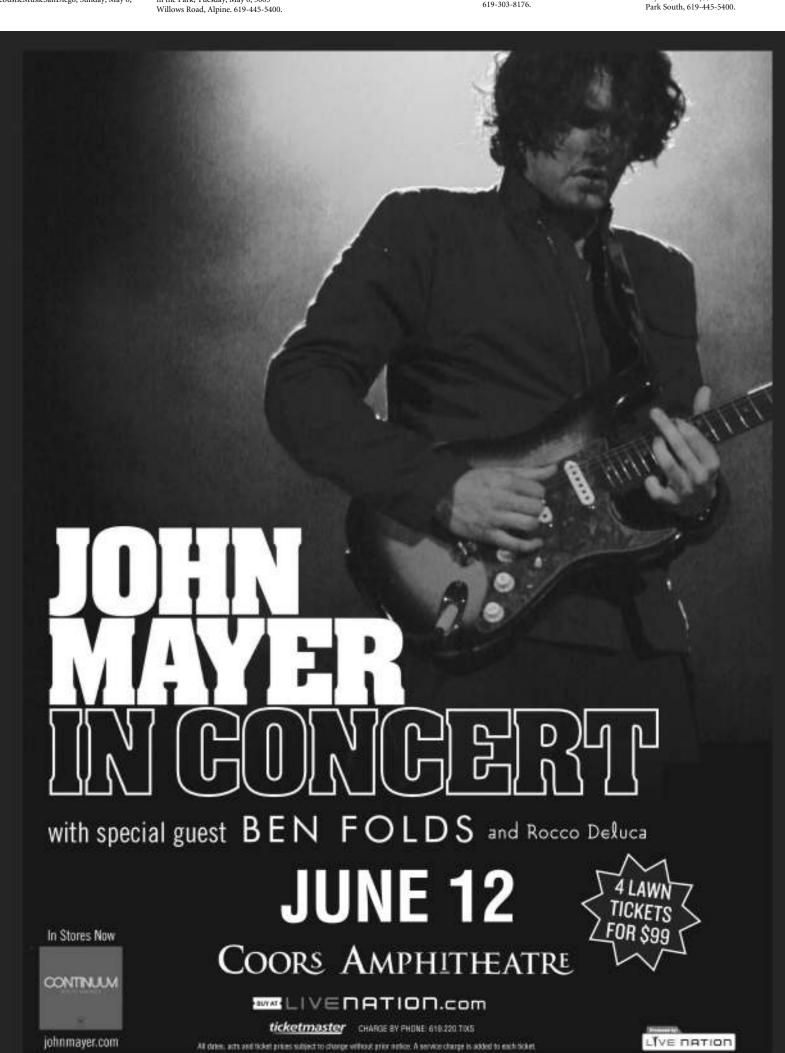
Chayanne: ipayOne Center, Saturday, May 26, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

Queensrÿche: 4th & B, Saturday, May 26, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-

Pretty Girls Make Graves and Kill Me Tomorrow: The Casbah Thursday, May 31, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego. 619-232-4355.

JUNE

Manu Chao: Viejas Concerts at Bayside, Tuesday, June 5, Embarcadero



2007

Calendar CONCERTS

The Charlie Daniels Band: Palomar miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-510-4580.

Keith Urban: ipayOne Center, Sunday, June 10, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

Aleiandro Sanz: Cox Arena, Wednesday, June 13, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-594-0429.

The Wailers: Del Mar Fairgrounds, Thursday, June 14, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar. 858-755-1161.

Kenny Loggins: Del Mar Fairgrounds Friday, June 15, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar. 858-755-1161.

Issac Delgado y Su Orquesta: 4th & B, Saturday, June 16, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343. The B-52's: Viejas Casino Concerts in

the Park, Friday, June 22, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400. Hot Tuna: House of Blues, Monday.

June 25, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583. Paulina Rubio: Viejas Casino

Concerts in the Park, Tuesday, June 26, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-

Cyndi Lauper, Erasure, and Debbie **Harry:** Open Air Theatre, Wednesday, June 27, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-594-6947.

LeAnn Rimes: Del Mar Fairgrounds, Wednesday, June 27, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar. 858-755The All-American Rejects: Del Mar Fairgrounds, Thursday, June 28, 2260 Iimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar. 858-755-1161.

The Moody Blues: Del Mar Fairgrounds, Monday, July 2, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar. 858-755-1161.

Pat Benatar & Neil Giraldo: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Tuesday, July 10, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine

The Fray, Gomez, and **Eisley:** Coors Amphitheatre, Tuesday, July 17, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600.

Lynyrd Skynyrd: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Thursday, July 26, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-

Montgomery Gentry: Palomar Starlight Theater, Friday, July 27, 5 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-510-

Maximo Park: The Casbah, Saturday, July 28, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego. 619-232-4355.

AUGUST

Los Lonely Boys: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Saturday, August 18, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-

The Gipsy Kings: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Wednesday, August 22, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-

Heart: Palomar Starlight Theater, Friday, August 31, 5 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-510-4580.

Calendar **CLUBS**

DANCE

If you would like to include your DI event, e-mail sellis@nethere.com or submit a listing online at SanDiegoReader.com by clicking on the music section. Deadline is 5 p.m. Friday, the week prior to publication. The listings are free.

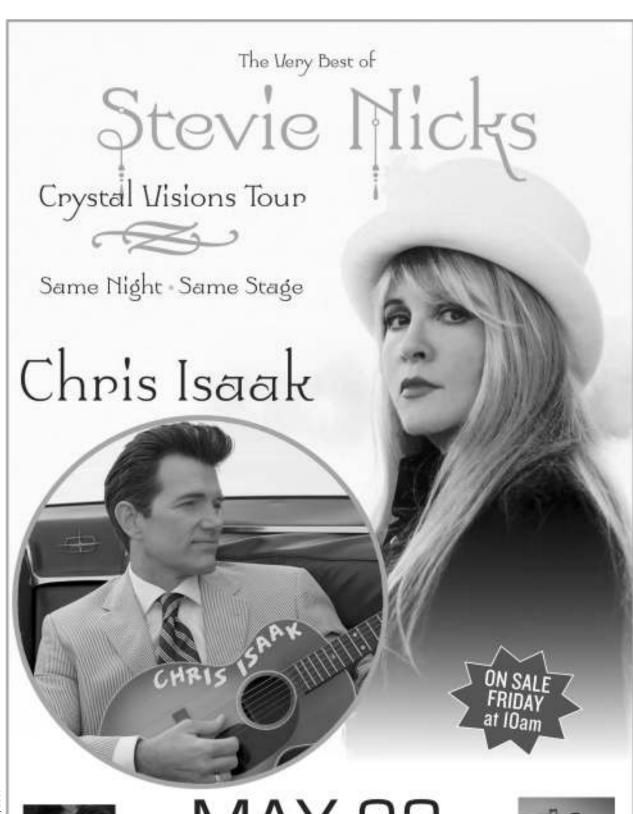
Air Conditioned: Wednesdays RockBoxx, '70s and '80s rock. Thursdays, College Night, old-skool hip-hop, '80s and funk with DJ 1979. Fridays, oldskool disco, funk, and '80s with DI Junior. Saturdays, Juicy, classic booty shakin' music with Mike Czech, Sundays, guest DJ night. 4673 30th Street, North

Brass Rail: Fridays, Element, New York nd Chicago house-music journeys with DJ Ciel. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. 3796 Fifth Avenue, Hillcrest. 619-298-2233.

The C Lounge: Sundays, Liauid. liquid funk and drum 'n' bass with residents Calculon, Knottyboy, Frizz, and more. 756 Fifth Avenue, down 619-233-2838.

Club Montage: Wednesdays, Club Thizz, hip-hop, reggae, and drum 'n' bass. Sundays, first floor, *Klub Retro*, nu wave, synth-pop, and new romantic; second floor, Underworld, industrial. gothic, and darkwave. 2028 Hancock Street, San Diego. 619-294-9590.

Dino's: Fridays, Therapy, industrial, gothic, and darkwave with DJs Bryan Pollard and guest. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. 3929 30th Street, North Park. 619-291-3466.



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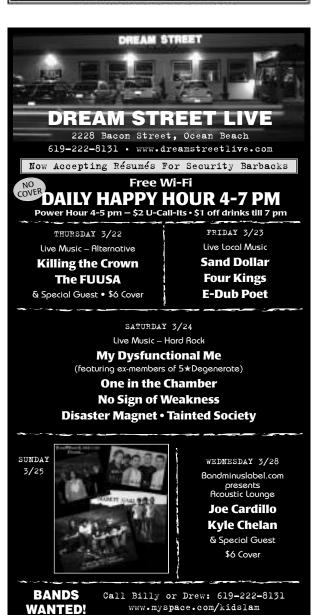
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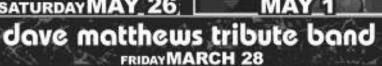














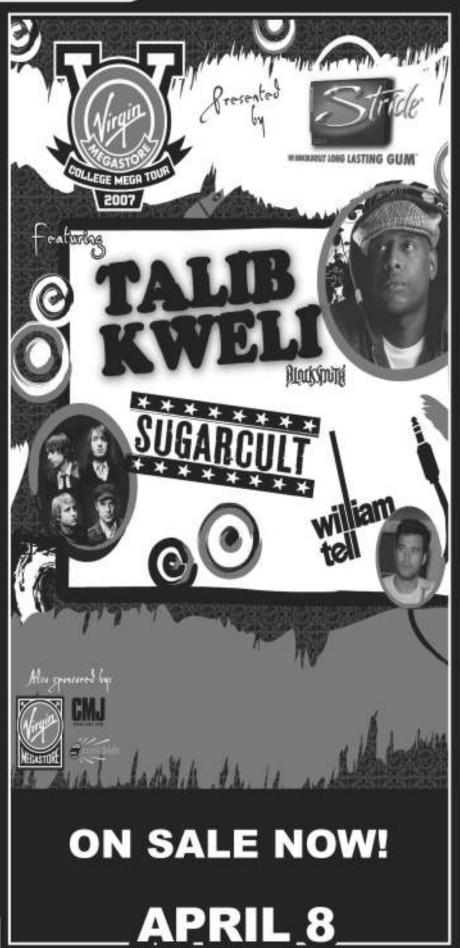
80'S NEW WAVE RAVE PLOSPHETTOUS PUTTOURS DEPETHE MODE THEBUTE SATURDAYMARCH 31



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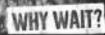
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alendar

DANCE

The Flame: Second and fifth Saturday of the month, Sabbat, gothic, industrial, and dark '80s with DJs Robin Roth, Adam Atom, and Diskdroid. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. 3780 Park Boulevard, Hillcrest, 619-295-4163.

Gaslamp Tavern: Thursdays, DJs Billie Knight, Tek, and guests spin true hip-hop. Fridays and Saturdays, DJ Billie Knight spins Tavern music. Sundays, DJ Tek spins '80s. 868 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-239-3339.

Habana Restaurant: Saturdays, Adventuras East, salsa, merengue, and cha-cha with David Garcia and David Suave. 10 p.m. 7777 University Avenue. La Mesa, 619-713-2011.

Honey Bee Hive: Wednesdays, Mixtape Sessions, underground hip-hop, downtempo, and breakbeat with DJ Ricky Wrecks and Mada; 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Thursdays, *Deep*, drum 'n' bass with DJs Wallkrawler, Probable Cause, and Skyler Mic; 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Second Saturday of the month, classic and underground hip-hop, funk, and breaks with DJs Frantik, Thumbprint, and Pnutz. 1409 C Street (corner of 14th Street, across from City College), downtown. 619-702-6010.

Hot Monkey Love Cafe: Saturdays, Candy Shop Young Adult Nightclub, DJ'd hip-hop, R&B, dirty South, and live music. 8 p.m. 6875 El Cajon Boulevard, College Area. 619-469-4113.

Inferno Young Adult Nightclub:

Top 40, techno, and '80s. 9 p.m. to 1:15 a.m., high school students and up. 775 Metcalf Street, Escondido. 760-741-1271

Jack's Lounge: Fridays, Injoy Fridays at Jack's, deep funky house music with DJ Misha and guests. Saturdays, vocal house with DJ Sean Wilson, 7863 Girard Avenue, La Jolla. 858-456-8111.

Kadan: Wednesdays, *Darkwave Garden*, punk, gothic, and ethereal with DJs Bryan Pollard, Stern, and Grimderella First Saturday of the month, BrokenBear Night, live electronic, machine funk, and breaks. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. No cover. 4696 30th Street, North Park. 619-640-2500.

The Kava Lounge: First Saturday of the month, Ascension, Robin Roth and Tom King spin the best in dark underground dance music. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. 2812 Kettne Boulevard, Middletown. 619-543-0933.

The Kensington Club: Wednesdays, Lowdown, metal to old skool to classic rock to hip-hop with DJs Buddha and SC. 9:30 p.m. 4079 Adams Avenue, Kensington, 619-284-2848.

Landlord Jim's: Sundays, Sunday Soulcial, DJ Buddha serves up old soul, R&B, and positive hip-hop. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. No cover. 1546 Broadway, downtown. 619-233-9998

Lucky Star Nightclub: Fridays, DI Salsero Mayor spins salsa, merengue, and reggaeton. 9 p.m. 3893 54th Street (at iversity), San Diego. 619-229-8228.

Mission Valley Resort: Thursdays and Fridays, Mambo Lounge, salsa, bachata, and cha-cha with Da Wizzrd. 8 p.m. to midnight. 875 Hotel Circle South, Mission Valley. 619-298-8281.

Moondoggies Pacific Beach: Saturdays, hip-hop, R&B, and Top 40



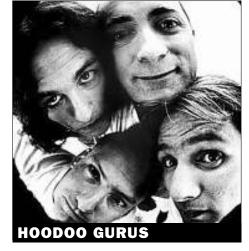
BY WILLIAM CRAIN

One of Australia's most popular cookies (or, as they call them, biscuits) is the Tim Tam, which I'm told resembles a rectangular. chocolate-covered Oreo. Tim Tam fans like to bite off either end of the cookie and then use it as a kind of straw to suck up coffee or tea. One can only get so far before the wafers inside start to disintegrate and so the consumer must quickly slam the Tim Tam into his or her mouth.

I don't know for a fact, but I think it's a safe bet that the members of the HoodooGurus have slammed a few Tim Tams in their time. Formed in Sydney in 1982, the Hoodoo Gurus were devoted to trash culture: exploitation movies, garage rock, and, no doubt, junk food.

Singer Dave Faulkner has a voice that gives the impression he's always smiling, and that made all the kitschiness go down easy. He wasn't trying to be weird like the B-52s or the Cramps — he sounded as though he was just having fun. That meant that the Hoodoo Gurus could be silly without having to pigeonhole themselves as a joke band. Likewise, they could use the sounds of the '60s without quite being a revival act. On Rhino Records' Children of Nuggets box set of '60s-inspired rock from the '80s, the Hoodoo Gurus song "I Want You Back" is a highlight largely because, while it fits in, it doesn't try too hard to sound like

the '60s. It stands on its own merit. The Hoodoo Gurus had some stateside success in the '80s, but they are practically an institution in their home country. On this tour they



HOODOO GURUS. Belly Up Tavern. March 27, 8 p.m. 858-481-8140. \$19.

hits. 832 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach 858-483-6550

San Diego Sports Club:

Wednesdays, *Club Pussy Galore*, Robin Roth and other female DJs spin indie rock, electropop, and '80s. First Friday of the month, *Sin Factory*, fetish, gothic, and industrial. Second and fourth Saturday of the month, Club Fashion Whore, electroclash, Brit pop, and indie dance punk with DJs Nate Soixante, Barry Weaver, Edgartronic, and more.

Third Saturday of the month, Club de Sade, gothic, industrial, and fetish with DJs Darkman and Creep. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. 1271 University Avenue, Hillcrest. 619-299-7372.

Shooterz: Thursdays, Club '80s, new wave, new romantic, and punk synthpop with DJs Bryan Pollard, Sickboy, and Stern. 3815 30th Street, North Park. 619-574-0744.

South Park Bar & Grill: Fridays disco, funk, and electro with DJs Riddles and Rudy Palos. 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. 1946 Fern Street, South Park, 619-696-0096

Whiskey Girl: Fridays, DJ Marc Thrasher mixes music videos Saturdays DJs Marc Thrasher and Famous Dave mix music videos, Sundays, DI Famous Dave mixes music videos. Mondays,

Manic Mondays, DJ Marc Thrasher mixes '80s and '90s music videos. 9 p.m.; 21

and up. 600 Fifth Avenue, downtown 619-236-1616.

The Whistle Stop: First and third Saturday of the month, *Transport*, Brit rock, indie, and electroclash with DJ Gabe Vega and guests. Second and fifth Saturday of the month, *One Nation*, new wave, hip-hop, and bootleg remixes with DJs Blackstone and Atari. 2236 Fern Street (corner of 30th and Juniper), South Park 619-284-6784





Entertainment 7 Nights a Week!

Navajo

Thursday, March 22 • Mike Ruggirello presents

Huge Rooster & Guests

Friday & Saturday, March 23 & 24 • 9 pm



Classic Rock

6 One 9

Monday, March 26

Come Play!

Tuesday, March 27 • Mike Ruggirello presents

Huge Rooster & Guests

8515 Navajo Road • 619-465-1730

(Albertsons shopping plaza at Navajo & Lake Murray)

Originals Band Bookings: Call club

Santee

Thursday, March 22

8 pm Soul Purpose

Friday & Saturday, March 23 & 24 • 9 pm



Classic Rock

Serious Guise

Sunday, March 25 8 pm **Fuzz Huzzi**

Tuesday, March 27

Call Club

Wednesday, March 28

8 pm Sandi Shaner • 9 pm Stratosphere 10 pm Broke On Friday

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Boz Scaggs **APRIL 14**



Huey Lewis & The News **APRIL 20**



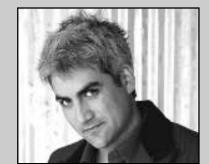
Engelbert Humperdinck APRIL 22



ZZ Top APRIL 29



Bill Engvall MAY 4



Taylor Hicks MAY 6



Dick Fox's Golden Boys Frankie Avalon, Fabian, Bobby Rydel



Clay Aiken **AUGUST 3**

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Calendar

CLUBS BY AREA

If you wish to submit a listing, call 619-235-3000, ext. 405, night or day by 5 p.m. Friday, the week prior to publication. To send weekly or monthly schedules, fax to 760-788-1309 or mail to Reader Music Scene, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186-5803. You may also submit information online at SanDiegoReader.com by clicking on the music section.

BEACHES

Bahia Resort Hotel, 998 West Mission Bay Drive, Mission Beach. 858-488-0551. Tangier Lounge: Thursday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., also, Friday and Saturday, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., and Wednesday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., *John Cain*, jazz/Latin/international/pop standards.

Bar Leucadian, 1542 North Coast Highway 101, Leucadia. 760-753-2094. Friday, call club for information. Saturday, *Uplift*, reggae.

The Calypso Cafe, 576 North Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-632-8252. Thursday, *Triple Shot*, blues. Friday, *Jeff Moore* and *Billy Thompson*, blues. Saturday, *Semisi and Fulabula*, reggae. Sunday, the Rick Ross Trio, Jazz. Monday, the John Bennett Trio, classic roots rock. Tuesday, *Jack Tempchin*, folk. Wednesday, *Maldonado*, flamenco.

'Canes, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780. Thursday, 8:30 p.m., Muzzle, Born Tonight, In Ever Breath, and the Cathedrals. Friday, the B-Side Players, Latin jazz, and the Dirty Heads. Saturday, Tainted Love, '80s rock. Wednesday, Aterciopelados, Latin/rock/trip-hop, and the Mayan Kings, reggae. **Clay's**, atop the Hotel La Jolla, 7955 La Jolla Shores Drive, La Jolla. 858-459-0541. Live jazz.

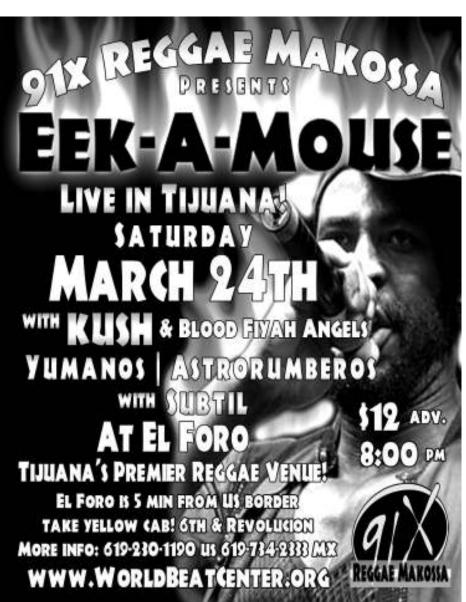
Del Mar Plaza, 1555 Camino del Mar, Del Mar. Sunday, 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., *Keith Jacobsen*, smooth jazz saxophone.

Dreamstreet, 2228 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach. 619-222-8131. Friday, Sand Dollar, the Four Kings, and E-Dub Poet. Saturday, One in the Chamber, No Sign of Weakness, Disaster Magnet, and Tainted Society, metal. Sunday, Stole Youn Woman, Magnolia Black, Buckeye Knoll, and Radio Fix.

E Street Cafe, 128 E Street, Encinitas. 760-230-2038. Music is acoustic/folk unless otherwise noted. Thursday, 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *Joseph Angelastro*, jazz. Friday and Saturday, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., *Tefflon*, 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *Traveling Tree*.

Hennessey's Tavern (PB), 4650 Mission Boulevard, Pacific Beach. 858-483-8847. Friday, *Just Added*, rock. Saturday, *the Mojo Brothers*, rock.





The Kraken, 2531 Old Highway 101, Cardiff. 760-436-6483. Thursday, *Frankie Dee and the Funk-Natra Band*. Friday, *the Salt Lickers*, por rock. Saturday, *Bill Magee Blues*. Sunday, *the Blues Brokers*, blues jam.

La Scala, 1101 Scott Street, Point Loma. 619-224-2272. Friday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., jazz. Saturday, 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m., piano bar.

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.

Leana Bistro and French Pastry Cafe, 5550 La Jolla Boulevard. 858-454
9094. Saturday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Greg Pardue and Forecast*, classic to
contemporary jazz.

The Lodge at Torrey Pines, 11480 N. Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla. 619-453-4420. Lobby: Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Wednesday, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., *Dan Papaila*, solo jazz guitar.

Papaila, solo jazz guitar.

Grill: Friday and Saturday, 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Mike Nelson, solo jazz guitar.

Ortega's Blue Parrot, 4993 Niagra Avenue, Suite 103, Ocean Beach. 619-222-1722. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 7 p.m., John Tafolla and Friends, variety.

Pasquale on Prospect, 1250 Prospect Street, La Jolla. 858-456-0722. Thursday, Gil Barron, Mark Fulton, James East, and PTrak Armenta, acoustic pop/rock/Latin/soul. Friday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., the Jazz 101 Band featuring Nick Fiore, John Guilino, Dave Scott, and Cynthia Hammond. Saturday, 8:30 p.m. Mario Oliveras and Latin Spice, Latin jazz.

710 Beach Club, 710 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-483-7844. Thursday, Theresa F. & Sister Haero, Chris Star, Miki Vale, Ya Basta, and Free Minds, R&B/soul/rock/funk/hip-hop.

Shooters Bar and Grill, Radisson Hotel, 3299 Holiday Court, La Jolla. 858-453-5500. Tuesday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., John Cain, jazz/pop/Latin/standards.

Thrusters, 4633 Mission Boulevard, Mission Beach. 858-483-6334. Saturday, 7 p.m., *Modern Day Moonshine*, rock/reggae/soul/blues.

Tiki House, 1152 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-273-9734. Friday, Stratosphere, rock. Saturday, Roxy Monoxide, rock.

Tower Two Beach Cafe, 5083 Santa Monica Avenue, Ocean Beach. 619-223-4059. Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., live music.

Turquoise Cafe, 873 Turquoise Street, La Jolla. 858-488-4200. Friday, 8:30 p.m. to 1 a.m., *Jazzilla*. Saturday, 8:30 p.m. to 1 a.m., live world jazz.

Winstons, 1921 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach. 619-222-6822. Thursday, Particle, rock. Friday, West Indian Girl and Pocket, rock. Saturday, Vegetation, reggae. Monday, the Electric Waste Band. Tuesday, the Wastrels and the Milli Vanillies. Wednesday, Dazed and Confused.

DOWNTOWN

Blarney Stone Pub, 502 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-8519. Friday and Saturday, *Steve Brewer*, acoustic.

Borders Books and Music (Gaslamp), 668 Sixth Avenue, San Diego. 619-702-4200. Saturday, 7 p.m., *Melissa Vaughan*, folk.

The Casbah, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, midtown. 619-232-HELL. Music is rock/alternative unless otherwise noted. Thursday, the Heartaches, the Departed, and the Nightmares. Friday, Grand Ole Party, Mr. Tube and the Flying Objects and the Muslims. Saturday, Gary Wilson, Kill Me Tomorrow, and Max Fields. Sunday, Calla, Swim Party and Sputnik Monroe. Monday, Buddy Akai, Chow Nasty, the Burning of Rome, the Nurses, and Shellshag. Tuesday, Fuusa and Cell Sleep. Wednesday, the Willowz, Inberst, Archons, and Evil Beaver.

Club Montage, 2028 Hancock Street, Balboa Park, 619-294-9590

Croce's Jazz Bar, 802 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-4355. All music is jazz unless otherwise noted. Thursday, David Patrone. Friday, Yavez. Saturday, Primo. Sunday, Fuzzy and the Bluesmen Monday, Dave Scott. Tuesday, the Shep Meyers Quartet. Wednesday, Fuzzy and the Bluesmen or Sue Palmer.

Dick's Last Resort, 345 Fourth Avenue, downtown. 619-231-9100. Music is rock and roll. Thursday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., the Scott Carter Duo. Friday, 8 p.m., Night Shift. Saturday, 8 p.m., Dazed and Confused. Sunday, the Disco Pimps. Tuesday, Dregs of Sada. Wednesday, Private Domain, unplugged.

Dizzy's, 344 Seventh Avenue, downtown. 858-270-7467. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Peter Sprague* and *Leonard Patton*, Stevie Wonder tribute, soul jazz.

Dublin Square, 554 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-239-5818. Traditional

The Field, 544 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-232-9840. Music is traditional Irish music. Thursday and Tuesday, Eamon Carroll, Irish folk. Friday, live Irish folk. Saturday, the Carly Hennessey Band. Wednesday, Ashley Matte.

4th & B, 345 B Street, downtown. 619-231-4343.

G5-Georges on Fifth, 835 Fifth Avenue (between E and F Streets), downtown. 619-702-0444. Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Wednesday, *Tom Barabas*, pianist. Hennessey's Tavern, 708 Fourth Avenue (corner of Fourth and G), Gaslamp. 619-239-9991. Saturday, 10 p.m., the Band in Black, rockabilly.

Henry's Pub, 618 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-238-2389. Thursday, the Brat Pack. Friday, Good Times. Saturday, Groove Sessions. Tuesday, the Stilettos, rockabilly. Wednesday, Lady Dottie and the Diamonds. blues.

House of Blues, 1055 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-299-2583. Thursday, Cute Is What We Aim For, Circa Survive, As Tall as Lions, and Envy on the Coast, alternative rock. Friday, Tyrone Wells, Boys Night Out, Lovedrug, and Mayday Parade, alternative rock. Sunday, gospel brunch with Eddie Baltrip and Fulfillment.

Jimmy Love's, 672 Fifth Avenue (corner of Fifth and G), downtown. 619-595-0123. Thursday and Sunday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., Masterpiece, jazz/R&B. Friday and Saturday, 9:45 p.m., Pop Rocks, '80s dance. Monday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., Insight, jazz. Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., Mystique, jazz/R&B. Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., the Soul Revue, dance/Top 40.

Martini Ranch, 528 F Street, downtown. 619-235-6100. Thursday, live band. Tuesday, 9 p.m., *Modern Day Moonshine*, rock/reggae/soul/blues.

Patrick's II, 428 F Street, downtown. 619-233-3077. Music is blues/soul unless otherwise noted. Thursday, Michele Lundeen. Friday, the Blues Brokers, Saturday, Southbound Blues. Sunday, the Blues Invaders. Monday, Blue Largo. Tuesday, the Bayou Brothers. Wednesday, Bill Magee Blues.

Princess Pub and Grille, 1665 India Street, Little Italy/downtown. 619-702-3021. Saturday, *J.D. Boucharde*, piano.



Calendar

DOWNTOWN

(continued)

Rock Bottom, 401 G Street, Gaslamp. 619-231-7000. Live pop/rock/disco/dance.

Samba Grill, 514 Horton Plaza, Gaslamp. 619-236-1000. Saturday, 7 p.m., *the Johnson Project*, smooth jazz.

Sevilla, 555 Fourth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-5979. Club Salsa: Thursday, *Primo*, salsa/Latin jazz. Tuesday, *Orauesta 8.8*. salsa.

The Shout House, 655 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-231-6700. Rock and roll sing-along dueling pianos.

U.S. Grant Hotel, 326 Broadway, downtown. 619-232-3121. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Paper Moon*, acoustic Latin jazz.

The Westgate Hotel, 1055 Second Avenue, downtown. 619-238-1818. The Plaza Bar: Happy Hour, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., Thursday and Monday, Peter Price of Piano. Tuesday and Wednesday, Kevin McCully, piano.

Evening Entertainment: Thursday and Friday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., Fran Loskota, pop/jazz. Saturday, 7 p.m. to midnight, Karen Giorgio, cabaret. Sunday and Monday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., Julio De La Huerta, Latin. Tuesday and Wednesday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., Faith Page, international/Standards.

SAN DIEGO

AcousticMusicSanDiego, 4650 Mansfield Street, San Diego. 619-303-8176. Monday, *Pierre Bensusan*, acoustic.

The Aero Club, 3365 India Street, San Diego. 619-297-7211.

The Alibi, 1403 University Avenue, San Diego. 619-295-0881. Live rock/indie/alternative.

Blarney Stone Pub, 5617 Balboa Avenue, Clairemont. 858-279-2033. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, *Tony Cummins*, Irish folk. Monday, *Pat and Joe* and *Allison Gill*, folk. Tuesday, Irish jam session.

Bobby's Place, 6179 University Avenue, San Diego. 619-582-6730. Sunday, 7 p.m., *the Johnson Project*,

Borders Books and Music (Mission Valley), 1072 Camino del Rio North, Mission Valley. 619-295-2201. Friday, 8 p.m., *Jim Earp*, acoustic

Brick by Brick, 1130 Buenos Avenue, Bay Park. 619-275-LIVE. Music is heavy rock/metal/punk unless otherwise noted. Thursday, Stinking Lizaveta and the Big Dame Hunters. Saturday, Creeping Death, Amerikan Made, Hardslug, Core 10, and Dust N Bones, hard rock. Sunday, the Evergreens, the Small Hours, and Fight the Fear, rock/indie/alternative. Wednesday, 9 p.m., Pete Stewart, Carey Ott, and Wendy Bailey, acoustic/alternative.

Claire de Lune, 2905 University Avenue, North Park. 619-688-9845. Live

Epicentre, 8450 Mira Mesa Boulevard, Mira Mesa. 858-271-4000. Friday, the Locust, the Daughters, and Cattle Decapitation, hard rock/death metal. Saturday, the Shenanigans, Radio Racer, 15 North, Step Stevie Step, and White Apple Tree, rock/metal/alternative.

Etta's Place, 6179 University Avenue (at College and University). 619-582-6730. Live rock/swing.

The Gordon Biersch Brewery, 5010 Mission Center Road, San Diego. 619-688-1120. Live blues/rock.

Harry's Bar and American Grill, 4370 La Jolla Village Drive, San Diego. 858-373-1252. Friday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., the Jaime Valle-Bob Magnusson Jazz Duo.



BY DAVE GOOD

They got it right when they pictured Andrea Echeverri on the cover of Rolling Stone dressed as a Madonna and holding a child. There is something fundamental in Echeverri's approach to womanhood, as detailed on her eponymous solo CD from 2005. Much of that work centered either on her baby or the bed by that I mean on motherhood or on her romance with her historian husband that became more passionate after the baby was born. She sang about breastfeeding and sex with both conviction and innocence, a sensual maturity that has been lost on the generation of Latina bad girls who have no clue how to be a woman and perform like roadhouse strippers. For her efforts, Echeverri has been twice nominated for a Grammy award.

The Colombian pop star's home base is a band that goes by the name Aterciopelados, Echeverri and her creative partner, bassist/producer Hector Buitrago, have earned a reputation for being outspoken in song in what has at times seemed to parody the peace and love movement in the U.S. four decades earlier. If anything, Buitrago and Echeverri are Latin hippies. Their earliest music was folksy and ethnic, but it was a format that they felt com-

pelled to play fast and loose with over the years. They began to flavor their work with triphop and club beats, and their crafted rural poplost its flavor

With *Oye*, their first new studio album in five years, they have got it back. Buitrago's gift is in the blending of cultures and sounds; Echeverri's voice has matured into a rare, illustrative instrument over the last few tours. *Oye*



puts that together in a collection of bright Latin alt folk from a pair of iconoclasts who refuse to learn English just for the sake of selling a few more albums. Aterciopelados translated, by the way, means something like "the velvety ones." which must be an inside ioke.

ATERCIOPELADOS, 'Canes, Wednesday, March 28, 8 p.m. 858-488-1780. \$22.

Hot Monkey Love Cafe, 6875 El Cajon Boulevard, San Diego. 619-469-4113. Thursday, jazz. Friday and Saturday live bands. Sunday, salsa. Monday, tango. Tuesday, hip-hop. Wednesday, swing.

Humphrey's, Half Moon Inn, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-224-3577. Backstage Lounge: Thursday, 8 p.m. to midnight, the Soul Persuaders, sweet soul. Friday, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Sheila Sondergard, acoustic guitar, 8:30 p.m., the Eve Selis Band, roadhouse rock. Saturday, two shows, 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., Rockola, classic rock. Sunday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Maldonado, smooth jazz, 8 p.m. to midnight, the Calvin Romance Jazz All-Stars. Monday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., the Bill Magee Blues Band. Tuesday, 8 p.m. to midnight, Viva Santana, latin rock. Wednesday, 8 p.m. to midnight, Federal Funk, R&B.

The Imperial House, 505 Kalmia Street, San Diego. 619-234-3525. Friday and Saturday, 7:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m., *Rick Lyon*, pop standards/Top 40/variety.

In Cahoots, 5373 Mission Center Road, Mission Valley. 619-291-8635.

JP's Pub, 10436 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, Tierrasanta. 858-576-2509. Friday, live classic rock. **The Kensington Club,** 4079 Adams Avenue, Kensington. 619-284-2848. Friday and Saturday, live rock/alternative bands.

The Lafayette Hotel, 2223 El Cajon Boulevard, University Heights. 619-296-2101. L Bar and Grill: Thursday, 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., *Keith Jacobsen*, smooth jazz saxophone.

Lestat's Coffee House, 3343 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-282-0437. Music is acoustic/folk unless otherwise noted. Thursday, Hamell on Trial. Friday. Joanie Mendenhall, Saba, and Sara Petite. Saturday, Anya Marina and Sean O'Donnell. Sunday, Echo Scream, Making Aprin, the Craze, and the Mile After. Monday, open mike. Wednesday, Citizen Band, rock.

Lucky Star Nightclub and Ballroom, 3893 54th Street, San Diego. 619-229-8228. Friday, 9 p.m., Orquesta Rico Tumbao, salsa. Wednesday, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., the Victoria Rose Trio, vintage jazz/swing/rock.

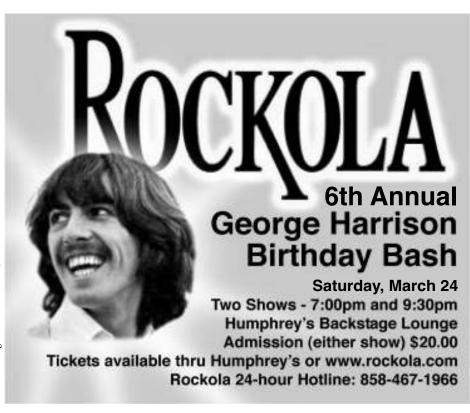
Martini's Bar and Grill, 3940 Fourth Avenue, San Diego. 619-293-0232. Saturday, 7 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., *Vintage Vegas* or *Z-Bop*, jazz.

O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub, 1310 Morena Boulevard, Bay Park.

















Calendar

SAN DIEGO

(continued)

619-276-5637. Friday, 9 p.m., the Hard Lessons, the Blackout Party, and Lessons from Zeke, rock/garage/alternative.
Saturday, 9 p.m., Mike Pinto and the Mashers, Ecosave, and DJ Cool Breeze, reggae/ska. Monday, Mystery Train, blues. Tuesday, Signature Escape, Silent Envy, and the Loaded, rock/punk/metal. Wednesday, Rhythm and the Method, Kicked Out, and Kitten with a Whip, rock/alternative/soul.

The Ould Sod, 3373 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-284-6594. Friday, *Sara Petite*, folk. Tuesday, traditional Irish jam session.

Pal Joey's, 5147 Waring Road, Allied Gardens. 619-286-7873. Friday and Saturday, *Nite Life*, blues.

The Prado Restaurant, 1549 El Prado, San Diego. 619-557-9441. Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., Adrienne Nims and Raggle Taggle, Celtic/Irish.

Prego Ristorante, 1370 Frazee Road (Hazard Center), Mission Valley. 619-294-4700. Monday, the Jaime Valle/Rob Thorsen Jazz Duo.

Redfox Steakhouse, 2228 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park. 619-297-1313. Thursday through Sunday, and Wednesday, the Ed Repisi Duo. Monday and Tuesday, 9 p.m. to 1 p.m., Shawline Expression.

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, 8 p.m., Lilith Velkor, Way Back from the Get Slow, and the Musemakers, alternative.

Scolari's Office, 3936 30th Street, San Diego. 619-296-3546. Live rock/alternative bands.

Second Wind, 8515 Navajo Road, San Carlos. 619-465-1730. Friday and Saturday, *60ne9*, classic rock.

Sogno Di Vino, 1607 India Street, San Diego. 619-531-8887. Wednesday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Mike Nelson*, solo jazz/Latin guitar

Soma, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-SOMA. Music is rock/metal/alternative/punk. Thursday, the Nodes of Ranvies, Means, the Wages of War, 25 ta Life, Life or Death, and Bound in Blood. Friday, Killswitch Engage, Dragonforce, Chimaira, and He Is Legend. Saturday, Anti-Flag, Alexisonfire, Big D and the Kid's Table, and Set Your Goals.

Tio Leo's, 10787 Camino Ruiz, Mira Mesa. 858-695-1461. Live bands.

Tio Leo's Lounge, 5302 Napa Street (at Morena Boulevard), Bay Park. 619-542-1462. Friday, Paradise. Saturday, Candye Kane, blues. Tuesday, zydeco blues. Wednesday, 7 p.m., the High Society Jazz Band.

The Tower Bar, 4757 University Avenue, San Diego. 619-284-0158. Music is rock/punk/power pop/alternative. Thursday, Monsters from Mars, the Barbwires, and Mr. Neutron. Friday, Giant Haystacks. Saturday, the Faraway Boys.

Tutto Mare, 4365 Executive Drive, La Jolla (Golden Triangle area). 858-597-1188. Wednesday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., *the Jaime Valle Quartet*, jazz.

Vesuvio Gourmet Restaurant, 3025 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park. 619-282-7040. Thursday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., the B-3 Four featuring vocalist, David Mosby, jazz. Friday and Saturday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., Peggy Lloyd, jazz.

NORTH COUNTY

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

The Beach House, 2530 South Highway 101, Cardiff. 760-753-1321. Friday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., *the Flounders*, acoustic folk rock.

Belly Up Tavern, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-9022. Thursday, 9 p.m., *Marc Ford* and Deadline Friday, rock. Saturday, 9 p.m., the Radiators and the Sue Palmer Boogie Woogie Quartet, swing/jazz. Sunday, 2 p.m., Flynnville Train and the Hideaways, country. Monday, 8 p.m., Brett Dennen and Amber Rubarth, alternative. Tuesday, 8 p.m., the Hoodoo Gurus and the Shambles. Wednesday, 8 p.m., Cowboy Mouth and the Pat McGee Band, rock.

Boar Cross'n, 390 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad. 760-729-2989. Thursday, hiphop. Friday and Saturday, live classic rock.

The Book Works/Pannikin Cafe, Flower Hill Mall, I-5 at Via de la Valle, Del Mar. 858-755-3735. Friday, 8 p.m., *George Svoboda*, classical guitar.

Borders Books and Music (Carlsbad), 1905 Calle Barcelona, Carlsbad. 760-479-0242. Friday, 8 p.m., Alan James, folk.

Borders Books and Music (Carmel Mountain), 11160 Rancho Carmel Drive, Carmel Mountain. 858-618-1814. Friday, 8 p.m., *Tom Boyer*, acoustic guitar. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Allison Barnes*, folk.

Carvers, 11940 Bernardo Plaza Drive, Rancho Bernardo. 858-566-2400. Friday, the MLC Band, rock. Saturday, Cool Band Luke

The Cask and Cleaver

Restaurant, 3757 South Mission Road, Fallbrook. 760-728-2818. Friday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., *the Band in Black*, rockabilly.

Cheers, 2475 Main Street, Ramona. 760-789-0270. Friday and Saturday, *the Taylor Harvey Band*, rock.

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. Friday, 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., Big Rig Deluxe, rockabilly. Saturday, 3 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., Little Big Men, 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., the Sons of Bordertown, rock/blues/folk. 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. Friday. the Working Cowboy Band, country.

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starting at \$7.99, Vinyl just \$5.00, Books and Current and Retro Clothing starting at \$1.99 ea. We can Special Order too!

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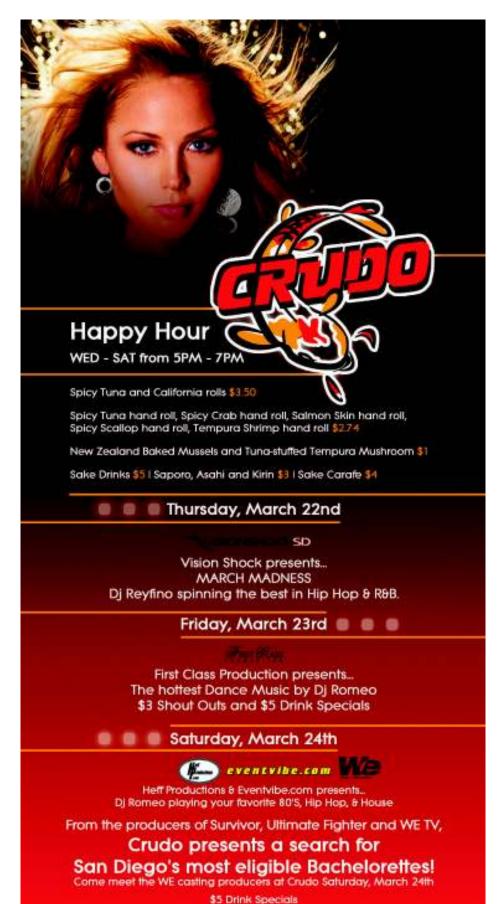
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Expires 4/5/07.



Chula Vista • 619-585-0018 236 Broadway (near E Street)

Pacific Beach • 858-272-2274 1084 Garnet Ave. (at Dawes)



Wednesday, March 28th

La Sonrisa Latina Presents... SALSA @ CRUDO Starts @ 9pm | \$10 cover | Drink Specials all night

Club Deviate presents...

SPRING BREAK '07 DJ Rage & DJ XRAY plus guest DJ Mikeski \$3 Han Vodka Drinks | \$3 Sapporo Beer Bottles For VIP contact Crude (8 l610/398-2974 or Representation

VALET 6 PLENTY OF FREE PARKING AVAILABLE 1953 INDIA STREET LITTLE ITALY, SAN DIEGO I 619 398 2974 I WWW.CRUDOUTTLEITALY.COM

Thursday, March 29th





MARCH

FRIDAY MARCH 30 KASKADE



Selo Reseaseant and Musicolab

Vip Sporns, Borrie Service,

FRIDAY MARCH 23 2007

SATURDAY MARCH 31 VHS OR BETA



Calendar

NORTH COUNTY

(continued)

Saturday, the Unknown Legends, acoustic roots rock.

The Flying Bridge, 1105 North Coast Highway, Oceanside. 760-722-1151. Sunday, 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Z-Bop*, jazz.

Game Time Tavern, 12735 Poway Road, Poway. 858-748-0015. Friday, 5 Miles High, rock. Saturday, Steal Dawn, classic rock

Harrah's Rincon Casino and Resort, 33750 Valley Center Road, Valley Center. 877-777-2457. Oasis Lounge: Friday, 8 p.m., the Baytown Band, pop/Top 40.

Hennessey's Tavern (Carlsbad), 2777 Roosevelt Street, Carlsbad. 760-729-6951. Friday and Saturday, live bands.

The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe, 5951 Linea del Cielo, Rancho Santa Fe. 858-756-1131. Thursday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, 5:30 p.m., Jerry Melnick, jazz/variety piano.

The Jumping Turtle, 1660 Capalina Road, San Marcos. 760-471-7778. Music is rock/alternative/metal unless otherwise noted. Thursday, 7:30 p.m., *the Wylde Bunch*, funk/hip-hop. Friday and Saturday, live rock/alternative bands.

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.

Molly Malone's, 1270 Main Street, Ramona. 760-789-9050. Friday, *Sweet Deal*, rock/covers. Saturday, live band.

North Bar Sports and Spirits, 200 West El Norte Parkway, Escondido. 760-480-8228. Thursday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Mike Gardner*, acoustic rock/folk.

Ocean House, 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad. 760-729-4131. Friday, 10 p.m., *the Moods*, rock. Saturday, 9 p.m., the Final Warning, Sunday, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., the Red Pepper Jazz Band. Tuesday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., the Cradit Union, swing. Wednesday, open mike, blues.

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.

Robbie's Roadhouse, 530 North Highway 101, Encinitas. 760-634-2365. Saturday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., Adrienne Nims and Spirit Wind, global jazz.

Surf N'Saddle, 123 West Plaza Street (Lomas Santa Fe and Highway 101), Solana Beach. 858-755-9474. Thursday, *Dan Sherrill*, acoustic. Friday, *Big Cat Blue*, blues. Saturday, *Inhale*, alternative rock. Wednesday, open mike.

Tom Giblin's Irish Pub and Restaurant, 640 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad. 760-729-7234. Tuesday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., Adrienne Nims and Raggle Taggle, Irish dance cabaret.

SOUTH BAY/CORONADO

Buon Giorno Restaurant, 4110 Bonita Road, Bonita. 619-475-2660. Friday, 9 p.m., Jesse Davis, variety. Saturday, Stage 4 or Mikan and Friends,

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 Wallinofford, jazz.

Caffe Salotto #1, 2240 Otay Lakes Road, EastLake Village. 619-421-8674. Thursday, 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m., the Paul Ingram Trio, jazz.

Galley at the Marina, 550 Marina Parkway, Chula Vista. 619-422-5714. Friday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., the Justin Brothers, rock and roll. Saturday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., live rock. Sunday, 5 p.m. to

>hometown CDs



Album: Thru Thick and Thin (2007)
Artist: Thicker Than Thieves

Label: self-released

Where available/price: Lou's Records, Music Trader, Liquid Foundation Surf Shop, Mojo Sound for \$12. Online at *cdbaby.com* for \$12.97

Songs: 1) Rise Up 2) Lyin to Kick It 3) Devil's Eye
4) Crown Down 5) On Your Head 6) Way Things Go
7) Respect, featuring Tippa Irie 8) Falling Behind 9) Weedwise
10) Gamble Called Life 11) Inspiration 12) Setbacks 13) Mary Jane

Band: Jamin Hazelaar (vocals), Brian Sykes (guitar), Jeff Thorkelsen (drums), Gus Kendrick (bass), Billy Eisenman (trumpet), Dan Mercado (trombone), featuring Tippa Irie (vocals)

Website: www.thickerthanthieves.com

14) 29 Bottles 15) Weedwise (dub)

Additional info: Thicker Than Thieves is scheduled to play 'Canes in Mission Beach on April 28

To understand some forms of music, one needs chemical assistance and cul-

tural perception. WWII moms and dads didn't quite get Hendrix and the LSD scene. Techno

can't live independently of MDMA or raves. And if you're not stoned in Southern California, you're not going to like beach reggae.

Beach reggae

sounds like a mishmash of horns, rocksteady bass, and punk drumming. Throw in a "Jah love" and some intentionally mispronounced lyrics, and a band is guaranteed to draw looks of confusion from the faces of Lawrence Welk Village residents. But if you're an Ocean Beach pothead, Thicker Than Thieves is going to call to you like your mother's voice.

Besides the standard lyrics of altering your consciousness and overcoming a perceived oppression, the band is pretty good. The horns are blazing, and the rhythm sec-



Thicker Than Thieves

tion is well timed and crisp. Hazelaar has that clipped island cadence along with a voice that lilts at the refrains to send the patchouli-and-bongwater crowd into heaven.

If you're a fan of Sublime or Vegitation, Thicker Than Thieves deserves a spot in your CD collection.

TO GET YOUR LOCAL CD REVIEWED, PLEASE MAIL

IT TO: Music Editor, Hometown CDs, San Diego *Reader*, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803

9 p.m., *David Hauser*, acoustic. Wednesday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Gary Seiler*, acoustic.

Hotel del Coronado, 1550 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435-6611. Babcock and 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 and 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, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., John Cain.

Island Sports and Spirits, 104 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435-3456. Friday, *Ron's Garage*, classic rock. Saturday, *Shockwave 4*, rock.

McP's Irish Pub and Grill, 1107 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435-5280. Music is acoustic/folk unless otherwise noted. Thursday, Northstar, classic rock. Friday, the Offbeats, rock. Saturday, the Elevators, blues. Sunday, Gary Rich. Monday, David Houser. Tuesday, Jackson and Jesus. Wednesday, 2 Guys Will Move U.

EAST COUNTY

Borders Books and Music (El Cajon), 159 Parkway Plaza, El Cajon. 619-593-5119. Saturday, 7 p.m., *Steve Ybarra*, acoustic pop.

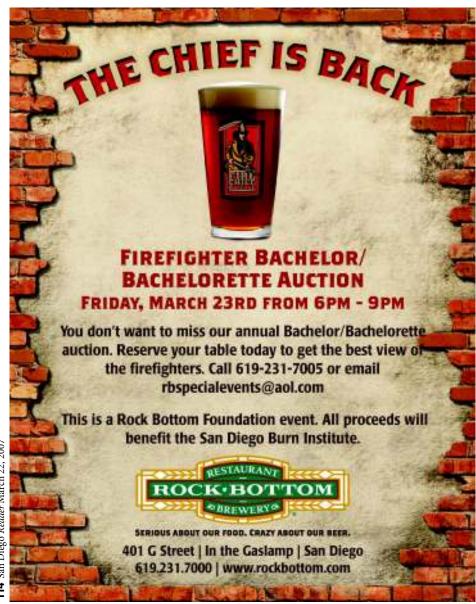
De Oro Mine Co., 9924 Campo Road, Spring Valley. 619-464-3351. Friday, 9 p.m., *Tom Smerk*, blues/classic rock/jazz, and *Zone* 4, rock.

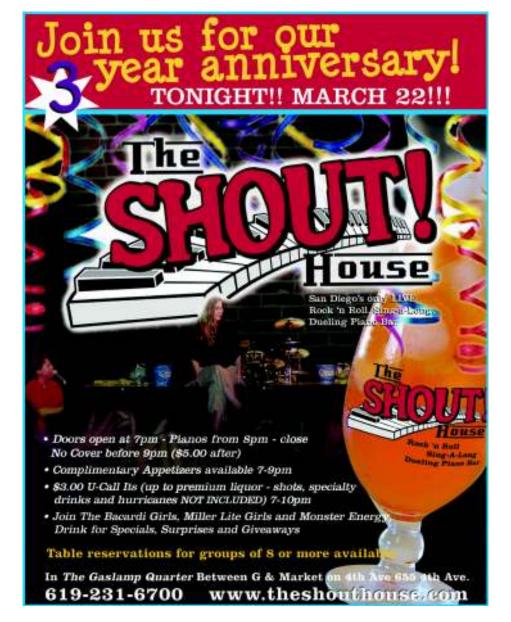
Dirk's Niteclub, 7662 Broadway, Lemon Grove. 619-469-6344. Friday and Saturday, *Full Xposure*, classic rock.

Don's Cocktail Lounge, 13321 Business Highway 8, El Cajon. 619-443 2444. Friday and Saturday, the Tall Dudes, rock/country.

Downtown Cafe, 182 East Main Street, El Cajon. 619-440-5687. Friday, 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Joey and the Stingrays, classic rock/oldies/country. Saturday, 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., Uncle Bob and the Earthmovers, blues/classic rock/soul.

Fannie's Nightclub, 9143 Campo Road, Spring Valley. 619-698-2204. Friday, Shockwave 4, rock. Saturday, Hedrons, the Scanners, the Sons of Danger, and Monsters from Mars. Sunday and Monday, hip-hop.





Hooley's Irish Pub and Grill, 2955 Jamacha Road, Rancho San Diego. 619-670-7468. Saturday, call club for information. Wednesday, the Caribbean Cowboys, rock/country.

Renegade Inn, 14335 Old Highway 80 (half mile east from Lake Jennings turnoff), Flynn Springs. 619-561-8105. Friday and Saturday, *Whiskey Ridge*,

Second Wind, 8528 Magnolia Avenue, Santee. 619-596-8350. Thursday, *Serious Guise*, classic rock.

Wagon Wheel, 8861 Magnolia and Saturday, live country.

Calendar

ALTERNATIVE

Alexisonfire: Soma

Anti-Flag: Soma

Archons: The Casbah

As Tall as Lions: House of Blues

Big D and the Kid's Table: Soma

The Blackout Party: O'Connell's

Bound in Blood: Soma

Buckeye Knoll: Dreamstreet

The Burning of Rome: The Casbah

Calla: The Cashah

Cattle Decapitation: Epicentre

Chimaira: Soma

Chownasty: The Casbah Circa Survive: House of Blues Creeping Death: Brick By Brick Cute Is What We Aim For: House

The Daughters: Epicentre

The Departed: The Casbah

Dragonforce: Soma

Envy on the Coast: House of Blues Evil Beaver: The Casbah

The Faraway Boys: Tower Bar

Fight the Fear: Brick By Brick Free Minds: 710 Beach Club

Giant Haystacks: Tower Bar Grand Ole Party: The Casbah

Hardslug: Brick By Brick

He Is Legend: Soma

The Heartaches: The Cashah

The Hoodoo Gurus: Belly Up Tavern

Inberst: The Cashah

Inhale: Surf N'Saddle

Kicked Out: O'Connell's Pub and

Kill Me Tomorrow: The Casbah

Killswitch Engage: Soma

Kitten with a Whip: O'Connell's

Pub and Nightclub

Life or Death: Soma

The Locust: Epicentre

Magnolia Black: Dreamstreet

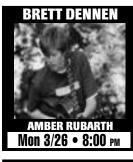
Make April: Lestat's Coffee House

Means: Soma

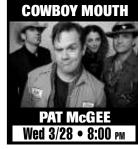








































JUST 5/6 KEXP presents **Minus The Bear** on sale Saturday at noon! ADDED!

- 4/15 Jedi Mind Tricks w/Sean Price & Grayskul 9 pm 4/16 Guru's Jazzmatazz
- Dan Hicks & His Hot Licks & John Hammond
- 4/18 Groundation 4/19 Pepper
- 4/20 B-Side Players 4/21 Boogie Nights-Metal Snake!

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3/30 BILLY WATSON • 4/6 THE FABULOUS PELICANS

4/13 ATOMIC GROOVE • 4/20 CANDYE KANE

SALSA SUNDAY: 3/25

- 4/22 Earth Day Blues Festival w/Tommy Castro & Charlie Musselwhite
- 4/23 Grant-Lee Phillips 4/24 Hal Ketchum
- 4/25 Sean Lennon
- 4/26 Railroad Earth
- 4/27 Blonde Redhead 4/28 Rufus Wainwright
- 4/29 Velourouge A Fundraiser for MS 4/30 Ghostface Killah
- 5/2 Jackie Greene
 5/9 Asleep At The Wheel
- 5/10 Don Carlos 5/13 RJD2 w/Pigeon John 5/18 The Be Good Tanyas
- 5/25 Common Sense 6/8 "Honky Tonk By The Sea" Heather Myles
- Leon Russell 6/17 Johnny Winter
- 6/21 Iris DeMent

5/22 Brother Ali

- 7/15 Seu Jorge 8/2 Venice
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FRIDAY, MARCH 23

with DIRTY HEADS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28

ATERCIOPELADOS

FRIDAY, MARCH 30

MONDAY, APRIL 2

AFATIA

THOMPSON

5:45 **TOUR**

FRIDAY, APRIL 6

KRS-ONE · Some in HEATVILLE

THURSDAY, APRIL 12

NATURAL VIBRATIONS THE DEVASTATORS

IRATION

SATURDAY, APRIL 14

JUST LIKE PRIEST

FRIDAY, APRIL 20

S) SEEDLESS 4/20 PARTY

BARRINGTON LEVY

and Surprise Special Guest

FRIDAY, APRIL 27

Diam Diones

one drop STONE SENSES

BAN MAIDENS

(All Female Tribute to

Iron Maiden)

THRIVING IVORY

ARM THE ANGELS

KEMISTRY

DE LA SOUL

THE MAYAN

KINGS

B-SIDE

PLAYERS

THURSDAY, MARCH 22

BORN TONIGHT MUZZLE IN EVERY BREATH THE CATHEDRALS

SATURDAY, MARCH 24



THURSDAY, MARCH 29



SATURDAY, MARCH 31



(Doors Tribute)

JUMPING JACK FLASH (Rolling Stones Tribute)

THURSDAY, APRIL 5



ANNA TROY

SATURDAY, APRIL 7

SUN DIEGO presents SPRING BREAK YOSELF **EARTHLESS** THE HEARTACHES

FRIDAY, APRIL 13



Out Johnny Cash

HIGH ROLLING LONERS SACRED COWBOYS

(with Earl Brown & Dan Dority of HBO's De

SUNDAY, APRIL 15

THE ADDICTS

SATURDAY, APRIL 21

DEAD MAN'S PARTY (Oingo Boingo Tribute)

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ALTERNATIVE

Mr. Tube and the Flying Objects:

alendar BANDS

The Musemakers: San Diego Sports

The Muslims: The Casbah

The Nightmares: The Casbah Nods of Ranvier: Soma

The Nurses: The Casbah

Pocket: Winstons

Radio Fix: Dreamstreet

Rhythm and the Method:

Set Your Goals: Soma

The Shambles: Belly Up Tavern

Shellshag: The Casbah

The Shenanigans: Epicentre Silent Envy: O'Connell's Pub and

Sputnik Monroe: The Casbah



Cowboy Mouth, March 28, Belly Up Tavern

Stinking Lizaveta: Brick By Brick

Swim Party: The Casbah 25 ta Life: Soma

Lileth Velkor: San Diego Sports Club

The Wages of War: Soma

Way Back from the Get Slow: San

West Indian Girl: Winstons

White Apple Tree: Epicentre

The Willowz: The Casbah Gary Wilson: The Casbah

ROCK

Buddy Akai: The Casbah

Amerikan Made: Brick By Brick The Barbwires: Tower Bar

The John Bennett Trio: The Calvoso

The Big Dame Hunters: Brick By

Boys Night Out: House of Blues

The Brat Pack: Henry's Pub The Citizen Band: Lestat's Coffee

Music videos for all local concerts!

SanDiegoReader.com



Sat. 3/24 2-8 pm · All Ages Rock Show

Sun 3/25 "Undressed Sundaze" **Alternative Night**

Mon. 3/26 **Open Mic Night**

Tues. 3/27 "Club Rump" Reggae Music

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all shows start at 9 pm*

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SESSION

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April 7 • Rilev's Sports Bar

April 8 • 710 Beach Club

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Cool Band Luke: Carvers
Core 10: Brick By Brick

Cowboy Mouth: Belly Up Tavern

Dazed and Confused: Dick's Last
Resort, Winstons

Deadline Friday: Belly Up Tavern

The Dirty Heads: 'Canes
Disaster Magnet: Dreamstreet

The Disco Pimps: Dick's Last Resort

Dregs of Sada: Dick's Last Resort

Dust N Bones: Brick By Brick

The Elevators: McP's Irish Pub and

Max Fields: The Casbah

15 North: Epicentre

Final Warning: Ocean House

Marc Ford: Belly Up Tavern

4-Way Street: Humphrey's

Full Xposure: Dirk's Niteclub

Mike Gardner: North Bar Sports and

The Hard Lessons: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

The Taylor Harvey Band: Cheers Hedrons: Fannie's Nightclub Joey and the Stingrays: Downtown

Just Added: Hennessey's Tavern (PB)
The Justin Brothers: Galley at the

Lessons from Zeke: O'Connell's

The Loaded: O'Connell's Pub and

Lovedrug: House of Blues

Mayday Parade: House of Blues The Pat McGee Band: Belly Up Tavern

The Milli Vanilli's: Winstons
The MLC Band: Carvers

The Mojo Brothers: Hennessey's Tavern (PB)

Monsters from Mars: Tower Bar, Fannie's Nightclub

The Moods: Ocean House

Night Shift: Dick's Last Resort
No Sign of Weakness: Dreamstreet

Northstar: McP's Irish Pub and Grill, Coyote Bar and Grill

The Offbeats: McP's Irish Pub and Grill

One in the Chamber: Dreamstreet
Paradise: Tio Leo's Lounge

Particle: Winstons
Plain White T's: House of Blues

Private Domain: Dick's Last Resort
The Rhythm Method: Coyote Bar
and Grill

Rockola: Humphrey's

Ron's Garage: Island Sports and

Roxv Monoxide: Tiki House

The Salt Lickers: The Kraken
The Scanners: Fannie's Nightclub
The Eve Selis Band: Humphrey's
Serious Guise: Second Wind (Santee)

Shockwave 4: Island Sports and Spirits, Fannie's Nightclub Signature Escape: O'Connell's Pub

6one9: Second Wind (San Carlos)

The Small Hours: Brick By Brick
The Sons of Bordertown: Coyote
Bar and Grill

The Sons of Danger: Fannie's Nightclub

Chris Star: 710 Beach Club
Steal Dawn: Game Time Tavern
Step Stevie Step: Epicentre
The Stilettos: Henry's Pub
Stole Your Woman: Dreamstreet
Stratosphere: Tiki House

Sweet Deal: Molly Malone's
Tainted Love: 'Canes
Tainted Society: Dreamstreet

The Tall Dudes: Don's Cocktail

Miki Vale: 710 Beach Club The Wastrels: Winstons Zone 4: De Oro Mine Co.

POP / TOP 40

PTrak Armenta: Pasquale on Prospect
Gil Barron: Pasquale on Prospect

The Baytown Band: Harrah's Rincon Casino and Resort

Frankie Dee and the Funk-Natra Band: The Kraken James East: Pasquale on Prospect
Mark Fulton: Pasquale on Prospect
The Good Times: Henry's Pub
The Love Rangers: The Alley
Rick Lyon: The Imperial House
The Soul Revue: Jimmy Love's

Jesse Davis: Buon Giorno Restaurant

JAZZ / BIG BAND

Burnett Anderson: Cafe LaMaze The B-3 Four: Vesuvio Gourmet Restaurant The B-Side Players: 'Canes
Tom Bishop: Rancho Bernardo Inn
Blue Largo: Patrick's II
Ray Briz: Hotel del Coronado
Bruce Cameron: Coyote Bar and Grill
Sammy Canonizado: Cafe LaMaze
Sandy Chappel: Cafe LaMaze

The Cradit Union: Ocean House
Nick Fiore: Pasquale on Prospect
Jim Gibson: Hotel del Coronado

John Guilino: Pasquale on Prospect

Cynthia Hammond: Pasquale on Prospect **The High Society Jazz Band:** Tio

Leo's Lounge
The Paul Ingram Trio: Caffe Salotto

The Paul Ingram Trio: Caffe Salotto #1

Insight: Jimmy Love's **Keith Jacobsen:** Lafayette Hotel, Del

Mar Plaza

Barbara Jamerson: Hotel del

Coronado

The Jane 101 Bands Bassardo

The Jazz 101 Band: Pasquale on Prospect

Jazzilla: Turquoise Cafe

The Johnson Project: Samba Grill Bobby's Place

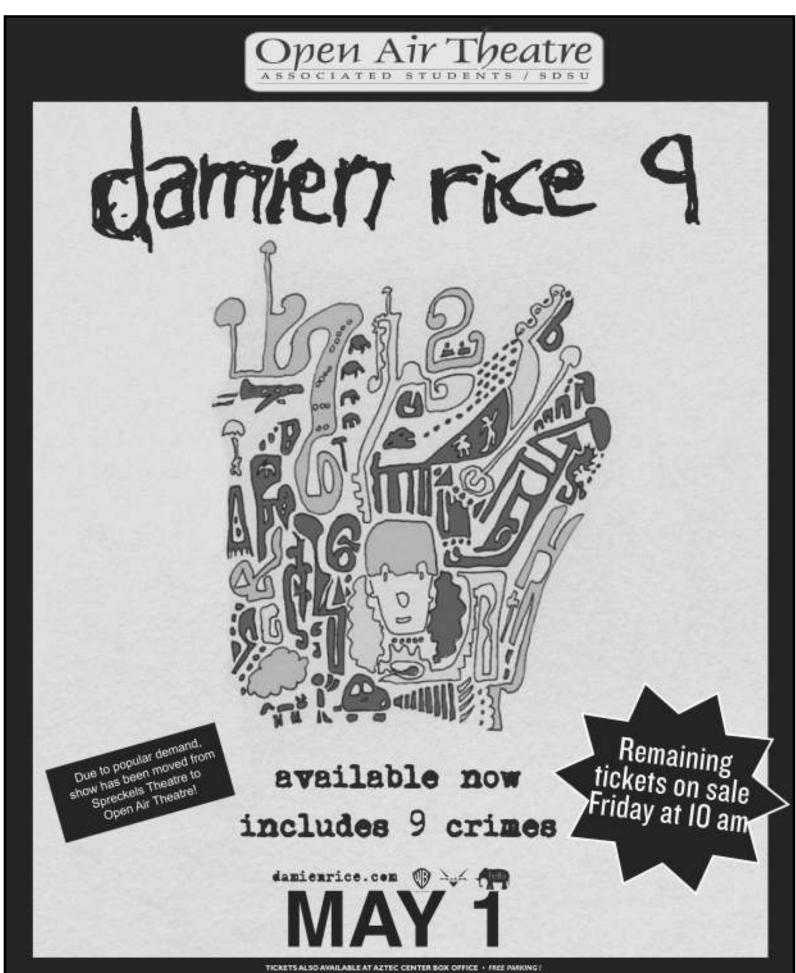
Fran Laskota: The Westgate Hotel
Tony Lasley: Hotel del Coronado
Barry Levich: La Valencia Hotel

Stellita and Dave Lindgren: Hotel del Coronado

Peggy Lloyd: Vesuvio Gourmet Restaurant **Maldonado:** Humphrey's, The

Masterpiece: Jimmy Love's

Calypso Cafe



ELIVEDATION.com

ticketmaster CHARGE BY PHONE: 619 220 Toos

All fales, acts and living prices subject to change without pilor notice. It can be charge is added to mail ficket. In the common common and common acts are acts and common acts are acts and common acts and

JAZZ / BIG BAND

Kevin McCully: The Westgate Hotel

Jerry Melnick: The Inn at Rancho

The Shep Meyers Quartet: Croce's

Mikan and Friends: Buon Giorno

David Mosby: Vesuvio Gourmet

Mystique: Jimmy Love's

Mike Nelson: Sogno Di Vino, The Lodge at Torrey Pines

Adrienne Nims and Spirit Wind:

Mario Oliveras and Latin Spice: Pasquale on Prospect

Sue Palmer: Croce's Jazz Bar

The Sue Palmer Boogie Woogie Quartet: Belly Up Tavern

Dan Papaila: The Lodge at Torrey

Paper Moon: U.S. Grant Hotel

Greg Pardue and Forecast: Leana Bistro and French Pastry Cafe

Dave Patrone: Croce's Jazz Bar Leonard Patton: Dizzy's

Peter Prince of Piano: The Westgate Hotel

Primo: Sevilla, Croce's Jazz Bar The Radiators: Belly Up Tavern

The Red Pepper Jazz Band: Ocean

The Calvin Romance Jazz All-

Rick Ross: La Valencia Hotel

Dave Scott: Pasquale on Prospect,

Robert Sebastini: Cafe LaMaze as i hear it Peter Sprague: Dizzy's Stage 4: Buon Giorno Restaurant

The Jaime Valle Quartet: Tutto

The Jaime Valle-Bob Magnusson

Jazz Duo: Harry's Bar and American

The Jaime Valle/Rob Thorsen

The Victoria Rose Trio: Lucky Star

Vintage Vegas: Martini's Bar and

Scott Wallingford: Cafe LaMaze

Jazz Duo: Prego Ristora

Yavez: Croce's Jazz Bar **Z-Bop:** The Flying Bridge

REGGAE / SKA

The Mayan Kings: 'Canes

Uplift: Bar Leucadian

Vegitation: Winstons

COUNTRY

Irish Pub and Grill

Ecosave: O'Connell's Pub and

Mike Pinto and the Mashers:

Semisi and Fulabula: The Calypso

The Band in Black: The Cask and

Cleaver Restaurant, Hennessey's Tavern

Big Rig Deluxe: Coyote Bar and Grill

The California Rangers: McCabe's

The Caribbean Cowboys: Hooley's

Flynnville Train: Belly Up Tavern

The Hideaways: Belly Up Tavern

The Working Cowboy Band: Del

Whiskey Ridge: Renegade Inn

Artist: Blueorange

Song: "Restless" (From the CD Nine) Heard By: George Mellos, Clairemont



If I listened to it on the radio I wouldn't turn it off, but I wouldn't buy the CD. It sounded more pop-punk [with] a little bit more '80s influence. I'm pretty much someone who just listens to metal — I'm 33. [The song is] more catered to my 16-year-old sister. It just struck me as kind of a stereotypical, trendy band. The guy's voice kind of sounded like Johnny Rotten. But, overall, it just sounds like a stereotypical pop-punk band. It's a "good mood" song; it's not really [supposed] to be that deep, emotionally.

SAN DIEGO SONGS TAKE THE STREET TEST

Artist: Mylive

Song: "Thieves" (From the CD Brain Obeys the Heart)

Heard By: Oliver Alvarez, Linda Vista



[They sound like] Maroon 5 that Songs About Jane CD; really upbeat, fast, a lot of percussion. I didn't really know what he was singing about, but it was really positive, I guess. It seemed a lot like the stuff you hear today on the radio — on the pop stations. Kind of standard. I don't know if I'd actually go out and look for it, but I'd listen to it.

Artist: Pillbox Remedy

Song: "Won't Sell My Soul" (From the CD Is This What We Wanted?) Heard By: Joseph Wehrly, Hillcrest



It reminded me of Taking Back Sunday. Thursday — that whole [New] Jersey group of bands. I liked the simple guitar. I don't feel like it needed anything more than that. I don't like how whinv he was. That's what made me think of the other bands — the influx of [his] voice at the end of lines. See, a lot of that posthardcore stuff — I used to listen to a lot of it in high school — a lot of bands do their regular album and then they'll do an entire track of acoustic live stuff. That's what that reminded me of.

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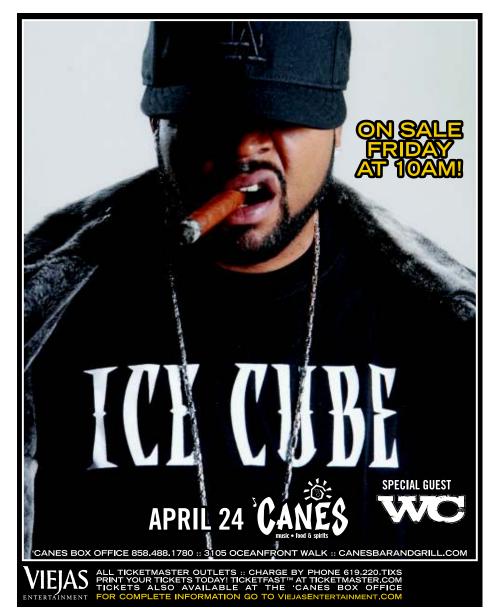


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Crasher

HELLO, DALI!

by Josh Board

received a voicemail about a party for Shay Davis, but I thought the guy said Gray Davis and that it would be a politician's dinner. Shay is an artist who moved here from Denver, and his friend Brad, who has a loft in Little Italy, threw a party for him.

Davis's canvases were hung on the concrete walls. I overheard a guy say to a tall blonde, "You can tell the Dalí and Picasso influences in the Cubism style of his oils." As I was looking at the painting the guy asked me, "Do you agree?" I said, "Yeah, I think that he was influenced by Hello, Dolly!" The pretentious guy huffed and said, "That was not the 'Dolly' I meant." I said, "The Dalai Lama?" He rolled his eyes. The blonde smiled. I said, "This is why I watch Wheel of Fortune instead of Jeopardy, dude. Or are you talking about that crazy artist that paints the melting clocks?" He put his finger in the air and said, "Bingo!"

I walked outside to grab a drink. The patio was tiny and



Top: Shay Davis, next to one of his paintings; Bottom left: Annie Leibovitz at the San Diego Museum of Art

abstract art, but his work incorporated interesting shapes and colors that drew

"I can paint very well if there are numbers on the picture telling me which colors go where. I can stay in the lines, too."

I appreciated his enthusiasm and the style of his work. I've never been a fan of

been going horrible." Shay

came over and I introduced

me his paintings.

myself and asked him to show

your attention.

I'm used to hearing struggling artists' sob stories, but I

found out Davis has a lot of commissioned work. He told me that four NFL players own his paintings and that actress Halle Berry has one of his prints. I said, "I would've hand-delivered it to her."

I grabbed a few carrots from the snack table and noted the variety of cold cuts. Mr. Pretentious came over and said, "I suppose you paint." I smiled but the blonde next to him did not. "Do you?" I asked. "I dabble. What about

you?" I said, "I don't do anything that ends up under my fingernails. It pissed my dad off when he tried to show me how to change a tire or change my oil."

He said, "So...you don't have any artistic ability?"

"I can paint very well if there are numbers on the picture telling me which colors go where. I can stay in the lines,

I saw that Shay sold two paintings, and I wished him luck as I headed for the door.

I spoke with Davis since the party and found out he's painting surf scenes, which made sense, since he spends his spare time surfing. Davis's work will show tomorrow at Aubergine restaurant downtown for a Wildcoast and Clean Water Now Project fundraiser.

There's an Annie Leibovitz exhibit at the San Diego Museum of Art in Balboa Park, and I found out she was going to give a tour for the media. When I heard it was at 8:00

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Crasher

a.m., however, I cringed. I'm used to staying up late and sleeping in, but I woke up early, went to the museum, talked my way in, where I grabbed some fresh fruit and strong coffee. I brought along a photograph of Pete Townshend with blood dripping down his hands that Leibovitz had taken. When I was on the radio in the early '90s, I mentioned after a Townshend song that I loved that particular photo of him. A listener brought it to the station, framed, a few hours later, and I've had it ever since. I thought I would try to have her sign it.

After a few speakers, a guy got up to apologize that Leibovitz couldn't be there. The weather in New York had delayed her flight. I wanted to get up, go home, and crawl back in bed, but I waited until he finished talking. I overheard someone say that Leibovitz would be there later in the afternoon to answer questions from the media and give a private tour of the exhibit.

About a hundred more people showed up in the afternoon, and Leibovitz answered several questions before the tour started. A few cell phones went off while Leibovitz spoke. A woman behind me was talking on her cell phone, and I turned around and stared at her. She lowered her voice but continued to talk. I continued to stare, and the woman made a face at me; she got the hint, though, and said she'd call back and snapped her phone shut.

I was near the back of the pack and was amazed to watch the journalists push and shove each other out of the way for photos and sound bites. One guy seemed nice. A little old lady was behind him and said, "Don't back up. I'm right behind you." He replied, "Don't go forward. I'm right in front of you." But I could tell he was

conscious not to bump into her. Unfortunately, the reporters I was trapped in the back with had bad breath and body odor.

When Leibovitz realized that she had passed a photo of Bill Clinton, she came back to it, and we ended up being in the front of the pack. She explained that it was Clinton's first day in office and that she walked in and caught him off guard. He had his feet up on the desk and was smoking a cigar. She was getting ready to take his photo and suggested that it would be great to snap a shot of him like that. Clinton said, "Not in your wildest dreams." She looked at me and said quietly, "I didn't realize until much later, how close he and cigars would forever become." She talked about a photo of the current president and how bad he looked. She said she didn't care since she isn't a fan of his.

Leibovitz got emotional when she spoke about her longtime companion, Susan Sontag, dying of cancer. I thought the photo of Sontag's corpse was morbid, and I think most people will prefer Leibovitz's celebrity shots. (There are several Demi Moore nudes from that much-publicized shoot.)

I had decided it
wouldn't be professional
to have Leibovitz sign the
Townshend photo I
brought, but as I was leaving, several people
whipped out things for her
to sign — CD inserts,
Rolling Stone and Vogue
magazines. I held out the
photo and she signed it. I
felt like whipping out
mints for the reporters
around me. ■

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

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TJ Crosses the Border

The border has been "bearish" since 9/11 that is, sometimes you eat the bear, usually the bear eats you. The unpredictability has hurt a lot of Tijuana restaurants — especially the better ones. Fewer gringos willingly suffer the weekend crush, nor casually head to TJ for a good weeknight dinner, because of the risk of a delayed return. Romesco is a major Baja restaurant group's ingenious solution: If gourmet gabachos won't come eat in TJ, then bring the best of TI to them.

Romesco is named for a lively Spanish "gypsy" sauce that's often served with fish. (You can taste it on the restaurant's gambas al ajillo appetizer.) It's the first north-of-the-border branch of the Placencia family's restaurant group, which includes the acclaimed Casa Placencia and Villa Saverios. Chef Javier Placencia, son of the dynasty's founder, is in charge of Romesco's kitchen, importing his creative blending of Mexican ingredients and pan-Mediterranean flavors. He's not one of those remote-control executive chefs, but actually works on the premises. (I've seen him there; he's even guapo — a looker.) The choice of location, an obscure Bonita minimall, may seem a little crazy — but it's *loco como* un zorro. Despite all the new, upper-middleclass housing rising in the area, most eateries are fast-casual chains or mom 'n' pop taquerias. A Grand Slam breakfast just doesn't do it for a special dinner out.

I chose my dinner companions to do the food justice, calling on Sicily-born Laura, whose new Trieste-born in-laws live in Ensenada. Her gorgeous mom, Ignazia, joined us - she just returned from a Baja vacation with a new passion for serious Mexican cuisine. Ignazia's friend Lea is an Italian citizen of the world who fears no food.

The menu presented a painful problem: just four eaters, and I yearned to taste at least 14 appetizers and salads (out of 26). My brave compañeras had no food taboos, so the only limit was our moderate appetites. We divided our appetizer choices between the three starter-menu areas - cold tapas, hot tapas, and salads and soups. From the cold tapas, we began with Sea of Cortez smoked marlin carpaccio, a dinner plate covered with paper-thin slices of the rich, oily game fish, bathed in a faintly sweet ponzu



REVIEW

NAOMI WISE

dressing and "wasabi salt." It was garnished with a refreshing mound of avocado and papaya salsa and scattered with dark-green sprigs of samphire (salconia in Spanish), a tasty seaside dune plant that's crunchy, naturally salty, and packed with healthy minerals.

From the salads, Laura zoomed in on salt-crusted baked pear, with Roquefort, candied walnuts, and greens in a port wine

vinaigrette. The combination is standard, but the trace of salt on the surface of the pear slices brought out their sweetness — a trick that Mexico, Italy, and Thailand all arrived at independently: To make fruit taste sweeter, don't sugar it — salt it.

From the hot tapas, our choice was beef tongue en cocotte, bathed in almond red pipian sauce (made with ground nuts, tomatoes, and mild chiles). It was served as a wrap-your-own taquitos dish, with small, thin, steaming-hot corn tortillas, spicy green and red salsas, and a

bowl of chopped onions with cilantro. The meat was meltingly tender, the sauce luxurious, while the onion mixture lent crunch and contrast. This was young Laura's first taste of tongue, and she had to adjust her palate to the texture. Yes,

it does feel like chewing on a tongue, but it doesn't hurt — it's not your tongue. Lea and I, old hands at tongue-biting, fell on the dish.

With regrets at bypassing a cream of fresh pea soup, beef cheek taquitos, and shrimp and mozzarella mini-tacos, I returned to the cold tapas list for foie gras torchon, mainly to test the kitchen on a technically demanding dish. The pâté was adequate but too dense, lacking the pure-butter texture of the great torchons at Tapenade and Cavaillon. A torchon is made by wrapping a whole foie gras tightly and poaching it slowly until cooked. I'd guess the poaching water might have been a few degrees too hot.

Romesco

★★★½ (Very Good to Excellent)

4346 Bonita Road (at Billy Casper Way, in Vons shopping center) Bonita, 619-475-8627.

HOURS: Tuesday-Thursday noon-10:00 p.m., Friday noon-11:00 p.m., Saturday 1:00-11:00 p.m., Sunday 1:00-8:00 p.m. Bar until 1:00 a.m. PRICES: Weekday lunch (until 3:00 p.m.) panini and pizzetas, \$7.25-\$11.50; lunch appetizers and entrées slightly lower than at dinner. Dinner appetizers, soups, and salads, \$6-\$16.50. Pasta, \$15–\$22.50. Entrées, \$16–\$32. Desserts \$7–\$9. CUISINE AND BEVERAGES: Seasonal "Baja

Mediterranean" cuisine, a creative blend of southern European and Mexican flavors, highlighting inventive uses of Baja ingredients. Wide-ranging international wine list includes Guadalupe Valley bottlings, choices from Italy and California, and Japanese sakes.

PICK HITS: Smoked marlin carpaccio; beef tongue en cocotte; salt-crusted baked pear salad; escolar; grilled duck breast; rack of lamb; mango cheesecake. Chef's choices: lobster ravioli, spaghetti "Martha," plus duck and escolar. **NEED TO KNOW:** Reservations recommended

for dinner. Dressy-casual is the norm.

Ratings reflect the reviewer's reaction to food, ambiance, and service, with price taken into consideration. Menu listings and prices are subject to change.

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Since the Placencia empire began with Italian restaurants, we wanted to share a pasta course between the appetizers and the mains. Laura had her eye on Linguine Pescatore "Al Cartoccio." This brought a pleasant array of gently cooked shellfish in a simple, tasty tomato sauce, but the linguine was cooked softer than "al dente," presenting one too many tender textures with none to bite back. Next time, I'll choose a more adventurous pasta — house-made Baja lobster ravioli with pine nuts and preserved lemon in brandy cream sauce (a favorite of the chef's) or beef short rib tortelloni with cabernet pasilla sauce and horseradish froth.



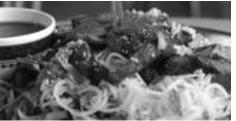
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As at most restaurants, entrées are less daring than appetizers, but they, too, make clever use of rare Baja ingredients. Mesquite-grilled duck breast in a sauce based on a Mexican red wine was rosy, tender, and fatless. Before cooking, the duck was marinated in miel de maguey, honey from the tequila cactus, and the meat was finished off over wood to give it a hint of smokiness. The red wine syrup was sweetly pleasing, although hardly revolutionary. "I love duck," said Lea, "but it's difficult to cook perfectly. I'm very pleased with this." It came with a delightful guava chutney, steamed quelites (greens), and an enchanting side dish that fooled all but one of us. It tasted like a slightly coarse purée of some mystery root vegetable. Lea diagnosed it correctly: "It's polenta made of corn flour mixed with semolina flour!"

Rack of lamb, cooked precisely to our request for medium-rare, was tender as filet mignon and glazed with miel de maguey. That sauce, too, was sweet and not especially exotic, but one of the vegetable garnishes was sensational: Fresh early-spring peas, lightly mint-touched, came in a wash of thickened heavy cream, a combination almost pornographically sensual. The cream may have been the "cauliflower fondant" that we didn't otherwise notice. As Brad Pitt could tell vou, it's hard to concentrate on Jennifer Aniston when Angelina Jolie shows up on your plate.

A fillet of escolar (a fish with facial markings resembling horn-rim eyeglasses hence its name, "scholar") was well treated. Under a bouffantly crisped, lightly breaded surface, the flesh was tender, and the plate was painted with a slick of salty squid-ink and scattered with more samphire. I have no objection to encountering samphire twice in one meal. It's appeared only twice before in my last 700 restaurant dinners and is not about to wear out its welcome. Barramundi (an Australian bass subbing for out-of-season Alaskan halibut) was also given its due props in the cooking and garnishes, but its coral-colored siete mares sauce was saltier than any of us liked.

Romesco offers plenty of more commonplace entrées, including Italian milanesa and chicken Marsala, braised short ribs, and three certified Angus beefsteaks that are grilled over mesquite chips. On weekends, they serve the acclaimed paella of their Tijuana sister-restaurants. And don't even get me started on what's for lunch! (A muffuletta sandwich for one thing, complete with olive

The wine list is loaded with good bottles at decent prices although we soon discovered that not everything in print is in stock. (Our first two choices for appetizer-course whites were long gone.) California, Italy, and Mexico are the most strongly represented winegrowing nations. We were pleased with the easygoing, velvety Cetto Private Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon from the Guadalupe Valley that we enjoved with our entrées. You'd never mistake it for a tannic prima donna of a Médoc, but as a food wine it's a charmer.

The house-made dessert list is almost overabundant, a last-course mirror to the firstcourse cornucopia. It ranges from flan, churros, and crepas de cajeta (crepes with goatmilk caramel syrup) to chocolate fantasies to heartland gringo fruit cobbler. The crepas and churros aren't the best I've ever sampled (i.e., the crepes are a tad thick), but the fresh mango cheesecake is a showstopper. Set atop a ginger-nut crust, the cheese is ethereal, fluffy and moist, topped with a thick, fresh mango glaze, with tangy tamarind-vanilla sauce pooling on the plate. Those who prefer the lightest sweets at a meal's end will sing hosannas. And the espresso is good, too, delivered right along with the desserts at our request. (Surprising how often servers ignore that plea.) In fact, service — our waiter was

imported from one of the Tijuana restaurants — was well above average.

As we left, our posse eyeballed our fellow diners, checking out the later arrivals. and in the parking lot we commented on their delightful diversity. A quartet of handsome middle-aged Japanese dudes (the cutest of them bearded, and none dressed in the stereotypic navy-blue suit) explained the presence of unfiltered Nigori sake ("crazy milk") on the wine list. A striking, casual-glam Latino foursome (two guys, two gals in their thirties) could've been the Mexican Oscar nominees enjoying an anonymous night off. Plus lots of less-charismatic San Diegans — all ages and ethnicities — were chowing down happily. The restaurant even offers a kiddie menu so local families can take their kids out and start teaching them how to eat well.

Did Bonita need a Romesco? Who wouldn't?

ABOUT THE CHEF

"My father started our restaurant business 37 years ago in Tijuana," says chef-owner Javier Placencia, "when he founded Guiseppe's Pizzeria. He'd been working in Italian restaurants, so that's how he learned Italian cuisine. So ever since I was a little kid, I used to hang out at the restaurant and do my homework. After I graduated from high school, I decided to go to cooking school. I went to San Diego's Mesa College culinary program. And then my father needed my help taking care of the business in Tijuana, when he wanted to open a nicer Italian-style restaurant, and I took a couple of courses at the CIA in Napa Valley. When I came back, we opened Saverios. Eventually we grew to seven restaurants and cafés in Tijuana."

Why did he decide to open a restaurant in Bonita? "A lot of people from Tijuana live in this area," he said. "In fact, my family lived here when I was in high school, and I went to school in Bonita. So there were a lot of people who wanted us to open a place in the South Bay - people who go to restaurants a lot. We moved back here two years ago and thought the area could use a restaurant like Romesco. And a lot of restaurants are about to open here as this area grows — Dobson's and so forth — they see a big market here. And the border waits influenced the decision. We had a lot of people from San Diego. North County, and L.A. that used to go to our restaurants on the weekends. Now, border waits are two, three hours coming back, and walking, it's even worse. A lot of people stopped going to Tijuana, so opening a restaurant here seemed like a good idea.

'We adapted some favorite dishes from our Tijuana restaurants to the menu here. We change the menu every two

months or so, but we always keep some dishes that people don't want us to take out like the beef cheek tacos, the sort of things that people don't find in this area. We try to feature local products from Baja California — we bring a lot of fish from there (like the smoked marlin and the escolar), a lot of vegetables, and all our olive oil. We buy most of our produce from Maneadero, south of Ensenada, where they grow organic baby vegetables. We're also working with the local wineries down there.

"And we're creating all sorts of new dishes all the time. I'm just going crazy here in California with the abundance of produce — beautiful colored, fresh! Being a chef here is like being a chef in Disneyland. It makes me want to be in the kitchen more. I just did a chile pasilla stuffed with shredded duck, garnished with Mexican cacao beans, in a red wine sauce. On certain Mondays, we've started doing dinners featuring California wineries, and we did that dish for a Martin Ray dinner. And there's an Australian fish, barramundi — we're going to serve it with roasted figs, lemon, ginger, and basil, for a pinot noir dinner.

"We're already starting to expand. We already make all our own pastries, but our kitchen is small, so we rented the place next door so we can start making our own breads, like we do in Mexico." ■

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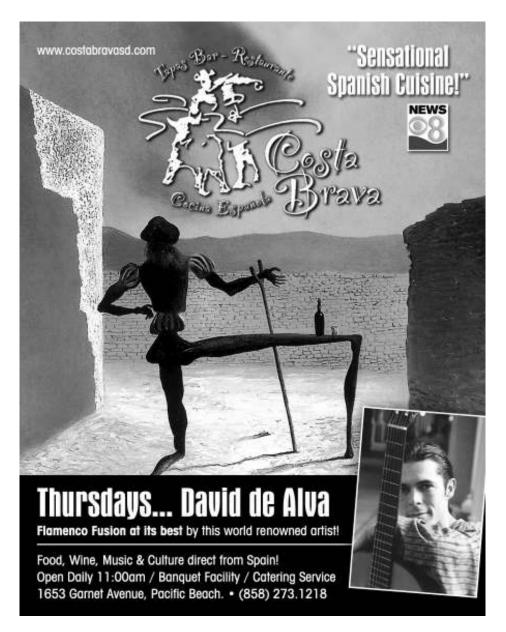
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No Questions Asked

"Don't worry, my friend. There's plenty of free tequila for you."

he guy in the bandoliers and charro hat looks at me. He checks his bandolier, loaded with shot glasses. I nod. He comes over, pours a tequila. Glugs it down my throat. Blows his whistle. Refills. Glug. Shakes my head about

to make sure I swallow, traditional Revolución style. The stuff tastes sweet, as much 7-Up as tequila. I give him a buck. Tip. "No, that's \$5," he says. "But I've paid my \$15," I say. Okay, I shout it, because that's how much noise there is going on in here.

He shakes his head. Damn.

Suckered. I hand over a fiver. What the heck am I doing here anyway?

Looking for free food, that's what. I'd been heading up Tijuana's Avenida del Centenario, heading for the border. I'd been to see my buddy Victor. He told me about this "Tequiza Tuesday" at Señor Frog's. "Free drink, free food. As much as you can eat, buddy..

I found myself walking past the very place. Saw the sign on the yellow walls of a building in Pueblo Amigo plaza. "Señor Frog's, Martes la Taquiza del Frog's. World famoso." "Taquiza Tuesday at Frog's. From 3 to 9...'

Victor said it cost \$15 to get in, and then everything after was free. So I join a line, pay my \$15, get issued an orange wristband.

"You're sure it's free food?" I ask this guy

"Absolutely, my friend,"

"And free drink?"

"You got it. Three to nine."

I head up the stairs, along with some of the most beautiful women I've seen in a long time -

with the exception of Carla, of course. But sophisticated Euro look, man. Jeez. So that's when the charro comes up and I'm out a Lincoln. We're in this way-big square room packed with tall stools and tables, a balcony, and dozens of waiters, all wearing white trousers and white shirts and long colored

kerchiefs in their back pockets. The music's loud. It thunka-thunks straight into your chest. Giant pics revolve on screens behind the raised stage.

My whistle-blowing charro friend comes by again. "Why didn't you tell me it'd cost beforehand?" I ask him. "This is your first time, isn't it?" he says, like I was a new boy at school. "Everybody knows you pay the charro." His name's Rolando. Comes from Veracruz. He signals one of the whiteshirt waiters. "Don't worry, my friend. There's plenty of free tequila for you."

The whiteshirt, Raul, says I can have anything from beer to tequila to rum to vodka to gin. So I ask for a beer, and when he brings that, in a smallish tall glass, I down it and ask him for another. "And a tequila too?" he says.

Why not?" I say. I down the next tequila, too. And another cerveza. "Hey, man," I say. "I need to get some food in me."

Raul looks at me and agrees. "Down there," he says, and points me toward the far end of the room.

So now I'm in a line with a bunch of señorita babes and guys, all pretty suavecito. The food is laid out on a long table with a stack of paper plates up front. A cook behind the tables takes each plate and ladles anything you want onto tortillas to make tacos of them. But which is which? I spot this chef overseeing everything, José Medina, and he leans over and tells me the choices are fish tacos, a birria (beef stew), pork, chicharrón, carne asada, and frijoles. They have sopes (those small masa "trays") loaded with a green mess of stuff in them. I think it's ceviche. Whatever, I come away with a pork taco, the sope, a birria taco, a fish taco, the ceviche, and some frijoles. Rich pickin's. And yes, you can come back and refill anytime, no questions asked.

So I wander back to my table. Next door, this guy José sits down with his girlfriend Guadalupe and two whole bottles of Rémy Martin. Soon Raul brings them four glasses filled with ice and pineap-

"They weren't part of...?" I ask.

"No, no, I bought these," says José. "Eighty dollars each. If you buy, you can reserve a table

Wow. Can't believe that price. I start munching into my food. Chef Medina said the quality up here is exactly the same as their restaurant downstairs. And downstairs, I noticed, a bunch of kinda well-to-do people eating. And yes, it is good-quality stuff. The sope tastes great, and so does the birria, and the pork. Surprisingly filling, too.

Of course, Raul keeps supplying me with bottles of Sol Cerveza. I have to slow him down. Fact is, I have a pretty light head. I need time to catch up with myself.

Thunka-thunka. Music's pile-driving through my body. You can see through the high windows that it's getting dark outside. Then purple fluorescent tubes flick on around the room. Wow. Black light. My watch! For the first time ever, I can see its luminous dots. Girls' bra-straps shine like neon pearl ropes. The white-shirted waiters look like lighthouses bouncing around the room. Suddenly I see the whole stage is packed with guys and gals, dancing to the sounds. "Play that funky music, white boy..." A cheer goes up. Mostly from women. A banda, El Recodo, starts singing ";Quien te guiera?" "Who will guide you?" Soon this whole room full of luminous people is singing. The place rocks. And my luminous watch tells me it's only 5:59 p.m. Uh, say, seven, San Diego time, now that we have two time zones across the border.

Man. When I finally stumble back down those stairs, stuffed to the gills, I notice a couple of lonely American gents pecking at dinner at their table.

"¡Arriba, arriba!" I call out.

. What's that?'

"Upstairs, guys. The action's upstairs. All the food you want. Just watch out for a guy in a sombrero wearing bandoliers." ■

Open Tuesday through Sunday

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The Place: Señor Frog's, Via Oriente 60 C6, L4, Zona Rio, Tijuana, 011-52-664-682-4962

Type of Food: Mexican

Prices: Food (mostly tacos) and drink (beer, tequila, Mexican liquor) included in \$15 cover, Tuesdays only. (Similar drinks-only deal Fridays, Saturdays)

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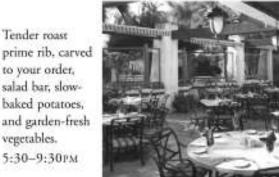
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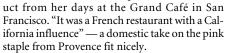
Sommeliers Have More Fun

"It's nice that in a city like San Diego there are so many places I would send people to."

MATTHEW LICKONA

mall world. Jeff Morgan, co-founder of a winery founded on the notion of making rosé its flagship product, gets invited to San Diego by the local chapter of the American Institute of Wine and Food. A few weeks later, Lisa

Redwine, the chapter's newly elected secretary, decides she's going to feature Morgan's SoloRosa rosé this summer at Molly's Restaurant, where she is GM and wine director. Not because of Morgan's visit, but because "it's a good story behind a great wine." Also because she knew the prod-



Redwine came to San Francisco from Wisconsin by way of New York's Culinary Institute of America. "I always wanted to be a chef," she explains. "One grandfather was a butcher, and the other was a cheesemaker. And the grandmother married to the cheesemaker is an amazing cook. I didn't grow up fancy, but I grew up eating really good food. I never had Kraft macaroni and cheese until I went to college. And at special occasions, we always had wine — German Liebfraümilch, Blue Nun. That's how I grew up." The food thing took

hold, and by the time Redwine was 15, she was working in restaurants. She got a degree in hotel and restaurant management, headed off to the CIA, and then ventured west for her apprenticeship.

Eventually, she came to "the point I think every

person who works in this business comes to —I really wanted to open my own restaurant." That's when a mentor told her she needed to spend some time working the front, out there among the actual patrons. "He told me, 'You need to figure out that waiters aren't just sitting back and dodging work and that man-

agers do more than sit in their offices." She took his advice and moved into management. Once out front, she noticed that there *was* one group who seemed to be having more fun than anyone: the sommeliers. "I was at a little place called the Cypress Club. They've had some pretty amazing talent — Tim Geyser was there, and Lisa Minucci. I loved wine, but I never thought I could get paid to do something that was so much fun. So I started at the bottom. I had my full day as GM, then I would clean the wine cellar and help with inventory. I would write down the names of four or five wines, then go look them up."

So began her education in wine, one that served her well when she moved to the Grand

Café in 2000. Owner Umberto Gibin "let me take over the wine program, and over the course of four or five years, I built it into something. I defined it — made it California and French, with representation from different regions and at different price points. I learned about making an inventory conducive to your budget, making sure wine costs were in line — the business end." The creative stuff came later and took off when she moved south to San Diego in 2005.

Redwine moved because of her husband (the man responsible for her industry-appropriate last name). "His family was down here, and after we had our son, we were, like, 'Okay - San Diego or Wisconsin?' It was amazing. I'd been visiting for ten years, and the first time I came down, my husband talked about the Gaslamp Quarter. I was thinking something like Union Street in San Francisco — cute shops, little boutique restaurants. That's not what it was. I remember getting lost and finding a Cost Plus amidst all these boardedup buildings. Then, when we were looking to move here, my husband had an appointment downtown." Redwine took a walk, "and before I knew it, I was standing in front of that same Cost Plus. I was shocked at how it had all changed — all the new condos, the fun little stores, the restaurants. It's nice that in a city like San Diego, there are so many places I would send people to.'

Still, a "go figure" expression crosses her face when she says that by summer's end, "It's guaranteed I'll still have some of Jeff's wine. I just don't understand — San Diego screams rosé. When it's really hot out but you want red wine, it's a great way to go." A curious situation, but one she hopes to change, one bottle at a time. "It's very cool to turn people on to something that they may have never had before. You don't necessarily get that in the Bay Area."

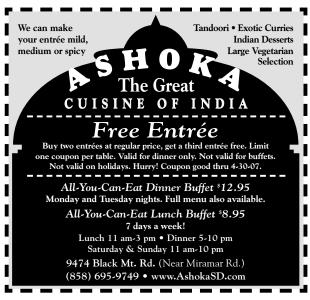
Lisa arrived at Molly's just a couple of months



Lisa Redwine

after chef Brian Sinnott, also late of San Francisco. "We worked for the same company, about three blocks away from each other. We knew all the same people." (Again, small world.) Prior to this NorCal infusion, "The menu was a little unfocused, and so was the wine list. I'm sure you've eaten at places where you're not really sure what the concept is. That's what we set out to develop. We sat down together and ate a broad representation of what his menu consisted of and opened some wines from different areas. We settled on Oregon, Washington, and California. And because Brian really focuses on artisan farms and local produce, we carried that over into the wine program" — at least the artisanal part.

Molly's, of course, is a hotel restaurant, the sort of place where out-of-town diners might be











tempted to stick to the familiar — sort of the way Americans eat at McDonald's in France. But Redwine has been able to sell people on obscure Pinots and Washington Cab by being liberal with the tasting policy and by guaranteeing her recommendations. "I tell people, 'If you don't like it, I know I'll enjoy it later. Anything else you want, I'll bring it.' That, and having a good understanding about the wines they like, where they come from." So far, it's been a success. "I can't remember the last time I ended up drinking a bottle of wine that a customer turned away. In fact, I had these little wine cards printed, because people would say, 'Could you write down that wine I just had? It was really great.' We made 500 of them at first. I've reprinted them once now, and we're reprinting again." ■

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

The Armenian Cafe 3126 Carlsbad Boulevard (at Pine), Carlsbad, 760-720-2233. At this large cottage with a year-round heated sundeck overlooking Highway 101, the menu offers Armenian specialties cooked with Lebanese accent as well as generic Mid-dle Eastern crowd pleasers, including gy-ros made from scratch. Lamb shish kebab is the house specialty, a "loss leader" featuring tender premium lamb cubes with assertive seasonings, grilled over gas. Even better are distinctive dishes from the owner's family recipes: his mom's Lebanese kibbe (a large, glorified nut-filled lamb meatball) is outstanding, as is her kashta lea dessert — an exotic nutmeg sponge cake fragrant with rose water syrup, topped with pistachios and thickened cream. Dinner platters con-stitute a full meal, including a great "Armenian salad" and a tasty dip for the meat, along with less-than-great egglemon soup, pilaf, and pita wedges. Wine list is dreary, but corkage fee is reasonable. Three meals daily. Live music and belly dancer Friday and Saturday night. Moderate to slightly expensive. N.W. (8/03)

California Bistro 7100 Four Seasons Point, Four Seasons Resort Aviara, Carlsbad, 760-603-6868. This restaurant features fresh California cuisine in a beautiful, luxurious hotel dining room. Open 6:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday to Thursday (to 10:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday). Reserve for the Friday night seafood buffet (5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.), which includes cooked seafood, sushi, and sashimi. Moderate to expensive. — E.W. (7/00)

Juanita's Taco Shop Estilo Tepatitlan 290 North Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-943-9612; also in Vista at 248 Main, 760-758-4531. Enticing aromas of fresh tortillas and fragrant frijoles greet you as you enter this busy little taqueria, where the food's cooked in the style of Tepatitlan, a small city near Guadalajara. Its local specialty is carnitas — which Juanita's does up (by the plate or by the pound) as tender, nongreasy shreds, served with fresh, cilantroladen mild tomato salsita. Standard

wraps are fine, too, and the beans taste as good as they smell. Try a "Flying Saucer"—it really takes off, with shred-ded meat, onions, mild chiles, beans, sour cream, shredded orange cheese, and puréed guacamole riding high on an airy crisped flour tortilla. Open daily, three meals, until 3 a.m. Friday and Saturday. Inexpensive. — N.W. (9/01)

Kealani's 137 West D Street, Encinitas, 760-94-ALOHA. Tucked between a 7-Eleven and a pizzeria, with an exterior sign that says "Saimin" (for Hawaii's versign that says Sainin (101 Hawaii s Version of Top Ramen), this island of the Islands prescribes "Living Da Aloha Spirit." A ukulele player sometimes serenades the noonday crowd at the sidewalk tables, and at any hour the food is "plate lunch" — two scoops of shortgrain rice, mild house-made macaroni salad, and a choice of authentic "grines." Don't miss the outstanding kalua pig, zesty, smoky shreds of imu-style roast pork, resembling a moister version of Southern "pulled pork." The menu covers the whole panoply of island standards, from *malasadas* (Portuguese donuts) to musubi (Spam sushi), with a Saturday special of a luau's worth of "local food." While you're waiting, check out the droll Hawaiian vocabulary lessons under the glass tops of the tables. Open Monday through Saturday, lunch to early dinner. Inexpensive. - N.W. (10/01)

Milton's Deli Flower Hill Mall, 2660 Via de la Valle, Del Mar, 858-792-2225. This sprawling, family-friendly eatery started out as a non-kosher Jewish deli, but has come to embrace diner food, pub grub, and Italian and Mexican favorites, along with a full cast of Ashkenazi s. Sit down and stuff yourself with stuffed cabbage, overstuffed deli sandwiches, crisp-skinned fat cheese blintzes, matzoh brei, hot brisket with latkes or chicken-fried steak, if that's your bag. Or take out from the attached deli and bakery. The yummy chopped liver will remind you of the Bronx, the smoked whitefish and silky Nova will take you home to Flatbush, but the soft, cottony bagels - oy!, so goy! Seven days, three meals. Inexpensive to low moderate. -

The Original 101 Diner 552 First Street, Encinitas, 760-753-2123. This is

where the caviar crowd from Rancho Santa Fe comes to remember their roots. It's got all the deliberately down-home cooking you could want, including all-day breakfast ranging from really cheap biscuits and sausage gravy to a pretty cheap top sirloin steak and eggs. For lunch, the bacon-Cheddar burger with fruit is a good surprise combo. The turkey-cranberry salad sandwich is also good, and try the spinach salad, with bacon, feta cheese, olives, mushrooms, and chopped egg. Even though this 101's vintage (1983) in no way compares with the Oceanside 101 Café's (1928), it has become a genuine part of Encinitas life — lines on the weekends will tell you that. Open for breakfast and lunch daily. Inexpensive. — E.B. (12/04)

expensive. — E.B. (12/04)

Pamplemousse Grille 514 Via de la Valle, Solana Beach, 858-792-9090. The locals' favorite French provincial restaurant offers exquisite, creative cooking. Favorites from an often-changing menu include white fish served any style, mushroom cappucini soup, and tarte Tatin. Serene atmosphere with excellent service. Dinner reservations urged. Dinner nightly, lunch Friday only. Dinners expensive. — E.W.

Pizza Port 135 North Highway 101 (at Lomas Santa Fe), Solana Beach, 858-481-7332. (Also in Carlsbad.) "Tasty Grub & Grog," says the sign, and that's just what it is. You come here for three things: the pizzas, the beer, and the scene. The place is cavernous, but the tables are communal, with long wooden benches. Rub shoulders with surfers, students, yuppies, and locals. Pizza Port brews their own beer (try Sharkbite Red) and flings their own pizzas, New York style. Filling combos can be great, like the pesto, mesquite-grilled chicken, sundried tomatoes, artichoke hearts, and feta ("Pizza Carlsbad"), or shrimp, clams, onions, olives, bell peppers, and mushrooms ("Pizza Solana"). Inexpensive. — E.B. (4/03)

Poseidon 1670 Coast Boulevard (south of 18th Street), Del Mar, 858-755-9345. The two dining rooms and bar here boast airy, stylish decor and ocean views, and the SRO umbrellashaded patio is right at water's edge. Lunches run to sandwiches, burgers, and fried seafood of ordinary competence

and uneven preparation: wonderfully coconutty fried shrimp, for example, share a sampler plate with deadly-dry salmon croquettes. Dinner dishes are modern Cal cuisine — that is, a mix-and-match of Pacific Rim-Mediterranean-Mexican flavors, with some emphasis on seafood. But the view's the thing here. Full bar. Open daily, lunch and dinner; breakfast on weekends. Moderate to expensive. — N.W. (4/05)

Roxy Natural Foods Restaurant

517 North Coast Highway 101 (at D Street), Encinitas, 760-436-5001. You don't have to be a Self Realization Fellowship follower to fit in in Encinitas, but it helps. Roxy was made for the veg-gie crowd who've grown up around the famous seaside compound. These days, that includes surfers, vegans, and even visiting Hollywood stars picky about their food. Actually, it is no longer strictly a vegetarian eatery; the owners have added chicken and fish for Encinitas's "new people" — the carnivores buying up property in the hills. But the veganveggie spirit still rules. Most popular item on the menu is owner Shahram Naimi's own invention: the scrumptious Roxy falafelburger. Its green "meat" is made from garbanzo beans, potatoes, onions, cilantro, and herbs, all bedded down with tomatoes, a thick mat of sprouts, and melted cheese, covered by a whole-wheat bun. For chicken-lovers, the garlic chicken pizzas sell big-time. Other healthy treats include the three-egg avocado omelet with toast, the artichoke sandwich (with marinated artichoke hearts), and the squash enchilada din-ner (steamed banana squash with corn, bell peppers, and low-fat cream cheese in a flour tortilla). Payoff? You come out feeling good and full, not bad and bloated. Open daily, brunch through dinner. Inexpensive. — E.B. (5/02)

St. Germain's Cafe 1010 South Coast Highway 101 (at I Street), Encinitas, 760-753-5411. Despite the Parisian name, the food here is all-American. Omelets are the café's best-known dish—14 variations of three-eggers (or Eggbeaters by request) served with toast or a muffin, plus tasty herb-strewn "café potatoes" or fresh fruit salad. But don't overlook the Belgian waffles, scrambles, pancakes, Louisiana sausages, or the

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three versions of expertly poached eggs Benedict with genuine hollandaise. Sandwiches run to hearty American classics (including some veg choices), and along with beef burgers, turkey burgers, and veggie burgers, there are no fewer than six twists on lean charbroiled chicken breast on a burger bun. The sheltered patio is always crowded, but there's a large interior dining room with a separate smoothies-and-ice-cream bar. Open daily, breakfast to late lunch. Inexpensive. — N.W. (10/01)

Vivace Four Seasons Resort Aviara, 7100 Four Seasons Point, Carlsbad, 760-603-3773. If you ever wished to eat like the Medicis did, here's the place for it. This lovely hotel-restaurant at a gorgeous resort showcases Italian haute cuisine which is simpler and more natural than the French equivalent. You'll find inventive combinations of first-class ingredients, skillfully executed and beautifully presented with none of the culinary clichés of the "mamma mia" joints. Reservations urged. Valet parking free for diners. "Casual-elegant" — no hats, shorts, or tennies — but room may be painfully noisy if patrons get too festive. Dinner seven nights. Four-course tasting dinner a relative bargain, but wine list may blow the budget. Moderate (pastas and risottos) to very expensive. — N.W. (8/03)

When In Rome 1108 South Coast Highway 101 (at Encinitas Boulevard), Encinitas, 760-944-1771. This elegant





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2828 Camino del Rio So. (off Fwy 8 @ Texas St. S., left on Camino del Rio S., under the 805 overpass) 619-299-8996

www.todaisandiego.com

restaurant offers three dining areas and a menu with outstanding appetizers and pasta dishes. There are many unusual preparations. Gorgeous presentation; warm, friendly service. A winner. Dressy casual crowd. Dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Expensive. — E.W.

NORTH INLAND

Asia Vous 417 West Grand Avenue, Escondido, 760-747-5000, Chef-owner Riko Bartolomei produces outstandingly inventive Asian-French fusion cuisine remaking the classics with fresh twists and superb ingredients, including naturally raised meats and poultry. No one does "fusion" better, and there's not a culinary cliché on the menu: e.g., everybody else's warm goat cheese with beet salad is replaced with goat cheese tempura and braised fennel. The inspired combinations include sweetbreads with Chinese sausage, potato gnocchi with lobster and vanilla bean sauce, housecured hamachi atop a flower-like heirloom tomato mandala, and a Kurobata pork shank treated like French "confit but lightened by a sprightly salad accompaniment. Bartolomei's desserts are not only housemade but as brilliant as the earlier courses. The international wine list is adventurous — all this, plus the unpretentious atmosphere and considerate service, too. (But the place can get noisy when full.) Reservations urged, even for lunch. Parties of more than six accommodated only with set menus. Two vegetarian entrées (including one vegan) on the typical menu. Lunch Tuesday through Friday; dinner Tuesday through Saturday. Moderate to expensive. — N.W. (11/05)

Casa Reveles Mexican and Seafood Restaurant Harvest Farms Village, 29000 Lilac Road, Valley Center, 760-749-8041. (Also at 201 Mission Avenue, Escondido, 760-480-5565, with a Mexican-Italian menu.) "Revels," as the locals pronounce it, is probably the best restaurant in Valley Center proper, offering zesty, careful cooking with some unusually authentic flavors. The Michoacán-style carnitas (available in several "stuffed" dishes as well as an entrée) are outstanding for their moist smokiness, and the house's slightly crunchy fresh-tomatillo version of salsa verde is exciting. Seafood is necessarily frozen

Weekday Lunch Buffet

§6.99

Thai Tea or Soda 75°

Lunch only. With coupon.

(given the inland location), but is handled tenderly. In fact, everything's a good deal better than it has to be, given the lack of neighborhood competition. Definitely worth a stop-off when heading to or from the nearby casinos. Late breakfast through dinner daily. Breakfast specials Saturday and Sunday until noon. Family atmosphere, but watch out for karaoke nights (Wednesday and Saturday). Full bar (cantina attached). Inexpensive to low moderate, with some three-course seafood dinners high moderate. — N.W. (3/05)

Centre City Cafe 2680 S. Escondido Boulevard (frontage road along Centre Parkway), Escondido. 760-489-6011. In the quiet little "motel row" just north of Lake Hodges, this cute, friendly café serves classic American diner food, including all-day breakfast. The chicken-fried steak is exemplary, with a crackly batter-crust and a smooth, peppery cream gravy. Several cuts of USDA Choice steaks are offered at rock-bottom prices, and early bird dinners and daily specials offer amazing bargains. You can eat inside, in a coffee shop ambiance, or chow down on the dining terrace in front. Open daily, three meals. Huge portions, low prices. -N.W. (9/03)

Fiore's Harrah's Rincon Casino, Valley Center, 877-777-2457. This is where Valley Center goes to celebrate special occasions. An island of serenity in the cacophonous casino, the restaurant of fers fine certified-Angus grilled steaks and chops of various species and a fine slow-roasted duck For starters, the salmon tower and shrimp margarita are delicious. Choices include numerous seafood entrées, and for lighter eating there's an Ovster Bar attached. The best attraction is the long, adventurous wine list, offering international bottles at bargain prices with by-the-glass choices galore. Half the fun is matching wines to foods. The beer list is sophisticated, too, as are well-priced cognacs and aged ports. Business-casual dress code. Kids allowed in casino restaurants, not in gambling area. Reservations advised for weekends. Open for dinner daily. Moderate at Oystar Bar; upper moderate to very expensive in restaurant. — N.W. (3/05)

The Grill 10920 Roselle Street, Suite 104, Sorrento Valley, 858-587-7940. Sorrento Valley is where you commute to work, not to live, so forget warm neighborhood eateries. At first glance, the Grill is what you'd expect — standard strip mall, bare-bones furnishings, officelunch oriented. But the Greek owners give it character with generous but cheap breakfast dishes like the Mediterranean omelet and lunch specials such as the

luscious Philly cheese steak. And they're flexible. Want bacon, sausage, and ham in your breakfast pita? They'll do all three, same price as with a single meat. Breakfast and lunch weekdays. Inexpensive. — E.B. (12/05)

Hacienda de Vega 2608 S. Escondido Boulevard (frontage road along Centre City Parkway), Escondido, 760-738-9805. This is a Mexican restaurant with a difference - or two. The setting is a gorgeous restored Old Califor nia-style hacienda set on two acres. including a verdant courtyard (complete with fountain) for fair-weather dining. The menu is also a leap upward from standard fare. Señora Vega offers authentic Mexican cuisine cooked in the sophisticated manner of Mexico City, her hometown — not border-food com promises. You'll find an array of fresh and interesting appetizers along with a wide choice of serious entrées featuring complex, delicious sauces. Each dish is seasoned to the optimum spiciness for its overall flavor — this is not the land of the bland. The Sunday all-you-can-eat brunch offers a whole sampling of goodies brought to your table, with refills as desired. Five vegetarian entrées and a kiddie menu available; casual atmosphere. Full bar specializing in margaritas, of course. Open daily, lunch (or brunch) and dinner. - N.W. (9/03)

San Diego Artisan Bakers 1551 South Escondido Boulevard (at 15th), Escondido, 760-740-5963. This European-style bakery specializes in hearty, handcrafted, slow-fermented breads made from natural ingredients. Recipes of the 24 loaves are from France, Italy, Germany, and the U.S. These loaves have textures and depths of flavor you'll never find in supermarket-bakery breads. And for breakfast or a snack, there's nothing better than settling on the front porch with a cup of espresso and one of the moist and chewy scones. Open Monday through Saturday, morning to late afternoon. Inexpensive. — N.W. (9/03)

Azul La Jolla 1250 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-454-9616. The unobstructed ocean view and opulent interior are glamorous. Cuisine is Mediterranean with California influence. Menus change daily. When available, try pan-seared scallops and the outstanding asparagus soup, not duplicated anywhere. Fresh fish and seafood. Moderate to expensive. - E.W. (7/99)

Come On In! 1030-B Torrey Pines

858-558-8964; and 11455 El Camino Real, Carmel Valley, 858-350-2700.) Clunky name, but suave Euro-bistro feel with outside tables under trees. This is your escape to "Paree" anytime you can afford La Jolla. Actually, they keep the price of breakfasts — like two "plain and simple" steamed eggs with fresh fruit and toast, or the "Popeye" omelet, with spinach, Parmesan cheese, prosciutto ham, and diced tomato, fruit, and toast - down to a small roar. Of course, everybody in this neck of the woods is trying *not* to eat, so expect lots of fruit plates and healthy lunch sandwiches like roasted eggplant with zucchini, bell peppers, tomatoes, and mozzarella. Open daily, weekends to 8 p.m. Inexpensive to moderate; dinners a little more expensive. — E.B. (4/03)

Donovan's Steak and Chop

House 4340 La Jolla Village Drive

10184 Telesis Court, Sorrento Valley,

Golden Triangle, 858-450-6666. At this excellent traditional steakhouse, the menu includes a variety of appetizers, among them a cocktail of giant shrimp with a spicy, tomatoey sauce and a large, lightly sautéed crab cake with housemade tartar sauce. The wet-aged prime beefsteaks are seasoned with sea salt and pepper and cooked on a gas grill pre-cisely to your order. Bleu cheese, béarnaise, and peppercorn sauces are available at extra charge. Non-beef entrées include fish, seafood, veal chop, pork chop, or a delicate Australian rack of lamb. Unlike many steakhouses where your money buys only the meat, entrées are served with vegetables and potato. Additional à la carte sides include creamed spinach and sautéed mushrooms. Among the house-made desserts the highlights are a light, creamy cheese-cake with fresh strawberry sauce and a traditional creme brûlée. The service is attentive, friendly, and knowledgeable, in a masculine setting with dark wood-paneling, dim lighting, and only a moderate noise level. Cigar room off the bar. Open Monday through Saturday. Very expensive. — N.W. (9/02)

Tapenade 7612 Fay Avenue, La Jolla 858-551-7500. This is not only one of the finest restaurants in the county but in the country. Featuring sunny Provençal flavors, famed chef-owner Jean-Michel Diot offers superb seasonal ingredients treated with the consummate ease of a master chef. Among the special joys here are a sophisticated foie gras torchon, luscious free-range veal, and topquality seafood, with garnishes that dis play an impressive balance of venturesome creativity and rigorous technique. Desserts are worth the calories, matching the style and flair of the earlier courses. And you don't even have

to dress to the nines for your first-class dinner - the sixes will do in the easy bistro atmosphere. Serving lunch (including a moderate two-course prix fixe) and dinner daily, including bargainpriced three-course prix fixe "sunset dinners." Otherwise, expensive to very expensive, and worth it. — *N.W.* (9/03)

Zenbu 7660 Fav Avenue (at Kline Street), La Jolla, 858-454-4540. It was a natural for fisherman-restaurateur Matt Rimel to open a sushi bar/fish house, fea turing sparkling fresh catch, much of it from his own boats. Sashimi and the simpler sushi are better here than the big party rolls, which can be lunkish. Don't miss the sashimi of live local uni (sea urchin) served on its shell most weekends. Cooked fish entrées feature equally sparkling seafood, sometimes in almost goofily elaborate preparations. No reservations; 30-minute wait likely on weekends. Sushi bar is up a short staircase: dining room and patio tables are wheelchair accessible. Several vegetarian choices. Full bar, good sake list. Dinner nightly. Upper moderate to expensive. N.W. (6/01)

MISSION VALLEY & THE MESAS

Bale French Sandwich Shop 4879 University Avenue (at 49th Street), City Heights, 619-283-4352, Ann Nguyen started this back in 1980, and her prices haven't changed — they're incredibly low. But the taste of her sandwiches is up there in French-Vietnamese heaven. The Vietnamese are special at this: they do French better than the French - with some spicy Asian touches. The BBQ Pork French sandwich delivers the immediate taste of cilantro, garlicky mayonnaise, sweet barbecue sauce, carrots onions, cucumber, and lashings of sliced pork, with the occasional heat of a green jalapeño. But above all, it's that crunch of bread — fresh, feathery, and very French — that makes this hard to beat Add dessert of homemade banana shrimp cake and — *voila!* Open daily, breakfast through early dinner. Inexpensive. — E.B. (10/02)

China Max 4698 Convoy Street (at Engineer), Kearny Mesa, 858-650-3333. The decor is plain and bright, the sound level loud, but this is a major resource for authentic Hong Kong cooking - creative and multiregional, filtered through the refined wizardry of the genuine Cantonese style. The seafood aswim in the live tanks includes such delicacies as black cod (bony but wonderfully sweet), Dungeness crab, and (if you've got the money) abalone — but even inexpensive, homey dishes (e.g., wonton soup, crabmeat cakes) sing with flavor. Call ahead for reservations to avoid a wait at the door. A Pan-Asian community throngs here, for good reason. Lunch weekdays, dinner seven days, Inexpensive to exorbitant but mainly moderate.

— N.W. (1/04)

IKEA Restaurant & Cafe 2149 Fenton Parkway, Mission Valley, 619-283-6166, ext.1200. Central shrine for San Diego's 10,000 Swedes, so they say. They come to taste open-faced sand-wiches, salmon, shrimp, and meatballs again. This restaurant inside Sweden's wildly successful "home interiors" chain is a great intro to Swedish tastes. The food's more sensible than exciting, of course. But healthy - beef and pork for the meatballs are guaranteed hormonefree You eat the meatballs with Swedish lingonberry (not cranberry) sauce. Seafood is big: the shrimp open-faced sandwich, the salmon plate with potatoes and broccoli, and the Gravad Lox Plate (cured salmon) are always on. And if you want to be disgustingly healthy, chew on their fresh vegetable plate (raw carrot sticks, cauliflower, garbanzo beans, and mushrooms). All for a song. The only health hazard: hordes of babies and kids romping in the restaurant's motherfriendly play area. Inexpensive. -E.B. (5/02)

Seoul B.B.Q. 4344 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-505-8700. This Korean restaurant means sitting before a sizzling cast-iron grill, sipping hot sake, the smell of grilled beef, grilled onions, and fresh garlic in the air. Try the "Korean B.B.Q." marinated short ribs (tong galbi) or thick marbled slices of sirloin (beef gui). You'll enjoy all the accompanying dishes that make the meal. like crunchy seaweed salads, radishes in garlicky tomato sauce, slow-cooked potatoes with soy sauce and jalapeño pepper. Feeling adventurous? Go for the goat meat hot pot or Korean steak tartare (yukhwoe). This is sensual, elemental, hairy-chested food. Lunch and dinner six days, closed Sunday. — M.N. (12/99)

Tropical Star 6163 Balboa Avenue, Clairemont, 858-874-7827. A modest café and grocery offers Puerto Rican and Latin American food and groceries. Very modest surroundings; good authentic inexpensive food. Same menu all day Monday through Saturday; closed Sunday. Inexpensive. — E.W. (8/99)

THE BEACHES

The Australian Pub 1014 Grand enue, Pacific Beach, 858-273-9921. A great place to take your kids after a morning at the beach. This relaxing pub, owned by a true-blue Aussie, offers heaps of good Aussie food. Try the Road Kill (grilled chicken breast with pico de gallo sauce and cheese "run over" between 2 pieces of sourdough) or the Aussie Burger (1/2-pound patty, with a fried egg, cheese, bacon, grilled onions, beets, pineapple, and a side of steak fries). And for an "outback experience," order up Vegemite (a beefy kinda paste) and four slices of bread — it's the Aussie national food, mate. Open Monday through Thursday 11 a.m. to 1 a.m.; Friday 11 a.m. to 2 a.m.; weekends 8 a.m. to 2 a.m. Inexpensive. — E.B. (10/01)

Broken Yolk Cafe 1851 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-270-YOLK (9655). Breakfasting PBers love this place for three reasons: its sundeck, its 26 different four-egg omelets (which you can split with your partner, no extra charge), and the challenge of omelet #27. The dozen-egg "Broken Yolk Café Special" comes stuffed with a mountain of mushrooms, onion, cheese, chili, plus home fries and biscuits. If you can down it in an hour, pay just \$1.98 — you've got huevos. If you can't, the yolk's on you pay around \$17. My advice: split a 4-eg-ger. Open 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily. Inexpensive. — E.B. (2/04)

Hancock St. Cafe 3354 Hancock Street, Loma Portal, 619-296-2060. If you spot Marilyn, Elvis, and Lady Liberty waving at you from the sidewalk, you're here. They are life-size fiberglass lookalikes, but Mario is real, and his restaurant is a living shrine to jazz pianist Herbie Hancock, Mario has pianos, guitars, and drums inside - even a little stage where you're often welcome to perform. The food? Italian home cooking. Mario is from New York and knows his pasta. You can usually expect a good-value special, like spaghetti and meatballs. Some-

LA JOLLA

Road, La Jolla, 858-551-1063. (Also at







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La Jolla

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Clay's La Jolla

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North Country

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times he'll even throw in a bottle of red wine. Here among the little factories and auto shops of Loma Portal may be San Diego's most popping cultural phenomenon. Worth investigating, even if you just want to eat. Open daily, 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (12/04)

Lamont Street Grill 4445 Lamont Street (between Grand and Garnet), Pacific Beach. 858-270-3060. PB's most romantic restaurant serves California comfort food, punctuated by bold and sometimes strange Mexi/Asian/Cajun flavors, in a rambling converted residence with several rooms and levels. Dinners come with soup or salad, and many entrées are served over marvelous house-made fresh pasta. Salmon over fettuccine in a delicate dill cream sauce is especially fine. The huge array of desserts is house made, too, with some thing for every palate. The most desirable tables (available first come, first served) are on a lovely fireplace-heated patio. Wheelchair ramp and parking in small lot behind restaurant (call ahead and they'll save you a spot). Homey atmosphere; can get loud. Affordable wine list, full bar. Open daily, dinner only. Moderate. — N.W. (2/03)

Saska's 3768 Mission Boulevard, Mission Beach, 858-488-7311. Venerable, local steak-and-seafood joint that tries harder, from the broth-thin homemade teriyaki sauce (sweet up front, fading to bitter ginger) for the well-cooked (if mild-flavored) fish to the cut-on-thepremises aged beef. The interior's low wood-slat ceilings, driftwood beams, dim light, and red-leather booths combine with the stay-up-late kitchen to make the space feel like a cozy haven, a respite from the brighter buzz of Mission Beach. The wine list runs the gamut from Cook's sparkling wine to Cristal champagne, stopping along the way at an interesting (if expensive) collection of reserves. Next door is the restaurant's serviceable sushi bar (858-488-7255) and two-story patio dining. Lunch weekdays, brunch and lunch weekends; dinner seven days. Sushi bar open nightly, 5:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Moderate. A.M. (8/02)

The Third Corner Wine Shop and Bistro 2265 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach, 619-223-2700. Ed Moore's casual, loosey-goosey spot is first of all a wine shop selling most global bottlings for just 20% over wholesale. It's \$5 to pop the cork there if you plunk down at a table among the racks to enjoy casual bistrostyle food designed to go with wine. You can snack on goat cheese salad, smoked duck salad, a cheese plate or a pâté plate, or get serious with braised short ribs or duck confit surprisingly paired with spicy Nawlins red beans and rice. No reservations accepted, so best to go at off-hours or you'll wait for a table. Comfortable lounge with fireplace for sipping. Full bar. No corkage charge after 11 p.m., when restaurant staffers drop in for after-work noshing. Lunch and dinner until 1 a.m.; closed Monday. Low-moderate. — N.W. (12/05)

Umi Sushi 2806 Shelter Island Drive (at Shafter, off Scott), Point Loma, 619-226-1135. An instant neighborhood success, this large, cheerful sushi bar and dinner house also offers Japanese and Korean entrées, including teppanyaki (cooked in the kitchen, not at the table) Korean ribs, and excellent beef terivaki

of gently grilled prime beef. Sushi highlights include lemony ama ebi, rich garlic tuna, and a "Crazy Boy" roll spicy enough to divert your palate from the nce of imitation crabmeat. Free parking lot (often full). Special kids menu available. Lunch Monday through Saturday, dinner daily. Sushi prices lower than most; entrées inexpensive to moderate. — N.W. (4/03)

CENTRAL SAN DIEGO

Apertivo 3926 30th Street (between University and Lincoln), North Park, 619-297-7799. This wine bar-bistro offers "Italian tapas" of simple Italian classics lightened up and scaled down to medium-size portions — about the size you probably eat at home. All the condiments are on the table, so you can season or cheese your food to taste as you go instead of having a waiter waft them before you've lifted a fork, Good dishes include prosciutto-wrapped shrimp, eggplant rollatini, and for dessert, an airy lemon cheesecake mousse. Parking via alley 1/2-block west. No reservations, but for weeknight large groups, call ahead. Weekends, arrive very early or late or expect a wait. Call-in/take-out food orders okay. Check chalkboard on sidewalk for specials. Plenty for vegetarians and vegans. Sound level: roaring. Dinner Tuesday through Sunday (weekends until 11 p.m.). Inexpensive. — N.W. (7/05)

Big Kitchen 3003 Grape Street (between 30th Street and Fern Street), South Park, 619-234-5789. This isn't just a restaurant, it's the social center of the universe — and Judy "The Beauty" Forman is its queen. Blame her for the Fern Street Circus, for driving the Miss California beauty pageant out of town, and for disgustingly healthy dishes like Judy's Favorite (spinach, mushrooms, sherry, and eggs). Our favorite: the avocado, cream cheese, and chives omelet. Vegans' fave may be the "veggie option": sautéed spinach, mushrooms, onions, cilantro, brown rice, tofu, and roasted garlic. Her cooks make pretty much everything on the spot, including muffins, waffles, and pancakes. While you're waiting, they always have this "out there" eclectic crowd, plus walls filled with pictures and bon mots like "Will Be President For Food." Breakfast and lunch only; closes at 2 p.m. most days. Inexpensive. — E.B. (10/02)

Chicken Pie Shop of San Diego 2633 El Caion Boulevard, North Park, 619-295-0156. How much do people love this place? Count the chickens lining the walls — ceramic, wood, beaded, painted, even feathered. Hundreds. They're gifts from generations of customers. Now, as in the 1930s when it started up, the basic chicken pie comes filled with big chunks of chicken meat, doused with white gravy and accompanied by mashed potatoes, veggies, coleslaw, a roll, and dessert — like the de-licious pineapple pie available Mondays all for one really low price. The menu also offers fried chicken, burgers and steaks, but 90 percent of customers still order that same old chicken pie. Seven days. Cash only. Inexpensive. — E.B. (11/01)

Huffman's Bar-B-Que 5039 Impe rial 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)

Krakatoa 1128 25th Street, Golden Hill, 619-230-0272. This used to be an abandoned property. Now the swamp-green clapboard house is the coolest, if (reportedly) ghost-ridden, coffee-eatery hang-outery in Golden Hill. Its garden is lush and tropical, and on its wooden deck laptops unfold, essays get written, relationships get worked out. The menu is light, the names heavy: the breakfast sandwich (scrambled eggs, cheese, fruit) is the Wonchi (an Ethiopian caldera); the roast turkey sandwich with ham, cream cheese, and cranberry sauce is the Ubehebe (a dormant volcano in Death Valley); the Amboy (a Mojave Desert volcano) is a peanut butter, honey, banana, cinnamon, and bacon sandwich. Open 6:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. (Sundays till 6 p.m.). Inexpensive. — E.B. (12/05)

La Dona 1784 Newton (at Beardsley),

Barrio Logan, 619-233-4939. This café is steeped in Mexican history, especially Barrio Logan history. You half expect to see several L.A. Zoot-suitors drift in as you inspect the black-and-white shots of the late actress Maria Felix (Mexico's Marilyn Monroe) or the great photos of the Mexican Revolution that include Zapata and Pancho Villa. The place has been here for 63 years, and old-timers say it reminds them of long-ago cafés in Los Angeles, Modesto, or Madera. The food is home cooking, Mexican style, with meals like scrambled eggs and chorizo with rice and refried beans. Watch out for the pot o' salsa — it's a real jaw-slammer. Other dishes to sample include *chicharrones*, *menudo*, and *pozole*. Seven days, breakfast to late lunch. Inexpensive. — E.B. (10/05)

The Linkery 3386 30th Street (at Upas), North Park, 619-255-8778. The artisanal "slow food" cuisine here features local ingredients and made-from-scratch preparations. Despite the name, there's a full menu that includes tasty grilled vegetable appetizers and some fine entrées. But the focus is on the side dishes of fresh sausages made daily onpremises. These vary not only in composition but in palatability. Good ones include chicken curry, *linguisa*, Polynesian pork. Venturesome international wine list at low markups, plus interna-tional beers and Mexican Coca-Cola (better tasting than U.S. made). Small parking lot (enter by alley on Upas just east of Jack in the Box). Noisy even when nearly empty. No reservations. Lunch and dinner daily, until 11 p.m. Moderate.

— N.W. (7/05)

EAST COUNTY & COLLEGE AREA

Antonio's Hacienda 700 North Johnson Avenue, El Cajon, 619-442-9827. If the decor hasn't been updated from its original 1960s-fabulous Old California Spanish, it's because there's been no need. The enormous dark-wood chandeliers, the paddedleather wooden chairs, the chainsawweathered wood beams — all top-shelf and aging well. Families abound, reveling in the guitar trio and the exposed kitchen station — such atmosphere! And the flavors are user-friendly, sweetness

muting the spice in the salsa and the Ranchero sauce. The Camarones Tequila is a little more exciting; the sweetness of its bacon-wrapped shrimp gets a fine counter from the bitter liqueur in the marinade. Excellent Enchiladas Suizas: pale, mush-tender shredded chicken wrapped in tortillas and doused with good, tangy green sauce. Lunch and din-ner daily. Champagne brunch on Sunday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; all-day buffet Sunday. Inexpensive to low moderate. — A.M. (4/03)

Geno's West Coast Style Barbe**cue** 291 West Main Street, El Cajon, 619-444-3667. Geno's a real guy, a refugee from corporate America who turned this ex-Taco Bell joint into a surfing-themed BBQ place. He's a surfer but he's serious. He has won lots of prizes for his BBQ sauce, using a chili pepper he says nobody else has. There are three strengths: "Round-up" (mild), "Giddyup" (spicy), or "Stampede" (hot). Try #5, pulled pork and slaw, or #9, shredded beef, melted jack, and sautéed onions. Sides like dirty rice and cornbread are good, but if you're light of pocket go for the "Ripcurl" hot dog, the best deal on the menu. Open 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday, closed Sunday. Inexpensive. E.B. (1/04)

Johnny B's 4738 Fourth Street (at La Mesa Boulevard), La Mesa, 619-464-2465. This "Burgers and Brew" bar is a real 1950s place with burgers to die for and good bar snacks, including a zesty jalapeño dip. Play pool, watch TV, hide from your ex on the smoker's patio out back. On Sundays (1 p.m. to 7 p.m. only), their ten-ounce New York steak, fries, beans, and salad is a must-eat at a rock-bottom price. Open daily, lunch and dinner Monday through Saturday, three meals Sunday. Inexpensive. E.B. (9/05)

Sala Thai 6161 El Cajon Boulevard (College Plaza), College Area, 619-229-9050. With purple cloth napkins, white tablecloths, green banquettes butter-colored walls, and a portrait of King Chulalongkorn, Sala Thai has all the trappings of a class joint - except you're only paying six or eight bucks for main dishes. The food? A bit gentle on the spice front. *Tom yum kung*, the famous shrimp soup, should make your neck hairs stick straight out, but if that's what you want you'll have to ask the cooks to make it spicier. Chicken *mussaman*, labeled "medium spicy," is pretty tame but still delicious with its authentic taste-boosters like kaffir lime leaves. Hottest curry: "chicken green." Health treat: Som tum, the famous papaya salad. Lunch, dinner daily; dinner only on Sunday. Inexpensive. — E.B. (4/04)

Toshi Sushi 5943 El Cajon Boulevard. College Area, 619-287-3536. Don't ask what's in the "dynamite" sauce (besides the obvious mayo and smelt roe) — it's a house secret, one the restaurant dangles before you in numerous contexts. Try it baked onto the rich, everythinggoes Garbage Roll, where deep-fried shrimp, freshwater eel, and tuna add flavor to the creamy-crunchy interplay of sauce and vegetables. Rolls, both plain and elaborate, abound here. While some can be heavy on the rice and light on the fish, others are triumphs. The Toshi Tempura Special Roll takes battered whitefish and wraps it around the sea-weed casing, which is then filled with just-cooked whitefish and a host of garnishes - an exotic-yet-homey fried-fish alternative. The Johnny Roll shows octopus at its most tender, but watch out for spotlight-hogging sweet cream cheese. The simpler sushi can vary — a brilliant, translucent slice of tuna offset





by a blander, duller salmon. Japanese entrées are also available. Inexpensive to moderate. — *A.M.* (4/02)

Valley House Restaurant 10767 Woodside Avenue (at Magnolia), Santee, 619-562-7878. This is for Cornbelt folks, plus wannabes who enjoy plain-speaking, plenty-of-it Iowan food. Take the morning special, "Iowa Breakfast": breaded pork tenderloin, two eggs, and hash browns, fries, or grits, plus a choice of biscuits, muffins, or toast—it's delicious. Lunch or dinnertime you can't go wrong ordering the signature "Iowa Porker" hot sandwich (breaded pork tenderloin in a bun with soup, potato salad, or steak fries) or the "Iowa Beefers" (seasoned ground beef simmered in chicken broth, piled into a burger bun). Open three meals, seven days. Inexpensive. — E.B. (8/01)

FAR EAST

Bernard's The Mall (way in back). 503 Palm Canyon Drive, Borrego Springs, 760-767-5666. Owner Bernard Hess must be from Alsace, on the French-German border - who else would offer both frog's legs in garlic sauce and a tasty, credible choucroute garni (sauerkraut and smoked meat casserole, including house-smoked pork chops)? At this local favorite, the space divided between a convivial bar and a dining room with lunch-counter and booth seating, the menu includes German, French, and truck-stop U.S. classics - schnitzel side by side with chicken-fried steak. The waitresses know most patrons by name, and the patrons walk in already knowing what they're going to order — mainly the Alsatian specialties. Wine list runs to third-rate Californian, but there's an affordable chardonnay (and beer works with this food, too). Closed Sunday. Inexpensive to low moderate. N.W. (4/03)

Mediterraneo 1347 Tavern Road (Alpine Creek Shopping Center), Alpine, 619-445-9902. The vibe in this tasteful little trattoria (with adjoining bar) is young, and so is the chef, still slipping new dishes into a menu stuffed with local favorites. The pizzas are outstanding — such a lovely, airy, silken crust! Such wafer-thin rounds of pepperoni! Entrées change with the seasons. Desserts are big and sweet. When the weather's fine, dine on the patio and watch the sun drape light over the piney hills. Daily, lunch and dinner, plus Sunday brunch. Expensive. — A.M. (12/03)

Paipa's Oasis Sycuan Casino, 5469 Casino Way, Dehesa, 619-445-6002. Forget gambling — gambol through the slots till you pass under two huge elephant tusks. The "Joe and the Volcano"-style place with a fountain tower gurgling in the center is Paipa's. Pay the woman. Now decide: a lot of a little, or a little of a lot. The huge salad bar is surrounded by a groaning U-shaped table laden with everything from peel-and-eat shrimp to baked cod to Certified Black Angus prime rib. Keep coming back. Save them from throwing away this stuff. End with, say, strawberry cheesecake and coffee. Unlike the other suckers, you've gotten a return on your money. Moderate. — E.B. (10/01)

UPTOWN & OLD TOWN

Bertrand at Mister A's 2550 Fifth Avenue (at Laurel), 12th floor, Banker's Hill, 619-239-1377. Bertrand Hug's airy, open renovation of this formerly "ancient regime" eatery offers a fabled panoramic city view with a casual-chic, highly romantic ambience. Chef Stephane Voitzwinkler's modern French cuisine is a fine fit for the setting, including bistro classics and fresh inventions, emphasizing top-grade seasonal ingredients. A huge, intelligent wine list covers a full range of prices, ages and origins, including "ripe" first-growth Bor-deaux. Smoking and fair-weather dining on wraparound terrace/observation deck. Note: parking entrance on Fourth Avenue; wheelchair access via ramp to left of reception desk. Lunch weekdays, dinner nightly. Expensive. N.W. (2/04)

Blue Water Seafood Market and **Grill** 3667 India Street (at Chalmers), midtown, 619-497-0914. This bright, clean charmer a half-block south of El Indio has a double identity: First, it's a retail fish market; aside from Whole Foods this is the only restaurant-quality fresh raw seafood south of I-8 and west of City Heights. If you love oysters, don't miss the big, buttery bivalves here. Second, it serves simple, terrific seafood to eat in or out. Plates are plastic, but don't look for greasy fried stuff. Entrées are grilled gently until perfectly done, topped with your pick of flavors (the lemon-garlic butter is especially tasty) and come with rice and a huge salad with your choice of terrific house-made dressings. If indecisive, ask what's best that day. The overstuffed grilled fish tacos are messy and perfect, with just the right proportions of ingredients. Reachable only by driving north on India. Metered street parking by day. Good choice of beers; a few affordable wines; \$5 corkage for BYOW. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to low moderate. — *N.W.* (4/05)

Bombay Exotic Cuisine Of India 3975 Fifth Avenue (between University and Washington), Hillcrest, 619-298-3155. We're talking northern India here, right? That means lots of lamb, potatoes, creamy sauces, tandoorbaked breads, chicken, and less of the south's mouth-scalding heat. At least in its daily buffet, Bombay's a lot less spicy, (though their sag paneer — creamy, cheesy spinach — delivered a surprising punch). The buffet includes tandoori chicken, assorted pakoras (lentil-batter fritters), mock duck, chicken tikka, and, if you hit the right day, an addictive mango soup. If you want meat or spicy food, best to order from the menu — say, a creamy tikka masala with lamb, or long kebabs of minced lamb (kebab curry), or the rich Bombay Coconut Malai. Tell them whether you want it mild, spicy or, for leather-mouths, tikhi. For a cheap, light meal, try a couple of lamb samosas. And be sure they bring the chutneys, India's real unexplored treasure. Lunch and dinner; buffet at lunch and Monday evenings only. Sister restaurant, Monsoon, 729 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-234-5555. Moderate. — E.B. (4/03)

El Agave 2304 San Diego Avenue (at Old Town Avenue), Old Town, 619-220-0692. Reservations recom mended. Wheelchair access difficult (steep ramp). You'll find upscale, unusual Mexican specialties in an intimate Spanish-style dining room or on a small heated balcony. The menu celebrates three great pre-Hispanic cuisines — Aztec, Mayan, Nahuatl — with discreet admixtures of France, Spain, and Italy. (It's the history of Mexico on a plate.) Among the highlights are the five different Oaxacan moles (plus a sixth from Chiapas), local sea bass in tangy jamaica (hibiscus) sauce, and a unique appetizer, tlacogos cuitlacoche, ovals of blue corn masa topped with a sort of "mushroom" rows on corn ears. (In English it's "corn smut," but it tastes much nicer than that sounds.) The bar stocks at least 1700 tequilas and makes a foodfriendly on-the-rocks margarita with fresh fruit juices. Open daily, lunch and dinner, Moderate. — N.W. (2/01)

El Indio Mexican Restaurant 3695
India Street, midtown, 619-299-0333. El
Indio, "the god of Mexican food," presides over this bustling (expect a line),
airy restaurant in an atmosphere of pale
blue 1940s solidity. The menu includes
the usual suspects (burritos, tacos, etc.),
plus slightly less common items
(machaca, chile rellenos). Excellent
house-made corn tortillas help the stan
dard fare to better approximate the divine. So do the sublime core flavors of the
meats — the chicken in the taco and the
beef in the enchiladas. The carne asada
sports a pleasant char, and the beans have
a raw-beany intensity. Less heavenly: seasonings (especially paprika and salt) tend

toward the heavy side. Open daily, breakfast through dinner. Inexpensive.

— A M (11/01)

El Zarape 4642 Park Boulevard, University Heights, 619-692-1652. This stylish little Mexican restaurant on a tony stretch of Park Boulevard is proof that not all taco shop food is equal. Try a shredded beef or chicken taco or tostada and you'll know what we mean, with their generous mounds of juicy, slow-cooked meat. Many enjoy their unusual scallop burritos, vegetarian potato-filled burritos and rolled tacos, and well-prepared soups. We go for the stewed meat. El Zarape is dependable, serving Mexican with solid, homemade, handmade flavor. Three meals daily. Inexpensive. — M.N. (1/00)

Hob Nob Hill 2271 First Avenue (at Juniper Street), Banker's Hill, 619-239-8176. It opened in 1944 as a 14-stool lunch counter. Now, you sweep in under the maroon canopy to shiny red booth seats, deep blue carpet, blond wood, paintings, and a half-wall of wine. You're thinking "business class," but don't be fooled. We're talking coffeeshop prices, especially with the all-day breakfasts and sandwiches, not to menion the burgers with a salad tossed in. It's across the street from a retirement condo complex and at dinner, says the owner, "We cater to seniors." While there are a la carte choices, affordable three-course prix fixe dinners (with a regular entrée for each day of the week, Mom style) are the order of the day — e.g., tasty barbecued pork on Saturday, roast lamb or pot roast Sunday. Open daily. Inexpensive to low moderate. — E.B. (10/01)

Islander Grill Embassy Hotel, 3645 Park Boulevard (at Cypress), 619-297-3929. Here's a chance to sample the unique tropical cuisine of Guam, an island at the crossroads of the South Pacific. The cooking includes traces of Mexico, the Philippines, Japan, and Hawaii — all filtered through the spicy Chamorro palate. Try the chicken kelaguen, a citric salad resembling ceviche, or the brilliant coconut shrimp (available as a starter or entrée). Stews are flavorful: The saucy "pot roast" is definitely not your mother's, unless Mom's from Guam, and the chicken stews are equally savory. Other choices include a range of salty, teriyaki-style barbecued meats, barbecued chicken in a less salty marinade, plus numerous exotic appetizers. Free parking in small hotel lot. Everything available for take out. No alcohol. Lunch through dinner daily, early dinner Sundays. Very inexpensive. — N.W. (3/05)

Jimmy Carter's Cafe 3172 Fifth Avenue (at Spruce Street), Hillcrest, 619-295-2070. This comfy, middle-class eatery has a surprise — great Indian breakfasts (until 11:20 a.m. weekdays, 3 p.m. weekends). Try their chicken curry or pessaratu (mung bean crèpe with onions, peppers, ginger, dhal, and chutneys). Or vegetarian vindaloo. Jimmy (no, not the ex-pres) does Chinese too — like the Mongolian beef (Chinese vegetables and beef in a hot chill sauce over rice or noodles), or good Mexican dishes such as chili verde (pork or chicken simmered in spicy tomatillo sauce). But center stage is his all-American Jimmy Burger (1/3-pound patty with potato or carrot salad). One bonus: a fine tangential view of Balboa Park's lawns and trees. Open daily, breakfast through dinner. Inexpensive. — E.B. (11/01)

Laurel Restaurant 505 Laurel Street (at Fifth), uptown, 619-239-2222. Freshly remodeled and remade by Tracey Borkum, the owner of Chive and Kensington Grill, the restaurant looks like a million bucks (the price she bought it for). In a chic, creamy dining room below street level you'll enjoy modern

eclectic cuisine with French and Mediterranean flavors showcasing premium in-season ingredients, including free-range chicken. No bread unless you pay for it, but you get *edamame* to nibble while awaiting your order. The global wine list is extensive and expensive; sected bottles are half-price on Sundays. The full bar features creative cocktails and 20 sakes. Valet parking \$6. Several steps down from street level; disabled access via carport on Fifth Avenue (phone before coming to ensure that entry is open). Open for dinner nightly. Expensive, but an early-bird threecourse chef menu is moderate. — N.W. (3/06)

Parallel 33 741 W. Washington Street (at Hawk), Mission Hills, 619-260-0033. Southern China, Pakistan, Algeria, Morocco, et cetera — are all on the 33rd parallel. This ethno-blend restaurant in Mission Hills is a hit for shrewd, thoughtful creativity. It's not just "fusion food." Try the superb mango and ahi appetizer. Entrées show that chef Amiko Gubbins, of Café Japengo fame, knows what she's doing. Dinner Monday through Saturday. Moderate to expensive. — M.N. (10/99)

Shakespeare Pub & Grille 3701 India Street (at Washington), South Mission Hills, 619-299-0230. Probably the most convincing English pub in town. The Bard's brew-house boasts bareboard floors, diamond lead-glass windows, and authentic Brits sitting around the bar quaffing ale from their own pewter mugs. Pub grub is bluff and plain-spoken. Shepherd's pie, bangers and mash, ploughman's plate (the pickled onions and cheese, Scotch egg, and Branston pickle make it the real thing) — all are great with rich English beer, say, a Boddington's Pub Ale. Sunday's roast beef dinner is worth dragging yourself out of bed for, too. The pub includes





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a shop that sells British goods. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (9/01)

DOWNTOWN

Blue Point 565 Fifth Avenue (at Market), Gaslamp, 619-233-6623. In a handsome, plushy dining room, pristine seafood and Prime-grade steaks and chops are featured in well-focused preparations highlighting Pacific Rim and Mediterranean flavors. A fine lobster bisque includes plenty of lobster, and crab-stuffed trout and dayboat scallops are among the highlights of the menu. But at this conventioneers' favorite, be sure to specify the doneness you prefer, especially for fish, which defaults to welldone. Valet parking onsite, or inexpensive self-parking one block east at Park It On Market, Large sidewalk dining patio. Business-casual dress looks best here. Reservations urged. Dinner nightly. - N.W. (9/05)

Brickyard Coffee and Tea 675 West G Street, downtown, 619-696-7220. The problem, if you're rich enough to live in the Marina District, is the lack of café life. That is, until this modest little eatery and café settled in next to the tracks by the Seaport Village trolley stop. You sit under eleven poplar trees in a brick patio that has one unusual downtown advantage - except for the wind sifting through the poplars (or a trolley pulling in), it's completely silent here. Sipping coffee and reading your paper is the thing here, but you can fill up, too, with items like "Texas chili," or grilled cheese and tomato sandwich with a cup of chili, or spinach and mushroom quiche with a small Caesar salad, or panini. You can also order half a sandwich — turkey, ham, beef, or tuna — with a cup of sour or Caesar salad. It's the nearest thing to a French country café. Open early morning till 2 p.m. daily. Inexpensive. — E.B. (12/04)

Cafe Cerise 1125 Sixth Avenue (at C Street), downtown, 619-595-0153. The name is French for "cherry," and although the café's logo looks more like a cherry bomb, this craftsmanly kitchen is od dud. Chef-owner Jason Seibert seems blessed with an instinct for deciding what goes with what, and in what proportions. His daily-changing Euro-Cal bistro

menu emphasizes fresh, in-season produce and plenty of slow-cooked comfort foods, prepared honestly from scratch. Don't miss the day's choice of house-made pâtés or sausages, the herbstuffed organic chicken, or the fish en papillotte. There's an adventurous, affordable wine list and a full bar. The modest bill for such an indulgent feast is the cherry on top. Lunch weekdays; dinner Tuesday through Saturday. Moderate to slightly expensive. — N.W. (5/04)

Cafe Chloe 721 Ninth Avenue (at G Street), East Village, 619-232-3242. How did we ever manage before this indispensable bistro opened? In a bright and beautiful setting with small tables, bar seating, and a patio, you'll find light and lovely Parisian-style bistro fare with substantial breakfasts, svelte lunches and dinners, and sophisticated bar-nibbles Don't miss breakfast's poached eggs with sage-truffle beurre blanc. Nightly specials keep the menu interesting, and desserts are worth every calorie. Beverages include divine lavender lemonade, specialty root beer, and an intelligent wine list at modest markups, everything available by the glass. Metered street-parking daytime. No reservations except large groups. Moderate. — N.W. (7/05)

Chive 558 Fourth Avenue (near Island), Gaslamp, 619-232-4483. Here you'll find a new cuisine for the upscale residential neighborhood rising around the restaurant. Diners can choose an adventurous meal or an evening of sophisticated comfort food. Urbane multicultural fusion dishes dance cheek to cheek with remade American classics and the occasional sleek French luxury dish. A "grazing menu" features small bites for folks on a diet or on the run. The menu changes seasonally, but you can trust the kitchen any time of year. Very noisy. Full bar. Dinner nightly, until 11:30 p.m. weekends. Full meals expensive; "grazing" can be moderate. — N.W. (3006)

Dobson's 956 Broadway Circle, downtown, 619-231-6771. This reputable downtown restaurant offers class and comfort, geared for people who enjoy eating well. The food is good, often very good, as with chicken liver mousse pâté, Mediterranean blue mussels, and, when available, the crude but virtuous soft-shell crab. Their sweets, such as brownies, are hefty, louche, and cheap. Bring a date to the upstairs dining room. Dobson's is suave, its confidence infectious. Lunch and dinner Monday through Friday; dinner only on Saturday. Moderate to expensive. — *M.N.* (10/98)

Fleming's Steak House & Wine Bar 380 K Street (at Fourth), Gaslamp, 619-237-1155. Original branch at 8970

CATERING

University Center Lane, University City/Golden Triangle, 858-535-0078. A steakhouse for ladies who power lunch, an "old girls" club, or just a happy place where the term "a nice piece of meat" isn't a bad thing? The mahogany of the "old boys" steakhouse genre gives way here to cheery cherry wood. When you get the fried cheese, it's Brie, rolled in panko bread crumbs and slivered almonds. And the wine list boasts far more than just burly Cabernets and Bordeaux - over 100 of the far-flung offerings are available by the glass and you can assemble your own three-glass tasting flights. Prime steaks are the main event, perfectly cooked and well-seasoned. Try the Key Lime pie for dessert - custardy and full of limey bite. Valet parking. Dinner nightly. Very expensive. — A.M. (3/04)

George's on Fifth 835 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-702-0444. This steakhouse is in a historic building that was once a hangout of Wyatt Earp - it now boasts faux-Victorian decor and amusing wall art. Formerly Roger's on Fifth, it was owned by former mayor-felon Roger Hedgecock; now Roger's rabbited and left it to his partner George Har-rington. It's still wildly popular with conventioneers on expense accounts. The menu offers Prime and ultra-Prime steaks, some of it at jaw-dropping prices — although entrées do include free vegetables. Ask for sauces on the side unless you like them thick and heavy. Some of the best items are non-beef: the cold seafood appetizers ("lobster martini," oysters, tuna tartare) and a juicy grilled pork chop. Good range of wines at normal to slightly high markups; full bar. Valet parking; cheaper lot through alley next to restaurant. Dinner nightly Expensive to extreme. — N.W. (3/04)

Harbor House 831 West Harbor Drive, Seaport Village, downtown, 619-232-1141. This two-story Midwesterner-friendly eatery caters mainly to tourist families and conventioneers, but the upstairs Oyster Bar is a pretty spot to chill out and watch the sailboats over a good margarita and a plateful of iced bivalves. Upstairs preparations tend toward simple American coastal dishes; the menu includes more appetizers and the drinks include artisan beers. The downstairs main dining room features more old-fashioned "haute" preparations and has a longer wine list but no view. All foods and drinks from both venues are available by request on both floors (but not all servers know this). Parking free with validation for two hours. Reservations strongly advised for after 6:15 p.m. any evening. Accessible via elevator from main dining room, with entrance on the park (south) side of the building. Lunch and dinner daily upstairs; dinner only downstairs. Moderate to expensive. — *N.W.* (8/05)

Indigo Grill 1536 India Street, Little Italy, 619-234-6802 This second — and much grander — incarnation of chef Deborah Scott's Indigo Grill expands her original Native American motif, with its focus on root vegetables, game, and roasted spices. Now, the Pacific Coastal cuisine takes in more coast than most, drawing upon ingredients and techniques from Alaska to Oaxaca. (The decor, dark and urban-primitive, follows the theme.) Unexpected combinations are a mainstay; a single dish, such as the seafood *mixto*, may span the entire distance, bringing together a multitude of flavors that work together to create a wondrous whole. Fine breads are made in-house, as are desserts (try the decadent, crispy-creamy plantain cheesecake flautas). The wine list includes interesting varietals. Lunch weekdays, dinner nightly; closes early Sundays, but open until 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Lunch: inexpensive to moderate; dinner moderate to expensive. — A.M. (11/02)

downtown, 619-531-0044. Don't be fooled by the li'l old blue-and-white clapboard house at the bottom of City College's hill. Princes and politicians come to this full-service restaurant to hammer out deals, mix with the Latino (or Anglo) community, and eat some of the best chorizo con huevos (spicy pork sausage with eggs) in town. Fair-weather eaters flock to the spacious garden patio to chow down among the songbirds. In the cozy Mexican-style interior, the pictures on the walls tell you who-all comes here for the good tacos and enchiladas or the delicious pork burritos. Most delicious of all is watching Anglo City-Hallers trying valiantly to learn to love the house made menudo (tripe soup). Delivery anywhere downtown 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Open six days 6 a.m. to 3 p.m., closed Sundays. — E.B. (11/00)

La Casita 1247 C Street (at 13th Street),

Lou and Mickey's 224 Fifth Avenue (between K and L), Gaslamp, 619-237-4900. The onetime ornate Royale Brasserie across from the Convention Center finally had to bow to conventional tastes and simplify into a fifties-style steak-and-seafood house. Kings Seafood is still the owner, so the fish quality remains fine. The fare is simple, with minimal sauce or garnish; vegetables cost extra, coming in large portions but merely adequate preparations. Best dishes include "BBQ Shrimp, Manales' Style," a buttery, spicy New Orleans extravaganza (available as starter or entrée), and the huge, juicy rib-eye "Cowboy Steak." Valet parking at door. Wraparound heated dining patio. Noisy

in dining room near bar; request "Nude Room" for quiet. For interesting wines at good prices, look into "Adventures" sections of the list. Dinner nightly, weekends until 11 p.m. Fish moderate, meats expensive. — N.W. (7/03)

Molly's Marriott Hotel Marina, 333 W. Harbor Drive (at Front Street), North Tower level 1 (sub-lobby level), downtown, 619-230-8909. Liberate this restaurant from the conventioneer occupation! The old gal has come back to life as a lovely, fresh young thing, thanks to chef Brian Sinnott, arriving from San Francisco's top Italian restaurants. His seasonal cuisine offers clever, creative twists and superb local produce. Pick up a miniature menu at the dining room entrance to remind yourself of what you're eating - you'll appreciate all the more his astute combinations of unexpected ingredients. (Of course, some dishes are tried-and-trite clichés, how $ever\ nicely\ prepared\ -\!\!\!-\!\!\!\!-\ conventioneers,$ remember?) Try the stuffed squash blossoms, or diver scallops on celery root puree when available. The vegetarian tasting-platter is tempting even to hard-core "carnies." Vast choice of California wines including half-bottles and generous pours by the glass, as well as a full bar. Reserve, even for two, or expect a wait. Free valet parking at hotel front door (Front Street entrance), validated for three hours. Open for dinner (call about Sunday or Monday). Very expensive. N.W. (12/05)

Sixth Avenue Bistro 1165 Sixth Avenue (at B Street), downtown, 619-239-4194. This charming, airy café offers some very credible New Orleans style cooking at affordable prices. Among the sandwiches are an outstanding oyster po' boy (with big juicy oysters and good light batter) and a fine, fully-packed approximation of a muffaletta, albeit with a kaiser roll standing in for Central Grocery's big, round Italian bread. The jambalaya is tasty, too, even with the substitute for andouille. Wine and beer. No reservations. Breakfast to dinner (closes 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday, 2 p.m. on Sunday). Inexpensive. — N.W. (3/01)

Soleil @K Gaslamp Marriott, 660 K Street (at Sixth), Gaslamp, 619-446-6088. The fare here is simple California cuisine that won't scare the conventioneers, but the outdoor dining patio is a nice spot for a light meal. The spiffy, chrome-detailed interior, with an open kitchen, offers the option of eating with strangers at long tables or booking a large party of your own — but be prepared for noise (even when the room's empty, the music is pumped up partyloud). Starters include a zesty fried calamari salad and crabby crab sticks, and desserts are witty as well as tasty. Entrées

are unmemorable. Long international wine list with some "finds," full bar. Service is variable. Validated valet parking. Open daily, three meals. Moderate to expensive. — N.W. (9/05)

SOUTH BAY & CORONADO

Azzura Point Loews Coronado Bav Resort, 4000 Coronado Bay Road (Silver Strand Boulevard), Coronado, 619-424-4000 or 619-424-4477. The quietly luxurious dining room with a serene bayfront view is romantic and a bit dressy, but far from stuffy. It's not just for tourists, but a lovely evening's getaway for locals. The California-French cuisine with an occasional Hawaiian touch emphasizes seasonal ingredients in slightly unexpected combinations. Along with a multi-course chef's tasting menu and à la carte dishes, a "sea spa" dinner show-cases fresh seafoods in healthful preparations. A good wine list at reasonable markups is strong on half-bottles. Free valet parking at the porte cochere of the main lobby. Dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Vo N.W. (11/01) Very expensive.

Bay Beach Cafe Ferry Landing Marketplace, 1201 First Street, Coronado, 619-435-4900. The dinner menu here has California's typical dumbed-down world-appetizer array, plus salads, pas-tas, grilled meats, a few sautée items and children's plates. The restaurant is very family-friendly (full o' kids, actually), with a menu that appeals to the young in mouth: The chef seems to have a sweet tooth, since almost every dish involves honey or sugar — for example, the table butter that's intriguingly flavored with a honey-basil mixture. Your server will tell you about the day's fresh-fish selections. which are more attuned to adult palates with fresh, fine-quality seafood done simply and well. Ultra-noisy inside when crowded; reserve for the lovely terrace with a view of the beach. Open daily, lunch and dinner, with weekend breakfast. Moderate to slightly expensive. — N.W. (8/01)

Crown Room Hotel Del Coronado, 1500 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-6611. Let's face it, this is one of the grandest entrances you'll make anywhere, into the enormous, gloomy, vaulted timber dining room where presidents, princes and Marilyn Monroe have chowed down. It's only open for Sunday brunch these days. The gigantic eat-till-you're-beat buffet feast ranges from made-as-you-watch omelets to salmon, crab legs, prime rib, dizzying



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desserts, and even long-stemmed strawberries you hand-dip in chocolate. The downside? Monroe was here to shoot Some Like It Hot, but (apart from the chocolate) most food ain't. It's either cold (like the croissants, though the chocolate chunk ones are delicious) or luke-warm (like prime rib and eggs Benedict—and those eggs could do with a lot more Benedict). But this is an Edwardian-scale social occasion — see and be seen. The food isn't great, but the atmosphere is grand. Sunday, 9 a.m to 2 p.m. Expensive. — *E.B.* (9/03)

L'Escale Coronado Marriott Island Resort, 2000 Second Street, Coronado, 619-435-3000. Probably the pink flamin gos and bay views bring you here first. But L'Escale ("Port of Call" in French) delivers to the taste buds too. For "Northern Mediterranean cuisine with California flair," read lots of pasta, fish, salads, sandwiches. Try the grilled salmon niçoise salad with its richly sauced fish, crunchy green beans, red potatoes strong olives, and rosemary-flavored bun. Entrées like grilled chicken and mushrooms in Parmesan cream with penne pasta are safe enough. Or bonein filet mignon. But for sheer architecture, check out the tuna salad sandwich wrapped in lavosh: three vertical Armenian bread tubes, angle-sliced to reveal interiors of tuna and greenery. Eat on the pool and bay-surrounded patio if you can. Breakfast, lunch, dinner. Moderate to expensive. — E.B. (2/03)

Merkl's Deli-BBQ 415 Broadway Chula Vista, 619-420-0767. Named after Sebastian Merkl, the owner's German granddad, who jumped ship in New York after World War I. Merkl's claims to be the "first real New York-style deli south of Hillcrest." It certainly has serious, all-day, New York-type breakfasts like pastrami and corned beef three-egg omelets or Reuben omelets filled with corned beef, Swiss cheese, and sauerkraut. Or salami and eggs, pancake style. There's even a breakfast Philly cheese steak. But it's not only New York Out back, their Texas-style smoker burns mesquite for some pretty mean ribs. Also check Chula Vista's truck farm history on the walls, a collection of crate-end la bels with all the fruits that this town's soils used to produce. Open every day breakfast through dinner; Sundays breakfast and lunch. Inexpensive. – *E.B.* (10/04)

Spiro's Gyros Ferry Landing, 1201 First Street #4, Coronado, 619-435-1225.

The food, the music, the view — are we outside Athens? Is this the Aegean? This inside-outside Greek café is located at the water's edge, and the heated patio has a spectacular view of San Diego, the bay, and the boat traffic. At sunset, sipping their excellent Greek wines (cheaper than their California), watch the sun set the city ablaze in gold. The prices keep Spiro's popular with the locals as well as tourists. Try the moussaka (eggplant casserole) or the souvlaki chicken, marinated in tzatziki sauce, served with tomatoes, onions, and pita bread. Open seven days until 8 p.m. Inexpensive. — E.B. (11/00)

Tango Grille Argentine Steak House 635 Broadway, Chula Vista, 619-420-0384. Play gaucho and enjoy the most authentic Argentine parrillada (mixed grill) in town at this charming. warmly decorated bistro about two min-utes from the Chula Vista Shopping Center. Fine, smoky wood-grilled Colorado beef appears in several unusual cuts (including succulent steak-cut short-ribs). You can choose from two different mixed grills (sized for one or two), the first with conventional meats, the other — the more adventurous includes organ meats and blood sausage. For starters, there are brilliantly seasoned mini-empanadas of amazing lightness, as well as several interesting salads. Those not in a grilled-meat mood can opt for numerous pastas (including a big, meaty lasagna) or the ubiquitous milanesa (breaded beef or chicken patties) of the pampas. Portions are more than generous, and so are the flavors. Open daily Low moderate. — *N.W.* (4/02)

Village Pizzeria 1206 Orange Ave nue, Coronado, 619-522-0449. In the back, Mootime Creamery makes all its ice cream. In the front, Mootime owner David Spatafore decided to set up what he's always wanted: A cheap, back-east Italian, red-and-white-tablecloth, dangling Chianti bottle eatery where local families and amateur sports teams can come in and pig out. He wisely didn't destroy what was half of the famous old Mexican Village. Instant atmosphere! Ancient murals of guys with guitars serenading señoritas, arches, illuminated clusters of red grapes. The bad news: You might have to handle pumped-up kids' sports teams cramming the booths around you. The good news: Great cal-zones and pizza by the slice. Open lunch through dinner, seven days. Inexpensive. — E.B. (12/04)

BAJA

From the United States use the pre-fix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; when calling in Tijuana use only the restaurant's seven-digit number.

El Cid Lopez Mateos #993 (just off Blancarte), Ensenada, Baja, 646-178-1809. This restaurant is at the heart of the tourist district, but the cooking and service are way above coach class. Look to the "Specialties" section of the huge menu for the most interesting selections. Crisp quail with rose petal sauce (famed from Like Water for Chocolate) proves outrageously delicious, and the seasonal *chiles en nogada* (meat-stuffed poblano chiles with walnut-cream and pomegranate) gain refinement from greaseless ground sirloin. Fish dishes are fresh, rich, and tender, and you'll find nine different ways to enjoy a steak. If you can handle a tableside production number, crêpes with cajeta (caramel sauce) makes a very grand finale. Fully bilingual staff; English menus available. Sidewalk patio dining available. Reserve for weekends during tourist peaks. Full bar, with excellent margaritas, Baja wines. Open daily, continuous service breakfast through dinner. Moderate. -N.W. (4/03)

El Galeón (Puerto Nuevo) One street before you reach the oceanside street market, one block south of Calle Entrada (the entry road), and two doors north of Calle Salida (the exit road), Puerto Nuevo. This is a lively, comfortable spot with a good ocean view for scarfing down Puerto Nuevo lobsters or other local fish or seafood, including whole fishes cooked to order at a bargain price. Downstairs boasts an open kitchen and a cozy bar with a partial sea view. Upstairs there's a breezy terrace with a full sea view. The jokey staff speaks excellent East L.A. English, and the cook ing is decent - for instance, the melted substance served with the lobsters is about half real butter, half the ghastly local Kitchen Maid "spread." Bilingual menu and staff. Full, extensive bar. No reservations, cash only. Three meals daily. Low moderate. — N.W. (10/02)

La Espadaña Avenida Sánchez Taboada #10813, Zona Río, Tijuana, 634-1488 or 634-1489. If you learn only one word of Spanish, learn this one: *Bor*rego. Because this place does the greatest oven-cooked leg of lamb ever. The meat

tastes as if it was cooked in wine, garlic, and herbs, but the owners insist it's just Tecate lamb baked slowly in its own juices with a bit of oregano. But most folks come here for beef - steaks and the popular beef fillet, sizzled at a big flameand-smoke display counter BBQ grill. All terra-cotta and timber, this is where the local middle classes come for their cross-border food fix. Think Tijuana's version of Mission Valley. Still, it's charming, and you can have fun. For instance, don't forget to ask them to ring the bells set in their espadanas (holes cut in the Mission frontage) above the great arched wooden entrance door; they clank tunelessly, but they're great for celebrating your 21st birthday, Mom getting her degree — whatever. Open for breakfast, lunch, dinner, seven days. Moderate. — E.B. (11/04)

Mr. Fish Boulevard Agua Caliente

#6000, Tijuana, 686-3603. The sign is

showing its age and the concept (exotic middle-class restaurant in the middle of a parking lot) seems dated, but two-decade-old Mr. Fish is still serving good fish food. Ask for the Spanish-language menu if you can handle it — it's far more extensive than its poor English cousin. Sit outside under the palm thatch if weather permits. All the basic dishes are good, like octopus in white wine, Lucifer's Oysters with white sauce and smoky chipotle chiles, or the Mr. Fish Combination: half a lobster, fish, shrimp, and calamari. Probably the most popular gringo choice is mahi mahi in lemon-pepper sauce, but consider ordering with salsa eneldo dill sauce. Also interesting: seafood fet-tuccine "a la Gorvachov" (with vodka) and anything (such as the lobster Mr. Fish or thermidor) with the signature salsa blanca. It'll remind you of something (could it be Rubio's?). Open 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., seven days. Moderate. E.B. (12/04)

Rica Torta Niños Héroes Avenida #890, between 2nd and 3rd Streets (opposite Dorian's department store), Tijuana, 685-8579. This café may have the best *tortas* (call them Mexican-style hamburgers) in Tijuana. Six-inch rashers of marinated carne asada, slices of ham, squares of cheese, chopped salad, tomato slices, fresh-scooped avocado...it's a double-wide, double-high burger. The menu has 16 different kinds of *tortas*, from chorizo with eggs to beefsteak ranchero, all served in huge, threeribbed, crisp-toasted Mexican bread buns. There's other stuff, but to a burger buff, one of these is quite enough. Open seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (9/01)

Vallarta Natural 1252 Boulevard Agua Caliente (just before El Toreo de Tijuana), 686-1560. Maybe the only smoke-free restaurant in Tijuana, this vegetarian haven was started in 1996 by health-conscious Doctor Georgina Val larta de Alcántar. They make their own yogurt, soy hash, breads, rolls, salsas and "meats" like a veal from their own wheat gluten — daily. You sit at wood ta bles and chairs next to blue-framed vellow walls splattered with Talavera ceramic suns. At breakfast, try the tartaleta vallarta, a mix of eggs, spinach, mushrooms, onions, and chile. For lunch (and it's usually busiest around three), their excellent soup, caldo tlalpeno, packed with cheese, rice, avocado, and chile, will fill you nicely. The soy *hamburguesa* is good, but go for the *torta*, which has that gluten *milanesa* along with cheese, avoado, and jalapeño. Good organic coffee. Wonderful juices, especially the cactus — if you need cleaning out. Open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily. Inexpensive. — E.B. (1/06)

MULTIPLE LOCATIONS

D'Lish Pizza and Pasta 386 East Eastlake Village Center South, 2260 Otay Lakes Road, Suite 101, 619-216-3900; both in Chula Vista. This chain has always prided itself on its Italian/California pastas, pizzas, and salads. Now it has gone carnivorous adding marinated flank steak and a rib eye to the "bistro entrées." If you're or-dering the flank, well-done is a no-no. That will toughen it. But a rare flank is, well, d'lish in its marination and especially its pesto-like *chimichurri* sauce. Also good: fire-roasted vegetables pizza, where the quick roasting makes for great-tasting, Technicolor-bright broccoli, zucchini, eggplant, and bell peppers. And "Mediterranean chicken salad" works well, partly thanks to the tang of pepperoni chips. Moderate. E.B. (8/02)

Oggi's At least ten branches all over the suburbs; see phone book for the nearest one. Is it the pizzas or is it the housemade brewskis (six ales, one lager, one stout) that make Oggi's so popular? Is it the sports-bar ambiance

(with multiple video screens) or just the near-ubiquity of branches that has won this chain numerous "best pizza" citations? The pizzas are Americanstyle, with thick, slightly sweet crusts, many with elaborate toppings that sound more adventurous than they taste. (All the cheese alternatives are equally mild.) The menu also offers pub snacks, decent soups and salads, hearty sandwiches, and American-Italian entrées so mall-adapted that no mamma mia in Bensonhurst or North Beach would even recognize them. Full bar, lunch and dinner daily at most branches; free local delivery with minimum order. Inexpensive. N.W. (7/04)

Sammy's Woodfired Pizza It's not Italian or New York pizza, it's...San Diego pizza! The crusts are Californian: thick and slightly sweet. The toppings range from ordinary to exotic. The menu includes many salads and a handful of American-Italian entrées. Continuous service, same menu lunch and dinner. Open daily. Inexpensive. 702 Pearl Street, La Jolla, 858-456-5222; 770 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-230-8888; 8650 Genesee Avenue, Costa Verde, 858-404-9898; 12925 El Camino Real, Del Mar, 858-259-6600; 1620 Camino de la Reina, Mission Valley, 619-298-8222. — N.W. (7/04)

St. Tropez If you love continental breakfast, these bright cafés with in-door-outdoor seating offer scores of house-baked pastries (including brioche) and good coffee. Parisian-style brunch/lunch choices embrace croa monsieur and croque madame (grilled ham and cheese sandwiches, topped with either light cream sauce or an egg), crêpes, quiche, onion soup gratinée, or chicken-filled puff-pastry. Omelets are rather weighty. Some of the sandwiches offer Mediterranean flavors — try a pan bagnat (salade nicoise on a baguette) or one of the grilled panini. Desserts range from cookies on up to elaborate cakes. Beer and wine. Open daily, breakfast to early dinner. Inexpensive. Encinitas: 947 South Coast Highway 101, Lumberyard Shopping Center #103D, 760-633-0084; downtown: 926 Broadway Circle, 619-696-8695 and 600 W. Broadway, 619-234-2560; Hillcrest: 3805 Fifth Avenue, 619-497-0297; Rancho Bernardo: 16625 Dove Canyon #109, 858-673-6824; Sorrento Valley: 9450 Scranton Road, 858-202-0015. -N.W. (12/04)



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Side-Glances

The first-person narration sets the tone closer to a stand-up routine.

DUNCAN SHEPHERD

queezed between the Latino film festival and the NCAA basketball tournament:

Shooter. A new Rambo for a new millennium. Marine Gunnery Sergeant

Bob Lee Swagger (a compact, tense, stoic, unswaggering Mark Wahlberg), already abandoned once in the

field in Ethiopia, is lured out of mountaintop retirement ostensibly to use his sniper know-how to foil a plot to assassinate the President but in reality to be fitted for a frame. The film, slickly fashioned by Antoine Fuqua, feeds off contradictory pieties of post-9/11: the righteousness of the fighting man (Support Our Troops) and the rottenness of the government (Bring Our Troops Home). "Don't really like the President much," the taciturn hero volunteers, and then broadening the political point, "Didn't like the one before him much, either." (Grunts, good; Commanders-in-Chief, bad.) The frightening efficiency, nay, invincibility, of the fighting man is liable to rally less consensus; and as our One-Man Army mows down more foes than you've got fingers and toes, he taxes your credulity if not your patience: two busy hours, action-packed,

-crammed, -laden, -clogged. Still, there's sufficient pause for good character bits from Levon Helm as a bluegrass gunsmith and Ned Beatty as a Senatorial slimeball, and there's

strong steady support from Michael Peña as a disarmed and disgraced FBI rookie who doggedly stays on the

hunt and, alone among his colleagues, gets a clue.

Premonition. Time-tripping thriller wherein a normal, average, earthbound housewife and mother, whose parenting skills seem to consist solely of addressing her two daughters as "Baby," wakes up on alternate days to find that her husband is dead, not vet dead, again dead, not yet dead, and so forth. "Something," she intuits, "is seriously fucked up with this situation." At one point, she attempts to sort out the scrambled events on a hand-drawn calendar grid, but this doesn't clear up all confusion. Key question: will her advance knowledge of the fatal car crash allow her somehow to prevent it? Next question: will her additional knowledge of her husband's amorous dalliance at the office prevent her from wanting to prevent it? Your curiosity may be aroused (if never satisfied),



I Think I Love My Wife

but just as likely it may not. One potential impediment is Sandra Bullock's strange sedation, and another is director Mennan Yapo's preference for romantic goop over psychic tingle.

I Think I Love My Wife. Into a complacent marriage comes temptation, the wet-lipped Kerry Washington, a Platonic old friend with vertiginous décolletage. Chris Rock is the star,

albeit no actor, and he's also the director and co-writer, nominally inspired by the last of Eric Rohmer's "Six Moral Tales," *Chloe in the Afternoon*, 1972. (The "Fin" in place of "The End" is perhaps the strongest evidence.) The first-person narration, however, sets the tone closer to a stand-up routine: "Going to the Auto Show and looking at the minivans was like going to the

strip club and looking at the deejay," rat-a-tat. And even as the torrent of voice-over tapers off, whatever is left on screen seems mere illustration of a comic monologue, mere visual embellishment. Somehow the toil of "dramatic re-enactment" takes the edge off the individual voice, dulls it.

Reign over Me. Adam Sandler drama, maybe "dramedy," definitely



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not comedy, stretching the comedian in the role of a 9/11 widower with PTSD, an impudent excuse for him to act like a Problem Child, hanging his Dylan-haired head, ignoring direct questions, immersing himself in video games, hiding inside his headphones, banging on a set of drums, throwing public tantrums, distracting attention from the more involving troubles and better performance of Don Cheadle as an old dental-school roommate, all to the purpose of putting off the dreaded moment of "opening up" and turning on the waterworks. Writer-director Mike Binder, intent on not making the struggle easy, succeeds in making it

Pride. Sports pep fest, or pap fest, centered around the new employee at the obsolete rec center, a former college athlete who whips the young neighborhood layabouts into a competitive swim team, and rewrites the acronym PDR from Philadelphia Department of Recreation to "Pride, Determination, Resilience." Terrence Howard, playing a real man named Jim Ellis, pitches the message very hard, but the rah-rah roteness teaches nothing so much as embarrassment.

The Namesake. Soggy, sloggy family saga, adapted from the novel by Jhumpa Lahiri, spanning from Calcutta 1977 to New York City present day, and for the title figure, christened Gogol after the 19th-century Russian writer, spanning from mere gleamin-the-eye to aspiring architect, engagement-breaker, husband and then cuckold. The passage of time, so effortless on the page, is rather a strain on the cast, although Irrfan Khan and Tabu as the father and mother handle it better than the young and younger actors who, at different times, play the protagonist and his eventual bride. (Inasmuch as I never saw Kal Penn in Harold and Kumar Go to White Castle, Van Wilder, or Van Wilder 2: The Rise of Taj, I could be neither distracted nor amazed by his "serious" turn in the central role.) All of the main characters are decently individualized, but the meat-and-potatoes theme, or possibly curry-and-rice theme, of Indian traditionalism vs. progressivism, especially as regards choosing a mate, drags them into the commonplace. Director Mira Nair has trod this ground before, in Monsoon Wedding, with a livelier step.

Color Me Kubrick. "A true...ish story" about a British con man, name of Alan Conway, whose gimmick of passing himself off as the reclusive director of 2001, A Clockwork Orange, Dr. Strangelove, etc., proved to be an effective method of cadging drinks, cruising gay bedmates, eliciting cash. At any rate it proved effective until he tried passing himself off to the then New York Times drama critic, Frank Rich, after which the net tightened. John Malkovich, not quite trusting the inherent funniness of the situation, seeks to punch it up with funny voices and funny pants and funny hats, the vaudevillian's stock-in-trade. These devices tend to raise your doubts more than your spirits. Jim Davidson, however, looking rather like a blond William Shatner (past-prime but pregrotesque), helps greatly with the funniness as a self-deluding singercomedian who believes that this "Kubrick" will pave the way to Vegas. We can measure the delusion for ourselves in his rendition of "Viva Las Vegas," the barrel-chested belter padding flat-footed across the stage as if over thin ice. Director Brian Cook

and screenwriter Anthony Frewin, both long-time assistants to the real Kubrick, see to it that the film buff is well fed (the faux-Kubrick will be accompanied by the opening strains of Also Sprach Zarathustra on a half-block walk to the laundromat, past the Bleu Danube bar), but there's little to be gained from this diet beyond a fat head.

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.

Amazing Grace — An old-school screen biography (or hagiography) of the English abolitionist, William Wilberforce, who spearheaded the anti-slavery movement in Parliament from the late 18th Century to the early 19th, a long, slow struggle against the forces of entrenched economics. On the virtuous side of every issue - in favor of free education, opposed to animal cruelty - and an eligible bachelor to boot (and in Welsh actor Ioan Gruffudd, a broodingly handsome one), he is obviously a man we should be better acquainted with, and in that sense the movie performs a public service. The higher sense in which a movie may perform a public service, however, is by being a good movie; and a rightminded one about such a clear-cut and long-established right is apt to lack a little something in tension. To have dramatized this story in, say, 1807 would have been a different matter. From two centuries' distance, it plays as not so much a drama as a ceremony, a consecration, appropriately culminating in an on-screen standing ovation, followed by an editorial eulogy, followed by a sitting ovation. Under the experienced directorial hand of Michael Apted, the movie is well dressed and well decorated and well acted (Michael Gambon, Ciarán Hinds, Albert Finney, Bill Paterson, Rufus Sewell, Romola Garai, Benedict Cumberbatch), and yet the "artfully" faded image looks all too literally like the ashes of time. 2007.

 \bigstar (FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12)

Avenue Montaigne — From French writer-director Danièle Thompson, a comedy of discontent, a comedy of attempted self-transformation, a light entertainment with darker undertones. The way station for three principal intertwined plotlines, on the titular swanky boulevard in the 8th Arrondissement of Paris, is the Bar des Théâtres, a "microcosm" composed of the coming-and-going artists, musicians, and theater people, as well as the man on the street, and a place of employment for a waifish newcomer from the provinces (Cécile de France, full of goofy charm if a trifle too conscious of it), the first female employee in this bastion of Old World tradition. All three plotlines, in a frankly corny

evening; and because it's a comedy in the commonest sense, the discontent in each case works its way around to a positive change, a bit too neatly for the film's own good. Still, the level of culture in the film, the level of civilization, offers the American moviegoer a rare refuge and respite. Only the French (and maybe, sometimes, to some degree, Woody Allen) could be at such ease, in a completely commercial divertissement, bandying about the names of Simone de Beauvoir, Brancusi, Braque, Beethoven, Feydeau, Resnais, et al. Nowhere else could a sight gag set its sights so high: a tableau of our waifish waitress seated in a row alongside five auditioning actors done up in the guise of Jean-Paul Sartre, With Valérie Lemercier, Albert Dupontel, Laura Morante, Claude Brasseur, Christopher Thompson (the filmmaker's son and her collaborator on the script), and a bilingual Sydney Pollack. 2006.

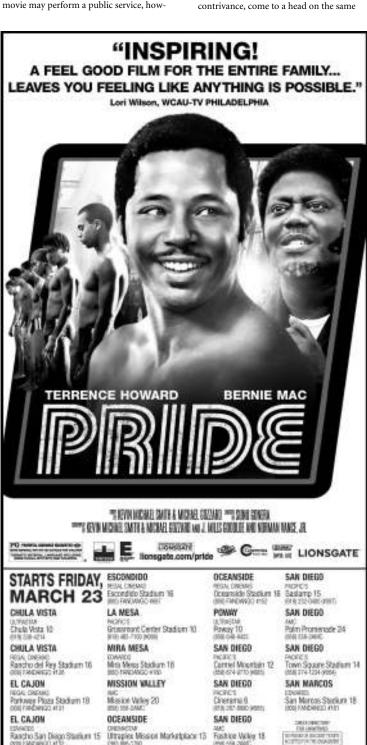
*** (IA IOLLA VILLAGE)

Because I Said So — Relationship comedy, high-strung, low-stooping. As a meddlesome mother determined to marry off her third daughter, Diane Keaton is required to be both irritating and irresistible. She half succeeds. First half of the equation only. Although not without a certain slouching charm, Mandy Moore ("Actually, I love to sing") comes in more for pity than sympathy. With Gabriel Macht, Tom Everett Scott, Lauren Graham, Piper Perabo, and Stephen Collins; directed by Michael

Lehmann. 2007.

• (FASHION VALLEY 18)

Black Snake Moan — Writer-director Craig Brewer wriggles at the far edge of the socially acceptable, and he does so with some of the fearlessness of the exploitation filmmakers of the Sixties and Seventies: the title itself distinctly echoes Blacksnake, the contribution of Russ Meyer, "King of the Nudies," to the racial discourse. Except that today the fearlessness faces tougher scrutiny, not the friendly reception of a specialized audience in a fragmented market, at the corner of the public eye, but right out in plain view, smack in the middle of the mainstream. That would seem to demand an even greater fearlessness, if the filmmaker didn't exercise some selfrestraint, draw back from the edge, hedge his bets. The central image of the film (and, in a demurer version, its poster) is that of a battered and bruised young white woman in crop top and cotton bikini panties, chained at the waist on a thirty-foot tether, in the cabin of an old Southern black man, an ex-bluesman with gold teeth and the dome of Disney's Uncle Remus. But please don't misunderstand. It's for her own good: "I aim to cure you of your wickedness." The film takes its own sweet time to show how she ended up, in her clad-only condition, bloody eye, bloody nose, bloody lip, at the side of the road in front of that cabin: and it doesn't blanch at the seamy details in the life of this desanitized Daisy Mae, this





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archetypal Town Slut. When the two paths have finally crossed, there's no need to ask why a black man of that generation would not immediately call the police. Instead, he does what he sees as the Christian thing, nursing her back to health himself; and the chain around her waist is but a logical, if innovative and provocative, extension. The film can thus indulge, practically guilt-free, in assorted bondage imagery (to say nothing of inverted slavery imagery), and it is littered with suggestive poses suitable for the cover of a Torrid Paperback, more than enough of these for the Complete Works of Erskine Caldwell. Despite the depth and warmth of the relationships, despite, too, the palpable pity for the emotionally and intellectually handicapped, and despite the reverent, and on one occasion rowdy, celebration of the Southern blues tradition, the film never really transcends its trashiness. It wallows in it. With gusto. Samuel L. Jackson, Christina Ricci, Justin Timberlake.

★★★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15)

Blood Diamond — Serviceable actionadventure despite frequent interruptions for sermonettes on human rights and capitalist wrongs. The ripped-from-the-headlines story (yesterday's headlines: civil war in Sierra Leone, 1999) features the stock figures of a self-interested soldier of fortune, in league with slaughterous rebels and unscrupulous jewellers, an engagé foreign correspondent, and a hapless native peasant enslayed in the diamond mines and separated from his family, all united on a trea-



Color Me Kubrick

sure hunt for a priceless buried gem, "a pink," big as a walnut. Without the politics, the strong-arm manipulation of emotions would be inexcusable. Or rather, more clearly inexcusable. It's still inexcusable even now. (The on-screen standing ovation at the final curtain is an unsubtle elbow-inthe-ribs to the moviegoer.) Behind the oped posturing, the film roughly resembles a middle-period, middle-drawer Robert Mitchum vehicle, except that Leonardo Di-Caprio, affecting an acceptable Afrikaner

accent, is no Robert Mitchum. For all his recently acquired bulk, including the heftiness of his credits in Martin Scorsese's oeuvre, he remains too boyish to be a persuasive action hero: Robby Bensonitis, let's call it. Jennifer Connelly, meantime, is both capable and decorative as the journalist. And the only thing keeping Djimon Hounsou from total sympathy is the sanctimony in which his director, Edward Zwick, enwraps him. All three, along with their Dark Continent environs, are nicely, cleanly,

warmly photographed by Eduardo Serra. 2006.

★ (GASLAMP 15)

Breach — With his follow-up to Shattered Glass, director Billy Ray has made a good start on a pet theme, the human, or peculiarly American, proclivity for deceit. The first, you will recall, told the factual story of the fabricating journalist, Stephen Glass, of The New Republic. This second tells the factual story of the dissembling FBI double

agent, Robert Hanssen, the bureau's selfstyled expert on the Soviets and secret bedfellow of them, the architect of "the worst breach in the history of U.S. intelligence," in the intemperate words of the colleague commissioned to seal the breach. The factuality cuts two ways. It curbs the extravagances of the James Bond branch of espionage capers, but it also curbs the excitement, the thrills. With the traitor's arrest a foregone conclusion (a preludial clip of John Ashcroft on television provides reassurance rather than, more usually for a member of the Bush administration, an invitation to hiss), the film becomes more a character study than a cloak-and-dagger operation; and because of the nature of the character - a devout and ostentatious Catholic (lapsed Lutheran), a vigilant paranoid, a humorless megalomaniac, a pompous pontificator, a private pervert it devolves into an accumulation of oddities and crotchets, inescapably more mirthful than suspenseful. We can never really understand the man, but we can revel in him. Chris Cooper, Ryan Phillippe, Laura Linney, Kathleen Quinlan, Gary Cole, Dennis Haysbert. 2007.

★★ (FASHION VALLEY 18: GASLAMP 15: LA JOLLA 12)

Bridge to Terabithia — The children's story by Katherine Paterson brings together two junior-high pariahs, a picked-on "artistic" farmboy, solitary brother of four sisters, and a new girl next door, imaginative daughter of two novelists, and sends them off into a woodsy fantasyland of their own making, across the creek on a rope swing. Happily — just as a change from the likes of Pan's Labyrinth and The Chronicles of Narnia — it's always clear that the fantasyland is only a fantasy, but that won't protect it from unsightly computer-generated giant trolls, jumbo flying squirrels, armored dragonflies, etc. And even though these are pretty well contained — in time as well as space - the sandpapery surface of the image is a constant irritant. (Director Gabor Csupo, an animation man whose credits run from early Simpsons to feature-length Rugrats, is making his live-action debut.) All of this is almost worth putting up with for the brave bit of struggle, late in the day, with issues of male infidelity (sure, the boy knows who his best friend is, but he nonetheless cannot harness a crush on his comely music teacher, Zooey Deschanel), guilt, loss, remorse. The struggle doesn't last long, but it's painful. Josh Hutcherson, AnnaSophia Robb, Robert Patrick. 2007. ★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16: FASHION VALLEY 18: GASLAMP 15; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKET-PLACE 13: MISSION VALLEY 20: PALM PROME-NADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Color Me Kubrick — Reviewed this issue. With John Malkovich, Richard E. Grant, Jim Davidson, and Marisa Berenson; directed by Brian Cook. ★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS, FROM 3/23)

Dead Silence — Ventriloquism chiller with Ryan Kwanten, Amber Valletta, and Donnie Wahlberg, directed by James Wan. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MIS-SION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROME-NADE 24: PARKWAY PLAZA 18: RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MAR-COS 18: TOWN SOUARE 14: VISTA VILLAGE)

Ghost Rider — Yet another Marvel Comic turned unmarvelous movie, about an Evel Knievel motorcycle daredevil (Nicolas Cage, with a black divot of a hairpiece) who has sold his soul to Mephistopheles (a bouffant Peter Fonda), though he flees his responsibilities as "the Devil's bounty hunter" and continues to pursue his chosen vocation. One of his stunts has him jumping the length of a football field over churning helicopter blades, "from field goal to field goal." No fewer than three different people employ that expression — "from field goal to field goal" - and you can only wonder why none of these actors, or else, in consideration of the collaborative nature of the medium, one of the producers, or the assis-



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tant director, or the script girl, or the best boy, or somebody, couldn't have spoken up to the writer and director, Mark Steven Johnson, and said, "Mark Steven, I'm not the writer here, but you know, they're really not called field goals, they're called goalposts." Not that that would have fixed the movie. It starts off with one of those patience-taxing prologues which keeps you waiting twenty minutes for the star to appear, and which offers in his place a youthful incarnation that looks nothing like him. (At least the love interest is given a mole on her cheek to match that of Eva Mendes.) Even after that, the star tends to disappear whenever the action, so to speak, heats up, his head to be replaced at such times by a flaming skull (ooohhh!). And the action itself is of course not only cartoonish but a literal cartoon. The general effect is soporific - despite the fact that the Son of Satan (Wes Bentley), whose touch turns men to ash, is out to conquer the world - and the only counter to that effect is the ticklesome effect of the lame-brained dialogue. 2007.

• (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; ESCONDIDO 16; FASH-ION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20: PALM PROMENADE 24: PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RAN-CHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14)

The Host - South Korean creature feature, a tad overlong and a bit wavery in tone, yet very well made on the whole, and especially well made in its computer-animated creature, a two-legged, amphibious, carnivorous, whale-scale fish, with a toothy Venus-flytrap mouth. (Blame it on the Americans, Scott Wilson specifically, dumping toxic chemicals from a U.S. Army base into the Han River.) The first sight of the beast, hanging batlike from the underside of a bridge, is as real as unreal can be; and director Joon-ho Bong mixes up a marvelous variety of views of the thing, far enough in the squinty distance to defy belief, and close as an express subway hurtling past the platform a few feet in front of your face. The shot of the beast vomiting up a pile of bones in its sewer lair is a certifiable highlight. There are curious touches of pratfall comedy, from which the fish itself is not immune, slipping and rolling on unsteady land legs. And the narrow focus on one family's search for a carried-off little girl (there's scant evidence of a widespread hunt for the monster) threatens the movie continually with sentimentality, and at the end, when all surviving family members must get in on the act, threatens it with silliness. You might wish you could take the movie a little more seriously, but you can be quite content to take it playfully. Kangho Song, Hae-il Park, Doo-na Bae, A-sung Ko. 2006.

★★★ (KEN)

I Think I Love My Wife — Reviewed this issue. With Chris Rock, Kerry Washington, Gina Torres, and Steve Buscemi; directed by Rock.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CIN-ERAMA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MIS-SION MARKETPLACE 13: MISSION VALLEY 20: OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARK-WAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MAR-COS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

The Last King of Scotland — The selfconferred title of Ugandan strongman, and madman, Idi Amin Dada, a facile role for Forest Whitaker, who pitches into it with gusto. The true central character, however, is a fictitious young Scottish doctor (James McAvoy), the President's personal physician, "closest advisor," illicit lover of Wife Number Three, and all-around trivial distraction. With Kerry Washington, Gillian Anderson, Simon McBurney; directed by Kevin Macdonald. 2006.

★ (HORTON PLAZA 14)

The Last Mimzy — Time-travel fantasy with Chris O'Neil, Rhiannon Leigh Wryn, Joely Richardson, and Timothy Hutton, directed by Robert Shaye.

(CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8: ESCONDIDO 16: FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GROSSMONT CENTER;



HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MIS-SION VALLEY 7: MISSION VALLEY 20: OCEAN-SIDE 16: PALM PROMENADE 24: PARKWAY PLAZA 18; PLAZA CAMINO REAL; POWAY 10; RAN-CHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 3/23)

The Lives of Others — The bad old days

of the Berlin Wall and the Big Brother tactics of the GDR secret police, the Stasi. The case in point: a Party pooh-bah has the hots for a celebrated stage actress and, to clear the way, orders some dirt dug up on her playwright boyfriend, an apparently loval socialist of spotless reputation despite his openly subversive friends and despite, too, his openly snooty manner. Ulrich Tukur, so memorable as the conscience-stricken Nazi

of Amen, is good again in the less complex and less sympathetic role of the bureaucratic brownnoser who heads up the investigation. But the better role and better performance belong to another Ulrich, last name Mühe, coincidentally the conscienceless Doctor Mengele of Amen, now playing the relentless bullet-headed interrogator charged to carry out the dirty work, taking it all in (including the indiscretions of the higher-ups), giving nothing away, keeping his opinions to himself, eventually keeping his findings to himself as well, crawling a long way out on a limb. Martina Gedeck and Sebastian Koch as actress and playwright have some complexity, too, to complement and compromise their outward artiness. Watching it all unfold is more than passably interesting, if not particularly to look at (nauseously green), and even though the run-on epilogue is rather cumbersome. The new-name filmmaker bears a name befitting the monocle-brandishing antagonist in a Viennese operetta, Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck. 2006.

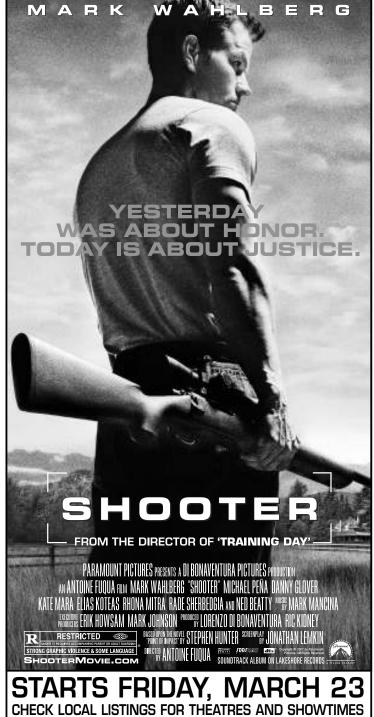
★★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

The Messengers — Hollywood directorial debut of the Hong Kong twin brothers, Danny and Oxide Pang. Routine hauntedhouse hijinks, unrelenting and undiscriminating, at a "run-down" farmhouse (to say the least) in North Dakota, with a flock of crows flown in from Bodega Bay out of Hitchcock's The Birds. Kristen Stewart, Dylan McDermott, Penelope Ann Miller, John Miss Potter — First directing job for Chris Noonan in the eleven years since Babe, an innocuous biopic on the author and illustrator of The Tale of Peter Rabbit, not to mention proto-feminist and protoenvironmentalist, who braved the disparagement of gray-souled publishers ("Bunnies in jackets with brass buttons? However do you imagine such things?"), as well as the disparagement of her meddling matchmaking mother, to produce her first book at the spinsterly age of thirty-two. The role encourages Renée Zellweger to behave a bit like a smug chipmunk sitting on the private knowledge of a secret stash of acorns. Or rather, since the actress served also as an executive producer, you could say she en-

(PALM PROMENADE 24)

couraged herself to behave like that. The vindication of history, while removing any tension from the proceedings, encourages the viewer to mirror the same smirk. Ewan McGregor is very game and quite charming as the damp-behind-the-ears publisher who gives her her big break and also provides hope (plus the merest wisp of tension) of a matrimonial Happily Ever After, And Bill Paterson, as the Potter paterfamilias, models a prodigious set of muttonchops. The touches of animation which bring the drawings of Beatrix Potter to life are too few to have been worth the bother, but not too few to imply dissatisfaction with, if not further disparagement of, those drawings.





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too? With Emily Watson and Barbara Flynn, 2006.

★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

Music and Lyrics — Enough laughs in the first few minutes to sustain two or three average screen comedies: a music-video parody of the signature tune of a British bubblegum group of the Eighties — "Pop Goes My Heart" by Pop!, from beginning to end — with Hugh Grant shimmying, shaking, and pogosticking in a long-hair wig. Cut to the present, when he's "a happy has-been," finished with songwriting ("Ît's so time-consuming"), content to re-do the oldies for class reunions, amusement parks, whoever will have him. But then the world's hottest female soloist (a dimpled blond newcomer named Haley Bennett), a Madonna-esque amalgam of Eastern religions and Western decadence, commissions him to write her a song on spec - she's indebted to Pop! for helping her through her parents' split at age seven — and he begins an impromptu collaboration, and romance, with his temporary plant-waterer, Drew Barrymore. These are two actors with polished acts, and they both seem to be playing up to their own fan clubs rather than each other. The energy falls off right around the midpoint, but writer-director Marc Lawrence has his own sort of polish, and the image maintains a constant sheen. With Brad Garrett, Campbell Scott. 2007.

★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; ESCONDIDO 16;



FASHION VALLEY 18: FLOWER HILL 4: HORTON PLAZA 14: LA JOLLA 12: MIRA MESA 18: MIS-SION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROME-NADE 24: PARKWAY PLAZA 18: RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MAR-COS 18: TOWN SOUARE 14)

The Namesake — Reviewed this issue. With Kal Penn, Tabu, Irrfan Khan, Jacinda Barrett, and Zuleikha Robinson; directed

★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; FROM 3/23)

Norbit — Screamingly unfunny comedy featuring Eddie Murphy in a dual role as a lisping four-eyed nerd and his fat browbeating wife, wearing walrus-weight latex. Eek! With Thandie Newton, Eddie Griffin, Terry Crews, Marlon Wayans, and Cuba Gooding, Jr.; directed by Brian Rob-

• (FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; MIS SION VALLEY 20)

Notes on a Scandal — Two thespian heavyweights, Cate Blanchett and Judi Dench, going toe to toe, battling to a draw. The scandal, as it comes to light, is the illicit and illegal affair of a married-with-children, thirty-something art teacher, Blanchett, and a fifteen-year-old male student (Andrew Simpson), a ripped-from-the-headlines affair made perfectly plausible if not comprehensible. What doesn't come fully to light, except to the voyeuristic viewer, is how a self-deluding lonely old

lesbian history teacher, Dench, attempts to use her knowledge of the affair to her own advantage, again perfectly plausible if not exactly politically correct. Both of the women are individuals, not representatives, and they're played that way. The drama gets a bit overwrought toward the finish, and Philip Glass's phone-it-in musical score is no asset, but all in all a compelling effort. With Bill Nighy and Phil Davis; directed by Richard Eyre. 2006.

★★★ (GASLAMP 15)

The Number 23 — Numerological thriller puts a lot of ingenuity into ferreting out that combination of digits. It begins on February 3 (i.e., 2/3), flashes back to December 23, points out elsewhere that the numerals in 9/11/2001 add up to twentythree (you might get fourteen or 2021, but try again), and on and on. A full-blown obsession along these lines gets going when a chance chain of events leads the protagonist to a novel that bears the same name as the movie, a slender, self-published softback in pica type. Reading it, he begins to notice strange parallels between his own life and

the plot of the novel, a pastiche of the hardboiled crime thriller, re-enacted on screen in lurid installments, the protagonist of the movie doubling as the protagonist of the novel, enveloped in desaturated colors, computerized landscapes, every known device of heightening the artificiality. The hero's obsession, aside from any display of bad taste on his part, takes him irreversibly down a path of increasing ridiculousness (he determines the novelist is a real-life murderer and that he himself is the man to bring him to justice), and director Joel Schumacher fails to achieve a sufficiently persuasive tone to cover for it. Not the least of his problems is his lead actor, Jim Carrey, the Plastic Man whose ability to "stretch" himself has proven to be strictly physical. Which is to say, he shows more elasticity in an Ace Ventura comedy than in The Truman Show or The Majestic or Man on the Moon or Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind, With Virginia Madsen, Logan Lerman, Danny Huston, 2007. • (FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; MISSION

VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24)

Pan's Labyrinth — Guillermo del Toro, the migrant Mexican filmmaker, returns to the place and time of his Spanish Civil War ghost story, The Devil's Backbone, more precisely post-Civil War, mid-WWII. He centers on a preadolescent girl (wide-eyed, plump-lipped Ivana Baquero) chided by her nine-months-pregnant mother (Ariadna Gil, very intense) as too old to be still filling her head with the "nonsense" of fairy tales, especially since she has moved beneath the roof of her wicked stepfather (Sergi López, campily over the top), a Francoist martinet busily stamping out rebels in the woods, who has little tolerance for a child of another bloodline but is eager to get his leather-sheathed hands on his biological baby in his wife's womb. Much more welcoming of the little girl is the mythological faun (real or imagined?), the guardian of the off-limits garden, who identifies the newcomer straight off as the prodigal daughter of the King of the Underworld (what are the odds?). Del Toro, almost in spite of himself, is not altogether guiltless of conventional, parental, puritanical strictures against fairy tales. In his scrupulous, perhaps overscrupulous, balance of dark fantasy and brutal history, tilted (politically, diplomatically) a little toward the latter, he leaves nothing to chance. He establishes the Importance of his theme





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through the unassailable realm of Fascists and freedom fighters, and he connects that world to the parallel universe of fairy tales in a way that can best be termed didactic. academic, studied, possibly stifling. He makes a case. He does not make magic. Far more than The Devil's Backbone, the film that keeps coming to mind, always to this one's disadvantage, is Victor Erice's Spirit of the Beehive, 1973. That one, having in common a post-Civil War backdrop and a gullible little girl, made very much the same points, together with others, and made them more subtly, more ambiguously, more poetically; made them, moreover, while Franco was still in power; and made them without recourse to special effects beyond a Halloween get-up of Frankenstein's monster. Del Toro never lets his special effects here, some of them pretty tacky and icky, take over to the same extent as in his comic-book Hollywood movies (Blade II, Hellboy), but a mere black-gloved sadist, even with an open gash on his cheek, has a hard time holding his own against an arboreal goat-god, an insectile pixie, a featureless humanoid with eyes in the palms of his hands, an obscene giant toad, a Tim Burton-esque airless sunless tangled landscape, and so forth. 2006.

★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA PALOMA)

Premonition — Reviewed this issue. With Sandra Bullock, Julian McMahon, Nia Long, Kate Nelligan, and Amber Valletta; directed by Mennan Yapo.

• (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CIN-ERAMA 6; 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; OCEAN-SIDE 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)

Pride — Reviewed this issue. With Terrence Howard, Bernie Mac, Kimberly Elise, and Tom Arnold; directed by Sunu Gonera. • (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CIN-ERAMA 6; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15: GROSSMONT CENTER: MISSION MARKETPLACE 13: MISSION VALLEY 20: PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; FROM 3/23)

The Queen — A spot of simulated Royals-watching, ably guided by the seasoned Stephen Frears: a satisfying, if unsurprising and unrevealing and unimaginative re-enactment of what must have gone on behind closed doors in the week after the death of Princess Di, in specific the diplomatic efforts of the newly elected Tony Blair to compel the Royal Family ("a bunch of freeloading, emotionally retarded nutters, in the view of Mrs. Blair) to behave like human beings: "Will somebody please save these people from themselves?" Helen Mirren and Michael Sheen embody Her Majesty and the Prime Minister to two T's. In support of them, James Cromwell at least looks the part of Philip, but plays only one note, and Alex Jennings is a bit short in the snout (in complete contrast to Cromwell) but is otherwise credibly dyspeptic as Charles. The plentiful humor, out of deference to history and living persons, is very mild. 2006.

★★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS, THROUGH 3/22)

Quinceañera — Slice of Latino life in Echo Park, centered around a pregnant virgin (Emily Rios) a few months shy of her fifteenth birthday, "the day she becomes a woman." (Her boyfriend's suggested name for the baby: "If he's a boy, we can call him Jesús.") The filmmakers, Richard Glatzer and Wash Westmoreland, take an equal if not greater interest in the girl's homosexual cousin, the boy-toy of a next-door Anglo couple who represent the gentrification of the neighborhood. Flat acting all around, warmed up by the best of intentions. Jesse Garcia, David Ross, Chalo González. 2006. ★ (SAN DIEGO PUBLIC

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Reign over Me — Reviewed this issue. With Adam Sandler, Don Cheadle, Jada Pinkett Smith, Liv Tyler, and Saffron Burrows; written and directed by Mike Binder. • (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; ESCONDIDO 16; FASH-ION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; GALAXY 6 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 SOUARE 14: VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 3/23)

Shooter — Reviewed this issue. With Mark Wahlberg, Michael Peña, Danny Glover, and Kate Mara; directed by Antoine Fuqua.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CIN-ERAMA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16: FASHION VALLEY 18: GALAXY 6: GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROME-NADE 24: PARKWAY PLAZA 18: POWAY 10: RAN-CHO DEL REY 16: RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15: SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE;

Starter for 10 — Cheerily nostalgic college comedy, set in mid-Eighties England, built around an exceptionally endearing hero (James McAvoy), a Bristol University quiz kid thirsty for knowledge, torn in his affections between a Victoria's Secret-pretty blond Drama major and a J. Crew-pretty Jewish political activist. Choices, choices. Alice Eve, Rebecca Hall, Dominic Cooper, Benedict Cumberbatch, Catherine Tate; directed by Tom Vaughan. 2006.

★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS, THROUGH 3/22)

300 — Like Sin City, this takes its material from a "graphic novel" by Frank Miller, and in turn it takes from the film treatment of that one - or to be more precise, director Zack Snyder takes from director Robert Rodriguez — the same, or similar, unnatural light, "virtual" backgrounds, coarsegrained surface, drained color, cadaverous complexions, etc. The same look applied to the same source will obviously not possess the same originality. Sin City, to make a fine distinction, was in black-and-white, sort of, almost, whereas 300 is almost, sort of, in color; but still. (Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow, without any inspiration from Frank Miller, was an even earlier trailblazer.) The material here is of course quite different, a comic-book retelling of the Battle of Thermopylae, 480 B.C., in which a modest company of Spartan warriors lowered the odds against "the most massive army ever assembled" by funnelling the Persian invaders into the narrow pass known as the Hot Gates. Western democracy, if you please, versus Middle East tyranny, as relevant to our own times as any Bushian gas about "evildoers" and "WMDs." But there is actual, ancient history behind it, too, and accordingly some remedial teaching to be done. "Only the hard and the strong may call themselves Spartans," elucidates the knowing narrator, adding, for the benefit of note-takers or woolgatherers, "Only the hard. Only the strong." (Okay. Got it.) The ensuing gory demonstration of Spartan hardness and strength usefully sums up a juvenile view of manliness — a fantasia of battle scars and washboard stomachs and growling-tiger voices and monstrous adversaries and video-game combat with slow-motion highlights - and the best to be said of it is that no one will mistake it for history; that the history, unlike the three hundred, will

come through the ordeal without a scratch.



CHERRI SHUR

Civil servant by day, film fan by night

Raise the Red Lantern features a stunning performance by Gong Li in a gorgeous, quiet, devastating film that illustrates the damage wrought by the subjugation of women. She portrays a woman in 1920s China who becomes a fourth wife in a household where first position in the rigid hierarchy means everything. It ranks as the finest of Gong's terrific collaborations with director Zhang Yimou intelligent, provocative, and with a punch-to-the-stomach ending.

For that stav-at-home evening when you need cotton candy for your brain, it's hard to beat Earth Girls Are Easy. This send-up of the L.A. valley girl lifestyle features a stranded spaceship, cheesy special effects, and musical production numbers. Geena Davis is a hoot as the screwball heroine, Jeff Goldblum is dashing as her unexpected suitor, Julie Brown steals every scene, and Michael McKean may be the funniest stoned-out surfer-dude ever to grace the screen.

RAISE THE RED LANTERN (China) 1991, Razor Digital Entertainment List price: \$22.99 EARTH GIRLS ARE EASY (England/USA) 1988, **Lions Gate** List price: \$9.98

MARTHA IANE HOWE

American contralto, San Diego Opera, www.sdopera.com

What the Bleep Do We Know!? is a brilliant blend of ancient and recently recovered knowledge, science, and spirituality, all presented with humor and insight. Multilayered, the movie leaves you with lots to think about and a whole new relationship to your emotions.

Matthew Bourne's choreography of Swan Lake is the hallet that the lead character dances at the end of Billy Elliot. The elements of the story are there, but from a fascinating, very different, perspective. The male swans are haunting, the production gorgeous, the choreography inspired, the dancing stellar, and the overall effect

When I saw Fantasia again after 30 years, I realized that the images had inspired my imagination and populated my dreams from when I first saw it as a child, especially Night on Bald Mountain and The Sorcerer's Apprentice. It opened the door to the magic inherent in classical music.

WHAT THE BLEEP DO WE KNOW!? (USA) 2004, Twentieth Century Fox List price: \$19.98 BILLY ELLIOT (England) 2000, Universal List price: \$14.98 FANTASIA (USA) 1940, Walt Disney

List price: \$24.95

TANYA I INDA

Performing artist/vocalist, Big Girl Productions, www.KarinCarson.com/ biggirlproductions

La Fille sur le Pont: Haunting black-and-white cinematography. A knife-throwing cabaret artist who saves a sad, lonely French girl who jumps off a bridge. From that point on, their souls and subconscious link, providing the necessary magic to open their hearts to a connection that cannot be broken even by their own follies.

A Letter to Three Wives: The language in this film is delightful. There is sophistication and play in every scene. I love how they use sound to slip you into the reveries of each woman now haunted with

Fight Club: When I listen to the narrator dig deep into his self-loathing, disgust, and cynicism and watch him build his megalomaniacal "vision" for Fight Club. I am reminded of how deep and dark humans are capable of being. How far will one go just to feel again?

LA FILLE SUR LE PONT (France) 1999, Pathe List price: \$21.73 (PAL format) A LETTER TO THREE WIVES (USA) 1949, **Twentieth Century Fox** List price: \$14.98 FIGHT CLUB (USA/Germany) 1999, Twentieth Century Fox List price: \$26.98

Or to say the same thing another way, the artistic impact of it is altogether soft and weak. Altogether soft. Altogether weak. With Gerard Butler, Lena Headey, David Wenham, Dominic West. 2007.

• (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CIN-ERAMA 6: DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 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;

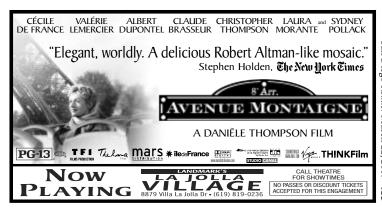
PLAZA CAMINO REAL; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MAR-COS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN; SOUTH BAY DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

TMNT — Computer-animated Ninja Turtles adventure, with the voices of Chris Evans, Sarah Michelle Gellar, and Laurence Fishburne, directed by Kevin Munroe (CARMEL MOUNTAIN: CHULA VISTA 10: CIN-ERAMA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSS

MONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; 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: SANTEE DRIVE IN: SOUTH BAY DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 3/23)

Tortilla Heaven — Ethnic comedy with José Zúñiga, Miguel Sandoval, George Lopez, and Olivia Hussey, directed by Judy





(GASLAMP 15; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; PALM PROMENADE 24)

Volver — Almodóvar adds to his familiar sour comedy and mock melodrama the new element of an apparent apparition, a

mundane ghost, a flatulent phantom, blended in with the familiar elements in uncertain tone. He shows nary a trace of the erstwhile "bad boy," nothing now but a good, good boy, devoted to mothers in particular, reverential of females in general, the Spanish George Cukor. (The cadaver in the freezer, male, is but a further sign of his respect and his awe.) The result can be recommended to the well-trained legions who are willing to meet this filmmaker seveneighths of the way. Even the foot-draggers must concede that it's deftly staged and well

acted, and that Penélope Cruz, beyond acting well, shines like a star. Or more descriptively, a heavenly body. Carmen Maura, Lola Dueñas, Yohana Cobo, Blanca Portillo, 2006.

★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS, THROUGH 3/22)

comedy about four Cincinnati suburbanites who head out for Los Angeles on their recreational choppers, hoping to reclaim their freedom as well as their manhood, coping along the way with weak prostates, a gay cop (horrors!), an angry bull, and an angrier gang of pseudonymous Hell's Angels. None of the four is crazier than the matchmaking chemist who put together as bosom buddies Tim Allen, Martin Lawrence, John Travolta, and William H. Macy, respectively bearing the imprint of the TV sitcom, the comedy club, the Hollywood mainstream, and the idiosyncratic "indie." Their common bond on this occasion boils down to their evident interest in a paycheck and their evident uninterest in whatever they have to do for it. Tra-

volta works cheerfully, and Macy works hard. Fans of the latter in particular can safely take a pass. Fans of Allen and Lawrence, on the other hand, will be better prepared for the level of entertainment. The belly-crawling level. With Marisa Tomei, Ray Liotta, M.C. Gainey, and John C. McGinley; directed by Walt Becker. 2007.

• (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CIN-ERAMA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GROSSMONT CENTER: HORTON PLAZA 14: LA

MOVIE SHOWTIMES

Call 444-FILM or the theater for missing information. Bargain showtimes are in parentheses.

CENTRAL

CLAIREMONT

Town Square 14

ont Drive (858-274-1234) Bridge to Terabithia (PG) Fri. (2:20) 4:35, 7:10, 9:25 Sat.-Sun. (12:05, 2:20) 4:35, 7:10, 9:25; Dead Silence (R) Fri. (2:45) 5:20, 7:55, 10:05 Sat.-Sun. (12:35, 2:45) 5:20, 7:55, 10:05; The Hills Have Eyes II (R) Fri. (2:50) 5:25, 8:00, 10:10 Sat. (12:20, 2:50) 5:25, 8:00, 10:10 Sun. (12:20, 2:50) 5:25, 8:00, 10:05; I Think I Love My Wife (R) Fri. (2:30) 4:45, 7:00, 9:20 Sat.-Sun. (12:00, 2:30) 4:45, 7:00, 9:20; **The Last Mimzy** (PG) Fri. (2:15) 4:50, 7:25, 9:45 Sat.-Sun. (11:45, 2:15) 4:50, 7:25, 9:45; **Premo**nition (PG-13) Fri. (2:05, 2:55) 4:30, 5:35, 7:15, 8:05, 9:45 Sat.-Sun. (11:40, 12:25, 2:05, 2:55) 4:30, 5:35, 7:15, 8:05, 9:45; **Pride** (PG) Fri. (2:10) 5:00, 7:30, 10:05 Sat. (11:50, 2:10) 5:00, 7:30, 10:05 Sun. (11:50, 2:10) 5:00, 7:30, 10:00; **Reign over Me** (R) Fri. (2:25) 5:05, 7:45, 10:20 Sat. (11:30, 2:25) 5:05, 7:45, 10:20 Sun. (11:30, 2:25) 5:05, 7:45; **Shooter** (R) Fri. (1:45) 4:25, 7:35, 10:15 Sat. (12:40) 4:25, 7:35, 10:15 Sun. (12:40) 4:25, 7:15, 10:00; **300** (R) Fri. (1:30) 4:15, 7:00, 9:50 Sat.-Sun. (12:45) 4:15, 7:00, 9:50; **TMNT** (PG) Fri. (2:40) 4:40, 7:05, 9:30 Sat.-Sun. (12:30, 2:40) 4:40, 7:05, 9:30; Wild Hogs $(PG\mbox{-}13)$ Fri. (1:55) 4:20, 7:20, 9:40 Sat.-Sun. (11:35, 1:55) 4:20, 7:20, 9:40; Zodiac (R) Fri. (1:40) 4:10, 8:10 Sat.-Sun

DOWNTOWN

Gaslamp 15

701 Fifth Avenue (619-232-0400) **Black Snake Moan** (R) Fri.-Sun. (1:05) 4:40, 7:35, 10:30; **Breach** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:05, 2:35) 5:05, 7:40, 10:20; **Bridge to Terabithia** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:00, 2:20) 4:50, 7:10, 9:35; **Dead Silence** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:55, 3:20) 5:55, 8:15, 10:35; **Ghost Rider** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:45) 4:35, 7:20, 10:00; **I Think I Love My Wife** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:50, 3:15) 5:40, 8:10, 10:30: The Number 23 (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:40, 3:10) 5:30, 7:55, 10:25; **Premonition** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:30, 2:55) 5:20, 7:45, 10:10; Pride (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:25, 3:00) 5:35, 8:05, 10:35; **300** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:15, 2:00, 3:05) 4:45, 5:45, 7:30, 8:30, 10:15; **Tortilla Heaven** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:00, 2:25) 4:55, 7:15, 9:40; **Volver** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:35) 4:35, 7:25, 10:25; **Zodiac** (R) Fri.-Sun. (1:00, 2:45) 4:30, 6:15, 8:00, 9:45

Horton Plaza 14 Horton Plaza (619-444-FILM) Amazing Grace (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:55, 3:40) 6:45, 9:35; The Hills Have Eyes II (R) Fri. (11:55, 12:35, 2:05, 2:50, 4:20, 5:05) 6:40, 7:15, 9:00, 9:30 Sat.-Sun. (11:55, 12:35, 2:05, 2:50) 4:20, 5:05, 6:40, 7:15, 9:00, 9:30; The Last King of Scotland (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:40, 3:35) 6:40, 9:25; **The Last Mimzy** (PG) Fri. (12:10, 2:45, 5:10) 7:35, 9:55 Sat.-Sun. (12:10, 2:45) 5:10, 7:35, 9:55; **Music and Lyrics** (PG-13) Fri. (12:50, 3:10, 5:35) 8:00, 10:25 Sat.-Sun. (12:50, 3:10) 5:35, 8:00, 10:25; **Norbit** (PG-13) Fri. (12:05, 2:25, 4:50) 7:20, 9:45 Sat.-Sun. (12:05, 2:25) 4:50, 7:20, 9:45; **Reign over Me** (R) Fri. (12:15, 1:00, 3:30, 4:10) 6:35, 7:05, 9:20, 10:15 Sat.-Sun. (12:15, 1:00, 3:30) 4:10, 6:35, 7:05, 9:20, 10:15; **Shooter** (R) Fri. (12:30, 1:05, 3:35, 2 4:15) 7:00, 7:30, 9:50, 10:20 Sat. (1:05, 3:35) 5 4:15, 7:00, 7:30, 9:50, 10:20 Sun. (12:30, 1:05, 3:35) 4:15, 7:00, 7:30, 9:50, 10:20; **The New** York Metropolitan Opera: Rossini - Il Barbiere di Siviglia - NCM Event (NR) Sat. 10:30; **TMNT** (PG) Fri. (12:20, 2:30, 4:40) 6:50, 9:15 Sat.-Sun. (12:20, 2:30) 4:40, 6:50, 9:15; Wild Hogs (PG-13) Fri. (12:45, 3:05, 5:25) 10:10; **You Got Me** (Not Rated) Fri.-Sun.

LA JOLLA

La Jolla 12

8657 Villa La Iolla Drive (858-558-2262) Amazing Grace (PG); Breach (PG-13); I Think I Love My Wife (R); The Last Mimzy (PG); Music and Lyrics (PG-13); Premonition (PG-13); Reign over Me (R); Shooter (R); **300** (R); TMNT (PG); Wild Hogs (PG-13); Zodiac (R)

La Jolla Village

CARMEL MOUNTAIN 12

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8879 Villa La Jolla Drive (619-819-0236) Avenue Montaigne (PG-13) Fri. 1:40, 4:40, 7:20, 9:50 Sat.-Sun. 11:10, 1:40, 4:40, 7:20, 9:50; **The Lives of Others** (R) Fri. 2:00, 5:00, 8:10 Sat.-Sun. 11:00, 2:00, 5:00, 8:10; **Miss** Potter (PG) Fri. 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:30 Sat.-Sun. 10:50, 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45

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) Amazing Grace (PG); Because I Said So (PG-13); Black Snake Moan (R); Breach (PG-13); Bridge to Terabithia (PG); Dead Silence (R); Ghost Rider (PG-13); The Hills Have Eyes II (R); I Think I Love My Wife

(R): The Last Mimzy (PG): Music and Lyrics (PG-13); Norbit (PG-13); The Number 23 (R): Premonition (PG-13): Pride (PG): Reign over Me (R); Shooter (R); 300 (R); TMNT (PG); Wild Hogs (PG-13); Zodiac (R)

Mission Valley 7 7510 Hazard Center Drive (619-685-2841) Call theater for program information

Mission Valley 20 1640 Camino Del Rio North (858-558-2262) Call theater for program information

STATE UNIVERSITY

Cinerama 6

5831 University Avenue (619-287-8990) Call theater for program information

4061 Adams Avenue (619-819-0236) The Host (R) Fri. 4:15, 7:00, 9:45 Sat.-Sun. 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45

UPTOWN

Hillcrest Cinemas

3965 Fifth Avenue (619-819-0236) **Color Me Kubrick** (Not Rated) Fri. 2:40, 5:00, 7:30, 10:05 Sat.-Sun. 12:15, 2:40, 5:00, 7:30, 10:05; **The Lives of Others** (R) Fri. 1:55, 4:55, 8:00 Sat.-Sun. 10:50, 1:55, 4:55, 8:00; **The** Namesake (PG-13) Fri. 1:45, 2:30, 4:15, 5:15, 7:00, 8:20, 9:45 Sat.-Sun. 11:00, 11:45, 1:45, 2:30, 4:15, 5:15, 7:00, 8:20, 9:45; Pan's **Labyrinth** (R) Fri. 1:35, 4:25, 7:15, 9:55 Sat.-Sun. 11:10, 1:35, 4:25, 7:15, 9:55

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center

1875 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-238-1233) **Coral Reef Adventure** (Not Rated) Fri. 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 9:00 Sat. 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00 Sun. 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00; **Dolphins** (Not Rated) Sat.-Sun. 10:00a.m.; **Hurricane on the** Bayou (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: Stormchasers (Not Rated) Fri. 6:00p.m.; Volcanoes of the Deep Sea (Not Rated) Fri. 7:00p.m.

San Diego Natural History Museum 1788 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-232-3821) An Inconvenient Truth (PG) Fri.-Sun. 1:00, 3:00; Ocean Oasis (Not Rated) Fri.-Sun. 11:00, 12:00

EAST COUNTY

EL CAJON

Parkway Plaza 18

405 Parkway Plaza (619-401-3456) Amazing Grace (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:00, 2:05) 7:40; Bridge to Terabithia (PG) Fri. (11:25, 2:00, 4:25) 7:20 Sat.-Sun. (11:25, 2:00) 4:25, 7:20; **Dead Silence** (R) Fri. (11:35, 1:55, 4:15) 7:05, 9:30 Sat.-Sun. (11:35, 1:55) 4:15, 7:05, 9:30; **Ghost Rider** (PG-13) Fri. (4:50) 10:25 Sat.-Sun. 4:50, 10:25; **The Hills Have Eyes II** (R) Fri. (12:00, 2:30, 4:55) 7:25, 10:00 Sat.-Sun. (12:00, 2:30) 4:55, 7:25, 10:00; **I Think I Love** My Wife (R) Fri. (11:45, 2:10, 4:35) 7:15, 9:40 Sat.-Sun. (11:45, 2:10) 4:35, 7:15, 9:40; **The Last Mimzy** (PG) Fri. (11:10, 11:40, 1:40, 2:20, 4:30, 5:10) 7:10, 7:40, 9:50, 10:20 Sat.-Sun. (11:10, 11:40, 1:40, 2:20) 4:30, 5:10, 7:10, 7:40, 9:50, 10:20; **Music and Lyrics** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 9:55p.m.; **Night at the Museum** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:05) 7:25; **Norbit** (PG-13) Fri. (1:50, 4:40) 10:15 Sat.-Sun. (1:50) 4:40, 10:15; **Premonition** (PG-13) Fri. (11:15, 1:45, 4:10, 4:30) 7:00, 9:35, 10:05 Sat.-Sun. (11:15, 1:45) 4:10, 4:30, 7:00, 9:35, 10:05; **Pride** (PG) Fri. (11:30, 2:20, 4:55) 7:35, 10:20 Sat.-Sun. (11:30, 2:20) 4:55, 7:35, 10:20; **Reign over Me** (R) Fri. (11:00, 2:00, 5:00) 8:00, 10:55 Sat.-Sun. (11:00, 2:00) 5:00, 8:00, 10:55; **Shooter** (R) Fri. (11:05, 2:05, 5:05) 8:05, 11:05 Sat.-Sun. (11:05, 2:05) 5:05, 8:05, 11:05; **300** (R) Fri. (11:20, 2:15, 2:35, 5:05, 5:25) 7:55, 8:15, 10:40, 11:00 Sat.-Sun. (11:20, 2:15, 2:35) 5:05, 5:25, 7:55, 8:15, 10:40, 11:00; **TMNT** (PG) Fri. (11:15, 11:50, 1:50, 2:25, 4:20, 4:50) 6:50, 7:20, 9:20 Sat.-Sun. (11:15, 11:50, 1:50, 2:25) 4:20, 4:50, 6:50, 7:20, 9:20; The Ultimate Gift (PG) Fri.-Sun. 9:50p.m.; **Wild Hogs** (PG-13) Fri. (11:10, 11:30, 1:40, 2:10, 4:40) 7:10, 7:30, 10:10 Sat. Sun. (11:10, 11:30, 1:40, 2:10) 4:40, 7:10, 7:30, 10:10; Zodiac (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:00a.m.)

LA MESA

AN MARCES STATION IN

PACIFIC TREATRES
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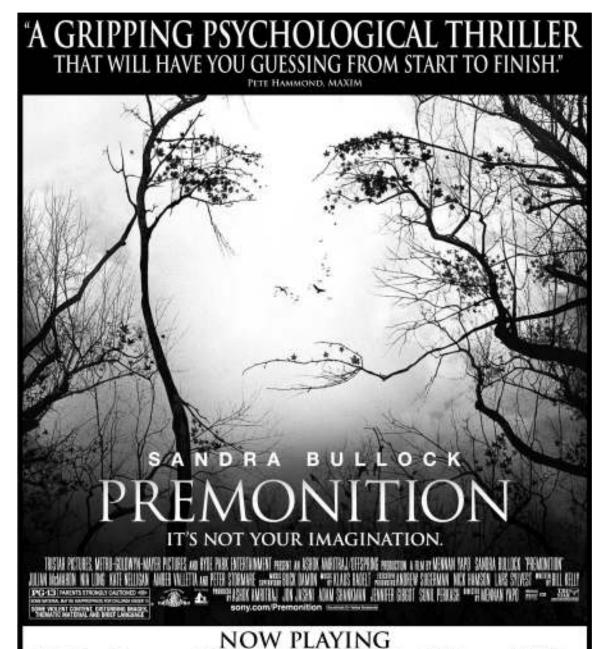
Grossmont Center

Grossmont Center (619-465-7100) Call theater for program information

RANCHO SAN DIEGO

Rancho San Diego 15

2951 Jamacha Road Call theater for program information



MIRA MESA STABILIN TE

MISSION WILLEY 29

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Sony, No Paissa Accepted For This Engagement. For Attitional Information, Call Theaters Or Check Directories

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PALM PROMEMBE 24

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1895 SHAR CAMPO NUTZ

COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROME-NADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RAN-CHO DEL REY 16: RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15: SAN MARCOS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SOUARE 14: VISTA VILLAGE)

Zodiac — The big question that hovers over this movie is not, Who's the Zodiac Killer? Nor is it, How did he elude capture? Nor, What ever became of him? None of the above. The big question is, Why does a

movie about him have to be two hours and forty-five minutes long? Without a doubt, the movie has a subject of interest, the unsolved serial murders that gripped the Bay Area throughout the Seventies, and it has also an angle of interest, the differing degrees of obsession with the case on the part of a team of homicide detectives (Mark Ruffalo, Anthony Edwards, unsuitably lightweight and skittish, both), a substance abusing crime reporter on the San Francisco Chronicle (Robert Downey, Jr., smirkingly typecast), and a moonlighting political car-

toonist on the same paper (Jake Gyllenhaal, suitably lightweight), and it has finally, as the cherry on top, a person of interest, if you will, a demure Chloë Sevigny in the evolving role, over the years, of the cartoonist's blind date, steady girlfriend, wife, and ex-wife. (Neglect of Chloë Sevigny earns him top honors for obsession.) Nevertheless, two and three-quarters hours are a lot of time to spend on red tape, red herrings, dead ends. To be sure, the movie puts forth a theory as to the killer's identity, or rather, it puts forth the theory of the truecrime best-seller written by the aforesaid cartoonist, Robert Graysmith, who mouths a catch phrase which might well be the movie's own: "Just because you can't prove it, doesn't mean it's not true." David Fincher, the director previously of Seven and The Game and Fight Club and Panic Room, relishes a couple of the killings, as well as one near-miss, in a way that seems to violate the point of view of the movie; but he has thinned out his customary peasoup atmospherics, and toned down his trendy stylistics, and gone very light on the

whiff of flower power), giving the case a creeping and creepy timelessness. These were wise choices. A movie this lengthy did not need to be any thicker. 2007. ★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN: ESCONDIDO 16: FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARK-

period detail (a few pairs of sideburns here

or there, not a squiggle of psychedelia nor a

WAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

SANTEE

10990 Woodside Avenue (619-448-7447) Call theater for program information

SOUTH BAY CHULA VISTA

Chula Vista 10

way between H and I (619-338-4214) Dead Silence (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:15, 1:30, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15, 10:30; The Hills Have Eyes II (R) Fri.-Sun. (10:30, 1:00, 3:30) 6:00, 8:30, 10:45; I Think I Love My Wife (R) Fri. (11:30, 1:45, 4:00) 6:15, 8:30, 10:45 Sat.-Sun. (1:45, 4:00) 6:15, 8:30, 10:45; **The Last Mimzy** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:15, 12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:15; Premonition (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:00, 12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; Pride (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:15, 12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45; **Shooter** (R) Fri.-Sun. (10:30, 1:15, 4:15) 7:00, 10:00; Strawberry Shortcake: Berry Blossom Festival (G) Sat.-Sun. (10:30); **300** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:00, 1:45, 4:45) 7:45, 10:30; **TMNT** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:00, 12:15, 2:30) 5:15, 7:30, 9:45; Wild Hogs (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:00, 12:15, 2:45) 5:00, 7:15, 9:30

Palm Promenade 24

770 Dennery Road (858-558-2262)
Bridge to Terabithia (PG); Dead Silence (R); Ghost Rider (PG-13); The Hills Have Eyes II (R); I Think I Love My Wife (R); The Last Mimzy (PG); The Messengers (PG-13); Music and Lyrics (PG-13); The Number 23 (R); Premonition (PG-13); Pride (PG); Reign over Me (R); Shooter (R); 300 (R); TMNT (PG); Tortilla Heaven (PG-13); Wild Hogs (PG-13); The Work and the Glory III: A House Divided (PG); Zodiac (R)

Rancho Del Rey 16

East H Street (619-216-4707) Call theater for program information

IMPERIAL BEACH

South Bay Drive-In

2170 Coronado Avenue (619-423-2727) Call theater for program information

NORTH INLAND

CARMEL MOUNTAIN

Carmel Mountain

11620 Carmel Mountain Road (858-674-9770) **Bridge to Terabithia** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:15, 2:25); **Dead Silence** (R) Fri.-Sat. (12:35, 3:05) 5:10, 7:25, 9:45 Sun. (12:35, 3:05) 5:10, 7:25; The Hills Have Eyes II (R) Fri.-Sat. (12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:25 Sun. (12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00; **I Think I Love My Wife** (R) Fri.-Sat. (12:40, 3:10) 5:35, 8:05, 10:20 Sun. (12:40, 3:10) 5:35, 8:05; **The Last Mimzy** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (12:00, 2:20) 4:40, 7:10, 9:35 Sun. (12:00, 2:20) 4:40, 7:10; **Music and Lyrics** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 4:35, 7:00, 9:40 Sun. 4:35, 7:00; **Premonition** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (12:25, 2:55) 5:40, 8:05, 10:25 Sun. (12:25, 2:55) 5:40, 8:05; **Pride** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (12:10, 2:40) 5:20, 7:50, 10:20 Sun. (12:10, 2:40) 5:20, 7:50; Reign over Me (R) Fri.-Sat. (12:45) 4:15, 7:15, 10:15 Sun. (12:45) 4:15, 7:15; **Shooter** (R) Fri.-Sat. (12:55) 4:25, 7:45, 10:30 Sun. (12:55) 4:25, 7:45; **300** (R) Fri.-Sat. (12:50) 4:20, 7:05, 10:00 Sun. (12:50) 4:20, 7:05; **TMNT** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (12:30, 2:45) 5:15, 7:30, 9:55 Sun. (12:30, 2:45) 5:15, 7:30; **Wild Hogs** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (12:05, 2:35) 4:55, 7:20, 9:50 Sun. (12:05, 2:35)

ESCONDIDO

Escondido 16

350 W. Valley Parkway (760-291-0119) Call theater for program information

FALLBROOK

Galaxy 6

5256 S. Mission Road (760-945-8784) **The Last Mimzy** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30 Sun. (12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00; Premonition (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45 Sun. (12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15; Reign over Me (R) Fri.-Sat. (1:00, 4:00) 7:00, 10:00 Sun. (1:00, 4:00) 7:00; Shooter (R) Fri.-

Sat. (11:15, 2:00, 4:45) 7:30, 10:30 Sun. (11:15, 2:00, 4:45) 7:30; Strawberry Shortcake: Berry Blossom Festival (G) Sat.-Sun. (10:30); 300 (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:00, 1:45, 4:30) 7:15, 10:00 Sun. (11:00, 1:45, 4:30) 7:15; **Wild Hogs** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (12:15, 3:00) 5:15, 7:45, 10:15 Sun. (12:15, 3:00) 5:15, 7:45

POWAY

Poway 10

13475 Poway Road (858-646-9423) The Hills Have Eyes II (R) Fri.-Sat. (10:30, 1:00, 3:30) 6:00, 8:15, 10:45 Sun. (10:30, 1:00 3:30) 6:00, 8:15; **I Think I Love My Wife** (R) Fri. (11:15, 1:30, 3:45) 6:15, 8:30, 10:45 Sat. (1:30, 3:45) 6:15, 8:30, 10:45 Sun. (1:30, 3:45) 6:15, 8:30; The Last Mimzy (PG) Fri.-Sat. (10:15, 12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30 Sun. (10:15, 12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00; Premonition (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:00, 12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30 Sun. (10:00, 12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00; Pride (PG) Fri.-Sat. (10:15, 12:45, 3:15) 5:45,

8:15, 10:30 Sun. (10:15, 12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15; Reign over Me (R) Fri.-Sat. (10:30, 1:15, 4:15) 7:00, 10:00 Sun. (10:30, 1:15, 4:15) 7:00; Shooter (R) Fri.-Sat. (10:30, 1:30, 4:30) 7:15, 10:15 Sun. (10:30, 1:30, 4:30) 7:15: Strawberry Shortcake: Berry Blossom Festival (G) Sat.-Sun. (10:30); **300** (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:00, 1:45, 4:45) 7:45, 10:45 Sun. (11:00, 1:45, 4:45) 7:45; TMNT (PG) Fri.-Sat. (10:00, 12:15, 2:30) 5:15. 7:30, 9:45 Sun. (10:00, 12:15, 2:30) 5:15, 7:30; Wild Hogs (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:00, 12:15, 2:45) 5:15, 7:45, 10:15 Sun. (10:00, 12:15, 2:45)

SAN MARCOS

San Marcos 18

1180 West San Marcos Boulevard at Old California Walk (760-471-3711) Call theater for program information

VISTA

Vista Village

Highway 78 at Vista Village Drive (760-945-7469)

Amazing Grace (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:55, 1:30, 4:05) 6:55; Bridge to Terabithia (PG) Fri.-Sun (11:30, 2:00, 4:25) 6:50: Dead Silence (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:05, 1:15, 3:30, 5:45) 8:05, 10:30; Ghost Rider (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (2:30) 9:35: The Hills Have Eyes II (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:00 12:10, 1:15, 3:30, 5:00, 5:50) 7:20, 8:10, 9:40, 10:40; I Think I Love My Wife (R) Fri.-Sun (12:20, 2:40, 5:05) 7:25, 9:45; The Last Mimzv (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:45, 2:15, 4:45) 7:15, 9:45; Music and Lyrics (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (2:15) 9:20; Premonition (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:15, 2:45, 5:10) 7:35, 10:05; **Reign over Me** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:00, 1:45, 4:35) 7:30, 10:20; **Shooter** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:00, 1:50, 4:50) 7:45, 10:40; **300** (R) Fri.-Sun. (10:50, 11:20, 1:30, 2:15, 4:20, 5:00) 7:10, 8:00, 9:15, 10:00, 10:45;

TMNT (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:50, 12:00, 1:00, 3:10, 4:35, 5:25) 7:00, 7:40, 10:00; **Wild Hogs** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:25, 1:50, 4:30) 7:05, 9:35

NORTH COASTAL

CARLSBAD

Plaza Camino Real

2385 Marron Road (760-729-7469) Call theater for program information

DEL MAR

Del Mar Highlands 8

El Camino Real at Del Mar Heights Road (858-646-9420)

Bridge to Terabithia (PG); Dead Silence (R); The Hills Have Eyes II (R); I Think I Love My Wife (R); The Last Mimzy (PG); $\textbf{Shooter} \ (R); \textbf{300} \ (R); \textbf{TMNT} \ (PG); \textbf{Wild}$ Hogs (PG-13)

Flower Hill 4

2630 Via de la Valle (858-646-9425) Music and Lyrics (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:15, 12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45 Sun. (10:15, 12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15; **Premonition** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:00, 12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30 Sun. (10:00, 12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00; **Reign over Me** (R) Fri.-Sat. (10:00, 1:00, 4:00) 7:00, 10:00 Sun. (10:00, 1:00, 4:00) 7:00; **300** (R) Fri.-Sat. (10:30, 1:30, 4:30) 7:30, 10:30 Sun (10:30, 1:30, 4:30) 7:30

ENCINITAS

La Paloma

471 South Coast Highway 101 (760-436-SHOW) Pan's Labyrinth (R)

LA COSTA

La Costa 6

6941 El Camino Real (at Aviara/Alga) 760-599-8221)

The Last Mimzy (PG); Premonition (PG-13); Reign over Me (R); Shooter (R); 300 (R); Wild Hogs (PG-13)

OCEANSIDE

Mission Marketplace 13

College Boulevard and Mission Avenue (760-806-1790)

(760-806-1790)

Bridge to Terabithia (PG) Fri.-Sun. (2:40);

Dead Silence (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:10, 2:45) 5:10,

7:40, 10:15; The Hills Have Eyes II (R) Fri.
Sun. (11:35, 2:05, 4:50) 7:30, 10:10; I Think I Love My Wife (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:30, 2:00, 4:45) 7:20, 10:05; **The Last Mimzy** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:15, 3:00) 5:35, 8:00, 10:25; Premonition (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:55, 2:15) 5:05, 7:45, 10:30; Pride (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:45, 2:30) 5:00, 7:35, 10:20; **Shooter** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:45, 2:55) 6:30, 9:45; **300** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:30, 12:00, 3:00, 4:00) 6:00, 7:00, 9:30, 10:00; **TMNT** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:15, 2:35) 5:15, 7:50, 10:25; **Tortilla Heaven** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:50, 2:25, 4:55) 7:25, 9:50; **Wild Hogs** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:55, 12:45, 3:25) 5:20, 6:15, 7:55, 9:20, 10:35

Oceanside 16

401 Mission Avenue (760-439-1733) **Dead Silence** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:20, 1:25, 3:35) 6:00, 8:20, 10:35; **Ghost Rider** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:20, 2:45, 5:25) 7:55, 10:30; **The Hills Have Eyes II** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:15, 1:30, 3:50) 6:05, 8:15, 10:45; **I Think I Love My Wife** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:30, 3:05, 5:35) 8:05, 10:25; **The Last Mimzy** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:00, 2:15, 4:35) 7:00, 9:25; **Norbit** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:45) 7:05; **The Number 23** (R) Fri.-Sun. (3:20) 9:45; **Premonition** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:15, 2:40, 5:20) 7:45, 10:00; **Pride** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:50, 1:50, 4:40) 7:30, 10:20;

Shooter (R) Fri. Sun. (11:70, 1:50, 2:10, 4:00) **Shooter** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:20, 12:50, 2:10, 4:00, 5:05) 6:50, 8:00, 9:40, 10:40; **300** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:00, 11:40, 1:40, 2:20, 4:20, 5:00) 7:10, 7:40, 9:50, 10:15; **TMNT** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:50, 9:50, 10:15; TMNT (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:50, 12:55, 3:00, 5:10) 7:20, 9:40; Wild Hogs (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:05, 2:30, 4:55) 7:25, 9:55; 70diac (R) Fri.-Sun. (2:35) 9:20 **Zodiac** (R) Fri.-Sun. (2:35) 9:20



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De civiles

América Barceló

Diario San Diego

Agentes encubiertos de inmigración patrullan áreas rurales del condado de San Diego vestidos de civil en autos sin identificación del gobierno.

Recientemente dos mujeres residentes legales de San Diego fueron abordadas de esta manera cuando salieron de su trabajo en las inmediaciones de Jamul, al Este del Condado.

La semana pasada Sara Gutiérrez y Rosa Zavala regresaban a su casa a las 9 de la noche a bordo de una camioneta tipo Van por la avenida Campo Rd bajando por la montaña en un camino rural, cuando empezaron a ser seguidas por un vehiculo particular.

"Nos dio miedo pues si acelerábamos el auto que nos seguía lo hacía, si bajábamos velocidad también lo hacia", mencionó Gutiérrez, que conducía esa noche.

"Nunca se identificaron sólo y nos pidieron documentos migración y residencia", narró Sara. Pierre Abatic extent?

A gran paso

Tessa Arminio

Diario San Diego

Miles de dólares se han invertido en la reconstrucción y renovación del área en el Sudeste de San Diego. Esta área cubre aproximadamente desde el Sur del Freeway 94 hasta National City, y del Este del Freeway 805 hasta Lemon Grove, y es un área que ha tenido muy mala reputación.

El Sudeste de San Diego es un área donde hay un encuentro de culturas que forman un lugar muy interesante. Desde 1995 el Jacobs Family Foundation & Center for Neighborhood Innovation, se propuso invertir dinero y arreglar esta área.

Con el tiempo se dieron cuenta que el dinero ne era lo mejor, tendrían que establecer su presencia e involucrar a los residentes para que sintieran orgullo y responsabilidad hacia su propia comunidad. espectáculos



Nuevo reto

La ex Miss Universo Dayanara Torres iluminó los escenarios del Festival de Cine Latino en donde aseguró que se convertirá en productora y piensa regresar al magno evento filmico con nueva faceta profesional

La boricua, que ha sido la Miss Universo más joven de ese certamen, entrará al mundo de las producciones filmicas independientes con la realización de una cinta que se grabará en su país.

"Se trata de un proyec-

to muy bonito que refleja la esencia de mi país, fue creado por un director con quien recientemente trabaje en Hollywood, escribió sobre la vida de un puertorriqueño que busca superarse, lei el guión, me enamoré de la historia y decidí apoyar su producción", afirmó Torres.

Dayanara Torres manifestó que este proyecto filmico, donde también actuará, se comenzará a rodar el próximo verano por lo que se mostró emocionada y entusiasta.





Detectan robos

La ayuda comunitaria de asistencia pública es uno de los recursos que más fraudes presentan en el Condado y el estado, el año pasado se evitó la estafa de más de tres millones de dólares.

En el 2006 se detectaron en San Diego a 473 personas sospechosas de estar defraudando al sistema de asistencia pública conocido como 'Welfare' (en inglés).

De estos casos el 36 por ciento resultó ser culpable de defraudar al gobierno con 169 mil 091 dólares, y 143 personas deberán ir a corte para devolver el dinero que obtuvieron del gobierno sin necesidad.

El año pasado se enviaron 15 mil 299 solicitudes de nuevos candidatos que presentaban anomalias en su información otorgada por primera vez para obtener los beneficios del 'Welfare'.

Después de ser investigados el 24 por ciento resultó culpable, por lo que se evitó que tres millones de dólares fueran defraudados por 14 mil 612 personas que trataron de obtener la ayuda gubernamental sin tener necesidad.

"Desgraciadamente se han detectado casos que lo han hecho más de 15 años, aunque muchos lo hicieron por desconocer el sistema, otros actuaron con intención, y esta división rastrea a esos defraudadores", dijo Jesse Navarro, vocero de la Fiscalía.

Calderón y la inseguridad en Tijuana Numbi i Calderin et syve Trans 2000 volu la Suree Trans 20

Es dura guerra

Omar Millár

Diario San Diego

La guerra contra el crimen organizado durará mucho tiempo en Baja California y el resto del País; sòlo la unidad de la sociedad y las autoridades harán que en esta batalla el Gobierno triunfe, dijo Felipe Calderón Hinoiosa.

El Presidente de México manifestó en Tijuana, durante su primera visita oficial como mandatario nacional, que el problema de la inseguridad no se resolverá pronto. Aun cuando los crimenes de alto impacto han bajado un 20 por ciento, este conflicto nacional tendrá resultados completos a largo plazo.

El arraigo de las mafias de la droga, su inmenso poder adquisitivo, su ejército de sicarios (sicariato), miles de adictos necesitando droga y los compromisos que malos elementos de las corporaciones policíacas han hecho con el crimen organizado, hacen prever al Gobierno Federal una larga guerra, que costará mucho dinero y vidas.

"Debo decirles a los tijuanenses que ésta será una batalla larga y difícil; tomará mucho tiempo, por lo cual será muy difícil tener resultados inmediatos. Nos costará mucho dinero, para lo cual todos debemos aportar un esfuerzo, y que costará también, por desgracia, vidas humanas.

"Les voy a decir una cosa bajacalifornianos, por complicada que sea esta batalla, es una batalla que si se gana, si actuamos unidos, firmes", dijo Calderón Hinojosa. deportes



Golpea América

Las Águilas del América dijeron adiós a la ausencia de triunfos sobre las Chivas Rayadas del Guadalajara al llevarse un sufrido triunfo de 1-0 en el Súper Clásico celebrado en la jornada 11 el domingo.

América terminó con casi tres años de mala suerte ante el Rebaño Sagrado, en los que sumo siete juegos sin ganar y en las que sufrió tres derrotas, siendo la más dolorosa en la liguilla pasada que al final costó la eliminación de los azulcremas.

Los aficionados americanistas saltaron de felicidad, luego de que Salvador Cabañas tocará un gran pase después de recibir un pase desde el callejón derecho; Germán Villa llegó como bólido y de cabeza martilló el esférico para colocar el 1-0.

El héroe de la noche volvió a ser el portero americanista Guillermo Ochoa, quien en por lo menos dos ocasiones salvó su meta con ágiles atajadas, siendo la más importante un tiro cruzado debajo de Omar Bravo al minuto 66.

Con todo y criticas América se coloca de nueva cuenta como líder del Grupo 3 al sumar 17 puntos, mismos que Tigres que no tiene tan buena diferencia de goles; Guadalajara por su parte pierde el liderato general y del Grupo 1 al permanecer con 18 unidades.





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CORRECTIONAL DEPUTY PROBATION CORRECTIONAL DEPUTY PROBATION Officer I. County of San Diego Probation Department now hiring. Test Date: April 14, 2007, 8am, Montgomery Middle School, 2470 Ulric Street, San Diego 92111. Must be 21 years, good physical condition, no illicit drug usage. U.S. citizen or becoming a citizen. Pass criminal/personal background investigation. No felony convictions. High school diploma/GED. \$34,028-\$43,430/year. www.sdcounty.ca.gov/probation. Jobline: 858-514-8558.

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CUSTOMER SERVICE/SALES: Video Game Tester, must be able to work all hours Monday-Sunday and available for overtime, \$9/hour, no experience ecesnours Monday-sunday and available for overtime, \$9/hour, no experience ecessary. Collections, experience required, several openings. Data Entry, Vista, no experience required but must type 50+ wpm, \$10/hour. Outbound Sales, Vista, 8am-5pm, \$10/hour. Outbound Sales, Vista, 8am-5pm, \$10/hour. Outbound Sales, Sorrento Valley, part time 3:30-8:30pm Monday-Friday, \$9/hour. Retail, San Diego Airport, 1st and 2nd shifts available, 3+ months cashiering experience required, \$8/hour. Outbound Fundraising, Kearry Mesa, 9am-4pm Monday-Friday, \$12/hour, 6 months experience required, \$13:50/hour plus commission. Full Chrge Bookkeper, San Diego, CPA experience preferred, \$43K-\$52K DOE. AB-COW Staffing, 2525 Camino Del Rio South, Suite 125, San Diego, CA 92108. 800-690-8367. recruiter@abcow.com.

ists. No cold calling! Will train. Guaranteed base \$31,000-\$36,300 plus performance-based bonuses! Advance-ment opportunities. Day/evening shifts Medical, dental, life, 401(k), profit sharing, tuition reimbursement. EOE. Drug test/physical/credit/background check required. Please apply online and select the "Customer Contact-Sales Agent" position: www.geico.com/careers tion: www.geico.com/careers

DATA ENTRY for San Diego Auto Trader.
Type ad copy from handwritten leads. Type ad copy from handwritten leads, part time, Tuesday and Wednesday, 4pm-9:30pm. EEOC/drug testing. Call

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DELIVERY DRIVER/HELPERS. Full-time and part-time. Experienced, heavy lifting (75-150 lbs). Includes weekends. Green benefits. Apply in person: Raphael's Party Rentals. 8606 Miramar Road. E-mail: hr@raphaels.com; Fax: 858-689-8040. Drugfree workplace/EOE.

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DEPUTY SHERIFF and Deputy Sheriff Detentions/Courts. San Diego County Sheriff Separtment. Hiring for two types of positions; take one exam, apply for either or both! Exam dates: March 24, 2007, or both! Exam dates: March 24, 2007, 7:30am arrival: Rancho Buena Vista High School, 1601 Longhorn Drive, Vista CA 92083 or Wednesday April 4, 2007, 5:30pm arrival, Sheriff's Administration Center, 9621 Ridgehaven Court, San Diego CA 92123. Registration by email or phone is required for the Ridgehaven test ONLY at: recruit@sdsheriff.org. Detention/Courts: \$37,901-\$58,675 annual salary, plus benefits. Must be 18 years old. Deputy Sheriff: \$47,338-\$67,714 current annual salary, plus benefits. U.S. citizen or applied for citizenship; 20-1/2 years old. High school graduate or G.E.D. required. Bring valid photo ID and \$3 parking at Southwestern. Valid California Driver's License prior to appointment. Effective oral and written communication in English. EOE. Additional test dates: www.joinsdSHENIFF.net. 858-974-2000.

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS: Premier Sa-

English. EOE. Additional test dates: www.
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DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS: Premier Salons, Spa Collection Division. Report to
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Inem: www.Aocaronve.com.

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DRIVER/SIGN INSTALLER, Tuesday-Sat-urday, \$450/week. Truck provided, able to drive stick shift, clean DMV, benefits, drug test. Apply at Champion Signs, 7835 Wilkerson Court, San Diego, 92111. 858-751-2900 x116.

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DRIVERS WANTED. Requires valid CA driver's license, current H-6 DMV printout and good, safe driving skills. Hourly/commission/fips. 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 Matress Centers. Over 21, clean DMV, background check. Good customer service. Days, nights, weekends. Mira Mesa. Fulltime, \$12-\$16/hour, great benefits. 858-693-6354.

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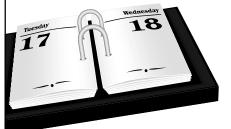
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PROBATION CAREERS. Correctional Deputy Probation Officer I. County of San Deputy Probation Officer I. County of San Diego Probation Department now hiring. Test Date: April 14, 2007, 8am, Montgomery Middle School, 2470 Ulric Street, San Diego 92111. Must be 21 years, good physical condition, no illicit drug usage. U.S. citizen or becoming a citizen Pass criminal and personal background investigation. No felony convictions. High school diploma or GED. \$34,028-\$43,430/year. www.sdcounty.ca.gov/probation. Jobline: 858-514-8558.

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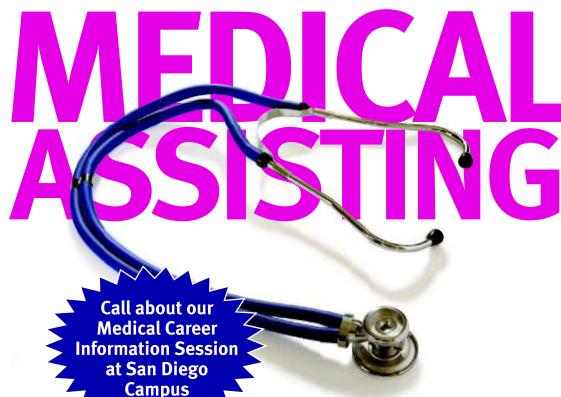


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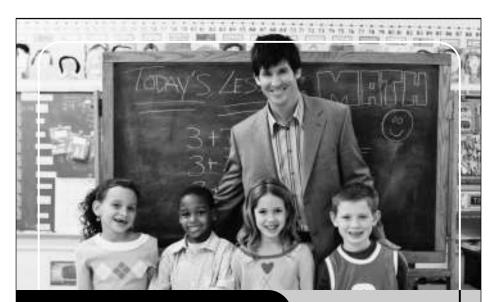


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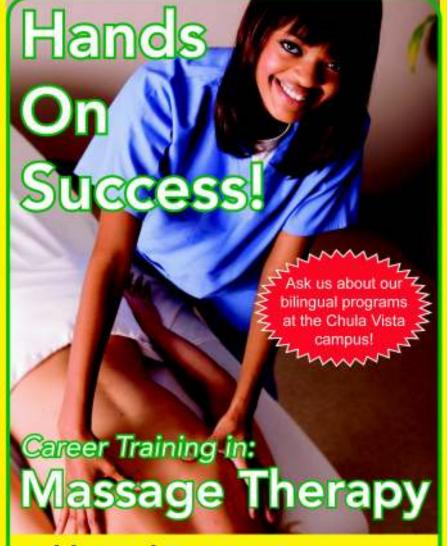
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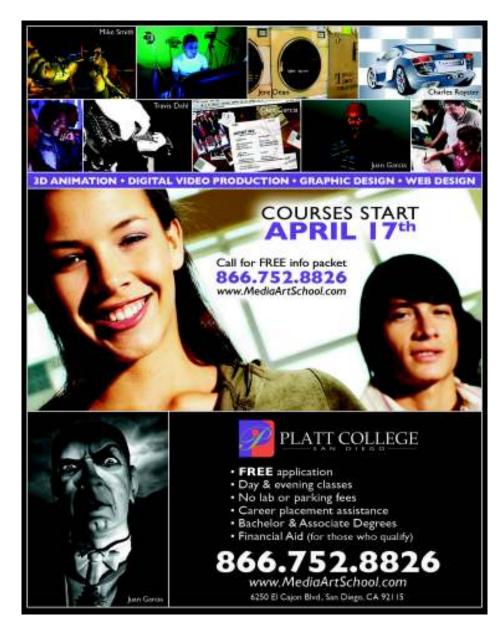
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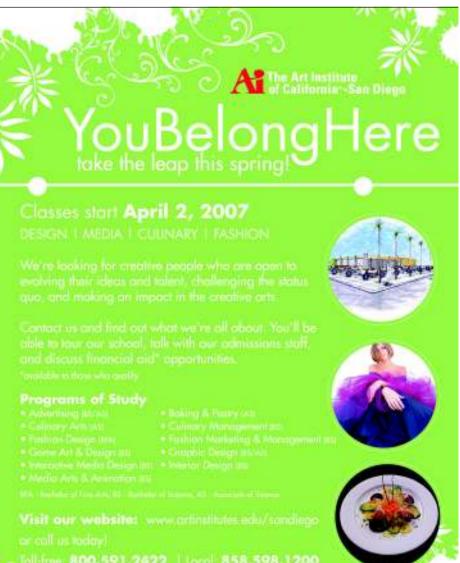
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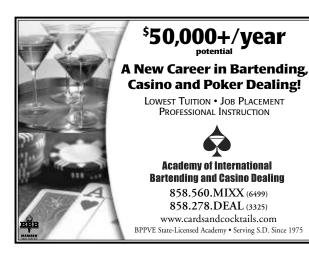
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THE READER PUZZLE

- 1. Book that might have a lock
- 6. Use FedEx, say
- 10. Towering 14. With 66-Across, his New York Times obit mentioned "[He] was carefully protected by his wife, who once said she cared for him despite 'his necessity to write those books no one can understand"
- 15. The "She" in "She's Gotta Have It"
- 16. Last name of a trio of baseball brothers
- 17. Beat, biblically
- 18. Was behind
- 20. His New York Times obit mentioned "He earned his first penny by reciting Burns's long poem 'Man Was Made to Mourn' without a break"
- 23. Brazilian vacation spot
- 24. Choose
- 25. Her New York Times obit mentioned "Her childhood has been described and girl's clothing'"

 Jaight __" (1950 hit) been described as 'Oliver Twist in
- 32. "Goodnight ____" (
 33. U-turn from WSW
- 34. Touch and go?
- 36. Sacred beetles of ancient Egypt
- 39. Like a donut
- 42. Eugene's state: Abbr.
- Fail (Irish coronation stone)
 "What _____ to do?"
- 46. His New York Times obit mentioned "His name in the adjectival form ... entered the English language as a synonym
- for bleakness 50. Cock-and-bull story
- 51. To and
- 52. His New York Times obit mentioned "When he was a guest at a jazz class at Columbia University, the lecturer turned to him and asked if he would 'Play some of your weird chords for the class'
- 60. Sitarist Shankar
- 61. Prefix with potent
- 62. By ____ (barely) 64. "In your dreams!"
- 65. Figure (out)
- 66. See 14-Across
- 67. Turn white
- 68. Saber cousin
- 69. 1986 TV miniseries "____ Zulu"

Down

- 1. Record players
- 2. Paul Simon's " Rock"
- 3. Subject of the 2006 film "The Last King of Scotland"
- 4. Like Gen. Schwarzkopf

5. Belgian river

- 6. Isolate, as during winter
- "Why?"
- 8. Lower small intestines
- 9. Bosses 10. Scold
- 11. Chug
- 12. "WKRP in Cincinnati" actress Anderson
- 13. Olympic sled
- 21. Suffix with green or bean
- 22. "Car Talk" airer
- 25. Mal- relative 26. Sacramento's Arena
- 27. Brings up
- 28. Actually
- 29. Grassy meadow
- 30. Sean Lennon's mom
- 31. Contemporary of H.W. Longfellow
- 35. Lady's man 37. Prig
- 38. Sprechen Deutsch?
- 40. Minute Maid drink
- 41. The Tigers, on scoreboards 44. Former New York senator D'Amato
- 47. "O Sole __ 48. Fruit flaw
- 49. Daughter of Hyperion
- 52. Bear snare
- 53. ____ go at (tries) 54. Nefarious
- 55. "You asleep?" response
- 56. They report to lt. cols.

- 57. Eager student's cry
 58. Poland Springs competitor
- 59. Give up
- 63. Stephen of "V for Vendetta"

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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64					65					66				
67					68					69				



Solution to and winners of the Reader Puzzle for 3/15/07.

by David Levinson Wilk

There were 000 entrants.

- 1. Kathy Piper, San Diego
- 2. Irving L. Metzger, San Diego
- 3. Peter Woodbury, Chula Vista 4. Evan James, San Diego
- 5. Marvin Rotter, San Diego

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Last week's place: (clue: Ah, the Mighty Quin. Going strong after 120 years) One of downtown's oldest buildings, the 1887 Ah Quin warehouse, 433 Third Avenue (now an apartment building). As well as importing and exporting, Ah Quin brokered the deal between Chinese laborers and the California Southern Railroad. His fluent English and winning ways made him so popular he was dubbed "mayor of Chinatown." (Last week's winners: Jeri Packard, Andrea Werthwein, Joe Vought, Mark Nassbaum, Nicholas, Palumbo)

Clue: Tanks for the armory

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



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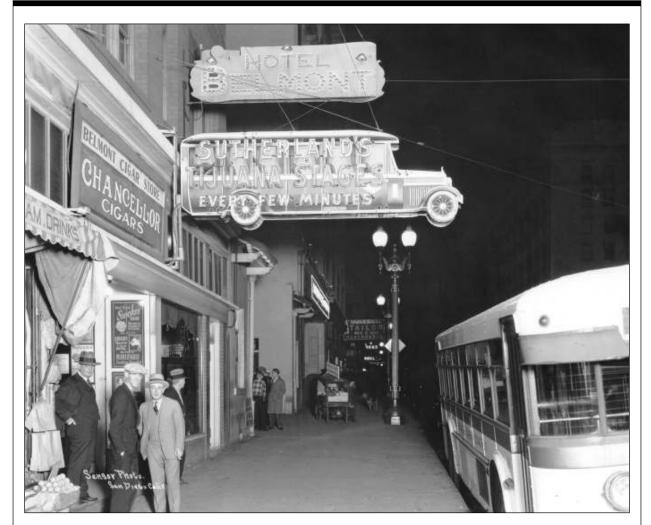
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company had 34 smaller vehicles that went south more often during the day. The last bus left TJ at midnight.

— by Robert Mizrachi

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Jeanette Jimenez Cad Operator National City

My Little Pony. I got one when I was four years old. I had it for maybe two years. A lot of the girls in my neighborhood had that at the time I was growing up. They were plastic and had a scent to them. You could also brush their hair.



Jose Alicea Engineer Downtown

7oltran, which was a robot that was made out of robo cats and dogs. You could take it apart and put it back together. The arms were tigers or lions; the legs were different, various animals. It was a bit like a Transformer. I think I was around four when I got one. I probably had it for about a year. My brother lost it or hid it from me. I eventually found it behind his bed in pieces. To this day, he doesn't admit to breaking it.



Laura Van Horn

Engineer

Otay Ranch

Definitely an Etch-a-Sketch. From the time I was four to eight years old. I was always drawing the inside of houses. I was one of the only girls in my neighborhood. All the boys had G.I. Joes and footballs. Sure, I liked Barbies and all her shoes I enjoyed riding my bike, but of all my toys, the Etch-a-Sketch was my favorite. I even got one on my key-chain. And it had an influence on

what career path I chose.



Less Poole

Bartender

San Marcos

VertiBird. It was a little police heli-Acopter connected to a 36-inch wire. It flew up and down and in circles. The controller allowed it to move forward and backward and hover. It had a hook in it to pick up items and fly off with them. All speeds and movements controlled by a hand lever. I'd buy one right now if they still made them...for my son, of course.



Dori Schriebman

Real Estate

Point Loma

It depends on your age as a kid. It always changed. I had a Mercedes go-cart. It started like a lawn mower, had ten horsepower, and used regular gasoline. It was about six feet long, with a stick shift. I liked my Muscle Men action figures. There was a time the Pogo Ball was my favorite. It was like a Pogo Stick. My all-time favorite was probably my Red Rider BB gun. I'd blow everything up with that.



Ray Stevens

Accountant Carlsbad

Matchbox cars were a favorite of mine for years. I had a fiveyear period where I collected them. I would trade them with all the neighborhood kids. We had these little suitcase things we stored them in. Some of them were replicas of real cars. Others were hot rods with flames painted on the sides and huge engines. At some point, you get older and grow out of them.

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SAN DIEGO STAR WARS SOCIETY, Not for-profit club, of individuals who enjoy Star Wars. Chance to socialize/engage in activities. Monthly meetings/events. Free. SanDiegoStarWars@gmail.com, www. SanDiegoStarWars.com.

SURVIVORS OF SUICIDE LOSS support group. 6 monthly meetings. (SOSL) sup port groups. Contact soslsd@yahoo.com www.soslsd.org; or 619-482-0297.

SURVIVORS OF INCEST, Anonymous Free 12-step support group for men and women molested as children. Call Tim, 619-992-8344, www.siawso.org.

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.

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VOLUNTEERS. Help stop the child abuse crisis. San Diego's abandoned/neglected children desperately need you. Become a child advocate. Information sessions: Wednesday, 5/2, 5/16 and 6/6. Call Voices for Children, 858-569-2019 or visit

voices for Children, 858-569-2019 or visit www.speakupnow.org.

WRITERS (2) looking for "Chicken Soup" type pet stories for new Book & Toon series with photos if possible. 858-693-3939; claudia@writersetc.com or

WRITERS WORKSHOP. Free. Every Monday, 10am-1pm. Joyce Beers Community Center. Hillcrest. Vermont Street, near University Avenue, 858-457-8477.

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DRUM SET. Premier Cabria, 5-piece, teal, 16" Sabian, B8 crash, 18" Sabian, AAX crash, 21" Grand Master ride, cymbals, 15" Sabian hi-hats. \$600. 760-734-1978.

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GuitarTrader.com.

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PIANO, Yamaha Clavinova baby grand model CVP-900, full-size keyboard with 877 voices and 256-note polyphony, incredibly rich sound, mint cabinet, floppy disc drive, \$8000. 760-532-3800.

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Musicians A VAILABLE / WANTED

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ADVANCED LEAD, Rhythm, vocals. Seeks like players (bassist, drummer, keys) to write and record. Great equipment, P.A. Escondido studio. Influences, Hendrix, Cream, Sabbath, etc. 760-743-1851.

BASS PLAYER WANTED for working tribute band with day job, full time, travel some time. Please send photos, e-mail, file music, details of past. 619-253-6909.

BASS PLAYER with experience wanted for Non-Prophet, serious punk band. Playing shows around town, touring soon. Influences: Bad Religion, Lagwagon, Strung Out. www.myspace.com/nonprophetband. 619-277-4244.

DRUMMER LOOKING FOR A Band, Progressive Rock. Call Valentin, 858-220-8768.

PRUMMER NEEDED by Death On Mars. Everything else will fall into place once the right person is found, www.myspace.com/deathonmars or 760-470-2954. DRUMMER WANTED. Full time to play like

Alex Van Halen-double bass. Only for active, drummers/pros. Submit 10 second videos, photos/myspace/references to has 150 mers of company comp

DRUMMER WANTED, Lay it down hard ala Tommy Lee, pro gear, years of perala Tommy Lee, pro gear, years of per-forming. For '80s new wave hard rock cover band. 619-322-1006, www.

ENTERTAINER, SOLOIST With gear Seeks bar or restaurant for gig weekly, 150 Beatles songs, I sing and look like John Lennon. Richard, 619-284-1625.

FEMALE SINGER NEEDED, 30+, in working club band before. For working club band, "Roc Kandy", from No Doubt-Guns-N-Roses, 3-4/nights/month. Email photo/resume, www.rockandyband.com.

FEMALE VOICES WANTED. Alto. FRONT PERSON NEEDED for death

netal. Go to myspace.com/so-nossandiego and then call Shaun, 619-417-4751 GOSPEL CHOIR PROJECT sought with

15-20 vocalists and live band. Contemporary and traditional pieces plus originals. Rehearsal once a week, 7-9pm. Julie, 858-531-4197 or Gospelproject@gmail.

GUITARIST NEEDED by North County lyricist to write songs for CBS. Have direct cist to write songs for CBS. Have direct contact with decision makers. CBS just started own label. Technical skills. 858**GUITARIST, METAL,** searching for original musicians or band. Inflames, NIN, Faith No More. Playing for 10 years. Andre, www.myspace.com/judged2 or 619-723-9183.

HANDBELL RINGERS wanted, beginning to experienced, to ring in volunteer choirs in Escondido. Rehearsals on Wednesday evenings. Play monthly for Sunday morning services. 760-745-5100 x19.

KEYBOARD PLAYER WANTED, For smooth lights-out instrumental pop style group. We have been working, but please, no hired guns or poachers. 858-451-8474.:]

KEYBOARDIST NEEDED, Melodic melancholy sync sound to collaborate with guitar/drummer. For new Indie band, mix between Joy Division/Pixies. Female preferred, not required. 619-203-2606.

LEAD SINGER WANTED! A reward will be given! Help us find our new frontman. We are ready for a record contract. 619-443-1947, www.bucklevsghoet.com

MAKIHELE POLYNESIAN REVUE. Musi cians and dancers wanted. ASAP Call 760-402-0238 website; www. makihelereyue.com. METAL GUITARIST SOUGHT to form

death metal band. Influences: Slayer. Oceanside. Angelofdeath001@msn.com or 760-216-4697. MUSICIAN WANTED, Keyboardist with

strong vocals wanted for original band. Have studio. Professional attitude willing to learn material. Rock, Blues with a Jazz twist, 619-994-0688. PICCOLO/TRUMPET player needed to

play solo for wedding ceremony, Saturday, 3/24. Music arrangements and pay negotiable. Perform procession, wedding march, recession. jasoninsandiego@yahoo.com or 858-205-4293. REGGAE HIPHOP ROCK/JAZZ, Guitarist available. CD/tour credits: Pato Banton, Fully

available. CD/tour credits: Pato Banton, Fully Fullwood, Majek Fashek, Myka Nyne, Scien-tist, Skunk records, Tippa Irie, etc. Dale 858-401-2973, myspace.com/dalehauskins. RHYTHM GUITARIST, Singer, song-write

Seeking drummer, bass player, lead guitarist to form Rock-n-Roll band. Original material. Rehearsal space needed. Hal SAN DIEGO'S UNDISPUTED Kings of Hip Hop's Crunksta Dirty South recorded at King's Ransom Studios. Adub N Lil' Chase. Profile: www.myspace.com/731LC: www.myspace.com/thebionicrapper7

SEEKING FEMALE VOCALIST., Fun Working band with promo-pack, pro equipment, rehearsal studio. Songs from No Doubt to Jett. Must be reliable and dedicated. Dan 858-204-3658.

SEEKING LEAD GUITARIST, Professional, style, pro-gear. For gigging/professional original alternative/pop/rock band, performed with Seal, The B-52s, Al Stewart. eking record deal, www.hargo.net

SINGER WANTED (Christian), 20-30 years old for original main stream, new punk, new metal alternative rock band. Must be experienced, passionate, God centered. 619-920-7237.

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CD & DVD DUPLICATION. Call Bob at CD AND DVD DUPLICATION and Replica tion. Guaranteed lowest prices, best service and quality. Complete packages (1,000) starting at \$925. Serving San Diego musicians since 1992. Call 760-747-2734.

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ENGINEER INTERNSHIP. Interested in now an album is created? Urban Recordings is offering an internship in their fully digital Pro Tools recording studio. Mark, 619-846-4776.

RECORD A DEMO at HobarTrax, efficient experienced engineer, Pro Tools, Mackie, Avalon, etc. Session musicians available, all styles. CD design, duplication pack-ages, \$30/hour. www.hobartrax.com, 858-243-7728.

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Comfortable, relaxed atmosphere. Protools HD3. Great drum sounds! Baldwin Grand Piano! Fast. Efficient. 20-years experience. 2" analog. www. rience. 2" analog. Imrecording.com. 760-739-9700. RECORD AT CV STUDIOS. San Diego's

best value! ProTools, professional gear. Rates from \$25/hour. Get the sound you want without pressures of expensive stu-dios. Jon, 858-414-2143. RECORD AT KING'S RANSOM Studio.
Top vintage and contemporary gear for Top vintage and contemporary gear for fat, warm sound. I care about your project as much as you do! \$30/hour. 619-278-

RECORD AT EARTHLING Studios. Analog and digital multitrack recording and mas-tering services. Call Mike for rates at 619-441-8341.

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less. 1922 Bacon Street across from Winston's. 3 air conditioned rooms with P.A. available for hourly rentals. Parking, loading. 619-523-3073. REHEARSAL STUDIOS. \$18/hour with PA.

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Music



San Diego Reader March 22,

2

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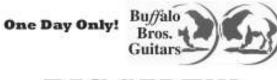
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BALBOA PARK, (Near) male, nonsmoking, \$615 utilities included. Kitchen privi-

BALBOA PARK. \$550. Room available in 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Room is 10'x13', large closet, ceiling fan, big win-



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BALBOA PARK, WEST. Female only with view. Private bedroom and bath. Se-curity parking and lobby. Cable/Internet ready, private telephone line. Roof deck with view. \$700/month, includes utilities. References required. 140 Kalmia Street. Jan, 619-235-0915.

CARDIFF, Nicely furnished home. Ocean view, near beach, washer/dryer own bathroom. Garage parking. \$650 plus \$400/deposit, 1/3 utilities. No pets/smok-ing/drugs. Steve 858-755-1824.

CARDIFF. \$1200. Room with private bath available now in large whitewater view home. Garage. Female nonsmoker pre-ferred. 760-214-1382.

CARDIFF. Furnished room \$675. Large room \$775 plus utilities and deposits. Community living, privacy. Vegetarian/ seafood kitchen, organic garden, jacuzzi, laundry. Nonsmokers. No pets. 760-753-

CARLSBAD, Room for rent and share bath. Available April 1. Near beach. Pool, jacuzzi, tennis, cable. Nonsmoker pre-ferred. No pets. \$550/month plus \$50 util-ities, 760-931-6680.

nues, rou-931-6680.

CARLSBAD. \$650. 2 rooms available, each beautifully furnished, private bath, refrigerator, microwave oven, washer/dryer included. Water, utilities shared. No pets. Nonsmoking, female only. 858-342-1928.

only. 858-342-1928.

CARLSBAD. Beautiful home, very private. Nonsmoking. No animals, have cats. Private large bath and bedroom with balcony, storage in garage. Split utilities. \$600/month, deposit. 760-438-0390.

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Deb, 877-593-6275 x1.

CARMEL VALLEY, \$850/month, plus 1/2 utilities, 2 bed 2 bath to share. Nonsmoker, no drugs/pets. Female preferred. 6 month lease or more. 858-792-5896.

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ceii, o 13-201-0484; b 15-421-6478.

CHULA VISTA. 2 furnished rooms. \$555, includes utilities. Cable access. Nice, quiet neighborhood. No drugs, smoking, alcohol, pets. East of I-805 freeway. 619-482-9478.

PHULA VISTA/SOUTH. 92154. \$450 plus \$100 deposit, utilities included. Fur-nished/cable TV. House. Shared bath-room/kitchen. Male only, nonsmoker. No drugs/pets. 619-602-1824.

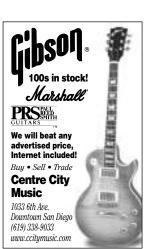
CLAIREMONT/MISSION BAY. \$700 Large room in remodeled home, new kitchen. Master with private entrance/bath available. Near I-5, bay. Female only. No pets. 858-549-3197.

CLAIREMONT, \$600/month, utilities included. Room for rent in 3 bedroom house, right next to Mesa College. Satellite TV, cable modem, laundry on-site.

CLAIREMONT, WEST. Room available in newly remodeled 4 bedroom, 3 bath house. Washer/dryer, fireplace, yard. Quiet neighborhood. Parking. No smok-ing, drugs, pets. \$600. 858-272-2992.

ng, nugs, pets. 3000. 605-212-2992. CLAIREMONT, Female preferred in 2 bedroom 1 bath, share bath. Pool, jacuzzi, nice, clean, quiet condo. Share with male. \$450/month, \$350/deposit, including utilities. Mac 858-405-2565.





Free Classifieds!

CLAIREMONT. \$530/month, free cable/internet. Medium-size sunny room. Laundry/kitchen privileges. Near buses, UTC, freeways. Need first/last month's rent plus \$125. No pets. 858-274-5234. **ENCINITAS.** \$700. Roommate to share apartment close to the beach. Big room with own private bathroom. Need someone by April 1. E-mail geminifyi@yahoo.com or 760-840-1958.

COLLEGE AREA/ROLANDO. \$480. Own room in house. Beautiful mountain views hardwood, fireplace, private yard, great quiet neighborhood. Lots of storage, bar-

COLLEGE AREA. \$750. Huge bedroom, 18'x15', own private bath, fireplace, and

18'x15', own private bath, tireptace, and entrance. Internet, cable and utilities included. No drugs. References. Available 4/1. Male preferred. 619-255-3313.

COLLEGE AREA, \$495. Room available in _____ **AREA.** \$495. Hoom available in house. Laundry. 619-549-0566 or 619-398-6742.

DEL CERRO, \$395/month, plus 1/5 utili-ties, private entrance. Nonsmoker, no pets. Large 5 bedroom house. Nice quiet neighborhood. Available now. 619-287-9610.

DEL CERRO/COLLEGE. Clean 2 bed

room, 2 bath with female. Large semi-fur-nished room with bath. Pool, jacuzzi. Have cat. Nonsmoker. \$600, plus utilities. Toni, 858-731-3114; 619-235-2415,

DEL MAR. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhome with 2-car attached garage. Clear and quiet. Available 4/1. Female pre-

DEL MAR. Quiet furnished room with view in clean, sunny, nonsmoking remodeled home. Cable, laundry, kitchen, fireplace, housekeeper, wireless Internet, own phone line. \$645+. 858-481-5312; 619-

DOWNTOWN. \$470. Upstairs bedroom

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DOWNTOWN. Female preferred. Nice furnished studio. \$150/month. Very small to share, to save money. Near Seaport Village, buses, trolley, shops, night clubs. 619-581-8693.

EL CAJON, \$550. 1 female only. Room

available in sunny quiet house, nice neighborhood. Garage, Washer/dryer. New floors/paint. Nonsmoking. Have cat. 619-207-7609.

EL CAJON. \$550/month, no utilities, cable, or deposit. Good for 1-1/2 years. Near bus, trolley. You'll like it. Call anytime, Jeff, 858-952-4936.

time, Jeff, 858-92-4936. **EL CAJON.** \$500, 1/3 utilities, cable service. Quiet 1 big room, 1/2 acre country house, own entrance, 1/2 bath. Easy access to freeway, buses, mall. Washer/dryer. Available now. Prefer fe-

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. Rent includes utilities. No pets 760-533-3875.

pecue patio. Tavis, 619-583-5330

ENCINITAS. \$675. Walk to beach. Share 2 bedroom, 1 bath house. Hardwood floors, washer/dryer, deck, porch, trees, bright room. No smoking. Female preferred, 760.633.6306 ferred. 760-633-6396.

Terred. 76U-633-6396.

ENCINITAS. \$550/month, 1/4 utilities.
Room in clean, quiet modern house.
Washer/dryer, cable, kitchen privileges, phone line available. Deposit. Won't last long. 760-753-1686; 619-235-2415, 230104

ENCINITAS. \$700. One mile from beach. Share clean house with 2 others. Quiet neighborhood/street, with backyard. Utili-

FASHION HILLS. \$850/month, includes utilities. Private bedroom/bath in 2 bed-room, 2 bath condo. Available May. No pets, smoking, drugs. Deposit \$600. Credit check. 858-279-6077.

GOLDEN HILL. \$350/\$400. Utilities included. Large, quiet. Centrally located. 3 private bedroom apartment. Share bath and kitchen. Deposit. 2220 E Street. Appointment necessary. 619-584-5900.

HILLCREST/MISSION HILLS. \$700. Deposit, \$450. Fully furnished 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Available 4/1/07. Parking, laundry, pool. Nonsmoking/pets. Call between 4:30pm and 9:30pm, 619-977-1936.

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\$825. 858-405-5992.

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\$600 plus \$125 utilities. Mark, 619-997-

LA JOLLA/UTC. \$750. Female looking to share newly luxury 2 bedroom, 2 bath in Lucera Complex. Canyon views, laundry. Have cat. Female preferred. 619-888-9454.

LA MESA. \$350/\$400. 2 rooms available, phone, cable, laundry, parking, nice house. Security deposit, 1/4 utilities. Linda 949-701-3200.

Linda 949-701-3200.

A MESA. 3 bedroom townhouse. 1 room for rent. \$450/month, 1/3 utilities. Washer/dryer. 2-car garage. Backyard, barbecue. Close to freeway, shopping. Available 4/1. 619-861-2522.

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MIRA MESA. I-15, quiet room, clean, sunny, remodeled home. Cable, granite kitchen, private phone, petless male non-smoker. Near bus/Miramar College. \$545. Available now, 858-359-0590.

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MIRA MESA. \$425, \$200 deposit. Share utilities and bathroom. Laundry room, cable TV, Internet connection. Neighborhood pool, nonsmoking, nondrinker. 858-578-7748.

MISSION BEACH, \$895/month. No deposit, utilities included. Two bedrooms upstairs, own bedroom, share bath. Bay view, roof deck, parking. Female preferred. 3675 Bayside Lane, 619-328-7155.

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NORTH PARK, \$600 utilities included

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OCEAN BEACH. \$795. Great 2 bedroom all windows. Looking for nonsmoking roommate. Male only. E-mail for pictures, Chris@firstnationalhomeloans.com

OCEAN BEACH, Share 2 bedroom 1 bath house. 2 blocks from beach. Huge back-yard, on Robb Field. \$750/month. Pets

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\$550/month with deposit includes utilities. Washer/dryer, dishwasher, fireplace, large yards. Cable. No smoking or pets. Full privileges. 760-721-7978.

PACIFIC BEACH. Luxury 3 bedroom townhouse. \$795/month to month, \$500 security deposit, first/last, credit application, utilities split. No pets, smoking, drugs Todd, 858-274-5313.

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2 bedroom, 2 bath remodeled condo.

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PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. \$725, 1/3 utili

PACIFIC BEACH. \$800. Room for rent condo, 6-month lease, small pet OK

large deck with built-in barbecue. Fee

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\$750/month. Own bedroom and bath, very clean, ocean view, steps to

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pool. 619-957-9471.

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HILLCREST OFFICE for professional, commercial or massage use. Beautiful Hillcrest building, 4015 Park Boulevard. Great value, best rates in town. \$450. Larry, 619-889-4389, e-mail AAAmerican@gmail.com.

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CHULA VISTA, 2 bedroom 1 bath, quiet area. New home. Fenced yard. Washer/dryer. New appliances, granite countertops. Utilities included, \$1400/month. 619-818-2417.

CHULA VISTA. \$1895. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath house. Beautiful 2 story, family room, all appliances, 2-car garage, washer/dryer hookups, near lake. Cat negotiable. 2000 Waterbury. 619-698-6911. CHULA VISTA. \$1500. Very nice 3 bedroom, 1 bath home on beautiful tree-lined street. Fireplace, air conditioning, carport

and private patio. 160 Brightwood Avenue. TPPM, 619-420-8161.

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CITY HEIGHTS. Large house in apartment complex courtyard. Move-in special: \$400 off first month's rent! \$1585 plus deposit. Large 3 bedroom plus 1 extra room and 2 baths with garage. Large living room, tile floor, balcony with city view, on-site laundry room. Near shopping cen-ters, freeway, bus station, great location. Sorry, no pets. Available now. 4270 47th Street. 619-701-1221.

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CLAIREMONT. 3843 Mt. Blackburn. Nice home. Great area! 4 bedroom, 2 bath, \$2300. Garage. Washer, dryer. Pool. Beautiful! vr@ajprop.com. A&J Property Management, 888-483-9925.

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COLLEGE AREA. \$725. 5502 Adelaide Avenue. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Carpet, new stove, backyard, laundry room. No pets. Phillips Realty, 619-291-6686.

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COLLEGE. 55+, 1 bedroom, 1 bath, senior unit. \$725/month, \$500/deposit. 650 square-feet, vaulted ceilings, washer/dryer, air conditioning, dishwasher, patio, courtyard. Near bus/shoping. Move-in special! www.innoreventerprises.com. 619-368-9410.

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236-1600. www.sdreader.com/rent/2037.

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Pront, near Beech, 619-233-7428.

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FASHION VALLEY. \$895. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. 678 square feet. Extra storage area, mirror closets, walk-in closet, on-site laundry. No pets. Eureka Street. Agent, 619-692.4131

692-4121.

**FASHION VALLEY/USD. \$1250 rent, \$600 deposit OAC. Large 2 bedroom 2 bath, townhouse-style apartment. Underground parking for 2 cars. Laundry room. No pets, at 5550 Mildred Street #22. 619-

FASHION VALLEY. City Scene, with canyon view, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, resortcanyon view, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, resort-style living, completely remodeled, all amenities, \$1900/month, \$1900 deposit. Available immediately. 858-945-5542.

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GOLDEN HILL, Charming 1 bedroom, 1 bath \$795/\$850. Hardwood floors. Great neighborhood, laundry on site. Available now. No dogs. 2412 E Street. 619-857-

GOLDEN HILL. \$950. Large 1 bedroom Refrigerator, stove, microwave, window treatments. Quiet 8-plex. Washer/dryer on site. 2 car parking spaces. Security deposit of \$950. Cat OK. 2646 A Street. 619-22 4049

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neutered, combo tested, shots, m crochipped. 3/31/07, 1-4pm, at PetPe ple, 8843 Villa La Jolla Drive, La Joll 858-457-2036.

GOLDEN HILL/SOUTH PARK. \$1075. 2 modeled, tiled living room, kitchen, hal-way/bath. Freshly painted. Pool. On-site laundry. 1714 Grove Street #17. 619-962-1887

GOLDEN HILL, \$675. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Quiet complex. Must Be Income-Qualified! Secured off-street parking. No pets. 2787 "E". Open Saturday/Sunday, 1-4pm. Marty, 619-237-5402.

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GOLDEN HILL. \$975. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment centrally located. 2658 E Street. Small pet ok. parking, laundry on site. Available 4/14. Call 858-583-0182.

GOLDEN HILL. \$685. Very, very small 1 bedroom. Quiet. Small, private patio. All utilities included. Washer/dryer on property. No off-street parking. 1217A 23rd Street. 619-222-6947.

Street. 619-222-6947.

GOLDEN HILL. Small 2 bedroom house, with extra room (hobbie room, etc.). \$1345. Water paid. Laundry room on property. Cat OK. Available 4/1. 1219 23rd Street. 619-222-6947.

GOLDEN HILL. \$850. Adorable 1 bed-room cottage-style duplex. Hardwood floors. Tiled kitchen and bath. Lots of win-dows. Small dining area. Laundry on site. Cats OK. www.goldhenhillpm.com. Agent, 619-234-9553.

GOLDEN HILL/SOUTH PARK. \$800 ning studio cottage. Newly refin hardwood floors. Full kitchen/bath , private yard. Utilities included OK. www.goldhenhillpm.com ,619-234-9553.

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GOLDEN HILL. \$825. 1 bedroom. Gated entry and parking, laundry, dishwasher. No pets. 3013 C Street. 619-546-9852.

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HILLCREST, \$1150. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Great location! Secure parking. No pets. Spanish style complex. 3520 1st Avenue. Move-in Special! Open Saturday, 1-4pm. Kathy, 619-299-6610.

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HILLCREST, \$895. 1 bedroom unfurnished apartment. Hardwood floors, parking. Close to all. No pets. 4030 3rd Avenue. 619-295-6005, agent.

HILLCREST, \$850. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Upstairs, gated, laundry onsite. Walk to famous San Diego Zoo! Available 4/10/07. 3634 Park Boulevard #3642-1/2. 619-295-1100. www.cethron.com. 619-295-1100. www.cethron.com.

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spacious, new carpet, paint. Small gated courtyard. Laundry parking. Cat OK. Month deposit. Open Sundays 2-4pm. 4009 Georgia Street. 619-255-5614. HILLCREST. \$1200. 1 bedroom apartment. Parking. Laundry facilities. Dishuscher stein.

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HILLCREST. \$1350. Remodeled 2 bedroom, 1 bath rear duplex. All appliances.
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HILLCREST. \$895 rent. \$600 deposit, OAC. 1 bedroom, plus extra room (dining , office). No pets, at 3831 First Av-#6. 619-299-8515.

MILLCREST. \$895 rent. \$600 deposit, OAC. 1 bedroom. Parking spot. New carpet. Laundry room. No pets. At 4030 Front Street #9. 619-299-8515.

HILLCREST. \$1250. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment upstairs. 3835 Third Avenue. Hardwood floors, laundry on-site, parking. Walk to all! Available now. 858-583-0182, www.cal-prop.com.

MILLCREST. \$1345. 2 bedroom, 1 bath cottage. Stove, refrigerator, 2 private patios, large garage, coin laundry, new carpet. Convenient location. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. Available now. 3935-1/2 Centre. Del Sol Property Man-

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HILLCREST. \$950. 1 bedroom; upstairs remodeled. Stove, refrigerator, dish washer, microwave. Coin laundry. No washer, flictowave. Com facility. No parking. Cat OK with additional \$300 de-posit. Available 4/15/07. 3730 First Av-enue. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, 858-270-2071; www.delsolpm.

Com.

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www.suiorrent.com. 619-640-7530. HILLCREST. \$1450. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Over 1020 square feet! Balcony. Canyon view. Pool. Laundry. Parking space. Small pet on approval. 4053 8th Avenue. 619-297-0269.

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agement. o19-09/-6314.

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HILLCREST. Senior building. 62 and up/disabled. \$995/month. Spacious 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Gated community. Elevator, recreation room. Underground parking. Pet welcome. Call 619-294-4146.

Pet welcome. Call 619-294-4146.

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HILLCREST. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, \$1200. Small complex; downstairs; new tile, carpet and stove, travertine countertops; on-site laundry; garage parking included. Cat OK. Close to all. deposit \$1200. 3827 Herbert Street #3. 619-997-4554.

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HILLCREST. \$1150. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. Immaculate apartment in quiet, pro-fessionally managed complex. Barbecue pation. Coin laundry. Off-street parking. Near Henry's Marketplace. No pets. 4225 Georgia Street. TPPM, 619-299-1004.

HILLCREST. \$1150. 1807 University Avenue, behind the Crypt. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Great cottage! Breakfast nook, hardwood floors, laundry room, street parking. No pets. Phillips Realty, 619-291-6686.

HILLCREST. \$1150. 3807 Park Boulevard. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Lovely cottage, behind "Numbers." Fenced. Front and back decks. Laundry room shared with tenants. Street parking. No pets. Phillips Realty, 619-291-6686.

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Street. 619-283-3280.

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lease. 858-454-1694.

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Cat OK. 619-261-6927.

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LA MESA, \$675. I Dedroom, classic 1950:
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NORMAL HEIGHTS. 4774 33rd Street #5. \$875/month; deposit \$875. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Dishwasher, air, washer/dryer. Off-street parking. No pets. Cassidy, Broker, 619-275-LIST. www.timcassidy.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. 1 bedroom \$775, 4263 42nd Street. 2 bedroom \$975, 4133 37th Street. Very nice, on-site laundry. No pets. 760-672-0425.

Heights, \$820. 1 bedroom, 1 bath cottage on Adams Avenue. Refrigerator and stove. Close to all. 619-291-5555. www.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$775. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Very nice unit in desirable area, near Adams Avenue. Spacious upstairs unit which includes stove and refrigerator, on-site laundry. Small, quiet complex. 4669 32nd Street #6. To view, please call Jack at 619-222-2644.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$1095. 2 bedroom, bath. Large. Quiet. New carpet. Parking Laundry facilities. 4657 Oregon Street Call 619-546-8212. sunriseliving.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. \$1250. Remodeled with all new appliances, fireplace, washer/dryer, patio, and garage in gated building. Broker, 619-286-4250.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. Large downstairs 1 bedroom, 1 bath, easy freeway access, shared garage with lots of storage, air conditioning, breakfast bar, fireplace. No pets. 4621 32nd Street #5. \$875. 858-483-5111 x10. www.melroyproperties.

com.

NORTH PARK. \$850. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, recently remodeled. Tiled living room, kitchen, bathroom. On-site laundry, security building. 3949 33rd Street. 619-280-2658.

NORTH PARK, \$815. 1 bedroom, beautiful remodel. Kitchen, maple cabinets, dishwasher, laundry, air conditioning, roof deck, street parking. No pets. 3080 University. Available 3/24, 619-954-3650.

University. Available 3/24. 619-954-3650.

NORTH PARK. \$775. 1 bedroom newly remodeled triplex. Gorgeous, new cherry hardwood floors, tile, paint, range/mi-crowave. Laundry. Parking. No pets. 3811 Wabash. 619-286-3400.

NORTH PARK. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, end unit, \$995/month. Small 1 bedroom, \$725/month. Both upstairs units. Laundry on-site. No dogs. 619-339-4311.

NORTH PARK/MORLEY FIELD. \$1450. Deluxe 3 bedroom, 2 bath modern town-house. Walk to Balboa Park! Parking for two. Washer/dryer hook-ups, dishwasher, patio. Squeaky clean! Charming Crafts-man neighborhood. No pets/smoking. 3767 Villa Terrace. 858-454-2024.

Worth Parks. \$739. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Upstairs, gated, clean, bright, new appliances, new vinyl, one parking, laundry on site. No pets. Available now. 858-705-

NORTH PARK. \$800. Deposit \$750. Large 1 bedroom. Nice complex. Close to all. Assigned parking. Cat OK. Available now. 3738 Herman Avenue #7. Call 619-

NORTH PARK, \$825/up. Cozy 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Move-in bonus! Gas/water paid. Quiet, new carpet/paint, pool, gated, on-site laundry. No pets. 619-281-1714.

NORTH PARK. \$1150, 1 bedrooms; \$1400, 2 bedrooms. Open Saturdays, 12-3pm. Move-in special! \$500 off 1st month's rent! Air conditioning, bamboof loors, Travertine bath, stainless appliances, granite counters. Pool, off-street parking. No pets. 4050 Swift Avenue. 619-247-0036.

NORTH PARK. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1025 Huge, patio, parking, laundry. \$200 of first month's rent! \$500 deposit. 3162 Monroe Avenue. 619-284-1314. www

melroyproperties.com.

NORTH PARK. \$625. Studio. \$300 deposit. Utilities included. bath. No pets. Parking. 4385 Alabama Street. 619-584-

NORTH PARK. \$875, 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Nice, newly painted, hardwood floors, new tile. Centrally located. A must-see. Cat OK. Move in Special: Half off 1st month's rent on approved credit. 3016 30th and Quince, #3007, #3014. 619-295-1100. www.cethron.com.

Agent.

619-469-7790

NORTH PARK. \$775. 1 bedroom apartment, laundry, parking. 3814-1/2 Boundary. AMI Property Management 610.697-6314

NORTH PARK. \$1450. 3 bedroom, 2 bath apartment, laundry, garage, new carpet. 3981 Hamilton #9. AMI Property Management. 619-697-6314.

MoRTH PARK. \$1095. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. \$350 off 1st month's rent! Gated complex, secure parking, laundry on-site. Cat OK. 3838 35th street. 619-865-3992.

NORTH PARK. \$1025. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Downstairs unit. 1-car garage. Laundry on site. No pets. 4170 Texas Street #1. CCPM, 619-296-6699.

NORTH PARK. 3 bedroom, 1 bath. 2 parking spaces. Washer/dryer hook-ups. 6 month lease. \$2200. Available for viewing by appointment only. 4651 30th Street. 858-490-1600, kandrproperties.com.

NORTH PARK. \$795-1 bedroom/1 bath, in small gated complex. Off-street parking. On-site laundry. No pets. Peaceful, clean, quiet. Must see to appreciate. 4360 Kansas Street. 619-843-9171.

NORTH PARK. \$700.1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, above commercial spaces. No pets. 2928-1/2 Lincoln Avenue. CCPM, 619-296-6699.

NORTH PARK. \$850. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, lower unit. Laundry. No pets. 4124 Texas Street #3. CCPM, 619-296-6699.

NORTH PARK. Modern 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Fireplace, balcony, vaulted ceilings, dishwasher. Free laundry. Reserved parking. Available 4/1. Walk to shops. \$1490. Carlos, 858-699-8899.

NORTH PARK. \$800. 1 bedroom, large upper in gated building, new paint, carpets, close to recreation center and transportation. No pets. 1 year lease. 3975 Idaho Street at University Avenue. John A. Reis and Co., Inc. 858-272-1348.

NORTH PARK. \$775. 1 bedroom. New paint and carpet Upstairs unit. Laundry and parking onsite. 4183 Alabama. Agent, 619-279-2183.

NORTH PARK. \$750. Large 1 bedroom. Completely remodeled. Off-street parking. Upstairs unit. No pets. 4065 Swift. 619-284-4804.

b 19-284-4804.

NORTH PARK. \$825. Large, bright upstairs 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Newly renovated. New carpet, new paint, pool, beautiful garden setting. Laundry on site. No pets. 3051 Meade Avenue. 858-483-6111 xt0. New pedro

No pets. 3051 Meade Avenue. 858-483-5111 x10. www.melroyproperties.com.

NORTH PARK. Move-in special! \$200 off first month's rent! Starting at \$875. 1 bed room, 1 bath. Open house Saturday, 12-1pm. Beautiful, spacious. Ceramic tile, Berber carpet. Gated community. On-site laundry and parking. No smoking and no pets. 3967 Illinois Street. Call 858-751-6336. sunriseliving.com.

ng.com.

NORTH PARK. Move-in special! Open house Saturday, 12-1pm. \$815. 1 bed-room, 1 bath. New carpet, fresh paint. Walk-in closet. Parking, coin laundry. 3976 Illinois Street. Call 858-571-1970. surgisaliving com.

NORTH PARK/HILLCREST. \$945. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath in quiet building. Large kitchen/dining area. Carport parking, laundry. Phone entry system. Convenient location. No pets. 4030 Louisiana. TPPM, 619-296-8802.

NORTH PARK. \$1100. Large 2 bedroom. Quiet, garden setting. Close to golf course, restaurants and shops. Laundry. No pets. 3056 lvy Street. TPPM, 619-255-638.

NORTH PARK. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, upstairs. New carpet/paint, new tile kitchen floor. Coin laundry on site. 1-car garage. No pets. 3334 31st Street. \$1095/month. 619-683-9274.

NORTH PARK. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, up-stairs. New paint, large rooms with great storage. 1 off-street parking. Close to all. 3662 32nd Street, #7. \$1125/month. 619-

emini@hotmail.com

NORTH PARK. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$900. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1200. Wood floors, spacious floor plan. Laundry on site. Walk to nearly Starbucks, new North Park Theatre. Available 3/20/07. 3949 Kansas Street, #2, #5, #15, #18. www.cethron. com. 619-295-1100

cum, 619-295-1100.

NORTH PARK. \$1000, 2 bedroom, 1 bath. \$1500, 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Spacious upstairs units situated in small quiet complex. New paint and blinds. Laundry onsite. Available now. 4119.5 and 4121 Kansas Street. www.cethron.com, 619-295-1100.

295-1100.

NORTH PARK. 3 bedroom, 2 bath upstairs unit. 4070 lows Street. \$1250. No pets. Assigned parking. Laundry on site. Available 3/21. 858-583-0182, www.cal-prop.com.

NORTH PARK. \$750. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Laundry on-site. Assigned parking, Courtyard. Quiet. Gated. No pets. Available now. Manager on-site. 619-563-9727

NORTH PARK. \$1250. 2 bedroom, 1 bath NORTH PARK. \$1250. 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo with 1-car garage, washer/dryer nside condo, refrigerator, dishwasher and stove, back patio, renovated. Available for move, can show 9am-5pm Monday-Saturday. 3745 Swift Avenue #2. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400, www.peoplehelpingothers.com.

com.

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dishwasher, storage, underground parking, gated building, 619-795-1723.

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Elevator, \$1043. Available now. Call bis-543-0730. www.melroyproperties.com. NORTH PARK. Move-in special: \$500 off first month! 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Newly renovated, Pool, on-site laundry, parking. Elevator. Available now. \$1395. Call 619-642 0720. www.melroyproperties.

NORTH PARK. \$845. King-size 1 bed-room, upper corner, very private. Large kitchen, dining room. Parking. 6-plex. West of 805. Consider cat. Open. 619-462-6629; 619-905-7320.

NORTH PARK. \$725.1 bedroom apart-ment. 2nd floor. Carpet, blinds. Cathedral ceilings. Laundry on site. Parking. No pets. 3753 Cheroke Avenue. www. SeeTheUnit.com. Agent, 619-298-7724.

NoRTH PARK. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$850 rent. 2 bedroom, 1 bath \$1100 rent. Gated complex, off street parking, laundry on site. No pets, www.sdforrent.com. 3112 30th Street. 619-640-7530.

NORTH PARK. 1 bedroom, 1 bath down-stairs unit. Laundry on site, off-street parking. Close to freeway entrance. \$750 rent. www.sdforrent.com. 619-640-7530.

rent. www.sdrorrent.com. 6 19-640-7-530.

NORTH PARK/HILLCREST. \$200 off first month! 2 bedroom, \$1150. Large 1 bedroom, \$825. Gated, dishwasher, laundry facilities, parking. No pets. Close to Naval Hospital, shops, freeways. 3722 Alabama Street. 619-299-1699. www.melroyproperties.com.

NORTH PARK. \$300 off first month's rent! 1 bedroom \$725. Small complex. gated.

1 bedroom, \$725. Small complex, gated laundry, parking. No pets. 4128 Wabash Avenue. 619-281-0579. www.

NORTH PARK. \$975. 2 bedroom, 2 bath downstairs unit with parking and laundry. No pets! 4146 Swift Street #4 Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.

NORTH PARK. \$1100. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Low deposit. Gated entry. Laundry. Swimming pool. Off-street parking. No pets. 4133 Kansas. Alex, 619-823-8922 or 619-718-6565.

NORTH PARK. \$835. Nice 1 bedroom apartment. Small, quiet complex. Upstairs, skylight, gated entry, patio, stor age. No pets. 4045 Mississippi Street

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NORTH PARK. \$750. Studio. 1/2 off first month's rent! Charming. Large backyard. Ceramic tiles. New paint, on-site laundry, parking. Pets negotiable. 3133 Boundary Street. 619-804-3325.

NORTH PARK. \$825. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Spacious. New ceramic flooring. New paint/carpet. On-site laundry. Off-street parking. 4368 Wilson Avenue J. 1/2 off first month's rent. 619-804-3325.

parking. 4368 Wilson Avenue J. 1/2 off first month's rent. 619-804-3325. NORTH PARK. \$1273. 2 bedroom, 1 bath upper duplex. Completely upgraded. Section 8 welcome. Washer/dryer in unit. 3686-1/2 Louisiana Street. Agent, 858-650-1179.

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OCEAN BEACH. Beautiful beachfront ocean view! 1 bedroom, \$995-\$1200. 2 bedroom, \$1350-\$1500. Serene security garden buildings. Hardwood floors, ceramic tile, laundry. Garages available. Pets considered. For address and availability, call 619-224-1748. For applications, call 619-501-5553.

OCEAN BEACH, \$1150. 2 bedroom, both unstairs, four-plex. Water/frasi bath, upstairs, four-plex. Water/trash paid. Laminate flooring, street parking. No pets. Available 4/1. 3668 Voltaire Street. Agent, 619-463-2971.

OCEAN BEACH. \$2400. Large 4 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhouse. Close to beach. Beautiful granite gourmet kitchen. Laundry hookups. Available 4/1. 619-987-

5323.

OCEAN BEACH. 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex, \$1350. Pets ok. 800 square feet, available now. 1813 Bacon Street. 858-967-0014. www.cal-prop.com.

OCEAN BEACH. \$1150. 1 bedroom, upstairs end unit. Completely remodeled. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave. Coin laundry. Vaulted ceilings. Parking. Close to cliffs. No pets. Available 3/23. 4784 Bermuda. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, 858-270-2071; www.delsolpm.com.

OCEAN BEACH. 4 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhouse on the park. Fireplace. Some bay views. Covered parking. Laundry. 5 decks. 1 year lease. No pets. Available March 21. \$2550. 4754 West Point Loma Boulevard #B. 858-273-4820, 858-525-5238.

OCEAN BEACH. \$1225. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, large downstairs apartment with balconyl Dishwasher and laundry on site! Great location. No pets. 4241 Voltaire Street #5. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.

OCEAN BEACH. \$1750. 3 bedroom, 3 OCEAN BEACH. \$1750. 3 bedroom, 3 bath, 2-level townhouse with parking. Fireplace, new carpet, washer/dryer in unit. No pets. 2231 Mendocino Boulevard, Unit A. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacificrealty.com.

OCEAN BEACH. \$975. 1 bedroom, 1 bath downstairs apartment. Laundry on site! Half block to beach. No pets. 5057 Narragansett #4. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacificrealty.com.

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OCEAN BEACH. \$995. Large 1 bedroom apartment with large garage, new carpet, paint, patio. Laundry. Near beach. No dogs/cats. 5043/5051 Lotus Street. 858-292-6046.

OCEAN BEACH, \$1000. 1 bedroom apartment on courtyard in gated building. Laundry and parking. No pets. 4944 Narragansett. Call 619-223-2988.

ragansett. Call 619-223-2986.

OCEAN BEACH, \$1325. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. 1 block to ocean. Quiet, gated building, pool, laundry, parking. New carpeting/paint. No pets. 5030 Del Monte. 619-708-9930.

OCEAN BEACH. \$800. Studio, 1 bath apartment, will consider pet, parking available, 2 blocks to ocean. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-

OCEAN BEACH. \$1285. 2 bedrooms, 2 bath apartment, month-to-month lease. bath apartment, month-to-month lease parking included, laundry on site. Fee Free search at www.westsiderentals.com

OCEAN BEACH. \$1100. Deposit \$700. 1 bedroom, 1 bath cottage with garage and storage room. New carpet, window cover-ings, and appliances. No pets. Walk to beach. 5014 Santa Monica. Call 619-226-7388. www.bkbinc.com

OCEAN BEACH. \$950. 1 bedroom ground floor unit in gated complex. Step ground floor unit if gated complex, steps to sand, upgraded unit. Front location with partial view. No pets. 1 year lease, 5058-1/2 Santa Monica Avenue. John A. Reis and Co., Inc. 858-272-1348.

OCEAN BEACH. \$1200. 2 bedroom, 1 bath two blocks from beach. Appliances, carpet, new vinyl, parking. No pets. Available now. 619-224-7136. OCEAN BEACH, \$1400, 2 bedroom, 1

bath duplex. Block to beach. Front patio, new carpet/paint. Indoor pet OK. 5021 Saratoga Avenue. Available 4/1. 619-647-8470

OCEAN BEACH. \$1350. 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Parking. No pets. Nonsmoking. Security gated. Carpet. Dishwasher Pool. Quiet. 4930 Del Mar Avenue #203

OCEAN BEACH, \$1025. Very clean 1 bed-room cottage. 4978 Santa Monica Av-enue. Hardwood floors. Nice kitchen. Laundry facilities onsite. Small pets OK. Call Josh, 619-230-1234.

OCEAN BEACH. Spacious, newly remodeled 1 bedroom, \$1075. Located a block from the beach. Gated courtyard setting laundry, parking, barbecue. No dogs

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Close to all. Cats OK. No dogs. 4827 Niagara Avenue. 619-221-8158. pacific-

OCEAN BEACH, \$1075, \$500 off first

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OCEAN BEACH. \$825. Large studio. 1-1/2 blocks from beach. Kitchen, bathroom, walk-through closet. Parking, extra \$25. No pets. 6-month lease. Available 4/1. 619-890-5088.

619-890-5088.

OCEANSIDE. \$750. Large, remodeled studio. Nice, quiet, small complex. 1 mile/beach. Secure parking. No pets. Near Oceanside Boulevard and I-5. 1973 Apple Street. 760-754-1708.

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OCEANSIDE. \$1025. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath condo, 1-car garage parking, pool, and Jacuzzi. Fee. Free search at www. westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

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OCEANSIDE. \$1150. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Back unit over garage. Tiled floors. Laundry. Garage. 1312 South Pacific Street #E and #F. More Property Management, 858-514-8201.

OCEANSIDE, \$995 1 bedroom, \$1495 2

bedroom 2 bath (dual masters), fireplace, upgraded granite, Pergo, tile. Pool, spa, barbecue, laundry, gated. Cat OK. 760-439-5728. www.casavistaapartments.

pool, laundry, gated, covered parking Near freeways, beaches, shops. Cat OK 760-722-6421. OLD TOWN, 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$850 OCEAN BEACH. Newly remodeled 1 bed-room apartment. \$1075. 3 blocks to beach! Balcony. Ceramic tile. Gas stove/ heating. Laundry. Parking. Extra storage.

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PACIFIC BEACH. \$775. All utilities paid. On-site parking. No pets. 4220 Noyes. \$300 deposit. Call 714-505-4923.

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PACIFIC BEACH. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, 1-1/2 blocks to beach, \$1100. Hardwood floors, remodeled kitchen, pool, laundry facility. 930 Thomas Street. For more information, 760-720-1400.

formation, 760-720-1400.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1495. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, ground floor apartments. 1 block to beach! Dishwasher, coin laundry, no pets. Shared courtyard, barbecue. 1067 Hornblend. 858-336-7997.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2500. 3 bedroom, 3 btd apartment. \$1250 deposit. No pets, washer/dryer, fireplace, patio. 1452 Diamond #3. 1 parking. Available 4/1. 858-336-7997.

336-7997.

PACIFIC BEACH. 1 bedroom upper, \$1050, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1495. Refrigerator, stove, carpet, blinds. Parking, laundry facility. Indoor cat OK. Available mid-April. 1488 Reed. 858-272-1488.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1200. Nice, clean 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Second floor. One parking spot. Walking distance to stores and beach. No pets. 858-774-0762.

PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, downstairs. New paint/carpet. Ready to see. 765 Agate Street Off-street parking, \$1375/month on lease. Call to see. Boone Property Management, 858-274-6856. www.booneproperties.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. 1/2 off 1st month's rent-Move in by March 31st, OAC. Studios from \$895. 1 bedrooms from \$1145. 2 bedrooms from \$1600. Heated pool, aerobics, Spas, Tennis, Basketball, Fitness centers. Air conditioning/heat. Cats wel-come! Bay Pointe, 3866 Ingraham Street. www.progressmanagement.net. Toll free: 1-888-759-7435. www.sdreader.com/

PACIFIC BEACH, \$2400, 3 bedroom, 3 bath, centrally located condo, gated pa-tio, 2 car garage, tile floors downstairs, fireplace, washer/dryer, dishwasher. Available now. 619-954-0505.

PACIFIC BEACH. Charming 1 and 2 bed-room apartments starting at \$995. Across from Mission Bay. Gated entry. Land-scaped courtyard. On bus line and near bike trail. Call our rental office today: 800-400 e373.

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Management, brk.

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Psychoanalysis and Gum

About seven years ago I went on a date with a rather odd woman (we'll call her Allie). She possessed two bachelor's degrees and was working on a third, yet worked at Restoration Hardware — a clear indicator of Peter Pan syndrome.

My idea of a great date is one that is openended, timewise, and set in a place public enough to provide protection should one be wary or insecure, yet intimate enough to allow for conversation, for I am the type who must talk with a woman for several hours to see if an attraction exists.

I picked her up and we proceeded to a local eatery that fit the aforementioned description. While eating, we began to talk — well, she began to talk. I believe a good date consists of two people conversing, not monologues or soliloquies. She proceeded to unburden her soul on me, turning the date into a pro bono therapy session. I'm a high school teacher, so people like to pick my brain; I am not, however, a psychologist, and I certainly don't want to spend what should be a date playing Lucy "Five Cents Please" Van Pelt.

Among other things, Allie told me she had been raped on two occasions. She then proceeded to disparage every form of Western thought with the exception of Judaism (which she pronounced Joo-DAY-ism), which she vacillated on with praise of the Jewish culture and diatribes bordering on anti-Semitism.

I am a patient person, so I was polite. I listened and ate.

We then moved on to a local bar. I had hoped that, after a couple of cocktails, the evening would take on a lighter tone. This was not the case. Her borderline psychosis intensified exponentially with each drink. As we left the bar, she was on the verge on tears.

I dropped her off, and we exchanged pleasantries. I knew I'd never want to date her again, but because I was willing to give her the benefit of the doubt, thinking that perhaps she'd had a bad day, I gave her a courtesy call a few days later and left a message saying that she could drop me a line if she wanted to meet up and chat. I was hoping that she would not call, of course, and to my delight she did not. I have since abandoned this unnecessary courtesy.

A few months later I met a woman online. This woman turned out to be a former friend of this Allie. She informed me that Allie did not call me back because she'd observed that, lacking an available cocktail napkin, I'd stuck the wad of gum I'd been chewing under the table at the aforementioned bar.

I had to chuckle. Apparently, turning a date into a psychotherapy session is acceptable, but something as insignificant as placing a gum wad underneath a table is indefensible.

This former friend of Allie's also

· Check fuel filter

• 44-pt. inspection

told me that Allie had a tendency to counsel her female friends in their relationships and then proceed to have sex with said friends' boyfriend or husband.

I have since become far less tolerant of such nonsense. I'm married now, but if I weren't, and I had another experience like this on a date, I'd be at best curt and at worst outright nasty.

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LEAD STORY

- The Kibera neighborhood in Nairobi, Kenya, and the Dahravi section of Mumbai, India, are two of the planet's most appalling slums, but residents have recently discovered well-off international visitors roaming their toxic, fetid urban hells as voyeurs on travel agency-arranged tours. "They want to come and take pictures...tell their friends they've been to the worst slum in Africa," lamented one resident of Kibera (which has one toilet for every 1440 people), speaking to a Reuters reporter in February, but a March Smithsonian magazine piece quoted a Dahravi tour entrepreneur as promising to show "the positive side of [the] slum" (for instance, the community spirit that discourages street beggars).

Latest Religious Messages

 The University of Texas-Arlington fired two employees last year after they had prayed at the cubicle of a co-worker and anointed it with prayer oil, and in December the two filed a lawsuit over the termination. The school said that "praying, shouting and/or chanting over a coworker's...belongings without her knowledge and consent constitutes harassment," and that rubbing down the cubicle frame with oil showed "disregard for university property." Evelyne Shatkin and Linda Shifflett said that the coworker was on vacation at the time, but they declined to say why they thought she needed the benefit of prayer.

- Britain's Home Office decided recently, in the course of remodeling at the Brixton prison in London, that, because of Muslim inmates, all the toilets should be re-positioned so that users would be respectfully facing perpendicular to Mecca as they answered nature's calls. In China, meanwhile, several multinational corporations, along with the government's television network, said they are de-emphasizing pigs in advertising and promotion even though this is the Year of the Pig in the Chinese zodiac. The Han Chinese majority regard pork as their premier meat and the pig as a symbol of happiness, honesty, and fertility, according to a January Wall Street Journal dispatch.

TV evangelist Darlene Bishop (Monroe, Ohio) had a wrongful-death lawsuit filed against her in late 2006 by the family of her brother, who died after a battle with throat cancer, which the family says Bishop convinced him (on his deathbed) that he had defeated through her ministry of prayer. Before her brother was stricken, Bishop's main healing example was herself, in that she touted prayer as having enabled her to beat her own breast cancer, but she later conceded that she merely believed herself stricken and that no formal diagnosis had been made. (Bishop's brother was a prominent country-western songwriter, and the family members are contesting his considerable estate.)

Questionable Judgments

- Two solutions to "bullying": (1) In November, a mother (with her two daughters and a family friend in tow) rushed to a school in Charlotte, N.C., to defend her 15-year-old son, who had been complaining of bullying. (2) The South Korean government commenced a pilot program in March to supply to-and-from-school bodyguards for kids who complain about bullying (to be funded by private donations). However, the bodyguards would not sit with kids in class.

- Seattle parents of nine-year-old "Ashley" announced they have decided to give her intensive hormone therapy, which will likely cause her not to grow beyond her current stature (4foot-5, 75 pounds), in that she has a likely permanent brain impairment that prevents her from almost all of life's activities (walking, talking, eating, keeping upright). The parents decided that, since she requires constant care, their incentive to take her places and engage her would be increased if she were of a manageable size rather than a full-grown adult.

Recent Alarming Headlines

— (1) "Feral Shih Tzus Roam Georgia Condo Complex" (Science Daily); (2) "Son Gets Six Months, Probation, for Dismembering Mother" (WINS Radio, New York City); (3) "Judge Rules Government Supply of Marijuana Is Inadequate" (San Jose Mercury News). (The dogs romped through the Covered Bridge complex in Marietta; the 16-year-old son was found to be emotionally under the spell of a sadistic adult molester; and the federal government's marijuana farm was not producing enough for medical research.)

People Different From Us

- Brian Ward, 29, was arrested in St. Clairsville, W.Va., in February after a student's parent saw him acting strange while parked across the street from St. Clairsville High School. The parent reported that Ward appeared maybe to be having a seizure, in that his arms were "thrashing around," but police found that that was just his reaction to an illegal inhalant, which was not identified.

Least Competent People

- Novelist (27 books) David Eddings, 75, accidentally destroyed his Carson City, Nev., garage and part of his next-door office in January while he was flushing out the gas tank of his idle sports car. He said later that his intention was to remove the gasoline from the car to reduce the fire risk, but then he saw that some fluid had leaked onto the garage floor. For some reason, Eddings's curiosity about the leak (water or gasoline?) caused him to light a piece of paper and toss it onto the puddle. "One word comes to mind," he later told the Nevada Appeal. "Dumb."

Cultural Diversity

- Among traditional rituals still celebrated: (1) Tinku, in Bolivia's high plains, pits two tribes in Sacaca each February in daylong drinking and allout fist-fighting. Despite the bloodshed, Tinku survives, helped by President Evo Morales's support for indigenous cultures. The mayor of Sacaca called Tinku "a sublime, beautiful act," in a February New York Times dispatch. (2) At the Historic Carnival of Ivrea, Italy, in February, nine "teams" battled in commemoration of the centuries-old rebellion against noblemen, who enjoyed deflowering commoners' brides on their wedding eves. Today, that battle is waged by people pelting one another with oranges (this year, more than a million).

- The U.S. Border Patrol has for three decades worked with a small group of Native Americans (Navaios, Kiowa, and Sioux, among others) who call themselves the Shadow Wolves and who proudly use ancestral techniques to help track down drug smugglers and human traffickers along the Arizona and California borders with Mexico. According to a February Reuters dispatch, the Wolves can detect "barely visible scuff marks" on the ground and know how to follow trails of tiny fibers.

Not All Weird News Is Bad

 Though much of Pakistan remains devoutly Islamic and sometimes intensely tribal in nature, 28-year-old Mr. Ali Saleem enjoys modest success on television each week as a cross-dressing diva named Begum Nawazish Ali, whose flamboyant character alternates between coquettish and outrageous. According to a January New York Times dispatch from Karachi, Ali and his fans believe no biological female could do what he does, either because of religious norms or sensitive family "honor" (which sometimes leads relatives to punish or even kill female family members who bring them shame in their community).

Recurring Themes

— "News of the Weird" has formally retired the category of household-hoarding stories, but apparently Ann Biglin of West Yarmouth, Mass., has an additional problem: hoarding in her automobile. Police issued her a citation in February after her car jumped a curb and knocked over a light post, which Biglin explained was due to 'several old coffee cups" and "assorted pieces of trash" that might have accidentally fallen and hit the accelerator. However, police found the seats filled at least chest-high with trash. A Boston Herald photo showed the driver's seat uninhabitable, and its story described the mess as "mountains of trash" that came down as an "avalanche" on her accelerator.

Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186 or to WeirdNewsTips@Yahoo.com

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5 19-993-9505.
UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$1400. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, upstairs unit. Gated community, balcony, parking, fireplace, washer and dryer, vaulted ceilings, storage, Pet considered. 4525 Oregon Street #5. CCPM, 619-906-6609

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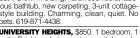
UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS, 1 bedroom, 1

community 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.

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CHULA VISTA, 2 bedroom 1 bath mobile home, senior park. 1000 square feet. All appliances included. Home taxes under \$40/year, \$600/space rent month. \$110,000/owner, 619-216-3897.

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In the Reader

Thirty Years Ago

"You name it, everything causes cancer. You can't even drink water, they say. It's all a fallacy, like everything else."

As Ida McNamare moves around the cramped quarters behind the counter at the California Malt Shop, she warms to the topic. "I've been in this business 30 years, and I've seen a lot of hot dogs, and none of 'em I ever looked at had any cancer."

- "HOT DOGS," Clinton Schachtel, March 24, 1977

Twenty-Five Years Ago

The last high-rise to open in San Diego was the Central Federal Building in 1975. This year alone there will be four new ones: Columbia Centre, the new Wells Fargo, Imperial Bank, and the new Bank of America. This will provide 1,700,000 square feet of new office space. For the sake of perspective — there is a single building in San Francisco with 1,200,000 square feet. One of the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York City has more office space than all of downtown San Diego.

—"ON TOP OF THE CITY," Stephen Simpson, March 25, 1982

Twenty Years Ago

"What is a bum?" asks Jo, a short, animated, talkative man of 30 whose troubled life has included a stint in prison for possession of illegal drugs, a broken marriage, and a recent flirtation with suicide. Jo says he is one of 14 more-or-less permanent residents of the Aliso Creek rest area, located on northbound Interstate 5 about eight miles north of Oceanside. "I live here," he says openly, insisting that he cannot understand why that would be a problem for anyone.

—CITY LIGHTS: "POPULATION: 14," Bob McPhail, March 26, 1987

Fifteen Years Ago

Helen was supposed to give me a certain amount of spousal support, \$5000 a month, which was way, way out of line. But I accepted it rather than get into a big fight with her. She brought the divorce action against me, and where one spouse is thrown out of the house, so to speak, it's up to the one that retains the house, the property, and everything to pay the dispossessed spouse a sum equal to what he used to spend on his normal living expenses.

On that basis, she should have been paying me \$15-\$20,000 a month. She did start to pay me something for awhile, then she quit, then she started again, then she quit again. I'm living now pretty much just on Social Security.

-- "MR. SAN DIEGO," C. Arnholt Smith with Neal Matthews and Linda Nevin, March 26, 1992

Ten Years Ago

As pleasant as it was, baseball with Dad went well beyond catch. Dad loved baseball, and so did I, and he would spend hours teaching me technique and mechanics, then hammering these into habits. When I was a catcher, he pitched to me. "Ten pitches without a passed ball. C'mon. One. Two..." When I switched to outfield, he hit flies. Most of all, we worked on the swing. "No foot in the bucket. Eye on the ball. Don't pull your head. Elbow up. Arms back, no hitch. Keep the bat level." Over and over until whatever was wrong was corrected.

— "MEN WILL RISE TO THE LEVEL WOMEN DEMAND OF THEM," Matthew Lickona, March 20, 1997

Five Years Ago

But while [Dick] Cheney was comfortably



San Diego Reader, March 24, 1977

encamped at the Four Seasons, where rooms start at \$400 a night and a bottle of water goes for \$7, part of his off-duty Secret Service security detail was making a little low-class history of its own down the road in Encinitas. As later related by sheriff's detectives, four of the agents got into a street brawl with almost two dozen locals outside the rustic Daley Double Saloon on Coast Highway 101.

—CITY LIGHTS: "CHENEY'S BAD BOYS IRK ENCINITAS," Matt Potter, March 21, 2002

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LITTLY ITALY/DOWNTOWN. Large 1 bedroom loft. Very quiet. Huge kitchen, granite, stainless appliances. Workout room, jacuzzi, rooftop deck, view. \$679,900. Mark Kaye, Broker, 858-748-5500.

MIRA MESA. \$315,000-\$350,000. 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhouse with good size yard. Best buy. Call Top Notch 619-807-0327.

MISSION VALLEY, WEST. \$215,000/best. 1 bedroom, balcony, air conditioning, upgrades. Easy access to all freeways. Excellent amenities in com-plex. Garage parking. Owner, 619-291-

OCEAN BEACH, \$212,000, 1 bedroom 1 bath, westerly view, top floor. Remodeled kitchen and bath. Move-in ready. Seller motivated. Easy to see. Agent 619-889-4625.

POWAY. \$458,000-\$480,000. 3 bedroom, 5 bath townhouse. Quiet, convenient to . New paint, new carpet. Large yard. ove-in ready! Details, call Top Notch alty, 858-715-0688.

SAN DIEGO. Open house: Sunday, 3/25, noon-4pm. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, clean, gated community, 2 parking spaces, end unit with private backyard. \$289,000. Owner, 619-886-5665.

UTC AREA. 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.

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"It's the summer months, and your children will be outdoors playing more often and could seriously hurt themselves." This announcement remains ingrained in my mind; it was made on the BBC during their prime-time news spot in the summer before I left for New Zealand. It pretty much sums up the level of nannying that the UK has stooped to.

What's next? Hazard stickers on doors: "Warning! Turn handle and push or injury may occur." New labels for nylon pants: "Warning! Do not walk briskly around gas stations, risk of fire." You think I'm joking? A pub in the UK, just outside London, has become one of the first to ban glass being used outside — instead you have to sup from a plastic beaker in case you're a yob and want to shove your pint in someone's face. Does that mean all the yobs sit inside now?

Imagine our relief when, on day two of arriving in New Zealand, we drove up into the Port Hills, towering above Christchurch, with its hairpin bends and sheer drops where the roadside should be. Our first exclamation wasn't, "Oooh, look at that VIEW!" Not, "Wow, we found a road with COR-NERS!" No. The first words uttered as we rounded a bend were, "Wow, no safety barriers!"

The nanny state simply messes with evolution, but at least New Zealand continues to put its faith in natural selection. There's a responsibility and practicality here that I felt was being lost in the UK. Once upon a time, we were simply told not to run with scissors. These days they would put an age limit on who can handle the scissors, a speed limit on how fast you can run with them, fine the manufacturers for omitting the appropriate warning on the packaging, and jail the parents for allowing the child to have scissors in the first place. In New Zealand, that same child is splitting logs with a razor sharp axe...in sandals.

We're warned our takeout coffee may be hot, not to iron clothes while wearing them, and not to stop chainsaws with our genitals. How about a warning against wrapping an entire nation in cotton wool?

What's next? New airport signage? "Welcome to New Zealand. Enter at your own risk. May contain nuts."

However, there is one aspect of Kiwi life that I do find a little nuts. I first encountered it a couple of days after we had arrived. I emerged from a store and was nearly run down by a car screeching to a halt. Out jumped the driver, in school uniform, with short pants, long socks, and zits. In New Zealand, they can drive uninsured and without engine power restrictions at 15 years of age. FIFTEEN! I could barely control my hormones, let alone a 3.0-litre car, at that age.

And many of these schoolboys are hoons-intraining. Hoons are my only fly in the ointment in New Zealand.

What's a hoon? For a start, a hoon is called a hoon when in New Zealand. In the UK they're known as chavs, boy-racers, or any number of expletives, as they cut you off at 100 mph on the motorway in their Fiat Bambino that is

one legal registration away from the junkyard (and for which they're paying a small mortgage to insure).

In New Zealand, however, hoons get in far more practice at rubber coating the roads because not only can they start driving at the age of 15, but they have access to, and can legally drive, cars such as Skylines, Evos, 3.0-litre Holdens, and



any number of souped-up Japanese death traps they can illegally modify.

Uninsured (yep, that's right, no insurance necessary), they can jump into their rice rockets (landing carefully in the driver's seat so as not to jar the spine due to a total lack of suspension) and redline before exiting the school car park. A moment's silence before the k-chsssss k-chsssss, as the dump valve cuts in and the car flies down the road, the bonnet scoop inhaling cats and small children, and the bass causing structural damage in its wake.

And there's no fear of comeuppance because either the windows are too heavily tinted to recognize the offender or the booster seat doesn't quite elevate their eye level above the dashboard.

For NZ politicians, solving the hoon problem is a vote winner. There's talk of mandatory insurance, but if

> these drivers can continue to avoid tens of thousands of dollars in fines and tickets, what chance is there of squeezing a few hundred a year out of them for something that they could put to better use, like buying 40-gallon drums to

modify into mufflers?

I vote for mandatory attitude realignment and more corners. You can drive for miles and miles here and never have to twitch the steering wheel, yet the roadside is peppered with white crosses adorned with flowers and teddy bears. If we were to do as the French do and put life-size silhouettes of those killed on the roadside, we'd probably double the population of New Zealand.

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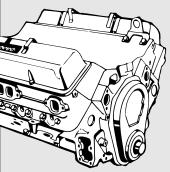
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POST DATE: March 9, 2007 POST TITLE: The Death of a Dream Music has always been my one great love. I never fantasized about marriage or kids. My daydreams were always limited to visions of rock stardom and large amounts of wealth. I believed my band and I would write sweeping, epic masterpieces and tour the world performing them. I would have a giant house and buy giant houses for every member of my family. I would meet fascinating people, and they would find me fascinating. I would become that elusive, magical thing that I heard in every piece of music I loved. From the age of eight, that was the only thing my heart desired.

In retrospect, it's possible to see how the dream was lost from the beginning. For one thing, I didn't even like my own music. (My mom did, which seemed enough.) For another, I hate performing live. I have the worst stage fright known to man. What kind of masochist wants to be a rock star when they hate being the center of attention? When I break it down, what was it exactly that I wanted?

Growing up, I was obsessed with the radio. My clock radio/cassette recorder and I spent many long hours together, me waiting breathlessly with my finger on the "record" button so I could capture my favorite song when it played.



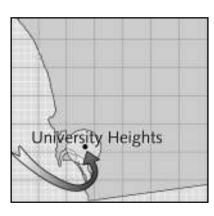
TITLE: Leaning into the Sharp Points | ADDRESS: http://switchyardmusic.com/blog.htm AUTHOR: Rachel | FROM: University Heights | BLOGGING SINCE: March 2007

When the song did finally enter my ears, I was transfixed and elated — I felt joined with something much bigger than myself. It was this feeling that drove me to dream so hard, not the love of performing. I wanted to become that feeling, for it to be permanently fixed in my heart and mind. Believing anything outside of myself would make this possible was perhaps my first mistake.

When it finally dawned on me that my life-long dream of becoming a famous songwriter was not going to come to fruition, I went to bed. Not for the night, but for three weeks. I was heartbroken.

Later on I would tell my therapist that I equated music with God. Somewhere in my eight-yearold mind, I connected my musical heroes with that great mysterious power. Call it God or divinity or whatever, but that is what I was pining for all along. I think this is true of everyone. Whether your prevailing desire is love, success, money, or fame, the underlying

hunger is to be deeply connected with something. Instead of the trappings of fame and fortune, I have managed to gain some wisdom. And if wisdom leads me to a greater peace and happiness, then absolutely nothing has been lost.



POST DATE: March 8, 2007 POST TITLE: Mission to the Void My boyfriend and I recently broke up. We lived together in a big, beautiful house on a corner and near a park. Together we rescued a puppy, got ourselves a propane grill, and enjoyed many hours of pay-per-view movies on his bigscreen TV. We shared all the comforts of life for four years.

Ultimately, we agreed that we were mismatched. It was the usual things — I'm a bad housekeeper, he is a Republican, I am a dreamer, he is a realist, etc. So

> we called it quits. He bought a house and moved out. The dog and I stayed in the big, empty rental we shared until I found a tiny condo to live in.

The day I picked up the last of our debris and left the house empty was a hard day. I stood in the kitchen, staring at the dust balls of our shared life, and cried. Not just a few tears, but all of them. I cried the way people cry at funerals,

until my eves were swollen and my head ached.

I cried because I couldn't watch Oprah on his big-screen TV, because my dog would no longer have a yard, because there was no one to ask, "What's for dinner?" and because I missed him. During moments like that, I find it impossible to remember exactly why we

broke up. I tried to conjure up the feeling of irritation I got when he was being annoying, but all I could feel was loss.

I once read that if you can conquer loneliness, you can conquer anything. As I unpack my belongings and try to squeeze them into my tiny condo, I begin to understand my mission. The object of this mission is to become friends with that awful, aching feeling of being alone.

People stay in bad relationships for years to avoid this feeling. It's like staring into a dark and endless abyss. You look into your own future and all you can see is a lifetime of Saturday nights reading and people telling you to "join a club."

I told a friend recently that I wanted to fall in love - with myself, so that I would never need another person to make me happy. That isn't going to happen. I'm never going to get over my desire to connect with other humans. But I can stop averting my eyes every time I feel empty. I can look directly into the void and see what it is I've been hiding from all these years.

Here, with life stripped of all familiar distractions, is a beautiful opportunity to look into the face of the void, and make it a place of refuge. It's a chance to be comfortable in silence and know myself. I suspect that was the mission all along.

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AFTER A QUICK CHECK OF INTERNET FARES AND A PHONE CALL, I was on the redeve to Milwaukee. Seventy miles by bus from Milwaukee to the city of Fon du Lac, a greedy jailer with an open palm, and a bite on my left forearm from an inmate, and my process of transformation had begun.

You see, on the day leading up to my flight, a news broadcast announced that Wisconsin authorities had captured a man claiming to be a werewolf. The first person ever to admit to being a lupine creature, a child of the moon. Until now, I believe the police covered up any evidence of werewolf activity, but this story had been leaked to CNN.

It was a long couple of days of travel and the bandaged wound on my arm itches. I'm in that purgatory state of exhaustion and excitement. I can feel the changes happening inside me. I'm guessing that my guts are restructuring to form the necessary hybrid organs that will make me a full-moon beast. A naysayer may quip that it's a weekend of airport pizza, coffee, and tobacco tumbling around my intestines, but I know the truth.

This morning I woke to see that a three-inch hair had sprouted from my left ear. Since I turned 30, this has happened on occasion, but I suspect this isn't merely the odd process of aging hair growth; this is the real thing.

I've also had an uncontrollable urge to snuffle at the floor around my refrigerator. There are berries and cottage cheese inside that I find repulsive now, but the mouse trails skirting the icebox I find fascinating, and I need to smell them. A mouse may be my first prey if this damn full moon would hurry up.

It may be a bit premature, but I've been stalking my neighborhood and marking my territory at night. I want to deter any other werewolves from entering my domain. I'm not sure how much turf I'm allowed or if there's a pack of other wolves in this area, but I know my jurisdiction will at least include my apartment. So from my bathtub to kitchen tile, I'm covered, if you know what I mean.

My TV will go in the trash this afternoon. Now that I'm experiencing my werewolf transformation first-hand, I can see that the news is propaganda. They won't report that an actual werewolf lives here in North Park until I'm found naked in someone's front yard fighting over a chew toy with the family poodle. They'll blame the incident on drugs or mental problems, but you and I will know the real story.

WHAT I WILL AND WON'T WATCH THIS WEEK

THURSDAY, MARCH 22

CW 6:00 A.M.

I've started most mornings this week with a coffee and whiskey. I had staved it off for a while, but the compulsion is back — the emptiness in my stomach that compels me to chew at the top of a bottle when I wake up and to stop only when I'm unconscious. In a gazebo. Beneath a sink. In the back seat of an unfamiliar car. Good morning, special guy. You're made of stardust.

LANDSCAPERS' CHALLENGE

HGTV 9:30 P.M.

My friend Chris has come down here on vacation. He's from my tiny town in the hills, and I told him he should have come to visit last week

when his life finally got to him and he called me and said, "I'm going to get two cases of beer and install a urinal at my front gate so I can burn my house down, stand here and get drunk, and watch it without having to take a break." I admire someone who's precise in what he wants, but I thought some time away might do him some good and offer perspective.

FRIDAY, MARCH 23

LIFETIME 8:00 P.M.

How do you shuffle your feet through a lifetime of this? Strap on thick leather boots before the sun comes up. Come home to an empty apartment. Water your senses down until they're dull and settle. It may not be good. It's neither entertaining nor funny. But it's what you do until you put your boots on again.

SATURDAY, MARCH 24 SHARP HEALTH CARE SPECIAL

CBS 8:00 P.M.

There is a bruise on my left thigh. If I push in on it, I can feel a nodule of metal. I've been dreaming when it happens, but I swear that twice, in the middle of the night, it's flashed bright red like there's a homing beacon buried in there. I'm ruling out aliens; I don't believe in them. The CIA? Maybe. I'll dig the device out with a steak knife and report what I've found.

COYOTE UGLY

ABC 9:00 P.M.

Carving up your own leg with old silverware is easier said than done. Oh, ho ho. I've made two ragged cuts around the bruise in my thigh and had to stop because of the blue lightning pain behind my eyelids. I'm not sure what I'll do, but this blood seeping to my knee has to be stopped first.

SUNDAY, MARCH 25

DESPERATE HOUSEWIVES

ABC 9:00 P.M.

I've duct-taped a paper towel to my leg. I've decided, while daubing alcohol on the wound, that I can't do this myself. I'll wear shorts and drive to El Cajon Boulevard with my knife to ask a hooker to cut the blinking device out for

MONDAY, MARCH 26

LAW & ORDER: SPECIAL VICTIMS UNIT USA 8:00 P.M.

That didn't work. The two hookers that got into the truck jumped out when I showed them my bloody bandage and I revealed my knife. I'm guessing that if I find a hooker who doesn't freak out when a knife is pulled that *I'm* the one who should get out of the truck. She probably has far worse plans in mind for

TUESDAY, MARCH 27

THE FAST AND THE FURIOUS USA 10:00 P.M.



When Strangers Appear

I will leave the electronic light thing in my leg for now. I have no choice. My options are exhausted. I've taped some tin foil to it, and I hope that it will block any signal being sent from my leg. To whoever is receiving that signal? Until I figure out a way to dig it out, I'll sleep with my shoes on for quick escape and line my windowsill with broken glass as a deterrent to entry. Maybe I should I get a baseball bat or a gun. Stay tuned.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28

WHEN STRANGERS APPEAR

LIFETIME 9:00 P.M.

I've been trying to get kidnapped for years. I've walked alone down deserted streets. Stood by myself on school playgrounds wearing my Catholic schoolgirl skirt. I even made a sign that read, "No need for candy. Have own handcuffs too!" but nothing came of it. I should stop. Now that I'm "of a certain age," it might be kind of weird.

THURSDAY, MARCH 29

BRING IT ON: ALL OR NOTHING FAMILY 8:00 P.M.

There was a guy, Mark Ferreira, in my high school who became a cheerleader. Man, you can't be a male cheerleader in a mountain town of 4000 people. I was suspended three days when it was found out that I was the one who launched the apple into his forehead while he was holding Megan Crutcher overhead at a spirit rally. Megan needed a splint, and Mark quit the squad when we lit his cheerleading suit on fire. Sure, they were extreme measures, but the man's dignity was at stake. We did the right thing.

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By John Brizzolara

It was music — rock and roll, really that brought me to California in 1969. Since then, music and I have treated each other with various degrees of love and dismissal: gaudy and debilitating good times, lies, recriminations, heartbreak, fleeting glory, and a whole lot of stories I can't use because they sound made up, purposely invented to make me look good and music's world look bad. In short, very much like a marriage. Almost 40 years later, my first wife and I can be found sitting around, rocking on the front porch.

We never mention divorce or the state of polygamy we live in with Language or Prose or whatever she's calling herself this week. And we almost never allow anything to come between us on Friday nights. One way or another, music is a refuge and oftentimes from wife number two.

No longer the member of any regular band and no longer anything like a regular concertgoer, I don't even have a decent stereo system, just a shrieking bashed-up boom box. What I do have are my instruments, when they're not in pawnshops. Since my neighbor Ryan has loaned me his Yamaha Portable Grand DGX-505 keyboard, and my friend Jose Sinatra has allowed me to hold in safekeeping his late brother's Fender Bassman amplifier, there is little I cannot do, no one I cannot sound

like. The keyboard has an entire set of drums (also strings, brass, accordions) programmed into the thing and with the bass amp I have Charlie Watts's or John Bonham's foot on the kick-drum. Were I to crank it up to eviction volume, it would sound as if both were in the room.

Along with this is my prize, a blond, hollow-body Epiphone of the ES-335 type, for those who know about these things. Far from the most expensive guitar I have ever owned, it is certainly the best, though it might not be for anyone else. It is the guitar John Lennon played while wearing a fur coat on a rooftop in the movie Let It Be. I play it through a Beatlesque VOX amplifier of the type I've always wanted to own. I have a used Japanese Standell Bass guitar that's lightweight and cheap, an acoustic Stagg (some surprisingly accurate Chinese thing) with a pickup, a microphone, my slides, capos, and even a function on the VOX I never knew was available, a wah-wah effect for those pesky Iron Butterfly moments.

Having silted up, at my age, with these things around me, I have become anyone I've ever wanted to be, musically. This may be a more common occurrence in these techno-lousy days than I realize; but 56 years + as many years of practice on these instruments + anyone I've ever wanted to be musically = a lot of people. And that's precisely what I've eliminated as well. People.

After years of being surrounded with bungling, incompetent egomaniacs for decades in the musical arena, I can now honestly say I am master of my musical ship. I'm thinking of calling myself Master & Commander, possibly the Johnny Beats, the former carrying that gravitas I think I've earned.

For the first two decades of my musical career, it seemed that everyone who had this kind of fantasy assemblage of good equipment was some version or other of some trust-fund hippie drug dealer with a name like Riff or Keif, smelled like patchouli, and was almost certainly doing my girlfriend. The irony here is that I came by these toys by way of my second wife, Language or Prose; not exactly like dealing drugs (although the IRS thinks so), but not unlike, in my case, something I've inherited. It's a modest collection of gear, but even with my handheld cassette recorder, the one I use for interviews, and my shrieking boom box of a playback system, I've spent more than a few Friday nights in a private rock-and-roll fantasy of being the band and eliminating the whiners, the speed freaks, and folkies...not to mention the Yokos.

I am finally blessed with very sympathetic neighbors, primarily Ryan, of course, and then Margaret downstairs, who not only does not complain but has



complimented me. This combination of benevolent neighbors and good equipment is unprecedented in my life, but I'm 56. It has been an ongoing surprise to me that not only can I still play decent rock music past 40, but I am still improving. I think a lot of players in my demographic bulge are enjoying this slow surprise. Hey! There's an album title.

The downside is that although I can play, say, "Johnny B. Goode" pretty much flawlessly — in a technical way — the butane on the thing is a little unpredictable, if you know what I mean. Chuck Berry was imitating his piano player Johnnie Johnson, and I can do that too; but I can hear Muzak at the edgesthe corners of an elevator or a dentist's waiting room.

But then there is bedtime, on Friday night or any other night, an embarrassingly early hour now. And one can hear, maybe, a little sadness in the silence right after I call out hoarsely to the books, the telephone, my huge movie poster for *The Man* Who Would Be King, "Thank you, San Diegoooo!"

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