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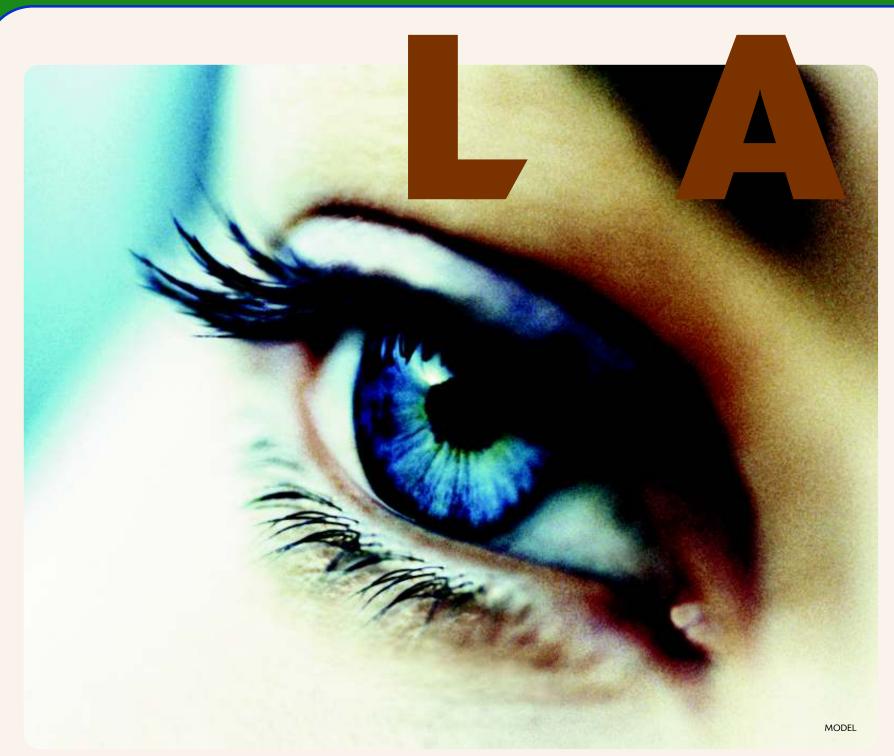




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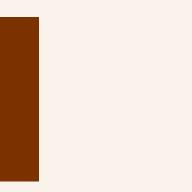


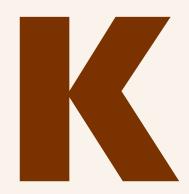
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- Darush Mohyi, M.D., La Jolla, CA



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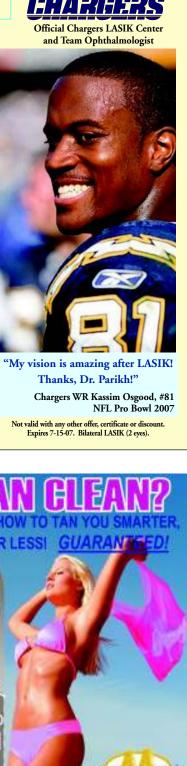
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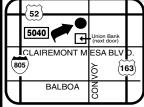
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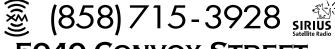
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All gone to Hill Three familiar San Diego names are on a newly released list of Hillary



Clinton "bundlers," volunteer fund-raisers who channel big money into presidential campaigns. Federal law limits individual contributions to \$2300 each for primary and general election campaigns, so the biggest and best bundlers tap hundreds of friends and associates for the maximum donation. The cam-

paign credits the bundlers for their grand total, often adding up to millions of dollars, and rewards them with access to exclusive parties and other favors bestowed by the grateful candidate. George Bush called his bundlers "Rangers"; Chargers owner Alex Spanos was among them. Clinton's group of bundlers are known as "HillRaisers." According to a list voluntarily made public by the Clinton campaign, they include ex-congresswoman and gubernatorial aide Lvnn Schenk of La Jolla. along with Ted Waitt, her multimillionaire neighbor up the hill, formerly of Gateway. Rancho Santa Fe's **Tina Nova**, the biotech honcho whose quickie Las Vegas marriage and annulment netted her a lawsuit by the jilted groom, is another HillRaiser. The total amount raised by each was not made

Meanwhile, over on the GOP side of the fence,

Rancho Santa Fe was a lucrative fund-raising ground zero for ex-New York mayor Rudy Giuliani. The neighborhood of the well-heeled horsy set was Giuliani's third-highest fund-raising zip code in California, with a total of \$90,300 as of the end of March. Donors included retired diet mavens Sid and



Jenny Craig; restaurateur Bertrand Hug; Petco chairman Brian Devine; and homebuilder Robert Buie. Two other maximum donors on Giuliani's list are certain to raise eyebrows: Student Loan Xpress founder Robert deRose, currently under investigation for his company's financial blandishments to college loan officers; and R. Spencer **Douglass**, once the biggest bail bond operator in California, who in 2004 was sentenced to 93 days of house arrest and forced to leave the bail business after pleading guilty to 123 misdemeanor counts of paying off Riverside County jail inmates to drum up business.

Rancho Santa Fe was also relatively generous to Senator John McCain. But though it ranked second on his list of California zip codes, follow-



ing Newport Beach, the Arizona Republican raised only \$43,600 there. Among his backers were **Steve Francis**, the renta-nurse entrepreneur and onetime candidate for San Diego mayor, and UC regent and investment manager Gerald

Parsky.

In the political ballpark His boss John Moores has long been San Diego's preeminent behind-the-scenes political boss, and now Padres CEO Sandy Alderson is stepping out of the shadows with his own high-dollar campaign, including a custom-designed website, sandyalderson.com, and a slick direct-mail piece touting his candidacy. But Alderson isn't running for mere local office; he's seeking to become an alumni trustee at New Hampshire's Dartmouth College. "Sandy has business and life experiences that



Trustee," says a recent mailer bearing a Petco Park return address and a photo of him wearing a ballpark security pass. "He has had a long and successful career in Major League Baseball, where he has managed in a large, complex and highly scrutinized environment."

uniquely qualify him to be a

Alderson's candidacy comes at a time of heated ideological strife at the Ivy League college, with a group of largely right-of-center and Libertarian alumni claiming that the school's administration under President James Wright has spurned undergraduate education in favor of raising research money, failed to nurture athletics, and come down too hard on fraternity antics, for which the school was made famous by the alumni-written 1978 movie National Lampoon's Animal House. Alderson, class of '69, is one of the establishment candidates, nominated by the administration-friendly alumni council. His key opponent is conservative University of Virginia law professor Stephen Smith, class of '88, who qualified by submitting more than 500 signatures of alumni dissidents. Two other alumni-council-backed candidates are also in the running. The position is especially important because if Smith wins, he would join three other outsiders already on the board and potentially tip the balance of power away from Wright. At least a hundred thousand dollars have poured into the contest from wealthy donors of both

Last week Smith's cause was championed by conservative icon William F. Buckley Jr., who called Alderson a "clubby alumnus" with "a hyperactive career as a baseball executive, not the worst way to gain favorable attention from patrons of the sport, who include the formidable George F. Will, Princeton Ph.D. and a man of sovereign judgment in most matters." By contrast, said Buckley, Smith "grew up with a single mother in a municipal slum, worked his way up the slippery education ladder and became a student at Dartmouth." Besides that, "He is a practicing Christian, a Catholic with five sons, and add to the above that he is a black American." For his part, Alderson denies he is in Wright's pocket but wants to cut the debate. "Dartmouth's national reputation has been harmed by the manner in which its internal disagreements have been argued publicly. We need less divisiveness and more collaboration." Reached by phone earlier this week, an assistant in Alderson's office at Petco Park said he was traveling abroad and unavailable for comment. Voting ends May 15.

– 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.

Jerry Sanders Is Susan Golding In Drag

By Don Bauder

ayor Jerry Sanders packed his 15person charter review committee with lobbyists and lackeys who are in the

pockets of developers and downtown business interests. Now the community is fighting back. At least two groups,

groups could conceivably consolidate their forces. Other citizens, including fiscal conservatives of various stripes, expect



Photo illustration of Jerry Sanders

the League of Women Voters and the Center on Policy Initiatives, are setting up their own charter review committees to represent the public rather than the fat cats. Such to form committees to assure vigorous debate.

The mayor's selections represent "a real power grab," says Steve Erie, professor of political science at the University

of California, San Diego, who was a member of the original planning group that led to the Proposition F"strong mayor" concept and was on ex-mayor Dick Murphy's steering and transition committees that implemented the concept. In the original series of meetings, the drafters were careful to give power to the council, not just the mayor. In fact, "strong mayor" may have been a misnomer, Erie says. Sanders's establishment group wants to hand the mayor near-autocratic control.

Sanders's stacked deck represents "the downtown crowd, rubber-stamped by the mayor. It has a chamber of commerce flavor. This strong-mayor push will be all about sweetheart deals behind closed doors. This is the old Golding [exmayor Susan Golding] crowd: please your contributors. They never met a developer they didn't like."

Sums up Erie, "Jerry Sanders is Susan Golding in drag."

Don Cohen, director of the liberal-leaning Center on Policy Initiatives, says his charter review committee "will bring in everybody who cares about the future — labor, environmental, friends of libraries and parks, community planning groups, affordable-housing advocates, faith-based groups, advocacy groups. We're

continued on page 8



Neal Obermeyer



Live Simply, Share With the Poor

By Joe Deegan

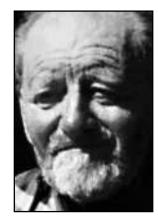
he two friends were engineers, one trained in California and one in the Soviet Union. "He could talk about anything, from

mathematics to world literature," says Imperial Beach resident Ralph Sherman of his departed friend Feliks Khatsyanov. "He was the smartest man I ever knew. But I didn't think of him as homeless. All of Imperial Beach was his home. And he said he had an annuity to take care of his needs."

Khatsyanov stopped in to see many people in Imperial Beach. At the home of Jerry and S, he kept bags of items he hoped to recycle and a few meager belongings. "Feliks was at the house almost every day," says Jerry, "but when we offered him a place to stay, he said he didn't want to impose. I don't know where he slept." On March 18, the 73-year-old immigrant collapsed in the couple's front yard. Coming home, Jerry Markham called 911 after finding Khatsyanov lying on the lawn and complaining of severe stomach pain. Khatsyanov died of cardiac arrest later that day.

"Feliks never told us not to drink," says Markham, who had been thin and frail for some

Jerry Markham says, "We got to know Feliks six or eight years ago, after I asked him for a little help. He gave me ten dollars." Giving away the little money he had seems to be what Khatsyanov was most noted



Feliks Khatsyanov

for, especially in St. Charles Catholic Church's Caritas program, which helps the poor. The church is in Imperial Beach. According to the March 29 edition of the Southern Cross, a



Valentina Khatsyanov and Paul Pluzhnikov

admits he likes to enjoy a few glasses. "But when he had tea with us, he would say that alcohol is unhealthy." Khatsyanov found it difficult to get the medical attention he needed, Sue Markham tells me. "He told us Medi-Cal and social service agencies didn't seem to want to help him," she says. According to several other people who knew him, Khatsyanov

Catholic weekly newspaper, Khatsyanov appeared at the church's Caritas Day each month and gave money. The article quotes Merlyn Baker, the Caritas program's director, as saying, "This is really a case of the Widow's Mite." The reference is to a Gospel story about the poor woman who quietly slips her last two pennies into the Temple collection box. The story compares her action to high-status contributors loudly clanking big coins in the box. The paper goes on to observe that "last month Mr. Feliks donated \$20.60."

On April 11, I attended Khatsyanov's funeral at St. Charles Church. His son, Paul Pluzhnikov, and sister, Valentina Khatsyanov, sat in the front row as 12 to 15 people came forward to give heartfelt testimony to the homeless man's friendliness and generosity. A Mexican woman addressed the moderate gathering in Spanish and, a cappella, sang a haunting dirge. Khatsyanov had learned Spanish and spent much of his time helping the poor in Tijuana.

Several days later, from his home in Pasadena, Pluzhnikov fills me in on his father's history. Feliks Khatsyanov was born in 1934 in Kiev, Ukraine. As a young man he studied engineering and applied mathematics. In the 1950s, he worked as a scientist in "research institutes," says Pluzhnikov. "The institutes were called 'boxes,' because they were square buildings without unique characteristics. People were not supposed to know what or where they were."

The early years of his father's career, Pluzhnikov tells me, coincided with an effort by Nikita Khrushchev, when he took power in 1953, to rid the Soviet Union of Stalinist influence. One result was a relaxation of restrictions on artists and intellectuals. In 1956, at a convention of the Communist Party, "lids were lifted on all the pots that were boiling," says Pluzhnikov. That, he says, seems to have pushed his father into a budding human rights movement. The situation returned to the bad old days, however, in 1964, when Leonid Brezhnev ousted Khrushchev in a nonviolent coup and "artists were suddenly jailed. Then Feliks starting doing work to defend those people," says Pluzhnikov. "Eventually he was called in by the authorities and given a choice — either leave the country or go to jail. He was seen as refusing to build the bright communist future.

"Already by this time, Feliks was giving all his money to the cause, so to speak. He had this belief that you should give everything away."

When I ask Pluzhnikov



about difficulties this might have caused his mother in trying to raise a family, he says the conversation "is getting quite personal." But he goes on, telling me that his parents divorced. He wasn't sure if there were other factors in the divorce besides the money. It wasn't as if they had nothing, he says, for his mother worked."In the USSR, there was no such thing as a stay-at-home mom," he

Born in 1963, Pluzhnikov was nine when his father requested the opportunity to emigrate to Israel. "According to my father's younger sister, my aunt Valentina, who now lives in Germany, he really wanted to come to the United States," says Pluzhnikov. "People would say they were going to Israel, and when they got to Vienna, they would change their mind and go to New York instead." Feliks Khatsyanov arrived in New York in 1972 and connected with Dorothy Day's Catholic Worker movement. He soon converted to Catholicism. Pluzhnikov says that how his father survived at first is "a big mystery to me. He may have taken some odd jobs, but I've been told that he soon began doing his recycling. He was a man unto himself and extremely undemanding. He did not spend much on himself."

"Why is your last name," I ask, "different than your

"My father was Jewish," Pluzhnikov explains, "and this information was present on the internal passport everyone in the USSR was required to carry. Being Jewish always caused suspicions in the eyes of the authorities. Even after Feliks left, the same information would have appeared on my passport as his son. So to remove potential problems I took my mother's name."

Pluzhnikov and his mother,

his wife now live in nearby Pasadena.

"When I came to the U.S.," Pluzhnikov tells me, "my father was already in Chula Vista." Pluzhnikov shows some reluctance, however, in admitting that father and son did not see each other. "It's sad. I should have



Ralph Sherman



Jerry and Sue Markham

Natalya Pluzhnikov, followed Feliks to the U.S. in 1989. At first they went to Providence, Rhode Island, where Natalya still lives. But shortly thereafter, Paul Pluzhnikov got a job as a programmer at Parasoft Corporation in Monrovia. He and

contacted him," he says. "It \$\frac{1}{6}\$ wasn't that I felt bad about the ₹ past, and I don't believe Feliks had bad feelings toward us. I 🗟 had seen pictures of him from 126, 2007 when I was nine. But we just really didn't know each other."

continued on page 8 >

Golding in drag

continued from page 6

interested in people who care about neighborhoods and iobs."

His center did an analysis of the source of Sanders's campaign funds. Overwhelmingly it was from developers and the tourist industry. "Sanders is doing what his supporters in the business community want him to do, which is to recapture control of San Diego. He [Sanders] is squandering an enormously good opportunity to bring together all segments of the community to decide where we go together as a region."

There are three real estate industry lobbyists — 20 percent of the total — on Sanders's committee. According to the City's 2006 registered-lobbyist list, attorney Donna D. Jones represents Black Mountain Ranch, Centex Homes, Cornerstone Real Estate Advisors, D.R. Horton, McKinley Nielsen Associates, Murphy Development, Pardee Homes, Regency Centers, Renova Partners, Spectrum Associates, Shea Homes, Sunroad Enterprises (yes, that Sunroad), and Trammell Crow. Attorney Michael McDade, chief of staff to former mayor Roger Hedgecock and a political wheeler-dealer, is a lobbyist for real estate agent Bunny Clews, Coalition for Urban Housing Solutions, Four D Properties, Irvine Company, and MG Properties. **Adrian Kwiatkowski** is a lobbyist for Ahrens Realty & Development.

Chairman of the Sanders committee is civic powerhouse **John Davies** of the law firm Allen Matkins Leck Gamble Mallory and Natsis. While Davies is not on the 2006 registered-lobbyist roster, others from his firm represent Beachfront Properties, CarrAmerica Realty, Douglas Wilson Companies, Gray Development Group, H.G. Fenton, JPI California Development Services, Kilroy Realty, Lankford & Associates, Oliver McMillan, Paseo de Mission Hills, Quantum Properties, the Robert Green Company, SRM Development, Tarsadia Hotels, Centre City Development Corporation, and Westfield Corporation.

Other members of the Sanders-selected committee include **Alan Bersin**, former U.S. attorney and superintendent of San Diego Unified School District, an establishment darling who has always been protective of his family's downtown real estate; **Vin**-

cent Mudd, a boardmember of the San Diego Regional Economic Development Corporation; **Mark Nelson**, head of governmental affairs for utility Sempra Energy; and **Duane J. Roth**, biotech investor and gadabout.

There are three subcommittees. One is headed by lobbyist McDade, one by lobbyist Jones, and one by Bersin.

"This group is Sanders's committee, not a true charter commission," says civic activist Norma Damashek, speaking for herself and not for the League of Women Voters, with which she is involved. She thinks the Sanders crew will rush to get their changes on the ballot next February or June. What can San Diegans expect? "He [Sanders] wants more budget authority," says Damashek. He wants to strip independence from the auditor. He wants to control the makeup of the city pension board. "He wants a supermajority rather than a simple majority to override his veto," says Damashek. "For sure he will be tackling the city attorney's office - giving the prosecution of criminal misdemeanors to the district attorney's office." (By opposing such sacred cows as welfare for the Chargers and Padres, Aguirre has alienated the establishment. Now he wants Sunroad to lower a building that defies federal and state aviation regulations, thus enraging developers and some in the Sanders administration who believe real estate profits are more important than air safety.)

Damashek expects more bullying of community planning groups, similar to city real estate czar Jim Waring's attempt to decertify the La Jolla Community Planning Association. "They [the mayor's minions] are running roughshod, doing whatever the Building Industry Association has wanted to do for years. That includes changing land-use decisions [in developers' favor]. They are weakening community participation and planning groups. They want one standard across the city, giving developers the ability to do the same thing in every community."

Sanders's committee may also try to institute at-large elections, or possibly one atlarge seat. "There is only one at-large seat in California's ten largest cities," says Erie.

The League of Women Voters wants to put together a citizens coalition — "a group more representative of the rest

DIVORCE

of the population," says Damashek. (In that statement, she is speaking for the league.)

At its first meeting April 13, Sanders's committee heard a presentation about California's Brown Act, which requires meetings of public bodies to be open and public. "Then John Davies said there is really no way to enforce it because 'we are only voluntarily complying with the Brown Act. [The committee] was not formed by the council. It was formed by the mayor," says councilmember Donna Frye. "That concerned me a lot. What is the purpose of complying if there are no remedies when you don't? Also, there was nothing on whether they have to file statements of economic interests."

Along with the others, Erie believes Sanders's committee wants to put its proposed charter changes on the ballot as soon as possible next year. By contrast, when Los Angeles was going through the same process in the late 1990s, "it started in June of 1997 and ended in June of 1999," says Erie. "There were meetings all over the city; it was truly a public process. It was not like being on a speed dial to get something on the ballot in 2008."

But special interests who want laws rewritten to maximize their profits are always in a hurry.

Live simply

continued from page

I reach Natalya Pluzhnikov by phone in Providence. She does not harbor grievances against her former husband but remembers that he was "very argumentative over little details. When we finally got our own apartment after being married a few years," she says, "he didn't want to get furniture. He wanted to sleep on the floor. I'm not the kind of person who wants to be arguing all the time. So we divorced."

Next to the family at Feliks Khatsyanov's funeral sat Beth Seberger of Kansas City. She currently teaches English as a second language to refugees. Seberger met Khatsyanov in the 1970s, when he visited the Kansas City Catholic Worker House where she then worked. She thinks he arrived in Kansas City after having volunteered at a Catholic Worker house in Baltimore, where he worked for Johns Hopkins University. They remained friends, writing letters back and forth over the years. Early on, Seberger even wrote to Khatsyanov's mother, who still lived in Russia. On the day of his heart attack, police found Seberger's name and address in Khatsyanov's pocket. They called to inform her of his death.

> I ask Seberger her imprescontinued on page 10











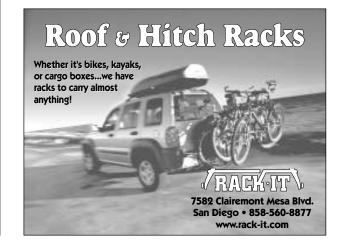




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sion of Khatsyanov.

"Feliks was very different than most people I had ever met," she says. "He ate very

sparsely and avoided meat. He allowed himself little pleasure, lived simply, and shared with the poor. To him, neither communism nor capitalism was the answer. I found him to be very humble, yet extremely proud of his Russian heritage.

He read widely and loved folk songs, both Russian and American. He collected recyclables in Kansas City, too, and would help homeless and alcoholic men. Eventually he moved on to Colorado and then to Alaska, where he worked for Avis Rent

A Car in Anchorage. I know that he lived in a trailer up there.'

Seberger passed on the information she received about Khatsyanov's death to Ralph Sherman, his engineer friend in Imperial Beach. "From Feliks's letters," she says, "I had information on Ralph as a contact person in Imperial Beach."

"When I was studying engineering in college," Sherman tells me, "I took a short story class that I struggled very hard to understand. But Feliks, also

an engineer, had an amazing comprehension of literature, and not only the Russians. He did tell me all about Gogol and a story called 'The Overcoat.' And he said that Dostovevsky's Notes from Underground referred to the crawl space between the floorboards and the ground. But he would read me lines from the Persian poet Rumi, too. He was especially fond of quoting from a nonsense poem by an Englishman named Edward Lear. It's called 'The Courtship of the Yonghy-Bonghy-Bo.' It was very funny.

"Oh, we talked a lot about engineering and mathematics, too. Feliks told me he had taken his son Paul to his work in Russia on the old punchcard computers when the boy was very young. Feliks was also an expert in something called 'control theory,' which is important in manufacturing processes. Another name for it here is cybernetics, which, interestingly, comes from a word meaning 'helmsman.' Feliks said he once got sent on a control theory troubleshooting mission to the Uzbekistan city of Samargand on the old Silk Road between China and the West. There was an error in the feedback loops at a factory

"But I think the conversation I'll remember most is when I was telling him about my son. I said my son had become a Hindu yogi and now calls himself a 'sannyasin.' I asked Feliks, 'Have you ever heard that term?' 'Yes,' he said, 'Rudy Kipling wrote about one in a story called "The Miracle of Purun Bhagat." It's about an Indian Brahmin."

I look into the meaning of "sannyasin." Huston Smith, the great scholar of the world's religions, notes that the Bhagavad Gita calls a sannyasin "one who neither hates nor loves anybody." In India, a man becomes a sannyasin during retirement years after a spiritual quest alone as a "forest dweller." When the search is over, the man comes back to his community. But he does not return to his family, wanders homeless among his fellows, and begs for his food.

I ask Sherman, "Do you think Feliks truly had that annuity he told you about? The one that took care of his needs?"

"I was curious about a lot of things in Feliks's life," he replies. "But I thought it was not right to pull somebody out of himself." ■

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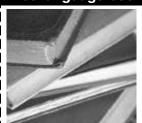
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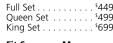




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Booze And Dead Animals

I just think that the cover of this week's paper, a tale of cool San Diego (April 19), with a dead animal and two people holding glasses of alcohol, leaves much to be desired. Not cool.

Name Withheld

Cool...Not

I found your article "Cool San Diego" (Cover Story, April 19) to be most informative. Although they were only vapid advertisements, it all just clarified things for me. Now I know what not to buy, where not to go, and what not to say. As if I didn't know already.

> Patrick Morrissey via e-mail

Woman Attacked By Dead Fox!

I was shocked to see your publication featuring a cover photo of a young woman with a dead fox draped across her shoulder ("Cool San Diego," Cover Story, April 19). This photo was supposed to depict what was "cool" in San Diego. There is nothing cool about wearing an animal that was tortured for a fashion accessory. Foxes trapped in the wild are caught in painful traps, and those raised in "fur farms" are often kept in cramped living conditions before they are eventually murdered for the use of selfish humans. Neither of these practices is "cool," nor should buying these products to finance further torture be considered cool. In the future, be more compassionate in your choice of cover photos.

Bobbi Weaver via e-mail

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STRAIGHT FROM THE HIP



~ MATTH E ≪ ⊳ LIC

Dear Matthew:

ration by Rick Geary

I am currently a "guest" of the San Diego George Bailey Detention Facility. For those inmates who were unlucky enough to be arrested without money, the jail provides free soap, toothpaste, and deodorant. These items are distributed by the Bob Barker Co. of Fuquay-Varina, NC 27526. My fellow inmates seem to believe that this company is owned and named after my favorite game-show host. Please settle our bet of two instant soups.

Man in county blues, Bailey Detention Facility, San Diego

Dear Geek Guru:

What is the real meaning of "Rights of Passage," and should we still celebrate it? Do you think boys should be acknowledged when becoming men, or do we just let them run around like jackasses until they decide to grow up?

— Up the Creek, Centinela State Prison, Imperial, CA

I knew we were big with the felony set, but they haven't checked in for quite a while. Glad to see we're back on the mailing list. And now that you can't smoke in the pokey, I guess instant soup has replaced cigarettes as currency. I also wonder how bored you have to be if you're reduced to reading toothpaste labels and making bets on deodorant. But anyway, Blue Man, you just copped two soups. Tell your cellie to pay up.

Of course Bob Barker the cosmetics king isn't Bob Barker the *Price Is Right* guy. I've seen an actual picture of Soap Bob, and he doesn't have as much hair as C'mon Down Bob, even though he's a whole lot younger. And what hair he has is red. In 1972 Toothpaste Bob was in his first year as a North Carolina state senator, so he was hanging out in Raleigh. (Lucky for him, you could throw a corn pone from Fuquay-Varina and hit the state capitol, so he didn't have much of a commute.) In 1972 C'mon Down Bob was in L.A. hosting his first year of Price, the Miss USA/Universe Pageant, and the Pillsbury Bake-Off. Way too busy to moonlight as a

In the past 30 years, Toothpaste Bob has turned Fuquay-Varina into the world center for correction-facility supplies. He makes or distributes everything any head warden could dream of to furnish the urban-chic, cutting-edge lockup. (Polished concrete and stainless steel are all the rage in today's classy interior decor.) In interviews, Toothpaste Bob emphasizes the importance of his company's prisoner-proofing methods. They smash-test their radios on concrete floors; they grind their toothbrushes against cinderblock walls to make sure they can't be sharpened into shanks. No pork fat in their cosmetics, to prevent religious riots. And consider the Bob Barker SuperMax lockable suit — a jumpsuit that can't be removed by the wearer, custom designed for California's supermax, Pelican Bay.

He's also proud of his Department of Defense contract to supply uniforms to Guantanamo inmates and footwear, clothing, and "suicide-prevention products" to the infamous Abu Ghraib in Iraq — Bob Barker Inc.'s LifeLine smocks and jumpsuits made of heavy-duty polyester, which can't be torn and used as a noose. All Bob Barker duds come in sizes up to 14XL. Scary.... So, as you can see, wherever in the world a man is incarcerated, Fuquay-Varina's Bob Barker

By the way, Blue Man, I hope you're not in the hole or anything on June 15 this year. That's the day your pal, L.A.'s Bob Barker, hosts the last installment of Price. The last day he'll give away another jet ski or one of those incredibly ugly dining room sets. So enjoy your soups and keep your nose clean until then.

As for rites of passage — marking the time when a kid becomes an adult — they're common in non-Western cultures and some religions, but unfortunately we're too hip for that, I guess. A rite of passage requires cooperation between the young people and the adults around them and some sort of life-shaping belief system. You're right, cool sneakers and MTV don't seem like much of a substitute.

Hello, Matt:

When I get up in the morning and I look in the mirror, I resemble someone who went 15 rounds with Apollo Creed. My question is, why are there bags under my eyes? They appear even if I didn't have a rager with those pesky elves. Thanks, man.

- Lucious Periwinkle, University Heights

Ah, the Boomers enter the Eye-Bag Years. Probably several things going on here, according to staff quack Dr. Doctor. First of all, we've got your delicate eye-bag area — very thin skin with lots of tiny blood vessels and not much elasticity. Ripe for bagiosity. Second of all, while you're sleeping, body fluids, aided by all those blood vessels and the Boomers' enemy, gravity, are pooling in your low places, like under your eyeballs. Fluid-pooling equals eye pouches. Once you hop out of bed, gasp at what you see in the mirror, and go get some coffee, gravity becomes your friend again and eye-bag fluids begin to drain away. Dr. Doctor suspects there's something else going on, though. Maybe you're developing allergies, which will create spectacular morning eye-bags. Too much salt, alcohol, or restless sleep will do it. Even weather changes. Dr. Doctor suggests you try to trick gravity and sleep with your head elevated. Cheaper than plastic surgery.

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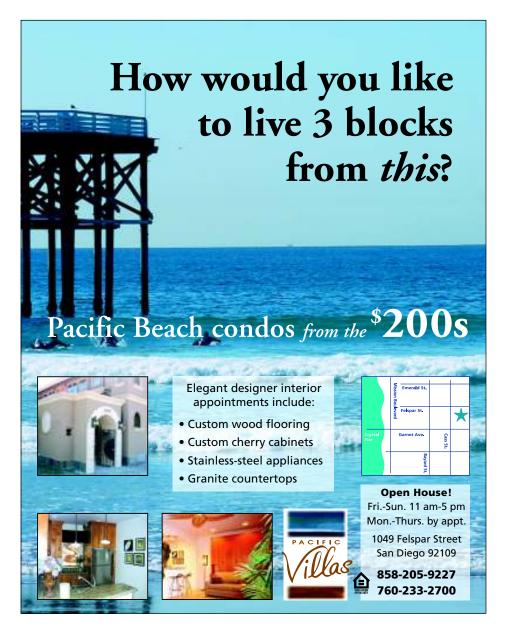
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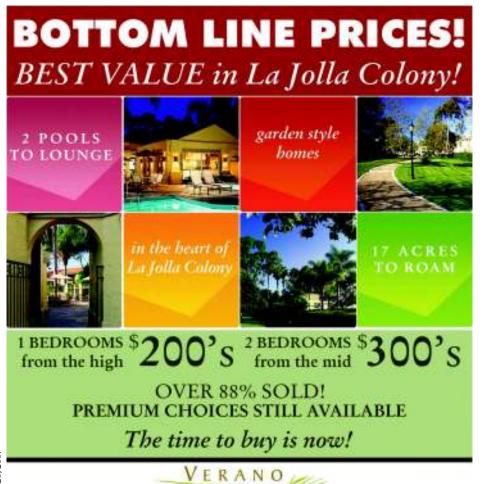
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By Patrick Daugherty

Landscape Sports

ask, "Where did you go in San Diego?" "Mostly Balboa Park. It's a nice old park. I think it's one of the more successful parks around." Speaking is a man I'll call Charles Dyson. He's talking about a field trip he took with R. Burton Litton Jr. in 1956.

Litton was a landscape architect and University of California professor. He was also a consultant for the Tennessee Valley Authority, California Department of Parks and Recreation, National Parks Service, and a principal investigator for the National Water Commission and...you get the idea.

I haven't seen Litton's landscape work, not that it would matter, I couldn't tell good landscape work from bad. I've never met him, haven't read any of the books or papers he wrote or co-authored. The tiny part of his life that touched mine are his watercolors.

I met them at an exhibition on Monday. Room 108, Wurster Hall, on the Berkeley campus. Seen from a traveler's eyes, this is the sum of his life, or as much of his life as I'm going to know. Mounted on four walls are 100 scanned images of his watercolors. Charles scanned them from his sketch books. They hang in an empty room, above a dirty linoleum floor, alongside dirty windows, underneath black and white PVC pipes. The room's door is open and no one is around. Litton was scheduled to speak at the reception, but died three days before the exhibition began. The show will run 12 days. One thinks, "Not much for 89 years of life."

On the other hand, maybe you have to have three marriages, join the Navy the day after Pearl Harbor, father three kids, teach 40 years, be chairman of his department, invent a new field of study, and live a long life in order to get even this.

The thing is, I was taken by his watercolors. I'll try to explain.

I'll pick one of the 100, a watercolor of Mendocino, California. I lived in Mendocino. I knew that town. Stand close to his sketch and all vou'll see is a few lines and a few colors. Could be any street, if what you see actually represents a street. But, when I stand back, I not only see a rendering of Mendocino, but the soul of it. Nothing needs to be added or

Charles says, "The thing that Burt really knows are the things that he leaves out. He's very good at drawing his sketch with a pencil. The paint is just putting a tinge in the areas created by his sketches. Then, suddenly, you realize all of those blobs of paint are separated by white paper. It's the shape of the pigments along the edge of white that gives meaning.

I'll think on that.

Charles continues, "For 18 years he taught a class about the landscape provinces of California (Northeast Volcanic, Klamath-Siskiyou, Redwood, Coastal Strip, Sierra Foothill and Coastal Mountains, Sierra Nevada, Great Valley, Desert and Desert Mountain, Southwest Mountain, and Valley). He took 15 students per year and visited three of the provinces. He always did watercolors with his students. The idea being that they should learn by doing, and that the effort to see whatever it was they had to paint would teach them much, much more than simply looking at a scene, snapping a picture, and then walking away with barely an interruption in their conversation.

"It's an old-school idea," Charles says. "You have to look at the way the mountains meet the sky, the valleys meet the mountains. You have to look at the patterns of vegetation and understand its related to slopes, orientation, soil, and soil depth. It's a very intense thing.'

Litton would tell his students to look at a landscape for one minute, then turn around and paint it from memory. Or, have his students paint a landscape in five minutes using only five lines. Make them see. Make them focus.

"He was a very gentle man, very sweet," Charles says. "He was a man with great sympathy, and it extended to loving women. He had three wives. After his third wife died I thought, 'Good grief, there's probably a woman waiting in the wings, thinking, 'Now's my chance. I'll marry Burt.

I come close to the one photograph of Litton in the exhibit. He's sitting in one of those fold-up camp chairs, brown and green grasses shoot up around him. The land is flat. It's late afternoon, near sunset. All the shadows are long and everything is aglow. Litton is wearing a black woolen cap, blue jacket, and hunter's pants, A small sketch pad sits on his left thigh, paints in his right hand, pencil in his left. What is that quote I saw on a panel a while back? Ah, here it is: "...taught for the joy of being wholly present in the environment.

It must have been fun. Sweet dreams,

The Vegas Line

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Kevin Harvick	11 to 1	Kyle Busch	12 to 1	Dale Earnhardt Jr.	12 to 1
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Carl Edwards	20 to 1	Jamie McMurray	25 to 1	Denny Hamlin	25 to 1
Greg Biffle	25 to 1	Clint Bowyer	30 to 1	Ryan Newman	30 to 1
Casey Mears	30 to 1	David Gilliland	40 to 1	Martin Truex Jr.	40 to 1
Kasey Kahne	40 to 1	Elliott Sadler	55 to 1	Scott Riggs	55 to 1
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Sterling Marlin	150 to 1	Joe Nemechek	150 to 1	Johnny Sauter	150 to 1
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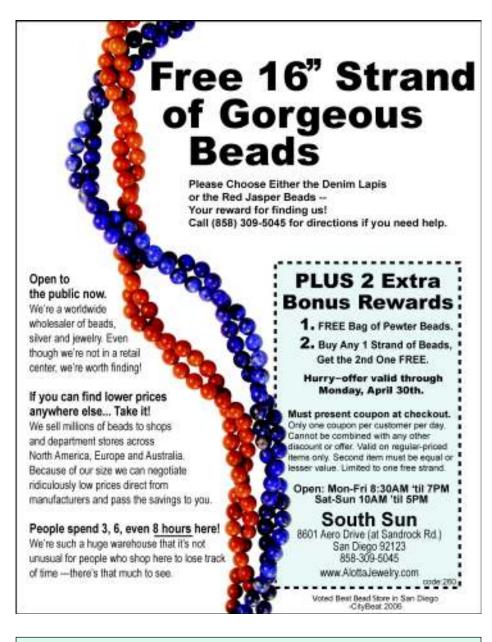
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SHEEP AND GOATS

PLACES OF WORSHIP REVIEWED

Denomination: nondenominational Address: 2400 Euclid Avenue, National City, 619-267-5500 Founded locally: 1980 **Senior pastor:** Dave Jones Congregation size: about 250 Staff size: 8 Sunday school enrollment: about 35 Annual budget: n/a Weekly giving: n/a Singles program: no Dress: casual, but some formal **Diversity:** very diverse Sunday worship: 8:30 a.m., 10 a.m. Length of reviewed service: 1 hour, 30 minutes Website: www.closertojesus.org

"This is one of the best churches that I've ever been to," said congregant John. "It's kind of like God's little secret. If you come here at nine o'clock, you'll see the other room set up just like a regular restaurant." The patrons:

homeless souls picked up from downtown and North Park.

"We try to treat them like royalty 'Whatever you do for the least of these," explained Ricky, an assistant to the pastor. "Every week, we pick up about 50 people and bring them here for a big breakfast. We'll have anything from cereal to eggs and toast to pancakes. Then they go through God's Closet"— a room full of donated clothes, organized by size and style — and pick an outfit. "Then they attend the service, and they get a sack lunch when they depart."

when they depart.

Potted plants served as the only adornment in the darkened sanctuary/gymnasium. On the stage, four young women joined two male voices, a keyboard, a bass, and a drum set in an extended set of songs centered almost entirely on praise. "We

give you praise." "You're worthy of our praise."
"Praise the name of Jesus." Then a video profile of Silent Voices, a Chula Vista crisis-pregnancy/post-abortion counseling center. "Silent Voices gives people an alternate way to handle a situation such as this," explained a congregant. "There's no condemnation — they simply love them."

"We move through the Bible every five years," said Pastor Dave Jones at the sermon's outset. "Right now we're in Psalms. Psalm 77 can be divided right in half; in the first half, the psalmist... is seeing things with a bad attitude.... It shows a despondent believer."

A voice read verses one through ten aloud — the psalmist crying out to God but finding that "my soul refused to be comforted.... When I remember God, then I am disturbed.... Will the Lord reject forever? Then I said, 'It is my grief that the right hand of the most high has changed.'"

"The truth," said Jones, "is that sometimes you're going to pray, and you're going to feel that God has deserted you. Virginia Tech this week... Today, people are struggling with, 'Why, God?' 'Why my daughter?' 'Why my son?' The truth is...life is not fair. But in this text...a choice is made: 'My soul refused to be comforted.' A fatal flaw... He's wondering, 'God, where are you?' He begins to question God.... I guarantee you: today, there are questions being asked that will never be answered. The caution to you is: don't go there, because you do so to your own grief.... In verse 10, his grief has gone to the point of total despair. When we go there, we start living a dark life."

But after verse 10, the psalmist's attitude shifts, and he finds comfort in meditating on "the deeds of the Lord," his "wonders of old." He sees that "Your way was in the sea...and your footprints may not be known."

"It's all going to depend on attitude," said Jones. "In verse 3, when he remembers God's deeds, he has a bad attitude. In verse 11, he's going to remember God's good

works...His acts of love.... It's all going to depend on us...willing to see that God has been here.... A fundamental thing that you and I need to solve in our hearts is this: it's not about us. It's about God. All these unfair, unjust things... It's not so much, 'We didn't' get a fair deal' - things just happen. Whether you believe in God or not, some bad things are going to happen.... We need to be able to see that God is in this thing. We need to remember His works and remember that history is His story, not ours. We need to hook into what God is doing, and that will change our attitude."

To aid in this, Jones exhorted the congregation to find God's footprints: in creation, where "everything is just right for there to be life." In conscience: "God has written the law in our hearts." In history —

both the world's and our own: "Everyone in this room that's a true believer should have times that God has intervened or spoken to you or been there for you.... We need to know that, to be able to share it with our children: that we have a heritage, that God is alive. He's not dead as the rationalists said, but God is alive and still works today and still does miracles. His footprints may not be seen by others, but we see them!" Applause broke out from the congregation and shouts of "Amen!"

"Remember these words: 'Do not doubt in the darkness what God has shown you in the light."

What happens when we die?

"I believe there is a life hereafter," said Jones. "Those people who have trusted in Jesus as their savior will go to heaven, and those who have not will go to hell."

— Matthew Lickona



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-EVE KELLY

The sweet old lady has moved out of her house at the bottom of our back yard. In her place are young people. Young people with tattoos; young people with a band that practices in the garage; young people who hang out on the back patio next to our shared fence, smoking and drinking and having intense conversations. I have nothing against

young people; it wasn't so long ago that I was a young person myself. But I'm not too keen on my little ones picking up on the rock 'n' roll lifestyle before they hit puberty. I'm thinking it might be time for something more than a chain-link fence. I'm think-

ing about a hedge, something that would keep us from seeing quite so much of each other.

I made my checklist: fast-growing, lowmaintenance, drought-tolerant, about eight to ten feet high, and reasonably priced. (That back fence is about 100 feet across.) Then I started calling around. Andy at Walter Anderson's Nursery in Poway (858-513-4900) was ready for me. "There are a couple of plants that are very commonly used as hedges. One of them is ligustrum, or Texas privet [one-gallon, \$7.99; five-gallon, \$29.99]. Remember the hedge in The Shining? That was privet. It has a real formal look and can be squared up with sharp corners very easily. It doesn't grow that much in the cool season, but in the spring and

Item one on my list was covered; what about the rest? "Privet is a good dark green all the time, with a three-inch teardrop-shaped leaf. It has a very structured blooming season; from right about now to early summer, you get a small cluster of white flowers. You can plant them at any time of year, but you generally want to avoid planting in the heat of summer. Plant them four feet apart, and plant them the way you would plant anything else: dig a hole that's half again to twice as big as the root ball, and fill in the extra space with a 50-50 mix of the original dirt and planting mix. When you first plant the hedge, you need

summer, it'll put out a lot of growth -

about two or three feet a year.'

to water it three times a week. But once they're established - say, after a couple of months — you can take the water down to once a week."

Even faster growing than the privet was "Eugenia, the Australian brush cherry [five-gallon, \$34.99].

That'll give you 4 feet a year. Most people keep them at around 10 feet high, but they'll get up to 20 feet. They have a cool mix of red and green within their leaves; the new growth has a lot of red in it. It doesn't get much in the way of pests anymore, but there was an epidemic of psyllid about two years ago. The pest was burrowing into the new growth and making the leaves curl. The agricultural department released a natural predator, and that pretty much took care of the problem."

So much for the common; what about the unusual? "Escallonia [one-gallon, \$5.99;

"Remember the hedge in The Shining? That was privet."

five-gallon, \$22.99] grows as fast and as tall as Eugenia, but it's not as drought tolerant. It gets clusters of pink flowers that bloom mostly in spring and a little bit throughout the year. It also has an edible red berry — some people like the taste; I just think they're very nice-looking."

The salesclerk at Mission Hills Nursery (619-295-2808) suggested pittosporum. "The nicest one is the 'silver sheen' [five-gallon, \$35-\$40], a shimmery plant with a small, green flower.

You can keep it trimmed into a hedge shape or just let it grow naturally and billowy. It'll get up to 25 feet, and it's moderate- to fast-growing. It'll double its size in 12 to 18 months." I liked the idea of just letting it go but wasn't sure I was up to spending quite that much. I kept looking.

Kniffing Discount Nursery in El Cajon (619-561-0611) suggested another pittosporum, the boxwood [five gallon, \$6.95]. "It's got a nice, green, semi-glossy leaf," said the clerk. "And it's low maintenance."

Texas privet is as common as the day is long," said Chris Wotruba at Perennial Adventures in La Mesa (619-660-9631). "Eugenia

still has that psyllid that crinkles the leaves. Boxwood is slow grow-

ing. Escallonia — not bad, but it needs part shade inland or the leaves will burn." So much for that one - my hedge was destined for full sun. I was eager to hear her suggestions -Wotruba tends one of the most fantastic SoCal gardens I've ever seen. "Podocarpus," she said. "Fern pine. There are oodles of things you can

do with them. I use mine as a hedge. You can grow azaleas underneath it, and I have a rose growing through it. It'll take any soil, and it can have full sun or part shade. You have to top it about once a year at whatever height you want it, or it can eventually become a tree. You can get them in five-gallon containers for \$20, or, if you want it immediately, a 15-gallon container is \$40." I was tempted. Most five-gallon hedge plants needed to be planted every four feet. Podocarpus needed only one every eight feet, making it a more economical choice.

'Another one I like is duranta [five-gallon, \$20]. It's fast growing, self-sufficient once established, and it has no bugs. I like the variegated one. It grows into a 20-foot small tree with blue flowers. You can hedge it off, or let it grow like a whole series of trees.'

Finally, Wotruba suggested I consider a vine — something that would wind up through the chain link and make a screen. "It would top out about a foot above the fence. A flame vine has big orange flowers. The passiflora, or 'passion vine,' has big, round flowers in pink, white, or blue. Butterflies love that one. Five-gallon vines are \$25.

NOTA BENE: Evergreen Nursery (www.evergreennursery.com), with locations in Carmel Valley, Spring Valley, Oceanside, and Escondido, had the lowest prices around on many of the aforementioned plants.

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- 1. Privet hedge
- 2. Boxwood psyllid
- 3. Escallonia flower

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by Barbarella

Rocket Fuel

Children are a house's enemy. They don't mean to be they just can't help it. It's their enthusiasm, their energy, their naturally destructive tendencies.

— Delia Ephron

avid's sister, Michelle, relayed the usual sentiments of one who has just visited an adored cousin everyone's healthy, the house is beautiful, et cetera. She'd spent an evening in Laguna Niguel with her cousin Mo, Mo's husband, Steve, and Jackson, their two-year-old, and then returned to Hillcrest to hang out with David and me for a few days sans her parents, who had been in

When they arrived and Bella shot up the stairs like a fast-leaping tree frog, I realized we'd underestimated the force of nature that is a curious threeyear-old.

town for the Easter holiday. "Jackson sure is a handful," said Michelle, settling into the black leather chair across from where I sat in the arms of its twin. "That reminds me," she added. "Mo asked if it was true about you and David not allowing kids in your home."

"What did you tell her?"

"I said, 'yes, it's true." "You're damned straight it is," I said, and giggled instinctively to take the edge off of my sharpened

tone. "I mean, look around. This place isn't exactly babyproof."

David's family is not (and may never get) used to my irreverence for societal norms. Before we left for my mother's house on Easter Sunday, David's mother, Ency, asked if there would be any animals there. I responded, "No. Unless, of course, you count the children." I smirked and winked to let her know I was kidding, kind of. Ency winced, then forced a smile for my benefit.

The day before Michelle was scheduled to return to Seattle, our friend Josue offered to play tour guide and introduce her to Mexico. David agreed to go with them while, like the second piggy toe in the song my mother still loves to sing, I stayed home. I was sitting at my desk, tweezing indiscriminately, when the

phone rang. Bringing the receiver to my ear, I heard the thick New York accent of my cousin Jane. "Yo, Bawb, you still wanna do kowafee today?" Jane was also leaving town the following afternoon, returning to Staten Island with her family. "Da guys are all goin' to Jamul, so we's ladies wah thinkin' of coming ovah to yowah place. Like two-thuhty. Doeszat work fowah-you?"

"When you say 'ladies,' who all do you mean?" I asked.

"Hang on." I heard the rustling noises of the phone being passed. "Barb? Yo. It's Jane," said my sister. "It's gonna be me, Jane, the two Olivias, and Bella. Is that okay?" I had to think about it for a second. "Barb? Is it okay? I'm not butting in on your plans, am I?"

"No, not at all. I'd love to see you," I said. "I'm just trying to figure out how to contain the blond hellcat."

It was decided that the two Janes, the teenaged Olivia, and me should be able to prevent the tiny tornado that is my niece Bella from leaving devastation in her wake. When they arrived and Bella shot up the stairs like a fast-leaping tree frog, I realized we'd underestimated the force of nature that is a curious three-year-old. I ran after her, scooped her up, and carried her back downstairs.

The Janes coaxed Bella into the center of the living room, away from the walls, where art hung dangerously low. "You know, if she touches that one there," I said, pointing to a large, unprotected canvas on the wall, "we'd

have to refinance the house in order to pay

"Great," said my sister. "How can I relax knowing my daughter might touch something that can hurt your mortgage?" Jane became distracted by baby Olivia's hungry cry and said, "Oh, no, not now. I can't run after that one while I have a boob in this one's mouth. I'm going to need your help." Cousin Jane, her Olivia, and I took turns saying, in our individually tailored ways, "No problem, we've got her."

As I stood between the stove and the granite-topped island, spooning instant coffee into mugs, Bella appeared at my knee; cleverly, under the cover of shortness, she'd escaped my detection on her trek around the island. "Aunt Bob?"

"Yes, Bella?"

"Is this a kitchen?"

"Yes, sweetie, it sure is," I answered.

"Does it work?"

The question threw me. Was she referring to the appliances? She was opening and closing cabinets and drawers, finding pots, Tupperware, and dishes. She wrapped both hands around the handle on the refrigerator door and leaned back, using all of her 32 pounds as leverage to try and pull it open. It occurred to me that "work" might mean, "produce food." I'm not much of a cook — I even buy my eggs pre-hardboiled to spare myself the annoyance of having to fill a pot with water — so I answered, "Sorry to disappoint you, Bella Boo, but this kitchen only



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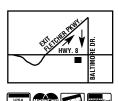
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works when Uncle David's here."

Without warning, Bella made a run for the pair of 19th-century Japanese scrolls that hang side by side on a column. Shouting "No!" louder than I intended, I sprinted after her and grabbed her hands. She smiled up at me, her big brown eyes unfazed. When I let go, she reached for the scrolls, and again, I grabbed her hands. "Bella, you can't touch these. These are fragile; if we touch them, they might break." I borrowed a tactic I've heard Jane use before in regard to her DVD player, the new one, of course, purchased to replace the older one, the one that Bella's curious fingers broke.

"Hey, Bella," said my cousin. "Come heah, I've got a special suhprise fo' you." Bella ran to Cousin Jane, who lifted her onto the island. Pleased with the feel



of the cool, smooth, shiny green-and-black granite beneath her, Bella rolled onto her stomach and pulled herself along the 12foot length of stone. Jane grabbed Bella and propped her up next to the sink, holding on to her in case Rocket Fuel, as her father Simon calls her, decided to fling herself off the edge. It hadn't even been two months since Bella had propelled herself off a chair and crashed through a window at my mother's house. She has a long, tender scar where 24 stitches repaired the damage on the bottom of her left foot.

Bella grew calm, fascinated with the water running over her toes, which she'd dangled over the sink as soon as the faucet was turned on. Jane may as well have pulled a kitten out of the dishwasher. From the

couch where she sat feeding newborn Olivia, Sister Jane said, "Oh, now you've got her. She can spend hours washing her dolls or pouring water back and forth between two cups." The other Olivia stood next to me near the island, watching Bella as she grabbed David's basting brush and began painting her legs with water.

Ten minutes later, when Bella decided to expand her canvas to areas outside the sink, the flow of "paint" was shut off. My sister had finished nursing, and as she gathered her things, I glanced at the time on the microwave, shocked to see that over an hour had passed. I fished Bella from underneath a sculptural concrete-and-wood table and carried her toward the door, where the Janes and Olivias were waiting.



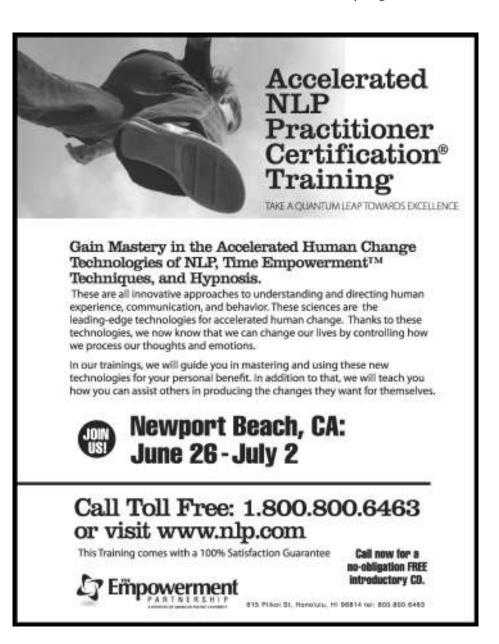
"What's this?" asked my cousin Jane, pointing to the elaborately framed photograph of an envelope that hangs by the door.

"We picked it up at a gallery in New York," I said. "The frame is so intricate and old looking; it made us wonder what's in that envelope that's so special to warrant all the pomp. But that's an envelope that can never be opened and will therefore remain a mystery. That's why we love it."

Bella was squirming in my arms. She pointed at the work of art and

squealed, "Mama!" Then, with a hushed voice that was more stage whisper, she said, "*This is a muse-um*."

"That's right, Bella," I said, handing her to her snickering mother. "And in a museum, we don't touch anything."







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San Diego Reader April 26, 2007

Singer/songwriter Danielle LoPresti waited as the man behind the desk listened to her demo CD. When the last song came to an end, the man leaned forward, looked Danielle in the eye, and said he would sign her in return for sex.

"You're kidding, right?" Danielle gave an unsure smile. She brushed off the comment as humor. "You're married," she said. "I'm as serious as a heart attack," the man said. "My wife does what she wants and I don't ask her any questions. I do what I want and she doesn't ask me any questions. She showers before she comes home. I shower before I go home. Now, what's your answer to my question?"

Disgusted, Danielle left the man's office, never to return.

Four years later, Danielle, whisked away to solve one crisis or another, left me to stand

alone behind the black curtain that separated the main floor from the backstage

of the San Diego Independent Music Festival. It was November 5, 2005. I was two hours into a sixhour gig as emcee.

I abandoned the stacked chairs and stashed purses, went upstairs to where the alcohol was kept, and ordered vanilla vodka with a splash of something carbonated. Plastic cup in hand, I checked out the vendors hawking original clothing designs and accessories on both floors of the Abbey, a historic church-turned-rentable-venue on Fifth Avenue in Hillcrest. Outside, the sun had set. Inside, sections of stained glass artificially lit from behind cast yellow and blue patches from opposite sides of the church.

Hornswaggled, a heavy-metal punk band from Poway, performed energetically for the growing crowd. The lead singer, backed by a drummer and flanked by two long-haired, headbanging guitarists, toggled between harmonies "SHE WAS DETERMINED TO IMPRESS US—
SHE WAS 'SERIOUS ABOUT THIS GIG, AND
GODDAMMIT, SHE WAS GOING TO MAKE
INDIE MUSIC FEST HUGE! ' "

hooligans and sharks

and roars, reminding me of Tool's Maynard James Keenan.

In about five minutes, just before the band finished their set, I would make my way downstairs through the crowd and grab a microphone from the sound booth. In my black rubber corset cinched tight with red laces, and with black-and-red plumage crowning my head, I'd lead the audience's attention from the main stage to the acoustic stage, where the next performer was ready to go.

The Women Behind the Curtain

Danielle tried to break into the music industry in Los Angeles, but her obstacles began long before she got there. In 1991, prior to moving to L.A., she joined the Mar Dels in San Diego. "They weren't paying the two female lead vocalists what they were paying all the guys," Danielle says. "We were being paid between \$150 and \$200, and the guys were getting between \$200 and \$300."

After discovering the discrepancy, Danielle got together with the other female vocalist in the band. At the next band meeting, they brought it up. "We said, 'Hey, we feel we're valuable enough to make as much as everybody else who is essentially our equal,' like the drummer, bass player, and sax

Danielle LoPresti and Alicia Champion



player. Who would be in front for everybody there to look at? The two pretty girls. So it was ridiculous." The bandleaders "growled and grumbled," but in the end, they gave in, and the female band members saw their paychecks increase.

Alicia Champion, Danielle's business partner and fellow band member, had also attempted to make her name in the L.A. music scene. Born in Singapore in 1981, Alicia moved to San Francisco with her mother and younger sister in 1991. "My parents brought me to Disneyland when I was eight years old, and it was, like, 'Wow! This is like nothing we have in Singapore!' And when we were going to move to the States, I thought, 'I get to live in Disneyland!" "But, Alicia remembers, "People were so much harder, almost the exact opposite of the whole fantasy I had."



Fishbone, San Diego Indie Music Festival III

Alicia learned to play guitar freshman year of high school. On a visit to her musical mentor's office, Alicia first heard the Indigo Girls. "I heard Amy Ray's voice, and I was, like, this is amazing. I always thought a Whitney Houston; I'd never heard a woman

voice like this. Then I discovered Ani DiFranco, another woman singing about dirty, real truth, and I thought, 'Oh! I can write this!'

Alicia performed her first gig at the Sacred Grounds Café in San Francisco in 1997, when she was 15. The openmike manager, who had seen her perform on

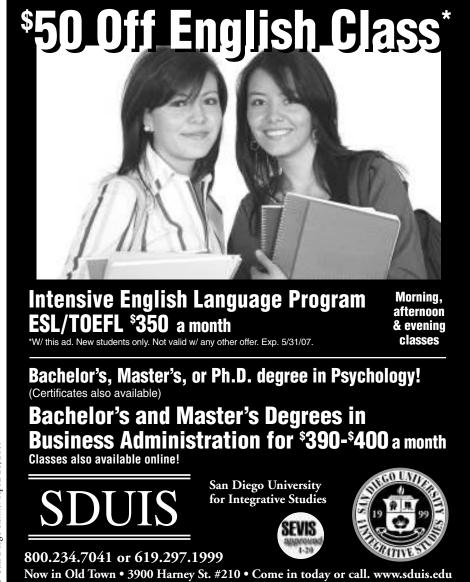
amateur nights, booked her show. For nine months following her professional debut, while she was still in high school, Alicia was courted by an artist and repertoire representative from Capitol Records' San Francisco office who was interested in signing her. She soon discovered two things that worked

against her. "They didn't like my hairstyle, which was short in front, shaved in the back." According to the representative, Alicia's look, in line with the grunge era, with loosefitting, hole-ridden jeans and a leather motorcycle jacket, was too masculine. "They also wanted me to narrow down the genre of music. They

said, 'What are you? You need to be either rock, folk, or pop. Right now you're all three of these things.' "Meanwhile, Alicia was accepted to Boston's Berklee College of Music, and she moved to the opposite end of the country.

Alicia graduated from Berklee in 2003, at the top of her class after being hand-picked by the school's "elite production team" to perform at the two biggest concerts of the year, one for the convocation in fall of 2002 (for which she played guitar and sang "The Book I'm Not Reading" for honored guest Patty Larkin) and the other for commencement in May 2003 (for which she sang "Jaded" and "Livin' on the Edge" for honored guests Steven Tyler and Dianne Reeves). Professors recommended Alicia go to either New York or Los Angeles to pursue her music career. She decided on the latter and secured

woman had to sound like with a low, husky, rich





a job as a scout at a talent agency in L.A. "I had a few companies headhunting me, and this one had the highest pay at 90 grand a year," she recalls. "I was supposed to be scouting for new musical talent, but I ended up working as a stylist not hair or makeup, but dressing people. I'm talking about 15-year-olds with straws way too big up their noses and 14year-olds who take too many trips to the bathroom to throw up. These little trays of coke were kept in the receptionist's desk. No one was eating — not the 40year-olds, not the 12year-olds. Everyone knows what's going on, but no one's going to say anything about it." She quit after three and a half weeks.

The Industry "Old Boys"

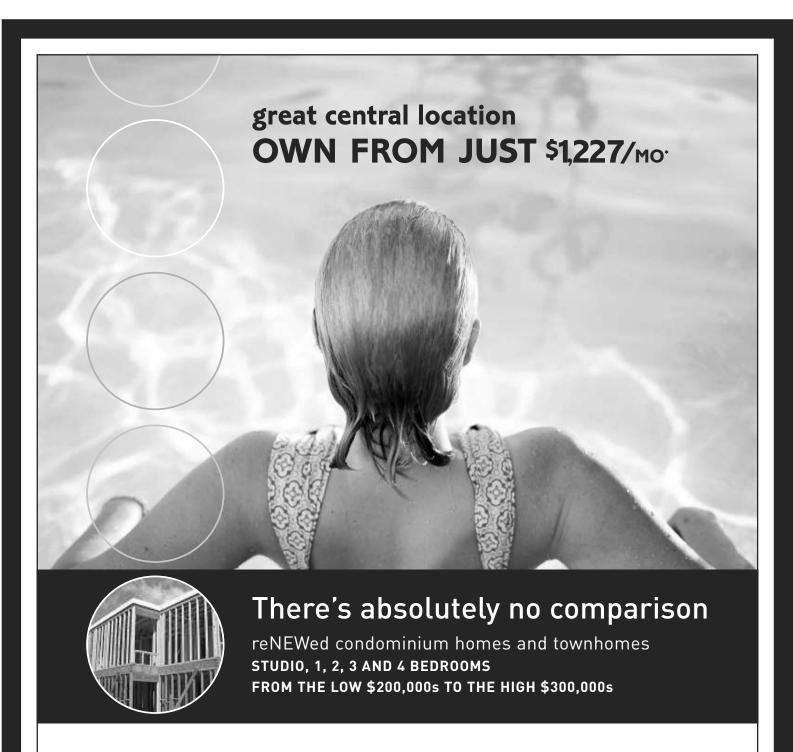
Prior to beginning work on her first solo album in 2000, Danielle had written and sold songs for movies, including The Nutty Professor (performed by Brandy) and Ace Ventura: Pet Detective. "The first chance I got to write my own song for my own project, the subject I chose was racism." Danielle had seen the television drama Roots when she was eight. "I had no idea what slavery was. It was then that I decided, 'Okay, I'm going to marry a black man and my whole family is going to be different colors." The first verse of her song, entitled "Call Me Sister," reads: "Eight years old, eight p.m., Roots, part one, channel ten. I never ever will forget that day I first felt the shame of my color, my face."

While living in L.A., Danielle often visited a friend she'd gone to school with at United States International University in San Diego. Eric Bishop (who has since changed his name to Jamie Foxx) rented a room at Studio 56 on Santa Monica Boulevard in Hollywood.

"I was the only female hanging out and doing work with them, being a part of the music. But, as with nearly every studio in L.A., and even with those guys, your worth as a woman was largely determined by how sexy or fine they thought you were," she says. "When an A&R person says, 'Hold off until you lose a little weight and change your hair color and then we'll introduce you,' it often means getting a boob job and dropping 25 pounds." The A&R agent who shopped Danielle's record *Balance* under the band name Stone 7 to MCA, Hollywood

Records, and Interscope from 1996 to 1998 told the nearly 6-foot, 140-pound 27-year-old that she would have to lose weight if she wanted to be taken seriously.

Earlier, in 1994, another A&R rep had attended one of Danielle's performances in San Diego. "He was one of those flashy business guys who knew people in a million places," Danielle says. "While I was onstage, he said to a friend of mine in the



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audience, 'You know,
Danielle would be
absolutely perfect if she'd
just get her tits done.
She's pretty and she sings
her ass off, but she's got
no boobs.' The only people who didn't tell me I
had to lose weight were
the black folks, because
they like curvy women."

According to Danielle, "Ashlee Simpson is a good example of someone — gorgeous in terms of the airbrushedlooking people that L.A. loves — who by most people's standards is not a good singer at all. Many people would think the same thing about Britney. She's very flashy, but she's not a musician she's a pop star. Milli Vanilli is another classic example. Two beautiful guys who knew how to dance but couldn't sing."

Not long after she fled the office of the man who'd proposed sex in exchange for a record deal, a music producer/ writer Danielle had become friends with advised her that studio executives will "work ten times as hard if they want to fuck you." This was in 1996, while Danielle was living in Van Nuys and shortly before she completed Balance. Because the statement hit a nerve, she wrote a song called "10 Times as Hard." The chorus goes: "You're tough, you can do this, just stay cool, they'll work ten times as hard if they want to sleep with you. So I closed my mouth and wore my boots, and I tried to memorize this new rule: they'll work ten

One of Danielle's notable encounters was with Tony Ferguson, the artist and repertoire agent at Interscope Records who had signed desk, complimented the music, complimented me, he was a total gentleman. In terms of all the major labels, he's the only one I can say that about.

"WE HEARD THAT THE GUY AT KPRI WAS PISSED, BUT, LIKE, WHAT DID HE THINK? WE WERE JUST GOING TO LAY DOWN AND TAKE IT?"

No Doubt, now a multiplatinum-selling band. In 2000, Ferguson had gone to see Danielle perform and scheduled a meeting with her in his office. "He sat across from me at his Then he looked at all of the songs I'd submitted and said, 'I would like to know, Danielle, why are you so angry?' "

Danielle considered the question, then said, "First of all, because my eyes are open. And, I've been living as a woman and as a female artist in L.A. for a few years now, and I'm not afraid to write about what's happening to me."

"I'm just not convinced people are going to want to hear that," Ferguson said.

"The reason he didn't sign me was that he wasn't looking for an artistic performer, he was looking for a commercial success," Danielle says. "He was looking for something that was a little edgy, pushing the envelope, but still a slamdunk in terms of commercial viability." In other words, the agent had hoped for the intensity of Alanis Morissette, with the safe familiarity of her woman-scorned lyrics. Danielle's songs, however, covered child abuse, racism, plastic surgery, and the foibles of the record industry. Topics, she says, that nobody

Danielle's song, "Say It," is an autobiographical song about being molested as a child. The incident occurred when lived in Clairemont. Her mother was working in the home office, and her father Frank (owner and captain of the famous sportfishing boat Royal Polaris) was out at the docks. "I was riding my bike in the cul-de-sac, and he called me by name," Danielle says. "He" was a teenaged neighbor a few doors down. "He said, 'Come here, I need your help.' As people know, once [a sexual predator] gets a child behind a closed door, you may as well kiss that child's innocence goodbye."

she was six years old and

Danielle remembers the man showing her his penis and asking, "Do you know what this is?" She did not answer. "I literally forgot the word for it and then remembered the word, but it was so ugly to my mouth that I couldn't possibly say it. I was totally stricken by shame. It was terrible, awful," she says. " 'Say It'



times as hard if they want

to screw you."





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explores the fact that I lost my voice, that I wasn't able to speak, and I take what he was saying to me, 'Do you know what this is? Do you know what this does?' and I place it back to him and the whole male gender. Do you know what this is? Do you know what it does? This misogynistic objectification of women that runs rampant throughout our culture? From just the tiniest age, Barbie dolls, the way they're made, what they look like, makeup and little baby gifts — do you know what this is? Do you know what it does? Do you know what you're doing?"

Afterward, the sixyear-old Danielle found her mother and, with difficulty, explained what had happened to her. Even though she begged her mother not to say anything, Danielle's dad was promptly told. "I have a recollection that my dad, who was and still is a huge tree of a man, a tough-ass Sicilian fisherman who has a total reputation for being a ballsmasher of a guy, walked over there and had a little talk with Kenneth — that was his name, and I have hated that name ever since." Danielle doesn't know what became of the boy and can't remember ever seeing him again.

"Say It" earned a

nomination in 2000 for a Los Angeles Music Award in the "Best Female Singer/Songwriter" category. The awards ceremony, which takes place in Hollywood, was held at the House of Blues. Producers of the show dubbed Danielle the "Say It Girl." "The saddest and sickest part of that whole thing is that they found the song sexy," Danielle says. When the producers called to inform her of her nomination, they gushed about how provocative her song was. "All they listened to was the tone of my voice, like



Michelle Shocked, San Diego Indie Music Festival III

that whisper-talk tone right up close on the mike; they didn't even pay attention to the story." Danielle informed them that the song was about child molestation and abuse, and one of the producers said, "Girl, I just want to hear your voice whispering to me, I don't care what the song's about."

The producers referred Danielle to Todd Cooper, an attorney known for brokering the best deals. They told her, "Listen, your stuff is so hot all you need is this guy on your side and all speculation will go away and you will be signed." Danielle never met the man face to face, but he was the inspiration for

the song she would pen after their first and only phone conversation, called "Dear Mr. Penishead."

The attorney listened to Danielle's CD. Then he called her at her home in Van Nuvs and asked, "Can I be straight with you?" His next words stopped her: "Quit music." He continued, "You're an attractive woman, you seem to be reasonably intelligent, so quit music and find something else that you're really good at, now, while you still can." Danielle tried to end the conversation, but he cut her off and launched into a 20-minute diatribe.

In her song, "Mr. Penishead," Danielle sings: "It was so kind of you to take 20 of your very busy minutes to tell me what you could have said in 2. All that expert advice, are you sure there's no charge? 'Cause when I write it out the list is so large."

Now, as she remembers the phone call, Danielle sounds irritated. "It takes less than two minutes to tell an artist, 'Listened to your music, hate it, thank you very much.' But he just went on and on. He said, 'You're writing adult music. And there's no market for that. Teenagers are the ones who move the units. The business of music has nothing to do with music, nothing. It has to do with one thing and one thing only — money. Hear me and hear me good. Your music will not sell units. If you are writing music that does not appeal to teenagers, which is what you're doing, you are wasting your time and you are wasting my time. You cannot be pretty. You have to be gorgeous. You cannot be smart. You have to be genius. You have to be the most amazing, incredible, aweinspiring creature to have



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walked planet Earth in order to make it in this business."

Danielle called a friend. "I told him about the whole thing, and I told him, 'I am so mad that I feel like killing somebody or something or myself. I want to break something, I want to hurt something!' These are the broken-record responses that you hear from the A&R people — you're not thin enough, or sexy enough, or coquettish enough, 'You don't fit the image,' and 'Your style is too diverse; you need to be all angry or all sad, all poppy or all sexy."

The Start of **Something Good**

In 2001, Danielle started her own label, Say It Records. "When it's all told, to establish the

record company and get the first real quality piece of music done, it was about \$20,000." She funded the project with her savings. To get started, Danielle read All You Need to Know about the Music Business, by Donald S. Passman, and obtained a DBA, or "doing business as," for the name Say It Records. She then acquired a postoffice box and hired someone to help create a website, all of which cost around \$800 and "a lot of time and energy." Fifteen thousand dollars went to three producers. "You write a song and bring them your chords and your lyrics and melody, and producers make it sound gorgeous by adding organ and a kickass drumbeat and arranging it and so on.



Basically, the song comes naked, and they dress the song," Danielle explains. The last step of creating a record is called "mastering," which cost Danielle \$1000. Finally, it cost \$2000 to reproduce the CDs, not including \$500 that went to a man named Xavier for art

direction.

Once her label was set up, Danielle moved back to San Diego. On September 28, 2003, while playing a gig at the San Diego Dyke March, she met Alicia, who was also booked to perform. Danielle watched Alicia's set and asked for her con-

tact information. A few months later, she called Alicia (who was still living in Los Angeles) and asked if she wanted to come down to San Diego and audition for Danielle's new band, Danielle LoPresti and the Masses. Alicia agreed and arrived to the audition prepared. "She had every song I had sent her memorized and played without a note in front of her," Danielle says.

In March 2004, Alicia, Danielle, and Kelly Bowen (who had been playing with Danielle since she was referred by a friend in 2001) produced a show in celebration of Women's History Month. Because it was a positive experience, they decided to produce another event, one that focused on independent music. They scheduled the event for November of that same year. A small team was established. It included Alicia, Danielle, Kelly, an artist's manager, and two old college friends of Alicia's who were still living in Los Angeles.

An additional team

member became involved after she saw Alicia perform and inquired about managing her. At one of their first meetings, this woman, who worked as an artist's manager, promised Ani DiFranco as a headliner. "She was so confident about it," Alicia says. "She'd keep telling us, 'She's going to give us an answer in a month,' or 'Okay, Ani said another two weeks.' It just kept getting pushed back and pushed back, and before we knew it, we were in June and we didn't have a headliner yet. It kept being stalled, and in the end, Ani didn't come through."

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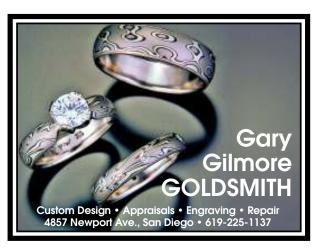
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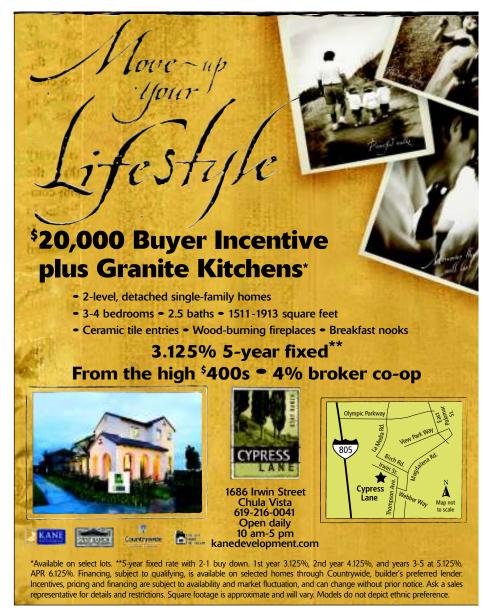
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Chula Vista

Danielle and Alicia decided to try and book Jonatha Brook. "Compared to the struggle of going back and forth trying to get Ani, it was really easy," says Danielle. It took one phone call to Brook's agent, who was located in New York, and three days of waiting after they faxed a proposal before the women received confirmation. "We made one price offer [of \$5000], and they took it immediately. Now we realize it's hard to get someone for \$5000. We had tough negotiations for Veruca Salt [the headliner for the following year's event in 2005, whose agent is located in Los Angeles]."

"Leticia" was one of Alicia's college friends and a musician who had majored in music business. "She was very savvy when it came to language, business, and sales, and she offered to handle the fundraising," says Alicia. Danielle







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recounts, "She'd say, 'Don't micromanage me, I've got it!' She too was confident and just had this whole 'I've got my shit together' aura. She seemed really on top of it. So we said, 'Okay. Go ahead."

"So," says Alicia,
"August rolls around, and
we don't have a penny,
not a penny. And this
person says, 'You know
what? I don't have it.'
Danielle and Alicia had
been so concerned with
upsetting the woman
who'd offered to raise the
funds that they backed
down each time she
became offended by their
tentative inquiries.

Danielle had just bought her first house in City Heights for over \$400,000, after taking out



San Diego Indie Music Festival III

the first loan of her life. "I went into a total panic because I realized: I could lose my house." Now the trio had the additional responsibility of finding

money, fast. "I had no savings left, because everything I'd saved since I was five went into my house."

For the next two

weeks, Danielle, Kelly, and Alicia hardly slept. They learned in the first week of September that the fundraising facet of their team had not raised a dime. The show was scheduled for November 11. They were also crunching for their September 14 deadline to inform all the artists as to which of them had been chosen to perform. "We made phone calls all day, and when it was too late to call people, we brainstormed more people to call, more businesses to elicit for help."

They needed at least \$10,000 to cover the initial costs for the venue, sound equipment and crew, programs, and headliner. The women tried to think of ten people they could call who would be willing to get involved for \$1000 each (by either paying for ad space or donating). At the end of those two

weeks, they had met their goal. The majority of the money did not come from businesses but from private patrons who were either family, friends, or friends of friends.

The endeavor wore Danielle down. In the weeks after the money was raised, she came down with bronchitis and coughed so hard during a performance at the Prado that her back spasmed, leaving her debilitated for four days. "I couldn't even get up to go to the bathroom. It was about six months before I could even think about exercising."

Two Big Letdowns

Despite the hardships, the 2004 show attracted an audience of 600. The

RESEARCH STUDIES

OCD, BDD & Hoarding Volunteers Needed

The UCSD Obsessive Compulsive Disorders Program is looking for people with Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD), Body Dysmorphic Disorder (BDD) and Compulsive Hoarding to take part in a study that is providing:

- 12 weeks of free medication treatment
- Brain imaging scans (PET & MRI)
- Diagnostic evaluation
- Neuropsychological evaluation

For more information call Dr. Jennifer Sumner at: 858-534-8056



Seeking Patients for a Research Study for Type 2 Diabetes

Dr. Robert R. Henry and his associates at the VA Medical Center are looking for Type 2 diabetic volunteers to take part in a research study to determine if the use of different glucose meters significantly lowers HbA1c.

Participants Will: ■ Attend eight study visits ■ Be randomly assigned to one of two glucose meters

Inclusion Criteria: •18 years or older ■ Have been diagnosed with Type 2 diabetes for at least 3 months but no more than 15 years ■ Have a stable regimen for at least 3 months ■ No history of anemia, serious chronic disease, or severe hypoglycemia ■ No use of insulin ■ A1c to be 6.5–9.4

Qualified participants will be compensated for participation up to \$200.

Recruitment Period: 2/2007 to 6/15/2007.

To see if you qualify or to learn more about the study, please contact:

Karla Martinez at (858) 552-8585 ext. 6155 • E-mail: karla.martinez1@va.gov OR Catherine DeLue at ext. 6740

Attn: Heavy Drinkers

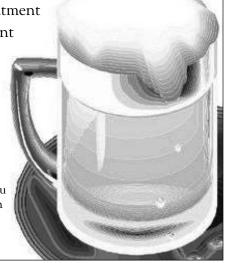
The Scripps Research Institute is conducting 3 investigational studies associated with drinking:

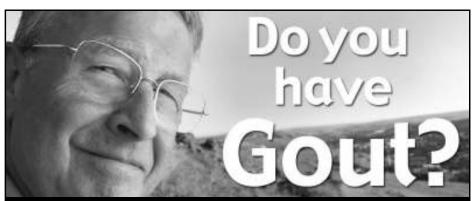
- Heavy drinkers not seeking treatment
- Heavy drinkers seeking treatment
- Drinkers with depression seeking treatment



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

(858) 784-7867 (STOP)





PAIN, SWELLING, TENDERNESS IN YOUR JOINTS?

Our physicians are conducting a research study to see if an investigational drug can lower uric acid levels in the body (high uric acid can cause gout). If you have a history of gout or are currently experiencing gout symptoms, you may qualify to participate. As a study participant, you will receive all study-related care at no charge, including physical exams, lab services and study medication.

To learn how you can join over 2,000 other study participants, call our office today or log on to: www.gouttrial.com



San Diego Sports Medicine and Family Health Center 6699 Alvarado Road #2100 San Diego, CA 92120

Call 619-229-3909 www.gouttrial.com





in your ears?

If you are interested in participating in a study with a new approach to addressing tinnitus, contact Dr. William Reed at 858-459-6622.

> You must have access to a personal computer with Windows XP.

Was your child prenatally exposed to alcohol?

If so, you are invited to participate in an ongoing research study.

Your child will receive FREE neuropsychological testing!

We will compensate your child for their hard work! You will receive a report of their performance!

Biological, adoptive and foster families are welcome.

For more information, please call: 619-594-1228 All calls are completely confidential.

> Center for Behavioral Teratology San Diego State University

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

with computerized therapy as part of a research program.

Call: 619-229-3740 or e-mail: SDSUCUTA@hotmail.com http://nas.psy.sdsu.edu

CENTER FOR UNDERSTANDING AND TREATING ANXIETY

6386 Alvarado Court, Suite 301, San Diego

Are you hiding out because of ACNE?

If you are 12 years of age or older and have acne, you may be able to participate in a clinical research study testing an investigational gel medication.

Qualified participants will receive at no cost:

- Skin evaluations
- An investigational gel medication for 12 weeks
- Reimbursement for time and travel

Come out of your shell and stop hiding...

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

To qualify you should:

- Have acne on the face
- Be 12 years of age or older
- Be in good general health





Depression Study

Signs and symptoms:

- Feeling down and depressed? Lost interest in your normal activities?
- Lost your appetite?Having difficulty sleeping?

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

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

If you would like additional information regarding this study and are between the ages of 18 and 65, please contact:

(619) 688-6565





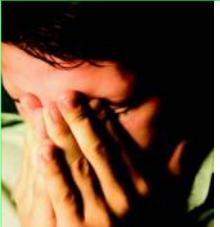
Bipolar?

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

For more information about this study, please contact:

(619) 688-6565 or visit us online at: www.ari-inc.com





Anxiety Study

Signs and Symptoms:

- Experiencing persistent worry?Having difficulty sleeping?
- Feeling restless, irritable, or tense?
- · Having difficulty concentrating?

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

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

If you would like additional information regarding this study and are between the ages of 18 and 65, please contact:

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





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
- 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



Do you have trouble sleeping?

Are vou

- 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



Synergy Clinical Research Center

1908 Sweetwater Rd. • National City

lineup of 25 performers included Jonatha Brook, Julie Wolf (of Ani DiFranco's band), and Erika Luckett (a Latin artist). The show was broken into two phases, only the second half of which provided alcohol. Tickets ranged from \$17 (student price) to \$30 (the full-day price only available to those over 21). The team broke even financially and, convinced they were now equipped to foresee major setbacks, they began planning for the next show, scheduled for



November 5, 2005. For the admittedly

not-fundraising-savvy musicians, raising money was the single most stressful aspect of planning the show. To avoid the mishap of the previous year, a marketing rep was brought in to handle the task in March 2005. "She was referred to us by a well-trusted friend, and that referral was enough for us to excuse what seemed like a few warning flags," says Danielle.

Danielle and Alicia first met the woman for drinks at the Prado in Balboa Park. Alicia recalls, "We called her up, and it sounded like she was just supercaffeinated. She was, like, 'Oh yeah great I've downloaded all your stuff and I'm really excited and want to meet you right away!' She talked way too fast and had her big ol' rolly suitcase with her big laptop

and her flash presentation, which we didn't understand, but it looked really pretty, and she had all our materials and had done her homework."

Danielle describes the marketing rep as tan, thin, fit, well dressed, well coifed, sharp and businesslike, yet hip. "She was determined to impress us — she was 'serious about this gig, and Goddammit, she was going to make Indie Music Fest huge!"

After their meeting, the rep sent Danielle and Alicia a 50-page contract. Reading it, they came across one clause that specified indefinite exclusivity. "We laughed," says Danielle. "We told her, 'We're going to do one year and we'll see how it goes, and then if it goes great, we'll do two years, and then five,' and she agreed to that."

Deadlines were set, and the rep was confi-

RESEARCH STUDIES



...Scheduled for Surgery?

...Want an Alternative?

Do you have an abnormal Pap Smear? Has your doctor scheduled you for a surgical procedure (LEEP) to treat your abnormal Pap? Consider this clinical study of an investigational medication for abnormal Pap Smears and moderate to severe biopsy results in women 18-25 years of age.



- 1) Healthy females, ages 18-25 years
- 2) Abnormal Pap Smear within the last 6 months
- 3) Using effective birth control

Participants receive at no cost study-related:

- Examination and consultation with boardcertified OB-GYN
- All lab testing, Pap Smears, HPV testing, colposcopies, study medication and LEEP treatment if indicated
- 3) Compensation for your time

Interested, call:

619-521-2841

The 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

Are you in an excessively good mood?

Easily distracted? Irritable?

Help us learn more.

A nationwide clinical research study is now seeking volunteers between the ages of 18 and 65 with bipolar disorder. The purpose of the study is to evaluate the safety and efficacy of an investigational drug in treating bipolar disorder with a manic episode.

Participants will receive study-related medical and psychiatric evaluations by a physician, and study medication, all at no cost. You may receive compensation for travel and expenses. Participants do not need medical insurance.



To get more information on how to participate in a bipolar clinical research study, please contact Excell Research:

760.758.2222

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Call 619-543-1061

Medical Marijuana Evaluations Don't be fooled by bogus ID cards!

WARNING:

ID Cards issued by Health Department are the only ID cards recognized by law enforcement.

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Call 619-543-1061 for more information on fake IDs.



your well-being and helpful in increasing your energy, heightening your metabolism and feeding your nervous system. Let Dr. Sterner develop an individualized program just for you.

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Robert F. Sterner, Jr., MD Harvard 1978/UCLA 1982 Serving San Diego Since 1984

ARE YOU SAD DUE TO BIPOLAR DISORDER?

Then there might be hope.



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

TO QUALIFY:

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

QUALIFIED PARTICIPANTS WILL RECEIVE AT NO COST:

- Monitoring of biopolar and depressive symptoms
- Medical and lab exams
- Study medication



TO LEARN MORE, PLEASE CALL:

eStudySite

Toll-free at **877-857-2084**



Do You Get **Anxious** in Social Situations?

Do you:

- Get very **NERVOUS** around people?
- **FEAR** being the center of attention?
- **AVOID** going to social events and meeting new people?

If you answered **YES** to any of the above, you may be eligible to participate in an experimental research study comparing several study drug options for social phobia. Medical assessment and clinical care

For more information, please call

1-877-UCSD-SHY (1-877-827-3749)

Or e-mail: veryshy@ucsd.edu



- Are you easily distracted? Is it hard for you to pay attention to detail?
- Are you forgetful in daily activities?
 Are your personal relationships suffering?
- Are you having a hard time focusing at work?

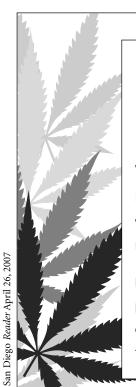
If you have had these symptoms your whole life, it could be Adult Attention Deficit/ Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD).

We are studying Atomoxetine Hydrochloride (Strattera™), an FDA-approved medication for ADHD that may help those who experience these symptoms. This study is looking at the effects of Atomoxetine on ADHD and how ADHD affects family life.

If you are 18 years old or older, in a relationship with a person of the opposite sex, and have a biological child between 6-12 years old who is living with you, call to see if you qualify for this research study.

Call: PCSD~Feighner Research 760-510-1734

ADHD - Give it your attention!



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.



dent she could bring in \$300,000. "Her first deadline hits [June 10], and we don't see a single penny, so we call her up, leave a message, don't get a return phone call. In a couple of days we send an e-mail — nothing. Two weeks go by, and we've been calling, and she calls us back and says [on voice-mail], 'Sorry, my mom took a turn and just fell really ill. She's terminally ill and I need to go be with her, and I won't be able to commit as much time to this project as I would have liked.'

At the end of June, Danielle and Alicia went to San Francisco to perform at the Gay Pride Festival. "We decided to hit the Dyke March on Saturday to hand out flyers to people for our show," Alicia says. "San Francisco Dyke March is huge; there are 70,000 people in Dolores Park.

Literally, in the middle of the sea of women, I turn around and give a flyer to someone, and guess who it is? It's her — her, who's been avoiding our calls, with a beer in her hand, in San Francisco."

Upon returning to San Diego, Danielle received an e-mail from the flaky rep. "She said, 'I'm sorry that everything didn't work out, but I'm really happy I got two new friends.' I e-mailed her back and said, 'You are completely delusional. And your idea of business and what you have done to us by wasting our precious time on a timeline like we are on for the past three months, it's unspeakable. Not only will you not be having dinner with me, I never want to see your face again."

The concert organizers suddenly found themselves in the same

position they were in the year before. "We contacted our friend who had referred us to this person, and we're, like, 'Yo, your referral? Bad —"

"Sucked," says Danielle.

"She felt really bad and came to our aid and said, 'Here's someone else who can help you, and I really trust this woman.'

In appearance and demeanor, the second marketing rep was the exact opposite of the first. "We were, like, 'Thank you, God, Buddha, Jesus, Jehovah, and everybody else up there, thank you, Mother Mary!' We just knew we'd found our person."

The new, older, experienced rep set up a meeting with associates for radio station KPRI.

Feelings were good all around, and the new team moved forward. A contract was drawn up

continued on page 42

RESEARCH STUDIES



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Earn up to \$190 a month in cash and save lives!

Requirements: 18+ years of age • Photo ID and proof of Social Security number • Proof of current address (ID, utility/household bill, rental agreement, third-party correspondence, etc.)

Bring this ad and receive a

BONUS

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~ Specialty Antibody Programs also available ~



Profil Institute for Clinical Research, Inc. 855 3rd Ave., Suite 4400 Chula Vista, CA 91911

Are you...

- ➤ A Type 2 Diabetic controlling your diabetes with diet and exercise or oral medications, but, not using insulin?
- > At least 25 years of age?
- > Otherwise healthy?

If you answered, "YES" to any of the above questions, you may qualify for this clinical research study with an investigational medication.

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- ✓ Study-related physical exams and lab work at no charge.
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Local: 619-788-9216

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Type I Diabetes:

How Does It Affect You?

You may have the opportunity to change the way it affects others.

The Profil Institute for Clinical Research invites you to participate in a clinical research study that may contribute to



and improve the lives of people with Type I Diabetes in the future. You may be compensated up to \$1,000 for your time and travel.

Participants must be:

- Ages 25-65
- Diagnosed with Type I Diabetes
- A non-smoker
- Otherwise healthy

For more information, please call:

619-409-1243



Institute for Clinical Research

We believe we can help.

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



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 study-related medical care.
- No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.



Depression

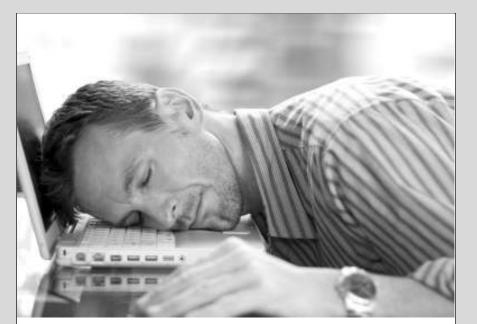
steals more than your mood. It robs you of life's pleasures.

Are you between the ages of 18 and 64 and finding life hard to tolerate? Has your energy and motivation to enjoy your life decreased? Do you find even simple pleasures empty?

California Clinical Trials has been assisting the pharmaceutical industry with finding new medications for depression over the past 20 years. Every study conducted by California Clinical Trials is staffed by a team of skilled and experienced, caring physicians and medical professionals trained to place your comfort and well-being first.

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

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



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

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

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

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

Qualified participants:

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



858-571-1188

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

Overweight? Worried about diabetes?

Are you between the ages of 30 and 62?
Do you have a family history of diabetes?
Are you overweight by 20 or more pounds?
Are you craving sweets or other carbohydrates?
Is your waist greater than 39.5 inches?

California Clinical Trials is offering free pre-diabetic testing as part of a nutraceutical clinical trial of an over-the-counter herbal combination for weight loss.

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

- Participants who complete the clinical trial will receive the nutraceutical for 2 months as well as counseling with a dietician.
- 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

858-571-1188

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

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

Have you or someone you know been diagnosed with

Hepatitis C Infection?

If you are between the ages of 18 and 65, you may be eligible to take part in a research study looking at the ability of an investigational drug to treat **Hepatitis C Infection.**

In addition to receiving this investigational drug, you will also receive 2 other drugs currently approved by the FDA for the treatment of **Hepatitis C Infection**.

If you qualify for this study, all study-related exams, laboratory tests and medications will be provided at no cost.

Participation in a research study is completely voluntary and you can leave the study at any time.

Please call Medical Associates Research Group:

858-277-7177 to find out if you qualify to take part in this research study looking at the ability of an investigational drug to treat **Hepatitis C Infection.**

ARE YOU SAD DUE TO BIPOLAR DISORDER?

Then there might be hope.



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

TO QUALIFY:

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

QUALIFIED PARTICIPANTS WILL RECEIVE AT NO COST:

- Monitoring of bipolar and depressive symptoms
- Medical and lab exams Study medication

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



continued from page 3

for the new rep. It was already August, and an appointment was set to get the contract signed on a Tuesday. "She didn't come back to verify what time she wanted to meet, and we thought, 'That's not like her at all.' And so we called again and again and the next day and the next day, and now we start to freak out."

"We couldn't understand," Danielle continues. "This person could not be more different than the first woman, I mean austere, no makeup, just bookwormish, talks really slow, listens. The next thing we know it's, like, a week later and we get an e-mail: 'Girls, I'm very sorry to have to give you this news, but my father's health has taken a turn for the worse, and I simply cannot abandon my family at this time. I have

to fly back East to help them. I don't know how long it will take. Therefore, I cannot be involved with you and the festival anymore, my apologies."

Danielle remembers

thinking, "We are so fucked, because it's too late to cancel." Submissions from bands wanting to perform were coming in from Egypt, India, Iceland, Brazil, China, and Japan. In August, Danielle and Alicia turned to a good friend for advice, and he referred them to "Steve," a friend of his. "He's in his 50s and had worked in Vegas with some big artists. When we met him he was starting his own marketing company. He was a dear friend of a big gay-community leader who had a reputation for doing a lot of philanthropic work and raising a lot of money." The only information they were given before meeting

their *third* marketing rep was that "He can be a little rough around the edges, but he's great at what he does."

Countdown to Catastrophe

Upon their first meeting with Steve, the women were horrified. "He was so unbelievably *rude*," says Alicia. "He wouldn't let us finish a sentence before putting his hand up in our faces with his cigarette. He was the [stereotypical] flamboyant queen with the hand and the cigarette and the glasses down to the tip of his nose."

"But we were so desperate we finished the meeting," says Danielle. "Once, I told him, 'You need to stop interrupting me, and you need to let me finish this sentence because I am really getting ticked off right now,' and I almost started crying right there at the

RESEARCH STUDIES

Do you or someone you know suffer from forgetfulness?

If you are:

- Male or female between 55 and 85 years of age
- Fluently read and speak English
- Are in good general health

and

- Forget names of people or places
- Lose things around the house
- Frequently have "senior moments"

You may be eligible to participate in a clinical research trial for an investigational new medication.

Participants will receive free of charge:

- Study-related exams
- Investigational drug
- Compensation for time and travel

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



Synergy Clinical Research Center

1908 Sweetwater Rd. • National City

table, and I remember thinking, 'I'm losing it.' I was so tired and so stressed. I felt like I was being slammed up against a wall — we had no one else."

"The next meeting and the next one and the next, he was hilarious, he had us in stitches," says Alicia. "He was sweet, funny, charming, he was the fruity gay queen of America and we were laughing and we thought, 'Oh my God,' I guess he was just a real pricktoramus until he decided to work with us, and now he's showing his sweet side. And you know what? His ideas were really smart."

One of Steve's ideas was based on Danielle's oft-repeated definition of "indie": "It's the difference between getting your coffee at Starbucks or going across the street to the Living Room or Twiggs or Claire de Lune or Reds, and supporting independent business." By supporting independent artists, musicians, and businesses, Danielle insists, residents promote originality and diversity. Steve's idea was to elicit sponsorships from local independent coffeehouses and call the show "Indie Coffee Presents Indie Music."

"On so many levels it was a brilliant and doable idea," Danielle says. "But he didn't have the staffing or — now we know the professionalism to follow through with that great idea."

With Steve at their side, Danielle and Alicia went back to KPRI before the end of August. A contract was signed with the station. "It was a whole list of stuff, and everything we said we would do for them, we did," says Alicia. "And they were about a third of the way through everything they said they would do for us."

As November 5, the date of the show, approached, Steve failed to acquire the advertising he'd promised for the station, and Danielle and Alicia ended up paying \$2000 of advertising money out of their own pockets. "We did this, and [KPRI] is livid with us, because it's only \$2000

and not the \$6000 Steve said he 'thought' he could buy," says Danielle. "They said, 'We're not going to do any of the artist interviews that we promised you.' "

According to the

promo schedule created on August 31 with two representatives from KPRI, the station was to make promotional announcements directing listeners to their website, where, once registered,

they could have a chance to win tickets to the show. Ten pairs of tickets were to be donated by Indie Fest organizers for the promotion, and five pairs were to go to KPRI "staff and personal

guests." On air, there were to be 30 ten-second promotional statements each week from the station's show hosts, airing between 6:00 p.m. and midnight. A note on the contract states that the

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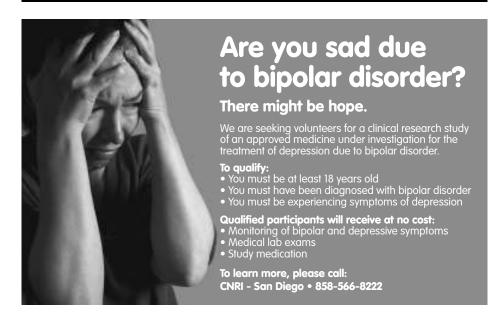
plans for the station to broadcast live from the event were "confirmed" by two senior executives.

After canceling promotional announcements and interviews, KPRI canceled its plans to broadcast live from the festival, though a stage remained named in its honor. Danielle and Alicia speculated the cancellations were due to Steve's unfulfilled boasts

that he could sell thousands of dollars of ads.
Though they were aware of Steve's ambitious claims, the women were not concerned, for nowhere on the contract agreement did it mention the purchase of advertising on behalf of Indie Fest or any of its organizers. Regardless, Danielle and Alicia purchased with their own money a quarter of the amount

Steve had promised the station. When she learned of the cancellations, Danielle called the "new bigwig" at the station and said, "You've got to be kidding, this is what our agreement is, it's in writing." Danielle was appalled at the man's reaction: "He started yelling at me on the phone — 'I do not have the time to be talking to you about what we

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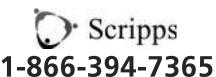
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should be or have to do, you can't tell me anything. I don't care what you say, I don't care what the agreement says, the answer is no, do you understand me?' I got off the phone and called 91X and explained what had just happened with KPRI and how pissed we were and said, 'We know that you're independent again. Can you help us?" Within the hour, the newly independent radio station's logo was posted on the Indie Fest website. "We heard that the guy at KPRI was pissed, but, like, what did he think? We were just going to lay down and take it?"

Meanwhile, things were beginning to fall through on the performance end. Earlier in the year a band called the Bellrays had been booked. Alicia remembers: "The first conversation we had with their agent, Michael Dutcher,

we got off the phone and thought, 'Wow, this agent really cares about his band and independent music, what a good guy,' and I told Danielle, 'You know, after the Indie Music Fest is over, let's contact Michael Dutcher to represent us."

After discussing terms, it was agreed that the agent would send a Bellrays contract to Danielle and Alicia. "He said we could expect it in about two weeks, and we said great and gave him our address. Two weeks came, no contract. I let another week go by, still no contract. I called him up and said, 'Hey, Michael, we haven't received that contract yet.' He said, 'Oh, I'm sorry, I just spaced it. I'll have it out immediately.' Another two, three weeks went by, still no contract."

"This went on for five months," says

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Danielle.

"As it got closer [to the show], his responses were like, 'My secretary didn't get it out to you? I'm so sorry, I'll do it myself," Alicia says.

Once, when Danielle called, the agent told her he'd mailed it himself the day before. "I was fit to be tied," she says. "I am 36 years old and I am tired. So we're driving to L.A. for a show, and I say to Alicia, 'Guess who we're going to visit? Michael Dutcher.' We're in our sweats, hair up, not a stitch of makeup on, and I am, like, in my Sicilian self. We had all this other shit that we'd been dealing with, so we were really mad."

When they arrived at the "quaint little trashy

office" in West Hollywood on October 19, Danielle and Alicia were told that the man they sought was in a meeting. They identified themselves to the office messenger and added, "Tell him we are here for the contract, and we're not leaving until he comes out."

The woman opened a door through which Danielle could see several people sitting at a conference table, including Mr. Dutcher. After they made eye contact, he came to the door and said he'd be finished in 20 minutes. "In front of everybody in the room," remembers Danielle, "I said, 'You strung us along for five months. We need that contract today."

Twenty minutes later, they sat across a desk from Dutcher in his office. "We have a sound check to go to, we don't have time to mince words," said Danielle. "You've flat-out lied to us."

Dutcher responded bluntly, "Okay, here's the deal: I don't know if I can get the band there."

"We were, like, no," says Alicia. "We said, 'These are our flyers, this is our poster, we have spent over X amount already promoting your band, and you have lied to us. A couple of weeks ago when I called you and you said it's in the mail, what was that?"

Dutcher, it turned out, had never drawn up a contract, but the organizers had brought one along. He signed his name. The morning of Indie Fest, the stage manager was called and informed that the Bellrays would not be coming. "They got tons of press, and that could have gone to a deserving band. So that's Michael Dutcher, Michael fucking Dutcher," says Danielle.

Disappointments mounted. SD Music Matters, a local magazine for local music and culture, backed out of its agreement to put an alreadyconducted interview with Danielle and Alicia on the front page in exchange for banner space, logo placement, and sponsor status. The news was delivered to Danielle via e-mail from

the magazine's publisher. She had been trying to contact someone at the magazine for a status via phone and e-mail. "When you're confronting someone, you don't have to be aggressive. If you just tell the truth, it can be enough to make them very upset," says Danielle. As the date of the festival approached, Danielle sent an e-mail or left a voicemail every three days or so. "I was saying things like, 'This is Danielle LoPresti again, I've been trying to reach you, this is where I stand, we have an agreement and we fulfilled our commitment to you, we need you to fulfill your commitment to us." Danielle and Alicia had made the

agreement with the publisher's wife and believe now that the publisher was "not okay with his wife, the editor-inchief, making deals." Finally, in response to Danielle's persistence, the publisher responded. "He said, 'I've been in business for myself longer than you've been alive.' If I didn't stop harassing his staff, not only will I not have my story, but he would rip every mention of us out of his magazine so fast that my head would turn, and he said something like, 'You are narcissistic and self-centered."

Danielle says this attitude is endemic in the music industry. "I think people do not appreciate it when someone tries to

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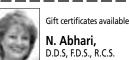
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hold them to their word, unless you've got big-ass bucks you're spending with said person. The industry is filled with flakes and hooligans and sharks. It all comes down to what Dear Mr. Penishead said — 'This industry isn't about music, it has nothing to do with music. It has to do with money."

Speaking of money, Steve, the marketing rep, still hadn't come through with any. He claimed to have closed a deal for \$2500 but had yet to produce the check. "We had nothing at this point, supposedly \$7500, but nothing was in the bank," says Alicia. "We still needed more, but we knew that with this, plus our ticket sales, we were going to be okay."

The week of the festival came, and Steve was still empty-handed. Even so, says Danielle, "He said he had so many vendors

he didn't know what to do and that he'd have to rearrange the floor plan. But we hadn't seen a single vendor contract. That's when I got on the phone to Alicia and said, 'I don't believe him, I don't think he has jack shit, and even if he does, he has nothing until I see the contracts proving his claims.'

In the end, the majority of the funds, \$20,000, came from a single, anonymous supporter of the arts. "We never met her in person, and she had never heard our music. She was a fan of a fellow musician friend who we'd booked in the past," Danielle explains. "We were told the couple [husband and wife] love to support the arts."

A Show Unexpected

The day of the show, one of the best tables, reserved for Americans for Energy and Independence (a

group Steve had signed), remained empty. The Bellrays were not coming, and a few other bands were late. The headliner, Veruca Salt, had not yet shown, and people behind the curtain were beginning to fear the worst.

When I arrived to relieve local entertainer Laura Jane of her emceeing duties, it seemed as if the first six hours had gone well. I was distracted, doing laps between the two stages, stopping only to read the introduction for the next band or pausing beneath a spotlight to chatter and promote the vendors while buying time for tardy performers.

Moments before Alicia took to the stage, I encountered her in the restroom. Her cappuccino skin was pale, as though it had been given an extra dollop of cream. Her eyes were wide, and her mouth

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was clamped tightly closed.

"Are you all right?" I asked.

She shook her head no. Then yes. Then no again. Her jaw appeared tense and her eyes grew wide. I thought perhaps she had butterflies, that nervousness most performers suffer before taking the stage. Again, she nodded yes.

"Okay, I've gotta run now, but Danielle's going to introduce you, not me." I said this slowly, reassuringly, as though talking to a frightened child who had lost her way. "You sure you're okay?"

One last, tight-lipped nod. I smiled apprehensively and left to join the large crowd before the main stage, everyone cheering for the band that had just completed its set.

Excitement was mounting. The festival was down to its last three performers, and word had spread that the headliner, Veruca Salt, was on its way. Alicia stepped onto the stage, and Danielle took her place behind a microphone to sing backup. Guitar in hand, Alicia found her voice. She roared through her first song, and the second, her long dark hair falling in front of her face, only to be flipped back as she whipped her head to the beat.

Alicia had not eaten or slept in days, two things she had relegated as unimportant when compared to pulling off the show. As she began her third song, Alicia closed her mouth, and for a split second, her eyes seemed to focus in fear on a distant object, well beyond the audience. Then she collapsed in a convulsing heap onto the stage. Alicia, who is not an epileptic, was having a

The only noise after

the singer fell was the murmuring of voices pleading into their cell phones for an ambulance. Many of the festival's organizers were in tears. The crowd waited, watched, and eventually cleared a path to the stage for the paramedics, who lifted Alicia onto a stretcher, strapped her down, and disappeared with her through the front door.

A microphone was handed to me. Raylene, the stage manager, was at my side, just as she had been through most of the night. "Tell 'em not to go, Veruca Salt is here," she said. With feigned bravado, I strutted onto the stage and coaxed a loud, cheering applause from the crowd for Alicia and Danielle. I announced that Veruca Salt were on their way to the main stage and that another musician, Elena, would entertain everyone

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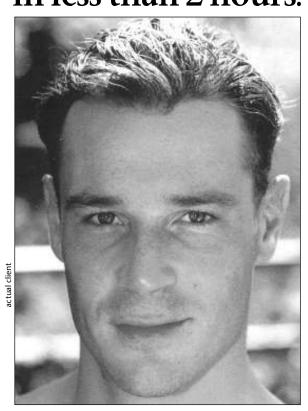
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on the acoustic stage until the headliner was set up and ready to play. The show went on.

Aftermath

Doctors instructed Alicia not to drive until the results of her extensive neurological tests were in. Everything came back negative — the only explanation the medical professionals could give was that stress, lack of sleep, and lack of food had contributed to the grand mal seizure.

The first time Alicia performed after the festival was at an Indie by Design event held at Humphrey's By the Bay on December 13, 2005. Drawing attention to the elephant in the room (everyone's memory of her public seizure), Alicia grabbed the mike and, right before she energetically launched into her first song, said, "You have to admit, it's kinda like the most rock 'n' roll thing I could've done besides dving."

Third Time's the Charm

The San Diego Indie Music Fest 2007 was held on March 3, in North Park. Danielle and Alicia decided not to hire a marketing rep. Instead, they formed a sponsorship team to help raise money. Of the ten fundraisers, it was only Danielle, Alicia, and Esta Browning, a friend and volunteer, who managed to raise anything. "The rest of the people were well-meaning but deeply disappointing," says Danielle.

At around \$60,000, this year's festival cost nearly three times as much to produce as the previous year. The rental of the Birch North Park Theatre and additional stages, including the Indie Film stage at the Arts and Entertainment Center, contributed to the

HEALTH AND BEAUTY

increase. To their relief, the organizers were in the black by the day of the festival. After the first two years, the festival had developed a reputation. Companies such as CSG Music Management, Netlivemusic.com, and Toadworks Guitar Pedals initiated contact for sponsorship. Two of the big headliners, Fishbone and Gingger Shankar, were also unsolicited, applying for their spots through sonicbids.com like most of the other bands.

Perhaps the shining moment came when Councilmember Toni Atkins, whose district is North Park, declared March 3, 2007, "Indie Music Fest Day," meaning the city has officially acknowledged the event. But, Alicia insists, "The real triumph is that neither of us ended up in a hospital." ■

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Pete Wilson hatched his political career in San

Diego, and it is here that it's likely to die. The rise

of the city's dull ex-mayor to presidential candi-

date ("dour," a great campaigner," not interested

in governing," "never underestimate him," "really

fun when you get him one on one") was stalled last

year by San Diego characters and circumstances

that gained national notoriety. It is ironic that Wil-

son, who fancies three-piece suits, imported silk ties, Italian shoes, expensive cigars, and wealthy

friends, would be brought down by a pair of Mexican maids and their La Jolla employers. But to

those who know San Diego well, it is a kind of clo-

sure, the running of Wilson's full circle, from ambi-

tious boy mayor, a so-called GOP "moderate"

favoring what he called "managed growth" --- sup-

ported by friendly real estate money and the local

pro-growth newspaper — to self-designated "neo-

conservative," alien-bashing governor, and presi-

dential candidate regarded, even by some friends,

be seen as the essence of Pete Wilson. It began a

year ago last spring in Washington, where the Post

had uncovered the hottest story of Pete Wilson's

30-year career. The day before the story broke,

Thus did a scandal called Maidgate come to

as a flip-flopping opportunist.

THE GOVERNOR

PETE WILSON — FROM THOSE OF US WHO KNOW HIM

and MAIDGATE



Pete Wilson

word had already leaked across California: Wilson, the champion of 1994's most fashionable state ballot measure, the alien-curtailing Proposition 187, had employed an illegal alien from Tijuana as his housekeeper.

Hours before the *Post*'s presses rolled, reporters from the *Sacra*mento Bee and Los Angeles Times worked the phones to San Diego, eager for any confirmation of the story and desperate to avoid being scooped by the East Coast newspaper. One enterprising *Times* reporter based in San Diego, but posted to Oklahoma City to cover the bombing, even made a late-night call to a San Diego-based Wilson watcher, begging him to go to the home of Wilson intimate John Davies to ask for Wilson's unlisted phone number.

Actually, the scandal's first big revelation was that the state's big newspapers had been caught flat-footed on Maidgate. They were, after all, fresh from months of covering Wilson's triumphant reelection comeback against the inept Katherine Brown. They never admitted it, of course, but the papers had long ago cut back their Sacramento coverage, saving money on reporting payrolls but leaving the citizenry victim to an electoral system dependent on \$20 million advertising campaigns filled with 30-second TV spots of misinformation. Both Brown and Wilson had raised their money from an unsavory bunch — gambling professionals (Brown: Indian casinos, Wilson: thoroughbred owners), insurance companies, lawyers, and corporations, each pushing a special-interest agenda.

With few exceptions, the California newspapers failed to investigate any of Wilson's or Brown's financial ties or political histories. And some of the newspapers themselves, like the Los Angeles Times, even had their own agendas. Times

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owner the Times-Mirror corporation, along with the company's controlling Chandler family, owns big stakes in agribusiness and thoroughbred operations in the San Joaquin Valley. As governor, Wilson has been more than kind to both industries. Though the paper denied anything untoward, very few embarrassing revelations about Wilson ever appeared on its pages during the gubernatorial campaign. Maidgate would have to wait.

Wilson had led the same journalistically charmed life as mayor of San Diego. Helen Copley inherited both the city's newspapers, the Union and the Tribune, in 1973 from her husband, a rockribbed Republican conservative who often used them to his political advantage. A year or so after her husband's death, Copley announced in an interview in the now-defunct New West magazine that she had slain all the "sacred cows" the papers had long protected, including the U.S. Navy, the San Diego Zoo, and miscellaneous politicos. It was the height of the city's antigrowth movement. Old-timers wanted the influx

of outsiders stopped, and the newly arrived agreed. Copley said she believed in Wilson's vague concept of "managed growth."

Elected in 1971, Wilson surfed the antigrowth wave like a champion. He opposed coastal oil drilling and endorsed clean-air laws. He promised a magic bullet to stop the onslaught of development and set up a string of commissions to study the problem. Four years later, opposed for reelection by a concrete contractor who held that growth was inevitable, Wilson turned his hapless foe into the perfect foil. Copley, by now a close friend of the mayor's, used her papers to summon visions of the concrete wasteland that awaited if the contractor was elected. In particular, Copley columnist Neil Morgan, who lunched regularly with Wilson and attorney John Davies at the Grant Grill, waxed poetic about the natural wonders of San Diego and how the city was in danger of being overwhelmed by unwashed masses from the East.

Wilson won handily in the fall of 1975. But after

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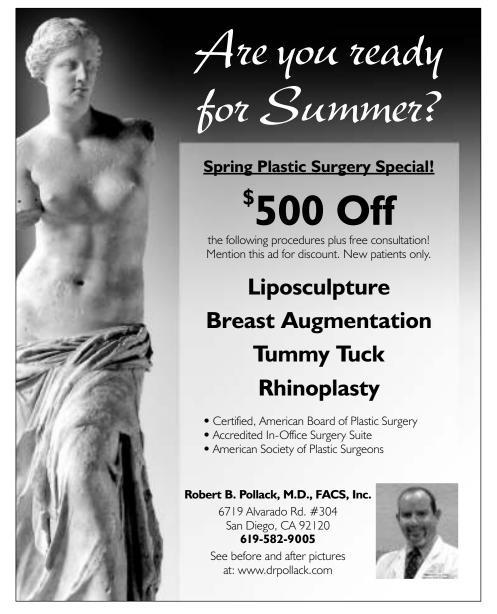
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the election he began to change his position on growth. A top aide soon left city hall to become chief lobbyist for the region's biggest developer. And Wilson began to water down the bold anti-growth measures he had proposed during his first term. As his attention turned increasingly to the several statewide campaigns that would eventually land him in the U.S. Senate in 1982, Wilson was more interested in raising money from the city's real estate interests than in his utopian promises to curtail them. The Copley newspapers turned their eyes away from the problems of growth and Wilson's flip-flops. Freeways were built, subdivisions were laid out across North City West, a district son's estrangement and eventual divorce from his first wife, Betty, and the fallout of their separation on the mayor's lifestyle. Married in 1967, during Wilson's first

Maidgate remained in the governor's closet, waiting for an opportune moment to emerge.

Wilson had once pledged to protect for eternity. Copley papers reported that the city was growing up, finally.

The papers also avoided the tender subject of Wil-

term as an assemblyman from San Diego, the Wilsons had been portrayed by the Copley papers as the perfect political couple. The stories highlighted the Wilsons' happy home life in a modest condo in Clairemont. Betty was so busy with her new job, said one 1973 account, that she hired a housekeeper to come in twice a week. The paper carefully ignored questions raised by the mayor's political opponents, who pointed out that Betty's occupation, selling La Jolla real estate to wealthy executives, some of whom did business with the city, might create a conflict of interest.

When the couple separated in 1981, Wilson moved

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into the first of a series of rent-free condominiums near downtown, arranged for him by his friend John Davies, whom Wilson had appointed as chairman of the city's planning commission. Davies claimed Wilson was virtually broke as a result of the separation. News of the free rent, provided by developer friends of Davies, was not to be found in the Copley papers. The Los Angeles Times broke the story in the fall of 1982,

as Wilson's battle against then-governor Jerry Brown for the U.S. Senate heated up. Wilson easily beat Brown ton. Wilson would return to San Diego only for token campaign appearances.

By the time Republi-

Copley, along with most of the state's GOP elite, wanted Wilson to stay put in Sacramento.

bakery heiress Gayle Graham. She bought a townhouse for them in Washing-

and was soon remarried to

can power brokers convinced Wilson to return to California and run for governor against Democrat Dianne Feinstein in 1990, his ties to San Diego were fading. He had purchased a two-bedroom condo in the Sports Arena area as his legal address, but he rented it out. He still enjoyed the support of Helen Copley and her editors, but word inside the paper was that the new governor was not as deferential to the "old woman named Copley" as he once had been. Even so, both she and her 38year-old son David, president of her publishing empire, gave generously to Wilson's ultimately successful reelection campaign in

But then came 1995. For the first time ever, the

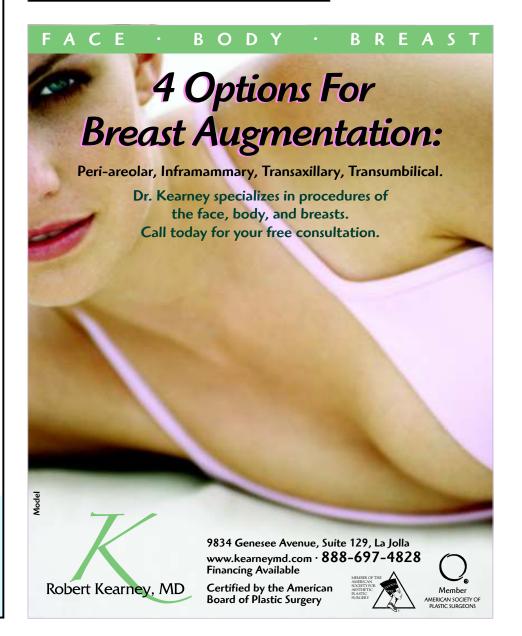


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Copley papers found themselves on the wrong side of Pete Wilson, who had promised during the '94 campaign he wouldn't run for the presidency. Word came from inside the papers that Copley, along with most of the state's GOP elite, wanted Wilson to stay put in Sacramento. Bob Dole, with his longtime links to Copley's friend Richard Nixon, was her sentimental favorite. Sources say Copley expected the same fawning respect she had always gotten when she called Wilson to advise him of her wishes. They add that she was surprised when he was less than deferential. That January, Wilson announced he was a candidate in the presidential primaries.

Eight months later, on a Friday afternoon in late August, a week after Wilson pulled out of the presidential race, John Davies picked up the phone and arranged a conference call with selected reporters — none from the Copley papers — to announce the results of his "investigation" into Maidgate. A few weeks after the scandal had broken that April, Wilson, claiming lack of knowledge, assigned Davies to look into the matter of how the maid had been placed on the Wilsons' household payroll and whether she was working in the country illegally. Davies's findings became the campaign's epitaph and launched an orgy of speculation among San Diego politics and media watchers. The maid, reported Davies, had been referred to the Wilsons by Neil Morgan's wife. The legality of her work status was still not known, said Davies. He said Wilson's ex-wife Betty had handled all of the other details and kept Wilson in the dark. The case, he added, was closed. When Davies hung up the phone, he left old questions unanswered and raised many new ones. Had he done so deliberately? That's what some Wilson watchers think.

If Davies was right about the referral of the Wilsons' maid, Morgan, by now associate editor of the *Union-Tribune*, would likely have known for years about the situation. If so, he never reported it to his readers, even during the heat of Maidgate that spring.

The Copley papers

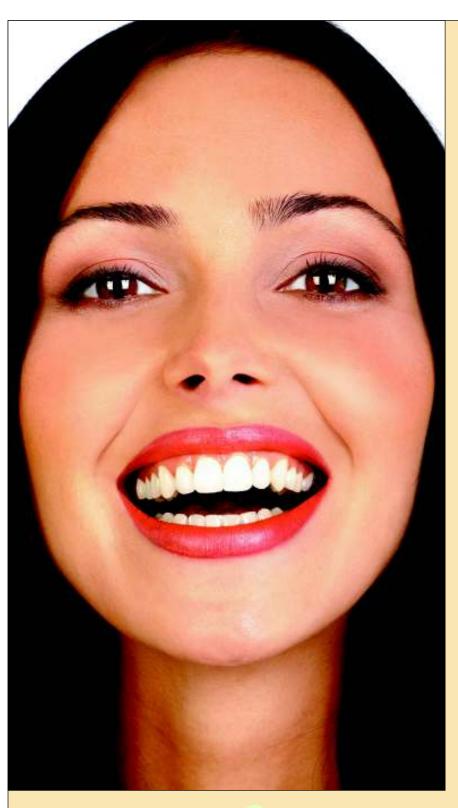
never interviewed Morgan after Davies's disclosure. Copley watchers speculate that others at the paper besides Morgan knew of the maid and may even have employed her, along with the many other local establishment figures who came forward to say they had also used her services. Thus, throughout 1994, as Wilson battled Brown using the anti-immigration hammer, the Copley papers remained silent.

Maidgate remained in the governor's closet, waiting for an opportune moment to emerge. That moment came after Wilson challenged fellow Republican Bob Dole for the party's presidential candidacy. Observers note that Helen Copley and the Washington Post's Katherine Graham have long maintained a professional friendship, the kind of clubby relationship only two wealthy publishing widows can fully

understand. That Pete Wilson's little Maidgate secret suddenly emerged in the Washington Post only weeks after his conversation with Helen Copley is, some say, no accident.

- Matt Potter

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Robert Ward and Four Kinds of Rain

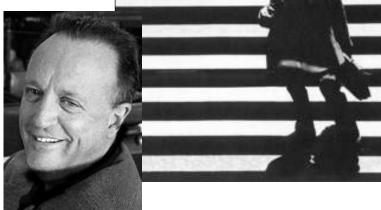
Tye got a new book out," Ward told me by phone.

It was a recent winter afternoon, and I hadn't heard from Bob for... I counted

on my fingers while fumbling with the candy-bar cell. "That's great, jeez, how long has it been?"

"Since Cactus Garden? About eight years? Since 9/11, a long time." His Baltimore accent was still there. It always became more pronounced when he spoke with me, just as my old New York/Chicago accent would reemerge when talking to Bob. I

never figured out exactly why this was, only that it happened, and I chalked it up to a feeling we elicited from each other of being childhood pals on some urban sandlot of the mind. We met in Holly-



Robert Ward

wood in the early '90s. I had attended a reading of James Crumley's *The Mexican Tree Duck*, and Robert Ward, Crumley's old student from the University of Arkansas, opened for him in a room full of actors, writers,

directors, and producers. Ward read from his fourth or fifth novel, *The King of Cards*. That night I rode my Honda 750 back to San Diego a little too lit on tequila Ward had bought for me at Boardner's rock-and-roll bar. I had defied some kind of statistic, I was sure, in that I had just made a pretty good friend in my 40s.

Ward and I hung out at Dan Tana's on Santa Monica Boulevard where I met, among others, Jim Harrison, a decade-long idol of mine who called Bob "The Baltimore Bard." Ward and I had crawled through smugglers' tunnels in Otay Mesa together with the CIA, the FBI, and the DOD, while I covered that story and Bob researched The Cactus Garden, a tour-de-force suspense novel. Ward had been writing for Fox Television's New York Undercover at the time, and before that, Hill Street Blues and Miami Vice. He had won the Pen West Award for his novel Red Baker in 1985, six years before I met him. Many years before that, I had read Shedding Skin, a psychedelic bildungsroman that was being passed around by hitchhikers in Europe and places like Nepal. I hadn't remembered the author's name, but I wondered whatever happened to him every few years or so; there was Kurt Vonnegut Jr., Tom Robbins with Another Roadside Attraction, John Fowles with The Magus, and whatsisname, the guy who wrote Shedding Skin — maybe it was really Thomas Pynchon or J.D. Salinger. I sort of lumped these books together in memory as being handed off out of backpacks

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Bob booked a train ticket down to San Diego for the following week and had his editor at St. Martins send me his new novel, Four Kinds of Rain.

Had I anything out there currently to promote, I suppose my comments on Four Kinds of Rain could be considered logrolling. I don't, and it's not. I do consider myself uncharacteristically lucky in finding that a friend of mine has found a generational voice for at least the second time in his career and that I can call him up, ask him questions about this unique accomplishment creating a kind of early-21stcentury Raskolnikov for the baby-boomers — or better yet, invite him down to San Diego for dinner, a fundraiser for the homeless, and an interview.

"Bob fell over on his side as the pain shot through his stomach and lodged somewhere near his Adam's apple. He lay there and it occurred to him, for maybe the hundredth time that day, that he seriously needed out of this shit. Up, up and away, like forever, for good. No more, baby. No more friend of the friendless. No more poor folks. No more 911s.

of a bitch out in this shit. Pathetic.

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"As the burning pain subsided, Bob Wells entertained a small, almost funny thought. If any of his neighbors looked out their windows just now, they'd see him there and think, Look at the poor, homeless son

kicked in the balls by a madman. Not only that, but the madman was one of his own patients, a wretch he'd helped get off the streets time and time again...

"CHAPTER TWO... During this period, the last

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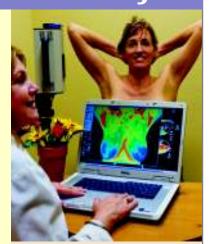
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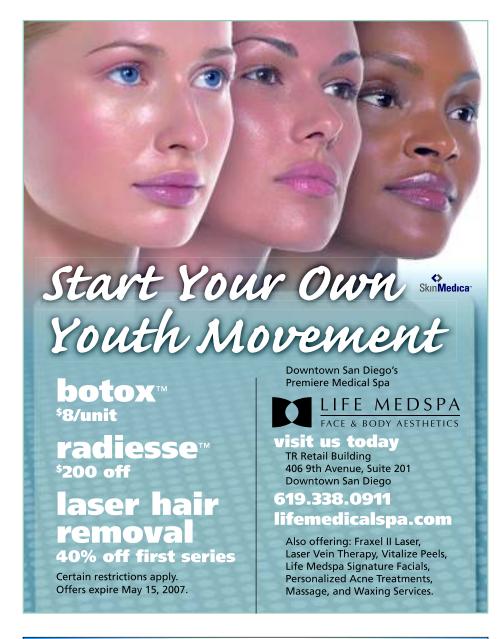
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'normal' phase of his career, Bob's life had taken on a ghoulish regularity. When he was done with the last patient of the day in his dying psychology practice, he'd come up from his knotty pine basement office, make sure his little row house was locked (he'd been robbed five times in the last two years), and trudge on down the street to American Joe's bar. Here he would meet his old pal, the semi-retired labor reporter Dave McClane, for happy hour and the two old cronies would belt back their

well drinks...The approaching night held little excitement for two middle-aged, divorced men and that lack of promise often lurched Bob Wells into a tailspin of melancholy."

This is where Ward's character Bob Wells finds himself on page seven. I suspect there are several million more of us in some version of these horse latitudes. Maybe not shrinks, maybe not getting kicked in the balls, literally, by "The Homeless" personified (not as whimsical as it sounds) with the tag 911. Maybe not old lefties: — "After all the sound and fury of his activist youth, fighting city hall, giving his life — his whole fucking life for some ideal of equality, some dim utopian fantasy, this was what it had come down to. A few patients, barely enough money to

scrape by, and crummy well

drinks with Dave." But whoever we were, if we can't recognize ourselves in Bob Wells, as men in our 50s in this culture, then you were probably one of *them* all along.

Raymond Chandler once said something to the effect that with fiction, if a character wakes up one morning and finds he has become a cockroach, he doesn't care how the guy got that way; he wants to know what he's going to do about it. Ward's character does what any self-respecting character in serious literature would do: he decides to rip off one of his own, less savory patients and steal the legendary and priceless Mask of Utu from his patient's collection. This Maguffin is (to me anyway) so pulpily hilarious that it almost signals in neon that here we have the "Maltese Falcon," "the stuff dreams are made of," and that as of the moment this novel announces itself

as a caper plot, we know it is anything but. Maybe that's because I know Ward and his sense of humor, but seriously, the Mask of Utu? That is the last thing that Four Kinds of Rain is about.

Wells plays guitar in a local bar band in Baltimore called The Rockaholics. His own source of therapy, Wells is pretty good with a 12-bar blues, as is Ward himself. The band needs a singer, and after a scene out of American Idol, in walks Jesse Reardon, a woman in her late 30s with a voice that is straight from R&B heaven. Not only does she click with the band, but Jesse and Bob prove to be chemically simpatico. Here is Wells's ostensible motivation for a one-time crime that will change his life forever. Naturally it does, but in ways we do not foresee.

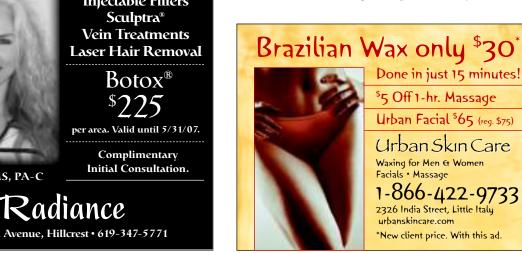
What becomes fascinating, and what I was dying to ask Ward about, was the Dostoyevskian inner dialogue that goes on first between Wells's ears, then barely bounces off the page into the reader's own thought

process. Wells's serpentine rationalizations are woven with hypnotic skill and in the language, code words, and with the telegraphic shibboleths of our generation. As Wells loses his mind—and we are companionably invited along for the ride — he will invoke in passing, for example "Lenny" and "Terry." We either know he is talking about Lenny Bruce and Terry Southern, or we don't. In the end it doesn't matter greatly. There is no mistake that we are inside the mind of a lunatic aborning. We are meeting the enemy, as Pogo would have it, and he is us.

Ward arrived at Union Station and between lunch in Little Italy, the fundraiser at the Balboa Tennis Club for David Ross's crusade to bring water to the displaced and dispossessed on the streets of San Diego (a coincidence with the Bob Wells character that did not go unremarked upon), and playing some rock and blues in my living room as, I suppose, the only actual incar-







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nation of The Rockaholics, we got in an interview.

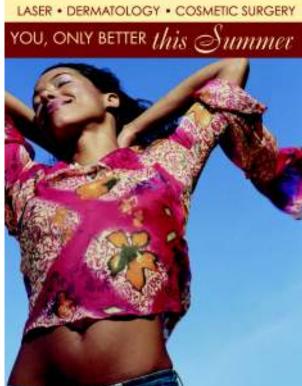
"It took about three and a half years, probably four, because I was working on a couple of scripts during that time." Ward is speaking with an acoustic guitar in his lap, stretched out on my couch and peering out the window at a blossoming evergreen pear tree.

"But I wrote it over and over again. The original draft was all about Bob Wells and his first wife, Meredith, and how he loses her to this slick guy, Rudy Runyon, who was his old commune mate in the fab late '60s, early '70s. Rudy sold out early. I had a huge amount of stuff in there about Rudy and his radio show, and Meredith leaving Bob to be a member of the country club, and stuff like that. About 400 pages of that, before I even got to crime. It was like an Updike book. I realized I had two books. I really wanted to write about the crime and how he reacts to the crime. I realized I could do that by writing, 'After Meredith had left Bob and went with Rudy...'Okay, there's 500 pages gone. So that was five years. I did a lot of drinking in that period."

"Were you conscious of being the author of *Shed-ding Skin*, of Bob Wells being a descendant of Bobby in your first novel?"

"I was, finally. I realized, 'Oh God, this is dealing with the end of all that stuff. He went through all this stuff as a kid and rejected all these different personas, but at the end he doesn't know who he is still.' He's a radical at the end of Shedding Skin, and in a way, Rain picks up where that left off and tells you about what happens to that kind of person. What if there was a guy who hadn't sold out and stayed in the ghetto, like R.D. Laing — he was hugely influential on me. What if he stayed the course in radical psychology? Like Laing, he believed you couldn't just be a psychologist in a middle-class environment and have an office and listen to people's hang-ups about Dad and Mom; you had to go down and live with people and realize that, with most people, their problems were class oriented, they were poor, they had no power — not just neurotic stuff about Mom and Dad. So if you lived that life and





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felt what they felt, you would have more insight. That's what he believed and that's what he [both Laing and Wells] did. I think it's a great thing. So what would happen to a guy like that, and this book is one answer to that."

"In a way," I suggest, "You've written a kind of Dostoyevsky Meets Donald Westlake, Of course, if Westlake had written this, it would be wildly different, nowhere near the same type of characterization, but on one level it is a caper novel."

"That's a good observation. I've read a lot of Westlake, and I know the caper part of the book has a kind of antic quality that is not unlike Donald Westlake. I read some of his books out loud to my son, who loves them. The other part is *The*

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Underground Man thing, and Dostoyevsky probably influenced that. Dortmunder [one of Westlake's capernovel characters] and Raskolnikov are both underground men, but one of them is comic and the other's dead serious."

As to the huge demographic Ward's character represents, he says: "I have this feeling that our generation started off with such high hopes of changing everything, and we managed to move things a little bit. We wanted to change the world forever, and that's just too much to ask. But we did try. I give us that. By the same token, I think we sold out to show business so much. I've worked in show business myself, and I don't like to think I sold out because I was still trying to write serious novels. That was my way of staying clean, but you have to make money, I understand that. What I'm talking about is sensationalist crap, just bad movies and television and how we've embraced pop culture at its worst and then tried to justify it by saying it's really great stuff. Well, I don't think Indiana Jones is that great and Star Wars, I still hate.

That's the iconic bad movie." What would be the

iconic good movie? Again, going back, Ward mentions Midnight Cowboy, Five Easy Pieces, The French Connection. "There was a time when really great stuff was coming out that didn't have big casts. Even The Graduate was about real people with real problems. And then Star Wars came out, and that changed the nature of movies because of its billions of dollars. In the book world, which is the world I'm interested in, with writers in their 20s and 30s, who are writing noir novels again or suspense novels — a lot of these writers are influenced by people like Ken Bruen [author of *The Guards*] and a number of writers now doing stuff as good as Cornell Woolrich or Chandler. There's a whole feeling that the social novel is back. Where movies have gone off to fantasyland, and for a while there, novels went off to that horrible period, in my mind, of meta-fiction in the '80s. That's what happened to jazz in a way.'

I suggest that Wells's character's train-wreck-ofthought is infectious, that I found myself embarrassed

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DEL MAR HEIGHTS

to be agreeing with the fellow as he justified and rationalized one thing after another. "That's funny," Ward says, "I was embarrassed writing it. I found myself thinking, 'Should I even be thinking this?' It can't help but bother you. I've tried to be a good leftie over the years, but you go, 'Jesus, I wrote these great books, and I never got these rewards like George Lucas, who wrote about Wookies and lightsabers and made billions of dollars. What did I get?' And I've done fine [with the books], and I've done fine in TV and all of that, but I still feel like I didn't get mine, you know? Now I'm getting older and I'm gonna die and I'll never get it. And I know a lot of people who get angry, too, who didn't get what I did or maybe who got more, or people who didn't get anything of course, they didn't work very hard or try very hard but there is still this crazy anger. It's everywhere.

"Bob Wells becomes a criminal because he's basically a humanist and a good guy, and it's about a man rationalizing becoming what he's always hated: a greedy pig, a guy who craved fame — for pornography or being a wrestler, it didn't matter — 'Who cares,' he says, 'I'm still famous.' And that's the great irony of the book, if there is any, that he gets famous for the wrong reasons. He still helps people, but he helps people he imperiled.

"This woman, Sarah Weinman, a really smart blogger who does this blog called 'Confessions of an Idiosyncratic Mind' said about *Four Kinds of Rain* that it was the most plausible noir novel she had read. I wanted it to be plausible each step of the way."

James Crumley, who sat on the Orals Board for Ward's MFA degree from the University of Arkansas, author of *The Last Good Kiss* and *The Right Madness*, writes: "Terrific entertainment mixed with thorough intelligence. Think Rock-A-Billy Camus. This is the most fun I've had with a novel in a long time." On the cover of the St. Martin's/Minotaur hard-

cover, Michael Connelly, author of City of Bones, Blood Work, and The Lincoln Lawyer, writes, "A darkly comic masterpiece." Novelist Robert Crais says, "Underlaid with honesty and bittersweet sadness...Robert Ward has written a novel about midlife disillusionment and illusion — with intelligence and grace." San Diego crime writer T. Jefferson Parker adds: "Noir at its best. Ward's words are black on white, but he uses them to play the blues." These are only some of the accolades from what amounts to a list of Who's Who in American Crime Literature.

After lying to each other about how we haven't changed, Ward signals the end of the interview by striking up the chords to Muddy Water's "Ain't Got You." Blues, to be sure, and there's no telling why we're chuckling as we pick it up. Instead of the harmonica riff, we stop the guitars for four beats, snarl, whine, and blow some kind of white man raspberries into the night.

— John Brizzolara

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Shakespeare For the Fun of It

Students Celebrate the Bard

don't just deal with the text, I also deal with the rhythm," says Julie Clemmons, director of Infinite Kids, a nonprofit after-school program. "Like Sir John Gielgud said, if you learn the text just by the iambic pentameter, if you speak in the rhythm it's written in, you don't have to know what you're saying. As long as you just follow the rhythm of it, the meaning and clarity comes through."

On Sunday, April 28, the San Diego Shakespeare Society presents its second annual Student Shakespeare Festival in Balboa Park. "We hope to eventually rival Den-

LOCAL EVENTS

ver," says Mike Auer, executive director of the festival. Last year, 90 schools participated and hundreds of

spectators turned out for Denver's 22nd annual student Shakespeare festival.

This year Auer is discouraging participating students from performing the "Pyramus and Thisbe" scene from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The scene depicts characters putting on a play and is intentionally performed poorly for comic effect. "It's a corny fun scene and kids love to do it," he says. "I loved doing it when I was in junior high, but it can get a little tedious and old, and we wanted to get beyond that."

Clemmons's students, ranging from the 1st grade to 11th, will perform three tenminute scenes from *The Tempest*. "It's all about fantasy and illusion, something kids really love — magic and fairies — and it's a play that's messing with adults, too," she says. "It's all about adults acting foolishly; there's drunkenness and attempted murder."

There is only one female character in the play, and 7 of the 11 students performing the scenes are girls. "At first, a few of my girls wanted me to change it so that they were women, but once we started doing the text, they saw that it didn't make sense — they had to be men." Clemmons makes all of the costumes for her students.

A third-grader named Ben is playing the part of Gonzalo, the "old fat counselor." While rehearsing one scene, Ben spoke his lines and then asked Clemmons, "What did I just say?" In the scene, Gonzalo says, "When every grief is entertain'd that's offer'd, comes the entertainer...." The character Sebastian then interjects, "A dollar," suggesting that the entertainer would receive payment, to which Gonzalo quips, "Dolor comes to him, indeed: you have spoken truer than you purposed."

"It's a play on words," explains Clemmons. She asked her students to look up "dolor" in the dictionary. She then explained to Ben that when Sebastian said a dollar would befall the entertainer, Gonzalo made a pun using the homonym "dolor," which means "intense sadness."

One challenging aspect of teaching Shakespeare to children, says Auer, is the archaic text. "I don't think they'll ever encounter a denser language, but if they can take apart something that's 400 years old and find the meaning, they don't have to be afraid of what they read. That's a powerful tool."

The biggest challenge on the performing end is voice projection. "Even though there are a couple of microphones in front, it's not enough. They've got to be loud. The first objective as an actor is to be heard and

understood, and if you can't do that, you can't make a connection with the audience."

"You don't just teach Shakespeare," says Clemmons, "you're teaching English, history, and geography. When we did *As You Like It* last year, we talked about war stuff. That's always a big discussion."

Many of the students relate to their characters. Clemmons recalls one girl who came away from her experience with Twelfth Night with a better understanding of human emotion. "She saw that people can be malicious and the pain it inflicts. She thinks about the character of Malvolio when she sees people being treated unfairly, and it makes her think about how she treats people around her."

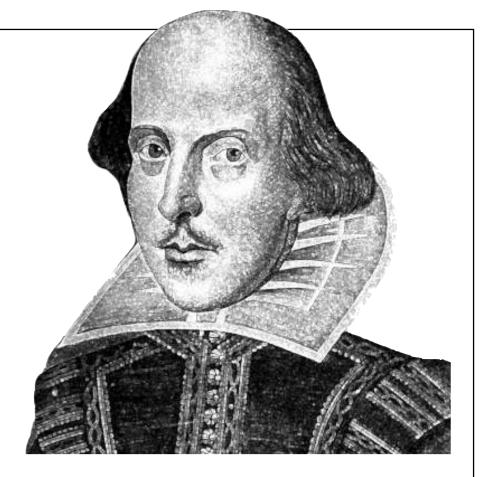
Clemmons and Auer insist that interpreting Shakespeare for elementary school students is not as difficult as it seems. "It helps to have a snack time," says Clemmons. "I watch carefully for their melting points, like if I have to repeat something a

couple of times, when they start getting antsy and can't sit still or when they're onstage and keep coming offstage to get a snack."

"There are three basic questions," Auer explains. "Who are you, where are you, and what do you want. An eight-year-old may not understand the complexity of what Macbeth may want, but you could take it to the playground, perhaps to a bully he knows that has made his life miserable — try to translate it to their own experience."

— Barbarella

Student Shakespeare Festival
Saturday, April 28
12:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Prado Walkway
Balboa Park
Cost: Free
Info: 619-583-8525 or
www.sandiegoshakespearesociety.org





Kenny Loggins June 15







Events that are underlined occur after May 3.

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 92186-5803. Or fax to 619-881-2401. You may also submit information online at SanDiegoReader.com by clicking on the events section.

BAJA

Arts and Crafts Expo with muday, April 26-Sunday, April 29, 10 a.m.-8 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, in Zona Río). Free admission. 011-52-664-687-9636.

"Poemas Lanzados," poetry by Roberto Navarro, Ignacio López, and Martha Castro showcased on Thursday, April 26, 7 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, in Zona Río), 011-52-664-687-9636, (TIJUANA)

Ninth Annual International Dance Festival features performance by Contempodanza of México City on Thursday, April 26. See Subterráneo de Danza Contemporánea of Baja California on Friday, April 27. Fi-

LADY DAY The Many Faces of Billie Holiday, Sunday, April 29, San Diego Public Library.

OUT & ABOUT

(SEE FILM)



nally, Quiatora Monorriel of Sonora takes stage on Saturday, April 28. All concerts begin at 8 p.m. at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, Zona Río). \$12. U.S. 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

Bagatelles may be heard when pianist Aiko Yamada and clarinetist Emiliano López play classical music on Friday, April 27, 7 p.m., at Multiforo ICBC in Zona Río (Avenida Centenario #10151). \$5 U.S. 011-52-664-684-8609.

"Dance History in Movies" is topic for lecture by Haydé Lachino Mendoza on Friday, April 27, 8 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, in Zona Río). Free. 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

"Mexican Chocolate," learn history, uses, diverse types of cacao, during outing hosted by San Diego Natural History Museum on Saturday, April 28, 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Event includes participation in cooking class at ranch past Ensenada, learn traditional Mexican

uses of chocolate, lunch preparation. \$92 fee includes transportation, meal. Reservations: 619-255-0203. (ENSENADA)

Children's Day Run starts at 9 a.m. on Saturday, April 28, at Unidad CREA in Zona Río. 011-52-664-215-9000. (TIJUANA)

Parque de la Amistad in Mesa de Otay is starting point for 10k run, Sunday, April 29, 8 a.m. 011-52-664-623-2306, (TIJUANA)

Mountain Bike Riding promised Sunday, April 29, starting at 10 a.m. at Rancho Ecológico Beltrán. \$15. 011-52-664-685-2448.

OUTDOORS

Lavender in Bloom, the Lavender Fields open Wednesdays through Sundays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., starting April 25. Meet on the main gift shop porch for "Walk and Talk" tours at 10:30 a.m. Free. 12460 Keys Creek Road. 760-742Trees have already produced a first wave of color along the streets of San Diego. By early or mid-May, warm weather permitting, this Brazilian import could put on a dazzling show. The larger jacarandas, which in full bloom are leafless, or nearly so, display myriad delicate, trumpet-shaped blossoms — a lavender haze as seen from afar. Jacarandas are commonly used as landscaping in parks and on most college campuses. Nice rows of jacarandas grace many of the streets in downtown San Diego, Rosecrans Boulevard in Point Loma, 25th Street in Golden Hill, and Mission Village Drive above Qualcomm Stadium.

Blue-Blossoming Jacaranda

Desert Agaves, or century plants, are sending up their asparagus-like flower stalks on rocky hillsides throughout much of the Anza-Borrego Desert. On warm, sunny days the stalks may grow almost one foot per day (fast enough for you to notice the sharp leaf tips at the bud actually separating from one another). After the stalk reaches a height of 10-20 feet, clusters of waxy, yellow flowers appear, ready for pollination by bees and other insects. After blooming, the fleshy, dagger-like leaves at the base of the plant die (after a life of 10 or 20 years, not a century) and the stalk, bearing a crop of seeds, dries up as well.

Monkey-Flowers of various species are putting on a decent dis-play this month around San Diego — despite the scant rainfall. Look for these low, shrub-like plants with tubular yellow, orange, or red flowers wherever native vegetation clothes the landscape from the coastal bluffs to the lower slopes of the mountains. As you drive Interstates 8 or 805 near Mission Valley, look for the rust tint these flowers give to the steep hillsides. On the terraces just above San Onofre State Beach, you can usually see springtime monkeyflower blossoms of every intermediate shade from yellow to red.

Mustard, a nonnative plant more like a weed than a wildflower, is blooming on grassy slopes throughout the coastal area of San Diego County. An old story, probably apocryphal, tells of the padres scattering mustard seed along the El Camino Real so that the bright, yellow mustard blossoms would help them find their way in future spring seasons. More likely, the plant was introduced to western North America in the form of seeds carried in the hay used to feed livestock brought in by the early settlers.

Take a Sunset Walk in Wright's Field on Friday, April 27. Outing starts at 6 p.m. at 2001 Tavern Road. Free. 619-722-6281. (ALPINE)

Forest Volunteers Wanted, training workshop planned Saturday, April 28, 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m., for those interested in volunteering in visitor information services; interpretive/naturalist programs; trail maintenance; mountain bike, foot, and mounted patrols; planting projects; more. Location, fees, details: 619-445-6235 x3440. (CLEVELAND NATIONAL FOREST)

Land of Aliens? Trail guide leads outing through non-native grasslands - once home to native peoples — and to historic grinding rocks near Old Mission Dam and San Diego River on Saturday, April 28, 8:30 a.m., in Mission Trails Regional Park at Kumeyaay Campground entry station (Two Father Junípero Serra Trail). Free. 619-668-3281. (SAN CARLOS)

Fifth Annual Creek to Bay Cleanup, Saturday, April 28, 9 a.m.-noon, at over 55 coastal and inland sites throughout

county. Free. Locations: 619-291- $0103\ x3003.\ (\text{SAN DIEGO COUNTY})$

Support Your Local Frogs and Toads! Workshop training volunteers to monitor wetland sites and their neighborhoods for frog and toad populations is Saturday, April 28, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., at Agua Hedionda Lagoon Discovery Center (1580 Cannon Road). Participants need not be frog or toad experts, just have a desire to make a difference. Free. Required advance registration: 760-804-1969. (CARLSBAD)

Mulefat and Monkeyflowers! See these plants during guided nature walks, Saturday, Sunday, Wednesday, April 28, 29, and May 2, 9:30-11 a.m., in Mission Trails Regional Park (One Father Junípero Serra Trail). Free. 619-668-3281. (SAN CARLOS)

Bizarre Trees, cacti, and succulents star when Offshoot Tours hosts its monthly hour-long guided stroll through desert garden, Saturday, April 28, 10 a.m., starting at Balboa Park's visitors' center. Free. 619-235-1122. (BALBOA PARK)

Sneak a Peak into six private Poway gardens during Garden Conservancy's Open Days program, Saturday, April 28, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Selfguided tours start at 16291 Martincoit Road. Rain or shine. \$5 general, free for those under 12. 888-842-2442. (POWAY)

Walk Through Wyatt Earp's Neighborhood when Patty Fares leads Urban Safari exploration through Gaslamp Quarter, Saturday, April 28, 10 a.m. \$10. Reservations: 619-944-9255. (GASLAMP QUARTER)

Birding Basics Class planned at Mission Trails Regional Park Visitors' Center, Saturday, April 28, 1-2:30 p.m. Participants learn five simple techniques for identifying birds at a glance, how to use a field guide (bring yours if you have one).













Free. Find visitors' center at One Father Junípero Serra Trail San Diego, 619-668-3281. (SAN CARLOS)

Hike into the Past during park ranger-led outing, Saturday, April 28, 1 p.m., at Wilderness Gardens Preserve (14209 Highway 76, ten miles east of I-15). 760-742-1631. Parking fee: \$3. (PALA)

Canyon Favorites Hike, take moderately paced hike to Walden Pond, Carson's Crossing, and waterfall in Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve, Saturday, April 28. Hike starts at 5 p.m. at end of Park Village Road. Free. 858-484-3219. (RANCHO PEASOUITOS)

Wild Lilac Lines Trail through thick chaparral on a gentle upward slope in Oakoasis County OpenSpace Preserve — explore spot during easy or moderate hike with Canyoneers on Sunday, April 29, 10 a.m.—1 p.m. Also on tap: short climb to a promontory overlooking San Vicente Reservoir for snack stop, where you will stop to have a snack before beginning the return trip. Free. Directions: 619-255-0203. (LAKESIDE)

What's Biting and Where?

"Lake Jennings Fishing University" convenes for instruction by Helix Water District lake manager Hugh Marx, Sunday, April 29, 1 p.m., at Lake Jennings County Park (10108 Bass Road). Program is free, parking is \$3, 858-565-3600. (LAKESIDE)

The Rising of the Full Moon on Tuesday, May 1, nearly coin-

cides with the time of sunset. Try a sunset walk along the sidewalk on Harbor Island. From that vantage, the springtime full moon comes up right over San Diego's downtown skyline, just as the lights of the city come on.

DANCE

Zydeco Dances with lessons are offered every Thursday at Tio Leo's (5302 Napa Street, between Morena Boulevard and Linda Vista Road). Beginning dance lessons at 7 p.m.; open dancing to recorded tunes from 8–10 p.m. \$5 (first visit free). 619-857-8409.

Spring Dance Concert with modern, ballet, jazz, tap, hip-hop, and ballroom, presented by Grossmont College Dance Department, April 26–28, 7:30 p.m., at Salvation Army Kroc Community Center Performing Arts Theatre (6611 University Avenue). \$12 general. 619-644-7766. (ROLANDO)

"First View," California Ballet closes season with program of dances "inspired by abstract art and innovative creations," April 27 and 28, in David and Dorothea Garfield Theatre at Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center (4126 Executive Drive). Curtain rises at 7 p.m. on Friday, at 2:30 and 8 p.m. on Saturday. Tickets: \$32–\$78 general, \$22 for children 12 and younger. 858-560-6741 or 858-362-1348. (LA JOLLA)

Ragtime-Era Foxtrot Steps highlighted during beginner-friendly dance on Friday, April 27, in room 207 of Casa del Prado. Lesson at 7:30 p.m. followed by open dancing 8:30–9:45 p.m. All ages and abilities. Partners not required. Donation: \$1. 619-583-9956. (BALBOA PARK)

Sacred Dance Concerts by Mojalet Dance, led by Faith Jensen-Ismay, Friday and Saturday, April 27 and 28, 7:30 p.m., at St. Paul's Cathedral (at Fifth Avenue and Nutmeg Street). Suggested donation: \$15. Tickets: 619-298-7261

Latin Salsa Dance Party!Dancing with the Pros Ballroom
Academy hosts party every Friday
night, including April 27,
8–10 p.m., at Dance North County
(535 Encinitas Boulevard, suite

100). \$5. 760-612-1680. (ENCINITAS)

All Things Swing Dance Party with music by Golden Hill Ramblers, workshops, dancing, performances, games, on Saturday, February 28, at Dance North County (535 Encinitas Boulevard, suite 100). Intermediate Lindy workshop (7:15 p.m.); beginners' class (8:30 p.m.), open dancing 8:30-midnight. Dance only: \$13; additional fee for lessons. 619-291-

Greek and Balkan Dances taught by Mady Taylor, Saturday, April 28, 7 p.m., at Folk Dance Center (4569 30th Street), \$5. Dance party with live music by Eastern Exposure, 8:30–10:30 p.m., \$7.619-281-5656. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

3775, (ENCINITAS)

Flight Path makes music, Martha Wild calls for contradance on Saturday, April 28, 8 p.m., at Trinity United Methodist Church (3030 Thorn Street). Beginners' dance workshop: 7:30 p.m. \$7. Wear soft-soled shoes. 619-594-6828.

Great Escapes 619-235-8200 TO PLACE AN AD

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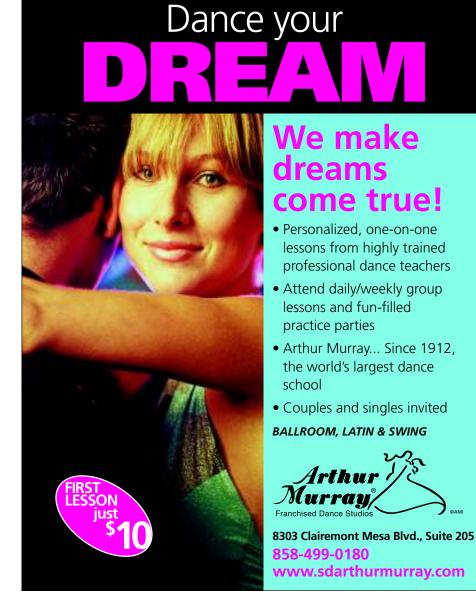
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World Dance Day Festivities

slated for Sunday, April 29, 12:30-4:30 p.m., at Balboa Park Club (1549 El Prado). Lessons on easy dances for all, mixer dances, children's classes, performances, more. Free admission. 619-422-1584. (BALBOA PARK)

English Country Dancing takes place every Sunday, 6-9 p.m., at Jean Hart Academy of Dance (Oak Knoll Plaza, 12227 Poway Road). All callers may be heard on April 29. \$6. 858-676-9731. (POWAY)

"Electric Blue," Iona Contemporary Dance Theatre hits mainland to present newest eveninglength work, Sunday, April 29, 7 p.m., at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). Piece boasting eight tons of sand on stage floor "was inspired by a lost reverence for our planet." Tickets: \$30-\$45. 800-988-4253, (ESCONDIDO)

"The Myth Project II," site-specific dance-theater events presented by Sushi Performance and Visual Art and Patricia Rincon Dance Collective on Thursday and Friday, May 3

and 4, 8 p.m., at Centro Cultural de la Raza (2125 Park Boulevard). Expect "a fresh, new work about Latinos living in the U.S. using elements of theater, circus, dance, and sound to explore the many facets of a rich cultural social history." Performances repeated Saturday and Sunday, May 12 and 13, 7 p.m., at Encinitas Community Center (1140 Oakcrest Park Drive). \$15 general. 619-234-8466. (BALBOA PARK, ENCINITAS)

FILM

Talking Heads 1984 rockumentary Stop Making Sense screens for spring film series, Thursday, April 26, 7 p.m., at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, La Jolla (700 Prospect Street). \$7. 858-454-3541. (LA JOLLA)

Sapphic Cinema series features Cynthia Scott's Strangers in Good Company, Friday, April 27, 7 p.m., at San Diego Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Community Center (3909 Centre Street). Free. 619-692-2077 x111. (HILLCREST)

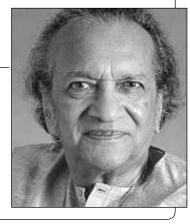
"Hero," starring Jet Li, screens for Shambhala film series, Friday, April 27, 7 p.m., at Shambhala Meditation Center (3139 University Avenue; enter at back of building off Herman). Directed by

LEGENDARY VIRTUOSO

sitarist Ravi Shankar, Friday, April 27, California Center for the Arts, Escondido.

OUT & ABOUT

(SEE IN PERSON)



Zhang Yimou, Free; donations welcome. 619-865-5194. (NORTH PARK)

Heritage Language Program Film Festival features the 2005 documentary The Journey of Vaan Nguyen on Saturday, April 28, 11 a.m., in room 4301 of Applied Physics and Mathematics Building at UCSD's Muir College. Free. 858-534-0693. In Vietnamese and Hebrew with English subtitles. (LA JOLLA)

Damsels in Distress Night planned when Saps at Sea Tent local chapter of Laurel and Hardy fans - meets to watch Any Old

Port, Come Clean, The Fixer Uppers, Rattling Romeo, Saturday, April 28, 7 p.m., at Trinity Presbyterian Church (3902 Kenwood Drive), \$6. 619-417-9032. (SPRING VALLEY)

"Lady Day: The Many Faces of Billie Holiday" screens for "Looking At: Jazz, America's Art Form" series with focus on jazz vocalists, Sunday, April 29, 2 p.m., San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). SDSU professor Rick Helzer leads discussion of Matthew Seig's 1991 documentary. Free. 619-236-5810. (DOWNTOWN)

Up for a "Baroque Mystery Maze"? See a "complete version" of the Orson Welles film Mr. Arkadin, when it is screened for Film Forum at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street), Monday, April 30, 6:30 p.m. Free, 619-236-5800. (DOWNTOWN)

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, currently screening in the IMAX theater: The Alps: Giants of Nature, Hurricane on the Bayou, Coral Reef Adventure (through April). "Fridays at the Fleet" showcases Mystery of the Nile (6 p.m.) and Whales (7 p.m.) on April 27. Ticket prices and showtimes: 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

New Works by Television and Film Students at San Diego State University showcased on Wednesday, May 16, 7 p.m., in Don Powell Theatre at SDSU. Program includes fiction, documentary, animation, music videos, experimental works. \$10 tickets include "veggie-friendly" barbecue at 5:30 p.m. outside theater. 619-594-1375. (SDSU)

LECTURES

"How to Survive and Thrive on \$100-a-Barrel Oil" is topic when General Atomics vice chair-

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call 619-235-8200.

man Linden Blue speaks on Thursday, April 26, at San Diego Air and Space Museum. Registration at 7:30 a.m., breakfast 8 a.m., program 8:30 a.m. \$50. Reservations: 619-234-8291 x119. (BALBOA PARK)

"Mathuran Sculpture of India" illuminated by Asian art curator Sonya Quintanilla on Thursday, April 26, 1 p.m., at San Diego Museum of Art. \$10. 619-696-1969. (BALBOA PARK)

Experiences of Diversity in America shared by attorney, teacher, activist Angela Oh in commemoration of Asian and Pacific Islander Month, Thursday, April 26, 4 p.m., in Student Services East - 1500 at San Diego State University. Among Oh's accomplishments: President Bill Clinton appointed her to the President's Initiative on Race in June 1997. Free. 619-594-7057. (SDSU)

Prana Symphony, learn to harmonize and energize five vital breaths/pranas during workshop led by Jaruska Solyova, Thursday, April 26, 5 p.m., at La Jolla Cove Bridge Club (1160 Coast Boulevard). \$35 per person, \$50 per couple. Background music by Sven Grunberg. 858-456-9964. (LA JOLLA)

Artists from The Marriage of Figaro participate in Artists' Round Table — offering look at music, characters, behind-the-scenes work — hosted by San Diego Opera, Thursday, April 26, 5:30 p.m., in Beverly Sills Salon of Civic Theatre (202 C Street). Free. 619-232-7636. (DOWNTOWN)

"Old Masters" examined during gallery tours led by docent Mona Palmer of San Diego Museum of Art's collection of Old Master paintings with pieces by artists including Cotán, Zurburán, and El Greco. Insight gallery tours offered Thursday, April 26, 6 p.m., and Sunday, April 29, 3 p.m. Included in museum admission. 619-232-7931. (BALBOA PARK)

"Hummingbirds: Feathered Jewels," birding expert Claude Edwards divulges hummingbird species typical in San Diego and discusses their foraging and territorial behavior for San Diego Natural History Museum. Class is Thursday, April 26, 6:30 p.m., followed by field trip on Saturday, April 28; 8:30 a.m. \$33. Registration: 619-255-0203. (BALBOA PARK)

Mangoes and Lychees and Longans, Oh My! "Growing Rare Fruits on Residential Lots in San Diego" illuminated by Jose M. Gallego when California Rare Fruit Growers meet on Thursday, April 26, 7 p.m., in room 104 of

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Casa del Prado. Free. 619-697-4417. (BALBOA PARK)

"Female Patronage of the Visual Arts in the Renaissance and Baroque Eras" examined by SDSU art history professor Allyson Williams for docent guest lecture at San Diego Museum of Art on Friday, April 27, 10 a.m. \$10.619-696-1966. (BALBOA PARK)

"In Studio," Dixon Fish, president of the North County Printmakers, plans gallery talk, Friday, April 27, 12:15 p.m., at California Center for the Arts Museum, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). Included in gallery admission. 760-839-4120. (ESCONDIDO)

"The California of Xavier Aguilar, 1743–1821" presented by historian and adventurer Harry Crosby, Friday, April 27, for Sierra Club. Meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. at Joyce Beers Community Center (3900 Vermont Street). Free. 619-585-3773. (HILLCREST)

"BioDynamic Organic Agriculture: Creating Soil" is taught by master gardener Larry Hershman on Saturday, April 28, 8:30 a.m.— 5 p.m., at Tierra Miguel Farm (14910 Pauma Valley Drive). Learn to prepare the soil for transplanting, nursery work, raised beds, seed sowing, and "how hand double digging creates soil." \$60.760-742-4213. (PAUMA VALLEY)

"Tea with Nora" is theme for annual British tea hosted by British Isles Genealogical Research Association, Saturday, April 28, 11 a.m.–3 p.m., at Joyce Beers Community Center (1230 Vermont Street). Nora Hickey, a professional genealogist from Ireland, will focus on "Online British Isles Research." Finger foods served. \$5. Required reservations: 619-583-8352. (HILLCREST)

What Are the "Four P's"? Find out about avian diseases at 1 p.m. during seminar hosted by Parrot Education and Adoption Center, along with "Parrot Personalities" (2:45 p.m.) on Saturday, April 28. "Biting" is examined on Sunday, April 29, at 1 p.m., followed by look at "Sex and the Single Parrot" at 2:45 p.m.

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

"Balboa Park's History" illuminated by Roger Showley on Saturday, April 28, 1 p.m., at Museum of San Diego History. Talk is in conjunction with "Places of Promise: Stories of San Diego" exhibition (opening July 19). \$5. Requested reservations: 619-232-6203 x150. (BALBOA PARK)

Poetry-Writing Workshop led by Susan Luzzaro, Saturday, April 28, 2 p.m., at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Free. Required reservations: 619-236-5847.

Relief Organization Rules discussed (in French) by Dr. Alain Dubos, vice president of Doctors Without Borders when Alliance Française gathers, Saturday, April 28, 3 p.m., in University Center room 107 at University of San Diego (5998 Alcalá Park). Dubos will talk about his missions in several countries. \$10. 619-824-6694. (LINDA VISTA)

Learn About Tanzania and Kenya when Emmi Moshi, grand-daughter of a tribal chief and leader of Asante Africa Foundation



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in Tanzania, speaks on April 28 and 29 in High Tech High School auditorium (2861 Womble Road). Presentations begin at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, 1:30 p.m. on Sunday. Free. 619-540-4768. (POINT LOMA)

Learn About Mozart's Opera The Marriage of Figaro when USD music instructor Ron Shaheen presents multimedia lecture on Monday, April 30, 7 p.m., at First Unitarian Universalist Church (4190 Front Street). Donation: \$2.25. 619-298-9978.

Busy on the 30th? Shaheen repeats program on Saturday, May 5, 10 a.m. (tickets distributed at 9:15), in Schulman Auditorium at Carlsbad City Library (1775 Dove Lane). Free. 760-434-2904. (HILL-CREST. LA COSTA)

Examine The Marriage of Figaro by Mozart during opera preview examining music, drama, and history of upcoming San Diego Opera production, Monday, April 30, 7:30 p.m., at Athenaeum Music and Arts Library (1008 Wall Street). Speaker is pianist, composer Nicolas Reveles, education director at San Diego Opera. \$8. 858-454-5872. (LA JOLLA)

Law Day 2007, free legal clinics planned at various San Diego County Public Law Libraries, including the East County Law Library Branch (250 East Main Street) on Tuesday, May 1, 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Volunteer lawyers will provide consultation in various legal matters (but will not provide ongoing representation), 11 a.m.–3 p.m. 619-441-4451.

Legal clinics also planned on Tuesday, May 1, and Thursday, May 3, 9 a.m.-noon and 1-4 p.m., at San Diego County Public Law Library, North County Branch (325 South Melrose Drive #300). 760-940-4386. (EL CAJON, VISTA)

Small-Claims Court Litigation and Consumer Law Issues addressed by guest speakers Jay Sacks, Julie Cobalt, Tuesday, May 1, noon, at San Diego County Public Law Library (1105 Front

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

ROAM-(__)-RAMA

o far and yet so close. Only minutes away from the hectic San Diego traffic, rolling meadows lie open to the sky, and boulder-studded hills form a backdrop akin to the interior of some sleepy Aegean island. Ethereal Lyons Peak, rising almost 4000 feet above sea level, dominates the viewscape.

The town of Jamul — really a diffuse collection of suburban and semirural housing — is the starting point for the challenging and scenic bicycle ride profiled here. You'd best start this ride very early on Sunday morning, when traffic on the normally busy Highway 94 (Campo Road) is muted. Bring along your own water and food; both are unavailable along the route.

Find any convenient place to park in Jamul, near the intersection of Highway 94 and either Lyons Valley Road or Jefferson Road. Start riding east on Highway 94. Once over the first summit, you glide through a broad valley, covered this time of year with a verdant carpet of tender grass.

Five miles out from Jamul, a turn left on Honey Springs Road takes you away from the highway traffic. Ahead lies an upgrade that will separate the stronger riders from the less able ones. Low gears are the ticket to slow-butsure progress. Well into the climb, you'll spot Lyons Peak on your left, topped by antennas and a fire-lookout tower.

After reaching a summit, roll down the steep grade toward Lyons Valley and keep straight at the intersection of Lyons Valley Road. Skyline Truck Trail, the generously wide road ahead, is a ridge-running route offering you the easiest passage back to Jamul. Years ago, this was a dirt road suitable only for truck and four-wheel-drive traffic, hence its persisting archaic name. From the summit of Skyline Truck Trail you can look north across a promenade of mountain ranges varying in color and texture, culminating with the wave-shaped form of Cuvamaca Peak.

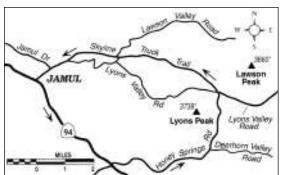
West of that summit the narrow, paved, and delightfully meandering Lawson Valley Road takes off to the right. A tempting but possibly tiring side trip of five miles out and five miles back can take you to one of San Diego County's truly remote rural valleys — Lawson Valley.

Back on Skyline Truck Trail, the final, swooping downhill stretch effortlessly transports you back to the edge of Jamul. Near the bottom of the grade. Lyons Valley Road angles in from the south, and the road you travel from then on assumes that name. Continue on to reach Highway 94, where you started your ride.

LYONS PEAK & LAWSON VALLEY **BIKE RIDE**

Bike ride over bouldery hills and through grassy dales on Jamul's winding, rural roads.

Distance from downtown San Diego: 20 miles Length: 21 miles (31 miles with extension) Difficulty: Strenuous



Street). Registration: 619-531-

"From the Global Border to the Border Neighborhood," architect and UCSD professor Teddy Cruz presents lecture on Wednesday, May 2, 6:30 p.m., at NewSchool of Architecture (1249 F Street). Free. 619-235-4100 x107.

"Attracting Birds and Butterflies $\textbf{to Your Backyard"} \ is \ subject \ when$ native plant horticulturist Greg Rubin demonstrates how to create a landscape to attract a plethora of birds and butterflies, Wednesday, May 2, 7 p.m., at Agua Hedionda Lagoon Discovery Center (1580 Cannon Road, at Faraday). 760-804-1969. (CARLSBAD)

Tour the Night Sky during "The Sky Tonight" planetarium show at Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, 7 p.m., Wednesday, May 2. View real sky through telescopes (weather

permitting) after show. \$8.50 general. 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

"Foreclosure and Bad Mortgages: How It Happens and What You Can Do About It" is topic when attorney John Brady speaks Thursday, May 3, noon, at San Diego County Public Law Library (main branch, 1105 Front Street). Free. Registration: 619-531-3900.

Look at Life, Culture, Political Turmoil along U.S.-Mexican border when UCSD ethnic studies professor Robert R. Alvarez presents "History Alive" lecture for Lemon Grove Historical Society on Thursday, May 3, 7 p.m., at H. Lee House Cultural Center (3205 Olive). Free. 619-460-4353. (LEMON GROVE)

Should the Creative Performing and Media Arts School be moved to current Ray Kroc Middle School site? Hear pros and cons when Carol

Barry presents proposal Thursday, May 3, 7 p.m., in cafeteria at Clairemont High School (4150 Ute Drive). Also planned: presentation on AB1200, law proposed to increase penalties for repeat traffic offenders involved in hit and run accidents. Free, 858-831-9555, (CLAIREMONT)

IN PERSON

Literary Arts Festival 2007 hosted by Grossmont College creative writing program includes reading by fiction writer Aimee Bender, Thursday, April 26, 7 p.m., in room 220 on Grossmont College campus (8800 Grossmont College Drive). Booksigning follows. Free. 619-644-7486. (EL CAJON)

"Jewish Music, Jewish Philanthropy," clarinetist Marian Liebowitz is joined by pianist Richard Thompson for concert of music by Jewish composers for eighth annual San Diego Jewish Music Festival, Thursday, April 26, 7:30 p.m., at Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center (4126 Executive Drive). Liebowitz will also "discuss her dual careers as performer and fundraiser." Tickets are free, but reservations are required, 858-362-1348, (LA JOLLA)

YMCA 125th Anniversary Reception, Friday, April 27, 11 a.m., with booksigning by author Myron D. Lewis. Free. Find Y at 500 West Broadway, suite b. 619-232-7451. (DOWNTOWN)

"Sarasvati's Dream Concert: A Tapestry of Harmonics and **Light"** — harmonic sound concert by "sound healer" Diane Mandle on Friday, April 27, 7 p.m., at Well Within (555 2nd Street), \$20. 760-944-3441. Bring a mat to recline on, (ENCINITAS)

No Singing and Dancing Allowed! Students at Coronado School of the Arts present Footloose on Friday and Saturday, April 27 and 28; and Thursday-Saturday, May 3-5. Curtain rises at 7 p.m. in campus theater, 650 D Avenue. General admission: \$12, reserved: \$15; discounts for seniors, children, students, 619-522-8969, (CORONADO)

Thirty Thespians from San Dieguito United Methodist Church present "Evenings of Entertainment," Friday, April 27, and Sunday, April 29, 7:30 p.m. Program includes "Life with Father," Groucho Marx, Mark Twain, other "specialty numbers." Find church at 170 Calle Magdalena, 760-753-6582. Offering. (ENCINITAS)

Legendary Virtuoso Sitarist, composer, teacher Ravi Shankar renowned for his work bringing Indian music to West - plans concert on Friday, April 27, 8 p.m., at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). Tickets: \$50-\$65. 800-988-4253. (ESCONDIDO)

Sixth Annual Spring Reverb Festival with performers from Germany, Canada, Mexico, and U.S. presenting "this celebration of musical creativity," Friday and Saturday, April 27 and 28, 8 p.m., at Kava Lounge Gallery (2812 Kettner Boulevard). "Experimental electronics expand the sonic horizon when pioneers of the genre" are joined by emerging artists. General admission: \$10 for one night, \$15 for two nights. 619-235-8466, (LITTLE ITALY)

"Life's Not Fair (Part 3)," sketch comedy shows presented Fridays and Saturdays, April 27 and 28, May 4 and 5, 8 p.m., at North Park Vaudeville and Candy Shoppe (2031 El Cajon Boulevard). \$10. 619-220-8663. (NORTH PARK)

Battle of the Band and Arts, Saturday, April 28, noon-6 p.m., at MiraCosta's San Elijo campus (3333 Manchester Avenue). Local artists and bands will display their talents. Free. 760-757-2121 x6703. (CARDIFF)

"The Call to Life," this "Pass on the Kindness" benefit performance and workshop by Wendy Hill, performing 14 original songs, is set for Saturday, April 28, 1-5 p.m., at 4407 Manchester Avenue, suite



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Activist and Reformer Ralph Nader speaks and signs *The Seventeen Traditions*, Saturday, April 28, 2 p.m., at Barnes and Noble Bookstore (10775 Westview Parkway, 858-684-3166). Free. (MIRA MESA)

Award-Winning Author Gary Geddes reads and signs his new book, *Kingdom of Ten Thousand Things*, Saturday, April 28, 7 p.m., at D.G. Wills Books (7461 Girard Avenue). New book is memoir of his "50,000-mile journey to prove there was Asian contact with the Americas 1000 years before Columbus." Free. 858-456-1800. (LA JOLLA)

Singer Songwriters Albert and Gage in concert for San Diego Folk Heritage, Saturday, April 28, 7:30 p.m., at San Dieguito United Methodist Church (170 Calle Magdalena). \$15. 858-566-4040. (ENCINITAS)

Mojácar Flamenco in concert hosted by AcousticMusicSanDiego

on Saturday, April 28 (\$15, \$20). Ronny Cox returns on Thursday, May 3 (\$15, \$20). Concerts begin at 7:30 p.m. at Normal Heights United Methodist Church (4650 Mansfield Street). 619-303-8176. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

A Rare Jugalbandhi (Duet) Concert featuring North Indian classical vocal maestro Ustad Rashid Khan and leading sitar artist Shri Kushal Das is slated for Saturday, April 28, 7:30 p.m., at Seaside Center for Spiritual Living (1613 Lake Drive). Duo will be accompanied by Shri Anand Gopal Bandopadhyay (tabla), Shri Jyoti Goho (harmonium), Shri Pinaki Bose (vocals). General admission: \$30, \$10 for children under 12. 858-578-2705, 858-254-2366.

"Miracles and Marvels," Technomania Circus time is 8 p.m. on Saturday, April 28, at Center for Amusing Arts (2438 Commercial Street). Bill includes Murrugun the Mystic, Dr. Techno, Dr. Hoonose, Lila Luna, Asbestos the Clown, Ferrari Cornstarch, Tique, Ron Lindley, Jim Call, Scones, Aaron,

Erika, Xep, Tamsin, more. \$15. 619-231-1950. Warm clothing recommended. (LOGAN HEIGHTS)

Comedy Hypnotist Don Spencer performs Saturday, April 28, 8 p.m., at Carlsbad Village Theatre (2822 State Street). Expect audience participation. Tickets: \$15 in advance, \$19 at door. 760-720-2460 (CARL SBAD)

The Minnie Swanson Music Festival hosted by Cedar Center Chorus, Sunday April 29, 10:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m., in Casa del Prado. Festival showcases "adult students and their arts," choruses, bands, orchestras, including Cedar Center Chorus, Pacificaires, Notables, Singsations, others. Free. 858-587-8951. (BALBOA PARK)

"OnceRemoved," final community showings of audio and dance production featuring collaborative work of local refugee and City Heights youths offered Sunday, April 29, 2 and 7 p.m., at Arts and Entertainment Center (3026 University Avenue).

Final performance is Monday, April 30, 7:30 p.m., for Human Rights Festival at 6th@ Penn Theatre (3704 Sixth Avenue). \$10. 619-252-7276. (NORTH PARK)

"Hands Across the Sea" concert by local Coastal Communities Concert Band and Omiya City Community Band from Saitama, Japan, Sunday, April 29, 2:30 p.m., at Carlsbad Community Church (3175 Harding Street). Listen for premiere of new composition by composer and arranger Sammy Nestico. Each band will perform one-half of two-hour program. \$15 general. 760-489-2383. (CARL SBAD)

"Concert of Honor" — Tom Knight and Too Much Fun, Amanda Chapman, Daybreak, Nikki Cuttrell plan benefit concert, Sunday, April 29, 4 p.m., at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). Proceeds support completion, installation of sculpture and wall honoring local military service members. \$20. 760-743-1474. (ESCONDIDO)

Gospel Recording Artists the Isaacs perform Sunday, April 29, 6 p.m., at Pathways Community Church (9626 Carlton Hills Boulevard). Free. 619-449-1269. (SANTEE)

Comedy Hypnosis Show by Michael Swenson, Sunday, April 29, 7:30 p.m., at Game Time Tavern (12735 Poway Road). For those 18 and older. \$15 per person, or \$20 for two. 858-382-2595. (POWAY)

"Love and War in California" discussed and signed by critically acclaimed author Oakley Hall, Monday, April 30, 7 p.m., at D.G. Wills Book (7461 Girard Avenue). Free, 858-456-1800. (LA JOLLA)

Thriller Author Harlan Coben signs *The Woods* on Monday, April 30, 7:30 p.m., at Warwick's Bookstore (7812 Girard Avenue). Free. 858-454-0347. (LA JOLLA)

Just Back from Paris, poet Jim Eret will read from his works, Monday, April 30, 8 p.m., at Twiggs Tea and Coffee (4590 Park Boulevard). Free. 619-296-0616. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

"A Writer's World" presented by Encinitas-based author Lisa Fugard, author of *Skinner's Drift*,

Tuesday, May 1, 6:30 p.m., at Solana Beach Library (157 Stevens Avenue). *Drift* is a *New York Times* "Notable Book of 2006" and finalist for *Los Angeles Times* first fiction award. Free to the public; reservations advised. 858-755-1404. (SOLANA BEACH)

"Fingerstyle Guitar through Time," concert and seminar with Richard Gilewitz, Tuesday, May 1, 7 p.m., Old Time Music (2852 University Avenue). \$12.619-280-9035. (NORTH PARK)

Second Delivery plays for music night hosted by San Diego North County Bluegrass and Folk Club on Tuesday, May 1, 7 p.m., at Round Table Pizza (1161 East Washington Street). Free. 760-489-0191. (ESCONDIDO)

Science Fiction Author John Scalzi presents last of his trilogy with *The Last Colony*, which he'll sign on Tuesday, May 1, 7 p.m., at Mysterious Galaxy Books (7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard). Free. 858-268-4747. (CLAIREMONT)

The Capitol Steps perform Tuesday, May 1, 8 p.m., at 4th & B (345



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B Street). Tickets: \$32.50-\$34.50. 619-299-2583. (DOWNTOWN)

"Uno de Mayo Show" by comics Scott Bowman, Jeremy Saville, Mitch Feingold for Comedy Grill, Tuesday, May 1, 8 p.m., at La Jolla Brew House (7536 Fay Avenue). Cover: \$5, plus two-item minimum. 858-550-8088. (LA JOLLA)

"Make Laugh, Not War," comedians committed to peace and social justice bring "Antiwar Comedy Tour" to Lestat's (3343 Adams Avenue) on Tuesday, May 1, 9 p.m. \$10 at door. 818-754-2663. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

Poetry Unlimited Art and Music features poet Terry Hertzler and musicians Dominique and Valerie Kim, Wednesday, May 2, 5 p.m., at Florence Riford Library (7555

Draper Avenue). Open readings follow. Free. 858-552-1657. (LA

Jazz in the Park series continues with concert by Houston Person Quartet, Wednesday, May 2, 5:30 p.m., at San Diego Museum of Art. \$20. Reservations: 619-696-1966. (BALBOA PARK)

Bellydancing and Live Music by Middle-Earth Ensemble, Wednesday, May 2, 9 p.m., at Winstons (1921 Bacon Street). Enjoy Mideast fusion music and bellydance by Danyavaad and Shimmy Sisters. \$6. 619-222-6822.

Paul Huggins and Agogo in concert at noon on Thursday, May 3, in library plaza at CSU San Marcos (333 South Twin Oaks Valley Road). Free. 760-750-4366. (SAN MARCOS)

(OCEAN BEACH)

brary's Schulman Auditorium (1775 Dove Lane). 760-602-2058. (LA COSTA)

Guitar Music by Peter Pupping on tap for First Thursday Concert in Escondido Library's Turrentine Room (239 South Kalmia Street) on May 3, 7 p.m. Free. 760-839-4329. (ESCONDIDO)

World-Beat Music and Dance — Damaru performs with Senegalese guest musicians Sene Africa, and there's bellydancing by Shalimar and Maisah, Thursday, May 3, 8 p.m., at Claire de Lune Coffeehouse (2906 University Avenue). \$5. 619-688-9845. (NORTH PARK)

Renowned New Orleans Musician, songwriter, record producer Allen Toussaint plans concert on Tuesday, May 15, 8 p.m., at Stephen and Mary Birch North Park Theatre (2895 University Avenue). Toussaint is in Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, was nominated for Grammy in

2007 (with Elvis Costello). Local musician A.J. Croce will also perform. Tickets: \$35, \$38 in advance; \$38, \$41 at door. 619-239-8836. (NORTH PARK)

SPORTS

Del Mar National Horse Show, 62nd annual show of competitions, instruction, and displays gets underway with Western Week events, April 19-22. "That's Entertainment! Night of the Horse, presented by Mary's Tack and Feed, Celebrates Broadway and the Silver Screen," Saturday, April 21, at

Dressage week is April 26–29. "Evening of Musical Freestyles" slated for Saturday, April 28, 7 p.m., featuring United States Equestrian Federation HP Qualifying Grand Prix Freestyles.

Meet concludes with hunter/ jumper week events, May 1-6. The \$100,000 HBO Grand Prix of Del Mar is Saturday, May 5, 7 p.m.

All events are held in Del Mar Arena at Del Mar Fairgrounds (2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard). Free weekday admission, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; \$10 for Thursday and Friday evening events, admission to weekend day shows; additional fees for special evening shows. 858-792-4288. (DEL MAR)

Del Mar National Horse **Show,** 62nd annual show of competitions, instruction, and displays continues with Dressage week events, April 26-29. "Evening of Musical Freestyles" slated for Saturday, April 28, 7 p.m., featuring United States Equestrian Federation HP Qualifying Grand Prix Freestyles.

All events are held in Del Mar Free weekday admission, 8 a.m.-

5 p.m.; \$10 for Thursday and Friday evening events, admission to weekend day shows; additional fees for special evening shows. 858-792-4288. (DEL MAR)

San Diego Padres finish roadtrip games in Arizona against Diamondbacks on Thursday, April 26, 6:40 p.m.

Padres host Los Angeles Dodgers in Petco Park April 27–29, at 7:05 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, at 1:05 p.m. on Sunday. The Washington Nationals arrive for games Monday-Wednesday, April 30 and May 1 and 2, at 7:05 p.m. Tickets: \$8-\$67. 619-795-5005. (EAST VILLAGE)

Southern California Paint Horse Show. Saturday and Sunday, April 28 and 29, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., at Del Mar Horsepark (14550 El Camino Real). Free.

Light of Doom plays original rock and roll music for "Rock the Library" family concert, Thursday, May 3, 7 p.m., in Carlsbad City Li-

Meet concludes with hunter/ jumper week events, May 1-6. The \$100,000 HBO Grand Prix of Del Mar is Saturday, May 5, 7 p.m.

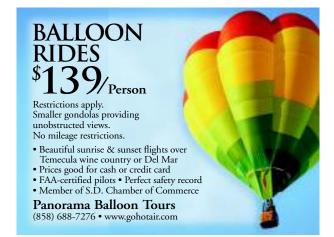
Arena at Del Mar Fairgrounds (2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard).

858-755-1161. (DEL MAR)

Manpower Outrigger Challenge is Saturday, April 28, at Bahia Point. Each five-person team paddles









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course with help of experienced instructor from Hanohano Outrigger Canoe Club. Equipment and instruction provided (9 a.m.). Ability to swim is required; all participants must be at least 18 years old. Registration opens at 8:30 a.m., racing starts at 10 a.m. Entry fee is \$200 per team (which includes tickets to luau), 619-283-5808, (MISSION BAY)

Outdoor Golf Demo Day, Saturday, April 28, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., at Carlsbad Golf Center (2711 Havmar Drive). Test new equipment from 35 top golf brands on a 300+ yard range; manufacturer reps on hand to answer questions. For all ages, golf abilities. Free. 760-720-4653. (CARLSBAD)

WalkAmerica 2007, benefiting March of Dimes, is Saturday, April 28, starting at 9 a.m. at Sixth Avenue and Laurel Street. 800-525-WALK. (BALBOA PARK)

Bicycle the Lake Morena **Loop** with Knickerbiker bicyclists on Saturday, April 28. The 28-mile ride starts at 9:30 a.m. at Buckman Springs rest stop (off I-8). Cruise to Lake Morena, out to train depot, return via Buckman Springs Road. Bring money for lunch at restaurant near Lake Morena. 858-481-8278. (EAST COUNTY)

Sixth Annual Downtown El Cajon Grand Prix Bike Race is Sunday, April 29. Races begin and end on East Main Street,

a.m.-4 p.m. Kids race at 11:30 a.m. 619-401-8858. Free for spectators. (EL CAJON)

Convair Waterski Club provides three ski boats for waterskiing and wakeboarding 8-11 a.m. on Sundays year-round. Instruction on request. Group meets at south end of Crown Point Beach. All skill levels welcome. Nonmember fee: \$15 per run (about 15 minutes). 858-863-4755, (MISSION BAY)

National MS Society Fun Walk, Sunday, April 29, starting at 8 a.m. at Embarcadero Marina Park South. Free, 800-486-6762. (DOWNTOWN)

Black Mountain to Ramona Express, join Sierra Club bicyclists for hilly, approximately 50-mile ride out to Ramona and back on Sunday, April 29. Expect over 3500 feet of climbing, snack stop in Rancho Bernardo. Ioin group at 8:30 a.m. in Black Mountain Park parking lot (just east of Black Mountain Road on Carmel Valley Road). 760-479-0187.

SPECIAL

"The Physics of Immortality" is subject when P&R Discussion group meets Thursday, April 26, 7 p.m., at Other Side Coffee House

(4096 30th Street). Free. 619-421-1879. (NORTH PARK

Exercise Your Humor and Creativity with "variety of active and interactive exercises...to give your funnybone a workout" led by Jacquie Lowell, Thursday, April 26, 7:30 p.m., at Radiance Studio (1618 West Lewis Street). \$20. 858-581-0050. (MISSION HILLS)

Ranunculus Rainbows, the Flower Fields with nearly 50 acres of giant ranunculus flowers are blooming again, open for tours through Sunday, May 13. Orchid days are Friday-Sunday, April 27-29, with 20 orchid vendors offering wares.

Visitors 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, turn left on Paseo del Norte Road. 760-431-0352. (CARLSBAD)

House Beautiful Home Show, April 27-29, at Del Mar Fairgrounds. Show opens at 10 a.m., closes at 7 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, 5 p.m. on Sunday. Free. 800-999-5450. (DEL MAR)

Body Art Expo boasting over 300 artists, 18 tattoo contests, music, live side shows, on-site tattooing and body piercing, much more, runs April 27-29 at Del Mar Fairgrounds. Hours: 1-11 p.m. on Friday, 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Saturday,







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11 a.m.-8 p.m. Sunday. Admission: \$20 general, free for kids under 10. 626-961-6522. (DEL MAR)

Cruisin' Grand takes place every Friday through September 28, 5-9 p.m. Palm Springs Cruising Association showcased on April 27. Over 400 pre-1974 American-made hot rods, custom, vintage, classic cars and trucks participate in cruise loop running down Grand Avenue and back up Second Avenue. Free viewing. 760-745-8877. (ESCONDIDO)

Bark Here Often? Doggie Café hosted by San Diego Humane Society, Friday, April 27, 6 p.m., at San Diego Humane Society and SPCA (5500 Gaines Street). Bring friendly, on-leash dogs to socialize with other canines. Trainers offer training tips on keeping dogs calm, civilized around distractions. Donation: \$10. Reservations: 619-299-7012 x2230, (LINDA VISTA)

Night at Ducky's, head to Ducky Waddles Emporium (414 North Coast Highway) for art, fashion, jewelry, music, Friday, April 27, 7-10 p.m. Art by artists of Arklite Gallery, debut of T-shirt brand Trumanella, DJ Pound, more. Free. 760-529-9810. (LEUCADIA)

San Diego Bonsai Club Show, Saturday and Sunday, April 28 and 29, in room 101 of Casa del Prado. 619-232-5762. (BALBOA PARK)

City of Coronado's 81st Annual Flower Show is a standard flower show including a horticulture, design, and children's section. Show is held in Spreckels Park along Orange Avenue, between 6th and 7th Streets, on April 28 and 29. On Saturday: plant sale, 8 a.m.-noon; flower show opens at 1 p.m. Flower show opens at 10 a.m. on Sunday. Both days include entertainment, self-guided home front tours, food for sale, flower show marketplace. Admission: \$3 general, free for those under 12. 619-437-8788. (CORONADO)

Native Plant Sale at Crestridge Ecological Reserve — promising water-wise plants for local habitats to attract birds, helpful insects - Saturday, April 28, 8 a.m.-noon. Composting workshop: 10 a.m.; activities for children; expert-led hikes at 9, 10, and 11 a.m. Free admission; \$10 requested donation per one-hour hike benefits local fire department. Find reserve at 1171 Horsemill Road, 619-749-5767. (EL CAJON)

Over 75,000 Books on offer during Coronado Library's annual spring book fair, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, April 28 and 29, in white tents at Spreckels Park (at 6th Street and Orange Avenue). 619-435-0290. (CORONADO)

OUT & ABOUT

JEWISH MUSIC

Clarinetist Marian Liebowitz for San Diego Jewish Music Festival, Thursday, April 26, Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center.

(SEE IN PERSON)



24th Annual Encinitas Street

Fair, Saturday and Sunday, April 28 and 29, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., on Highway 101 between D and J street. Find over 450 arts and craft and commercial vendors, art by members of 101 Artists Colony, three live stages with entertainment, fun for kids. Also on hand: the 65-foot-long Johnsonville Big Taste Grill. Free admission. 760-943-1950. (ENCINITAS)

Animal Handling, learn to care for and handle animals properly during volunteer orientation on Saturday, April 28, 10 a.m., at North County Humane Society (2905 San Luis Rey Road). Orientations offered first and third Saturday of month. Free. 760-757-4357 x1244. (OCEANSIDE

Over 5 Million Old Postcards,

paper collectibles, and ephemera on offer during San Diego Vintage Paper Collectibles Show, April 28 and 29, at Al Bahr Shrine Temple (5440 Kearny Mesa Road). Vendors with wares such as cigar labels, valentines, travel brochures, movie memorabilia, Western Americana, more. Appraisals of old paper collectibles. Show opens at 10 a.m., closes at 5 p.m. on Saturday, 4 p.m. on Sunday. Admission: \$5 on Saturday, free on Sunday. 626-665-9435. (KEARNY MESA)

Zuni Fetish Show and Sale, licensed trader Donald Sharp from Zuni, New Mexico, presents selection of Zuni fetish carvings from many accomplished artists on April 28 and 29 at San Diego Museum of Man. Show opens at 10 a.m. both days, closes at 4 p.m. on Saturday, 2 p.m. on Sunday. Included in the regular Museum admission. 619-239-2001. (BALBOA PARK)

Multi-Cultural Fair and Parade, promising flamenco dancers, folkloric dances from Mexico, traditional Hmong dancers, African drummers, fast-paced Brazilian samba dancers, numerous high school marching bands, is Saturday, April 28. Parade starts at 11 a.m., followed by festival from

22nd Annual Linda Vista

12:30-6 p.m. with international performances on three stages, vendors and artisans booths, kids' zone, World Arts Village, more. Free admission. Find festivities in 6900 block of Linda Vista Road (between Comstock and Ulric Streets). 619-840-0285. (LINDA VISTA)

Workout in the Park, 14th annual event hosted by Self magazine and Ford All-NewEdge, Saturday, April 28, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., at Sixth Avenue and Laurel Street. Fitness classes by crunch fitness instructors, exhibitors. \$25. 212-488-6531. (BALBOA PARK)

ArtWalk 2007, more than 400 artists featured at 23rd annual festival, set for Saturday and Sunday, April 28 and 29, noon-6 p.m.,

along 16 blocks from Beech Street to Fir Street in Little Italy. Art in range of media for sale, children's activities, music. Free admission. 619-615-1090. (LITTLE ITALY)

Hanamatsuri Flower Festival with Japanese food and cultural entertainment including taiko drumming, traditional Japanese dancing and musical performances, demonstrations of abacus, Japanese juggling bean bag, martial arts, and games for kids. Festival offered noon-6 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, April 28 and 29, at

Japanese Cultural Center (150

Cedar Road). Free admission.

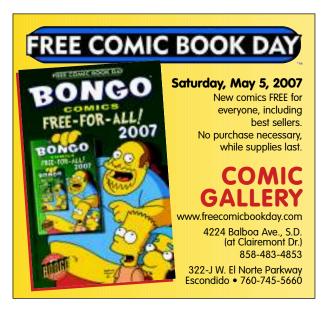
760-941-8800. (VISTA)

Pagoda Dresses, Round Dresses, Frock Coats! "Authentic fashion promenade" with fashions from 1800s is planned Saturday, April 28, beginning at noon in Old Town San Diego State Historic Park. Garden tours, period demonstrations, crafts, activities last until 4 p.m. Free. 619-952-

Second Annual Student Shakespeare Festival, Saturday, April 28, 1-4 p.m., in walkway of Prado. Festivities begin with a parade from Spreckels Organ Pavilion. Free. 858-566-6273. (BALBOA PARK)

"Sacred Sky, Sacred Earth," visual artist Peter Terezakis speaks on Saturday, April 28, for Alpine Artists Association's "Creative Process" series, showcasing his recent work and previewing Sunday's events. Talk starts at 6:30 p.m. at Alpine Woman's Club (2156 Alpine Boulevard). Dona-







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On Sunday, April 29, an outdoor, site-specific sculpture titled Sacred Sky, Sacred Earth will be installed at Wright's Field. Installation boasts light sculpture and dance performance at dusk by Lux Boreal from Tijuana with choreography by UCSD faculty member Allyson Green, Enter Wright's Field via Joan MacQueen Middle School entrance, 2001 Tavern Road. Evening closes with temporary light sculpture, enhanced by dancers, "with the intent of illuminating the essential, sacred essence of the natural setting." Prepare for short hike on uneven trails, flashlights and portable chairs, blankets recommended. Bring picnic dinner. Event starts at 7:30 p.m., but you're welcome to explore the preserve all day. 619-722-6281. (ALPINE)

Third Annual Spring Outdoor Antique and Flea Market, Sunday, April 29, 8 a.m.—4 p.m., at 773 Main Street (Highway 78). Dealers from around Southern California offer their wares. Free admission, 760-789-0574. (RAMONA)

Taste the Cake! Bridal Bazaar, Sunday, April 29, 10 a.m.—4 p.m., at Del Mar Fairgrounds. Products, services. \$10. 760-334-5500. (DEL MAR)

Global Days for Darfur, events conclude with "San Diego Darfur Beach Die-In," Sunday, April 29, 11:30 a.m.–2 p.m., at Crown Point

Park (south end, just north of Ingraham Street). Participants "will literally bury ourselves in the sand, en masse, as a visceral symbol of the dire urgency of this genocide" and show support for "Plan B" (described as decisive action to end genocide in Sudan). Speakers include UCSD professors, a "lost boy" survivor of Sudan's southern civil war. Free. 818-917-3425. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Marston House Tea on the Terrace offered Sunday, April 29, at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., at Marston House Museum (3525 Seventh Avenue). \$25 fee includes tea, finger sandwiches, scones, "authentic clotted crème," coconut cream pie ("the most popular dessert served at the highly fashionable 1950s-era Marston Department Store"). House tour follows each seating. Reservations: 619-232-6203, ext. 129. (HILLCREST)

The House of England offers lawn program of songs and dances at International Cottages on Sunday, April 29, 2 p.m. Free. 619-234-0739. (BALBOA PARK)

Legal Resources Knowledge Fairs, San Diego County Public Law Library is hosting fairs on Wednesday, May 2, 10 a.m.—3 p.m., at four court locations: East County, North County, South Bay, Downtown Hall of Justice. Informational brochures provided to educate public about legal resources available in

San Diego County. Free. Details: 619-531-3900. (SAN DIEGO COUNTY)

Cajon Classic Cruise Car Shows continue on Wednesdays through August 29, 5–8 p.m., on East Main Street. Expect a "Cinco de Mayo Celebration" on May 2. Free. 619-401-8858. (EL CAJON)

Looking for Unique Art Objects? Spring student art sale with work in variety of media at Palomar College runs May 3–5 at south end of campus (between Howard Brubeck Theatre and Lot 15 under green roof, 1140 West Mission Road). Hours: 9 a.m.–9 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 9 a.m.–3 p.m. Saturday. 760-744-1150 x2302. (SAN MARCOS)

Tenth Anniversary Open House planned Thursday, May 3, 6–8 p.m., at Hostelling International San Diego (521 Market Street). Learn how hostels work, eat Mediterranean cuisine, tour hostel, get questions answered. \$10. Required reservations: 619-338-9981 x2. (GASI AMP OLIARTER)

Sixth Annual Spring Reverb, celebrate spring with music, art, dance from Trummerflora Collective during Thursday Night Thing on May 3. Party starts at 7 p.m. at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (1001 Kettner Boulevard). An "international roster of musicians" will "push the limits of the musical imagination"; Lower Left dance will perform through-

out galleries. Donation: \$3. 858-454-3541. (DOWNTOWN)

"Arms-Control Effectiveness in Today's World" explored Thursday, May 3, 7 p.m., at Other Side Coffee House, 4096 30th Street. Join discussion for free. 619-421-1879. (NORTH PARK)

Have a Story to Tell? San Diego Public Library's digital community storytelling station remains available through June. Gather reminiscences of your neighborhood, memories of interesting jobs, tales of special interests and activities, to record San Diego history as told by general public. Find library at 820 E Street. Requirements, reservations: 619-236-5821 or 619-230-1938. (DOWNTOWN)

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

Palomar Observatory Astronomy Evening Tours sponsored by Reuben H. Fleet Science Center begin on Saturday, May 5. Guests get close look at famous 200-inch telescope, hear astronomy lecture, view sky through 60-inch telescope











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San Diego Reader April 26, 2007

(weather permitting). \$75. Reservations: 619-238-1233 x802.

Battle of the Street Performers.

"the extraordinary and the unusual" promised when street performers compete at Spring Busker Festival Saturday and Sunday, May 12 and 13, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free. 619-235-

Gator by the Bay Festival, food and cultural event brings the spirit of the Louisiana bayou to Spanish Landing Park (4100 North Harbor Drive). Enjoy bands, dancing, food, workshops, crafts, vendors, and Mardi Gras-style parades Saturday and Sunday, May 12-13, 10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. both days. \$15, kids 12 and under free. 619-234-8612. (DOWNTOWN)

FOR KIDS

Tots and Tales interactive story time for preschoolers with animal stories, crafts, live animals on Thursday, April 26, 10:30 a.m., at San Diego Humane Society and SPCA (5500 Gaines Street). Donation: \$2 per child. Required reservations: 619-243-3432. (LINDA VISTA)

Enjoy "The Three Wishes" when Puppet Express takes stage through Sunday, April 29, in Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theater, Next: Ritsy Rosie and Bitsy Blossom Turn Over a New Leaf with comic ventriloquist Lynn Trimble, May 2-6.

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)

Travel to Neverland with Peter, the Lost Boys, and the Darling children when San Diego Junior Thepresents Peter Pan, April 27-May 13, in Casa del Prado Theater. For all ages. Curtain rises at 7 p.m. on Fridays; 2 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Performance on May 12 is ASL interpreted. Tickets: \$8-\$13. Reservations: 619-239-8355. (BALBOA PARK)

The 23rd Annual Children's **Book Party** hosted by Reading Literacy Learning Inc. is Saturday, April 28, 8:30-10:30 a.m., in

Spreckels Organ Pavilion. Free books for children music, dance, refreshments. Admission: free. 619-266-4118. (BALBOA PARK)

Math and Science Fair with activities for elementary and middle school students planned Saturday, April 28, 1-4 p.m., in Hub Plaza at MiraCosta College (One Barnard Drive). Free. 760-795-6616. (OCEANSIDE)

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, April 28, 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 dayof-tournament fee is \$30.760-721-4400. (SOLANA BEACH)

"Harry and the Tyrannosaurus Rex" presented for those five and older by Swazzle, Saturday, April 28, 3 p.m., at Normal Heights Community Center (4649 Hawley). Free. 619-533-3974. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

San Diego International Children's Film Festival takes over the Museum of Photographic Arts (Sunday, April 29, and Saturday, May 5) with animation and filmmaking workshops and more than 90 international children's films to be shown, including animation, live-action, and documentaries, plus the San Diego premiere of Big Top Winkle! \$5, children 3 and under are free. Showtimes: 760-470-2481. (BALBOA PARK

MUSEUMS

Bancroft Ranch House Museum

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

Barona Cultural Center and Museum is located at 1095 Barona Road; 619-443-7003 x2.

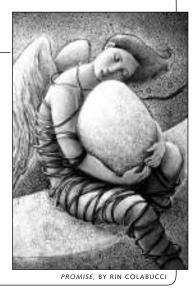
California Surf Museum, "The Surfer-Shapers," on exhibit through 2006, showcases several

SINGLES

OUT & ABOUT

ARTWALK 2007 Saturday and Sunday, April 28 and 29, Little Italy.

(SEE SPECIAL)



surfers whose conceptual abilities and crafting talent radically altered surfboard design. The search has always been for lighter, faster, more maneuverable boards, from Duke Kahanamoku in early 1900s. to Tom Blake in 1920s to Simon Anderson in early 1980s.

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

Chula Vista Nature Center, an interactive living museum devoted to the endangered Southern California coastal wetlands, located in Sweetwater Marsh National Wildlife Refuge. Visitors can use a Bioscanner to view animals macroscopically, use a Wentzscope for views of microscopic organisms found in the "Sweetwater Soup," and interact with computerized videos exploring how tides affect the bay in the "Moons, Tides, and the San Diego Bay" exhibit. Pet sharks and rays in the David A. Wergeland Shark and Ray Experience, see burrowing owls and migratory birds, and enjoy the xerophytic gardens.

Visitors meet a shuttle bus at the Bayfront E Street Trolley Station or at the center's parking lot at the foot of E Street and Bay Boulevard. 619-409-5903. (CHULA VISTA)

Coronado Museum of History and Art, ongoing exhibits explore the overall history of Coronado, Navy and Army, Tent City, and the Hotel del Coronado. Find the museum at 1100 Orange Avenue. 619-435-7242. (CORONADO)

Flying Leatherneck Museum,

dedicated to the Marine Corps who provided air support, from the propeller-driven fighters and bombers of the 1940s to the modern jets and helicopters currently in use. Static displays of a variety of aircraft are included, along with equipment, insignia, paintings and photographs, scale models, and a research library. The museum is located in building T-2002, at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar. 858-693-1723.

Gaslamp Museum of Historic San Diego, glimpse San Diego's colorful past at the museum, where displays highlight Wyatt Earp's San Diego days, the Peg Leg Gold Legend, the first maps and photographs of Old Town and New Town," early military history, the naval disaster in 1923 at Point Honda, and more. Find the museum at 413 Market Street (between Fourth and Fifth Avenues). $619\hbox{-}237\hbox{-}1492. \ (\text{GASLAMP QUARTER})$

Heritage of the Americas Museum, more than 100 Chinese jades of the Late Neolithic (4300–2500 B.C.) through the Ming periods (A.D. 1368-1644) are included in "The Stone of Heaven: The Enduring Art of Jade Age China." From ancient times, jades in China were treasured as talismans, worn on the body either as final adornments in death or as ornaments in life. See a rare and valuable iade burial suit of the Han dvnasty (206 B.C.-A.D. 221), one of only about two dozen that have been excavated in China. The suits were made of more than 2000 square and rectangular plates of jade sewn together with threads of gold, silver, or bronze (depending upon the status of the wearer). Ongoing.

The museum features art and artifacts from South and North America, concentrating on the utilitarian and decorative artistry of crafts workers from ancient cultures. The museum also features wings dedicated to natural history, archaeology, education, anthropology, and fine art. Find the museum on the Cuvamaca College campus, 12110 Cuyamaca College Drive West. 619-670-5194. (RANCHO SAN DIEGO)

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

John DeWitt Historic Museum and Library, operated by the Alpine Historical Society, it is located in the 1897 home/office of Dr. Sophronia Nichols. She was the first doctor in Alpine and the first female doctor in the East County. Indian artifacts from the Kingery family on exhibit. The museum is located at 2116 Tavern Road; 619-659-8740. (ALPINE)

La Mesa Depot Museum, located in a restored 1894 wooden train station, exhibits include original telegraph and telephone equipment, pot-bellied coal stove, period furniture. The adjacent freight train display features 1923 steam locomotive, 1957 refrigerator car, 1941 caboose. Find the museum at La Mesa Boulevard and Spring Street. 619-465-7776. (LA MESA)

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

Ramona Pioneer Historical Society and Guy B. Woodward **Museum** is a complex of historical buildings, including the Verlague House (the only Western adobe home of French provincial design still in existence), wagons, antique exhibits, and artifacts. There is a cowboy bunk house, women's clothing and accessories from 1700 to 1800, a ranch blacksmith shop and tack room. The Casey Tibbs Memorial Exhibit is dedicated to Tibbs, a local resident who was a world-champion rodeo rider. The Bancroft Memorial Rose Garden is on the grounds. Rare documents, historical exhibits, books, photographs, and a research library are also part of the complex.

Find it all at 645 Main Street. 760-789-7644. (RAMONA)

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San Diego County Sheriff's Museum, the 150-year history of the sheriff's department is highlighted at the museum, which is located "just feet away" from the original cobblestone jail site, built in 1850. The museum boasts artifacts, photographs, equipment, uniforms, and vehicles, along with exhibits from each of the departments making up the organization such as crime scene, K-9, court service, detentions, crime lab, bomb squad, and many others. Find the museum at 2384 San Diego Avenue; 619-260-1850. (OLD TOWN)

San Diego Electric Railway Association, located in historic National City Santa Fe Depot (922 West 23rd Street), offers exhibits, video displays, trolley equipment, restored passenger car from National City and Otay Railroad. 619-474-4400. (NATIONAL CITY)

San Diego Model Railroad **Museum,** the museum celebrates American railroads with "the largest permanent operating model railroad and toy train exhibit" in North America. Four scale-model railroads of the Southwest, the "San Diego County Relief Map" exhibit, and an interactive toy train. There is a multimedia presentation on railroading, an operating railroad semaphore signal, and interpretive displays on railroads and model railroading. The museum is downstairs in the Casa de Balboa building. 619-696-0199. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Natural History Museum, "Playing with Time' is an exhibit inviting "visitors to experiment with high-speed photography, time-lapse videos, natural records of change like eroded rocks and lake cores, and other time-shifting techniques." Exhibition — including Time Tools Lab, investigation areas, "The Reflectory" - closes Sunday, April 29.

The permanent exhibit "Fossil Mysteries" showcases last 75 million years in Southern California and Baja California region, a time known for its rich fossil record. Highlights include life-size models of Albertosaurus, Lambeosaurus, a sea cow, megalodon shark, more.

"Visions of the Natural World through the Lens of the Masters, continuing through May, is collaborative effort between museum and Ordover Gallery, with variety of nature-based photography. "Philipp Scholz Rittermann: A Personal Vision of Landscape" continues through Sunday, April 29. Also on view and for sale: sculpture and glass.

Current "giant-screen films" are An Inconvenient Truth (through April) and Ocean Oasis. 619-232-3821. (BALBOA PARK)



San Diego *Reader* April 26, 2007

94th Aero Squadron 8855 Balboa Avenue Dance 7-11 pm

\$11 Admission Saturday

Skies Lounge Four Points Sheraton Dance Party 8 pm-1 am \$11 Admission

\$3 off before 9 pm* Hosted by Darlena Hotline: 858-259-6166

www.singlesinsandiego.com *Must present coupon for discount.

Are you single and over 40?



When: Saturday, April 28 at 6:30 PM

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Upcoming Trips:



Events that are underlined occur after May 3.

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 92186-5803. Or fax to 619-881-2401. You may also submit information online at SanDiegoReader.com by

CLASSICAL

clicking on the events section.

American Fingerstyle Guitar explored by local practitioner Arthur Golden in Concert Hour lecture/recital, Thursday, April 26, 12:30 p.m. in Palomar College Performance Lab (room D-10 at 1140 West Mission Road). Free. $760\text{-}744\text{-}1150\ x2316.\ (\text{SAN MARCOS})$

J.S. Bach's "English Suite IV in F Major" and "Toccata in D Major" may be heard when harpsichordist Carole Cerasi performs for San Diego Harpsichord Society, Thursday, April 26, 8 p.m., at Congregational Church of La Jolla (1216 Cave Street). Program includes works by Froberger, Picchi, Boehm, Balbastre, Blasco de Nebra. \$20 general. 619-840-3416. (LA JOLLA)

"Young Beethoven in Vienna" explored during spring concerts by USD Symphony. Program includes overture to The Creatures of Prometheus ballet, "Second Symphony," "Piano Concerto No. 2," more. Concerts begin at 8 p.m. on Friday, April 27, and 2 p.m. on Sunday, April 29, in Shiley Theatre at University of San Diego (5998 Alcalá Park). \$10 general. 619-260-4171. (LINDA VISTA)

"Viennese Masters — New and Old," enjoy music by Mozart, Lardy, Haydn, Track, and Strauss when soprano Camila Arnold, Ryan Beard (horns), and Fontaine Laing (piano) perform Saturday, April 28, at Galerie d'Art International (320 South Cedros Avenue, suite 500). Tickets: \$17 in advance, \$20 at door. Reception at 5 p.m., concert at 5:30 p.m., cocktails at 6:30 p.m. Recommended reservations: 858-793-0316. (SOLANA BEACH)

2001 USA International Harp Competition Winner Dan Yu performs for American Harp Society, Saturday, April 28, 7:30 p.m., at Neurosciences Institute (10640 John Jay Hopkins Drive). Tickets: \$5 students, \$10 general. 858-578-3093. (LA JOLLA)

Italian Baroque — Il Giardino Armonico performs for La Jolla Music Society's Revelle Chamber Music Series, Saturday, April 28, 8 p.m., Sherwood Auditorium, Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (700 Prospect Street). Program boasts pieces by Guerrieri, Purcell, Rosenmüller, Telemann, Nardini, Goldberg, Vivaldi. Prelude by Stanley Walens, 7 p.m. Tickets: \$25, \$55, \$75. 858-459-3728. (LA JOLLA)

Guest Organist Jackson Borges in concert, Sunday, April 29, 2 p.m., in Spreckels Organ Pavilion. Free. 619-702-8138. (BALBOA PARK)

Graduate Percussion Collaboration Program presented by Matthew Jenkins and Justin De-Hart, Sunday, April 29, 7 p.m., in Mandeville Recital at UCSD. Both are members of red fish blue fish percussion ensemble. Free. 858-534-3229. (LA JOLLA)

Rachmaninoff's "Vespers" to be sung in Russian when La Jolla Symphony and Chorus gives concert on Sunday, April 29, 7 p.m., at St. Paul's Cathedral (2728 Sixth Avenue). \$10. 858-534-4637. (LA COSTA)

Mini-Concert with pianist Daniel Noli and tenor Alejandro Sole at noon on Monday, April 30, in Lyceum Theatre at Horton Plaza. Free. Bring lunch! 858-454-5872.

Chamber Music Ensembles perform Tuesday, May 1, 7:30 p.m., in Crill Performance Hall at Point Loma Nazarene University (3900 Lomaland Drive). Free, 619-849-2325, (POINT LOMA)

Free First Wednesdays series continues with performances by teenage piano prodigy Rossina Grieco on May 2, at 4 and 7 p.m., at California Center for the Arts. Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). Free. 800-988-4253.

Selections by Couperin, Ruggles,

Debussy, Copland, Liszt, and Schubert performed during piano concert by UCSD graduate John Mark Harris, Wednesday, May 2, 8 p.m., in Mandeville Recital at UCSD. \$8 general. 858-534-3229. (LA JOLLA)

Palomar Electronic Music **Ensemble** led by Madelyn Byrne performs for Concert Hour series, Thursday, May 3, 12:30 p.m. in Palomar College Performance Lab (room D-10 at 1140 West Mission Road). Free. 760-744-1150 x2316.

Bold Adventurism Rules! Student composers strut their stuff during concert by Palomar Electronic Music Ensemble, Thursday, May 3, 8 p.m., in Palomar College Performance Lab (room D-10. 1140 West Mission Road). Directed by Madelyn Byrne. \$5 general. 760-744-1150 x2453. (SAN MARCOS)

"The Bach Family Album" explored by Murry Sidlin and San Diego Symphony for "Thursday Night Light" concert on Thursday, May 3, 7:30 p.m., in Copley Symphony Hall (750 B Street). Program includes J.S. Bach's "Orchestral Suite No. 4 in D Major," pieces by C.P.E. Bach, J.C. Bach, W.F. Bach, Tickets: \$15-\$58, Reservations: 619-235-0804. (DOWNTOWN)

ART LISTINGS

Events that are underlined occur after Mav 3.

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 92186-5803. Or fax to 619-881-2401. You may also submit information online at SanDiegoReader.com by clicking on the events section.

GALLERIES

Abstract Artist Darryl Erdmann and sculptor Hugo Heredia have work on exhibit through May at Patrick Moore Gallery (2400 Kettner Boulevard, suite 103). Meet Erdmann during reception in conjunction with Kettner Nights gallery stroll, Friday, April 27, 6 p.m. 801-205-1411. (LITTLE ITALY)

"2nd Street," exhibition of work by "underprivileged teen artists" opens with reception on Friday, April 27, 6 p.m., at ARTS (A Reason to Survive), found at NTC Promenade/Liberty Station (2820 Roosevelt Street, studio 106). 858-277-3589. Closes Saturday, May 5. (POINT LOMA)

"Symbolism, Eroticism, Mysticism, and Subconsciousness Equals Surrealism" - exhibition of work in variety of media by Dalí, Bellmer, Masson, Miró, Ernst, Matta, and others, opens with reception on Friday, April 27, 6 p.m., at Perry L. Meyer Fine Art (2400 Kettner Boulevard, suite 251; 619-358-9512). Closes Friday, June 1. (LITTLE ITALY)

ArtWalk 2007, more than 400 artists featured at 23rd annual festival, set for Saturday and Sunday, April 28 and 29, noon-6 p.m., along 16 blocks from Beech Street to Fir Street in Little Italy. Art in range of media for sale, children's activities, music. Free admission. 619-615-1090. (LITTLE ITALY)

"Discourse on the Dangler," Pamela Theis displays her master's thesis exhibition in Flor y Canto Gallery at San Diego State University. Opening reception: Saturday, April 28, 6 p.m. View show Monday, April 30, through Friday, May 4. 619-594-6511. (SDSU)

"Wyman Shoots," the Rolling Stones bassist contributes over 40 images for exhibition opening with reception on Saturday, April 28, 7 p.m., at Morrison Hotel Gallery (1230 Prospect Street). Bill Wyman started taking photographs in the 1960s. Through Sunday, May 20. 858-551-0835. (LA JOLLA)

Del Mar Photographer Michael Vander Vorst exhibits fine art photographs — to benefit Military Outreach Ministry — beginning with reception on Sunday, April 29, 2 p.m., at Oceanside Photo and Telescope Underground Photographic Gallery (918 Mission Avenue), 760-722-3348. Closes Sunday, May 27. (OCEANSIDE)

"Imagine," all-media student art show opens with reception on Thursday, May 3, 11 a.m., in Mira-Costa College's Kruglak Gallery (in student center at One Barnard Drive). Through Tuesday, May 15. 760-757-5368. (OCEANSIDE)

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 landscapes, cityscapes, animal studies, figurative genre, fruit and floral 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.

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 (Mv 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.

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, August 12.

"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, May 6.

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 "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 neighborhood. Hawaiian "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-

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 produced 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-Lijsa 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 permabridity 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.

nent collection. Showcased pieces

demonstrate "diversity and hy-

"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. (LA JOLLA)

Oceanside Museum of Art.

"Four San Diego Sculptors" — exhibit with work by Kenneth Capps, Jesus Y. Dominguez, Tom Driscoll, and James Skalman features sculptures "with shapes and designs from the subtle to the extreme," on display through Sunday, June 10. Find museum at 704 Pier View Way. 760-721-2787. (OCEANSIDE)

San Diego Museum of Art,

"Young Art 2007: Exploring Color," continuing until Sunday, May 27, features works created by San Diego's city and county public and private school students (kindergarten through 12th grade). "See what students achieve when encouraged to use art to explore their imaginations."

"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, 18thand 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)

Giant Rummage Sale

14th Annual Torrey Pines High School **Foundation Rummage Sale** Saturday, April 28 • 7-11 am

Gently used treasures, furniture, antiques, children's items, clothing, tools & much more!

Torrey Pines H.S. Parking Lot 1 mile east of I-5 on Del Mar Heights Road

All proceeds benefit the students!





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Signs of the Times Taken Down In 2005, ipayOne made a deal to pay \$2.5 million over five years for San Diego Sports Arena the next three years are unknown.

Neither Ron Hahn nor his son Ernie (general manager of the Sports Arena) returned calls requesting comment.

— Ken Leighton

Time Has Told Stephen Marley, son of reggae legend

<u>the</u> i<u>nside tr</u>ack

naming rights. Last week, the venue reverted back to its original name and workers took down ipayOne signage.

The action somewhat confirmed a Pollstar magazine report that said the Carlsbad-based mortgage company stopped making payments for the naming rights last year. It's been confirmed that ipayOne is no longer accepting real estate listings and that it is liquidating its assets.

The Sports Arena sits on land owned by the City of San Diego. In addition to lease payments to the city amounting to nearly half a million dollars annually, Arena Group 2000 is expected to pay the city 10 percent of the money it gets from Sports Arena naming rights. Developer Ron Hahn, the owner of Arena Group 2000, allegedly has majority ownership of the ipayOne brokerage. The ramifications of the city losing out to the approximately \$200,000 it was expecting to receive over

Bob Marley, turned 35 last Friday (yes, 4/20); last night, Stephen headlined at San Diego's House of Blues. He

since-shuttered California Theatre. Reviewing the show as a Daily Aztec staffer at SDSU, I praised Stephen Marley's command and inclusion of hip-hop-related dancehall "toasting" when he took the lead vocals for a couple of songs: "...no doubt the first encounter many in the

audience ever had with this

relatively recent style that is

all the rage in Jamaica...[but]

anniversary of Bob's death

Marley kids, backed by an

eight-piece band, played a

sold-out show at the long-

from cancer at age 36 — the

goes mostly unreported in America....' The most memorable event that night was the interference of a security guard with Stephen:

"Seconds after the first and only [skanking] stage-



PRE-RAGGAMUFFIN STEPHEN MARLEY, 1985

first performed on a downtown SD stage almost two decades ago. In 1988, along with his two sisters in the Melody Makers, fronted crasher was hustled off, a security type who had been facing the crowd hopped up on stage, took Stephen by the wrist, and attempted to remove him like the overexcited fan he thought the youth was [perhaps because, unlike his siblings,

dressed in street clothes].... "The audience instantly knew what was happening,

turning to cheers as the bouncer himselfwas shoved off to the side of the stage.... It almost

seemed

part of the

stage act...but the disturbed look on Stephen's face when he returned to pound out a coldly furious bongo solo on the [resumed] cover of his father's 'Time Will Tell' seemed very real as did the righteously indignant tone of Ziggy's 'JAH, RAS-tafari!' cry upon dispatching the poor fool that had hassled his brother.

— David Stampone

Flirtin' with Disaster?

Braxton Whitley is having a rough time producing his Southern Classic Music Fest. The former electrician contracted to hire the Atlanta Rhythm Section, Molly Hatchet, and Blackfoot for a May 11 concert at the 1500capacity Show Palace in Oceanside.

The problem: the bands' manager/agent says the show ...is not going to happen." Steve Green of Boca Raton, Florida, says he received \$10,000 of an expected \$30,000 deposit from Whitley; Green says the two agreed on \$60,000 for the package and that \$30,000 represents the customary 50 percent deposit that promoters pay agents.

Last Tuesday, Whitley said, "I've got a contract that says I've paid those people



BLACKFOOT, IN DEMAND

everything, and I don't owe them a dime until five minutes before they play at 7 p.m. on May 11, when I owe them the rest."

A local promoter who has bought acts of this type says the band lineup is worth nowhere near \$60,000.

"That dude got prisonraped," says the promoter. "The Atlanta Rhythm Section can't sell any hard tickets. They are an act that plays at [county] fairs. They get about \$3500. Molly Hatchet is worth, like,

\$2500.... And Blackfoot, I never even heard of them."

Manager Green points out that prices for bands

vary.
"You can't compare what they might get at a House of Blues with what they might get at a special event. There are a lot of variables, like venue

size, ticket price, and where the band is when you want to book them.'

Whitley, who moved to

San Diego from Charlotte, North Carolina, five years ago, says he is prepared "to file an injunction" and sue Green if the bands don't show up. "I'm a peace-loving man, but I've also been a professional kick boxer. I am nice until it's time to not be nice."

Last week, House of Blues San Diego announced Molly Hatchet and Blackfoot had been booked to play May 11. As of Friday, Whitley was still selling tickets through his website.

Green said even though two of the bands were able to secure a gig at another local venue, he would not be returning the \$10,000 deposit to Whitley. "That money all goes to the bands. Plus, we have hired an attorney in L.A. to go after the other \$50,000." Calls to Whitley were not returned.

– Ken Leighton

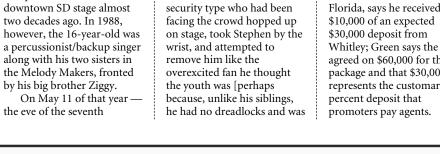
Black Pharaoh

Ascending De Shjon Mitchell, a.k.a. Spectrum, is a wheelchair-bound hip-hop artist who became paralyzed



SNOOPY AND SPECTRUM

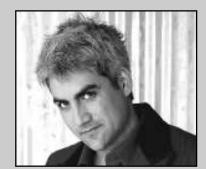
after the van he was in went out of control and rolled down a 45-foot drop. He







Bill Engvall
MAY 4



Taylor Hicks MAY 6



Dick Fox's Golden Boys Frankie Avalon, Fabian, Bobby Rydell MAY 12



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wasn't wearing a seat belt.

"I thought without use of my legs my life was over at the age of 17. I had dreams like most teenage boys to be a professional athlete. It was the most difficult transition I ever made in my life.' Mitchell says he used writing as therapy.

"After the accident, I felt more inspired, like I can reach down and just pull out a lot more frustration or pain from things 'cause I kind of held a lot of it in when everything happened and I wondered why all of this stuff happened - a lot of my songs are about this. However, I feel some frustration for not being able to simply stand or jump and give the energy I would like

With a group of college friends at SDSU, Mitchell formed the band Four Stars before going solo. Accessibility became an issue.

"Playing the keyboard is different because I can't use the foot pedal and carry

equipment.... I traveled, and obviously this world isn't designed for wheelchairs. One of my friends, who is also bound to a wheelchair, always says, 'You should be called the Black Pharaoh

because they carry you onstage if there's no access..

"It's pretty much wheelchair-friendly in San Diego, though. As far as going to other places, going to New York they have elevators to some places, but the underground scene has deep staircases.'

Mitchell has been working with a group called Think First, which advocates seat belt use

'When I'm talking at the high schools, I get a lot of high school students that come check out the website. It's a good way to get my name out, besides the message of safety....

Mitchell, who is working on his second album, has played the Honey Beehive, Hot Monkey Love Café, and Rosie & Joe's (in Kearny

— Stefanie Howell

Evolution of Rap "I

don't think it's ever happened that any San Diego rap group has had music on a major movie soundtrack," says



SINGLETON (CENTER) WITH THE CLICK

Joseph Hendrick, a.k.a. J Savage. His seven-monthold group Mercenary Click recorded "Bring Your Body" for the soundtrack to Illegal Tender, a John Singleton movie scheduled for release

OVERHEARD IN SAN DIEGO: FANNIE'S



this summer.

"Our song is in the movie for almost 60 seconds," says Hendrick. "It's in an important nightclub scene."

Mercenary Click included Savage and homegrown rappers Evolution, Propheci, and Stash Skrilla; then they added R&B vocalist Tex.

"We found him by chance in El Cajon walking on the street," says Hendrick. "It's a crossover/international sound.... It's definitely time for something new; the market has shown that it's tired of recycled music."

The group's addition of a bona fide vocalist may help them over the dip in rap's popularity: rap-music sales declined 21 percent from 2005 to 2006, according to the Recording Industry Association of America. It was the first time in 12 years that a hip-hop album was not one of the top-ten sellers of the year.

- Ken Leighton

Elvistory Thirty-four years ago today (4/26/73), Elvis Presley appeared at the San Diego Sports Arena. He came to perform in San Diego five times (six, if you count his 4/3/56 set on the aircraft

carrier USS Hancock, docked at the 28th street Naval Station). After the Navy show, he appeared for two consecutive nights at the San Diego Arena on Eighth and

Harbor Drive (a.k.a. Glacier Garden). He returned to the Arena for a sold-out show in June 1956 but didn't perform again in San Diego until November 15, 1970.

It was at the 1970 show where, according to ipayonecenter.com, "[Elvis] met a security guard working backstage who, as it turns out, hailed from Elvis's hometown. They shared a few laughs and Elvis went to perform to a full house and leave town. The next day, much to the amazement of the security guard and the entire Arena staff, a brand-new Cadillac was delivered to the security guard."

Elvis's final local appearance was at the Sports Arena on April 24,

- Jay Allen Sanford

Britney Skewered

When Monsters from Mars play their cover of Britney Spears's "Toxic," that spaceysounding instrument is a theremin, an electronic



BEATS A MONSTERS FROM MARS PHOTO, NO?

musical device popularized in the 1951 sci-fi film The Day the Earth Stood Still.

"It sure is a head turner."

says operator (and bassist) Scott Jones. "Ours is homemade, like a lot of our DIY equipment. We try not to overuse it by just making flying-saucer noise with it. We run it through a delay pedal to give a thick psychedelic sound for certain parts, and we actually play melodies with it in songs like the Britney cover."

The band's version of "Toxic" is included on their seven-inch vinyl Surfing through a Creepy Castle

"It gets requested every gig, and not everyone realizes it's a Britney song," says Jones. "We joke that she's probably getting two-cent royalty checks and saying 'what the hell.' Someday, we'd love to be her backing band and play it, which by the looks of her career could become a reality.'

— Jay Allen Sanford

CONTRIBUTORS

William Crain, Dave Good, Larry Harmon, Michael Hemmingson, Ker Leighton, Ryan Loyko, Derek Plank, Eric Rife, Jay Allen Sanford

Entertainment 7 Nights a Week!

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Huge Rooster & Guests

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Classic Rock Serious Guise

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Originals Band Bookings: Call club

Santee

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The Hugh Gaskins Band

Friday & Saturday, April 27 & 28 • 9 pm



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1/30

Every Monday "7-TEN Unplugge 8 PM-close MITCH BUDD

AND FRIENDS as your teatured artists
Open Jam from 12-2 AM

GAME NIGHT

AT THE BEACH No Cover/Drink Specials

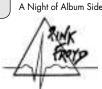
Wed

Another Zeke Productions presents Rock

THE PROVISIONALS **FALLING GAME**

LONELY MATTRESS SALESMAN

A CONSCIOUS FEW CARBINE A Night of Album Sides



oat. 5/5 CINCO DE MAYO 4-7 PM: Free Show

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JUAN PESO

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KEXP.org PRESENTS

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Sun 5/6 • 9:00 PM

DON CARLOS

THE DEVASTATORS

DJ DUB TRAFFIC CONTROI

Thu 5/10 • 9:00 PM

www.winstonsob.com

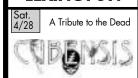


BOBBY LEE RODGERS & THE CODETALKERS



JOEY COCO DIAZ

Rock N Reggae **GADFLY** THE WAGON OLIVER REIGNS LEXINGTON



4/29

5-9 PM: Open Mic

Karaoke OB Style • Free Cover

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\$2 drinks 9 pm to close

4/30 DRUNK POETS SOCIETY Hosted by the lovely Old

Celebrating the music of the rateful Dead for over 15 years.



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6-8 PM: "Think & Drink" Trivia

Mighty Vibe presents

MIKE PINTO & THE MASTERS **DED PIGEONS** STRAIGHT TRIPPIN HIGH TIDE

4-8 PM: Winstons Art Show

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5/3 WINSTONS SHOW

S.D.'s Hottest Power Trio **DUPERUNLOADER**

UPCOMING: JGB featuring Melvin Seals

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CULVER CITY DUB COLLECTIVE PAULA FUGA • DJ LE CHUD Fri 5/4 • 9:00 PM















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GHOSTFACE KILLAH

WYLDE BUNCH DJ ARTISTIC

Mon 4/30 • 9:00 PM

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Sat 5/5 • 2:00 PM

THE CAT EMPIRE

Tue 5/8 • 8:00 PM

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They Might Be Giants EI-P The Sea and Cake

Tue 5/15 • 9:00 PM

5/21 The Sea and Cake
5/22 The Undisputed Truth Tour
w/Brother Ali & Guests
5/23 S.D. Songwriters' Guild
Album Release Party
w/Candice Graham & Guests
5/24 The Expendalles w/Fishbone

SWINGIN' HAPPY HOURS

4/27 THE BACKWATER BLUES BAND

5/4 ATOMIC GROOVE • 5/11 THE CREDENTIALS

5/18 NITRO EXPRESS

n Sense 5/27 Boogie Nights - Metal Snake **KSON** presents Bucky

Covington
5/31 Indigenous
6/1 Delta Nove w/Cubensis 5/31 John Cruz

John Cruz Gregory Isaacs "Honky Tonk By The Sea" Heather Myles Bob Schneider Band

6/9 Sue Palmer & Her Motel Swing Orchestra 6/10

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6/11 Jonatha Brooke
6/12 Leon Russell
6/15 & 6/16 Super Diamond Two Nights!
6/17 Johnny Winter
6/18 Reckless Kelly
6/21 Iris DeMent
7/3 80s Heat

The English Beat Seu Jorge Young Dubliners Guru's Jazzmattazz

8/2 Venice The Abyssinia

8/16 Colin Hay 9/2 Pato Banto

FEATURED SHOW

Belly Up presents "Artists on the Edge." Visit bellyup.com for details on how to win VIP passes to Blonde Redhead, Culver City Dub Collective, Minus The Bear and RJD2.

Free Parking! Low Service Charges! Free Coat Check! Great Bar Prices! Great Food!

Charlie Didn't Mind

"Sometimes Mick would say something like, 'Come on. Knock it off already.'"

INTERVIEW

olling Stones bassist Bill Wyman, who created the first fretless electric bass guitar in the '60s, came up with the idea of a lightweight metal detector.

"Well, it just came out this month," says Wyman in a telephone interview.

"And it's selling well. But it's for beginners that love collecting. It performs at significant levels, and is easy to use. It's affordable, too.

It's great for treasure hunting. I've found coins from 1500 BC and discovered old Roman sites. I love collecting and saving all this stuff."

On the subject of saving stuff, how far back do your photos go? (Wyman's photo exhibit runs from April 28 through May 26 at the Morrison Hotel Gallery in La Jolla.)

'I have over 20,000 photographs in my archives. I took pictures of everything.'

Did your bandmates get mad that you were photographing everything?

'No. They had cameras, too. Sometimes Mick would say something if I kept taking pictures persistently, like, 'Come on. Knock it off already.' Charlie never minded. Neither did Brian [Jones].'

It's interesting that you saved your photographs and didn't lose them.

'Î have diaries, too. It's how I was able to write the books about the band that I did. I would keep everything. I guess I got that from my grandmother. It started with postage stamps. And postcards during the war that I saved....

"When the Rolling Stones were playing places, I was always taking pictures. In the hotels, backstage, at airports, out airplane windows, on trains, buses, wherever I was. I would read or take pho-

tos. At one point in the '60s, we were given movie cameras, the standard eights [millimeter film]. We were shooting each other. I still have mine.'

Is there a subject you prefer to shoot?

"Wildlife, views of places, mists... Galleries, though, can only exhibit around 40 photos. They want portraits of celebrities. I'm pulled two ways. You want them to sell. If it's a landscape, maybe a hotel would buy one or two, but that's it. People are more into the celebrity photos.

'I had a big show in San Francisco that actually had 140 of my photos. I had a period of time — for three months, in the early '80s where I was in Hawaii, Fiji, and Australia taking pictures. I went to Japan. I was the first Stone in '82 to be allowed in. Until 1990, they didn't let us go. I was allowed in and I took photos. I have a great shot of children in kimonos. But people don't want to show those because they just don't sell. Someone might buy one for their office, but...people are more interested in the celebrities.

When Annie Liebovitz's recent exhibit was displayed in Balboa Park, she had more landscapes, and people were surprised by that.

'She has taken a lot of pictures of the Stones. And when she was shooting us, I was often taking pictures of her as she took pictures of us."

Did you get tired of taking pictures of rock and concert stars footage?

'No, because I never really could! I've gotten some of John Lee Hooker, the Who, Elton, the Police, but because of my celebrity status, I can't just go stand in the front row taking pictures; I have to go to the side of the stage. And unless the guy looks my way, I wouldn't have a good shot. It's the same reason I can't go out and take a lot of photos. I get mobbed on the streets. I usually go out at dawn to take photos.'

Did it bother you that none of your photos ever

Backstage

became a Rolling Stones album cover?

That would've never worked because how would I have been in the picture? That's the same problem with me taking any pictures of the band; I would've never been in the shots."

How have digital cameras changed things?

"I've never gotten one. My wife offered me one for my birthday, so I might get one soon....

Friday, April 27

9:30 pm • Dance & Disco

I like the 35 millimeter that I use. And some of the older cameras I use as well. You might want it to look a certain way. It's the same with recording music; sometimes you want to use older equipment for a warmer sound."

I have to ask you one last question... Have you ever snorted a relative?

"What? No. I've never snorted anything."



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Thursday, April 26 Earthquake Productions & Rock Hill Entertainment present

'URBAN LEGEND GET DOWN 4" with SLY BOOGY

Friday, April 27

GABBA GABBA HEYS

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Saturday, April 28 **ECAY UNO • SICC MADE** THA C.O.R. • PELE BOY MR. DON'T KNOW **YOUNG JAWZ • DJ DEMON**

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Wednesday, May 2 **BURNING SENDSEA** J.D. ROMANCE **CONSPIRACY**

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Friday, May 4 Emergenza Music Festival

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Saturday, May 5

<u> Etix</u>

Emergenza Music Festival

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BACKYARD TIRE FIRE YEAR LONG DISASTER

5/18 Guilt by Association • 6/2 FM Revolver • 6/8 Mad Sin • Koffin Kats • 6/25 Michael Schenker 6/26 Johnny Cash's Legendary Tennessee Three ullet 6/27 Bad Manners ullet 7/17 Threat Signal 7/28 Comic-Con after-party hosted by Troma

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Thursday, April 26 • 8 pm • Blues

Mark Hummel & The Blues Survivors

Saturday, April 28

7 pm • Flamenco Novamenco









Saturday, May 5

Cinco de Mayo Latin fest

with Domingo Siete

and Viva Santana

Makai

Sunday, April 29 7 pm • Chicago Blues

Bill Magee

Monday, April 30 7 pm • Jimmy Buffett Tribute Band

Trade Winds

Tuesday, May 1 • 8 pm • Jazz

Glen Fisher Jazz Trio with Jimmy Molidure Wednesday, May 2 8 pm • Soul

The Soul Persuaders

UPCOMING SHOWS

Sunday, May 20

Slim Man



Sunday, May 27

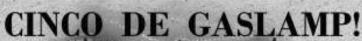
Memorial Day Jazz Fest

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Tickets for "Upcoming Shows" available at Ticketmaster and Humphrey's. Reserved seating for "Upcoming Shows" available with dinner. All shows are 21 years and up.

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, 2007



alendar CONCERTS

Music videos for all concerts now or SanDiegoReader.com

THIS WEEK'S CONCERTS

THURSDAY

Mute Math: House of Blues 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 with Megadeth and Machine Head: Coors

Amphitheatre, Thursday, April 26, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista

FRIDAY

David Wilcox:

AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, April 27, 4650 Mansfield Street, Norma Heights. 619-303-8176.

Blonde Redhead: Belly Up Tavern, Friday, April 27, 143 South Ced Avenue, Solana Beach, 858-481-8140,

Pepe Aguilar: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Friday, April 27, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400

SATURDAY

Rufus Wainwright: Belly Up Tavern, Saturday, April 28, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach, 858-481-8140.

Young Jeezy and Lil Wayne: San Diego Sports Arena, Saturday, April 28, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-

SUNDAY

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, Sunday, April 29, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

MONDAY

Ghostface Killah: Belly Up Tavern, Monday, April 30, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

TUESDAY

Damien Rice: Open Air Theatre. Tuesday, May 1, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-594-6947.

WEDNESDAY

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.

UPCOMING CONCERTS

MAY

Melissa Ferrick: The Casbah, Thursday, May 3, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego. 619-232-4355. **Cypress Hill:** House of Blues, Thursday, May 3, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Ronny Cox: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Thursday, May 3, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Richard Marx: Vieias Casino DreamCatcher Show Room, Friday, May 4, 5000 Willows Road, Alpine, 619-445-

The Yonder Mountain String 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583

Don Edwards:

AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, May 4, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

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. 619-303-8176.

Black Rebel Motorcycle Club: House of Blues, Sunday, May 6, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Jason Michael Carroll: Vieias Casino DreamCatcher Show Room, Monday, May 7, 5000 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Celtic Woman: Copley Symphony Hall, Monday, May 7, 1245 Seventh Avenue, downtown. 619-235-0804.

Bright Eyes: Soma, Tuesday, May 8, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-7662

Wolfmother: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Tuesday, May 8, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Cat Empire: Belly Up Tavern Tuesday, May 8, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Asleep at the Wheel: Belly Up Tavern, Wednesday, May 9, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Pretty Ricky: House of Blues Wednesday, May 9, 1055 Fifth Avenue. Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

J Mascis: The Casbah, Thursday, May 10, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego. 619-232-4355.

Don Carlos: Belly Up Tavern, Thursday, May 10, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140

Fairport Convention:

AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, May 11, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights.

Loreena McKennitt: Humphrey's ncerts by the Bay, Friday, May 11 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

"Channel 93.3 Your Show": Coors Amphitheatre, Friday, May 11, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600.

Joss Stone: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Saturday, May 12, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400

"Beach to Brewery Music Fest": Karl Strauss Brewery, Saturday, May 12, 5985 Santa Fe Street, Pacific Beach.

Modest Mouse: Cox Arena, Monday, May 14, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-594-0429.

Les Nubians: Belly Up Tavern, Tuesday, May 15, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140. **Tech N9ne:** Belly Up Tavern, Wednesday, May 16, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Harry Connick Jr.: Viejas Concerts at Bayside, Thursday, May 17, Embarcadero Park South, 619-445-5400.

Buddy Guy: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, May 17, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Jesse Winchester:

AcousticMusicSanDiego, Thursday, May 17, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

The Be Good Tanyas: Belly Up Tavern, Friday, May 18, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-

Al Green: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Friday, May 18, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island

Rory Block and Kelly Joe Phelps: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, May 18, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

They Might Be Giants: Belly Up Tavern, Saturday, May 19, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481

The Go-Go's: 4th & B, Saturday, May 19, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-

Melt Banana: The Casbah, Sunday May 20, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego. 619-232-4355.

"91 X Fest": Coors Amphitheatre, Sunday, May 20, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600.

Christina Aguilera: San Diego Civic Theatre, Monday, May 21, Third Avenue and B Street, 619-570-1100.

The Sea and Cake: Belly Up Tavern, Monday, May 21, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Albert Hammond Jr.: House of Blues, Tuesday, May 22, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Stevie Nicks and Chris Isaak: Coors Amphitheatre, Wednesday, May 23, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista.

Boyz II Men: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, May 24, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island,

The Expendables: Belly Up Tavern, Thursday, May 24, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Tish Hinojosa:

AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, May 25, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Ervkah Badu: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Friday, May 25, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Chayanne: San Diego Sports Arena, Saturday, May 26, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

Queensrÿche: 4th & B, Saturday, May 26, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

Bucky Covington: Belly Up Tavern, Tuesday, May 29, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Pretty Girls Make Graves and Kill Me Tomorrow: The Casbah Thursday, May 31, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego. 619-232-4355.

JUNE

The Hold Steady: 'Canes, Friday, June 1, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach, 858-488-1780.

Morrissey: Viejas Concerts at Bayside, Sunday, June 3, Embarcadero Park South, 619-445-5400.

Gregg Allman: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, June 3, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Pato Banton: House of Blues, Sunday, June 3, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

The Indigo Girls: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Monday, June 4. 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Manu Chao: Viejas Concerts at Bayside, Tuesday, June 5, Embarcadero Park South, 619-445-5400.

Lucinda Williams: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Tuesday, June 5, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Gregory Isaacs: Belly Up Tavern, Tuesday, June 5, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach, 858-481-8140.

The Charlie Daniels Band: Palomar Starlight Theater, Thursday, June 7, 5 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-510-4580.

The Rebirth Brass Band: 'Canes, Thursday, June 7, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780

The Charlie Daniels Band: Coors Amphitheatre, Friday, June 8, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600.

Vicente Fernandez: Coors Amphitheatre, Saturday, June 9, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600.

The Raveonettes: The Casbah, Saturday, June 9, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego. 619-232-4355.

Bob Schneider: Belly Up Tayern. Saturday, June 9, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

"Reggae Festival": Del Mar Fairgrounds, Saturday, June 9, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar. 858-755-1161.

Keith Urban: San Diego Sports Arena, Sunday, June 10, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

Mary Chapin Carpenter:

Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, June 10, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Lupillo Rivera: Del Mar Fairgrounds, Sunday, June 10, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar. 858-755-1161.

Mason Jennings: House of Blues, Sunday, June 10, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Lindsey Buckingham: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Monday, June 11, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island

Jonatha Brooke: Belly Up Tayern. Monday, June 11, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach, 858-481-8140.

John Mayer and Ben Folds: Coors Amphitheatre, Tuesday, June 12, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600.

Leon Russell: Belly Up Tavern, Tuesday, June 12, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Aleiandro Sanz: Cox Arena. Wednesday, June 13, SDSU campus, College Area, 619-594-0429.

Susan Tedeschi and Derek Trucks: 4th & B, Wednesday, June 13, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343. The Wailers: Del Mar Fairgrounds

Thursday, June 14, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar. 858-755-1161. Al Jarreau and George Benson: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay,





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'70s Soul Jam Thursday, July 19 • 7:00



Dickey Betts
with special guest
Shooter Jennings
Sunday, July 22 • 7:30



Larry Carlton & Robben Ford with special guest Muriel Anderson's All Star Guitar Night Tuesday, July 31 • 7:30



Keb' Mo' / The Robert Cray Band Tuesday & Wednesday August 14 & 15 • 7:00

MAY

Loreena McKerser Friday, May 11 SOLD OUT

Buddy Guy
with special guest
Tom Hambridge
Thursday, May 17 • 7:30

Al Green
with special guest
Chris Pierce
Friday, May 18 • 8:00

Boyz II Men Thursday, May 24 • 8:00

Erykah Badu Friday, May 25 • 8:00

Generation Hawaii

Tour featuring Amy Hanaiali'i / Kaukahi & Keli'i Kaneali'i Saturday, May 26 • 7:00

Lisa Gerrard
Wednesday, May 30 • 8:00

JUNE

Gregg Allman with special guest Bill Magee Blues Band Sunday, June 3 • 7:30

Indigo GirlsMonday, June 4 • 7:30

Lucinda Williams with special guest Kelly Joe Phelps Tuesday, June 5 • 7:30

Mary Chapin Carpenter Sunday, June 10 • 7:30

Lindsey Buckingham Monday, June 11 • 7:30

Al Jarreau / George Benson Thursday, June 14 • 7:00

Alan Parsons Live Project Thursday, June 21 • 8:00

Don Rickles / Joan RiversFriday, June 22 • 7:30

Jonny Lang

with special guest

Jon McLaughlin

Saturday, June 23 • 7:30

Michael McDonald Sunday, June 24 • 7:30

Steve WinwoodWednesday, June 27 • 8:00

JULY

Dana Carvey Friday, July 6 • 8:00

Blues Traveler Sunday, July 8 • 7:30

Queen Latifah: The Music of Dana OwensTuesday, July 10 • 8:00

Ani DiFranco

Wednesday, July 11 • 7:30

Dennis DeYoung: The Music of Styx Friday, July 13 • 7:30

Beach BoysSunday, July 15 • 7:30

Cowboy Junkies /
Joan Osborne
Tuesday July 17 • 7:00

Tuesday, July 17 • 7:00

Boz Scaggs Wednesday, July 18 • 7:30

'70s Soul Jam
featuring The Stylistics,
Chi-Lites, Harold Melvin's
Blue Notes, Delfonics
and Three Degrees
Hosted by Jimmie "JJ" Walker
Thursday, July 19 • 7:00

Paul Rodriguez Friday, July 20 • 8:00

Dickey Bettswith special guest **Shooter Jennings**Sunday, July 22 • 7:30

John Hiatt / Shawn Colvin Tuesday, July 24 • 7:00

Lyle Lovett / k.d. lang Wednesday, July 25 • 7:00 Bob Weir & RatDog / Keller Williams Friday, July 27 • 6:00

Hootie & The Blowfish Sunday, July 29 • 7:30

Tears For Fears Monday, July 30 • 8:00

Larry Carlton & Robben Ford

with special guest
Muriel Anderson's
All Star Guitar Night
Tuesday, July 31 • 7:30

AUGUST

Musiq Soulchild Friday, August 3 • 7:30

Huey Lewis & The News
Sunday, August 5 • 7:30

Ottmar Liebert & Luna Negra
Sunday, August 12 • 7:30

Keb' Mo' / The Robert Cray Band

Tuesday & Wednesday August 14 & 15 • 7:00

Jim Gaffigan
Thursday, August 16 • 7:30

Dave Koz & Friends Friday, August 17 • 7:30

India.Arie Sunday, August 19 • 7:30

Dave Brubeck QuartetMonday, August 20 • 7:30

HIPPIEFEST:

A Concert for
Peace and Love
with The Turtles featuring
Flo & Eddie, Felix
Cavaliere's Rascals,
The Zombies featuring
Colin Blunstone & Rod
Argent, Mountain featuring
Leslie West & Corkey
Laing, Mitch Ryder,
Badfinger featuring Joey
Molland and Country Joe
McDonald

Tuesday, August 21 • 6:30

UB40

Wednesday, August 22 • 7:30

Creedence Clearwater Revisited Thursday, August 30 • 8:00

SEPT.

Cecilio & Kapono Sunday, Sept. 2 • 7:30

B.B. King / Etta James & Her Roots Band Tuesday, Sept. 4 • 7:00

Temptations / Four Tops Thursday, Sept. 6 • 7:30

Big Bad Voodoo Daddy

Friday, Sept. 7 • 8:00

Heart featuring **Ann & Nancy Wilson** Sunday, Sept. 9 • 7:30

Doobie Brothers with special guest Johnny "V" Vernazza

Johnny "V" Vernazza Monday, Sept. 10 • 7:30

Pink Martini

Monday & Tuesday, Sept. 17 & 18 • 8:00

America
Wednesday, Sept. 19 • 7:30

Kenny G

Wednesday, Sept. 26 • 8:00

Trisha Yearwood

Thursday, Sept. 27 • 7:30

Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons Friday & Saturday,

Friday & Saturday, Sept. 28 & 29 • 8:00

OCTOBER

Air Supply / Christopher Cross

Friday, October 5 • 7:00

Steve Tyrell Sunday, October 7 • 7:30

LEXUS PREMIUM PACKAGES

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NEVILLE STAPLE FEAT. THE SPECIALS, THE UNTOUCHABLES 7/20 AND THE SKELETONES 8/16 LOST 80'S LIVE **FEAT: DRAMARAMA AND** A FLOCK OF SEAGULLS

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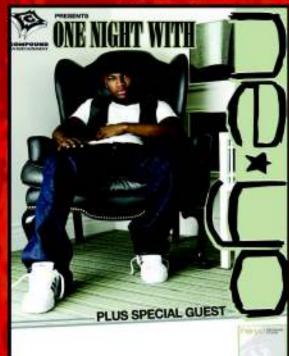




ON SALE APRIL 28 @ 10AM



















alendar CONCERTS

Thursday, June 14, 2241 Shelter Island

Kenny Loggins: Del Mar Fairgrounds, Friday, June 15, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar. 858-755-1161.

Issac Delgado v Su Orquesta: 4th & B, Friday, June 15, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

Elliott Yamin: House of Blues, Friday, June 15, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-299-2583.

O.A.R.: Open Air Theatre, Friday, June 15, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-594-6947.

REO Speedwagon: Del Mar Fairgrounds, Saturday, June 16, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar. 858-755-1161.

Johnny Winter: Belly Up Tavern, Sunday, June 17, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Sage Francis: Soma, Sunday, June 17, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-7662.

Norah Jones: Viejas Concerts at Bayside, Tuesday, June 19, Embarcadero Park South, 619-445-5400.

John Michael Montgomery: Del Mar Fairgrounds, Wednesday, June 2 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar. 858-755-1161.

The John Butler Trio: 4th & B, Wednesday, June 20, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

The Alan Parsons Live Project:

Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, June 21, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Adema: 'Canes, Thursday, June 21, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780.

Iris DeMent: Belly Up Tavern, Thursday, June 21, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Jimmy LaFave:

AcousticMusicSanDiego, Thursday, June 21, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

The B-52's: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Friday, June 22, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Joan Jett & the Blackhearts: Del Mar Fairgrounds, Friday, June 22, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar.



Jonny Lang: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Saturday, June 23, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

The Samples: 'Canes, Saturday, June 23, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780.

Fred Hammond: Del Mar Fairgrounds, Saturday, June 23, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar. 858-755-1161.

Michael McDonald: Humphrev's Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, June 24, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

"Mariachi Festival": Del Mar Fairgrounds, Sunday, June 24, 2260 ny Durante Boulevard, Del Mar 858-755-1161.

Hot Tuna: House of Blues, Monday, June 25, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Paulina Rubio: Vieias Casino Concerts in the Park, Tuesday, June 26, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-

Earth, Wind, and Fire: Del Mar Fairgrounds, Tuesday, June 26, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar. 858-755-1161.

Les Claypool: 4th & B, Tuesday, June 26, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-

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 Jimr Durante Boulevard, Del Mar. 858-755-1161

Steve Winwood: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Wednesday, June 27, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter

The All-American Rejects: Del Mar Fairgrounds, Thursday, June 28, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar. 858-755-1161.

Alison Krauss: San Diego Sports Arena, Thursday, June 28, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

Acoustic Alchemy: House of Blues, Thursday, June 28, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Lauryn Hill: Palomar Starlight Theater, Friday, June 29, 5 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-510-4580.

JULY

Fall Out Boy and +44: Coors Amphitheatre, Sunday, July 1, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600.

The Moody Blues: Del Mar Fairgrounds, Monday, July 2, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar. 858-755-1161.

Switchfoot: Del Mar Fairgrounds. Tuesday, July 3, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar. 858-755-1161.

Band of Horses: 'Canes, Friday, July 6, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780.

Blues Traveler: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, July 8, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Chicago and America: Open Air Theatre, Sunday, July 8, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-594-6947.

Brett Dennen: House of Blues. Monday, July 9, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Pat Benatar & Neil Giraldo: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Tuesday, July 10, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Ani DiFranco: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Wednesday, July 11, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island

The Beach Boys: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, July 15, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

The Fray, Gomez, and Eisley: Coors Amphitheatre, Tuesday, July 17, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista.

The Cowboy Junkies and Joan Osborne: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Tuesday, July 17, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Boz Scaggs: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Wednesday, July 18, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

John Hiatt and Shawn Colvin:

Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Tuesday, July 24, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island

Lvle Lovett and k.d. lang:

Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Wednesday, July 25, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island

Tower of Power: Vieias Casino Concerts in the Park, Wednesday, July 25, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400

Lynyrd Skynyrd: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Thursday, July 26, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Montgomery Gentry: Palomar Starlight Theater, Friday, July 27, 5 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-510-

Bob Weir and Keller Williams:

Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Friday, July 27, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter

Maximo Park: The Casbah, Saturday, July 28, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego. 619-232-4355.

Hootie & the Blowfish:

Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, July 29, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island

Rush: Coors Amphitheatre, Monday, July 30, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600.

Tears for Fears: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Monday, July 30, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

AUGUST

Clav Aiken: Palomar Starlight Theater. Friday, August 3, 5 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala, 760-510-4580.

Huey Lewis & the News:

Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, ınday, August 5, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Squeeze: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Saturday, August 11, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Ottmar Liebert & Luna Negra:

Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, August 12, 2241 Shelter Island Drive. Shelter Island

Colin Hay: Belly Up Tavern, Thursday, August 16, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Los Lonely Boys: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Saturday, August 18, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-

India.Arie: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, August 19, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

The Gipsy Kings: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Wednesday, August 22, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-

UB40: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Wednesday, August 22, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

"Warped Tour 2007": Coors Amphitheatre, Friday, August 24, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600.

Creedence Clearwater Revisited: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay,

Thursday, August 30, 2241 Shelter Island Drive. Shelter Island Randy Travis: Viejas Casino Concerts

in the Park, Thursday, August 30, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Heart: Palomar Starlight Theater Friday, August 31, 5 miles east of I-15 on Hwy 76, Pala. 760-510-4580.

SEPTEMBER

Cecilio & Kapono: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, September 2, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter

B.B. King and Etta James:

Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Tuesday, September 4, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

The Temptations and the Four **Tops:** Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, September 6, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Big Bad Voodoo Daddy:

Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Friday, September 7, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Heart: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, September 9, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

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Calendar

The Doobie Brothers: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Monday, September 10, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island

America: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Wednesday, September 19, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Clay Walker: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Thursday, September 20, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400

Eddie Money: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Sunday, September 23, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Michael Bolton: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Monday, September 24, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Kenny G: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Wednesday, September 26, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Trisha Yearwood: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, September 27, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

The Dave Matthews Band and Stephen Marley: Coors Amphitheatre, Friday, September 28, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600.

"Adams Avenue Street Fair": Adams Avenue, Saturday, September 29, and Sunday, September 30, between Bancroft Street and 35th Street, Normal Heights. 619-282-7329.

OCTOBER

Air Supply and **Christopher Cross:** Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Friday, October 5, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Steve Tyrell: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, October 7, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Calendar

DANCE

If you would like to include your DJ 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, old-skool disco, funk, and '80s with DJ Junior. Saturdays, Juicy, classic booty-shakin' music with Mike Czech. Sundays, guest DJ night. 4673 30th Street, North Park. 619-501-9831.

Brass Rail: Fridays, *Element*, New York and 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, Liquid, liquid funk and drum 'n' bass with residents Calculon, Knottyboy, Frizz, and more. 756 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 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.

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.

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: Fridays and Saturdays, DJ Kool T spins 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.

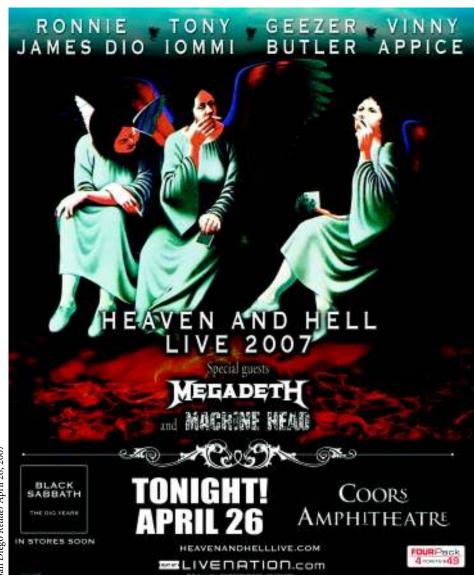
Jack's Lounge: Fridays, Injoy Fridays at Jack's, deep funky house music with DJ Misha and guests. Saturdays, vocal house with DJ Sean Wilson. 7863 Girard Avenue, La Jolla. 858-456-8111.

Kadan: Wednesdays, Darkwave Garden, punk, gothic, and ethereal with DJs Bryan Pollard, Stern, and Grimderella. First Saturday of the month, BrokenBeat 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 Kettner Boulevard, Middletown. 619-543-0933.

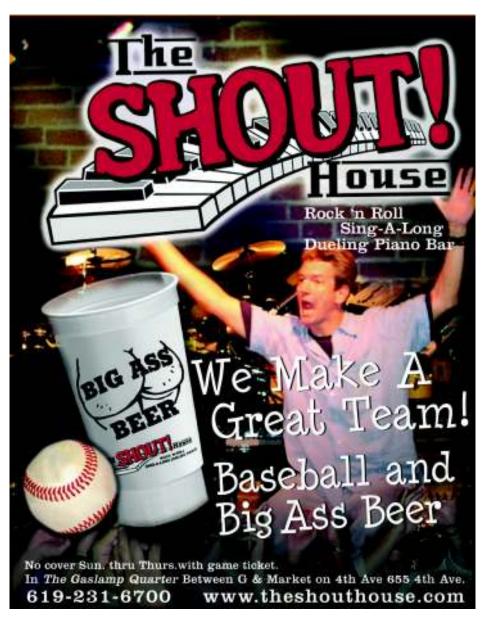
The Kensington Club: Wednesdays, Lowdown, metal to old skool to classic rock to hip-hop with DJs Buddha and SC. 9:30 p.m. 4079 Adams Avenue, Kensington. 619-284-2848.

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.



ALL DATES, ACTS & TICKET PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT HOFICE.

A SERVICE CHANGE IS ALIGHE TO SACH TICKET PRICE.





FRIDAY, APRIL 27

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2 **MISDIRECTION • THE PHEROMONES AQUA TRIBE** THURSDAY, MAY 3

> **SATURDAY, MAY 5** CINCO DE MAYO

STRANGER

QUINTO SOL • THE MAYAN KINGS

40 OUNCES TO FREEDOM (Sublime Tribute)

FRIDAY, MAY 18

SUNDAY, MAY 27

MONSTERS OF ROCK (Metal Tribute)

SATURDAY, JUNE 2

CONFUSED JACK FLASH

ELIJAH

EMANUEL

UMOVERDE

ATOMIC PUNKS (Tribute to Early Van Halen)

FRIDAY, MAY 11 **Dave Matthews Band Experience**

COLLEGE NIGHT

DJ BAO/DJ/

DANCING DRINK SPECIALS ALL NIGHT!

one drop

STONE

SENSES

THURSDAY, APRIL 26

Rockin' Johnny White presents

ADAM ROTH JEN KNIGHT • ATLAS OF ID **GRIN'S EDGE**

SATURDAY, APRIL 28









FRIDAY, MAY 4



BEAUTIFUL TROUBLE CALL DOWN FIRE

DOWN WITH LEO

THURSDAY, MAY 10

SHEILA SONDERGARD **FLUX THEORY JUSTIN JAMES • DB3**

SATURDAY, MAY 12

FOUR MINUTES TILL MIDNIGHT SOUR MASH TRIO (Members of Bargain Music) **GOOD INTENTIONS SAFETY ORANGE**

SATURDAY, MAY 19



FRIDAY, JUNE 1

THE HOLD STEADY

ILLINOIS

THURSDAY, JUNE 7



THE SAMPLES

DAZED &

(Led Zeppelin



JUMPING

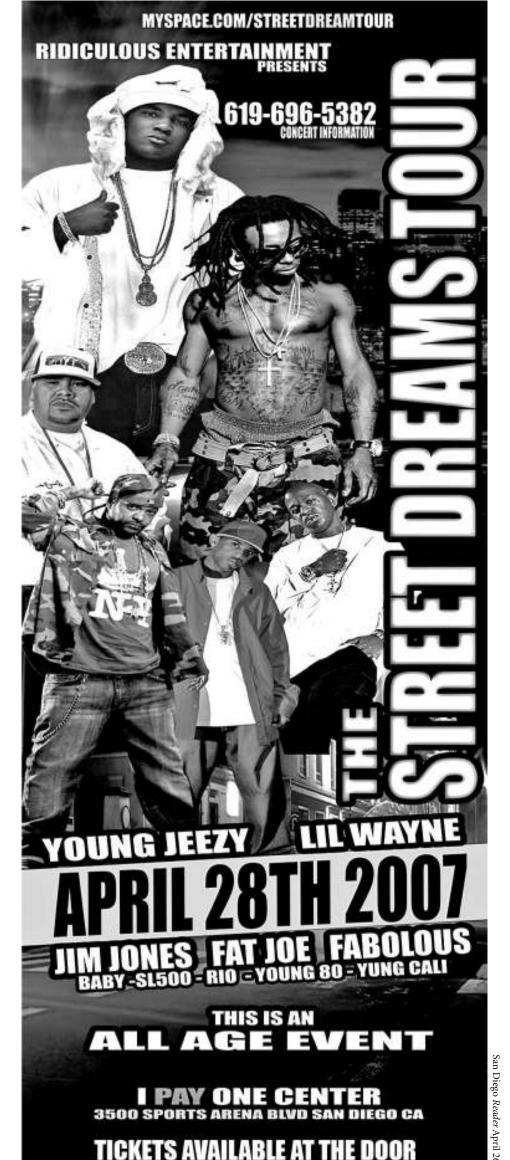
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Calendar **CLUBS**

DANCE

Lucky Star Nightclub: Fridays, DJ Salsero Mayor spins salsa, merengue, and reggaeton. 9 p.m. 3893 54th Street (at University), 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 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 de, 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 DIs Bryan Pollard, Sickboy, and Stern. 3815 30th Street, North Park. 619-574-0744.

South Park Bar & Grill: Fridays, disco, funk, and electro with DIs 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, DJ 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.

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 and Saturday, West of 5, classic to modern rock

Blue Parrot, 4993 Niagra Avenue, Suite 103, Ocean Beach. 619-222-1722. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 7 p.m., John Tafolla and Friends, variety.

The Calypso Cafe, 576 North Highway 101, Encinitas. 760-632-8252. Thursday, Semisi and Fulabula, reggae Friday, Jeff Moore, blues. Saturday, Triple Shot, blues. Sunday, Good Medicine. Monday, the Flounders, acoustic. Tuesday, Adrienne Nims and Spirit Wind global jazz.

'Canes, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach, 858-488-1780, Thursday Adam Roth, Jen Knight, Atlas of ID, and Grin's Edge, acoustic/alternative/pop. Friday, Diego Roots, One Drop, and the Stone Senses, reggae. Saturday, Thicker Than Thieves, Divided by Zero, Carbine and the Lou Dog Trio, rock/alternative.

Ché Café, UCSD Campus, 9500 Gilman Drive, Student Center B-0323C, La Jolla, 858-534-2311, Music is alternative/rock/punk. Friday, Diskonto, Doomsday Hour, Coaccin, and Basura. Tuesday, Dear Nora, the Bovish Charms.

Clay's, atop the Hotel La Jolla, 7955 La Shores Drive, La Jolla. 858-459-0541. Live jazz.

Del Mar Plaza, 1555 Camino del Mar, Del Mar. Sunday, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., Keith Jacobsen, smooth jazz saxophone

Dreamstreet, 2228 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach, 619-222-8131, Thursday Reggae Dub, Lexington, and Social Green reggae, Friday, call club for information. ırday, Bamboula, Rev, the Strikers, and Those Rockin' Bullets, hard rock.

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, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Martin Murray, 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Allison Cornell. Saturday, 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Amy Kuney.

Hennessey's Tavern (PB), 4650 Mission Boulevard, Pacific Beach. 858-483-8847. Friday and Saturday, live

Kaito, 1476 Encinitas Boulevard. Encinitas. 760-634-2746. Friday and Saturday, live jazz.



BY DAVE GOOD

Arcade Fire's debut CD Funeral sounded more like David Bowie than Bowie himself has in recent years. Perhaps that is why Bowie became one of their earliest supporters. Or perhaps it was the workmanlike creativity behind the band's music that grabbed his attention. Arcade Fire sounds both familiar and unfamiliar; if the band's influences are apparent, the music has been changed into something original. In any event, Bowie's instincts were right on the money. Funeral went on to sell at platinum level, almost unheard of for an indie rock band with little in the way of marketing push or radio support.

Arcade Fire makes rock with funky nonrock instruments like the church organ and the hurdy-gurdy, but who cares? The songs are well written, and they ascribe to rock's better traditions with lyrics that might have been culled from Brian Wilson's own weird constitution: "My body is a cage that keeps me from dancing with the one I love," Win Butler sings. "but my mind holds the kev." U2 found a lot to admire in Arcade Fire's extroverted charisma; they played a recording of

'Wake Up" before taking the stage during their Vertigo tour.

Slate magazine called Arcade Fire a "gale-force live band" in an article titled "The Great Rock Hope." This is much the same rhetoric that was lavished on Springsteen decades ago at the start of his career. The press in general tends to lion-

ARCADE FIRE

ize exceptional performance with hyperbole One can only hope that heavy-handed media nonsense will not snuff out the creative spark that makes Arcade Fire so welcome.

ARCADE FIRE. Spreckels Theatre. Thursday, April 26, 7 p.m. 619-235-9500.

The Kraken, 2531 Old Highway 101, Cardiff. 760-436-6483. Friday, Plato Soul. Saturday, Stevi Lynn and Triple Threat, classic rock/funk. Sunday, the Blues Brokers, blues jam.

La Valencia Hotel, 1132 Prospect Street, La Jolla. 858-454-0771. Thursday, 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Barry Levich*, jazz. Sunday, Keith Iacobsen, smooth jazz

Leana Bistro and French Pastry Cafe, 5550 La Jolla Boulevard. 858-9094. Saturday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., Will Faeber, Greg Pardue, and Gary Peck, rock/jazz/R&B

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. Grill: Friday and Saturday, 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Mike Nelson, solo jazz

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 ore, John Guilino, Dave Scott, and the Cynthia Hammond. Saturday, 8:30 p.m. Mario Oliveras and Latin Spice, Latin

710 Beach Club. 710 Garnet Avenue Pacific Beach. 858-483-7844. Thursday, Kareva, Sand Dollar, and the Four Kings reggae/rock. Friday, Alfred Howard and the K23 Orchestra and Delta Nove, jazz. Saturday, Yesterday's Papers, Liquid Image, and Split Finger, rock/reggae/ska

Thrusters, 4633 Mission Boulevard, Mission Beach, 858-483-6334, Saturday, 8 p.m., Modern Day Moonshi rock/reggae/soul/blues.

Tiki House, 1152 Garnet Avenu Pacific Beach. 858-273-9734. Friday, Blind Heim, Nimuruv, and Tower 20 One, rock. Saturday, Tap Water, rock.

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, Bobby Lee Rogers and the Codetalkers, rock. Friday, Gadfly, the Wagon, Oliver Reigns, and Lexington, reggae/rock/alternative Saturday, Cubensis, classic rock. Monday, the Electric Waste Band, classic rock. Tuesday, Mike Pinto and the Masters Straight Trippin', Ded Pigeons, and High Tide, reggae. Wednesday, the Middle-Earth Ensemble.

DOWNTOWN

Blarney Stone Pub, 502 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-8519. Friday and Saturday, Steve Brewer

Borders Books and Music (Gaslamp), 668 Sixth Avenue, San Diego. 619-702-4200. Saturday, Jennifer ngham, folk/pop.

The Casbah, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, midtown. 619-232-HELL. Music is rock/alternative unless otherwise noted Friday, Transfer, the Sellping People, the Holy Rolling Empire, and Patrol. Saturday, Vinyl Radio, Dynamite Walls, the Republic of Letters, and Illinois

Sunday, Mono, World's End Girlfriend, and the Drift. Monday, Demadiado, Arckid, the Gift/Curse, and Pete Steward and the Plastic Saviors. Tuesday, the Blackout Party, a Scribe Amongst the Lions, and Roses on Her Grave Wednesday, Elf Power and the Birds of

Club Montage, 2028 Hancock Street,

Croce's Jazz Bar, 802 Fifth Avenue downtown. 619-233-4355. All music is jazz unless otherwise noted. Thursday, Dave Patrone. Friday, Yavez. Saturday, Primo. Sunday, the Archtones. Monday, Dave Scott, Tuesday, the Shep Mevers 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, Friday, and Saturday, live bands. Sunday, *the* Disco Pimps. Tuesday, Dregs of Sada. Wednesday, Private Domain, unplugged

Dizzy's, 344 Seventh Avenue downtown. 858-270-7467. Thursday, 8 p.m., "The Music of Gram Parsons with Lou and Virginia Curtiss, the Shambles, Anna Troy, Sara Petite, Matt Curreri, Action Andy and His Haunted Honky Tonkers, the Coyote Problem, Mark DeCerbo and Four Eves, and the Grams. acoustic/folk/alt-country. Friday, 8 p.m. Carlos Olmeda and Paul Hermosa, pop folk. Saturday, the Lori Bell Trio, jazz Sunday, 7 p.m., the Coronado Big Band, swing/big band/jazz. Monday, 7:30 p.m., the Palomar College Jazz Ensemble.

Dublin Square, 554 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-239-5818. Traditional Irish music.

4th & B, 345 B Street, downtown. 619-231-4343. Friday, *Josh Blue*. Sunday, 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *the Janet* Hammer-Jay Berman Duo, jazz. Tuesday, the Capitol Steps, satire/Americana/pop.

G5-Georges on Fifth, 835 Fifth Avenue (between E and F Streets), downtown, 619-702-0444, Thursday Friday, Saturday, and Wednesday, Tom Barabas, pianist.

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

House of Blues, 1055 Fifth Avenue downtown. 619-299-2583. Thursday, 6 p.m., Modern Day Moonshine, rock/soul/reggae.

Martini Ranch, 528 F Street, downtown. 619-235-6100. Live music

Patrick's II. 428 F Street, downtown 619-233-3077. Music is blues/soul unless otherwise noted, Thursday, Len Rainey and the Midnight Players. Friday, the Bill Magee Blues Band. Saturday, Aunt Kizzy'z Boyz. Sunday, Dave Camp Blues. Monday, the Kings of Pleasure. Tuesday, the Bayou Brothers, Wednesday, Blue

Princess Pub and Grille, 1665 India Street, Little Italy/downtown. 619-702-3021. Saturday, J.D. Boucharde, piano.





Day of Show Tickets: \$41, \$38 All tickets include \$3 BNPT Restoration fee

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Advance Tickets: \$38, \$33, \$28 Day of Show Tickets: \$41, \$36, \$31 All ticketrs include \$3 BNPT Restoration **Rock Bottom,** 401 G Street, Gaslamp. 619-231-7000. Live pop/rock/disco/dance

Sevilla, 555 Fourth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-5979. Club Salsa: Thursday, Primo, salsa/Latin jazz. Tuesday, Orquesta 8.8, salsa.

The Shout House, 655 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-231-6700. Rock and roll sing-along dueling pianos.

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 Prince 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

The Aero Club, 3365 India Street, San Diego. 619-297-7211.

American Legion Post 310, 465 47th Street, San Diego. 619-264-1919. Sunday, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., Willovealot, smooth jazz/funk.

Blarney Stone Pub, 5617 Balboa Avenue, Clairemont. 858-279-2033. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, Tony Cummins, Irish folk. Monday, Pat an Joe and Allison Gill, folk. Tuesday, Irish

Borders Books and Music (Mission Valley), 1072 Camino del Rio North, Mission Valley. 619-295-2201. Friday, 8 p.m., Simeon Flick,

acoustic.

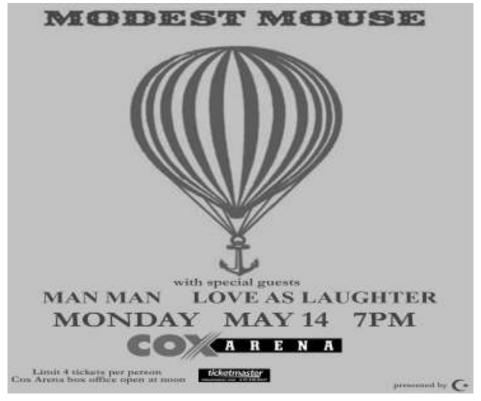
Brick by Brick, 1130 Buenos Avenue Bay Park. 619-275-LIVE. Music is rock/metal/alternative most nights. Call club for a complete list of performers. Thursday, 9 p.m., the Lab Rats, classic rock. Friday, the Gabba Gabba Heys.











THURSDAY • APRIL 26

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MELISSA FERRICK

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FRIDAY • MAY

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THE CREEPY CREEPS

SATURDAY • MAY 5

MR. TUBE &

THE FLYING OBJECTS

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SUNDAY • MAY 6

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Calendar

SAN DIEGO

(continued)

Claire de Lune, 2905 University Avenue, North Park. 619-688-9845. Live acoustic/folk/jazz.

Epicentre, 8450 Mira Mesa Boulevard, Mira Mesa. 858-271-4000. Friday, *Explosions in the Sky*, rock.

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

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, Mark Hummell and the Blues Survivors. Friday, Makai, dance/disco. Saturday, 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Novamenco, flamenco, 9:45 p.m. p.m., Viva Santana, Latin rock. Sunday, two shows, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and 8 p.m. to midnight, Reggie Smith and Pressed for Time, jazz. Monday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., Trade Winds, island pop. Tuesday, 8 p.m. to midnight, Glen Fisher and Jimmy Molidure, straight-ahead jazz. Wednesday, 8 p.m. to midnight, the Soul Persuaders, sweet soul music.

In Cahoots, 5373 Mission Center Road, Mission Valley. 619-291-8635.

The Kensington Club, 4079 Adams Avenue, Kensington. 619-284-2848. Music is rock/metal/alternative/punk. Thursday, 10 p.m., the Love Me Nots, the Woolly Bandits, and Thee Corsairs.

Lestat's Coffee House, 3343 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-282-0437. Thursday, Dave Berry, Steve Ybarra, and Whitton, acoustic/folk. Friday, Jenn Grinels, Lisa Sanders, and Southern Graffiti, acoustic/folk. Saturday, Alex Depue, Annie Dru, and the Blackout Party, acoustic/folk/pop. Sunday, Gregory Page, acoustic alternative. Monday, open mike. Wednesday, the Buddy Wuddy Blues Show

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 O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub, 1310 Morena Boulevard, Bay Park.

619-276-5637. Music is rock/punk/alternative rock/indie unless otherwise noted. Friday, 9 p.m., Johnny Different, Zombie Surf Camp, Firethorn, and the Black Market Hearts. Saturday, the Continental Kings and the Mayan Kings, Latin/Afro-beat/funk. Monday, 8 p.m., Mystery Train, blues. Tuesday, 9 p.m., the Exit Theory, the Flux Theory, and Butterface. Wednesday, 9 p.m., the Blackout Party.

Old Time Music, 2852 University Avenue, San Diego. 619-280-9035. Tuesday, 7 p.m., *Richard Gilewitz*, acoustic folk.

The Ould Sod, 3373 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-284-6594. Friday, *Sara Petite*, folk. Tuesday, traditional

Pal Joey's, 5147 Waring Road, Allied Gardens. 619-286-7873. Friday and Saturday, 9 p.m., *Nite Life*, blues/swing.

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. 619-299-372. Music is rock/funk. Thursday, the Continental Kings and Eco-Save. Friday, Fashion Whore. Saturday, What the Funk and Sharpstyle Records. Wednesday, Sinfonia Antarctica, the Transit War, and Crash Enore.

Scolari's Office, 3936 30th Street, San Diego. 619-296-3546. Live rock/alternative music.

Second Wind, 8515 Navajo Road, San Carlos. 619-465-1730. Friday and Saturday, *Serious Guise*, 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

Soma, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-SOMA. Music is rock/metal/alternative/punk. Thursday, We Are the Fury, the Outline, Automatic Love Letter, Racio Races, and the Power Chords. Friday, the New Addiction, the Material, Rama Duke, the New Ages Heroes, Shooter, and Falling Face Forward. Saturday, Liferuiner, the Scars of Tomorrow, With Blood Comes Cleansing, Beneath the Sky, and Seventh Soldier. Sunday, the Number 12. Looks Like You.



BY WILLIAM CRAIN

Elf Power's video for the song "All the World Is Waiting" is shot with a moving camera that tracks singer **Andrew Rieger** as he sings and strums a 12-string guitar while walking around a house that is smothered in lush foliage. Everywhere he goes, he sees people breathing fire, people playing instruments, people dressed as animals, and other scenes of artiness and goofiness. At the end of the video, he goes inside and everyone has a big party. The video is a charming fantasy of bohemian life, but what's really cool about it is that it may not be all that different from the way the members of Elf Power really live.

Of all the bands associated with the Elephant 6 collective, Elf Power best exemplifies the loose confederation's original goal to create an artistic community. Rieger founded the band in 1994 in Athens, Georgia, along with multi-instrumentalist Laura Carter, who also played in Neutral Milk Hotel. Through the years, the band has had an oftenchanging lineup of members who are also involved with other Elephant 6 bands like Of Montreal and Olivia Tremor Control. Recently, Elf Power has been recording as the backup band for Vic Chesnutt.

All this intermingling is exceptional in itself, but Elf Power goes further. The band members started their own record label, Orange Twin, to release recordings by friends and obscure folk artists. And proceeds from the record label help fund the Orange Twin Conservation Community, a 150-acre site

ELF POWER

that Carter runs outside of Athens. It's sort of a cross between an old-fashioned hippie commune and a modern experiment in sustainable living and urban planning. Sounds like what the world has been waiting for.

ELF POWER, The Casbah, Wednesday, May 2, 8:30 p.m. 619-232-4355. \$10.

End of Eden, the 25th Hour, and Tragedy and Triumph.

South Park Bar and Grill, 1946 Fern Street, San Diego. 619-696-0096. Friday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., Amelia Browning and the John Kopecky Trio. Saturday, Mia Jones and the Ko Trifecta, R&B/Top 40/jazz.

Terra, on Vermont, one block north of University Avenue, Hillcrest. 619-293-7088. Thursday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Robin Henkel*, solo Delta blues.

Tio Leo's, 10787 Camino Ruiz, Mira Mesa. 858-695-1461. Saturday, *Shockwave 4*, classic rock.

Tio Leo's Lounge, 5302 Napa Street (at Morena Boulevard), Bay Park. 619-542-1462. Friday, Shockwave 4, classic rock. Saturday, Sue Palmer and Her Motel Swing Orchestra, swing/jazz. Wednesday, 7 p.m., the High Society Jazz

The Tower Bar, 4757 University Avenue, San Diego. 619-284-0158. Friday, punk rock. Saturday, *Batwings* and *the Vaginals*.

Trisler's Wine Bar, 8555 Station Village Lane, Suite C, San Diego. 619-298-1501. Friday, 7 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., *Keith Jacobsen*, smooth jazz saxophone.

Tutto Mare, 4365 Executive Drive, La Jolla (Golden Triangle area). 858-597-1188. Wednesday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., *the laime Valle Quartet*. jazz.

Vesuvio Gourmet Restaurant, 3025 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park. 619-282-7040. Friday and Saturday,

7 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Peggy Lloyd*, easy listening.

NORTH COUNTY

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

Belly Up Tavern, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-9022. Thursday, Railroad Earth and Tony Furtado, blues/rock. Friday, Blonde Redhead and the Annuals, rock/alternative. Saturday, 9 p.m., Rufus Wainwright, adult contemporary. Monday, 9 p.m., the Wylde Bunch and Ghostface Killah, alternative hip-hop.

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*, classic guitar.

Borders Books and Music (Carlsbad), 1905 Calle Barcelona, Carlsbad. 760-479-0242. Friday, 8 p.m., Patty Hall, folk/blues. Saturday, 8 p.m., Mike McGill, acoustic rock.

Borders Books and Music (Carmel Mountain), 11160 Rancho Carmel Drive, Carmel Mountain. 858-618-1814. Friday, 8 p.m., *Joey Pearson*. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Winterhawk*, acoustic.

Carvers, 11940 Bernardo Plaza Drive, Rancho Bernardo. 858-566-2400. Friday and Saturday, *Night Shift*, classic rock. **Cheers,** 2475 Main Street, Ramona. 760-789-0270. Friday and Saturday, live classic rock. Tuesday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Mike Gardner*, acoustic rock/folk.

Coyote Bar and Grill, 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad, 760-729-4695. Thursday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Billy Watson*, harmonica blues. Friday, 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., *the Jerry McCann Band*, reggae/R&B. Saturday, 3 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., *the New Breed Band*, jazz/pop. Sunday, 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., *the Steamers*, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Bruce Cameron*, jazz. Wednesday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Johnny "R" Blues*

Cuvee Restaurant, 2334 Carmel Valley Road, Del Mar. 858-259-5878. Monday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Sambajazz*, Brazilian and American jazz.

Del Dios Bar and Grill, 20154 Lake Drive, Escondido. 760-489-4800. Friday, *Grand Canyon Sundown*, country. Saturday, the Working Cowboy Band, country.

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 and Saturday, *60ne9*, classic rock.

The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe, 5951 Linea del Cielo, Rancho Santa Fe. 858-756-1131. Thursday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *Jerry Melnick*, jazz/variety piano.

The Jumping Turtle, 1660 Capalina Road, San Marcos. 760-741-7778. Music is rock/metal/alternative/punk unless otherwise noted. Thursday, *Brave* Monster, Take Aim, Seneca Falls, and Emergency Broadcast System. Friday, 8 p.m., Moontucky Risin', Middle Class Heroes, Visual Toxicity, and How to Win at Life. Saturday, 8 p.m., Rock n' Roll Soldiers, the Vacation, Mike Delaporte, the Vodka Dolls, and Sound of Surrender. Sunday, the Psychobilly Legends, the Coffin Draggers, the Henchmen, Bamboula, the Strikers, Those Rockin' Bullets, and the Formaldehydes. Wednesday, the Tribe of Judah, Kingfisher, and the Halcyonaires, reggae.

Mas Fina Cantina, 2780 State Street, Carlsbad. 760-434-3497. Wednesday, 8 p.m. to midnight, *Mike Gardner*, acoustic rock/folk.

McCabe's Beach Club, 1145 South Tremont Street, Oceanside. 760-439-6646. Friday, 4:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., the California Rangers, country.

Molly Malone's, 1270 Main Street, Ramona. 760-789-9050. Friday, live rock. Saturday, *the Dead Serial Killers*, metal.

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.

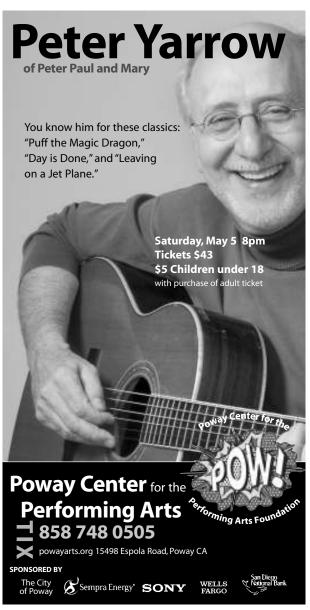
Ocean House, 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad. 760-729-4131. Friday, West of 5, classic rock. Saturday, Boogie Nights, disco/Top 40. Sunday, live jazz. Tuesday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., the Cradit Union, swing. Wednesday, the Stone Senses, Horizon, and Natural Vibration, reggae

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.

Surf N'Saddle, 123 West Plaza Street (Lomas Santa Fe and Highway 101), Solana Beach. 858-755-9474. Thursday, the Donnis Trio, rock. Friday, Delilah Jones. Saturday, Bigfellas, rock.

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, jazz.

The Butcher Shop, 556 Broadway, Chula Vista. 619-420-9440. Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Wednesday, 8 p.m., *Ray Correa*, standards/pop/Latin.

Cafe LaMaze, 1441 Highland Avenue, National City. 619-474-3222. Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m. to midnight, Sandy Chappel and Sammy Canonizado, jazz/blues. Sunday, 8:30 p.m., Burnett Anderson, Robert Sebastian, and Scott Wallingford, jazz.

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 9 p.m., David Hauser, acoustic. Wednesday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., Gary Seiler, acoustic.

Island Sports and Spirits, 104 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435-3456. Live classic rock/rockabilly/acoustic.

McP's Irish Pub and Grill, 1107 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435-5280. Thursday, Northstar, classic rock. Friday, Mystique, jazz/R&B. Saturday, the Fall Guys, acoustic. Sunday, Jim Moore, acoustic folk. Monday, Steve Brewer, acoustic.

EAST COUNTY

Borders Books and Music (El Cajon), 159 Parkway Plaza, El Cajon. 619-593-5119. Saturday, 8 p.m., Johnson, Bosley and Morin, acoustic trio.

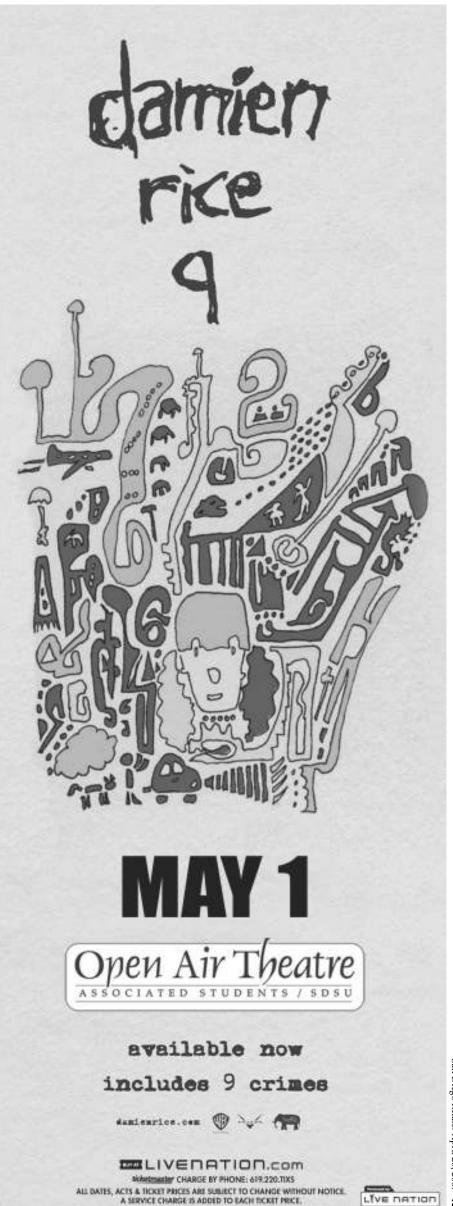
De Oro Mine Co., 9924 Campo Road, Spring Valley. 619-464-3351. Friday, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., also, Saturday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Tom Smerk*, classic oldies/folk/blues.

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 Taylor* Harvey Band, rock.







Calendar

EAST COUNTY

Fannie's Nightclub, 9143 Campo Road, Spring Valley. 619-698-2204. Friday, the Cold Beer Band, classic rock. Saturday, Resentment, Hungover Tomorrow, Heim, and Swamp Ass, punk.

Mulveny's Wagon Wheel, 8861 Magnolia Avenue, Santee. 619-448-8550. Friday and Saturday, *Ronnie Corbin* and *Pirate Radio*, country.

Renegade Inn, 14335 Old Highway 80 (half mile east from Lake Jennings turnoff), Flynn Springs. 619-561-8105. Friday and Saturday, Southbound Johnny, country.

Second Wind, 8528 Magnolia Avenue, Santee. 619-596-8350. Thursday, 8 p.m. to midnight, *Hugh Gaskins*, blues/rock. Friday and Saturday, *Uptown Groove*, classic rock.

Thornton's Irish Pub and Grill, 1221 Broadway, El Cajon. 619-447-5665. Friday, 8 p.m., *the Lab Rats*, classic rock.

Tommy's Italian Restaurant, 1190 North Second Street, El Cajon. 619-440-2676. Friday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *From K* to Z or the Wize Guys, swing/standards.

Viejas Casino, 5000 Willows Road, Alpine (off Interstate 8). 619-445-5400. V Lounge: Friday, 10 p.m., *Modern Day Moonshine*, rock/soul/reggae.

Calendar

ALTERNATIVE

The Annuals: Belly Up Tavern **Arckid:** The Casbah

Atlas of Id: 'Canes

Automatic Love Letter: Soma **Bamboula:** Dreamstreet, The Jumping Turtle

Batwings: Tower Bar Beneath the Sky: Soma The Black Market Hearts:

Basura: Ché Café

O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

The Boyish Charms: Ché Café

Carbine: 'Canes
Coaccion: Ché Café

The Coffin Draggers: The Jumping

Thee Corsairs: The Kensington Club

Dear Nora: Ché Café
Demasiado: The Casbah

Diskonto: Ché Café
Divided by Zero: 'Canes
Doomsday Hour: Ché Café
Elf Power: The Casbah

End of Eden: Soma

The Exit Theory: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

Falling Face Forward: Soma

The Flux Theory: O'Connell's Pub

The Gift/Curse: The Casbah

The Grams: Dizzy's
Grin's Edge: 'Canes

Henchmen: The Jumping Turtle
The Holy Rolling Empire: The

Casbah

How to Win at Life: The Jumping

l'urtle

Johnny Different: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

Liferuiner: Soma

Liquid Image: 710 Beach Club

Looks Like You: Soma
The Lou Dog Trio: 'Canes

The Love Me Nots: The Kensington

Club



>**h**ometown CDs

Album: Here's to Being Happy (2007)

Artist: The Modlins Label: self-released

Where available/price: M-Theory music stores and live shows for \$8. Online at *www.themodlins.com* for \$8.

Songs: 1) As Good as Gone 2) It's All Your Fault 3) I Might Have Been Wrong 4) Dragging My Feet 5) Ah...the Warmth of Wool-Knit Clothing 6) Thirty-Seven, Japanese 7) For Goodness' Sake 8) Allison Says 9) The Prude and the Stubborn 10) What You Had in Mind 11) Here's to Being Happy 12) I Wouldn't Know What to Do 13) What's in a Conversation 14) Spoons.Hearts.Stars

Band: Eric Killian (guitar, vocals), Stoph Rhanor (drums), Matt Sheridan (guitar, vocals), Alex Smith (bass, vocals)

Website: www.themodlins.com

Extra info: The Modlins are scheduled to play Scolari's Office

If you could hear coloring within the lines, it would sound like the Mod-

lins. They are a '60s pop heartthrob band like the Monkees – only talented and not irritating. The music is derived from the time before Hendrix started breaking rules and Iggy Pop was still a weird little kid.

Like the straight-cut suits they wear onstage, nothing is out of place in the songs. The music perfectly timed, slow-tempo, upbeat, and with harmonized vocals. The lyrics are all about relationships, love, and lost love, in a plinking-along mode reminiscent of pre-Ed Sullivan Beatles. Even with sideways lyrics such as the odd, abstract line from "Thirty-Seven, Japanese" that goes, "Thirtyseven Japanese/ survived by loving family/ but they did never take my heart from yours," the song is about a girlfriend.

Fans of "progressive music" who like to listen to a theremin played through



The Medlin

a vacuum-cleaner tube into a washing-machine drum will not be entertained by the Modlins, but a hipster or mod worth her mint-green tube dress wouldn't miss a show.

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

The Material: Soma

The New Addiction: Soma

The New Ages Heroes: Soma

The Number 12: Soma

Oliver Reigns: Winstons

The Outline: Soma

Gregory Page: Lestat's Coffee House

Patrol: The Casbah

The Power Chords: Soma

The Psychobilly Legends: The Jumping Turtle

Radio Races: Soma

Rama Duke: Soma

The Republic of Letters: The

Bobby Lee Rogers and the Codetalkers: Winstons

Codetalkers: Winstons
The Scars of Tomorrow: Soma

A Scribe Amongst the Lions: The

Seventh Soldier: Soma
The Shambles: Dizzy's

Shooter: Soma

The Sleeping People: The Casbah

Pete Steward and the Plastic Saviors: The Casbah

The Strikers: Dreamstreet

Those Rockin' Bullets: Dreamstreet

The 25th Hour: Soma
Tragedy and Triumph: Soma

Tragedy and Triumph: Soma

The Transit War: San Diego Sports Club

The Vacation: The Jumping Turtle
The Vaginals: Tower Bar

Vinyl Radio: The Casbah

Visual Toxicity: The Jumping Turtle

The Vodka Dolls: The Jumping
Turtle

We Are the Fury: Soma

With Blood Comes Cleansing: Soma

The Woolly Bandits: The

Yesterday's Papers: 710 Beach Club

ROCK

Bigfellas: Surf N'Saddle

The Birds of Avalon: The Casbah

Blind Heim: Tiki House











Damien Rice, May 1, Open Air Theatre

Blonde Redhead: Belly Up Tavern The Brat Pack: Henry's Pub

Brave Monster: The Jumping Turtle Butterface: O'Connell's Pub and

Nightclub

The Continental Kings: San Diego Sports Club, O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

The Cradit Union: Ocean House Crash Encore: San Diego Sports Club

Cubensis: Winstons

Dazed and Confused: Dick's Last

The Dead Serial Killers: Molly

Mike Delaporte: The Jumping Turtle The Disco Pimps: Dick's Last Resort

The Donnis Trio: Surf N'Saddle Dregs of Sada: Dick's Last Resort

Dynamite Walls: The Casbah Eco-Save: San Diego Sports Club

The Electric Waste Band: Winstons

Emergency Broadcast System:

Fashion Whore: San Diego Sports

Firethorn: O'Connell's Pub and

The Four Kings: 710 Beach Club Full Xposure: Dirk's Niteclub Gabba Gabba Heys: Brick By Brick

Good Medicine: The Calypso Cafe The Taylor Harvey Band: Don's

Heim: Fannie's Nightclub

Hungover Tomorrow: Fannie's

Illinois: The Casbah

Delilah Jones: Surf N'Saddle

The Justin Brothers: Galley at the

The Lab Rats: Brick By Brick.

Middle Class Heroes: The Jumping

Modern Day Moonshine: Viejas

Moontucky Risin': The Jumping

Night Shift: Carvers Nimuruv: Tiki House

Northstar: McP's Irish Pub and Grill Resentment: Fannie's Nightclub

Rev: Dreamstreet

The Rock n' Roll Soldiers: The

Roses on Her Grave: The Casbah Seneca Falls: The Jumping Turtle Serious Guise: Second Wind (San

Shockwave 4: Tio Leo's Lounge, Tio

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From K to Z: Tommy's Italian

John Guilino: Pasquale on Prospect

The Janet Hammer-Jay Berman

Cynthia Hammond: Pasquale on

The High Society Jazz Band: Tio

Keith Jacobsen: Trisler's Wine Bar.

The Jazz 101 Band: Pasquale on

The John Kopecky Trio: South Park

Fran Laskota: The Westgate Hotel

Barry Levich: La Valencia Hotel

Peggy Lloyd: Vesuvio Gourmet

Kevin McCully: The Westgate Hotel

The Shep Meyers Quartet: Croce's

Mikan and Friends: Buon Giorno

Mystique: McP's Irish Pub and Grill

Mike Nelson: Sogno Di Vino, The

Adrienne Nims and Spirit Wind:

Mario Oliveras and Latin Spice:

Jimmy Molidure: Humphrey's

Jerry Melnick: The Inn at Rancho

Santa Fe, Rancho Bernardo Inn

Jazzilla: Turquoise Cafe

Prospect

Restaurant

Lodge at Torrey Pines

Novamenco: Humphrey's

Sue Palmer: Croce's Jazz Bar Sue Palmer and Her Motel Swing

Orchestra: Tio Leo's Lounge

The Palomar Jazz Ensemble:

Dan Papaila: The Lodge at Torrey

Dave Patrone: Croce's Jazz Bar

Greg Pardue: Leana Bistro and French

The Calypso Cafe

Alfred Howard and the K23

ROCK

Stevi Lynn and Triple Threat: The

The Stilettos: Henry's Pub Swamp Ass: Fannie's Nightclub

Take Aim: The Jumping Turtle Tower 20 One: Tiki House

Transfer: The Casbah Uptown Groove: Second Wind

(Santee)

Viva Santana: Humphrey's The Wagon: Winstons

Rufus Wainwright: Belly Up Tavern

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What the Funk: San Diego Sports

The Wylde Bunch: Belly Up Tavern Zombie Surf Camp: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

POP / TOP 40

PTrak Armenta: Pasquale on Prospect

Gil Barron: Pasquale on Prospect The Blackout Party: Lestat's Coffee

House, O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub, The Casbah

Boogie Nights: Ocean House

Jesse Davis: Buon Giorno Restaurant

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Burnett Anderson: Cafe LaMaze

The Archtones: Croce's Jazz Bar

Tom Bishop: Rancho Bernardo Inn

Amelia Browning: South Park Bar

Bruce Cameron: Covote Bar and Grill

Sammy Canonizado: Cafe LaMaze as i hear it san diego songs take the street test The Coronado Big Band: Dizzy's

Artist: Roses on Her Grave

Song: "Too Late for Your Soul" (From the

CD From Red to Grav)

Heard By: **David Vandervort**, San Francisco



I really can't put them in a category...they're just kind of a bluesy style all their own. The vocals were almost Nickelback — modern, warbley. Personally, I didn't really like it very much. I didn't like the vocals. The female and male vocals were very, very similar. It's very strange because usually a male-andfemale team that are in a band are completely different-sounding, so it was really shocking when they both came on together. The whole song was just far too repetitive - far too long, also. The harmonica was kind of interesting. You don't really hear that too much in modern bands

Artist: Vinyl Radio

Song: "Tell Me Why" (From the CD A

Better Time Coming...)

Heard By: Bree Anderson, Chula Vista



Well. right away the beginning sounded like Franz Ferdinand. It also sounded like a band called Royal Trux. [The singer's] voice kind of reminds me of Billie Joe from Green Day, but like a blues version. I liked the lyrics, although I felt that he's kind of hesitant when he sings. I like stronger vocalists — not to say that it's not good. I'd have to listen to it again, but what kind of threw me off was towards the end when they changed the tempo a little bit. I like songs that are kind of repetitive, so when there's too much going on...that threw me off. [That song would be good for] probably driving around by the beach.

Artist: JAC

Song: "Can't Stop Lovin' You (From

their self-titled CD)

Heard By: Dale, Clairemont



It sounds like any one of a half dozen second-tier British bands of the mid to late '70s — Black Sabbath...Uriah Heep. I don't mean to be insulting, [but] it wasn't very clever stuff. There was a lack of a strong hook in there. Possibly, they weren't showing off all they could do. You could compare it to Grand Funk Railroad for the level of musicianship and compositional ability, which is again, very modest. When do people listen to that type of music? Either when they're working or else when they're just hanging out in the basement watching TV.

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One Drop: 'Canes

Mike Pinto and the Masters:

Reggae Dub: Dreamstreet Sand Dollar: 710 Beach Club

Semisi and Fulabula: The Calypso

Social Green: Dreamstreet Split Finger: 710 Beach Club

The Stone Senses: 'Canes Straight Trippin': Winstons

Thicker Than Thieves: 'Canes

The Tribe of Judah: The Jumping



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Dave Berry: Lestat's Coffee House

J.D. Boucharde: Princess Pub and

Steve Brewer: Blarney Stone Pub,

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Chris and Harold: Blarney Stone Pub Allison Cornell: E Street Cafe

The Coyote Problem: Dizzy's Jennifer Cunningham: Borders Books and Music (Gaslamp)

Matt Curreri: Dizzy's

Lou and Virginia Curtiss: Dizzy's

Mark DeCerbo and Four Eyes:

Alex Depue: Lestat's Coffee House

Annie Dru: Lestat's Coffee House Will Faeber: Leana Bistro and French

Pastry Cafe

The Fall Guys: McP's Irish Pub and

Simeon Flick: Borders Books and Music (Mission Valley)

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Richard Gilewitz: Old Time Music Allison Gill: Blarney Stone Pub

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Patty Hall: Borders Books and Music

David Hauser: Galley at the Marina

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Johnson, Bosley and Morin:

Jen Knight: 'Canes

Amy Kuney: E Street Cafe

Mike McGill: Borders Books and

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Anna Troy: Dizzy's

Whitton: Lestat's Coffee House

Winterhawk: Borders Books and

Steve Ybarra: Lestat's Coffee House

BLUES / SOUL

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Blue Four: Patrick's II

The Blues Brokers: The Kraken The Buddy Wuddy Blues Show:

Dave Camp Blues: Patrick's II Tony Furtado: Belly Up Tavern

Fuzzy and the Bluesmen: Croce's

Hugh Gaskins: Second Wind (Santee) Ghostface Killah: Belly Up Tavern

Robin Henkel: Terra

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Johnny "B" Blues: Coyote Bar and

Mia Jones and the Ko Trifecta: South Park Bar and Grill

The Kings of Pleasure: Patrick's II Lady Dottie and the Diamonds:

Mystery Train: O'Connell's Pub and

Nite Life: Pal Joey's Plato Soul: The Kraken Railroad Earth: Belly Up Tavern

Len Rainey and the Midnight Players: Patrick's II

Tom Smerk: De Oro Mine Co.

The Soul Persuaders: Humphrey's Triple Shot: The Calypso Cafe

Billy Watson: Coyote Bar and Grill

EVERYTHING ELSE

Tom Barabas: G5-Georges on Fifth

John Cain: Bahia Resort Hotel

The Capitol Steps: 4th & B

Julio De La Huerta: The Westgate

Karen Giorgio: The Westgate Hotel

The Mayan Kings: O'Connell's Pub

Ray Correa: The Butcher Shop

Faith Page: The Westgate Hotel

Orquesta 8.8: Sevilla

The Middle-Earth Ensemble:

Orquesta Rico Tumbao: Lucky Star

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Crasher

BROKEN BONES

by Josh Board

hen people ask me about the best parties I've been to, my stock answer is "mansions in Rancho Santa Fe." Heading to one recent party in Rancho Santa Fe, however, I was driving on streets that weren't finished. After several miles of "off-roading," convinced I was lost, I called the house. The guy who answered asked what street I was on and said, "Then you aren't lost," and he hung up.

Toward the end of the street, I saw a few houses under construction and a few that were completed.

Chef Alexandria invited me. She cooks at a restaurant called the Bambu Bistro in Hillcrest. She said, "I throw these parties every six months for about 20 friends. I enjoy cooking for my friends." I said, "That's nice. So many people want to do potluck when they get together."

I stopped in the middle of the street, thinking I had found the house. I could tell there was a car following me because when I made funky turns, he did too. It was the blind leading



Top: Chef Alexandria (right); Bottom right: Shari and Darcy; Bottom left: Chef Alexandria and her son

vears ago would be at the party.

The snowboarder asked, "Do we have to wear a coat? It hurts for me to wear one." I

"I haven't heard that in a long time.

Not since I gained weight." ended up breaking bones. And

since I had broken my arm four times, snowboarding would probably be the fifth. Little did I know, one person who snapped my arm like a twig

cringed. "Shaking hands hurts

snowboarding." I told him I had

never been snowboarding, but

that all my friends who have

because I broke my clavicle

said Alex told me to dress nice but that a broken collarbone is a good excuse not to wear a coat and tie.

I asked if anyone had seen Alexandria and was told that she

was in the guesthouse cooking. As I walked over, I could smell the aroma of her cooking wafting through the air. I introduced myself to her. Her arms moved deftly over several pots and pans. There were a few people helping her out. One was a shy woman who resembled the actress Sandra Oh. Another was Alex's boyfriend, who seemed to be stressed about something, so to give them privacy, I told Alex that I was going to the wineand-cheese table by the pool.

She asked her friend Shari to show me around.

As Shari, a pretty blonde,

showed me around, she talked about living in La Jolla. She mentioned knowing Raquel Welch's sister. When she told me she worked for Colgate, I joked about how she probably gets all the free toothpaste she wants. We walked over to the pool for a glass of wine. A few people were talking about dating, and Shari told me a story about a first date she had on Valentine's Day. The guy lied about his age when they met, but he showed up with a bouquet of flowers. He took her to an expensive French restaurant and ordered for her. When the bill came, he showed it to her before paying. We both agreed that was cheesy. "He then took me to this new-age dance thing in Point Loma," continued Shari. "It was in some woman's house. We walk in and sit down, and they are doing these weird dances, and he's sitting there with his eyes closed and moving along to the music in his chair. He grabs my hand and looks at



me and says 'I love you.' He also bought concert tickets and tickets for a cruise. It was way too much for a first date. Don't you agree?"

I agreed, as did two women standing nearby. I told one that she looked like Cameron Diaz. "Thanks. I haven't heard that in a long time. Not since I gained weight."

I asked her to tell me about Alexandria's cooking. "We ate at her restaurant on Valentine's Day. Two women — walking in there in Hillcrest — everyone thought we were lesbians. Alex had let her staff go home early.... She was being nice because it was Valentine's Day. But then she had to do all this work herself. She asked us to help with the dishes. This straight couple came in — a black guy and white lady. They ended up coming back and helping with the dishes, too."

When we sat down to eat, Alex was serving soup and salad. I asked her why chefs wore big white hats. She explained that in France, it shows the different classes of chef. The bigger the hat, the better the chef...or longer they've been cooking.

Alexandria served tritip, roasted asparagus, and

garlic mashed potatoes. Since I'm on a diet, I stayed away from the desserts. A Brazilian woman who sat next to me insisted that I try the dessert she brought. I asked her - since she had been talking about cooking Southern food — how she staved in shape. She told me that she's a former tennis pro and had a tennis scholarship to Mississippi State. That's where she learned how to cook Southern food.

I sat a few seats away from a guy who owns a drycleaning business that uses liquid carbon dioxide, which he said is good for the environment. He told me that there was a two-page feature on his business in Newsweek and that he was featured on MSNBC and KPRI.

When I mentioned the story about Shari and her horrible date, the Brazilian woman told me about a guy she invited to a party who attacked one of her dogs. "I was preparing food. He said he got bit. Then he threw his watch at the dog. He insisted on going to the hospital. I apologized and looked at his hand. It didn't look bad."

When I later talked with Shari, a San Diego native, she asked me if I was born in San Diego and where I went to high school. I said Mira Mesa: she went to Poway. She did, however, go to Hickman Elementary, which is the elementary school that I went to. She was five years older than me, and I figured we never crossed paths. I asked her what street she grew up on, and when she said New Salem. I told her that I lived there from when I was four until I was eight. She remembered that her dad had built a white picket fence, and I said, "I lived two houses away from that

"Did you have a brother named Lewis?" she asked. "I remember you. When you were four years old, you used to always show me bugs and maggots." I replied, "I always knew how to impress the

house.'

Then it hit me. I said, "Shari! It was you! When I was five, you tied me up with a jump rope...to Alan. We tried getting away and fell down. I broke my arm." Her jaw dropped. "Oh, my god! I remember that. I broke your little arm. I'm so sorry."

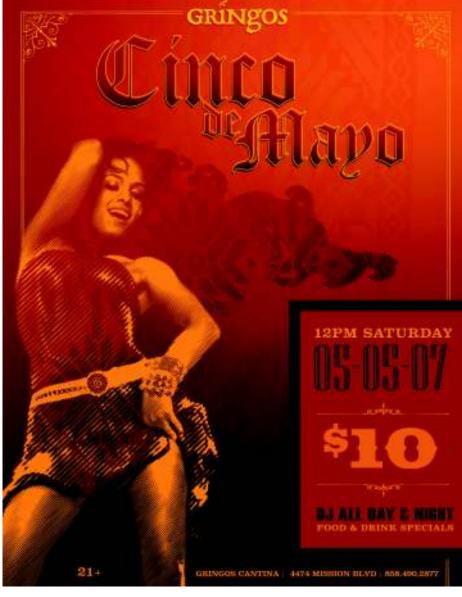
I laughed and said, "You'll be hearing from my lawyer. I need to find out if there's a statute of limitations on this."

As everyone looked at us as if we were crazy, I said, "Let's make a deal. If we get together in the

future and you tie me up, just don't break any appendages." ■

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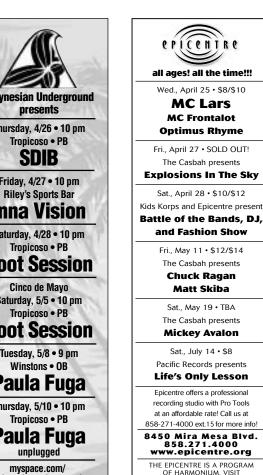












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The Soul of W;t

She's an elitist snob, proud of her "uncompromising" nature.

n his youth, John Donne (1572-1631) was a hot Metaphysical poet who wrote salacious verses and thought Shakespeare, his elder by eight years, a doddering oaf. Donne yoked religious language and topical references to his love

poetry. In Elegie 15 ("Going to Bed"), for example, the randy speaker calls his mistress "my America, my new-found-land/ My Kingdome, safeliest when with one man man'd."

Donne made a transformation as sweeping as Shakespeare's Prince Hal to King Henry V. In 1621, "Jack Donne," the witty rake (at least in his imagination), became "Dr. Donne," Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral. In Margaret Edson's W;t, Vivian Bearing, a Donne scholar, must make a metamorphosis almost as difficult.

During a severe illness in 1623, Donne wrote that "No man is an island, entire of itself." Vivian Bearing has lived as if surrounded by water. She assumed that if she became "a little world made cunningly," she could keep the slings and arrows of banal old reality at bay. (One of the first things her teacher-mentor, E.M. Ashford, told her: revise her essay on Donne later; "Go out. Enjoy yourself with your friends." But Vivian went back to the library.)

When Wit begins, Vivian is 50, barefoot, wearing doubled hospital gowns, and hooked to a portable IV pole. A red baseball cap covers most of her bald head. She has fourth-stage ovarian

cancer. There's no fifth, she tells the audience, with whom she finds it hard to be informal. She knows the play's about her and doesn't want to give away the plot ("but I think I die at the end"). During the last third of the 90-minute piece, even

the play escapes her control.

Always quick to display academic credentials, Vivian flashes back to her intellectual development. We watch her lecture. She

even frets about a semicolon inaccurately substituted for a comma. She's an elitist snob, proud of her "uncompromising" nature. "I know all about life and death," she boasts. "I am, after all, a scholar of Donne's Holy Sonnets, which explore mortality in greater depth than any other body of work in the English language." But when mortality trumps elitism, "We are discussing my life and my death" — and metaphysical wit be hanged.

The playwright plunks this rigid control freak into an environment where she loses her bearings. A doctor and clinicians — who deem themselves as superior in their field as Vivian did in hers envision a radical experiment: eight cycles of superdrug-chemotherapy, full dose. Vivian, who dreads normalcy, accepts the challenge. In the eyes of some researchers, she's little more than a lab rat providing data "to quantify the complications of the puzzle." A morphine drip, though it will blank her mind, could keep her alive longer than a Patient-Controlled Analgesic. And why resuscitate her when her heart stops? More data.



Rosina Reynolds in W;t

W;t, by Margaret Edson North Coast Repertory Theatre, 987 Lomas Santa Fe Drive, Solana Beach

Directed by David Hay; cast: Rosina Reynolds, Sandra Eagye, Dennis Henry, John Herzog, Michael Imdieke, Sunny Smith, Diana Sparta; scenic design, Marty Burnett; costumes, Jeanne Reith; lighting, Mia Bane Jacobs;

Playing through May 13; Thursday through Saturday at 8:00 p.m. Sunday at 7:00 p.m. Matinee Sunday at 2:00 p.m. 858-481-1055

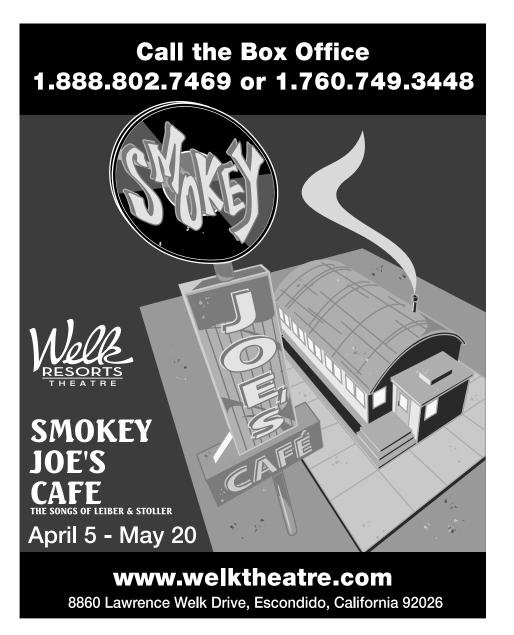
The stark clashes and grave extremes in W;t life and death, humane and inhumane treatment of hospital patients, the ornate versus the simple, being "smart" versus being "kind" — have the dazzle of Metaphysical poetry. But, and also like Donne, the playwright laces the text with wit (small w). Vivian's humor helps her find a kind of grace.

The night I caught the North Coast Rep's out-

standing production, two people walked out about halfway through. This was a compliment. W;t should be uncompromising. Amid MDs with clipboards and scurrying nurses and aides, you watch a proud woman wither and die of cancer. NCRT and director David Hay put no smile on

What the exiting couple missed was Vivian's





beaming into an 11th-hour wholeness - and the completed arc of Rosina Reynolds's gritty, deeply human performance. As Vivian breaks down, Reynolds sheds protective layers and grows from an island to, as Donne wrote, "a piece of the continent...involved in mankind." We may see more acting of this high quality in 2007, though I doubt we'll see better.

Nanci Burrows and Dennis Henry head the supporting cast and function as good and evil angels. Burrows plays Susie Monahan, a nurse who may seem overly yummy to those who've never seen — as I have with both my parents — a selfless caregiver minister to the dying (anyone who has lost a loved one to cancer will watch two stories during W;t: Edson's and theirs, which may explain why the couple left).

Dennis Henry makes Jason Posner, the evil angel M.D., an unrepentant Vivian: left-brain dominant, bedside-manner-deficient. Henry's smart choices don't overemphasize these traits; they fall where they may (in one of the few places where the playwright spoonfeeds significance to the audience, Edson gives Jason an insight: John Donne, he says, suffered from "salvation anxiety"; Edson may be right, but it's hard to believe data-obsessed Iason'd see it).

Vivian's mentor frets about punctuation in Donne's Holy Sonnet #6 ("And death shall be no more, comma, Death thou shalt die"). A comma splice should separate the independent clauses, she contends, because "nothing but a breath — a comma separates life from life everlasting."

The NCRT production offers visual evidence of this contention. Marty Burnett's scenic design has no "insuperable barriers"; no semicolons. The stage is bare, save for curtains, like those in a hospital, that open and close and change scenes in a single breath.

FIELD NOTES: SOME WORDS ABOUT "W:T"

1.) The late Louis Martz, former Sterling Professor at Yale and author of The Poetry of Meditation, defined wit as "intellectual quickness, inventive and constructive ability, a

talent for uttering brilliant things, the power of amusing surprise," and "a desire to startle readers."

2.) Doctor Samuel Johnson, who believed life itself was startling enough, argued that the Metaphysical poets, and Donne especially, yoked their spectacular images "by violence together."

3.) Michael Shurtleff, the famous casting director, bemoaned wit's absence in contemporary theater: "Wit is the taking pleasure in words, in the way things are phrased. Wit is a highly polished competitive game, but since it's intellectual (a dirty word, to be eschewed at any cost) and requires the use of the mind, it's in very short supply...No wonder actors don't know what it is, since they've been raised on television, where the lowest common denominator is what determines what's funny and where people don't laugh at laugh lines, machines do." ■

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

All in the Timing

Ion Theatre reprises its hugely funny production of David Ives's absurdist sketches, this time in a comedy-club style at a local bistro. Glenn Paris and Claudio Raygoza directed. SIXTH AVENUE BISTRO, 1165 SIXTH AV-ENUE (CORNER OF SIXTH AND B), DOWNTOWN, THURSDAY, APRIL 26. OPEN-ENDED RUN; FRIDAY AND SATUR-DAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 3:00 P.M. 619-374-4194.

Baldwin New Play Festival

UCSD's festival features four world-premiere productions of plays by MFA students — Red State Blue Grass, by Josh Tobiessen; Wildflower, by Lila Rose Kaplan; Near East, by Alex Lewin; and Freedom, NY, by Jennifer Barclay and a staged reading of In Search of a Better Life with Elvis, by Brown University student Kato McNickle. UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO. DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE. THROUGH APRIL 28: FOR DAYS AND TIMES OF INDIVIDUAL PLAYS, CALL

Desire Under the Elms

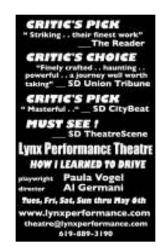
Cygnet Theatre presents Eugene O'Neill's drama about the peace of a New England farm disturbed by the arrival of the owner's young bride. Sean Murray directed. CYGNET THEATRE 6663 FL CAION BOULEVARD, COLLEGE AREA, SATURDAY, APRIL 28, THROUGH JUNE 3; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUN-DAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-337-1525.

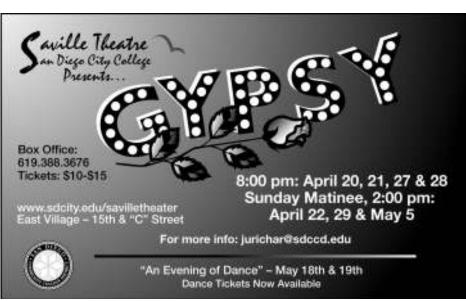
Enchanted April

A long, sketchy first act recalls Chekhov's *Three Sisters*. But instead of going to Moscow, you wonder if four depressed women in 1922, under what seems a permanent downpour in Hampstead, northern London, will ever make it to sunny Italy. For Act Two, the Lamb's Players stage does a Kansas-Oz. The women reach Italy (two minus their self-centered husbands). Cold characters thaw. Gloom departs. Smiles emerge. What had seemed tedious turns out to be a modest charmer. To her credit, director Deborah Gilmour Smyth accepts the play's structural flaws (heavy on the "before" and "after" of transformation) and doesn't sweep them under the carpet - or force wonders in triplicate. Instead, with a terrific ensemble cast, and accompanied by a cello fishtailing through the scene changes, she sustains a light, breezy tone, as if to say, "This April in Mezzago, Italy, will be as enchanting as you want. It's up to you." Which is the attitude of Lotty, the play's seemingly daffy, though sneaky-wise tour guide. Kerry Meads captivates as the unlikely enchantress, whose good nature and gentle persistence slowly convince you that she can, in fact, see a bright future, even if it looks bleak from here. Worth a try.

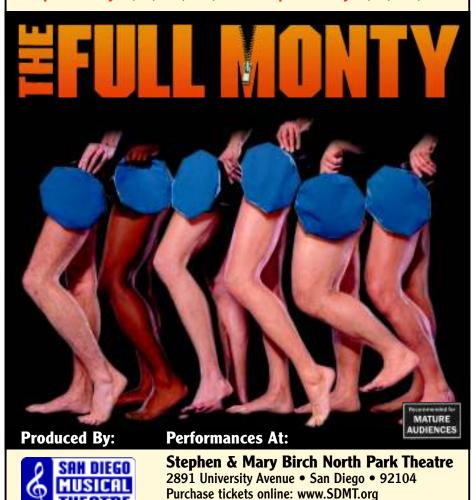
THEATRE

LAMB'S PLAYERS THEATRE, 1142 OR-ANGE AVENUE, CORONADO, THROUGH MAY 13: TUESDAY THROUGH THURSDAY AT 7:30 P.M. FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AT 4:00 P.M. AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M.





San Diego Regional Premiere 8 pm • May 4, 5, 10, 11, 12 ■ 2 pm • May 5, 6, 12, 13



or call: 858-560-5740

Choreographer Lee Martino • Director Nick DeGruccio



San Diego Reader April 26, 2007

Calendar THEATER

The god Show

For one evening only, Reno performs her seriocomical exploration of church and state in America. POWAY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, 15498 ESPOLA ROAD, POWAY, SATURDAY, APRIL 28, AT 8:00 P.M. 858-748-0505.

The Grapes of Wrath

AT 2:00 P.M. 619-594-6884.

SDSU School of Theatre, Televi-

sion, and Film presents Frank Galati's adaptation of the John Steinbeck novel. SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY, DON POWELL THEATRE, FRIDAY, APRIL 27, THROUGH MAY 6; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SAT-URDAY, MAY 5, AND SUNDAY, MAY 6,

Hold Please Unlike the movie 9 to 5, which skewers a sexist pig boss, in Annie Weisman's barbed comedy, the philandering CEO remains in charge. She concentrates, instead, on the wars of the cubicles: two generations of secretaries form fragile alliances, then backstab and connive - and raise disturbing questions about "sisterhood" in the contemporary workplace. The play could use a stronger engine (emotional arcs tend to zigzag, and in trying not to tie a cozy knot, the conclusion verges on gender stereotypes). But it's got Weisman's genuine gifts for snappy dialogue, precise, revealing detail, and rafter-rattling humor. Weisman's women may not be likable, but the Old Globe production makes it easy to worry about them. Stephanie Beatriz plays young Erika as confident and spicy, even though Erika's choices make you wonder how deluded a person can be. Starla Benford's Grace seems at peace, but isn't. Kandis Chappell gives disillusioned Agatha human touches that keep her from becoming a grotesque caricature (here and elsewhere Mary Larson's costumes — Agatha all gray business, Erika nightclub-ready reds — define character to a T). Weisman's most devastating portrait is young Jessica. Mercurial, intellectually flighty, she has "Google-consciousness." She knows snippets about stray subjects, culled from Wikipedia blurbs, and assumes that the Internet has all the answers. Kate Arrington gets every inch of the woman for whom even a black eye is a good thing. The opening-night performance needed a brisker pace, especially between scenes. On the plus side, director Kirsten Brandt and lighting designer David Lee Cuthbert give the realistic piece an expressionistic-absurdist aura. Phones don't ring; lights flash

around the stage rim, suggesting that the time may come when even one secretary at the firm will be "redundant."

Worth a try.

CASSIUS CARTER CENTRE STAGE, SIMON EDISON CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, BALBOA PARK,
THROUGH MAY 6; SUNDAY, TUESDAY,
AND WEDNESDAY AT 7:00 P.M. THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M
MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT
2:00 P.M. 619-234-5623.

How I Learned to Drive

The title sounds innocuous. But it refers to the stages in which Li'l Bit's Uncle Peck became her sexual abuser. Paula Vogel's 1997 drama, on just about everyone's "Best Plays of the '90s" list, reveals its horrific subject by indirection. Uncle Peck doesn't fit the drooling stereotype (Vogel says he should resemble Gregory Peck in To Kill a Mockingbird). And Li'l Bit is divided in half by three: "half wanting to run, half wanting to get it over with, half wanting to be held by him." The script also calls for music from the '60s (songs like the Ronettes' "Be My Baby" and Joe Cocker's "You Are So Beautiful" take on a disturbing tinge in the context of pedophilia). Lynx Performance and director Al Germani have done one of their finest efforts. Where Vogel asks for the suggestion of a song, members of the six-person cast, like a Greek chorus, often sing the entire version a cappella (and often beautifully, though whole songs lag the pace). Unlike the script, which has a fortysomething Li'l Bit narrate, Germani cast preteen Alicia Randolph. She plays "Li'l Girl" - i.e. Li'l Bit prior to her uncle's abuse. The choice is striking, but Randolph needs to enunciate her speeches much more clearly. The nonlinear play moves about like a lost drunk driver. Michelle Procopio negotiates Li'l Bit's emotional zodiac with impressive intensity. Krista Bell, Allie Dana, and Kevin Koppman-Gue play multiple roles (and sing) effectively. And Jude Evans rightfully understates, to the point of being eerie, Uncle Peck, who, were it not for his harrowing perversity, would seem the most "normal" male in the story. "Sometimes Satan," the poet sayeth, "comes as a man of peace." Critic's pick.

LYNX PERFORMANCE THEATRE SPACE, 2653-R ARIANE DRIVE, ROSE CANYON, THROUGH MAY 6; FRIDAY AT 9:00 P.M. SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-889-3190.

I Have Before Me a Remarkable Document Given to Me by a Young Lady from Rwanda

For two performances only, and as part of its Human Rights Festival, 6th@Penn Theatre stages Sonja Linden's story of a young survivor gling poet. 6TH@PENN THEATRE, 3704 SIXTH AVENUE, HILLCREST, TUESDAY, MAY 1, AND WEDNESDAY, MAY 2, AT 7:30 P.M. 619-688-9210

of Rwanda genocide and a strug-

Joey and Maria's Comedy Italian Wedding

Joey and Maria tie the knot in "not-so-ordinary interactive dinner theater."

HOLIDAY INN ON THE BAY, 1355 NORTH HARBOR DRIVE, SAN DIEGO, OPEN-ENDED RUN. FOR DAYS AND TIMES CALL 800-944-5639.

Josephine Tonight

Common Ground Theatre presents Wally Harper's musical biography of singer, dancer, and showbiz legend Josephine Baker. Floyd Gaffney directed.

LYCEUM THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN, THURSDAY, MAY 3, THROUGH MAY 20; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:30 P.M. 619-232-3586.

Lend Me a Tenor

MiraCosta Theatre Department presents Ken Ludwig's farce of mistaken operatic identities (Max, the meek understudy, must give the performance of his life). Eric Bishop directed.

MIRACOSTA COLLEGE THEATRE,

1 BARNARD DRIVE, OCEANSIDE,

THROUGH APRIL 29; THURSDAY

THROUGH SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M.

MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M.

760-795-6815.

Life's Not Fair

North Park Vaudeville and Candy Shoppe presents sketch comedy from a priest's failed confession to our president's imaginary friend. NORTH PARK VAUDEVILLE AND CANDY SHOPPE, 2031 EL CAJON BOULEVARD, NORTH PARK, THROUGH MAY 5; FRI-DAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-220-8663.

Menopause the Musical

The San Diego Rep hosts a production of Jeanie Linders' musical about "the change." Songs include "I Heard It Through 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.

My Wandering Boy

South Coast Repertory Theatre stages the world premiere of July Marie Myatt's drama about the search for Emmett. He's missing, and his boots were found on a homeless man. Bill Rauch directed. SOUTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE,

SEGERSTROM STAGE, 655 TOWN CENTER DRIVE, COSTA MESA, THROUGH MAY 6; WEDNESDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. TUESDAY AND SUNDAY AT 7:30 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:30 P.M. 714-708-5555.

National Comedy Theatre

Improvisational comedy, making up funny stuff on the spot, is difficult enough. Years ago, however, Keith Johnstone thought it'd be more exciting if done competitively. He got the idea from pro wrestling ("where Terrible Turks mangled defrocked priests, while mums and dads yelled insults and grannies waved their handbags"). National Comedy Theatre, an offshoot of Johnstone's TheatreSports (artistic director Gary Kramer says the two compare like "rugby and American football"), resembles an athletic event more than an improv. Teams wear uniforms and compete on ActroTurf. The night I caught the show, three San Diego comedians played a challenge match against players from the San Jose franchise. Using suggestions from the audience, they played "Emo-tional Sympathy," "Shakespeare," "Blind Line," and "Freeze Tag," with judges awarding points to the best scenes. Klunkers and groaners got booed; quick wit rewarded (one of the most refreshing parts of the contest: people acknowledge failure, abundantly, then forget it). It made for a lively, often quite funny, evening. And Gary Kramer is one talented comedian.

Worth a try.

MARQUIS THEATER, 3717 INDIA STREET, MISSION HILLS, OPEN-ENDED RUN; FRI-DAY AND SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. AND 9:45 P.M. 619-295-4999.

The Oresteia

Marianne McDonald and J. Michael Walton's new translation combines Aeschylus's classic, doom-haunted trilogy (Agamemnon, The Libation Bearers, The Eumenides) into a single evening of theater. And except for inevitable and lengthy exposition (the first half hour, in fact), the vigorous script captures much of the original's sweep, from Agamem non's double-bind sacrifice of Iphigenia (damned if he does, or doesn't) to Orestes's mirroring his father's plight (the Furies will torment him whether he kills Clytemnestra or not), though not all of its depth (a revision could also look at the pace of events, since the "greatest hits of the Oresteia" approach piles tragedy upon tragedy with relentless haste). The moderndress 6th@Penn production, however, blares through the speeches and scenes, undercutting the strengths of the text. W.H. Auden wrote that "evil is unspectacular and always human." Director Douglas Lay opts for the spectacular, almost nonstop, and encourages actors to

force rather than feel intensities. Everyone urges their speeches onto the audience, often blurring the words in the process. Lay has had success with Greek tragedy before — his Iphigenia in Aulus was quite memorable — but this production lacks his usual polish and clarity: even a chorus of Libation Bearers, and another of the devil-red clad Furies, sing so harshly the words get lost. Anyone unfamiliar with the epic story would get lost as well. Much of the acting is amateurish. The standouts make it appear more so. Donal Pugh, whether he's an Agamemnon glad to be home after a decade of war, or an above-the-fray Apollo, commands the stage and delivers his lines with precise, fluid phrasings. As does Monique Gaffney (who is having quite a 2007) as a regal Athena and thrice-cursed Cassandra, the seer no one believes (best moment: when Apollo declares that women are unnecessary for childbirth, Athena raises an eyebrow that, were it a tinge more severe, could flatten Mt. Olympus). 6TH@PENN THEATRE, 3704 SIXTH AV-ENUE, HILLCREST, THROUGH MAY 13: THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-688-9210.

Peace

Chronos Theatre Group presents a staged reading of Aristophanes' comedy, in which he flies to heaven on a giant dung-eating beetle to rescue Peace from the clutches of war. LYCEUM THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN, TUESDAY, MAY 8, AT 7:30 P.M. 619-295-5047.

Picni

Palomar College stages William Inge's Pulitzer Prize-winner about "the pleasure — and the pain — of risking everything to choose one's own path." Dana Case directed. HOWARD BRUBECK THEATRE, PALOMAR COLLEGE, 1140 WEST MISSION ROAD, SAN MARCOS, THROUGH APRIL 29; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. AND SUNDET THURSDAY AT 4:00 P.M. AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 760-744-1150 X2453

Ramona

The nation's longest-running outdoor drama — now in its 84th season — tells of life and love in early California.

RAMONA BOWL, 27400 RAMONA BOWL ROAD, HEMET, THROUGH MAY 12; SATUR-DAY AND SUNDAY AT 4:00 P.M. (GATES OPEN AT 1:00 P.M.). 800-645-4465.

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 per-

formed but most important playwrights. Twice winner of the Pulitzer Prize (for Fences in 1987 and The Piano Lesson in 1990), Wilson wrote a cycle of dramas that probe the African-American experience through the decades of the 20th Century (he concentrated, he said, on the "largest idea that confronted blacks in each decade"). The readings will also be staged at the Performance Annex in City Heights and other locations. The series will culminate in a week-long staged reading festival of all the plays at Cygnet in June 2007. Next offering: The Piano

Worth a try.

CYGNET THEATRE, 6663 EL CAJON BOULEVARD, COLLEGE AREA, THROUGH MAY 15; TUESDAY, MAY 8, WEDNES-DAY, MAY 9, AND TUESDAY, MAY 15 (SPACE TBA), AT 7:30 P.M. FOR A COM-PLETE LIST OF READINGS AND LOCA-TIONS, CALL 619-337-1525, X3.

Ricky Dean and the Doo Wop Girls

The Broadway Theater presents the musical about the reunion of a doo-wop group, only Ricky's nowhere to be found. Randall Hickman directed.

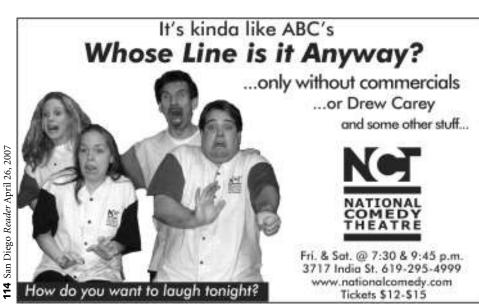
BROADWAY THEATER, 340 EAST BROADWAY, VISTA, THROUGH MAY 6; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 760-806-7905.

Route 66

Christian Community Theater offers the Roger Bean musical based on the road songs of the '50s and '60s, including "On the Road Again" and "Little Deuce Coup." EAST COUNTY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER, 210 EAST MAIN STREET, EL CAJON, THROUGH MAY 5; THURSDAY, APRIL 26, THROUGH SATURDAY, APRIL 28, AND FRIDAY, MAY 4, AND SATURDAY, MAY 5, AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY, APRIL 29, AND SATURDAY, MAY 5, AT 2:00 P.M. 619-588-0206.

Sailor's Song

Rich never found a "breakthrough cause" that would put him "on the other side, with the people who know they're alive." Rarely in theater has someone so confused been so eloquent. And that goes for all of John Patrick Shanley's characters in his 90-minute "watercolor." Everyone makes summary statements about life and the need to make fundamental choices: take the bird in the hand; forget the two in the bush. The play thinks its ideas for you. Rich goes back, in memory, to a time when he should have chosen between two women ("choose one, even the mad one," his uncle urged, "and let the other go"). But Rich preferred to suspend the moment just prior. The New Village Arts' excellent production makes mystical what the play renders explicit. Before a wall of stars, actors waltz expertly to





Strauss's "Blue Danube"; a rowboat actually rows across Nick Fouch's appealing, understated house-facade and restaurant tables set; a Dance of Death unfolds to Otis Redding's immortal "Try a Little Tenderness." Director Kristianne Kurner and choreographers Robin Christ (who performs the Dance of Death) and Kathy Meyer create the fluid dreamscapes everyone tells Rich to avoid. Manny Fernandes makes daydreaming Rich engaging and infuriating, since he refuses to climb down from his cloud. The playwright pens dialogue in HEADLINES. As gruff, sagacious Uncle John — and this is no mean feat — Doren Elias makes them seem spontaneous. Dressed in Jessica John's flowing summer silks, Amanda Morrow and Amanda Sitton charm as Lucy and Joan, the former "normal," she says, the latter a spirit medium. Morrow gets the best line. When Lucy pleads her case for Rich's love, she says that just because Ioan "can see around a corner once in a while doesn't make her sane.' Worth a try.

NEW VILLAGE ARTS, 2460 IMPALA DRIVE. CARLSBAD, THROUGH APRIL 29; THURS-DAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 760-433-3245.

San Diego Theatresports: The FunHouse

A cross between improvisational

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

Worth a try.

THE FUNHOUSE, 6822 EL CAJON BOULE-VARD (BETWEEN 68TH AND 69TH), COL-LEGE AREA, FRIDAY AT 7:45 P.M. SAT-URDAY AT 7:45 P.M. AND 9:45 P.M. 619-465-7469.

Smokey Joe's Cafe

The Welk Resort Theatre presents the musical theater revue based on the songs of Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller (among them: "Jailhouse Rock," "Poison Ivy," "Stand by Me," and "Why Do Fools Fall in Love?"). Sha Newman directed. WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8860 LAWRENCE WELK VILLAGE DRIVE, ES-CONDIDO, THROUGH MAY 20; TUESDAY THURSDAY, AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE TUESDAY THROUGH THURSDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 1:45 P.M. 760-749-8501.

The Sopranos' Last Supper

Dillstar Productions presents an evening with the notorious Baritone family: "gambling, dinner, dancing, and good old mobster fun." HOLIDAY INN ON THE BAY, 1355 NORTH HARBOR DRIVE, SAN DIEGO, OPEN-ENDED RUN; SELECTED SATURDAYS AT 7:30 P.M. 800-944-5639

System Wonderland

South Coast Repertory Theatre stages David Weiner's comedy about a film school student meant to revive a flagging creative team. David Emmes directed. SOUTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE. JULIANNE ARGYROS STAGE, FRIDAY. APRIL 27, THROUGH MAY 13; TUESDAY THROUGH SUNDAY AT 7:45 P.M. MATI-NEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 714-708-5555.

Talking With

women for whom "enthusiasms become obsessions." D.J. Sullivan directed. SULLIVAN PLAYERS 1531 TYLER STREET, HILLCREST, SATURDAY, MAY 5, THROUGH MAY 27; FRIDAY AND SATUR-

The Sullivan Players present Jane

Martin's series of monologues by

DAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 858-274-1731.

The Treatment

Everything in Amy Chini's set is gray: the walls, the furniture, even the window-blinds. Jennifer Setlow's lighting, especially an overhead lamp casting a soft yellow pyramid onto the table, darkens the room even more. Eve Ensler's stage direction for her 90-minute drama says the set could be "a modern psychiatrist office or a torture chamber." For Moxie's production, Chini makes it both, which builds on the play's ruling metaphor: like psychiatrists, military interrogators are "trained to read people" and to get "confessions," which may include having to break down the patient/subject. The two characters in the tense 90-minute drama don't have names. Man was an interrogator who has, at the very least, post traumatic stress disorder from having to "soften up the animals" in a war zone. Woman is a military therapist trying (or is she?) to help him recover his mind.

They are amid a "new war" with "new rules," and both feel free to break them to achieve their aims. Ensler never names the war and has pared away so many details that the play runs on only one track (it feels more like a short story than a novel). Jennifer Eve Thorn and Matt Scott handle their assignments — i.e. playing unspecified people who know each other's tactics - quite well (though Scott tended to push for the madness on occasion). Delicia Turner Sonnenberg has directed with a sharp eye for shifts of status, making the stage a battlefield of dueling interrogators.

Worth a try.

LYCEUM THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA. DOWNTOWN, THROUGH APRIL 29. THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-544-1000.

Triple Espresso: A Highly Caffeinated Comedy

Hugh Butternutt's done his lounge act at the Triple Espresso Coffeehouse 20 years to the day. While patrons sip a house blend — "Grape, "Scandinavian Blizzard," or "Mokoko Cocoa Mocha" -- Hugh plays '70s tunes on the piano. He and his companions, here to celebrate Hugh's anniversary, got stuck in the '70s. The trio used to be Maxwell, Butternutt, and Bean, a comedy group that never went far. They're "losers," they admit, but not "ordinary" ones. And, hey, their reunion could help them face searing issues from their mediocre pasts. A formulaic story line? Yep. Straight from Forever Plaid. There's also the Forever Plaid problem: the three comedians are far too talented to play inept characters. One's a whiz at the piano Another's a first-rate mime, and the third's a crackerjack magician. The trio is so talented, when the plot has them complain of difficulties to over-

come, you wish they'd quit trumping up the pseudo-drama and get on with this highly entertaining, if lightweight show. (Note: the original cast members have been replaced.) Worth a try.

HORTON GRAND THEATRE, 444 FOURTH AVENUE, GASLAMP QUARTER, OPEN-ENDED RUN: WEDNESDAY AND THURS-DAY AT 7:30 P.M. FRIDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SATURDAY AT 5:00 AND 8:00 P.M. SUN-DAY AT 3:00 P.M. AND 7:00 P.M. 619-234-9583.

Two Trains Running

The Old Globe Theatre stages August Wilson's critically acclaimed drama about life at a Pittsburgh diner at the end of the 1960s. Seret Scott directed. OLD GLOBE THEATRE, SIMON EDISON CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, BALBOA PARK THURSDAY APRIL 26 THROUGH MAY 27; SUNDAY THROUGH WEDNESDAY AT 7:00 P.M., THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M.

MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT

Win, Place, or Die...My Jockeys Are Killing Me!

2:00 P.M. 619-234-5623.

Mystery Cafe Dinner Theatre presents James Pascarella and Patricia Harris-Smith's interactive "racetrack romp." It's opening weekend at Upson Downs, and the Thoroughbred Club'll never be the same. Pascarella directed. IMPERIAL HOUSE RESTAURANT, 505 KALMIA STREET, HILLCREST, OPEN-ENDED RUN: FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-544-1600.

W:t

Reviewed this issue. NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987D LOMAS SANTA FE, SOLANA BEACH, THROUGH MAY 13; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUN-DAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY (AND SOME SATURDAYS) AT 2:00 P.M. 858-481-1055.

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Tapas, Cuban Style

No matter how miserable the cheap red-eye flights, I love flying through Miami International, thanks to the Cuban food vendors in the airport — offering half-cups of strong, sweet coffee to wake me up in the morning-turned-afternoon, or juice-dripping *cubano* sandwiches of roast pork, ham, melted Swiss, and pickle to replace the airplane slop on the next leg of the journey, and for the next day's late breakfast. A *cubano* survives and sustains travel the way a muffalletta from New Orleans' French Market survives the automotive waltz across Texas.

But local Cuban restaurants don't fare as well. There aren't a lot of Cubans in San Diego, much less professional Cuban cooks who take pride in their profession. (Evidently, cooking is not a high-status job for Cubans.) Unless the restaurants are chef-owned, like the highly reputed Azafran in Oceanside and tiny Andre's in Bay Park, they typically disappear after a few months, like the last two I reviewed (Mambo and Taza Blanca). La Mesa's Habana, however, is part of a micro-chain based in Austin, Texas. Once it had endured a year, I figured the restaurant would last long enough to be worth spending some words on it. So I headed east with my friends Laurie and Francisco, the latter an Ecuadorian salsero (salsa dancer) enchanted with Cuban food and music.

Habana occupies a rambling old building that resembles a 1950s' roadhouse. You can eat on a fenced patio facing the parking lot, in a cozy cantina-bar under vivid oil portraits of famous Cuban musicians like Celia Cruz, or in a large dining room with tropical art and jungle houseplants. The dining-room windows furnish a view of a tropical mural. That outside wall is the exterior border of a "cigar garden," which also has tables and, at one end, a handsome fountain. But on a Thursday evening all regions were underpopulated — a Cuban couple, a Mexican couple, a mixed-nationality threesome in the cantina, and us. Habana was evidently not the place for the weary working woman's "somebody else cook for me" Thursday-night meal. Instead, the hungry crowds (a mixture of La Mesa gringos and Lemon Grove Latinos) come for the live music on Fridays and the salsa scene on Saturday nights, keeping the restaurant alive.

With our pick of tables, we should have cho-



sen a six-top instead of a four-top — you get a *lot* of food here. If you order combinations to share, the space soon fills with large ceramic platters, side dishes, salsas, and relishes, plus your salad-size white plates, water glasses, drinks, forks, and knives. No spoons, but they'll bring some if you ask.

Habana's weeknight forte proves to be its appetizers — and that may be all you need (plus a

slice of the devastating tres leches cake). The long menu offers 13 tapas, including a combination platter and four salads, plus a long list of entrées with plenty of seafood. (Cuba is an island, sí?)

Our dinner began with the most elaborate of the salads, the gigantic Ensalata Tropical — lettuce, tomato, cucumber, avocado, bell peppers, jicama, hearts of palm, and pine nuts. (Roasted fresh corn, listed on the menu, was AWOL.) The waitress brought the dressing separately, a vibrant red-wine vinaigrette. It was a highly satisfactory salad. For \$3 more, you can add mango-marinated sliced chicken breast or marinated poached tilapia (a mild freshwater farmed

fish typically sold frozen) finished with roasted coconut — well worth considering as the main course of a tapas meal.

With the salad, the waitress also brought fresh mango salsa, spicy green salsa, and a house-made

puréed hot red salsa made with habanero chiles (the name means "from Havana"), among the spiciest peppers on the planet. Although blessed with this amaz-

ing native chile, Cuban food isn't generally spicy. Despite West African ancestry in the population (which usually implies a love of hot pepper — think Bahia, Tobago, New Orleans, etc.), Cubans love garlic better. Speaking of which, there's one more sauce you should ask for — Spanish *mojo*, a gentle, savory concoction of onions, garlic, and olive oil, anchored by tangy lime juice. It's a cloudy pale liquid with diced onions aswim, and if you don't see it, request it. (It arrived with our entrées but would apply well to several of the tapas.) It's slightly more elaborate and complex than the Cuban *mojo* that's also available on the menu.

Habana

7777 University Avenue, La Mesa, 619-713-2011, www.hahanasandiego.com

HOURS: Monday—Thursday, 4:00–9:00 p.m.; Friday—Saturday until 10:00 p.m. or later; Sunday 10:00 a.m.—8:00 p.m.

PRICES: Starters, \$4–\$6 (combo, \$14); salads, \$3–\$9; sandwiches, \$9–\$11; entrées, \$10.50–\$17; kiddie plates, \$5–\$7. Combo entrées, \$14.50–\$16 per person. Happy hour weeknights 4:00–7:00 p.m., with half-price appetizers and cocktails at tables as well as bar. Sunday brunch buffet (10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.), \$16; \$4 more for unlimited brunch cocktails (champagne, mimosas, Bloody Marys, screwdrivers); kids, \$9.

CUISINE AND BEVERAGES: Cuban food, with a relatively extensive menu including numerous tapas. Full bar.

PICK HITS: Appetizers, especially tamal Yucatán, papa rellena (stuffed potato), yuca frita, alitas fritas (marinated chicken wings), salad tropical. Also tres leches cake. Friday and Saturday nights, combination entrée plate is popular.

NEED TO KNOW: Reserve for groups of six or

NEED TO KNOW: Reserve for groups of six or more and on weekends, including Sunday brunch. Plenty for vegetarians and vegans. Patio and "cigar garden" outdoor seating. Pick a large table if sharing. Live music Friday nights after 9:00 p.m., Saturday night salsa classes and dancing after 9:00 p.m. (\$8 cover, half-price with dinner). From downtown, take the 94 to Massachusetts Avenue exit, turn north after one mile onto University, then head east about a half mile.

Ratings reflect the reviewer's reaction to food, ambience, and service, with price taken into consideration. Menu listings and prices are subject to change.

Go to SanDiegoReader.com to find hundreds of past reviews.

We ordered a sampler platter of five appetizers, which arrived beautifully arranged on a huge, colorful ceramic platter. The knockout was the tamal Yucatán — a tamale wrapped in banana leaves (which add a sweeter, richer hint of flavor than the typical corn husk of northern Mexico). The masa inside was airy and sponge-

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like, and the pork filling (there's also a vegetarian option) was delicately moist. "This is wonderful," said Francisco. "I never had a tamale like this." I told him that my upstairs neighbor is Guatemalan, and every Christmas her mother comes to visit and makes about a hundred tamales, very similar to these really the best I've ever tasted. "She uses banana leaves, too," I said. "These taste a lot like hers, light and savory.'

Yuca frita (thick-cut steakfries of cassava root) were outstanding, too. Francisco grew up on these and gave Habana's rendition the nod. "Really light and fluffy, cooked quickly in very hot oil so they puff and don't get weighed down with grease," he said. We dipped them in every sauce on the table. All good. I was also fond of the spice-marinated chicken wings (alitas fritas) fried unbattered. They were moist, tender, richly seasoned, discreetly garlicky.

If your mouth is accustomed to Argentine empanadas (as at Puerto La Boca and Chula Vista's Tango) or the airborne Chilean cheese version (Berta's), Habana's dough may seem heavy in comparison, and the coarsely ground beef filling lacks the rich moisture of South America's stewed-beef stuffing. This pastry might work better with the threecheese filling or perhaps the spinach-and-mushroom option. The tostones con mojo are crisp-surfaced, weighty pancakes based on green plantain. They may be fine served hot. Served lukewarm, they grew heavier as they cooled. Despite the array of sauces, the garlicky mojo was missing in both its Cuban and Spanish renditions.

We added a couple of à la carte appetizers. Papa rellena is a huge ball of mashed potatoes (about double the size of a Hostess Sno-Ball) stuffed with well-seasoned ground beef and deep-fried to a goldenbrown puff. The Cuban version seems heavier than the classic Peruvian — about halfway to a Jewish potato knish — but it hit me happily in the comfortfood zone. Croquetas (with a choice of four fillings) didn't charm us as much. In Spain, when chicken is the stuffing, the croquette is decadently gooey inside and delicately crackly outside. Here, the chicken filling was dense and dry, and the exterior was a thick, heavy cornmeal dough resembling Venezuelan arepas. But reheated the next night, the coating had a sensuous, glutinous quality (like Chinese taro-based dim sum) when piping hot, so luscious that the filling plays second fiddle. Served barely warm at the restaurant, it's leaden.

Knowing we'd be moving on to entrées, we skipped a couple of potentially interesting starters. Maduros caramelized fried slices of ripe plantains - are almost foolproof and always delicious. For food-adventurers, mofongo is the closest you'll likely come to tasting Cuba's Afro-Caribbean culinary soul: mashed plantains combined with fried pork chunks (Cuban carnitas) or veggies (if you prefer), rolled into a ball. If that's not a direct transplant of West African foo-foo (sticky starch porridge with a little protein, the staple of the region), then what is?

Meanwhile, I sipped the two versions of mojitos the bar offers — the Cuban one and a larger "West Coast mojito" with a splash of lemon-lime soda in the mix. Both were extremely

The entrées let us down hard, particularly the "favorite dishes" (per the menu) arrayed on a sampler platter. On Friday or Saturday nights, when the restaurant fills up, this is the most popular order and probably a better bet — but on a quiet Thursday the cook must have been hypnotized by TV or grabbing a catnap. This came on the largest, prettiest ceramic platter of all, a great circle of colorful eye candy presenting carefully arranged disappointments. "Do you think they really use baby pig for lechon asado?" asked Francisco before it arrived. Laurie and I voiced skepticism and were lamentably correct. The pork loin not only came from a grown-up swine but was reheated to dry stringiness, although the Spanish mojo helped revive it a bit. Ropa vieja was a shocking anomaly, the ropa minus the vieja rectangles of pot roast, unshredded, minus the tomatoes, onions, and peppers that mark the difference between braised beef and "old clothes." Too bad. When complete, Cuban ropa vieja is a richer, more interesting dish than the fast-cooked Mexican version often found at local taquerias. (The menu describes the proper final version of the dish, not this aborted mutant.)

Even less attractive to the tastebuds was carne con papas,

a stew of pork, potatoes, and tomatoes, reheated either too long or too quickly, so that all the liquid reduced to a paste with a faintly burned undertone. The chicken fricassee evinced the same problems, if less blatantly. We also ordered an à la carte camarones saltados (shrimp Creole), which had the most lively seasonings of the entrées. But the shrimp was overcooked — the dish had been finished too soon and kept warm too long. The sad evidence points to a kitchen that needs closer supervision to monitor its timing (or maybe just to keep the cook[s] awake). The cooking improves when the heat is on — otherwise Habana wouldn't be drawing those heavy weekend crowds, diners who (as the owner tells me) order the entrée combo, lechon, ropa vieja, and seafood entrées.

But the huge array of side dishes were grand. My favorite was the arroz con gandules, a Puerto Rican dish of yellow rice with pigeon peas, which was moist and succulent. Congris (rice and black beans together, another dish hinting of Africa) was on the dry side. Both the Spanish red beans (with ground beef, bell peppers, and onions) and the Cuban black beans (same flavorings, minus meat) were luscious. Papa dolce roja — sweet red vam casserole topped with pecans — was delightful and dessert-like. (But the maduros, caramelized plantains listed on the menu with the combo, were missing.) If you want the sides without the entrées, you can get a combo dinner (\$15) called El Vegetariano with a choice of five items, including all of the above, except the meaty Spanish beans. If you're actually a vegetarian, that and a few veggie tapas and a salad will send you to (soy) hog heaven.

We'd eaten more than enough, but Laurie loves good desserts. A slab of tres leches cake thrilled us with firm-tender golden cake, luscious icing,

a pool of creamy vanillascented sauce around the base. This unabashed sensuality evoked the most luxurious Middle Eastern and Punjabi pastries.

I took home a Cuban sandwich for future study (and reheating). Like airport sandwiches, it was sized to feed one glutton, two starved voyagers, or three to four spaced-out redeye riders sliding between starvation and snores. Thick, crusty bread, like a good sub sandwich, held several inches of sliced roast pork, with a slice of roast ham at the bottom and Swiss and a pickle at the top. The pork was moister than the restaurant's lechon asado entrée - even if missing the garlicky pork drippings of the Miami International Airport sandwich. Habana's owner, who's visited Cuba, tells me that the airport's moist rendition is inauthentic — those he ate on the island were dryer. No way short of a time machine to tell whether the sandwich grew less iuicy under Fidel or more iuicy in Miami. Either way, it's still one of the Western Hemisphere's greatest culinary inventions, and Habana is one of a very few local restaurants that serve it.

ABOUT HABANA Ralph Flores, owner of Habana, is the younger brother of the owners of the original Habana in Austin, Texas, which won a local weekly's award for "Best Cuban Food" and was successful enough to open a second location. The family is Mexican American of Spanish and Basque ancestry. A businessman who worked for self-help guru Anthony Robbins (his wife still does), Ralph was closely involved in designing the Austin Habana's business, computer, and inventory systems. When he moved to the East County, he eventually opened a Habana in his own neighborhood, offering largely the same menu. "All the recipes emanated from my brothers'

restaurant in Austin," he says. "I've been to Cuba twice, mainly to study the music, and I thought that the passion of the people, the music, and a different cuisine would be a good fit for this neighborhood. I think diversity inspires the curious people.

"I was living in Del Mar with my wife and kids, but we couldn't stand the coastal fog. Finally we moved to Mount Helix, and I started to think about opening a business here. It just seemed full of opportunities. And it occurred to me that there are very few quality restaurants in this area — most of them are chains. I don't want to badmouth corporate restaurants, I've never had a bad meal at the Brigantine, but... Looking at how well my brother is doing, I said, 'We could probably do that here.' My brother said, 'Sure, just looking at the location, this has got great potential.' It had been a restaurant for years, it had a great history. So we decided to open a Habana.'

The location is a little difficult, because there isn't a lot of local shopping traffic on this stretch of University, and most of the patrons are necessarily local (since La Mesa is not a tourist or gourmet magnet). And refurbishing the sprawling old mom'n'pop restaurant (Jamar's) on University Avenue cost \$4 million, including replacing the collapsed

Staffing it professionally?

Priceless. "I can't be there every night, but I really work to empower my staff so they'll take responsibility for the restaurant's success," Flores says. "I've got a Cuban woman cooking in there now who is usually reliably good. So I don't know what happened when you were there. The problem is, a lot of restaurant staff here look at it as a temporary job while they're learning to do something else — there's a lot of drama in the restaurant business. We're not like more upscale restaurants, where the chef gets a big paycheck and a big ego and is working at it as a career." Learning the local community's eating habits didn't come instantly either. At first Habana was open weekdays for lunch, bringing in a paltry scattering of local merchants and their staffs, until Ralph realized that most local residents work outside of the neighborhood, and the jobless don't eat lunches out. Now the restaurant serves brunch and lunch on Sundays only. His message to customers: "If something's wrong, talk to the restaurant manager so he can make it right. If you have any complaints or suggestions, we value your honesty. We value our employees — but we want people with passion working here. There are a lot of people who are looking for jobs and really enjoy cooking. We are out to give people great food, great service, a good price, and

a great experience." ■





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he three Secret Service agents stand at the

"Seven?" asks Nacho.

"Seven," say the Secret Service guys.

Miguel Madera, fondly known as "Nacho" to

about every sailor in the Pacific Fleet, goes ahead and whacks seven patties down on his hot plate with the "slam" that gave his "Slamburgers" their name. And nobody in the bar's sayin' nothin', but everybody knows. Even these beefy guys in their shiny black shoes and curly-wire earpieces

could never make it through seven of Nacho's Slamburgers.

That can mean only one thing. They're taking half of them back to the Big Guy, waiting in the nearby Hotel Del. The nation's self-acknowledged number-one burger fanatic, President Bill Clinton. He could have ordered burgers from the Del, but no. He obviously sent his Secret Service guys out to Danny's, the sailors' bar on Coronado's Orange Avenue to get "the best burger in San Diego," according to countless surveys, Nacho's Slamburger.

So, okay. That was 1994. Nacho stayed at Danny's 18 years. When he left in 2004, burger aficionados about freaked. Word went forth. Find Nacho! But nobody did. Not that I heard of,

Who knew today would be the day? Today, I've been looking for lunch in all the wrong places, mostly Park Avenue with its swank Uptown prices. That's why I head down the plunge where University starts its long haul east, under that arched concrete bridge. I come to the first low, salmoncolored stucco building and a bright

red-and-yellow place with a Mayan pyramid sign. "El Sol. Mexican Restaurant. Nayarit Style. Best burgers. Sandwiches."

What the heck? Burger in hand's worth two in the bush. I dive in under the blue canopy to a

> little space with half a dozen tables. I go straight up to the serving hatch to a tiny kitchen and look into the eyes of — my God! Can it be? Nacho! Burgermeister to presidents! His face bursts into a

"My own place," he says, proudly. "Take a seat. My nephew will take your order."

I sit down, in shock. Feel like I've just found Howard Hughes.

Freddy, Nacho's nephew, comes over with a menu. "He tried retirement, but then he saw this place, and he had always dreamed of owning his own place, so he took it."

To get things going, I check the specials on the menu and go for the first I see, shrimp tostada, \$2.50. I order a coffee (\$1.50) too. The place is spotlessly clean. Big white floor tiles with red throw-mats, dark red skirting, yellow walls, white ceilings. Overhead fans, neon strips. The walls are dotted with Mexican ceramic suns. I count eight. And, from Coronado days, a black U.S. Navy Seal flag holds place of honor over the serving hatchway, along with the Virgin of Guadalupe, surrounded by paper flowers on the front wall.

Oh Lord, and he has a glass-front cooler labeled "Cerveza Fria." It's a little early, but...

I scan the menu. I'm just too late for breakfast. Pity. They have, like, three eggs with two sausage or bacon and toast for \$4.99; a carne asada steak with three eggs, beans, and tortilla

for \$6.99; omelets and breakfast burritos for three, four bucks, but only till 11:00 a.m. So now we're talking lunch, Mexican or American, including chimichangas, soups, tacos. I like the sound of the carne adobada seasoned pork plate, for \$6.99. Seafood dishes go for around \$9.00. Oh man. On the wall, Nacho advertises a dozen oysters in their shell for \$13.00. But here comes Freddy with my tostada de ceviche. That should fill the fish factor.

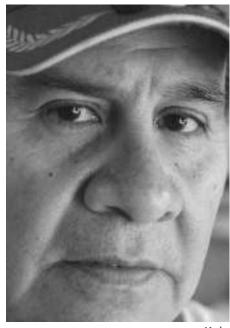
Besides, who am I kidding? From the king of presidential burgers, what else? I ask Freddy to have his uncle cook a cheeseburger with bacon and French fries (\$6.00).

I dive into my ceviche. Oh boy. Delicious, fresh, tart, packed with shrimp, onions, tomato, cilantro, and all on that crackling tostada. Plus, it's filling. At \$2.50, a bargain meal in itself.

And I get a beer, even though it's \$3.50, domestic or imported. In honor of Nacho's place, I get Sol ("Sun"), a beer they've been brewing in Monterrey, Mexico, "desde 1899." Wow. Goes so well with the ceviche.

When the burger comes, I'm ready. The bun, patty, cheese, and bacon sit on top of a pile of fries. The lettuce, tomato, big disc of red onion, and pickles are stacked in a separate pile. I scoop all that in under the top bun and crunch! We're away.

I mean, I'm no presidential burger expert, but it's a big, generous serving. What can I say? Plus the meat does have a certain juicy twang. We're talking literally 15 minutes of chomp, chew, swig, chomp, chew, swig, before I've conquered this thing. Halfway through I add a bit of Salsa Huichol, a hot one from Nayarit, plus Worcestershire, and Thousand Island, so now we're talking facemess, sideburn to sideburn. So-o-o good.



Nacho

"The secret's the meat and the spices," Nacho says. "I use only 20-percent-fat ground beef, and I put spices in. Garlic, black pepper, Mexican oregano, things like that."

That's as far as he goes. The rest even the Secret Service couldn't get out of him. And who knows, in a couple of years, they may be back, those Secret Service boys. And President Clinton may have them track Nacho down to cook seven more burgers — for the First Gentleman, natch. ■

The Place: El Sol Mexican Restaurant, 2037 University Avenue, 619-298-0874 Type of Food: American, Mexican

Prices: Carne asada steak breakfast with three eggs, beans, tortilla, \$6.99; three eggs, two sausages or bacon, toast, \$4.99; potato, egg, cheese burrito, \$3.60; shrimp tostada, \$2.50; carne adobada (pork) plate, \$6.99; Siete Mares ("Seven Seas") soup, \$11.00; dozen oysters in shell, \$13.00; cheeseburger, bacon, fries, \$6.00; double cheeseburger, onion rings, \$8.50; mega burrito (12 oz. carne asada, guacamole), \$6.50; California burrito (carne asada or chicken, potato, sour cream, cheese), \$4.99; shredded beef taco, \$1.99

Hours: 9:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m., daily

Buses: 7, 7A, 7B, 10

Nearest Bus Stops: *University and Florida* (7, 7A, 7B); *University and Park* (10)





Dinner for Two just \$ 1499*

2 soups or salads, 2 entrées (lasagna, ravioli, spaghetti or manicotti), and garlic bread.

Dine-in or pick-up.

3755 Murphy Canyon Road (next to Holiday Inn at Aero Dr.) 858-292-9111 Mon.-Sat. 11 am-9 pm

*Must present ad. Expires 5/10/07.





18 San Diego *Reader* April 26, 2007



La Jolla 634 Pearl Street 858-454-2500 Costa Mesa 949-645-8384 Studio City 818-788-6354

Please call for reservations. Order one dinner and receive \$10 off the second dinner. One coupon per couple, maximum three coupons per party. Dine-in only. No sharing, Not valid with any other offer or on holidays. Expires 5-10-07. With this ad.





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Buy one frozen yogurt and get second of equal or lesser value free. Offer expires April 30, 2007. Expiration dates are renewed the last week of each month. Coupon not valid on holidays.

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Reader Coupons 619-235-3000

15% off your entire bill or buy one lunch, get one free



Not good with any other promotions or discounts. Lunch served between 11 am 3 pm. Offer expires April 30, 2007. Expiration dates are renewed the last week of each month. Coupon not valid on holidays.



Dublin Square

Absolutely everything shipped from Ireland, including some of the staff! Full traditional Irish menu - steaks, seafood and salads

554 4th Avenue, San Diego, 619-239-5818

Reader Coupons 619-235-3000

\$12 off 2nd entrée



Monday-Friday 5-7 pm. Buy any dinner entrée and get a second entrée of equal or lesser value discounted up to a max value of \$12. 15% gratuity will be added to the total bill before discount. Offer expires April 30, 2007. Expiration dates are enewed the last week of each month. Coupon not valid on holidays



Saska's

One coupon per couple. Please present this coupon upon ordering. No to-go orders. Not valid with other specials, promotions or on holidays

3768 Mission Boulevard, Mission Beach, 858-488-7311

Reader Coupons 619-235-3000

2 for 1 entrée

Buy 1 full-price entrée, receive 2nd of equal or lesser value free. \$20 maximum discount. 17% gratuity will be added to original amount. 3 coupons per table maximum. No separate checks. Offer expires April 30. 2007. Expiration dates are renewed the last week of each month. Coupor not valid on holidays.

The Boathouse

Lunch, Brunch or Dinner. Not valid with specials and Happy Hour items.



2040 Harbor Island Drive, 619-291-8011 boathouserestaurant.com

Reader Coupons 619-235-3000

Pacific Beach, Mission Beach & Ocean Beach

Atoll at the Catamaran Hotel

Canes Free wing basket

Chateau Orleans 50% off

Costa Brava Free tapa for lunch

French Gourmet Free dessert

Great Moon Buffet 10% off total bill

Gringo's Free appetizer at lunch

Lahaina Beach House Free breakfast

Pacific Beach Bar & Grill 2 for 1 entrée

Pacific Rotisserie **Free entrée**

Sam's by the Sea

Saska's **\$12 off second entrée**

Strawberry Frozen Yogurt Free frozen yogurt

TJ Oyster Bar 2 for 1 tacos/tostadas

Tower Two Beach Cafe **\$3 breakfast on the beach**

La Jolla

Cafe Milano Free Comedy Store tickets

Cendio

Clay's La Jolla

La Jolla Brew House **Free lunch or dinner entrée**

Marrakesh 50% off lunch

Regents Pizzeria Free large salad

Su Casa 20% off entire check•

Trattoria Bella Vita 2 for 1 Italian entrée

Vida Gourmet

North Country

Biq Jim's Old South Bar-B-Q **50% off entrée**

Calypso Free appetizer

Greek Village Free saganaki

Jamroc 101 Free island sampler Ki's Restaurant Free appetizer or dessert

Mikko Japanese 50% off sushi

Noodles & Company

Pho Lucky 10% off entire check

South Bay & Coronado Lai Thai 50% off entrée

Mariscos La Costa Azul Free combo plate Mea Kwan Thai 20% off entrée

Clairemont, University City, Miramar Rd.,

Poway, Mira Mesa, Scripps Ranch & Kearny Mesa

Ashoka the Great 50% off lunch or dinner

D'Amatos Pizza Italian dinner for two \$29.95

Filling Station Free appetizer

Honey's Cafe Joe's Pizza 2 large pizzas \$20.99

La China

Pampas Free empanada

Philadelphia Sandwich Co. Free sandwich

RB Sushi 20% off entire check

Thai Cafe **\$1 off buffet**

Midway, Old Town & Mission Valley

The Amigo Spot 15% off bill

Bali Thai Free entrée

Bennigan's \$5 off lunch or dinner

Forever Fondue **2 for 1 entrée**

Old Town Mexican Cafe

Paradise Yogurt **50 cents off a smoothie**

Pizza Bella Free wine dinner

Shanghai Chinese \$1 off Mongolian BBQ

Tio Leo's **Dinner combos \$8.99 each**

Todai 10% off lunch or dinner

East County & State College

Fix Me A Plate Cafe 15% off any entrée Greek Town Buffet 50% off dinner buffet

Habana Cuban Free appetizer Lucky Star Buffet 50% off dinner

Shakey's Pizza **Lunch buffet \$5.15**

Windy City Beef **1/2 off menu item**

Uptown & North Park

A La Française

Awash Ethiopian 1/2-price entrée

B Fried Rice

Brazil By The Hill 1/2-price entrée

Hob Nob Hill **\$2 off entrée**

House of India Free dinner

India Princess Free dinner

Lips 50% off dinner

Rudford's \$2 off entrée

Downtown & Point Loma

Blue Water Seafood 25% off

The Boathouse **2-for-1 entrée**

Dublin Square 15% off or free lunch Embers Grille 50% off entrée

The Field Free lunch

Hard Rock Café

Hornblower Cruises

House of Blues 20% off restaurant receipt

Humphrev's

Jewel Box 2 for 1 entrée

The Local **\$3 Thursdays**

Lotus Thai Cuisine Free entrée

McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant

Mister Tiki Mai Thai Lounge

Olé Madrid 2 for 1 lunch or brunch entrée

RA Sushi

Rei do Gado

Rock Bottom

Samba Grill 1/2 off all-you-can-eat Brazilian feast

Sevilla

The Shout House

St. Tropez Bakery-Bistro 10% off •

Thai Time II Free fried spring rolls

Visions 25% off sushi

Whiskey Girl

Xavier's Free appetizer



Sauvignon Misunderstood

"Those of us who had been wringing our hands all that time in California said, 'Well, yeah.'"

ohn Buechsenstein likes Riesling — always has. Why, Riesling was among the first wines he helped to make, back when he was just starting out at Joseph Phelps in the early '80s, fresh out of UC Davis and working with Cali-

fornia wine pioneer Walter Schug. He admires Riesling's acidity and, especially, its aromatics. ("It has marvelous turpines," he says, referring to the volatile flavor compounds that leap up from a wine and tickle the olfactory bulb.) It's just that he doesn't think it merits the title of "Most Versa-

tile, Most Food-Friendly White Wine on the Planet." For that, he turns to Sauvignon Blanc.

Why? "Riesling doesn't have the pyrazines, and hardly any of the thiols that Sauvignon Blanc has." Pyrazines "are what's responsible for the way a bell pepper smells, along with lemongrass and a whole host of herbal smells. And gooseberry, which smells vegetal and berrylike at the same time." They also give Sauvignon Blanc its characteristic grassy character — "green grass, dry grass, hay..." Thiols, on the other hand, offer up aromas of "passionfruit, grapefruit, pineapple guava, and mango." Also cat's pee. These flavors, notes Buechsenstein, "are very well elaborated these days, thanks in part to some

great researchers in Bordeaux, and also in New Zealand. The entire country of New Zealand has mobilized all its universities for what they call the Sauvignon Project. They're teasing out what all of these individual aromas are."

It's not terribly surprising that New Zealand should be leading the charge on this one. They've gone a long way toward making the wine their own — starting with their willingness to make Sauvignon Blanc that tastes like itself. "In the late '70s and '80s," recalls Buechsenstein, "we were making

Sauvignon Blanc in California that was fruit-driven and grassy. People said, 'What's that?' Our response was, 'That's what Sauvignon Blanc fruit tastes like. Those are legitimate varietal flavors.' They said, 'I can't stand it.' So a lot of Sauvignon Blanc was either pulled out, mixed into white blends, or made in that Fumé Blanc style." (Fumé Blanc being Robert Mondavi's fanciful name for the grape as he rendered it — swaddled in a heavy layer of oak.) "We had 20 years of denial, making Sauvignon Blanc into the poor man's Chardonnay." What really sparked the grape's comeback was "the New Zealand wine industry. In the later '80s, they started bringing in Cloudy Bay and Kim Crawford, and people tasted it and

said, 'Wow, that's racy, that's zappy. We love that.' And those of us who had been wringing our hands all that time in California said, 'Well, *yeah*.'"

As it turned out, a few other regions were making Sauvignon Blanc as well. Some (Chile, South Africa) were relative newcomers to the wine scene; others (Austria, Slovenia, Italy, France) had been at it for quite some time. "One of the reasons it's so fascinating for me is that it expresses itself in different schools of flavor."

The schools:

1. Stylized. "People stylize to beat the band," even in these days of varietal correctness. "They'll do anything with anything, just to see

anything with anything, just to see if it will sell." That touches a little bit on...

2. Fruity. In order to contain all those fruity esters and thiols, you've got to find a way to keep your juice from releasing them into the oxygen. You've got to practice what Buechsentein calls "reductive winemaking. Basically, it's a lot more anal" than more traditional, "oxidative" practices. "You've got to take care of the grapes, keep them cold, keep them away from oxygen. In New Zealand, much of the Sauvignon is machine-harvested, and it comes in looking like lentil soup. That would be a big tub of oxygenated juice, so they take CO₂ pellets and throw them in. The CO₂ just bubbles out, which makes it less likely that oxygen will go in, and the truck goes down the road looking like a witch's cauldron." It's a New World sort of practice — better winemaking through technology.

Not to say that slightly oxidized Sauvignon Blanc is a bad thing. Wine made with a little less

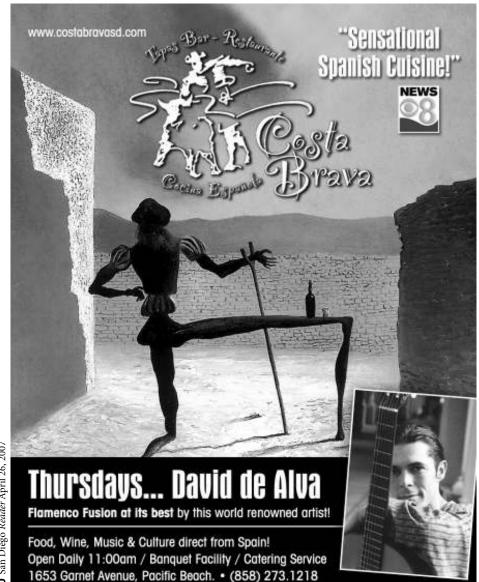
SAUVIGNON REPUBLIC CELLARS

EXPLORING THE WORLD FOR GREAT NAUVIGNON BLANC

fussing over total control produces...

3. Veggie-Grassy-Herbal. "They're two legitimate styles," says Buechsenstein. "It's just that these grapes may get more handling, more oxygen contact. Winemakers may rely on spontaneous fermentation instead of inoculation. They may not control temperature as much during fermentation. They may age the wine in passive oak." It all sounds a little old school, and in fact, it is. "A lot of times, the Old World wines are more austere, leaner. Minerality seems to crop up more often."

The result: a varietal that varies widely depending on the *terroir* and winemaking practices that surround it. Eventually, wine-friendly chef John Ash and longtime winemaker/winery manager Paul Dolan hit upon the idea of starting a company that would market one varietal — Sauvignon Blanc — in order to showcase its tremendous variability. They would pull from all over the world (giving them the delicious ad-







vantage of new releases every six months, thanks to the reversed growing seasons in the northern and southern hemispheres), and they would build a brand: Sauvignon Republic.

Ash and Dolan turned to Buechsenstein to be their Chief Explorer, a title he happily accepted. "I'll do a year's worth of homework in advance," he explains. "I'll get to know people. Before I go to an area, I'll have tasted a lot of wine and made contact with a lot of people. I tell everybody our production mission, and there are always people who want to work with us. I taste everybody's wines, look at their facilities, make sure they can carry it off. Eventually, we narrow it down to one producer who will work with us, help us to locate growers, buy fruit, and vinify it. I supervise, albeit from a distance. I talk to people all the time, and then, finally, I go over to work on a blend," to be released under the Sauvignon Republic label. So far, the company sells wine from California, New Zealand, and South Africa, and Buechsenstein has found an agreeable producer in Italy. Eventually, he plans to carry wines from all eight regions.

It's notable that his first three wines are New World and that every one of them is under screwcap. A modern touch, but one that may eventually become standard, even in such a tradition-rich winegrowing nation as France. "They're starting to go through

wholesale changes over in France, because wine is not selling. I think exports are down 30-40 percent from France to North America in the last few years. People are going out of business. So the EU is loosening up policies about things that it used to prohibit, things that will allow the producer to compete a little bit better."

But while that might one day mean Screwcaps for All, such a policy also carries risks. It's part of the reason why Sauvignon Republic exists. "Wherever you go in the Sauvignon Blanc world," says Buechsenstein, "people are upgrading. They're replanting vineyards, trying to access good technology, trying to clean up their act. But in many cases, I fear this is going to be at the expense of some of those traditional flavors, those things we associate with terroir in certain regions. We have to guard against this. One of our visions is to try to educate people about these flavors and their specific origins, so that people will learn to appreciate them. If no one appreciates them, there will be no demand, and someday, all our white wines will taste alike. We want to glory in this diversity; we want to emphasize it and support it." ■

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 over-looking Highway 101, the menu offers Armenian specialties cooked with a Lebanese accent as well as generic Middle Eastern crowd pleasers, including gyros 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, glo rified nut-filled lamb meatball) is outstanding, as is her kashta lea dessert – an exotic nutmeg sponge cake fragrant with rosewater syrup, topped with pistachios and thickened cream. Dinner platters constitute a full meal, including a great "Armenian salad" and a tasty dip for the meat, along with less than-great egg-lemon 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, non-greasy shreds, served with fresh, cilantro-laden 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 shredded 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 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 short-grain rice, mild housemade 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 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 delibut has come to embrace diner food pub grub, and Italian and Mexican favorites, along with a full cast of Ashkenazi noshes. 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. — N.W. (4/05)

The Original 101 Diner 552 First Street, Encinitas, 760-753-2123. This is where the caviar crowd from Rancho roots. It's got all the deliberately downhome cooking you could want, in-cluding 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 gen-uine part of Encinitas life — lines on the weekends will tell you that. Open for breakfast and lunch daily. Inexpensive. — 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 oftenchanging 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.

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

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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, mesquitegrilled chicken, sun-dried tomatoes, artichoke hearts, and feta ("Pizza Carls-bad"), 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 umbrella-shaded patio is right at water's edge. Lunches run to sandwiches, burgers, and fried seafood of ordinary competence and uneven preparation: won-derfully 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 veggie 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 vegan-veggie 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 tomato 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 dinner (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 bestknown dish - 14 variations of threeeggers (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 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-icecream 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 cuising which is simpler and more natural than the French equivalent. You'll find inventive combinations of firstclass ingredients, skillfully executed and beautifully presented with none of the culinary clichés of the "mamma mia" joints. Reservations urged. Valet parking free for diners. "Resort-casual" no hats, shorts or jeans, or sandals 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 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.

NORTH INLAND

Asia Vous 417 West Grand Avenue Escondido, 760-747-5000. Chef-owner Riko Bartolomei produces outstand-ingly 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, house-cured hamachi atop a flower-like heirloom tomato man dala, and a Kurobata pork shank treated like French "confit" but light-ened 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. 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.) "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 (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 City 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 offers 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 eat-ing there's an Oyster 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, office-lunch 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)

Children 5-12 \$18.95

Under 5 years eat free.

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 California-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 compromises. 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 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 re-fills as desired. Five vegetarian entrées and a kiddie menu available; casual atmosphere. Full bar specializing in margaritas, of course. Open daily,

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)

lunch (or brunch) and dinner.

N.W. (9/03)

LA JOLLA

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 dupli-cated anywhere. Fresh fish and seafood. Moderate to expensive. — E.W. (7/99)

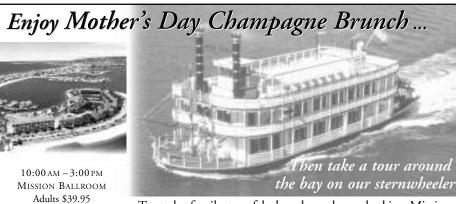
Barbarella 2171 Avenida de la Playa, La Jolla Shores, 858-454-7373. This popular restaurant sits nestled in an English garden just blocks from the beach. You can dine amidst the flora at street-side tables, in the enclosed patio, or in the small dining room. Once you're seated, the friendly staff provides fresh-out-of-the-oven sourdough wheat bread to nibble on. The menu changes daily, offering fresh fish, steak chicken, pastas, soups, and pizzas, all cooked with a twist of imagination that delivers on the flavor. For instance: pizza topped with smoked salmon, crème fraîche, chives, and fried capers. Or delicate Alaskan halibut served over creamed spring onions with a watercress salad. If a fresh fruit crêpe happens to be on the dessert menu, leap on it! Open for lunch and dinner daily. — S.M. (4/04)

Come On In! 1030-B Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla, 858-551-1063. (Also at 10184 Telesis Court, Sorrento Valley, 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)

Daily's Restaurant 8915 Towne Centre Drive, La Jolla, 858-453-1112. The idea is brilliant: Just serve food that's really, really good for your customers. Low fat, low calorie, low sodium. Brainchild of cardiac surgeon







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2040 Harbor Island Dr. • 619.291.8011 boathouserestaurant.com • FREE PARKING Pat O. Daily. So what's the problem? It's the "B" word. Bland. Not that they don't fight heroically to make all the dishes interesting, but lots of items have that lentil-y, bean-y feel. Or naked salad-y. Or steam-up-your nose veggie. Among the more interesting choices is the Cajun chicken with black beans and brown rice with cayenne-pa-prika in the spices. The most popular lunch order, the buffalo burger, has a little gamy aftertaste — but that just proves it is the legendarily lean prairie beast. Nice outside seating in Restaurant Row, except you've gotta resist the smells from the more wicked eateries that aren't on the same crusade. Inexpensive. Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. — E.B. (1/06)

Donovan's Steak and Chop **House** 4340 La Jolla Village Drive, 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 ise-made tartar sauce. The wet-aged prime beefsteaks are seasoned with sea salt and pepper and cooked on a gas grill precisely 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 cheesecake 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)

The Marine Room 2000 Spindrift Drive (off Torrey Pines Road), La Jolla, 858-459-7222. High cuisine, high adventure, high seas — at only moderately high prices. With chef Bernard Guillas as top toque, the Ma-

rine Room has become the quintessential great San Diego restaurant. The exhilarating coastal view meets Cal-French-Pacific Rim cuisine that's as exuberantly out-front as the waves whacking the windows. Guillas's oceanic culinary inventiveness with ul-tra-fresh, exotic ingredients makes every visit a voyage of discovery, and preparations are so elaborate that each listing on his precise menu reads like a whole tasting dinner. Reservations requested; slightly dressy but not stuffy Easiest route: Make a right from west bound Torrey Pines onto Roseland or Viking and go left on St. Louis, which runs into Spindrift. Wheelchair ramp to the left of front door. Noisy when crowded. Dinner nightly, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Expensive. — *N.W.* (9/02)

Michele Coulon Pastries 7556-D Fay Avenue (across the street from Vons parking lot), La Jolla, 858-456-5098. The daughter of Don Coulon (retired chef-owner of The Belgian Lion restaurant) presides at this delightful little café/bakery. (Look for it behind the octagonal sandwich shop that fronts its mini-mall.) Every ingredient is fresh and of top quality. Cakes are light, moist, rich, and available as wholes, slices, and even "miniatures," plus you can choose tarts, chocolates, ice creams, and breakfast pastries. Open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Moderate. — N.W. (5/02)

Nine-Ten Restaurant Grande Colonial Hotel, 910 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-964-5400. Chef Jason Knibb's level of craftsmanship shows a culinary sophistication that would be at home in San Francisco or New York. You'll find adventurous, seasonal cuisine emphasizing "market fresh" local produce (much of it organic or sustainably raised), naturally raised meats and wild seafood. It's not just the food that's fresh - the ideas are, too, and the flavor-matches are flawless. The wine list is superb, and new personnel in the front of the house have brought up the standard of service. Validated valet parking, full bar. Reservations urged. Open daily, three meals. Expensive. —

Sante Ristorante 7811 Herschel Avenue, La Jolla, 858-454-1315. The

name is Italian for "saint," and the Northern Italian/regional cooking shines here, especially the fish and seafood dishes. Fresh seafood specials are available every night, in addition to those on the menu. Excellent pasta with mushrooms, ravioli with quail, and lamb chops. Separate room for bar; separate private dining room. Lunch Monday through Saturday, dinner nightly. Enclosed patio for lunch. Not to be missed. Moderate (pastas) to expensive. — E.W. (4/99)

Sushi on the Rock 7734 Girard Avenue, La Jolla, 858-456-1138. This noisy, high-energy spot — a boxy, sa loon-like space with a sushi bar in back — draws a lively twenty-something crowd (although older folks will have plenty of company, too). Unlike more traditional sushi bars, there's a vast selection of "rock and rolls" huge, creative party sushi. And they're fabulous, with sparkling fresh seafood and immensely clever combinations. Try, for instance, the shrimp tempura roll, which wraps fried shrimp, crab shreds, *daikon* sprouts and Japanese mayo in deep-fried salmon skin — the combo would be just as impressive as an appetizer at a top Cal-French restaurant. The Orange Crush is another sublime invention, fresh and crunchy with veggies and *tobiko* wrapped in suave salmon. Even simple rolls are so well conceived, and the rice so nicely seasoned, you won't need soy-wasabi dip. No reservations, long waits (in cramped entryway) on weekends. Good sake list. Lunch weekdays, dinner nightly, with deep discounts for happy hour specials. Moderate. Second (quieter, but with full bar) location at 1923 Calle Barcelona, Car 760-436-6261. — N.W. (11/04) Carlsbad,

Tapenade 7612 Fay Avenue, La Jolla -551-7500. This is not only one of the finest restaurants in the county but in the country. Featuring sunny Provencal 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 top-quality seafood, with garnishes that display 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 firstclass dinner — the sixes will do in the easy bistro atmosphere. Serving lunch (including a moderate two-course prix fixe) weekdays, and dinner daily (including bargain-priced three-course prix fixe "sunset dinners" Sunday through Thursday). Otherwise, expensive to very expensive, and worth it. — N.W. (9/03)

Zenbu 7660 Fay 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, featuring 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)

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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 bet-ter 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

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Calendar Restaurants

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)

King's Fish House 825 Camino de la Reina (west of Mission Center Drive), Mission Valley, 619-574-1230. To find King's in the mega-mall, go slightly west of Koo Koo Roo and follow the line of cars to the free valet parking. It's a chain, but it's a classy chain, offering fish and seafoods of a quality that's well above average, including crustaceans from a live tank and a half-dozen varieties of pristine oysters. Generously-sized entrées come with soup or salad (including a Caesar that's above suspicion) and two hefty side dishes. The vast menu of American-style preparations changes daily to reflect the fresh catch, and includes some rotating regional specialties (e.g., New Orleans, Hawaii, New England). Don't miss the prawn pot-sticker appetizer, if available, and for dessert, the miraculously light bread pudding. The atmosphere is good-timey (with two

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patios and a barroom as well as a dining room), the service is enthusiastic, and the management will accommodate special requests if you call ahead. Kiddie menu available. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Moderate. — *N.W.* (5/02)

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 sandwiches, 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 hormone-free. 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 mother-friendly play area. Inexpensive. — E.B. (5/02)

The Philadelphia Sandwich Co. 3904 Convoy Street (south of Othello), Kearny Mesa, 858-571-0888. This classic luncheonette is a monument to Philly culture, including sports pennants, historic photos, and colorful mummers' costumes. The menu is equally devoted to the city's cuisine, especially its two great cult sandwiches: the hoagie and the cheese steak. The mixed-meat hoagie is way more than a hero - its flavor array is similar to (and just as intense as) a New Orleans muffulletta. As for the cheese steak, it starts with steak strips, onions and your choice of cheese, and expands from there. Philly natives may like the simple version with Cheez Whiz, but the luscious "Everything" with provolone is more likely to seduce the innocent. "Philly fries" (with garlic) are the right go-with. The menu also offers Penn-sylvania-packaged foods ("Philadelphia

Scrapple" to go, Tastykakes, Wise potato chips) to nostalgic émigrés. Lunch to early dinner nightly. Inexpensive. — N.W. (10/04)

San Tong Palace 4690 Convoy Street (between Engineer and Balboa), Kearny Mesa, 858-571-6837. This unassuming, strip-mall restaurant is easy to overlook, but once found, impossible to resist. San Tong's hybrid Korean-Chinese menu draws from these regions' tastiest styles. The Rainbow Salad demonstrates this combination deliciously, and San Tong's dumplings are outstanding. The seafood dumplings are especially remarkable. For the adventurous, I recommend the jellyfish salad, a novel treat for westerners. At San Tong Palace, curious appetites are rewarded well. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive. — M.N. (4/99)

Seau's Mission Valley Center mall, 1640 Camino del Rio North (next to Robinsons-May), Mission Valley, 619-291-7328. Footballer Junior Seau contributes more to San Diego than just sacks. His extravagant multivenue sports pub is major league fun — a reallife reincarnation of some 1960s McLuhanite media art show, with 70 video screens (ranging from large-nor-mal to giant HDTV) running sportscasts and a professional DJ on high, periodically spinning cool sounds over muted talking heads. The menu offers mainstream "something for everyone" choices, including pizza, hefty but so-so burgers, some elemenherly but so-so burgers, some eterner-tary sushi, all-American entrées, and Seau's family recipe of Samoan teriyaki "plate lunch." Above all, there's pub grub. The chicken wings are pretty good, and you can get all three sauces (Buffalo, BBQ, and Asian) on one order. Perfect hangout for mismatched couples with one sports fan and one fashionista (the latter can head for Nordstrom and Saks discount outlets nearby). On game days, patrons are allowed just one game in the dining room (\$15 minimum), but you can linger from wake-up to closing on the patio or in the bar. Open daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — N.W. (1/03)

Seoul B.B.Q. 4344 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-505-8700. This Ko-

rean 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)

Tofu House 4646 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-576-6433. This stylish little eatery is proof positive that our city has matured for its specialty ethnic foods. Tofu House is a Korean restaurant serving up specialty tofu dishes. Flavorful, healthy foods. I highly recommend the *soontofu* soups (beef, pork, seafood, or mushroom) with rawegg drop you drop yourself and a side of tasty fresh kimchi. Deliver yourself from sorrowfully generic foreign food — Tofu House serves vivid ethnic food. Open daily. Inexpensive. — *M.N.* (2/99)

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 Avenue, 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, 858-270-9655. 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. This 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 nothing — you've got huevos. If you can't, the yolk's on you — \$19.99. My advice: split a 4-egger. Open 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily. Inexpensive. — E.B. (2/04)

Cafe Athena Pacific Mall, 1846 Garnet Avenue (at Lamont), Pacific Beach, 858-274-1140. With a more upscale, eye-catching decor and a longer and more serious menu than most Greek cafés, this is a popular destination, so be sure to reserve for dinner or you'll risk a long wait. The choices include good soups and appetizers (except for a sub-par taramasalata), outstanding moussaka, above-average gyros, and interesting, unusual desserts. There's plenty for vegetarians. Rather noisy when crowded. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to low moderate. — N.W. (3/02)

Cantina Panaderia 966 Felspar Street (at Cass), Pacific Beach, 858-272-8400. This cheerful café instantly became a gathering spot for many PB-ites, including the forsaken population of adults. Chef-owner Isabel Cruz, who calls herself "Food Girl," has imported much of her Mission Cafe menu of Latin-Asian-sortahealth-food to the beach. A self-confessed "lazy cook," she focuses on wholesomeness rather than authenticity. Breakfast and lunch are the main meals here and include competent eggs, luscious scrambled eggs, huge sandwiches, and weighty slabs of coconut

French toast. Competent Latin-style dishes include tamales with airy masa. Devotees of Southeast Asian cuisines, however, may be disappointed by the simplistic stabs in that direction. If your dish is too mild, house sauces (chili oil, salsa, chipotle sauce, etc.) are available on request. Beer and wine. Small, free front parking lot; pay lot across the street at west end of the block. Three meals daily; closed 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Inexpensive to low moderate. — N.W. (10/04)

Costa Brava 1653 Garnet Avenue (at Jewel), Pacific Beach, 858-273-1218. Cordial owner-host Javier Gonzalez opened this charming restaurant so that local Spaniards would have a place to gather with an authentic atmosphere of home, and indeed, the "Euro" atmosphere and late hours give a truly Iberian feel. The lively garlic-rich dishes here include a wide array of tasty tapas and, among the entrées, a paella that's made to order (sized to serve two or four; call ahead for larger groups). Patio seating in good weather. Parking lot and wheelchair access via the alley behind the restaurant. Open daily 11 a.m. to midnight, with bargain prices at Sunday brunch. Reservations advised for weekend evenings. Moderate. N.W. (2/02)

The Fishery 5040 Cass Street, Pacific Beach, 858-272-9985. Pacific Shellfish Seafood Company founder Judd Brown got his start as a commercial fisherman. He doesn't fish anymore, but he does everything else - supplying product to top-tier restaurants, re-tailing glistening specimens to hungry shoppers and serving patrons who want to dine in amid the icy-blue walls and gorgeous trophy fish. The Fishery's menu is equally extensive, covering So-Cal basics (excellent mahi-mahi burrito), lunchtime standards (sandwiches, fine malt-dredged fish and chips), sushi, and an ambitious lineup of dinnertime entrées, some of them whimsically creative (tortilla-encrusted Mexican black bass). If ambition occasionally outstrips execution, an obsession with freshness helps compensate, and you get the sense that things are getting better all the time. The wine list is relatively inexpensive and carefully











selected. Casual atmosphere. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Moderate to expensive. — A.M. (12/03)

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. Sometimes 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)

Humphrey's by the Bay 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island, 619-224-3577. Most diners at this resort/concert venue restaurant eat at the prix fixe pre-show dinners because they guarantee good seats for the concerts at the next-door ampitheatre. But better food emerges once the music-mavens leave the premises. The kitchen features fine seafood, juicy meats, and prime steaks with seasonal veggie garnishes. Preparations are pleasing but in no way startling — it's a hotel restaurant, after all. Reserve for show-nights or to snare a window table with a gorgeous marina view. Free parking when there's no concert, valet parking when there is. Dining room pleasantly quiet. Open daily breakfast through dinner; brunch buffet Sunday. Pre-show prix fixe upper moderate, à la carte expensive/very expensive. — N.W. (2/06)

Kabuki Sushi Restaurant 4475 Mission Boulevard (entrance on Garnet), Pacific Beach, 858-270-1986. This place has a unique system of delivering tempting dishes to you via boats floating along a mini-canal that surrounds the sushi bar. You take food off and pay according to the plate size. The sushi chefs — they can be a show in themselves — have the usual panoply of sushi, sashimi, nigiri. The dragon rolls (crab, shrimp tempura, eel, avocado) and spider roll (soft-shelled crab) are tasty too. It's young and crowded here - is that because you don't have to sweat the menu, just grab what you like off the boat and chew? Open for lunch and dinner Tuesday to Saturday; dinner only Sunday; closed Monday. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B. (1/04)

Kaiserhof 2253 Sunset Cliffs Boulevard, Ocean Beach, 619-224-0606. Even on weeknights, crowds fill this restaurant and biergarten, chowing down on hefty, hearty German cooking in a festive atmosphere. Flavors are authentic, but can be monotonous due to the kitchen's reliance on commercial products (especially a heavy-flavored beef base that makes all the sauces taste alike). Good schnitzels, potato pancakes. The excellent apple strudel is the only dessert made in-house. Reservations advised, especially for patio seating. Full bar. Lunch Friday through Sunday, dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Moderate. — N.W. (6/02)

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 something for every palate. The most desirable tables (available first come first served) are on a lovely fireplaceheated 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)

Red Sails 2614 Shelter Island Drive. Shelter Island, 619-223-3030. One of the city's oldest eateries has been renovated to look like it always has, but fresher. The dining rooms resemble those on a river paddleboat or a small, rakish cruise ship, while the bayside

patio is a funky waterside pleasure, beset by pigeons. The menu runs to simple seafood and steaks (wet-aged USDA Choice), but quality is uneven. Tasty starters include briny littleneck clams on the half-shell, an interesting clam chowder, and a classy house salad (but ask for vinegar and oil on the side to dress it). The coconut shrimp entrée is a good, guilty pleasure, but the fin-fish and fried entrées taste like supermarket frozen food. For the starch accompaniment, baked potato is the most flavorful option. Full bar, strong cocktails, weak wine list. Kiddie menu available. Daily three meals until 11 p.m. Low moderate. *N.W.* (10/04)

Saska's 3768 Mission Boulevard, Mission Beach, 858-488-7311. Venerable, local steak-and-seafood joint that tries harder, from the broth-thin homemade terivaki sauce (sweet up front, fading to bitter ginger) for the well-cooked (if mild-flavored) fish to the cut-on-the-premises 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 twostory 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 bistro-style 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 teriyaki 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 presence 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 or-ders 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 Cajon 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 delicious 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

Huffman's Bar-B-Que 5039 Imperial Avenue (at Euclid), Chollas View, 619-264-3115. This café has a huge multigenerational following, some famous - check out their wall photos, in which Jesse Jackson and Muhammad Ali are just two - and some not so famous. The big draw is Huffman's fabulous Southern soul food. Try their gravy-smothered fried chicken served with collard greens, yellow peppers, red beans, rice, and white mopping-up bread, or their Louisiana Creole gumbo, thick with crab, shrimp, links, ham, and chicken. Other fine eats include the catfish sandwich and halfpound rib tips. Open daily, lunch and dinner, to 11 p.m. weekdays, 1 a.m. Friday and Saturday. Inexpensive. — E.B. (11/00)



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Krakatoa 1128 25th Street, Golden Hill, 619-230-0272. This used to be an abandoned property. Now the swampgreen 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 Beardslev), 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 vears, 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 fea-tures local ingredients and made-fromscratch 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 comosition but in palatability. Good ones include chicken curry, linguisa, Polynesian pork. Venturesome international wine list at low markups, plus international 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 reserva-tions. 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 padded-leather wooden chairs, the chainsaw-weathered 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 userfriendly, sweetness muting the spice in the salsa and the Ranchero sauce. The Camarones Tequila is a little more exciting; the sweetness of its baconwrapped 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 dinner 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 Bar**becue** 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), "Giddy-up" (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 Caion 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 Boule-

vard, College Area, 619-287-3536. Don't ask what's in the "dynamite" sauce (besides the obvious mavo and smelt roe) — it's a house secret, one the restaurant dangles before you in numerous contexts. Try it baked onto the rich, everything-goes 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 seaweed 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, straw-berry 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 Bordeaux. 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)

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)

Bombay Exotic Cuisine Of India

3975 Fifth Avenue (between University

El Agave 2304 San Diego Avenue (at Old Town Avenue), Old Town, 619-220-0692. Reservations recommended. 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" that grows on corn ears. (In English it's called "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 standard fare to better approximate the divine. So do the sublime core flavors of the meats — the chicken in the taco and







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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 coffee-shop prices, especially with the all-day breakfasts and sandwiches, not to mention 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 à 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 *ke-laguen*, 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 crêpe 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 chili 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; selected 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 three-course 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 bare-board 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 pick-led 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 vourself out of bed for, too. The pub in cludes a shop that sells British goods. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive. -

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 well-done. 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 soup 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 Chloe 721 Ninth Avenue (at G Street), East Village, 619-232-3242. How did we ever manage before this indis pensable bistro opened? In a bright and beautiful setting with small tables, barseating, and a patio, you'll find light and lovely Parisian-style bistro fare with substantial breakfasts, syelte 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. Bever ages include divine lavender lemonade specialty root beer, and an intelligent wine list at modest markups, everything available by the glass. Metered streetparking 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. (3/06)

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 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' n'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 Harrington. 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 nonbeef: the cold seafood appetizers ("lob-ster 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 multiude 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) **La Casita** 1247 C Street (at 13th

Street), downtown, 619-531-0044. Don't be fooled by the li'l old blue-andwhite 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)

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. however 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-bot-tles 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)

Napa Valley Grille 502 Horton Plaza, Gaslamp, 619-238-5440. This restaurant at the top of Horton Plaza is staffed by professionals and the food is very good, including the excellent grilled calamari. There is an elegant homeyness to Napa Valley Grille, a comforting, satisfying dining experience. Moderate to expensive. — M.N. (3/00)

Sixth Avenue Bistro 1165 Sixth Avenue (at B Street), downtown, 619-239-4194. This charming, airy café offers some very credible New Orleansstyle 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. En-

trées 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,





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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 omelets to salmon, crab legs, prime rib, dizzying desserts, and even a chocolate fountain for large parties, available upon request. 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. Open Sunday from 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 flamingos 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-BBO 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. —

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 Avenue, Coronado, 619-522-0449, Mootime Creamery owner David Spatafore de cided to set up what he's always wanted: A cheap, back-east Italian, red-andwhite-tablecloth, dangling Chianti bot-tle 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 calzones and pizza by the slice. (Pizza-by-slice portions stop at 6 p.m.) Open lunch through dinner, seven days. Inexpensive. — E.B. (12/04)

BAJA

From the United States use the prefix 011-52-664 when calling Tijuana; when calling in Tijuana use only the restaurant's seven-digit number.

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 Choco*late) proves outrageously delicious, and the seasonal *chiles en nogada* (meatstuffed poblano chiles with walnutcream 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; Eng-lish menus available. Sidewalk patio dining available. Reserve for weekends dur-

ing 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 cooking 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: Borrego. 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 flame-and-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 fettuccine "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 avo-cado...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 Tiiuana, this vegetarian haven was started in 1996 by health-conscious Doctor Georgina Vallarta 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 tables 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, avocado, 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)



D'Lish Pizza and Pasta 386 East H Street, Suite 211, 619-585-1371; and Fastlake 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 ordering 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 greattasting, Technicolor-bright broccoli, zucchini, eggplant, and bell peppers. And "Mediterranean chicken salad" works well, partly thanks to the tang of pepper-oni 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 American-style, with thick, slightly sweet crusts, many with elaborate top-pings 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 indoor-outdoor seating offer scores of housebaked pastries (including brioche) and good coffee. Parisian-style brunch/lunch choices embrace croaue 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 niçoise 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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Week of the Dog

Nothing of the cheap comic abides in her characterization.

iding time till the summer bonanza....

Year of the Dog offers offbeat comedy (meaning that the audience is not orchestrated into fortissimo laughter, but left, as it were, to play by

ear) revolving around a fortyish dog-loving spinster who loses a dog, acquires and loses another one, acquires

and loses fifteen more, and finally finds a new self. Part of that new self is vegan ("It's nice to have a word that can describe you. I've never had that before"), and most of it is animal-rightist, and none of it is bound up in identification with, or dependence on, or relation to, another person. Individuality incarnate. The path to get there encroaches uncomfortably at times on the personal space and rights of others, and even edges dangerously close to madness, and yet it's generally amusing to follow and in the end quite affecting. Defying expectations every step of the way, the film does a number of things well. Grief over a pet, for starters, gets its full due, with only microscopic traces of irony. Canine cuteness, meantime, is kept on a prudently tight leash, and slobbiness given ample room to roam. The secondary characters equally and democratically pull their weight: the adenoidal nose-to-the-grindstone boss (Josh Pais), the monomaniacally marriage-minded black co-worker (Regina King), the knife collector and Not So Great

White Hunter right next door (John C. Reilly), the asexual animal-shelter dog trainer (Peter Sars-

gaard), the Ken and Barbie brother and sister-in-law (Thomas McCarthy and Laura Dern) and their stiflingly sheltered offspring. And the lead performance of Molly Shannon, one of the less illustrious Saturday Night Live alumni, could well form the foundation of a legacy. (While I used to enjoy her armpit-sniffing Catholic schoolgirl on SNL, I could not bestir myself to see the feature-length elaboration, Superstar, the one previous time on the big screen that Shannon got to be the bride instead of bridesmaid.) She shows herself here to be a very good listener, a polite, selfless, sympathetic, empathic, active, demonstrative listener, and the sketch-artistry of her TV work overall has blossomed into thoroughgoing meticulous draftsmanship. Nothing of the cheap comic abides in her characterization. One



Year of the Dog

might only wish that the distinct sensibility of writer and first-time director Mike White (author or co-author of Chuck and Buck, The Good Girl, School of Rock, Nacho Libre), who wrote the script specially for Shannon, had stretched a bit further into the visual side of things. The mug-shot frontalism and flat symmetries of his compositions tend toward the clunky,

and the diluted color seems to encase the images in frosty plastic, like the family photos in your wallet.

Fracture is a legal thriller — not taken from a John Grisham novel or else it would have had a definite article at the head of its title — about a case of attempted murder in which the arrogant attempted murderer acts as his own attorney and the overcon-

fident public prosecutor acts as a cat's-paw. There can be no doubt in our minds that the accused is guilty; we saw him with our own eyes put a bullet in his wife's head. But the shadow of doubt over the courtroom, even before the evidence begins to be dismissed on technicalities, is that the gun recovered from the scene of the crime has proven forensically to be



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not the gun that fired a few stray bullets collected at the scene. (The bullet in the head cannot be removed while the victim lies on life-support.) And since the police surrounded the house within minutes after the shooting, the gun can't have been disposed of elsewhere. So, where did it go? Problems with the case, which is not to say problems with the prosecution of it but problems with the plotting of it, accumulate weightily as it rolls forward. How could the shooter have counted on his wife's policeman-lover to catch the call to respond to the shooting? How could he have counted on the lover not to know the last name of the woman with whom he had been carrying on a lengthy affair? How could he have counted on this policeman, upon learning the identity of the victim, punching the perpetrator gratuitously in the face and then remaining improperly in attendance at his interrogation and confession? In spite of our gloomy concerns over such questions, we still want to find out the answer to the central question of where the gun went. This answer, how and when we get it, seems pretty clever until we have a moment or two to think about it.

Slickly, almost slimily directed by Gregory Hoblit (Fallen and Frequency, demonstrating a penchant for oneword "F" titles), the movie serves as a mainstream launchpad for the recent Oscar nominee, Ryan Gosling, who allegedly is hot. Not so much in the sense of radiating sex appeal as in the sense of generating buzz. (Hot buzz?) The heat, coupled with the Oscar nomination, is to me more of a mystery than any mystery in the movie, inasmuch as I myself have been of the opinion that he was running neckand-neck with Giovanni Ribisi in the race for recognition as the head-andshoulders worst actor of his generation. His nominated performance in Half Nelson was perhaps not so bad, and for certain the role of a drug-addicted teacher and girls' basketball coach at an inner-city middle school was sufficiently within his range to hide some of his deficiencies. A fast-rising Assistant D.A., on the other hand, with a ninetyseven-percent conviction rate and a cushy new job lined up in the private sector at an elite corporate law firm, resides in another range altogether. In a role that demands self-confidence, he can supply only self-consciousness. Ultra-casual, fidgety, mumbly, smartalecky, he behaves like nothing so much as a college freshman intent on developing his own individual style after all the good styles have already been taken. He crinkles his brow, he bobs his head, he cocks an ear, he pulls his nose, he rubs his eyes, he squints, he snorts, he hunches his shoulders, he rocks on his heels, he chomps on a wad of gum — he always has to be doing something, if simply to keep himself busy and get himself noticed. And any presiding judge or empanelled jury, witness to these antics, would be compelled to wonder privately, Who let Junior fly solo? Even at barely halfpower, Anthony Hopkins, more or less playing Hannibal Lecter without the appetite, appears seriously un-

dermatched against him. Vacancy is an eighty-minute minimal thriller about a divorcing couple (Kate Beckinsale, Luke Wilson) brought close again by "one last great adventure together." Returning from the anniversary celebration of one pair of parents, they stray from the interstate, experience car trouble in the middle of nowhere and dead of night, and bed down at a godforsaken fleabag that turns out to be a literal death trap: a hidden-camera set for snuff films. As with a Roach Motel, the guests check in, but they don't check out. Nimrod Antal, American-born director of the

absurdist-existentialist Kontroll, came back from Hungary to give this some class and presumably to raise his economic standing if not his artistic. Mission accomplished. Stupidity with

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.

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} \textbf{After the Wedding} -- A fair-haired \\ \end{tabular}$ Danish do-gooder at an insolvent Bombay orphanage is summoned against his will to his native Copenhagen on a hat-in-hand fundraising mission, and upon arrival is summoned additionally to the wedding of Mr. Moneybags's daughter. To our surprise (and who else's?), Mrs. Moneybags turns out to be an old flame of the do-gooder, and the bride turns out (clearly to the dogooder's surprise) to be his biological daughter. Despite the credible if sometimes histrionic acting of the unknown faces (plus the newly known one of the Casino Royale villain, Mads Mikkelsen), despite the vérité camerawork and jaggedy jump cuts, despite the Third World social consciousness, this is basic soap opera. To say so is not to denigrate it, but perhaps is just to wish that it had a bit more polish, a bit more shine. It is not pure soap opera; it is impure soap opera. The digital video looks pretty decent, compared, anyway, to what we got used to seeing in the Dogma 95 days

of the Danish cinema. Still, it's a far cry from Universal Pictures in the Technicolor Fifties, and its grittiness and griminess stubbornly resist the suds. With Rolf Lassgard, Sidse Babett Knudsen, and Stine Fischer Christensen; directed by Susanne Bier. 2006.

★★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS)

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.

★ (HORTON PLAZA 14)

Back to the Future, Part II — A loud, ugly, ungodly mess. It starts out with what's already the biggest pill to swallow in a timetravel adventure, and proceeds to let this snowball into a burden of disbelief such as could not be suspended by wire cables. Namely: the manufacture of a mobile time machine which, by nipping backwards and forwards in time but with slight alterations in geographical destination, can indefinitely multiply the number of places in which one person can manage to be at the same time. This all alone would be enough to sink the project, but there's much more. So much more, in fact, that there's no need to tarry over a logical expedience of the size of the one whereby our teenage hero, ca. 1985, turns out to have a son, ca. 2015, who happens to be a dead ringer for his dad at that age (as well as having an identical twin daughter, enabling Michael J. Fox, who is not yet threatening Roddy McDowall's record for Oldest Screen Adolescent, to dress up in drag and solicit titters from the sexually insecure youth audience). Much more bothersome is such a basic question of plot logic as why the villain (an actor who appears to believe the word "sneer' ought to be spelled with six e's), after having stolen the time machine, would then return it considerately to the exact time and place from which it departed. Further: in what sense can the past be said to have been altered if the chief beneficiary of the change must come back to the same miserable state of existence he occupied before the change? Hasn't he, along with everyone else, actually wound up with two separate, parallel lives? And what's to stop him - what's to stop the filmmakers — from going on to create twenty parallel lives? It probably doesn't bear thinking about. Or rather: thinking about it probably can't be borne. With Christopher Lloyd; directed by Robert Zemeckis. 1989.

● (LA JOLLA VILLAGE, 4/28 MIDNIGHT)

Blades of Glory — Competitive figure skating gets the Will Ferrell treatment: rough and rude. Banned for life from the men's division, two bitter rivals (the macho Ferrell, the femme Jon Heder) return to the ice through a loophole as the first-ever male pair. The main source of humor is your presumed nervousness about homosexuality. Which is to say, it's not as amusing as it is insulting. With Will Arnett, Amy Poehler, Jenna Fischer, Craig T. Nelson,

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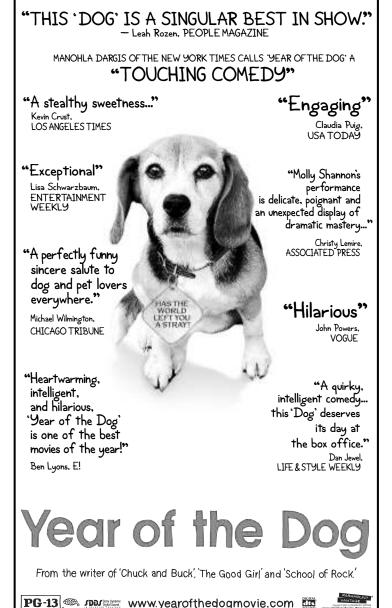
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and William Fichtner; co-directed by Will Speck and Josh Gordon. 2007.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN: CHULA VISTA 10: DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8: ESCONDIDO 16: FASHION VALLEY 18; 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 PROMENADE 24: PARKWAY PLAZA 18: POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Black Book — Paul Verhoeven goes back to his native Holland, back, that is, from his Robocop and his Basic Instinct and his Showgirls and his Starship Troopers, back to the subject of Soldier of Orange, the Second World War, the Nazi occupation, the Dutch resistance. A beautiful Jewish chanteuse, dislodged from her hiding place by a random bomb and deprived of her family by a purposeful machine gun, joins the underground and infiltrates Nazi headquarters as a dyed blonde. There are touches of the old Verhoeven we know and loathe: the (discreetly shot) dyeing of the hair down below to match the hair on top, the obligatory vomit scene, the (indiscreetly shot) shower of shit. For the most part, though, this is an orthodox, impersonal, handsome, well-groomed, well-behaved war epic, filled with familiar types (the evil Nazi, the good Nazi, the craven collabora-

van Houten, the new face who plays the beautiful Jew, is indisputably beautiful. With Sebastian Koch and Thom Hoffman.

★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

The Condemned — Reality-television fantasy with Steve Austin, Vinnie Jones, and Rick Hoffman, directed by Scott Wiper.

(CHULA VISTA 10; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VAL-LEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROME-NADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO; SAN MARCOS 18; SOUTH BAY DRIVE IN: FROM 4/27)

Diggers — Working-class comedy among Long Island clam diggers, with Paul Rudd, Ron Eldard, and Maura Tierney, directed by Katherine Dieckmann. (KEN. 4/27 THROUGH 5/3)

Disturbia — Under house arrest for summer vacation (punchy opening scenes to explain how he got there), a troubled high-schooler begins to observe his surroundings through a pair of binoculars, and convinces himself that his neighbor is a serial killer and that the new girl next door is a hottie. Teenage suburban technophiliac Rear Window, callously manipulative and in the end torturesome. With Shia LaBeouf, Sarah

hoked-up, "inspired by true events." Carice

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN: CHULA VISTA 10: CIN-ERAMA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSS-MONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKET-PLACE 13: MISSION VALLEY 20: OCEANSIDE 16: PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SOUARE 14: VISTA VILLAGE)

Roemer, Carrie-Anne Moss, David Morse,

and Aaron Yoo; directed by D.J. Caruso.

2007

Firehouse Dog — Inane canine comedy about a screen star called Rexxx - no, not a bestial porn star, but the big-budget action star of Iurassic Bark and The Fast and the Furriest — who discovers his true vocation as a firefighting mascot. The human emotions and human villainy are a touch heavy, but they don't weigh down the pooch, particularly in his all-out dashes to the rescue. With Josh Hutcherson, Bruce Greenwood, Bill Nunn, and Dash Mihok; directed by Todd Holland. 2007.

★ (MISSION MARKETPLACE 13)

Fracture — Reviewed this issue. With Anthony Hopkins, Ryan Gosling, David Strathairn, and Rosamund Pike; directed by Gregory Hoblit.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKET-PLACE 13: MISSION VALLEY 7: MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM 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)





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Grindhouse — It sounded like a fun idea at first. Two movies in one, a prepackaged double feature, in emulation of, or tribute to, the Golden Age exploitation films of the Sixties and Seventies, the last of the B-pictures, the Joe Bob Briggs drive-in movies, the 42nd Street grindhouse fare. Planet Terror and Death Proof by name, directed by separate hands, each preceded by one or more fake trailers for nonexistent titles such as Machete and Werewolf Women of the SS. So far, so fun. But the designated directors, Robert Rodriguez and Quentin Tarantino, those tasteless connoisseurs of cinema, were bad bets to carry it off with straight faces and restrained egos. (Hadn't they, in any event, done this already, Rodriguez directing and Tarantino writing, in From Dusk till Dawn, a schizophrenic graft of two distinct genres?) And the running time of three hours and ten minutes — a concrete measure of unrestrained egos proves to be wildly excessive, a grind indeed, despite the quaint device of the "missing reel" in each film, complete with apologetic title cards from the theater management: "Sorry for the inconvenience." This device, not just from the time-saving standpoint (another "missing reel" or two would not have been missed), is genuinely



a good idea, redolent of Poverty Row moviegoing. So, too, is the simulation of scratched celluloid, splicelike skips, loosesprocket jumps. But the modern settings of the films (text-messaging in both of them; a topical allusion to Osama bin Laden, the late Osama bin Laden, in the first one; the ludicrous casting of an A-list star, Nicolas Cage, as Fu Manchu in one of the fake trailers) transport these devices to the realm of

the alternative universe, where badly beatup prints with missing reels are still showing in the shopping-mall multiplex of the 21st Century, and where even the lowest budget can afford the swankiest CGI. With **The Hoax** — A tall tale about a tall tale, the bogus "authorized autobiography" of Howard Hughes, peddled by Clifford Irving to McGraw-Hill in the early Seventies. Richard Gere, as the hungering writer ("The middle of my life is at hand. I don't have a couch"), has some funny bits imitat-

Rose McGowan, Freddy Rodriguez, Marley Shelton, Kurt Russell, Rosario Dawson, Zoë

★ (FASHION VALLEY 18: GASLAMP 15: LA JOLLA 12; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROME-

Bell 2007

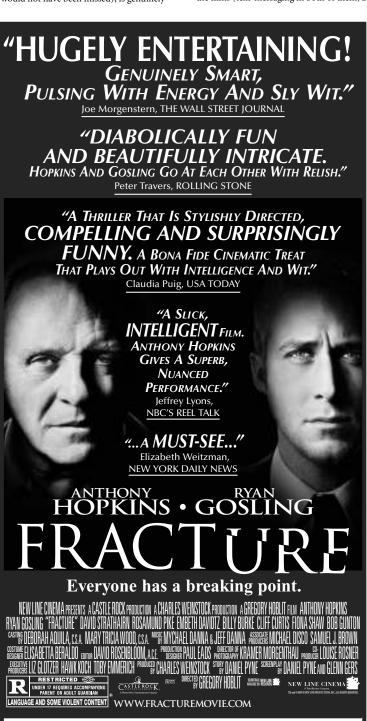
ing Hughes's speech patterns from tapes of his appearance before the U.S. Senate, as you might recall from The Aviator. And the richly embroidered account of how the charade was set in motion, and then kept in motion even as it began to disintegrate, will serve as either a reminder or an appetizer, depending on your level of familiarity. It is not to be trusted beyond that. With Alfred Molina, Marcia Gay Harden, Hope Davis, and Stanley Tucci; directed by Lasse Hallstrom. 2007.

★ (ESCONDIDO 16: FASHION VALLEY 18: FLOWER HILL 4; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA VILLAGE: MIRA MESA 18: MISSION VALLEY 7: OCEANSIDE 16; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; SAN MARCOS 18; 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 un-steady 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

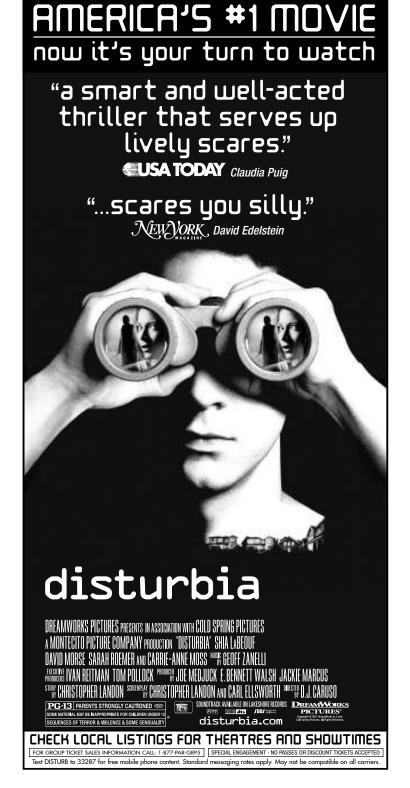
★★★ (GASLAMP 15)

Hot Fuzz — British cop spoof from the team - Edgar Wright, director and cowriter together with the star, Simon Pegg — who brought you Shaun of the Dead, a zombie spoof. It constitutes neither an advance nor a reverse. It holds its ground. If the laughter tends to be spotty and unlusty, the labor is always energetic, conscientious, attentive to detail, limitedly resourceful. Pegg, with a head like a handball, small and hard and perfectly round, stays commendably in character as a stickup-the-butt straight arrow (beverage of choice, on duty or off: cranberry juice) who has shamed his big-city colleagues with his four-hundred-percent higher arrest rate ("You can't be Sheriff of London!"), and has accordingly been reassigned to a cozy little hamlet that's "statistically" the safest place in the kingdom. (Telling detail: the completely bare Evidence Room at police headquarters.) The statistics, however, prove to be skewed by the peculiar policy of filing suspicious deaths under "accidents. A serial killer would seem to be afoot, and some of the slayings are sufficiently gruesome to kill the laughs, if any were struggling into existence. And the endless climaxes, down the homestretch, are extremely taxing even as a spoof of the action-film cliché of endless climaxes. Still, one wouldn't have wanted them to stop before the fistfight in the miniature village, an optical illusion of a literal Battle of the Ti-



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Fracture

tans, Godzilla-scale human figures in a kiddie theme park. Then again, one might have wanted them to stop, or turn aside, before the fistfight's gruesome conclusion. With Nick Frost, Jim Broadbent, Paddy Considine, Timothy Dalton. 2007.

★★ (ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA VILLAGE: MIRA MESA 18: MISSION VALLEY 7: MISSION VALLEY 20: OCEANSIDE 16: PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; SAN MAR-COS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

In the Land of Women — Jonathan Kasdan becomes the second son of Lawrence Kasdan, after Jake, to have followed his father into the director's chair. His feature debut is a relationship thing at about the Cameron Crowe level of wit and wisdom, although perhaps that name offers itself as a reference point because of the way in which every significant mood or moment is swept up, and along, by a pop song on the soundtrack. The "heartsick" hero — a twenty-six-year-old Hollywood screenwriter (soft porn but bigger ambitions) who has just been dumped by his gamine girlfriend, an up-and-coming actress and Levi's model - slinks out of L.A. and off to suburban Michigan to stay with his demented grandmother and to work on that long-brewing "personal" project about his high-school days. In nineteen movies out of twenty, he could be expected, there, to encounter a viable alternative or two, but even though he's surrounded by females, none is really viable as an alternative. Apart from his cranky, crotchety, foulmouthed, bird-flipping, thoroughly stereotyped grandmother (Olympia Dukakis), the house across the street contains three other females, as well as the mostly absent man of the house. The mother, patently, is too old for him and has breast cancer (we can judge how serious the movie is from the fact that Meg Ryan shaves off her hair, or appears to have shaved off her hair, and throws up on the rug), and the angry Abstract Expressionist teenage daughter (Kristen Stewart) is much too young for him, and the precocious yoga-practicing Frenchspeaking preteen daughter (Makenzie Vega) is still younger. His uncertain relationships with each of these, as confidant, advisor, whatever, are fairly absorbing in their development and evolvement; and the film is plainly aiming for the human, the real, the true, even if the whole thing has been fastidiously planed and sanded and varnished to glide along like a sailboat on a glassy lake. And Adam Brody, with his sleepy slurry manner of speech and slouchy burdened posture, makes a sympathetic and a likable hero, 2007.

★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18: MISSION MARKETPI ACE 13: MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN

DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14;

VISTA VILLAGE)

Invisible — Ghost story with Justin Chatwin, Margarita Levieva, and Marcia Gay Harden, directed by David S. Goyer. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8: ESCONDIDO 16: FASHION VALLEY 18: GASLAMP 15: GROSSMONT CENTER: LA COSTA 6; 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: SANTEE DRIVE IN: TOWN SOUARE 14: VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 4/27)

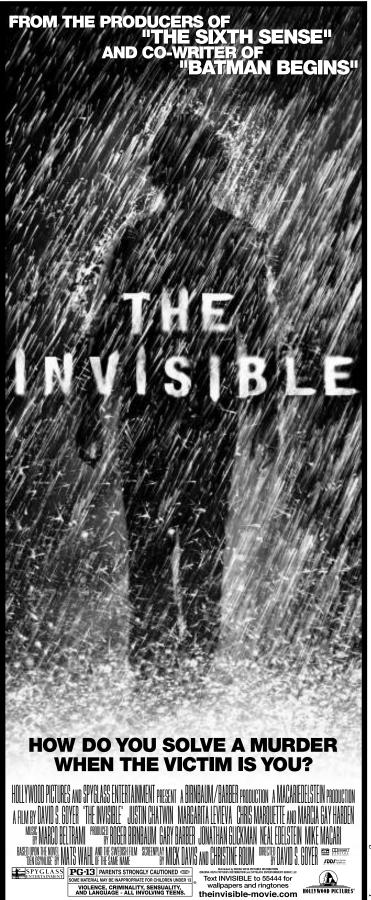
I Think I Love My Wife — Into a complacent marriage comes temptation, the wet-lipped Kerry Washington, a Platonic old friend with vertiginous décolletage. Chris Rock is the star, albeit no actor, and he's also the director and co-writer, nominally inspired by the last of Eric Rohmer's "Six Moral Tales," Chloe in the Afternoon, 1972. (The "Fin" in place of "The End" is perhaps the strongest evidence.) The firstperson 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 reenactment" takes the edge off the individual voice, dulls it. Gina Torres, Steve Buscemi, Edward Herrmann, 2007. ★ (GASLAMP 15)

Kickin' It Old Skool — Breakdancing comedy starring Jamie Kennedy, directed by Harvey Glazer.

(CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18: GASLAMP 15: GROSSMONT CENTER: MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE: FROM 4/27)

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 loyal socialist of spotless reputation despite his openly subversive friends and despite, too, his openly snooty manner. Ulrich Tukur, so memorable as the consciencestricken 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)

The Lookout — Respectable directing debut by the veteran screenwriter of The In-

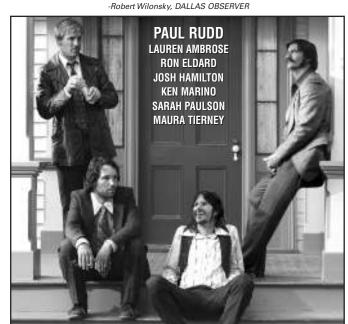


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tures the hits "The Kill"–30 Seconds To Mars. "You're All I Have"–Snow Patrol. "Taking Back Control"–S

terpreter, Minority Report, Out of Sight, Get Shorty, Malice, etc., Scott Frank. Suffering brain damage in a car wreck four years earlier, still having trouble with his memory and his "sequencing" and his "disinhibition," writing memos to himself like the protagonist of Memento, holding down a dead-end job as the night custodian in a podunk Kansas bank, and replaying past glories on the high-school hockey rink with a "urinal puck" and a floor mop, the shaky young hero is preyed upon by a vamp-forhire (stage name: Luvlee Lemons) at the bidding of a mangy gang of bank robbers. The only apparent obstacle in their way is the affable deputy who, like clockwork, stops by on his rounds with a box of donuts, and whose wife is ready to give birth any minute. (What odds would you take on him making it through alive?) Not overly contrived or clever, just sufficiently; no extraneous action to tide you over till hell breaks loose; well acted by Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Jeff Daniels (as a wise and witty blind man), Matthew Goode, Isla Fisher, Bruce McGill, pretty much everyone. 2007. ★★ (GASLAMP 15)

Meet the Robinsons — Dizzying Disney computer cartoon in 3-D. The startling spatial effects, technically unimpeachable, really do add another dimension. But maybe another dimension is not what's wanted when you are already juggling a mind-tangling time machine, a domestic nuthouse descended from You Can't Take It with You, a Victorian villain of Neanderthal intellect, a displaced dinosaur, a tipped hat to surrealism (Magritte's bowler), an hommage to HAL 9000 in 2001, and more. It's all a bit much. Make that, more than a bit. The motto and moral of the movie — "Keep moving forward" will be revealed in the printed epilogue to have come straight from the mouth of Uncle Walt himself, a sweet piece of lip service. Directed by Stephen Anderson. 2007. ★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN: CHULA VISTA 10: DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION

VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON

REGAL CINEMAS PARKWAY PLAZA STADIUM 18

PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7: MISSION VALLEY 20: OCEANSIDE 16: PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

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 ("Bun-

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FASHION VALLEY 18

nies 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 encouraged *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. Must we regard her as a proto-animator, too? With Emily Watson and Barbara Flynn. 2006.

★ (FLOWER HILL 4: HORTON PLAZA 14: MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; PALM PROMENADE 24)

Mr. Arkadin — Orson Welles spearheads another investigation into the past of an

enigmatic tycoon, played again by Welles himself, in one of the worst makeup jobs of his career (and that's saying something!). It's a kind of comic-book edition of Citizen Kane, on an even skimpier budget, with crazily off-kilter camera set-ups and disembodied dubbed voices. In small doses it is one of Welles's most entertaining works, slightly more so than those better-known potboilers, Lady from Shanghai and Touch of Evil; and in large doses it is one of his most self-revealing ones, too. But the eccentricity is finally too put-on, and too thickly put-on, not to become a bit of a trial. Made in 1955 and released in the U.S. in 1962. With Robert Arden, Paola Mori, Akim Tamiroff, and Michael Redgrave. ★★★ (SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY 4/30, 6:30 P.M.)

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 gleam-in-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. 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. Kal Penn, Jacinda Barrett, Zuleikha Robinson, 2007. ★ (FLOWER HILL 4; HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

Nashville — Robert Altman continues to course over salient features of the American Scene with amazing speed and mobility. His leaps-and-bounds progress is made to look effortless, smooth, liquidy because of his habit of skimming, primarily. Here, he and his allies visit Music City, U.S.A., but they arrive there with their ideas already in place and unalterable. Their air of amusement seems smugly knowing and not at all enlightening. Altman and Company have edged up to their chosen site and have de-



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clined to get more than their feet wet. It is surely an audacious idea, and worth pursuing, to do a movie about country music which employs no authentic country singers, only songs written by the imposter performers themselves, and a musical arranger without country music background or interest. The result: a curious lack of excitement in the music, lack of awareness of the music audience, lack of appreciation of the creative work involved. Altman uses a Peyton Place complicated structure, a thick weave of characters and plotlines. But, without doing any real plotting, he uses it to disguise the fact that he deals in onenote, monotonous, uncomplicated characters and events. Still, there are a few agreeable faces in the milling mob. Karen Black, more than anyone else, makes a recognizable attempt to sing country-style. David Peel displays a scrubbed pink face and impeccable manners as a docile college grad whose function in life is to be his Papa's Pride. Lily Tomlin and two deaf-mute children create an interesting, arbitrary domestic situation, acting with perfectly straight faces in a movie overrun with smirks. Ronee Blakley, Allen Garfield, Barbara Harris, Henry Gibson, Keith Carradine, Geraldine Chaplin. 1975.

★ (KEN, 4/26)

Next — Science fiction based on a Philip K. Dick story, with Nicolas Cage, Julianne Moore, and Jessica Biel, directed by Lee Tamahori.

(CARMEL MOUNTAIN: CHULA VISTA 10: CIN-ERAMA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCON-DIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7: MISSION VALLEY 20: OCEANSIDE 16: PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 4/27)

The Page Turner — Slow-cooking revenge tale from France, and from hitherto unknown director Denis Dercourt. The heroine, as a little girl and aspiring pianist, gets thrown off in her scholarship audition when one of the judges, a female pianist of some renown, takes time out in mid-performance to sign an autograph. Right then and there the little girl, as the phrase has it, turns a page. She shuts away the bust of Beethoven in a cabinet and locks up the keyboard for keeps. Years later, now a big girl, she worms her way into the employ of this same pianist, first as the substitute baby-sitter for her piano-practicing son, then as the literal page turner for the pianist herself, who is readying a concert-stage comeback in a piano trio - Shostakovich, Schubert — two years after a traumatizing car accident. Our primary identification is with the avenger, even though we are not privy to her plan (what's the fitting reprisal for a dashed dream?), but our sympathy is much more with her emotionally vulnerable target, who reveals herself to be no simple prima donna. The avenger comes across as something more of a hypothesis than a human being, a limitation underlined by the flat, opaque, expressionless acting of Déborah François, so natural in her first film, the Dardenne brothers' L'Enfant, so numb in this second one. The limitation is underlined further by the nuance, the tension, the vibrancy of Catherine Frot as the pianist, and still further by the warmth and directness of Clotilde Mollet as the trio's violinist. These two demonstrate once again that for actresses of a certain age, the French cinema maintains the friendliest climate on earth, 2006.

★★ (GASLAMP 15)

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 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.

★ (LA PALOMA)

Perfect Stranger — Designed for the perfect fool. Apparently built backwards from its final Surprise Twist, it looks until then to be a deluxe edition of a Lifetime Original, directed by the reputable James Foley (At Close Range, Glengarry Glen Ross, among other gravities), with an Oscar-winning star (the perennially underemployed Halle Berry) as a muckraking investigative reporter under a male pseudonym. When her lifelong girlfriend turns up on a slab at the morgue with belladonna in her system. she resolves to take a closer look at the departed's latest Internet liaison, a married . Madison Avenue mover-and-shaker (Bruce Willis, using his smirk for sinister purposes), and lands a temp job at his ad agency (key clients: Victoria's Secret and recently acquired Reebok, thanks for the plugs), where he quickly rises to the bait, checking her up and down in slow-motion as they pass on the carpet. Tucked away in the background, she has a stock computer geek as a helper (Giovanni Ribisi, with his patented stuffy-nose delivery and demeanor), and the screen is often taken up by computer screen, an albatross of the contemporary cinema. Events unfold facilely and undemandingly until the tangle of that Surprise Twist. Only the willing fool will be (1) fooled and (2) fulfilled. 2007. ■ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN: ESCONDIDO 16: FASH-ION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA

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 yet 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

MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16;

CHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN

MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RAN

SEEN ON

EDWARD WILENSKY

Director of media relations, San Diego Opera, www.sdopera.com

Delicatessen is probably my favorite DVD in my collection. Wonderfully employing the graceful visuals of a silent movie, it creates a dark comedy in a world where food is scarce, animals are extinct, grain is used as currency, and a butcher is forced to murder his workers to feed the tenants of his apartment building. Filled with brilliant pacing and incredible parallel scenes, this is a movie to watch for the pure delight of watching a movie. It is equally rewarding the second or tenth time through, as each scene is packed with subtle visual cues that enhance the depth of this film. Besides, you have a musical-saw-playing clown, a group of militant vegetarians, and a lady who creates incredibly complex suicide machines that always seem to fail at the last moment. What more does a movie need?

DELICATESSEN (France) 1991, Miramax List price: \$29.99

IAN CAMPREII

Artistic and general director, San Diego Opera

Much Ado About Nothing is my favorite film adaptation of Shakespeare, directed with joy by Kenneth Branagh. The allstar cast creates a perfect ensemble, even though accents are mixed and delivery of the text is sometimes uneven. But with fine English character actors in smaller roles, and the shining Emma Thompson and Branagh as Beatrice and Benedick, the film moves with grace and speed, hilarity and sadness, in the most celebratory way throughout.

Woody Allen's Love and Death, a tribute to all things Russian, is another must-have. It mixes clumsy and school-boyish jokes with some truly brilliant thrusts at literature, history, relationships, and, of course, death. I never realized a conversation could be made of Dostoyevsky book titles, but here it is. Diane Keaton, shortly before Annie Hall, plays, well, Annie Hall but in Russian. She's a terrific comedienne, and Allen's asides still have interest although later faded through overuse.

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING (England/USA) 1993, MGM List price: \$14.98 LOVE AND DEATH (USA) 1975, MGM

List price: \$14.98

CHRIS LAZICH

Senior director of development, San Diego Opera

Garden State is one of the few original comedies (along with Little Miss Sunshine) that I've seen recently. All the actors shine but Zach Braff was particularly fortunate to get Natalie Portman. She's a gem as the quirky girl who becomes his lifeline as he emerges from an emotional stupor of overmedication. The lines will stick with you and make you laugh. A great soundtrack, too.

Thirteen Days is one DVD that's better than the movie, and a must if you're interested in American history. Yes, it's a Kevin Costner movie, but he wisely cast someone else as President Kennedy, the focal point of this nail-biting drama about the Cuban missile crisis. The DVD has interviews with people who were close to the situation and allows you to watch clips during the movie, giving background and depth as you go along. You'll wish you could make politicians watch this movie.

GARDEN STATE (USA) 2004, **Twentieth Century Fox** List price: \$14.98 THIRTEEN DAYS (USA) 2000, List price: \$14.98

from wanting to prevent it? Your curiosity may be aroused (if never satisfied), 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. Julian McMahon, Nia Long, Kate Nelligan, Amber Valletta, Peter Stormare. 2007.

• (GASLAMP 15; PALM PROMENADE 24)

The Reaping — A miracle-debunker from LSU struggles to explain the sequence of Old Testament plagues visited upon a Bayou backwater called Haven. A sense of awe never arises, only a sense of awful. Hilary Swank and Idris Elba excepted and absolved. With David Morrissey, Stephen Rea, and AnnaSophia Robb; directed by Stephen Hopkins. 2007.

• (FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24)

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. Danny Glover, Kate Mara, Elias Koteas. 2007. ★ (FASHION VALLEY 18: HORTON PLAZA 14: MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24)

Stop Making Sense — A concert movie and nothing more, and as narrowly focussed a one as ever was: little of the live audience, nothing of the backstage, only the on-stage. In fairness, the movie (directed by Jonathan Demme) is probably better to look at than most concert movies, and the concert (staged by David Byrne) is probably better to look at than most mere concerts. But in the long run, neither the staging of the concert nor the filming of it, nor both those efforts put together, is inventive enough or distracting enough to take center-stage from the music. And it can easily seem a very long run indeed, with too much of the music stuck in the general area of dental-drill-punctuated-by-indecipherablecries-from-the-patient. To say that enjoyment of the Talking Heads' music will be a help to enjoyment of their movie would be to understate comically. To say a strict prerequisite would perhaps get nearer the case. 1984

★ (MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART LA JOLLA, 4/26, 7 P.M.)

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 inspira-tion 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

The Wind That Shakes the Barley

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. 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.

• (FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; LA IOLLA 12: LA PALOMA: MISSION VALLEY 20: PALM PROMENADE 24)

Vacancy — Reviewed this issue. With Kate Beckinsale, Luke Wilson, and Frank Whaley; directed by Nimrod Antal. ★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN: CHULA VISTA 10: CIN-ERAMA 6; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VAL LEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18: POWAY 10: RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MAR-COS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Wild Hogs — Middle-age-crazy road 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. Travolta 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.

• (FASHION VALLEY 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; SANTEE DRIVE IN)

The Wind That Shakes the Barley —

Ken Loach makes an uncharacteristic excursion into the past — the 1920s, though no more distanced — for an unbalanced view of the Irish "troubles" through the eyes and mouths of the oppressed. Largely unintelligible as a result of the difficult accents, the muddled sound, the nebulous narrative, the slippery directing touch. Even so, the unglamorous brutality (on both sides) makes its point, and an air of authenticity is attained through the atmospheric dank photography and the scrupulous period production, in particular the fine collection of caps and coats. With Cillian Murphy, Padraic Delaney, Liam Cunningham.

★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS)

Year of the Dog — Reviewed this issue. With Molly Shannon, John C. Reilly, Peter Sarsgaard, and Regina King; written and directed by Mike White.

★★★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS, FROM 4/27)

MOVIE SHOWTIMES

Call 444-FILM or the theater for missing information. Bargain showtimes are in parentheses.

CENTRAL CLAIREMONT

Town Square 14

4665 Clairemont Drive (858-274-1234) Call theater for program information

DOWNTOWN

Gaslamp 15

701 Fifth Avenue (619-232-0400) Breach (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (1:00) 7:10; Firehouse Dog (PG) Fri.-Sun. (2:10) 4:45; Grindhouse (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:30, 3:05) 4:20, 7:05, 8:15; The Host (R) Fri.-Sun. 7:15, 10:05; 1. Think Llove My Wife (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:40, 2:55) 5:25, 7:50, 10:10; The Invisible (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:25, 3:00) 5:35, 8:05, 10:35; Kickin' It Old Skool (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (1:40) 4:15, 7:00, 9:40; **The Lookout** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:35, 2:55) 5:20, 7:45, 10:15; Next (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:30, 2:45) 5:05, 7:30, 9:55; Nomad (The Warrior) (R) Fri.-Sun. (2:00) 4:40, 7:25, 2000; Perfect Stranger (R) Fri.-Sun. (1:55) 4:35, 7:20, 10:00; Premonition (PG-13) Fri.-

Sun. (12:45, 3:10) 5:30, 7:55, 10:25; **The Reaping** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:50, 3:15) 5:40, 8:00, 10:30; **Redline** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (2:50) 5:15, 7:40, 10:05; **300** (R) Fri.-Sun. (2:05) 4:50, 7:35, 10:20; Zodiac (R) Fri.-Sun. (3:40) 9:50

Horton Plaza 14

Horton Plaza (619-444-FILM) Horton Plaza (619-444-PILM)
Amazing Grace (PG); Are We Done Yet?
(PG); Blades of Glory (PG-13); The Condemned (R); Disturbia (PG-13); Fracture
(R); The Hoax (R); Hot Fuzz (R); In the Land of Women (PG-13); Journey from the Fall (R); Meet the Robinsons (G); Miss Potter (PG); Pathfinder (R); Shooter (R); Vacancy

LA JOLLA

La Jolla 12

8657 Villa La Iolla Drive (858-558-2262) Blades of Glory (PG-13); The Condemned (R); Disturbia (PG-13); Fracture (R); Grindhouse (R); In the Land of Women (PG-13); The Invisible (PG-13): Meet the Robinsons (G); Next (PG-13); Perfect Stranger (R); 300 (R); Vacancy (R)

La Jolla Village 8879 Villa La Jolla Drive (619-819-0236) Back to the Future, Part II (PG) Sat. 11:55; **Black Book** (R) Fri. 2:10, 5:15, 8:20 Sat.-Sun. 11:00, 2:10, 5:15, 8:20; **The Hoax** (R) Fri. 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00 Sat.-Sun. 11:20, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00; **Hot Fuzz** (R) Fri. 1:40, 4:20, 7:00,

9:40 Sat.-Sun. 10:50, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40; The Namesake (PG-13) Fri. 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50 Sat.-Sun. 11:10, 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50

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) Are We Done Yet? (PG); Blades of Glory (PG-13); The Condemned (R); Disturbia (PG-13); Fracture (R); Grindhouse (R); The Hoax (R); Hot Fuzz (R); In the Land of Women (PG-13); The Invisible (PG-13); Meet the Robinsons (G); Next (PG-13); Pathfinder (R); Perfect Stranger (R); The Reaping (R); Shooter (R); 300 (R); Vacancy (R); Wild Hogs (PG-13)

Mission Valley 7

7510 Hazard Center Drive (619-685-2841) Blades of Glory (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:15, 1:30, 3:45) 6:15, 8:30, 10:45 Sun. (11:15, 1:30, 3:45) 6:15, 8:30; **Fracture** (R) 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; **The Hoax** (R) 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; **Hot Fuzz** (R) Fri -Sat (10:15, 1:00, 4:00) 7:00, 10:00 Sun (10:15, 1:00, 4:00) 7:00; In the Land of

Women (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (12:00, 2:30) 5:15, 7:45, 10:15 Sun. (12:00, 2:30) 5:15, 7:45; **Jak**ers! Wish upon a Story (G) Sat.-Sun. (10:30a.m.); Meet the Robinsons (G) Fri.-Sat. (10:00, 12:15, 2:45) 5:00, 7:15, 9:45 Sun. (10:00, 12:15, 2:45) 5:00, 7:15; **Next** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:00, 1:15, 3:30) 6:00, 8:15, 10:30 Sun. (11:00, 1:15, 3:30) 6:00, 8:15

Mission Valley 20 1640 Camino Del Rio North (858-558-2262) Are We Done Yet? (PG) Fri.-Sat. (10:55) 1:15, 3:30, 5:50, 8:05, 10:20 Sun. 3:30, 5:50, 8:05, 10:20; **Blades of Glory** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:30) 12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:45, 10:00; **The Condemned** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:00) 1:40, 4:25, 7:20, 10:05; **Disturbia** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:50) 12:40, 2:20, 3:10, 4:50, 5:40, 7:25, 8:15, 10:00, 10:45 Sun. (11:50) 12:40, 2:20, 3:10, 4:50, 5:40, 7:25, 8:05, 10:00; **Fracture** (R) Fri. Sat. (11:45) 2:30, 5:10, 7:55, 10:45 Sun. (11:45) 2:30, 5:10, 7:55, 10:30; **Grindhouse** (R) Fri.-Sat. (10:40) 2:35, 6:30, 10:35 Sun. (10:40) 2:35, 6:30, 10:20; **Hot Fuzz** (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:05) 1:55, 4:45, 7:35, 10:30 Sun. (11:05) 1:55, 4:45, 7:35, 10:25; **In the Land of Women** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 12:15, 2:40, 5:00, 7:30, 9:55; **The Invisible** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:10) 1:45, 4:20, 7:00, 9:35 Sun. 1:45, 4:20, 7:00, 9:35; **Kickin' It Old Skool** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:30) 2:15, 5:00, 7:40, 10:20 Sun. (11:30) 2:15, 5:00, 7:40, 10:15; Meet the Robinsons (G) Fri.-Sun. (11:35) 12:20, 2:05, 2:50, 4:35, 5:20, 7:10, 9:40; Next (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:40) 2:10, 4:40, 7:15, 9:45; Pathfinder (R) Fri.-Sat. 12:25, 2:55, 5:25, 8:10, 10:35 Sun. 12:25, 2:55, 5:25, 8:10, 10:36; Perfect Stranger (R) Fri.-Sat. 12:35, 5:30, 10:25 Sun. 5:30, 10:25; The Reaping (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:25) 4:55, 10:10; Redline (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:15) 3:05, 8:00 Sun. 3:05, 8:00; Shooter (R) Fri.-Sun. 2:00, 7:20; The New York
Metropolitan Opera: Puccini - Il Trittico -NCM Event (NR) Sat. (10:30); **300** (R) Fri. (10:45) 1:30, 4:15, 7:05, 9:50 Sat. 4:15, 7:05, 9:50 Sun. (10:45) 1:30, 4:15, 7:05, 9:50; **TMNT** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:15) 1:25, 3:35, 5:45; **Vacancy** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:35) 2:00, 4:30, 7:05, 9:25 Fri.-Sun. (11:35) 2:00, 4:30, 7:05, 7:55, 9:25, 10:15; Wild Hogs (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 7:40, 10:10

STATE UNIVERSITY

Cinerama 6

5831 University Avenue (619-287-8990) Call theater for program information

4061 Adams Avenue (619-819-0236) Diggers (R) Fri. 5:00, 7:15, 9:30 Sat.-Sun. 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30

UPTOWN

Hillcrest Cinemas

3965 Fifth Avenue (619-819-0236) After the Wedding (R) Fri. 1:35, 4:25, 7:10, 9:55 Sat.-Sun. 10:55, 1:35, 4:25, 7:10, 9:55; The Lives of Others (R) Fri. 2:15, 5:15, 8:15 Sat.-

Sun. 11:15, 2:15, 5:15, 8:15; The Namesake (PG-13) Fri 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45 Sat -Si 10:45, 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45; **The Wind That Shakes the Barley** (Not Rated) Fri. 2:05, 5:05, 8:05 Sat.-Sun. 11:05, 2:05, 5:05, 8:05; **Year of** the Dog $(PG\text{-}13)\ Fri.\ 1:45,\ 4:35,\ 7:20,\ 10:05$ Sat.-Sun. 11:25, 1:45, 4:35, 7:20, 10:05

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center

1875 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-238-1233) **Alps** (Not Rated) Fri. 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 8:00 Sat. 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00 Sun. 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00; **Coral Reef Adventure** (Not Rated) Fri. 3:00p.m. Sat.-Sun. 10:00, 3:00; Hurricane on the Bayou (Not Rated) Fri. 1:00, 5:00, 9:00 Sat. 11:00, 1:00, 5:00, 7:00 Sun. 11:00, 1:00, 5:00; Mystery of the Nile (Not Rated) Fri. 6:00; Whales (Not Rated) Fri.

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.

EAST COUNTY

EL CAJON

Parkway Plaza 18

405 Parkway Plaza (619-401-3456) Call theater for program information

LA MESA

Grossmont Center

ont Center (619-465-7100) Call theater for program information

RANCHO SAN DIEGO

Rancho San Diego 15

Call theater for program information

SANTEE

Santee Drive In

10990 Woodside Avenue (619-448-7447) Blades of Glory (PG-13) Fri.-Sun.; Disturbia (PG-13) Fri.-Sun.; The Invisible (PG-13) Fri.-Sun.; Wild Hogs (PG-13) Fri.-Sun.

SOUTH BAY

CHULA VISTA

Chula Vista 10

Broadway between H and I (619-338-4214) Are We Done Yet? (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:00, 12:15, 2:45) 5:15, 7:30, 9:45; Blades of Glory (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:15, 1:30, 3:45) 6:00, 8:30, 10:45; **The Condemned** (R) Fri.-Sun. (10:30, 1:15, 4:15) 7:15, 10:15; **Disturbia** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:15, 12:45, 3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45; Fracture (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:00, 1:45, 4:30) 7:15, 10:00; In the Land of Women (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:00, 12:15, 2:45) 5:15, 7:45, 10:15; **The Invisible** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:00, 12:30, 2:45) 5:15, 7:45, 10:15; **Jakers! Wish upon Story** (G) Sat.-Sun. (10:30); **Kickin' It Old Skool** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:00, 12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; **Meet the Robinsons** (G) Fri.-Sun. (11:30, 2:15, 4:45) 7:00, 9:30; **Next** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:00, 1:15, 3:30) 6:00, 8:15, 10:30; **Vacancy** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:00, 2:00, 4:00) 6:15, 8:30, 10:45

Palm Promenade 24

770 Dennery Road (858-558-2262) Are We Done Yet? (PG); Blades of Glory (PG-13); The Condemned (R); Disturbia (PG-13); Fracture (R); Grindhouse (R); Hot Fuzz (R): In the Land of Women (PG-13): The Invisible (PG-13); Meet the Robinsons (G); Miss Potter (PG); Next (PG-13); Pathfinder (R); Perfect Stranger (R); Premonition (PG-13); The Reaping (R); Redline (PG-13); Shooter (R); 300 (R); TMNT (PG); Vacancy (R); Wild Hogs (PG-13)

Rancho Del Rey 16

East H Street (619-216-4707) Call theater for program information

IMPERIAL BEACH

South Bay Drive-In

do Avenue (619-423-2727) Call theater for program information

NORTH INLAND

CARMEL MOUNTAIN

Carmel Mountain

11620 Carmel Mountain Road (858-674-9770) Are We Done Yet? (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:25, 2:45) 5:00, 7:25, 9:50; Blades of Glory (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:35, 2:55) 5:25, 7:55, 10:25; **The Condemned** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:45) 4:25, 7:20, 10:05; **Disturbia** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:05, 2:50) 5:30, 8:05, 10:30; **Fracture** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:55) 4:20, 7:05, 9:55; **Hot Fuzz** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:40) 4:15, 7:15, 10:10; **In the Land** of Women (PG-13) Fri -Sun (12:20, 2:55)

5:15, 7:50, 10:30; The Invisible (PG-13) Fri. Sun. (12:00, 2:30) 5:05, 7:45, 10:15; Kickin' It **Old Skool** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:15) 4:30, 7:10, 10:00: Meet the Robinsons (G) Fri -Sun. (12:10, 2:40) 5:10, 7:40, 10:00; **Next** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:30, 3:00) 5:35, 8:00, 10:25; **Vacancy** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:50, 3:05) 5:20, 7:30, 9:45

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) Call theater for program information

POWAY

Poway 10

way Road (858-646-9423) **Are We Done Yet?** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (10:30, 1:00, 3:15) 5:30, 7:45, 10:15 Sun. (10:30, 1:00, 3:15) 5:30, 7:45; Blades of Glory (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:30, 1:45, 4:00) 6:15, 8:30, 10:45 Sun. (11:30, 1:45, 4:00) 6:15, 8:30; Disturbia (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; Fracture (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:15, 2:00, 4:30) 7:15, 10:00 Sun. (11:15, 2:00, 4:30) 7:15; In the Land of Women (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (12:00, 2:30) 5:00, 7:30, 10:00 Sun. (12:00, 2:30) 5:00, 7:30; **The Invisible** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:00, 12:15, 2:45) 5:15, 7:45, 10:15 Sun. (10:00, 12:15, 2:45) 5:15, 7:45; Jakers! Wish upo

Story (G) Sat.-Sun. (10:30); Kickin' It Old

Skool (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:00, 12:30, 3:00) 5.30, 8.00, 10.30 Sup. (10.00, 12.30, 3.00) 5.30. 8:00; Meet the Robinsons (G) Fri.-Sat. (11:30, 2:15, 4:45) 7:00, 9:30 Sun, (11:30, 2:15, 4:45) 7:00; **Next** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:00, 1:15, 3:30) 6:00, 8:15, 10:30 Sun. (11:00, 1:15, 3:30) 6:00, 8:15; **Vacancy** (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:15, 1:30, 3:45) 6:00, 8:30, 10:45 Sun. (11:15, 1:30, 3:45)

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) Are We Done Yet? (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:05, 2:25, 4:45) 7:05, 9:30; **Blades of Glory** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:00, 1:10, 3:25, 5:40) 8:00, 10:20; **The Condemned** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:20, 2:00, 4:45) 7:30, 10:15; **Disturbia** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:30, 2:05, 4:40) 7:20, 10:00; **Fracture** (R) Fri.-Sun. (10:55, 11:40, 1:30, 2:25, 4:10, 5:10) 6:55, 7:55, 9:40, 10:40; **Hot Fuzz** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:35, 2:15, 5:15) 8:05, 10:45; **In the Land of Women** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:50, 2:15, 4:45) 7:10, 9:40; **The Invisible** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:05, 2:30, 5:00) 7:35, 10:10; Kickin' It Old Skool (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:55, 2:30, 5:05) 7:40, 10:15; **Meet the Robinsons** (G) Fri.-Sun. (11:20, 1:50, 4:20) 7:00, 9:20; Next (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:00, 2:35, 5:00) 7:25, 9:45; **Pathfinder** (R) Fri.-Sun. (2:10) 7:15; Perfect Stranger (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:15,

5:05) 7:45; **300** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:25, 4:30) 9:35; **Vacancy** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:10, 1:20, 2:50, 3:30, 5:40) 7:50, 10:05, 10:40

NORTH COASTAL

CARLSBAD

Plaza Camino Real

2385 Marron Road (760-729-7469) Fracture (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:30, 2:10, 4:45) 7:25, 9:55 Sun. (11:30, 2:10, 4:45) 7:25; **Hot Fuzz** (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:00, 1:40, 4:20) 7:00, 9:35 Sun. (11:00, 1:40, 4:20) 7:00; **Next** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (12:10, 2:35, 5:00) 7:15, 9:25 Sun. (12:10, 2:35, 5:00) 7:15; Vacancy (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:20, 1:30, 3:35) 5:40, 7:45, 9:45 Sun. (11:20, 1:30, 3:35)

DEL MAR

Del Mar Highlands 8

El Camino Real at Del Mar Heights Road (858-646-9420)

Blades of Glory (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:15, 1:45, 4:00) 6:15, 8:30, 10:45 Sun. (11:15, 1:45, 4:00) 6:15, 8:30; **Disturbia** (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; **Fracture** (R) 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; In the **Land of Women** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (12:00, 2:30) 5:15, 7:30, 10:00 Sun. (12:00, 2:30) 5:15, 7:30: The Invisible (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:00. 12:15, 2:45) 5:15, 7:45, 10:15 Sun. (10:00, 12:15, 2:45) 5:15, 7:45; Jakers! Wish upon a Story (G) Sat.-Sun. (10:30); Meet the Robinsons (G) Fri.-Sat. (11:30, 2:00, 4:30) 7:00, 9:30 Sun. (11:30, 2:00, 4:30) 7:00; Next (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:00, 1:15, 3:30) 6:00, 8:15, 10:30 Sun. (11:00, 1:15, 3:30) 6:00, 8:15; **Vacancy** (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:00, 1:30, 3:45) 6:00, 8:30, 10:45 Sun. (11:00, 1:30, 3:45) 6:00, 8:30

Flower Hill 4

2630 Via de la Valle (858-646-9425) **The Hoax** (R) 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; **Hot Fuzz** (R) Fri.-Sat. (10:00, 1:00, 4:00) 7:00, 10:00 Sun. (10:00, 1:00, 4:00) 7:00; Miss Potter (PG) 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; The Namesake (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:30, 1:30, 4:30) 7:30, 10:15 Sun. (10:30, 1:30, 4:30) 7:30

ENCINITAS

La Paloma

471 South Coast Highway 101 (760-436-SHOW)

Pan's Labyrinth (R) Fri. 6:30 Sun. 6:30; **300** (R) Fri. 9:05 Sun. 9:05

LA COSTA

La Costa 6

6941 El Camino Real (at Aviara/Alga) (760-599-8221)

Blades of Glory (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:00, 1:30, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15, 10:30 Sun. (11:00, 1:30, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15; **Disturbia** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:15, 1:45, 4:30) 7:15, 9:45; **Fracture** (R) 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; In the Land of Women (PG-13) Fri. (10:00, 12:15, 2:45) 5:15, 7:45, 10:15 Sat.-Sun. (12:15, 2:45) 5:15, 7:45, 10:15; **The Invisible** (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; **Jakers! Wish upon a Story** (G) Sat.-Sun. (10:30); **Meet the Robinsons** (G) Fri.-Sat. (10:00, 12:15, 2:30, 4:45) 7:00, 9:30 Sun. (10:00, 12:15, 2:30, 4:45) 7:00

OCEANSIDE

Mission Marketplace 13

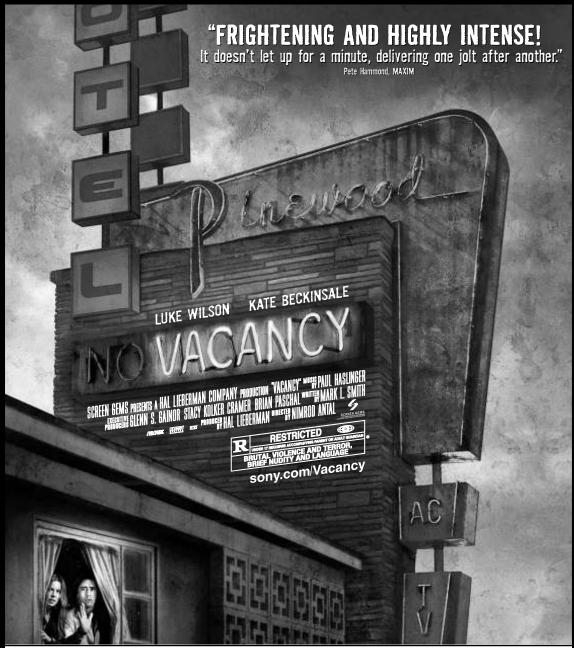
College Boulevard and Mission Avenue (760-806-1790)

Are We Done Yet? (PG); Blades of Glory (PG-13); The Condemned (R); Disturbia (PG-13); Firehouse Dog (PG); Fracture (R); In the Land of Women (PG-13); The Invisible (PG-13); Meet the Robinsons (G); Miss Potter (PG); Next (PG-13); TMNT (PG); Va-

Oceanside 16

401 Mission Avenue (760-439-1733) **Are We Done Yet?** (PG) Fri. (11:35, 2:10, 4:45) 7:10 Sat.-Sun. (11:35, 2:10) 4:45, 7:10; **Blades of Glory** (PG-13) Fri. (11:40, 2:05, 4:35) 6:50, 9:15 Sat.-Sun. (11:40, 2:05) 4:35, 6:50, 9:15; **The Condemned** (R) Fri. (11:45, 2:30, 5:05) 7:45, 10:25 Sat.-Sun. (11:45, 2:30) 5:05, 7:45, 10:25; **Disturbia** (PG-13) Fri. (12:25, 2:55, 5:15) 8:00, 10:25 Sat.-Sun. (12:25, 2:55) 5:15, 8:00, 10:25; Fracture (R) Fri. (11:50, 2:25, 5:00) 7:35, 10:20 Sat.-Sun. (11:50, 2:25) 5:00, 7:35, 10:20; **The Hoax** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:15a.m.); **Hot Fuzz** (R) Fri. (11:25, 2:15, 5:05) 7:50, 10:30 Sat.-Sun. (11:25, 2:15) 5:05 7:50, 10:30; In the Land of Women (PG-13) Fri. (12:15, 2:35, 4:55) 7:20, 9:45 Sat.-Sun (12:15, 2:35) 4:55, 7:20, 9:45; The Invisible (PG-13) Fri. (12:00, 2:25, 4:45) 7:15, 9:40 Sat. . (12:00, 2:25) 4:45, 7:15, 9:40; **Kickin' It** Old Skool (PG-13) Fri. (12:30, 3:00, 5:30) 8:05, 10:35 Sat.-Sun. (12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:05, $\begin{array}{l} 10:35; \textbf{Meet the Robinsons} \ (G) \ Fri. \ (11:30, \\ 2:00, \ 4:30) \ 7:05, \ 9:30 \ Sat.-Sun. \ (11:30, \ 2:00) \\ 4:30, \ 7:05, \ 9:30; \textbf{Miss Potter} \ (PG) \ Fri. \ (11:20, \\ \end{array}$ 1:45, 4:15) 7:00, 9:35 Sat.-Sun. (11:20, 1:45) 4:15, 7:00, 9:35; **Next** (PG-13) Fri. (12:20, 2:40, 5:10) 7:30, 9:50 Sat.-Sun. (12:20, 2:40) 5:10, 7:30, 9:50; Pathfinder (R) Fri. (11:55, 2:30, 7:30, 9:35, Parimide (R) Fri. (1:35, 2:30) 5:00, 7:25, 9:55 Sat.-Sun. (11:55, 2:30) 5:00, 7:25, 9:55; Perfect Stranger (R) Fri.-Sun. 9:25p.m.; The Reaping (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:30) 9:15; Redline (PG-13) Fri. (2:20, 4:40) 6:55 Sat.-Sun. (2:20) 4:40, 6:55; 300 (R) Fri. (1:55, 4:50) 7:40, 10:20 Sat.-Sun. (1:55) 4:50, 7:40, 10:20; Vacancy (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:45, 1:50, 3:55) 6:00, 8:10, 10:15

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LA SEMANA EN ESPAÑOL

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Ponen atención

Jessica Bedolla

Diario San Diego

La tragedia ocurrida en Virginia trae a la mente aterrorizados hechos que han sacudido a la región y que hacen pensar en el nivel de seguridad que existen en los planteles educativos.

Al Sur del Condado, en San Ysidro, yace el recinto del centro de educación superior del Southwestern College en donde un suceso similar y escalofriante se desató en el verano de 1984 en un establecimiento de comida rápida.

Disparos masivos cometidos por un ex guardia de seguridad desempleado mataron a 21 víctimas.

Nevada Smith, directora de relaciones de la comunidad de Southwestern College, comenta de la importancia de tener una estrategia diseñada para mantener el orden y la calma cuando algún desastre se presenta.

"Periódicamente hacemos simulacros que nos permiten estar preparados en caso de emergencias, o desastres", explica. tijuana



Se enfrentan

Omar Millán González

Diario San Diego

Ante unos 500 pacientes y médicos del Hospital General de Tijuana, un comando de sicarios asesinó en la sala de urgencias a dos policías estatales tras intentar rescatar a un reo que era custodiado la mañana del pasado miércoles.

Poco antes de llegar al nosocomio, los sicarios habían evadido un retén federal y en su huída se impactaron contra un transporte público, cerca de la central de autobuses en la Vía Rápida Oriente.

Los sicarios armados y vestidos como oficiales de la Agencia Federal de Investigaciones (AFI) pretendieron liberar en el nosocomio civil a su compañero e ingresaron con armas de grueso calibre.

Ahí se encontraron con los custodios de la PEP José Adrián López Torres y Rodolfo García Parrales a quienes asesinaron. especial



Cumpleañero

Eleazar López

Diario San Diego

Llega a sus veinticinco años el Centro Cultural Tijuana (CECUT) y es el pretexto ideal para celebrarlo en grande.

Es así que a lo largo de un año llevará a cabo todo una fiesta llamada 'Celebremos juntos' en donde espera que toda la ciudad y la comunidad cultural de Tijuana celebre alrededor de él.

Considerado como el espacio que le ha dado identidad a una ciudad que se desarrolla entre movimientos culturales, cruce internacional, ciudad de paso, comandos negros, secuestros 'levantones' y tragedias nacionales de gran impacto, el CECUT ha servido para impulsar la cultura de una ciudad con muchas caras.

"Es de suma importancia que la comunidad bajacaliforniana, como directa beneficiaria de las gestiones y aportaciones realizadas por este Centro a través de la historia, se sume a los festejos en torno a este aniversario", explica su directora Teresa Vicencio.









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Ausencia

América Barceló

Diario San Diego

Mientras el año pasado las manifestaciones masivas de miles de hispanos abrieron los ojos y pusieron en alerta al congreso de los Estados Unidos, este año son las cartas y participación silenciosa de miles de personas en contra de la amnistía los que están desafiando a legisladores.

En un debate realizado la semana pasada en el Club Nacional de Periodistas en la capital estadounidense, congresistas hablaron del ambiente político que influye la aprobación de una ley migratoria.

Por un lado, el representante demócrata de Illinois, Luis Gutiérrez, habló sobre su propuesta migratoria, la cual se ve como la salida más viable para resolver el problema migratorio.

Por el contrario, el congresista republicano de Wisconsin, James Sensenbrenner, sostiene que la propuesta no resuelve el problema de la inmigración ilegal, por el contrario la promueve.

"Esta seria repetir el error de 1986 cuando se legalizó a miles de personas, pero ahora 20 años después el problema se agudiza, pues hay 12 millones de personas viviendo ilegalmente", dijo el legislador republicano, quien está en contra de la reforma.

Deportes Superan a Maddux Cornan a Potros Va. Gragges per ucho ligana

A 'cargarse'

Jesús Esque

deportes

Diario San Diego

Con ocho opciones en el próximo draft de la NFL, entre ellos la selección 30 de la primera ronda, el gerente general de Chargers, AJ Smith, espera seguir con la historia de añadir talentos al equipo de los Bolts.

El draft que inicia el 28 de este mes y que concluye el domingo, tendrá a las rondas 1 al 3 programadas para concretarse el sábado, mientras que de la 4 a la 7 se concluirán el domingo.

"El draft es un tiempo emocionante del año para todos en la organización", dijo Smith, al referirse a la época en que los equipos de la NFL, escogen a las nuevas estrellas que salen de las universidades. El gerente general de Chargers agregó que la ceremonia se convierte en "una oportunidad para algunos jugadores jóvenes de venir y competir por la oportunidad de ayudarnos a ganar un campeonato".

"Hay muchos buenos jugadores allá afuera que pueden ayudar a nuestro equipo a ganar. Ahora nos toca a nosotros a hacer las elecciones correctas", dijo AJ Smith.

Chargers tienen una selección en las rondas una, dos, cuatro y siete, mientras que en la tres y cinco podrán escoger a dos jugadores.

Entre sus movimientos, Chargers cambiaron su opción de la sexta ronda a Tennessee en septiembre a cambio del mariscal de campo, Billy Volek. espectáculos



Otra adopción

Servicins Diario San Diego

Madonna partió de Malawi el domingo después de visitar durante seis días la empobrecida nación del Sur africano donde nació el pequeño niño que ella está en proceso de adoptar.

La cantante dejó el país cargando al menor en sus brazos antes de abordar su avión con el resto de sus acompañantes.

Madonna, usando un sombrero de paja, no volteó hacia atrás antes de subir a un avión color plata, seguida por su hija Lourdes.

El niño de 20 meses se despidió de los guardias personales y el conductor que los escoltaron durante la visita.

Madonna y su mari-

do, el productor cinematográfico Guy Ritchie,
tomaron la custodía de
David Banda en octubre
pasado después de hallarlo en un orfanato en
Malawi. Los críticos sostienen que la estrella de
48 años se aprovechó de
su celebridad para tratar
de acelerar el proceso de
adopción, en violación de
las leyes de Malawi, pero
ella lo niega.

Durante la visita, la estrella y sus acompañantes recorrieron orfanatos, proyectos para niños de la calle y programas de desarrollo agrícola, además de asistir a la inauguración de un centro de cuidado médico para niños patrocinado por su organización filantrópica Levantando a Malawi.





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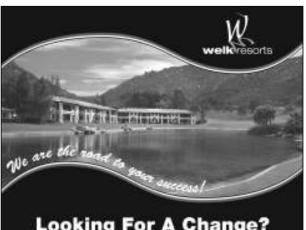
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CAREGIVER, LIVE-IN/HOUSEKEEPER. 6 bed Residential Care Facility Elderly (RCFE). Sunday evening to Friday noon. Room and board plus salary. 619-460-2272.

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CAREGIVERS. No experience, will train. Full time/part time, PM shift and weekends. Apply in person at Sunrise Assisted Living At La Costa (license #374601134), 7020 Manzanita Street, Carlsbad, CA 92011. 760-930-0060.

CAREGIVERS/COMPANIONS. Full/part time. Requires compassion, dependabil-ity, reliable transportation and clean DMV. No heavy lifting. Flexible hours, competi-tive pay, weekly payroll. Contact Right at Home today! E-mail: employment@ rahlajolla.com; or call: 858-277-5900.

CAREGIVERS/COMPANIONS. Minimum 1 year experience non-medical home care for seniors. Valid California Driver's License. Serving Santee/La Mesa/Del Cerro/San Carlos. Maureen, 619-749-

CAREGIVERS/COMPANIONS. Visiting Angels, America's Choice in Homecare. Now hiring compassionate, caring Care-Now hiring compassionate, caring Care-givers/Companions. Requires minimum 1 year experience in non-medical home care for seniors and valid CA driver's li-cense. Serving Poway, Rancho Pe-nasquitos, Scripps Ranch and Mira Mesa areas. Call for an immediate interview:

CAREGIVERS/NORTH COUNTY. North County openings for Hourly and Liv-ins. Paid weekly! Caring, compassionate, de-pendable with reliable vehicle/clean DMV. Flexible hours, competitive pay. Apply weekdays, 8:30am-4:30pm: Right at Home. 858-451-7844; or e-mail re-sume: employment@rahencinitas.com.

CAREGIVERS/SAN MARCOS/VISTA Fs-CANEGIVERS/SAN MARCUS/VISTA Es-condidol North County needs qualified, compassionate Caregivers. CNAs: Come work 1-on-1 with seniors in their homes. Competitive salary, benefits, flexible. Paid training. Apply 9am-4pm: In-Home Care, 135 West Mission Avenue, #109, Escon-dido (92025); 760-740-9932.

meal periods. Weeknds and hourly: 4-hour, 8-hour and 12-hour shifts, AM/PM. Top pay, flexible shifts 24/7, 401(k), production bonus, rewards for good work. Requires valif driver's license, vehicle/insurance, registration, one year of paid elder caregiving experience, eligibility to work in the United States. \$50 Hiring Bonus after 90 days of employment. Comfort Keepers, 2006 Workplace Excelence Medallion Award SDSHRM, San Diego: 619-795-6036. San Marcos: 760-598-3400.

CAREGIVERS needed immediately. 1 year experience. All shifts available. Hourly and live in. Call Assertive Homecare Services, 3774 Grove Street, Suite K-2, Lemon Grove. 619-466-6890.

CARPET CLEANER TECHNICIANS. \$500 Sign-on Bonus! \$500 Referral Bonus! Stanley Steemer, San Diego's #1 carpet and upholstery cleaner, is hiring now, full or part time! No experience necessary! Full-time \$8-\$20/hour earning potential. Great benefits for full-time employees. Training and supplies provided. Company gym and free breakfast every morning. Hurry, come in to apply and interview today! Human Resources, 9655 Via Excelencia, San Diego, CA 92126. (Exit Miramar Road West off I-15, turn right on Kearny Villa, right on Candida and head down the hill.) Questions? 858-271-9988 x162 or x160. EOE. Drug/smoke-free environment.

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CHILD CARE COUNSELORS. Work with SED dolescents in a residential treatment facility in Hillcrest. BA/BS preferred. Competitive salary, benefits, EOE. Fax resume Attn: Carlos 619-543-9163; e-mail hr@

CHILD DEVELOPMENT COUNSELOR. San Diego Center for Children. Work with children and adolescents who have social, emotional and learning needs. Ideal for students and new graduates seeking experience. Paid training, no experience necessary. Ten different locations. Full-time, on-call and overnight positions available. \$8.50-\$13/hour. Send your resume to: Adolescent services: resume2@ sdconet.org, Children services: resume1.sdconet.org. Visit: www.centerforchildren org.

Post free online ads with photos at

SanDiegoReader.com

centerforchildren.org.

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CLASSROOM AIDES. Work with develop CLASSROOM AIDES. Work with developmentally disabled children in nonpublic school. Experience preferred. Allied Gardens, Chula Vista, La Mesa. Monday-Friday, 7:30am-1pm. \$8.92/hour to start. EOE. www.vistahill.org. E-mail: steinjobs@vistahill.org. Fax resume: 619-281-0453. EOE. Apply weekdays, 9am-4pm: Stein Education Center, Attention: HR, 6145 Decena Drive, San Diego CA 92120.

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CNA/CHHA. Beginners, experienced. Family Caregivers, Childcare, Home Care Aides, Drivers. Great pay! New-hire bonus! Nonmedical, in-home help for seniors, children, disabled. 12-and 24-hour shifts! Training. Flexible schedules, benefits, retirement, childcare. At Your Home Familycare. E-mail: homecarejobs@atyourhomefamilycare.com. Toll free: 1-877-903-IOBS atyourhomefam 877-903-JOBS.

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COMMUNITY TRAINING Specialist/Job Coach. \$9/house to start. To assist devel-opmentally disabled adults in the community. Behavioral and instructional programs. Implement schedules. 32.5 hours/week. Benefits. E-mail: steinjobs@ vistahill.org. Fax resume: 619-281-0453. Apply weekdays, 9am-4pm, Stein Educa-tion Center, Attention: HR, 6145 Decena Drive, San Diego CA 92120.

COMPANION/CAREGIVERS. North Compt. North County openings for Hourly and Liv-ins. Paid weekly! Caring, compassionate, dependable with reliable vehicle/clean DMV. Flexible hours, competitive pay. Apply weekdays, 8:30am-4:30pm: Right at Home, 88-451-7844; or e-mail resume: employment@

COMPANIONS/CAREGIVERS. Full/part COMPANIONS/CARCEIVERS. Full/part time. Requires compassion, dependabil-ity, reliable transportation and clean DMV. No heavy lifting. Flexible hours, competi-tive pay, weekly payroll. Contact Right at Home todayl E-mail: employment@ rahlajolla.com; or call: 858-277-5900.

CONSTRUCTION APPRENTICE. Earn CONSTRUCTION APPRENTICE. Earn while you learn! Associated Builders and Contractors of San Diego has immediate openings in its Sheet Metal Apprentice Training Program. High school diploma or GED and drug test required. No experience necessary. Great wages, paid training, health benefits. EOE. M/F. www.abcsd.org. To apply, call Monday-Friday, 858-513-4700.

CONSTRUCTION. Home remodeling company seeks Drywallers, Taper and Painters, Floor Covering Installers. Full/part time. 5+ years experience. 619-277-1720.

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CONSTRUCTION. Team Fishel is hiring in San Diego and Oceanside: Laborers, Backhoe Operators, Class A Drivers/Laborers, Foreman. Excellent benefits. Cal Carolina: 800-829-4520; or apply: 666 Airport Road, Oceanside, CA 92054.

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4394 of Call 619-271-5864.

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Stein Education Center **6145 Decena Drive** San Diego, CA 92120

Fax: 619-281-0453 E-mail: steinjobs@vistahill.org

All applications/résumés must include job title. www.vistahill.org

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CAREGIVER. Provide assistance to adults with developmental disabilities. Apply: Home of Guiding Hands, 1825 Gillespie Way #200, El Cajon, CA, 92020, on-line: www.guidinghands.org, call: 619-938-965

CAREGIVER needed for disabled person in Mira Mesa, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, noon-4pm. Experience, resume, background check required. Call after 6pm, 858-271-5091.

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CAREGIVERS. Full/part time. 24-hour live-ins. Male/female. 1+ year experience, ve-hicle required. Caregivers, Companions, HHAs, CNAs--call ComForcare Senior Services! Leave contact info/brief experi-ence: 619-944-3327.

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Work with developmentally disabled children in a nonpublic school. Experience preferred Allied Gardens Chula Vista, La Mesa, Monday-Friday 7:30 am-1 pm.



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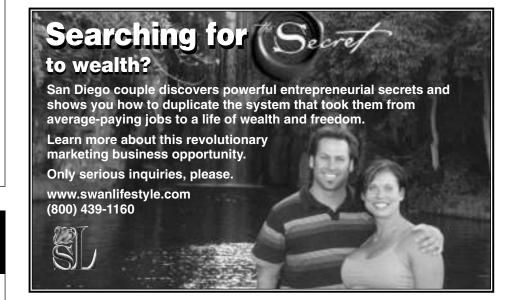
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142 San Diego Reader April 26,

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resume: 800-533-0312.

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DRIVERS. Restaurant delivery service, 9am-2pm. No experience necessary. Get cash daily. Apply today, start tomorrow! Need car, insurance, decent DMV. Call DDI, 888-334-9675.

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EARN \$800-\$3200 MONTHLY to drive

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ELECTRONIC ASSEMBLERS. Component ID experience required. Also hiring Test Technicians. MDI offers paid holidays after 520 hours and vacation bonuses after 2000 hours. MDI Staffing. San Diego: 8316 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. #204; fax 858-277-5621. Call 858-277-5680.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS:

www.medfleetambulance.com.

ENTERTAINMENT. Sea World is now hiring: Culinary Operations, Merchandise, Education, Park Operations and Entertainment. Pay rates starting at 88.50/hour. College tuition reimbursement, complimentary meal for Culinary Operations lunch-eligible shifts, complimentary passes, food and merchandised discounts, free and discounted tickets to local attractions. EOE. Drug-free workplace. For complete listing and descriptions of the available positions: SeaWorldJobs.com. Apply in person: Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm: 500 Sea World Drive, San Diego 92109. 619-226-3842.

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Rapidly expanding financial services marketing company seeks local sales representatives. Ideal candidate will be motivated, honest, outgoing, entrepreneurial, with 4 years of college or equivalent. Call our office and leave message (or fax) 24 hours: 877-286-5339.

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IMMEDIATE ASSIGNMENTS FOR:

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Female Caregivers also needed. CNAs, HHAs and Companions. Drivers with insurance and non-drivers.

2 years' experience and CA ID or DL, SS card required. Fingerprint and TB test a plus.

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San Diego Reader April 26, 2007

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résumé:

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All shifts: mornings, afternoons, evenings and overnight. Medical, dental, vision, 401(k) and stock purchase.

Apply online at: www.wholefoods.com or in person at: 8825 Villa La Jolla Drive • La Jolla 858-642-6700

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FUNDRAISING for national charities and PONDRAISING TO Hattorian charities and Democratic Party. Full-or part-time (evening and Sunday shifts). Paid train-ing. Medical, dental, 401(k). Hourly plus bonuses, regular raises. Apply at Gordon & Schwenkmeyer, 9620 Chesapeake Drive, Suite 108, San Diego 92123-1369. Call 858-496-2100.

GENERAL. 3 people needed to start ASAP at San Diego's #1 window cleaning company. Trainees start at \$8-\$12/hour and experienced window cleaners earn \$12-\$30-/hour, clean DMV required. Call 619-523-1937. Apply in person at 2183 Sunset Cliffs ply in person at 2183 Sunset Cliffs Boulevard, 92107, Monday-Friday, 8am-

GOLF: If you are looking for a golf career, we have positions available. We are looking for friendly and motivated individuals for one of our fine facilities. Please call 619-556-5520 for more infor-

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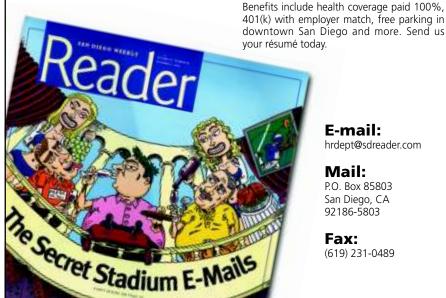
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Account Executive needed to help our team of inside representatives service and follow up on incoming display advertising calls. Sales and customer service experience will help you meet the needs of our potential advertisers and turn them into satisfied clients.

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GUARDS/SECURITY OFFICERS, Special GUARDS/SECURITY OFFICERS, Special Response Officers. Full or part time. High starting pay. Excellent benefits. Training available. Drug/background. EOE. M/F/D/V. Apply: Weekdays, 9am-4pm, ABM Security Services, 1620 Fifth Avenue, Suite 875, San Diego. 619-338-320

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HAIR DESIGNER/RECEPTIONIST. For ward thinking salon in the heart of Hill-crest offering positions for experienced colorist and qualified receptionist. Con-tact Scott or Cassandra at 619-291-8624

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HAIRSTYLIST, full time/part time for children's hair salon in Chula Vista/Eastlake. \$11/hour. Monday-Saturday, 10am-6:3pm, and Sunday, 11am-5:30pm. Call Leslie, 619-656-5437.

HAIRSTYLIST. Booth Rental, \$145/week

Free Classifieds!

orZ, 3755 Murphy Canyon Road, Suite B, 92123. 858-573-9035.

HAIRSTYLIST. Children's hairstylist wanted for Children's Salon in La Jolla. Many clients eagerly awaiting you! Experience with children preferred. Please call 858,551,5161

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HAIRSTYLISTS/MANICURISTS. Large booths. Part/full time. Full-time rental-\$140 weekly. Ask about our moving al-lowance. Great place to move your clients. Free reception/phone/towels. 100% retail. Golden Touch, near Fashion Valley. 619-972-7744.

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HEALTHCARE/CAREGIVERS. North CONTY THE REAL THREAD THE REAL THREAD 7844. E-mail: employment@rahencinitas.

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La Jolla Nurses! Looking for Home Health Aides, ongoing assignments. Also per diem work—you pick the days, hours and shifts! Competitive pay rates, excellent work assignments. Employee-owned agency—you receive shares of company stock free! State-licensed home health agency. Medical, dental and vision benefits; 401(k) plan, referral bonus. La Jolla Nurses HomeCare, 858-454-9339.

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Employer. Call 1-888-4A CHP JUB.

HOSPITALITY. Senior resort retirement community seeking: Secretary/Coordinator for Maintenance Department, must have 1+ year expeience; Caregivers/CNAs, AM shift and weekends; Lead Server, full time 11am-7:30pm; Gardener, temp summer help, \$8.50/hour. Apply: Wesley Palms, 2404 Loring Street, Pacific Beach 92109. Donna, 858-581-8569.

HOSPITALITY: HOUSE OF BLUES is look-HOSPITALITY: HOUSE OF BLUES is look-ing to fill the following positions: Door Host/Security (Guard Card required), Cocktail Server, Concert Hall Busser, Restaurant Host, Restaurant Busser, Dishwasher, Human Resources Assistant, Executive Chef and Sous Chef. Please stop by the House of Blues to fill out an application. HOB has great benefits to offer. For a full description of these and other positions, please visit our website at: hob.com under San Diego employment. AA/EOE. M/F/D/N.

HOTEL DIRECTOR OF HOUSEKEEPING. Experienced with extensive hotel and hospitality knowledge. Requires direct experience in managing a hotel house-keeping department. Only qualified applicants will be considered. If you would like to join us at our award winning property, please submit your resume via email to: hr@ranchovalencia.com, No phone calls please. EOE/Drug-free workplace.

Post free online ads with photos at SanDiegoReader.com

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HOTEL JOB FAIR. Wednesday, April 18, 10am-2pm. Lodge at Torrey Pines. Openings: Director of Guest Services, Food Servers, Host/Hostess, Cooks, Room Service, Massage Therapist, Spa Attendant, Front Office Agent (Graveyard), House-keeping, Gift Shop Clerk, Summer positions! Apply in person and be prepared for a possible on-the-spot interview. Se habla espanol. The Lodge at Torrey Pines, 11480 North Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla, CA 92037, www.lodgetorreypines.com.EOE

HOTEL POSITIONS. The Handlery Hotel HOTEL POSITIONS. The Handlery Hotel and Resort is hiring for service oriented positions: Assistant Restaurant Manager, Executive Sous Chef, Night Auditor (part time), Driver, General Cashier/Accounting Clerk, Security Officer (graveyard). We have competitive pay and excellent benefits. Please apply to: 950 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, CA, 92108 or fax resume to: 619-298-3948.

sume to: 619-298-3948.

HOTEL RESTAURANT. At Hyatt, even the smallest details can have a big impact. Hyatt Regency Islandia is now hiring for its signature restaurant. Chef De Cuisine: responsible for innovative menu development, managing food cost, overseeing kitchen operations, staff scheduling, training and development. Previous culinary management experience and a passion for the culinary arts. Line Cook: good communication skills. Hotel cooking experience and Culinary Degree preferred. perience and Culinary Degree preferred. AA/EOE. M/F/D/V. To apply, please visit www.hyattregencyislandia.com.

www.hyattregencyislandia.com.

HOTEL. Feria de empleo. Lunes 4/30, 9am-1pm, Bahia Resort Hotel-Del Mar Room, 998 West Mission Bay Drive, San Diego 92109. Unase al equipo de trabajo mas profesional de la industria hotelera en San Diego. Los Hoteles Bahia y Cattamaran ofrecen excelente ambiente de trabajo, etrenamiento, competitivos sueldos y beneficios. Buscamos personal amigable y profesional que disfrute trabajar dando servicio al cliente. Nuestras

posiciones disponibles son: Ayudante de Recamareras, Carpintero, Cocineros, Personal para Banquetes, Personal para Mantenimiento, Plomero, Supervisor de Housekeeping, Meseros, Maleteros. Venga a solicitar: 9am-1pm. Preparese para entrevistas, la contratacion es inmediatal www.evanshotels.com. EOE HOTEL. Hospitality Job Fair. 4/30, 9am-1pm. Bahia Resort Hotel-Del Mar Room. The Bahia and Catamaran Resort Hotels, in Mission Bay Park, offer great work environment/competitive pay/benefits. Openings: Carpenter, Banquet Houseperson, Bell Person, Busser, Boat Deckhand, Cafeteria Cook, Exotic Bird Handler, Food Expeditor and Server, Front Office Clerk, Host/Cashier, HVAC Technician, House-keeping/Supervisor, Line Cook, Maintenance, Manicurist, Plumber, Reservations Agent, Room Attendant, Restaurant Supervisor, Switchboard Operator, Spa Attendant. Agent, nooin Attendant, nestaurant su-pervisor, Switchboard Operator, Spa At-tendant, Spa Receptionist, Spa Supervisor. EOE. Apply 9am-1pm, be prepared for interview. Bahia Resort Ho-tel, 998 West Mission Bay Drive. www.

HOTEL/RESTAURANT: The San Diego Marriott Hotel and Marina is seeking talented and energetic people for the following positions: Restaurant Supervisor, Room Service Supervisor, Banquet Cooks, Restaurant Cooks, Lead Baker, Front Desk Agents, Room Service Supervisor. To be considered for these positions, you must log onto http://greatjobs.marriott.com and complete the online application. Resumes may be submitted to sandt.careers@marriott.com. Pre-employment drug test required. EOE MIFFI/O.

HOTEL: MARRIOTT SAN DIEGO Gaslamp DULL: MARKHUTT SAN DIEGO (asalamp Quarter. Come work at one of "San Diego's Best Places to Work!" Nominated two years running! Now hiring: Ambassador (Bouncers), Banquet Chef, Bellperson, Busser/Runner, Day Cook, Dishwasher, Guest Service Agent, Host/Hostess, Houseperson, In-Room Dining, In-Room Dining Supervisor, Loss Prevention/Security, Restaurant Supervisor, Room Attendant. Highly competitive salaries, excellent benefits, free meals and parking! Sandiegojobs@stanfordhotles.com. Fax 619-446-6055.

HOUSE CLEANERS. Full time career position. Swisher is the leader in Restroom Hygiene. Paid training at \$10/hour. Must speak English and have a van or truck. Apply: hr@swishersd.com or fax: 619-276-4321 or call 619-276-1159.

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Child Care Counselors needed to work with SED children and adolescents in residential treatment facilities throughout San Diego County. BA/BS preferred. Various shifts and days available.



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Please fax résumé to: East Region–Attn: Jen, 619-447-5386 Central Region–Attn: Carlos, 619-543-9163 South Region–Attn: Matt, 619-656-1429 North Region-Attn: San Pasqual, 760-233-6017

Or e-mail résumé to: hr@newalternatives.ora



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Hard workers and a great attitude a must. Paid training from day one.

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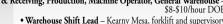
every Tuesday at 6 am, Thursday at 2 pm, or Friday at 9 am: 7925 Ronson Road, San Diego, CA 92111

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\$8-\$10/hour DOE



- Warehouse Shift Lead Kearny Mesa, forklift and supervisory experience required, \$10-\$12/hour DOE
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 Outbound Sales Poway, must have 1+ year of experience,
 - \$12-\$13/hour DOE
- Customer Service/Administrative Retail company in Kearny Mesa, must have MS Office and phone skills, \$9-\$10/hour Outbound Sales/Customer Service Rep – Eyewear company in San Marcos, minimum 2 years' call center experience required, \$12-\$14/hour

Call to schedule an immediate interview:

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Attendant

• Kids' Camp

Attendant

• Nail Technician

• PBX Operator

Hairstylist

• Gift Shop

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- Restaurant Busser
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- Room Attendant
- Room Service Server
- Security Officer
- Security Supervisor
 Kitchen Supervisor
- Spa Receptionist



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- Shuttle Bus Driver (PT)
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- Market Shift Leader (PT)
- BBQ Cook (PT) • Market Clerks (PT)
 - Ice Cream Attendant (PT)
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- Cafe Food Server/Cashier (PT)

Resort perks include free non-motorized boat rentals and resort discounts!

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Please call our Jobline for changes in available positions.

JOBLINE: 858-581-4208

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Call Justin Lonson at: 858.531.3353 HOUSECLEANERS. Weekdays, 8am-5pm. Paid weekly. Great benefits includ-

5pm. Paid weekly. Great benefits including using company car on the job. No experience required. Must speak/understand English. Valid drivers license. Molly Maid East/South County: 619-660-7900.

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Earn up to \$462 weekly after 5 weeks full

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MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- 21 years old Good physical condition No illicit drug usage
 - U.S. citizen or in process of becoming a citizen No felony convictions
 High school diploma or GED

SALARY: \$34,028.80-\$43,430.40 ANNUALLY Safety Retirement - Sworn Officers 3% at age 50. Bilingual men/women encouraged to apply

Test Date: May 12, 2007, 8 am

Montgomery Middle School

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Oceanside: Manul, 865-734-44-17.

PHP PROGRAMMER. Intermediate. Self motivated, organized. Full time. Benefits, 401(k). Create flawless code that is well documented. Proficient: PHP, JavaScript, HTML, MySQL. E-mail resume: php_positions@apartments24-7.com.

PLUMBERS WITH EXPERIENCE needed immediately! Work for a national leader in the service industry, ARS (American Residential Services of California, Inc.). We offer great benefits. Must have clean, current California DMV. ARS is a drug-free work environment. CSL#791820. To apply, please Kevin: 888-677-5455, X113; or apply online: www.jobswithars.com.

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PLUMBERS/SERVICE TECHNICIANS with experience needed now! Rescue Rooter offers: Medical/dental, 401(k), vans/tools, paid vacations/overtime, high income, drug-free workplace. To apply, please e-mail: Imyking@ars.com or call: 858-457-6506. AA/EOE. License #765155.

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truck required. 858-451-3333.

PRESCHOOL TEACHER. Christian, NAEYC-accredited preschool has an immediate opening for a morning Teacher, hours from 8:30am to 12:30pm MondayFriday. Must have AA or BA degree in Early Childhood Education, plus classroom experience and curriculum development. Salary ranges from \$12-\$18/hour commensurate with education and experience. Call Betty at 858-454-2677, fax your resume to 858-454-6642, or e-mail to betty/@lipres.org.

bettyh@lipres.org.

PROBATION CAREERS. Correctional Deputy Probation Officer I. County of San Diego Probation Department now hiring. Test Date: May 12, 2007, 8am, Montgomery Middle School, 2470 Ulfic 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.

RADIO SURVEY. No selling. Need telephone interviewers for consumer surveys for radio station. Sunday-Friday, 2:00pm-8:00pm. Up to \$10/hour. Be dependable, have basic computer/telephone skills. 619-442-5325; www.callout.com.

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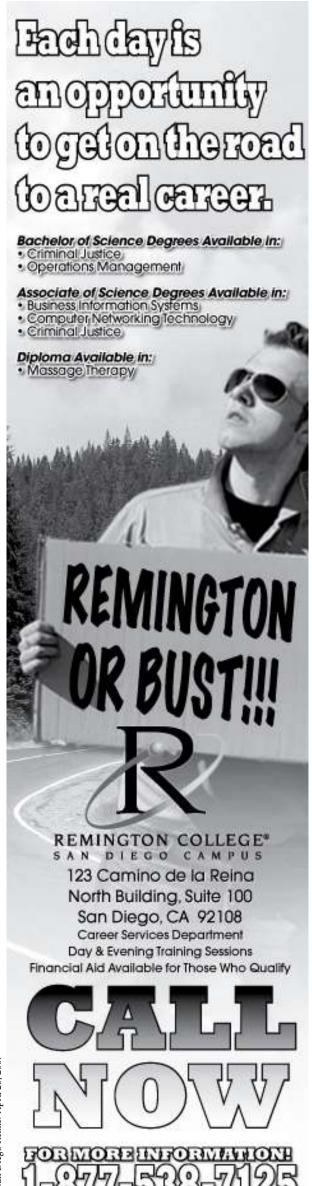
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RECREATION AID (YOUTH). Needed on Monday-Friday, 20-34 hours per week starting pay is \$8.10/hour with benefits. 6 months experience working with youth a plus. Must be able to pass physical exam and background check. Several locations available. For more information, call Christina, 619-556-8370. Fax resumes to 619-556-9537. www.mwrtoday.com.

RECREATION. Magdalena Ecke Family YMCA is hiring Youth Sports Officials. For more information or other opportunities, check out: http://ecke.ymca.org or contact Kate Fornaca, 760-942-9622.

RECREATION. The Magdalena Ecke Family YMCA is now hiring Lifeguards! a four-day training will be provided May 11, 12, 13, and 19 for all certifications! Form more information like a summer camp job, visit: http://ecke.ymca.org or contact Kate

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adise Point Resort and Spa is now hiring a Gift Shop Attendant. Please apply Monday-Thursday, 10am-4pm: San Diego Paradise Point Resort and Spa, 1404 West Vacation Boulevard, San Diego, CA, 92109. Web: www.paradisepoint.com.

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RESTAURANT BUSSERS. Taka, a popular Japanese sushi restaurant in the Gaslamp, needs bussers. Must apply in person 2pm-5pm, Monday-Friday: Taka Restaurant, 555 5th, 92101. 619-338-0555

RESTAURANT HOST/HOSTESS. Historic Hillcrest hotel seeking Host/Hostess. Full-time, weekdays. Flexible hours needed. Experience preferred. E-mail: jobspms@ cox.net. Or fax: 619-291-1025.

RESTAURANT SERVERS/BARTENDERS. Now hiring experienced servers and bartenders for new breakfast hours, 7am-3pm. Apply Monday-Friday, 12noon-5pm, Dublin Square Irish Pub and Grill, 554 4th Avenue, Gaslamp/Downtown or fax resume 619-239-5828 or bartel de -mail dublinsquare@yahoo.com

RESTAURANT. Assistant Manager/Manager for Subway in South Bay area. Seek motivated individual with professional attitude who has leadership abilities, works tude who has leadership abilities, works well with others, and enjoys dealing with the public. \$10-\$15/hour, depending on experience. Must be available for all shifts. 40-45 hours per week. Valid driver's license, car registration and car insurance required. Performance Bonus of \$150-\$400 per month after 90 days. Benefits after 90 days. Fax resume: 619-216-0236. Call 619-216-3572.

RESTAURANT. Managers, Line Cooks, and Host(ess) for a restaurant in Banker's Hill. Please contact Steve at 619-282-8423 x3 or e-mail stevemotie@yahoo.

RESTAURANT/BUSSER. Paradise Point Resort and Spa is now hiring a Restaurant Busser. Please apply Monday-Thursday, 10am-4pm: San Diego Paradise Point Re-sort and Spa, 1404 West Vacation Boule-vard, San Diego, CA, 92109. Web: www. paradisenpint com

RESTAURANT/DELI. Fast-paced Down rest-packed Down-town deli seeks experienced deli counter/ breakfast cook/barista Monday-Friday, days only. Early morning position, full time, part time. Apply at 1143 6th Avenue; call 619-251-9354. RESTAURANT/FOOD SERVER. Paradise Point Resort and Spa is now hiring Food Servers. Please apply Monday-Thursday, 10am-4pm: San Diego Paradise Point Resort and Spa, 1404 West Vacation Boulevard, San Diego, CA, 92109. Web: www.paradisepoint.com

paracisepoint.com. **RESTAURANT/GREETER.** Paradise Point Resort and Spa is now hiring Restaurant Greeter. Please apply Monday-Thursday, 10am-4pm: San Diego Paradise Point Resort and Spa, 1404 West Vacation Boulevard, San Diego, CA, 92109. Web: www.paradisepoint com-

RESTAURANT/KITCHEN SUPERVISOR. Paradise Point Resort and Spa is now hiring a Kitchen Supervisor. Please apply Monday-Thursday. 10am-4pm: San Diego Paradise Point Resort and Spa, 1404 West Vacation Boulevard, San Diego, CA, 92109. Web: www.paradisepoint.com.

RESTAURANT/CAFE COUNTER/Barista Upscale and popular cafe and bakery in the village of Rancho Santa Fe. Immediate positions available. Experience preferred. Perks include very good earning potential; holidays, Sundays and Mondays off. Shifts available between 6:30am and 4:30pm. Call 858-759-0071.

RESTAURANT/HOTEL. Hilton La Jolla Torrey Pines hiring: Restaurant Servers (full, part time/on-call), Coffee Bar Attendant, Room Service, Housekeeping, Security, Painter, Door Attendant, Director of Outlets, and more! Apply/person: Mon-day-Tuesday, 9am-12pm, Wednesday-Thursday, 1pm-4pm. 10950 North Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla, CA 92037. 858-450-

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RESTAURANT: BUS PERSON/Food Runner. Thyme In The Ranch in Rancho Santa Fe has an immediate full-time opening, 8am-4pm Tuesday-Saturday. Experience preferred. Must have English speaking skills. Call 858-759-0071.

RESTAURANT: DELI WORKER/Sandwich Maker. Part time. Experienced. Monday-Friday, flexible schedule. Lunch Bunch Deli. 11120 Roselle, Suite I, 92121. Fax resume: 858-268-0006. Phone: 858-268-

RESTAURANT: EL TORITO. Now hiring

RESTAURANT: PARK MANOR SUITES. Historic Hillcrest hotel seeking Restaurant Servers, Bussers, Banquet Staff, Security. Flexible hours/work days needed. Experience preferred. Email jobspms@cox.net or fax 619-291-1025.

RESTAURANT: ROBEKS of Kearny Mesa looking for energetic, fun people with big smiles to greet customers and make smoothies. Daytime work, 7am-3pm.

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RESTAURANT: Casa De Manana, an upscale retirement community in La Jolla offering independent and assisted living for seniors, is seeking a Line Cook, Kitchen Help, Servers and Dishwasher. Competitive wages, benefits for full-time positions, friendly work environment. Apply in person at 849 Coast Boulevard, La Jolla, CA 92037, fax resume to 858-456-4293, e-mail kmoore@frontporch.net or call 858-456-4219.

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ences. \$26/hour. 765-918-9801.

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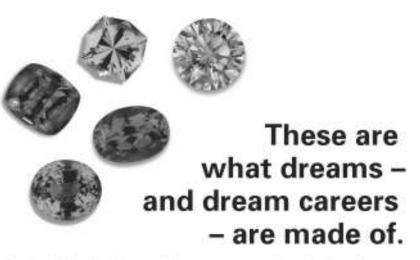
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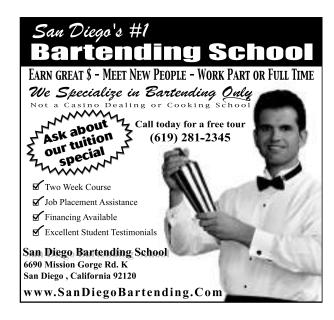






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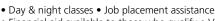
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animaicenter.org. EUE. VETERINARY ASSISTANT. Will train, no experience necessary. \$8.60/hour. Apply in person, Tuesday-Friday, 8am-7pm. Harmony Animal Hospital: 3994 Park Boulevard, 92103. No calls!

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VOLUNTEERS needed for ArtWalk 2007, San Diego's largest visual and performing arts exhibit, in Little Italy, Downtown: Saturday, 4/28 and Sunday, 4/29, 12noon-6pm. Minimum 18 years, for event setup, breakdown, staffling information and merchandise booth, traffic control, KidsWalk. Prizes, raffle, ArtWalk 2007 T-shirt, more Please contact Carmen DeBello at cdebello@artwalkinfo.com or 619-615-1090, x211. www.artwalkinfo.com.

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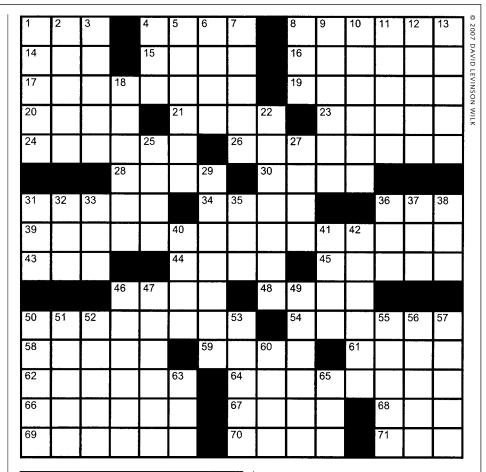
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Across

- -Man
- 4. Tombstone locale: Abbr.
- 8. Country linking two oceans
- _ mode 15. Hand over
- 16. Orbs
- 17. Period of time to do shtick?
- 19. Autumn blooms
- 20. "Take ____ Train"
- 21. "Right away!"
- 23. 1957 Elia Kazan film "_
- the Crowd" 24. Crayola color since 1949
- 26. Attack a celestial body named
- after Edmond Halley? 28. Counter offer?
- 30. "Silkwood" Oscar nominee 31. November birthstone
- 34. Parting word in Palermo
- 36. Pops
- 39. Procedure that's been performed on 17-, 26-, 50- and 64-Across
- 43. Paris pronoun
- 44. Summer coolers
- 45. Raring to go
- 46. Peterson in the news in 2003 48. Epps of "House"
- 50. Places where Mickey and
- Minnie can get some rest?
- 54. German mark
- 58. Up in the air
- 59. Bedtime indicator
- __ expert, but ..."
- 62. Moses portrayer
- 64. What happens to your eye when you're over-stressed? 66. "Is Anybody Goin' to San
- _?" (1970 #1 country hit) 67. Carmela portrayer on "The
- Sopranos' 68. Whistler, at times
- 69. Tilted
- 70. Witnessed
- 71. 2006 World Series champs: Abbr.

- 1. Deals
- 2. Tropical greeting 3. Caravan member
- 4. U. of Md. is in it
- 5. Make even smoother
- 6. Mid-month time 7. Some sorority women
- 8. Sports org. since 19169. French wine region
- 10. Against
- 11. Crosswise, nautically
- 12. Dancer Cunningham
- 13. Plus

- 18. 2001 Sean Penn film
- 22. Artist with a museum in Barcelona dedicated to his life and work
- 25. Exude
- 27. Third Chinese dynasty
- 29. Grapefruit juice property 31. Cable chan, for old films
- 32. "Hollywood Squares" win
- 33. 23rd Greek letter
- 35. NASA recently discovered it on Mars
- 36. Identify
- _ you serious?"
- 38. Isr. neighbor
- 40. One may contain pico de gallo 41. Office Depot purchase
- 42. Protection against Dracula
- 46. Stranded, as a baserunner
- 47. Broadway opening
 49. City northeast of Indianapolis
- 50. Taj
- 51. TV actress Graff Rica
- 53. Fills to the gills
- 55. Asteroid group named for a god of love
- 56. Not yet realized
- 57. Exam given to some immigrants
- 60. Extensive
- 63. Actor Beatty 65. Politician with a six-yr. term
- RULES OF THE GAME
- 1. The prize for solving the Reader Puzzle will be a *Reader* T-shirt.
- 2. All entries in the Reader Puzzle contest must be received by the Reader by 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, five days following the issue date (Fax to 619-231-0489 or U.S. Mail to *Reader* Puzzle, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803).
- 3. All entries must be accompanied by your name and address.
- 4. Employees of the Reader and their immediate families are not eligible.
- 5. In the event of disputes or ties, decisions of the judges will be final and arbitrary. We've only got five prizes each week to give away, so if there are more than five winners, we'll have a lottery.
- 6. All answers must be entered in the space allowed on the puzzle page. And please, no phone calls or trips to our office.
- 7. One entry per person.



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Solution to and winners of the Reader Puzzle for 4/19/07.

There were 168 entrants. The winners are:

- 1. Tony Rome, San Diego
- 2. Jackie Lopez, La Mesa
- 3. Andrea Westinghouse, Escondido
- 4. Thomas McVeagh, Lakeside 5. Glen Chase, San Diego

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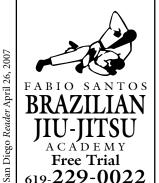
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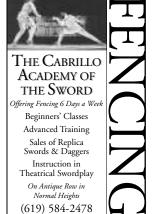
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NAME This Place



Last week's place: (clue: Logan shark dive?) Rope-climbing movie pirate tries to escape full-size model of *Finding Nemo*'s shark inside the Aqua Tech Dive Center, 1800 Logan Avenue, Barrio Logan. The movie shark is among the shop's museum of historical gear from the sporting, military, and commercial diving world. The most visible collectible is outside: the yellow diving bell from the movie *Journey to the Bottom of the Sea*, planted on the roof. (Last week's winners: Ted Coakley, Joe Esparza, Susan Bookout, Dennis Butterworth, Rick Crawford)

Clue: Sister's and Boy Scouts' gift

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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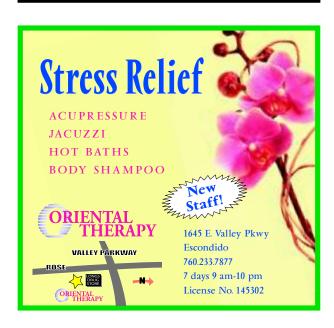


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Music







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Renee Druhot Office Manager Winchester

t a hotel on the Fourth of July At a notes on the round of , ..., in 2002, I met Dennis Quaid. I asked for his autograph on my shirt. He signed right on my boob. I still have it. He had just left Meg Ryan and was in the bar drinking. That night his band was playing with him. I think they were called the



Alan Chatman

Operator

Winchester

Magic Johnson. I met him at UCSD. It was at a basketball camp. I got a picture with him. My mom, dad, and I all did. He wasn't the friendliest. On the court he kind of bossed us around. We were kids and wanted to learn basketball. If we didn't understand something right away, he'd get really mad.



Bill Carroll Tree Climber

Clairemont

Dikembe Mutombo. I was sitting courtside at a basketball game. The trainers were helping him stretch out, and the ball rolled over. My brother picked it up, and he came over to get it. Dikembe said, "What's up?" Oh, I also met a radio personality from 94.1. I can't even remember her name, though.



 $Gregory\,Mendoza$

Army

Chula Vista

Tmet Donald Rumsfeld. We weren't allowed to talk to him, though. We just listened to what he had to say when he visited the bases in Kosovo. And we got to shake his hand afterwards. This was before 9/11. Oh, we also got to hear Tony Blair speak.



Donna Callahan

Bartender

North Park

waited on Jon Lovitz downtown at my other job. And a few of the guys in POD I see a lot. The lead singer I saw in Target, too. When I wait on famous people, they don't necessarily tip more. It's usually 20 percent. That's what Lovitz tipped. He wasn't very talkative. It's weird. Some of my friends only know him from commercials, and older generations know him from *Saturday* Night Live and movies.



Kristine Calitri

Credit Union

Mira Mesa

▼ met a lot when I worked in Beverly Hills as a stockbroker. Joanna Cassidy from Six Feet Under: Bobby Hatfield of the Righteous Brothers. Oh, I didn't meet but I talked on the phone a lot to Alan Dershowitz. I met Milton Friedman, the Nobel Prize winner. I run into Richard Lederer a lot, but everyone probably does because he lives down here.

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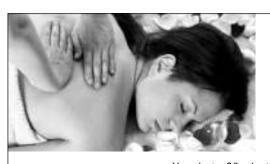
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CLAIREMONT, Female preferred in 2 bedroom 1 bath, share bath. Pool, jacuzzi, nice, clean, quiet condo. Share with male. \$450/month, \$350/deposit, in-cluding utilities. Mac 858-405-2565.

CLAIREMONT, WEST. Room available in pawly remodeled 4 bedroom, 3 bath

CLAIREMONT, WEST. Hoom available in newly remodeled 4 bedroom, 3 bath house. Washer/dryer, fireplace, yard. Quiet neighborhood. Parking. No smoking, drugs, pets. \$575, 858-272-2992.
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Jimmy Loucks, 619-252-2435.

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436-9992.

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FASHION VALLEY, Share 2 bedroom 2 PASITUM VALLET, Share 2 bedroom 2 betr condo, own bedroom/bath in furnished condo. Pool, jacuzzi, gym. Minutes Downtown/beach. \$880/month, includes rent, high speed Internet, cable, utilities. No drugs/smoking/pets. Available 4/29/07. 619-865-0105. KEARNY MESA. \$650. 1700-square-foot 3-story townhome. Female preferred. No pets. Room/private bath, cable, Internet, washer/dryer. Great location. Female only. 858-842-1944.

only. 858-842-1944.

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NORTH PARK. \$400/month. Includes utilities. Clean, furnished private room. Share kitchen, bath areas in small house. Af-

NORTH PARK. \$500/month, \$500 deposit. Own bedroom and bath. Utilities included. No pets. Available 5/1.

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nogspets. 019-002-1024.

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OCEANSIDE, \$550 plus utilities, female

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PACIFIC BEACH/NORTH, \$775, includes

858-220-1237.

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deposit, includes utilities, laundry, inter-net extra. 3 bedroom, 3 blocks to cliffs. No smoking, pets, drugs, excessive drinking. Male preferred. 619-269-6626. POINT LOMA/OCEAN BEACH, \$600, Fur-

POINT LOMA/OCEAN BEACH, \$625, plus

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ferred. 619-337-1330.

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Stephanie, 619-957-9471.

SAN CARLOS. \$550/\$200 security deposit. Large, sunny room with mirrored closets. Female nonsmoker to share 2 bedroom with same. Have 2 loving cats. Near all freeways. Nice, quiet. 619-698-7350

SAN MARCOS. Twin Oaks Valley Ranch. 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath residence. Large 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath residence. Large bedroom, \$600/month. Smaller bedroom, \$500/month. Available 5/15. Female preferred. 760-484-2940.

SANTEL. Share 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment with female. Own bedroom/bathroom, utilities included. Nonsmoking/nondrugs. Female only. \$500/month, \$500 deposit. Available 6/1. LeAnne, 619-937-1753.

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TIERRASANTA. \$580 plus utilities plus \$350 deposit. Cable/Internet. ຈວວບ deposit. Cable/Internet. Washer/dryer. Comfortable room, furnished/unfurnished. Near all. No smoking, drugs, pets. Male preferred, 858-292-0145.

with the state of the state of

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RENTALS

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RENTALS

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CHULA VISTA. Otay Ranch, \$1950/month. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, 2 car garage, on cul-de-sac. Fireplace, washer/dryer, refrigerator, community pool. No pets. Available now. 858-733-0424.

CHULA VISTA/Rolling Hills. 5 bedroom, 4-1/2 bath newer home. Upgrades. Private yard. Custom cabinets, granite countertops, stainless appliances. Close to shopping. \$4000/month. 692 Coastal Hills. 619-993-1758.

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CITY HEIGHTS. 2 bedroom, 1 bath house, canyon view. 1-car garage plus

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office/storage space in rear. Fenced yard, washer/dryer. \$1550/month. Available 5/1. 619-561-4299.

able 5/1. 619-561-4299.
CITY HEIGHTS. \$1650. Newly remodeled!
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number of young Republicans, taking their sense of humor along, went to the bungalow to view the bogey-man and to hold a plebiscite on the relative value of the fray.

"Perry has notified the Democrats, in effect, that if local Germans want to admire pictures of Hitler, there is little park officials can do about it."

— by Robert Mizrachi

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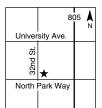
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BANKERS HILL. \$995. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. 1/2 off 1st month. Charming gated complex in the heart of Banker's Hill. Wood floors, ceiling fans, patio. Cats OK. 1932 3rd Avenue. 619-804-3325.

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ourt.rasnyder.com giovercourt.rasnyder.com.

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6686.

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OR. 4438 Menio Avenue #4. Agent, by 469-7790. www.westmanproperties.com.

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DOWNTOWN. Comfortable rooms, \$450/ up. Studios, \$650/up. Near Gaslamp Dis-trict. Very quiet and clean. Free cable Tv, on-site laundry, vending machines, com-munity kitchen, shared bathrooms. Near munity kitchen, shared bathrooms. Near shopping, restaurants, movie theatres and Horton Plaza. No pets. Arlington Apartments, 701 7th Avenue. Hughes Management. 619-231-2385. www. sdreader.com/rent/2097.

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DOWNTOWN. Cozy rooms, \$450-\$625, grab these little jewels today! Very comfortable, convenient location, historic building near C Street trolley. Choice of shared or private bathrooms. Free cable Thy. on-site laundry, vending machines, modern elevator, no pets. Southern Hotel, 1159 6th Avenue at B, Hughes Managenent 619-239-3808, www.sdreader.com/ ment, 619-239-3808. www.sdreader.com/

powntown. Economical furnished rooms, \$400-\$500, best price, save money. Conveniently located on C Street trolley line, near restaurants, free cable TV, shared bathrooms, on-site laundry facilities, vending machines, elevator service, no pets, 636 C Street (between 6th and 7th). C Street Inn, Hughes Management, 619-234-4165. www.sdreader.com/rent/2098.

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Management.

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DOWNTOWN. 2 bedroom, 2 bath luxury unit in Discoveryl Granite counters and maple cabinets. Unit overlooks courtyard with balcony. \$2200/month. www. SanDiegoBestRentals.com, 619-696-7368.

DOWNTOWN. 2 bedroom, 2 bath gor geous Treo unit! Open floor plan with gran-ite counters, balcony, bay and city views, storage, underground parking. \$2495/month. www.SanDiegoBestRentals. com. 619-696-7368.

DOWNTOWN, 2 bedroom, 2 bath Park Boulevard East unit in great Park Boulevard East unit in great East Village/Ball Park location! Underground parking, community spa and more! \$2400/month. www.SanDiegoBestRentals. com. 619-696-7368.

DOWNTOWN. Luxury fully furnished 1 bedroom, 1 bath Pinnacle unit! Completely upgraded throughout plus a large balcony with great views! \$2500. www. SanDiegoBestRentals.com. 619-696-7368

7368.

DOWNTOWN. Gorgeous 2 bedroom, 2 bath Cortez Blu condo located on the 16th floor with beautiful bay and city views! Huge closets, additional storage. \$2700. www.SanDiegoBestRentals.com.

DOWNTOWN. Aqua Vista. 425 West Beech #1401. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Luxury corner unit. Stainless steel appliances, granite counter tops, heated pool, Jacuzzi, valet parking, exercise room, washer/dryer in unit. Spectacular views. \$2300 rent. www.sdforrent.com. 619-640-7530.

DOWNTOWN. \$675. Studio, 1 bath apartbowntown. \$675. Studio, I bath apartment, bay/ballpark views, all utilities paid, central location, controlled access building. Fee. Free search at www. westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

DOWNTOWN. \$875. Studio, 1 bath apartment, pet OK, walking distance to Balboa Park. Fee. Free search at www. westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

DOWNTOWN. \$2000. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath apartment, pool, two spas, a fitness center, and barbecue grills. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

DOWNTOWN. \$2569. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths apartment, pet OK, flexible lease, pool and Jacuzzi, game room, 24-hour gym. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

DOWNTOWN. \$750. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, new carpets, parking in-cluded, laundry on site. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. Bright, corstudio, \$840. Bearclaw tub and ver. Charming, secure, quiet building laundry. Ideal location. 1534 Front, Beech. 619-233-7428.

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP from \$1295 Spacious 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment in the heart of the Gaslamp. 9-foot ceilings, all appliances, central heat/air, controlled entry, parking included. William Penn Building, Corner 5th Avenue and F. Call agent, 619-298-7232 or visit www.

DOWNTOWN/City College, \$1200. 2 bed-room, 2 bath. Some views, secure park-ing, no pets. \$500 off first month's rent! Call Terri, 619-247-0028.

DOWNTOWN/Marina District, \$2700. Renaissance. Luxurious 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, bay view, 7th floor. All amenities, concierge, parking, washer/dryer, storage, pool, gym. 619-813-0458.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. F \$800/month. Private bath, cable TV \$800/month. Private bath, cable TV, mi-crowave, refrigerator. Utilities included. Secure, quiet, charming. Efficiency apart-ments with laundry. Near trolley/bus lines, blocks from harbor. On-site manager. Villa Caterina, 1654 Columbia Street. 619-232-3400.

DOWNTOWN/Ballpark. Brand new Park Terrace 1 bedroom, 1 bath with extra large balcony and beautiful bay and city views! Granite counters. \$1750/month. www.SanDiegoBestRentals.com. 619-696-7368.

DOWNTOWN/Marina District/Park Row \$1250. 1 bedroom condo. Large garder patio, gated, underground parking. New appliances, new carpet. Pool, spa. Excel-lent location. 619-624-0671.

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. \$1395. Studio, junior 1 bedroom. Stainless appliances, granite countertops, washer/dryer in unit, hardwood/carpet, pool, spa, fitness center, underground parking. 4th and J. 619-226-7554

DOWNTOWN/Little Italy. Contemporary, 2 bedroom 2 bath loft/condo combo. \$2500/month, includes gas, water, garbage, and complex amenities. Call 619-595-3107 or email mike@ 92101urbanliving.com.

DOWNTOWN/CORTEZ HILL. \$665, stu alo. \$885, 1 bedroom. Limited access building, charming, quiet, residential neighborhood. Utilities paid. On-site laun-dry. No pets. EOH. 619-299-8746.

DOWNTOWN/EAST VILLAGE. From \$650. Totally renovated. Studios and 1+ bedrooms in vintage building. Authentic hardwood floors. 10 blocks from water authentic hardwood floors, fresh paint new tile, appliances. Cats OK. 619-297

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. \$100 off first DOWNTOWN (ASLAMP. \$100 off first month! \$1650. Reduced deposit. Contemporary, unique open floor design. 1 bedroom end unit blus extra bonus space for office or ? 15 foot floor to ceiling windows! Gourmet kitchen. Hardwood floors. Washer/dryer. Shows like a mode!! Blocks from Petco Park, restaurants, shopping, entertainment. Pet considered. Donna, 619-921-3333.

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. Las Flores Hotel. Small, quiet. \$127/week and up. Fourweek minimum. Color TV with basic cable. Refrigerator in most rooms. Secure. 619-235-6820.

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. \$1400. I off

able, on-site manager, keyless entry system, laundry facility, cable ready/high-speed Internet capability, hardwood floors, large closets, dishwasher, electric range/stove, refrigerator, heating/air, exposed duct work, high ceillings, floor-to-ceilling windows. 1023 Fourth Avenue. 619-231-1333. http://www.sdreader.com/rent/2146

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. Move-in Specials. Live/Work Lofts in the heart of The Gaslampl Roof decks with barbecue. Laundry on every floor. Parking available. Seven locations Downtown. Select pets OK. Visit loft leasing office: 315 Fourth Avenue. 619-231-1505 x12. www.rilogymanagement.com. Also visit www.sdreader.com/rent/2064.

DOWNTOWN/HARBOR VILLAGE. Move in special! \$750. Unique 1 bedroom. Bal-cony. Laundry. Parking. Close to base, Downtown, Coronado, NASSCO. Bay views. 2850 Main Street. 619-857-0365.

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DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, \$1240. 2 bedroom loft, \$1600. Laundry. Underground parking available. Income-restricted. Call for details. 1528 India. 619-236-9353.

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EAST SAN DIEGO/EMERALD Hills story townhouse. Bright. Vaulted ceilings Dining room. Patio. Washer/dryer. Off street parking. Water/gardener included. No pets. Agent, 619-234-9553.

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EAST SAN DIEGO. \$1025. Spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Fireplace. Dishwasher. Patio. Gated parking. Laundry. 4416 47th Street #7. Agent, 619-298-7724.

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EL CAJON. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Gated community, laundry. \$900/month. Section 8 OK. 1/2 off move-in special! Chris, 619-590-1834.

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EL CAJON. Come check us out! Extra large 1 bedrooms, \$895/up. \$200 off first month! Pets OK, with deposit. Large dogs welcome! 2 dog runs. Celling fan. Linen closet. Garbage disposal. Sparkling pool. Clubhouse. Barbecues. Assigned parking. Flexible lease terms. Evergreen Garings. Flexible lease terms. Evergreen Gar ing. Flexible lease terms. Evergreen Gardens, 291 Jamacha Road. 619-442-9935, www.sdreader.com/rent/2113.

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EL CAJON. \$775. Spacious 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Air conditioning, huge pantry closet, patio, pool. Call 619-588-1126.

EL CAJON. Cajon Villas. \$1000, 2 bedroom, 2 bath. \$785, 1 bedroom, 1 bath. room, 2 bath. \$785, 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Pool. Parking. Air conditioning. No pets. Central location. 933 Peach Avenue. Call 619-447-9193. **EL CAJON.** \$920. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. New

kitchen cabinets, appliances, ceramic tiled bathroom, carpet, air conditioning and kitchen floor! Laundry room. 1 assigned parking. No pets. Section 8 oK. 1423 Peach Avenue between Grape and 2nd Street. Phillips Realty, 619-291-6686.

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EL CAJON. Gated community park. Trailers for rent, different sizes. From \$525-8850. Plus utilities/deposit. Conveniently located, close to trolley, bus, shopping. No pets. 619-334-0591.

EL CAJON. \$950. Large upper 2 bed-

room, 2 bath apartment home. All brand new. Laundry. Parking. Available now. 1344 Oakdale Avenue #8. Agent, 619-

EL CAJON. \$940/monthly. Ask about rent special! Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Dish-washer, air, assigned parking, pool, laun-dry onsite. Hillside views. Se habla espanol. \$700 deposit. Manager, 619-740 2166

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939. www.northwindsapts.com.

EL CAJON. \$705, 1 bedroom. Super clean apartments with pool/courtyard. No pets. 234 West Park Avenue. TPPM, 619-850-9722. www.palmtowers.com.

EL CAJON. \$202, 2 bedroom. El Cajon's best maintained property with beautiful courtyard and sparkling pool. No pets. 1072 East Madison Avenue. TPPM, 619-444-1614. www.fourwindsapts.info.

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Chris, 619-504-4995.

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Second floor. Balcony and washer/dryel in unit. This complex is fabulous: peaceful, quiet and secluded. Lush green tree's and landscaping. Amenities include tennis, raquetball, hot tub and pool! Plenty of parking for your guests. Large bedrooms and living room. Recently remodeled! Call agent, Nesia Britton, 619-607-2407 or e-mail: NesiaBritton@hotmail.com.

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un. Lease. 76U-753-4101.

ENCINITAS. Treat yourself to this elegantly furnished 1 bedroom at Moonlight Beach. Walk to shops, restaurants, and coaster. Gourmet kitchen, washer/dryer, dishes, linens. \$2495/month. 760-753-4101

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ENCINITAS. \$1225-\$1450. Lovely, remodeled 1 bedrooms and 2 bedrooms \$300 off first month with lease. Low deposits! Crown molding, ceramic tile, walk-nic closets, ceiling fans, gas stove, dishwasher. Private patio/balcony, fitness facility, pool, spa. Near beach. Small pet. Quail Pointe, 924 Encinitas Boulevard. Toll free: 1-888-356-1214. www.sdreader.com/rent/2149.

ENCINITAS. \$1145, 1 bedroom. \$1375, 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Small complex. Assigned parking, laundry. Bright and airy. Patio or balcony. Garden setting. 1-1/2 blocks to beach. Close to shopping, freeway. Coaster. No pets/smoking. 760-929-1050

1950.

ENCINITAS. \$1575-\$1625. 2 bedroom, 1 beth fownhome with small yard. bath townhome with small yard. Washer/dryer in unit, newer appliances, storage, townhouse layout. Blocks to beach!! 1457 North Vulcan. Call Lori at

858-967-1107.

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\$750. 858-755-6560.

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FASHION VALLEY/USD. \$1050 rent. \$600 deposit OAC. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Laundry room. Gas/electric included in rent. No pets. At 5510 Mildred Street #C. 619-291-1755.

FASHION VALLEY. \$1195. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Walk-in closets, granite kitchen, ceramic floors and baths. Newer carpets. Available. 5828 Riley, #2. 619-277-6868.

FASHION VALLEY. \$1495. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. garage, storage, pool, 1000 square feet, patio, washer/dryer. Overlooking golf course, Mission Greens. 6737 Friars Road #206. AMI Property Management, 619-697-6314.

RATION VALLEY/USD. \$1125. 1 bed-room, 1 bath. Gated, upper unit, vaulted ceiling, carport with storage. Pool. Small pet OK. 1120 Eureka Street #7. 619-296-6699.

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GOLDEN HILL. \$1225. 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo. 2 minutes from downtown. Con-temporary setting, large upstairs outside patio. Wood flooring. 1 garage. Laundry facility. 619-247-7327.

GOLDEN HILL. \$795. 1 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Wood floors. Lots of windows. Fenced yard. Year lease. 3347 B Street. Hughes Management, 619-239-1639 x2.

GOLDEN HILL, \$850, 1 bedroom, 1010 33rd Street, very clean, with patio, appliances, laundry, elevator, and parking.

GOLDEN HILL, \$776. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Quiet complex. Must be income-qualified! Secured off-street parking. No pets. 2787 "E". Open Saturday/Sunday, 1-4pm. Marty, 619-237-1183.

GOLDEN HILL, \$775/month. Nice second floor 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Air conditioning, off-street parking. Near Highway 94, City College, downtown. 2621 C Street. 619-286-4320.

GOLDEN HILL/SOUTH PARK. \$1075. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Recently re-modeled, tiled living room, kitchen, hall-way/bath. Freshly painted. Pool. On-site laundry. 1714 Grove Street #17. 619-962-1907 GOLDEN HILL. \$850. 1 bedroom duplex

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2

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GOLDEN HILL. \$850. Huge 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Cat friendly. Close to Downtown. Off-street parking. 2637-1/2 C Street. Call 858-571-1970. sunriseliving.com.

GOLDEN HILL. \$995. Upper 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. New carpet, flooring, paint. Balcony, dishwasher, fireplace, underground parking. Available immediately. 3093 C Street #12. 619-222-9308.

GOLDEN HILL. Newly remodeled 2 bed-room, 1 bath. New cabinets, stainless steel appliances, dishwasher. Lots of win-dows! New carpet. Wood blinds, \$1050. 811 26th Street #7. 619-559-5423. GOLDEN HILL. \$825. 1 bedroom. Gated complex. Parking, laundry, dishwasher. Near shopping and freeway. No pets. 3013 C Street. 619-546-9852.

GOLDEN HILL. 2956 C Street #14. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. \$1195. Beautiful condol Fireplace, Jacuzzi, balcony, washer, dryer. Near all. vr@ajprop.com. A&J Property Management, 888-483-9925.

GOLDEN HILL. \$1100. Classic 1940s 2

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GOLDEN HILL. \$695. Classic 1900s Victo rian downstairs studio. Hardwood floors. Beamed ceilings. Fully tiled kitchen and bath. Cable. Shared yard. No pets. www. goldhenhillpm.com. Agent, 619-234-

GOLDEN HILL. 1 bedroom. \$825. Large upper. New carpeting. Gas stove. Gated comlex. Coin laundry. Close to downtown, Balboa Park and Hospital. No pets.

GOLDEN HILL, Charming 1 bedroom, 1 bath \$775/\$850. Hardwood floors. Great neighborhood, laundry on-site. Available now. No dogs. 2412 E Street. 619-857-3706.

GOLDEN HILL. \$795. Large, bright 1 bed-room, 1 bath. Upper unit in a 10-unit building, New paint, new countertops, new carpet, new blinds. Dishwasher, air conditioning, skylight, balcony and storage. 2843 C Street #9. For information call Dennis, 619-955-4161 or Toni 619-284-3324.

COLDEN HILL. 3 bedroom, small yard, off-street parking, washer/dryer, dishwasher, new carpet/tile. \$1675. Open house Sunday, 11am-noon, 2630 E Street. Chris, 619-339-3609.

GOLDEN HILL. Move-in special: \$200 off first month's rent! Studio, \$775. Large studio, \$850. Small 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$795. Lower unit. Patios. Pets OK. 2528 C Street. Call 619-296-6699.

GOLDEN HILL. \$875. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Fresh paint and new carpet throughout. New blinds throughout. Bottom corner unit. Laundry on-site. Move in special: \$300 off first month's rent! 1021 28th Street. Manager, 619-929-8127.

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.

HILLCREST, \$800 & up. Extremely large

HILLCREST, \$800 & up. Extremely large deluxe 1 and 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartments. New paint/carpeting, all appliances, controlled entry, air conditioning, parking, sheltered patio, laundry, near all. No pets. 4574 Campus Avenue; 4016 Ohio Street. Call 619-461-9415.

HILLCREST, \$1125. Immaculate remodeled sunny upper level 1 bedroom with view in small charming vintage Spanish building. Corner apartment includes hardwood floors, 9-foot ceilings, new kitchen and bath! Laundry facilities onsite. Cats OK. 3770 Georgia Street. Call 619-298-1961.

HILLCREST, \$875. 1 bedroom unfur-

619-298-1961. **HILCREST,** \$875. 1 bedroom unfurnished apartment. 2nd floor, parking, laundry. Close to all. Available now. No nished apartment. 2nd 1100r, parking, laundry. Close to all. Available now. No pets. 3744 7th Avenue. 619-295-6005,

HILLCREST, \$875. 1 bedroom unfurnished apartment. Hardwood floors, parking. Close to all. No pets. 4030 3rd Avenue. 619-295-6005, agent.

HILLCREST, UPTOWN. \$750. Studio condo. Underground parking. Secured building. Workout room. Spa. Barbecue. Patio. Laundry. Queen Murphy bed. Dishwasher. Nonsmoking/no pets. Available 5/15. 858-272-8008.

5/15. 858-272-8008.

HILLCREST. \$875. Cute, 1 bedroom cottage. New carpet and blinds, stove, refrigerator. Small yard. No parking or pets. 316 West University Avenue. Agent, 619-469-7790. www.westmanproperties.com.

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HILLCREST. Spacious 1 and 2 bed-rooms! Berber carpet, fireplace, spa, gym, intercom, elevator. Sorry, no pets. 4134 4th Avenue. See photos at www. WexfordLiving.com. 619-299-0047.

HILLCREST. Large 1 bedroom apartment, 1-car garage, great location near Balboa Park, 2928 5th Avenue. No pets. \$975. 619-508-1513.

httLCREST. Great location. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Upstairs, large deck. Laundry. Walk everywhere. Do not disturb tenants. 3730 Eighth Avenue. No pets. \$1395. 619-889-6771.

HILLCREST. \$870. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Ground floor unit. Parking, 600 square feet. Available now. No pets. 3607 Third

STORY MINUTE by Carol Lay @2007



Avenue. 858-583-0182, www.cal-prop.

HILLCREST. \$930. 1 bedroom, 1 bath upstairs unit with parking, laundry. Walking distance to all. 1278.5 Essex Street. Available now. 858-583-0182, www.cal-prop.

com.

HILLCREST. \$900. 1 bedroom, upstairs overlooking courtyard. Charming old fashioned building. Stove, refrigerator, laundry facility. Walk to uptown shopping, near 163. No dogs. 619-298-3229.

HILLCREST. \$930. 1 bedroom, 1 bath up-

stairs corner unit with large living room. Laundry on-site. No pets. 3632 Park Boulevard. Available 5/9. 858-583-0182,

HILLCREST. \$995. Senior/disabled 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Elevator. On-site parking. Quiet community. Close to public transportation, shops and freeways.

\$40/4 month. Information, www

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LOST BELOVED PUG DOG, From Ralphs on Sports Arena on 4/19/07. Male, fawn color, 6 year old. Reward. Pleasel 619-239-9777, or 619-244-3586.

239-9777, or 619-244-3586.

COST DOG, PUG, Adult male, 6 years, neutered, fawn. Very friendly. Show quality. Taken from Sports Arena area, 4/19/07. Substantial reward, no questions asked. 619-239-9777, 619-244-3586.

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HILLCREST. \$1395. Spacious 2 bedrooms, 1 bath. New carpet. Upper units with many upgrades. Lots of storage space, on-site laundry, off-street parking. No pets. 1247 Robinson Avenue. 619-460-8011.

HILLCREST. \$995. Lovely 1 bedroom. Upstairs. Garage. Hardwood floors. Washer/dryer hook-ups. Garden setting. No pets. 4038-1/2 Centre Street. All Points Real Estate, 619-298-7724.

HILLCREST. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$950. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1325. Private, quiet complex. Garage available. Off-street parking. Laundry. No pets. 3588 First Avenue. www.timcassidy.com. Cassidy, broker, 619-275-LIST.

HILLCREST. \$1875. Spacious 3 bedroom, 2 bath condo with views, refrigerator, stove, dishwasher, washer and dryer. Gated community with pool and tennis courts. 858-598-1111 x193. www.

utopiamanagement.com.

##ILLCREST. \$850. Large 1 bedroom, 1
bath apartment. Excellent condition. Offstreet parking. Laundry facilities. Small
complex. 3829 Georgia Street #10. Chris,
call 9am-5pm. 619-405-2185.

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agement. 619-697-6314.

HILLGREST. \$1350. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Gated community. Quiet, tranquil area. Underground secure parking. On-site laundry. Beautiful landscaping. Available 5/15. 445 West University Avenue. Call Donna, 619-225-1260.

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HILLCREST. Hillcrest Palms. Luxury, remodeled 1 bedroom available now. All redone granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, maple wood cabinetry, comunity courtyard with water-wall. Gated, covered parking. \$1375/month. Month to month OK. 4077 3rd Avenue. 619-504-7123.

7123.

HILLCREST. Hillcrest Place. Luxury, remodeled 1 and 2 bedrooms available now. Beautifully remodeled with pool, barbecue and entertainment lounge featuring a pool table, flat screen TVs and bar. In unit washer and dryer, granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, maple wood cabinetry, community courtyard, gated covered parking. Large 1 bedroom and 2 bath, \$1795/month. Month to month OK. 1030 Robinson Avenue. Call Anna Marie, 619-504-7123. Marie, 619-504-7123

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7044.

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HILLCREST. Move-in special, \$200 off! \$1425.2 bedroom, 2 bath. 1020+ square feet! Balcony. Canyon view. Pool. Laun-dry. Parking. Pet friendly! 4053 8th Av-enue. 619-297-0269.

HILLCREST. Hillcrest Palms. Senior complex. 55+ living! \$900. 1 bedroom apartments. Gated community. Convenient location. Near hospitals, restaurants, hopping. No pets. 4042 Albatross Street. 19-574-0784.

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HILLCREST. \$1100. 2 bedroom, 1-1/1 bath. Immaculate apartment with off-street parking. Near Henry's Marketplace. No pets. 4225 Georgia Street. TPPM, 619-204.1004.

299-1004.

HILLCREST. Move-in special: Studio, \$795. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$925 and \$995. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1375. Pool, canyon view. Close to all. Rec room. Cat Ok. Sleepy Hollow Apartments. 4201 Sixth Avenue, 619-298-1059.

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RENTALS

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orrsite. 4146 Hillidale Road. Available 5/8. 885-883-0182, www.cal-prop.com.

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4509.

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LA JOLLA. \$1750-\$1875. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, available now. Quiet, immaculate garden-style complex in central village location. Walk to beach and shops. Fireplace, 2 parking spaces. Lease. No pets. Open Saturday, 10am-11am. 7601 Eads Avenue. TPPM, 858-699-3851.

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7926. villaknollsapts.com. **LA MESA.** \$200 off first month's rent. OAC. 1 bedrooms from \$795. 2 bedrooms from \$950. Great location with

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parks.info.

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kwahi@san.rr.com.

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619-698-7600; 619-518-0960.

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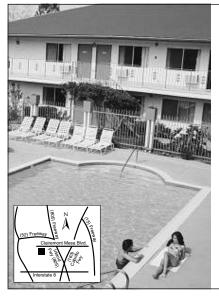
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ment, 858-514-8201.

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Julian Vereda

Name: Julian Vereda Home: San Diego Vehicle: 1991 Jeep Wrangler Surfing: Avalanche Jetty, Ocean Beach

While serving aboard the USS Cleveland, Julian Vereda saw the greatest site ever offered to any surfer: Cortes Bank was breaking. "I wish I had my board," Julian says. "I would've gone overboard."

Cortes Bank is the head of an underwater mountain range that peaks 98 feet below the surface at a spot mariners know as Bishop Rock. The bank is 100 miles off the coast of San Diego and to get there pro surfers charter boats and bring jet

skis to tow them into the waves. The largest wave ever surfed there was a 60-footer. ridden in 2001 by Mike

The day Julian was standing watch from the deck of the Cleveland, Cortes Bank was hitting "40 feet at least," Julian says. "It doesn't break all the time. There are a lot of weather conditions that have to be right. But it was breaking that day.'

Julian is from Florida. where he learned to surf in the warm waters of the Florida Peninsula, in the City of Sebastian. "Florida has hotter weather, which I like," Julian says, "But San Diego

has better waves."

Julian placed fifth in the men's class at the California Surf Series Contest April 21st in Ocean Beach. "I'd like to go on to be a pro surfer, but I don't know if I'll make it." Julian says, laughing about his performance that day. "I didn't paddle out far enough, and I only caught one good wave. I could've caught another one, but I didn't want to cut another guy off." Julian shrugs.

Julian rode a Zouvi 5'10" in the contest and packed it in the back of his 1991 Jeep Wrangler with his Local Motion 5'11". If Julian's carrying more boards, he can strap them to the roof with some rack pads and tiedowns that fit on the Jeep's roof. Those are helpful for when Julian is teaching some of his shipmates how to surf. He doesn't carry any gear except his boards and a jug of water for the Jeep's radiator. "I've had trouble with overheating before. I'll take it to Mexico soon, and I don't want to break down."

washer/dryer, patio, deck. No pets. 1525 Hornblend. 858-270-4492, x203.

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April 26,

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Bro and Jessica Do P.B.

I had just moved to San Diego, and there was a 7-Eleven down the street from my new apartment. I decided, "What the hell, I'll get a job there while I'm looking for a real one — small income is better than no income."

Not surprisingly, I was bombarded by weirdoes asking me on dates, and worse (this was a downtown 7-Eleven, after all). Whatever. I dealt with it. I had been working there maybe three weeks and was beginning to get accustomed to the conveyor belt of crackheads that made up my clientele. And then — out of nowhere — a normal guy! Crap, even a cute guy! He got a Naked Juice and a muffin and flashed some pearly whites. He flirted with me and harangued me for working at the Sevey. I agreed that the job sucked, and he offered to take me to dinner after my shift. I was wary, I'll admit, but he was so cute and he seemed so normal in contrast to the parade of junkies and sexual deviants that I was getting used to.

I accepted. I hurried home after work and got ready. He picked me up at 7:30. He was punctual! In the car, though, the conversation was immediately lacking. I thought, "Oh, shit, he's stupid...no, not just stupid, dumber than dirt. I can handle this for one night, though...just look at him and tune out his voice. Just have your own date in your head." We

women are more accustomed to this practice than the average male might assume.

Things continued to go downhill. He took me to a bar (whose name I will not mention) in P.B. He knew everyone there and immediately proceeded to act like a seventh grader — smacking the doorman on the ass, giggling and guffawing, snorting and talking about how "chesty" the bartenders are there.

I had agreed to go on a date with a "bro"! A bro is, in short, a loser. He is the guy who has a closet full of surf garb but doesn't surf. He is the lifted truck riding your ass on the freeway. He is the dip-spitting, Confederate-flag-boasting, camouflage-wearing idiot who voted for Bush...both times. What had I done?

We sat down, and he ordered us both a Bud Light. I don't drink Bud Light or anything like Bud Light. I don't even drink beer with dinner. So I politely told the server I'd prefer a glass of chardonnay and a water, please. Bro was not happy

with this and said he was just trying to be polite by ordering for me. Polite, I told him, would have been to ask the lady what she would like to drink.

By then my mood had turned salty, and the date that was going on in my head was being drowned out by this heathen squawking in my ear. The date continued on like this, with Bro being oblivious to the fact that he had lost me several miles back. I thought there would be relief after the meal — I thought he'd just say goodnight, but no. He had gotten sloshed from all the Bud Lights and thought it would be a good idea to keep the date alive. He wanted us to bar-hop down the strip. Undoubtedly he was hoping I would get drunk, too, and screw him.

I told him I didn't feel very well and that I was just going to grab a cab and go to bed. He was too drunk to care and went on without me — to try to seduce the 'hood rats, I suspect. I paid the 30-dollar cab fare back to downtown and

considered myself lucky to be free of

But the luckiest part was yet to come. Bro had told me that he was moving back to Texas in a few weeks and was giving up this killer job as a bartender at an upscale bar and grill downtown. The next day I went in and applied for the shift that he was giving up. I told them that Bro had sent me, and I got hired! Now I have a great job, and I don't have to worry about the weird people at the 7-Eleven. I go to the Liquor Market for my muffins now.

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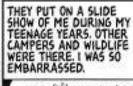
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San Diego Reader April 26,

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TOWING AVAILABLE

 Afghan nationals who work at NATO's Kandahar Airfield must use their own "separate but equal" toilet facilities, according to a March dispatch in Toronto's Globe & Mail. The American officer in charge of administrative contracts said the policy was based on hygiene, in that some locals customarily stand on toilet seats and then squat down, which he said creates unusual messes, but also on some Muslims' carelessness in cleaning themselves in preparation for prayer, when their water bottles sometimes fall in and have to be fished out.

Science on the Cutting Edge

- American researchers in West Africa believe they've found the first instance of an animal (other than humans) building a multistep weapon, after observing wild chimpanzees grab sticks from one to four feet long, sharpen the ends with their teeth, and jab them into deep tree hollows where bush babies may be nesting. Writing in the journal Current Biology, the team even reported observing the chimps tasting the tips after the stabs, to ascertain whether they had located a prey. (One of the researchers said the ferocity of the jabbing reminded her of the shower scene in Alfred Hitchcock's Psycho.)

 Researchers at the Second University of Naples (Caserta, Italy) recently reported the case of a 65-year-old man who, because of damage to the fronto-temporal region of his brain, habitually assumes an identity appropriate to whatever setting he finds himself in (e.g., a doctor when he's around doctors, a bartender when in a bar), a behavior reminiscent of the Woody Allen character Zelig. The researchers said the man lacks awareness about his tendency to switch roles and in fact suffers from amnesia about his life since the brain damage, according to a March report by the British Psychological Society.

Animal Awesomeness

 In April, two Labrador retrievers (Lucky and Flo) sniffed out another shipment of pirated DVDs (worth about \$435,000) in a building in Petaling Jaya, Malaysia. It was at least the second

such bust since mid March, when the U.S. Motion Picture Association of America loaned the dogs to Malaysian authorities because they can detect the polycarbonate and unique chemicals in the discs. So successful are Lucky and Flo that an unspecified crime gang has reportedly put out a contract on them.

— (1) Ada Barak's spa in the northern Israeli town of Talmey El'Azar features a "snake massage" for the equivalent of \$70, for which six king snakes or milk snakes slither over the client's body (a therapy said not to be stress-increasing, but stressreducing, according to a January Reuters dispatch). (2) Another January Reuters dispatch, from Antwerp, Belgium, reported that doctors at the city's Aquatopia animal showcase had scheduled surgery to relieve Mozart, the iguana, of his painful priapism in one of his two functional penises.

- Veterinarians in Tallahassee, Fla., were enthralled in January when a duck, "killed" by a hunter and placed in his freezer for two days. suddenly sprang to life and was rushed into surgery at Goose Creek Wildlife Sanctuary to repair its leg and wing. Then, on the operating table, the duck (named "Perky" by that time) once again flatlined, only to spring back to life a second time.

New Product Launches

- (1) A \$60,000 mattress from the Swedish manufacturer Hastens, introduced to the United States recently for people who (according to the advertising) might believe that they're so special that they're entitled to a luxuriously rejuvenating night's sleep; and (2) Holy Drinking Water in half-liter bottles, from Wayne Enterprises of Linden, Calif., which supposedly obtained blessings from Catholic and Anglican priests for the ordinary purified water.

We Must Never Offend Anyone

 According to a report commissioned by Britain's Department of Education and Skills, some history teachers have dropped references to the Holocaust (and the 11th Century Crusades) out of fear that the regular history curriculum might confuse or anger Muslim students who have been taught differently in local mosques (according to an April story in London's Daily Mail). ... London's Daily Telegraph reported in March that the head teacher at a school in Huddersfield had changed the June student-festival production of Roald Dahl's The Three Little Pigs to "The Three Little Puppies," out of fear that Muslim children would be uncomfortable singing "pig" references. (A local Muslim spokesman immediately condemned the change as unnecessary, and the school overruled the teacher.)

People with Issues

- Army drill sergeant Edmundo Estrada, 35, was arraigned in January in Hampton, Va., on charges of indecent assault. A young subordinate said Estrada prescribed a confidence-building regimen in which the two men role-played from a pornographic movie, with the trainee dressing as a Superman character and Estrada performing sexual acts on him. According to the arrest affidavit, when Estrada "tortured" the trainee, the man was to respond by "moaning." Another trainee accused Estrada of trying to photograph his squad bare-chested, claiming he needed to document their physical growth.

Least Competent Restaurant Management

- After four weeks of one customer's walking out on a dinner check, the staff of an O'Charley's restaurant in Bloomington, Ind., caught him. The diner had appeared on four consecutive Wednesdays nights, ordered two gin and tonics each time, then eaten a rib-eye steak each time, then asked to use the rest room each time, and then walked out on the same \$25.96 tab each time. On March 28, the staff wised up and waited for him outside as he again tried to sneak out. He was arrested.

Can't Stop the Greed

 The three Kentucky lawyers who won \$200 million for their clients in a 2001 settlement with the manufacturer of the diet drug phen-fen, and whose contract called for a maximum of one-third commission (about \$67 million) actually took \$59 million more than that, according to clients who

testified before a federal grand jury in March, which is expected to indict the lawyers soon for fraud, according to a New York Times dispatch. The lawyers had explained that they were taking an extra \$20 million because they had decided to create a "charity" and were simply entitled to the other \$39 million because they had to work extra hard. The Kentucky bar association has suspended the lawyers.

- As a result of a 2003 traffic stop in Ohio, Catherine Donkers was convicted of a child-seatrestraint violation (specifically, holding her baby in her lap to breast-feed while driving), but she appealed, and in April 2007, a court ruled in her favor. The story made "News of the Weird" in 2003 because Donkers's husband, Brad Barnhill, who was not in the car, demanded that he be charged instead because his First Christian Fellowship for Eternal Sovereignty religion teaches that the husband must take responsibility for all of his wife's public actions (especially when the "public action" involves "the Beast," which is what the religion calls "government").

No Longer Weird

- Adding to the list of stories that were formerly weird but which now occur with such frequency that they must be retired from circulation: (81) Preschoolers and first-graders who happen to find their parents' drug stashes and bring them to school, sometimes for show-and-tell-type sessions, as happened in March in Shreveport, La., when a first-grader brought in crack cocaine that might have been his 20-year-old mother's. And (82) people who call in fake bomb threats for the most selfish of reasons, such as to delay an airline takeoff that they're running late for, or to postpone a school exam they're not prepared for, or to get off work, as Brandy Killin, 26, allegedly did in Kearney, Neb., in March, to her employer First National Omaha.

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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In the Reader

Thirty Years Ago

It's the unleashing of one's inner conscience. We've thought of different aspects of prejudice and racial bigotry, but this has brought it all into chronological flow. It could only be done now because we've evolved where we can openly discuss these things.

-OFF THE CUFF: "WHAT HAS MADE ROOTS SO POPULAR?" John M. Lewis, April 28, 1977

Twenty-Five Years Ago

After reading Duncan Shepherd's column for years, but often finding myself enraged by his nitpicking, he's finally moved me to respond. Even before I viewed the film, I knew he would hate Reds simply because of its almost overwhelming critical acclaim.

-LETTERS: "PRINTZ NIX NIT PICKS," Scott Printz, April 29, 1982

Twenty Years Ago

I am the owner of the Corvette Diner, Bar and Grill in Hillcrest. After reading Eleanor Widmer's vicious attack on our restaurant ("Nostalgia Trap," April 23) at least a dozen times, I'm trying to understand your bitterness. My wife and I spent over a year putting the Corvette together, and I'm pleased to tell you that it has been a success from the day we

opened the doors.

Eleanor, we want to help you get off your high horse and come mingle with us people. We at the Corvette are starting a campaign to Help Eleanor Widmer Become a Real Person. We'll be offering "Help Eleanor" buttons and flying a "Help Eleanor Widmer" banner as a gesture of hope.

—LETTERS: "A SENSE OF PRETENSE," David Cohn, April 30, 1987

Fifteen Years Ago

Been in this place a couple months, the general area a couple years. New Year's Eve and July Fourth are big days in the 'hood. That's when the homeys cruise Skyline and spray full-auto for fun instead of business. SDPD Southeast Substation's on Skyline, smack in the middle of the Miracle Mile. The cops are smart, stay inside while A-PAC-olypse Now runs its course.

Only realized how much I'd tuned the gunfire out when the manager, Gus, who lives a marble's roll from me, said someone shot out three of his windows while he was on vacation. Never noticed a thing.

—CITY LIGHTS: "REPORT FROM HOMEBOY CANYON."

Rose Dawn Scott, April 30, 1992

Ten Years Ago

It was opening day, 1994. The game with Cincinnati said it all. On that celebrated afternoon, the Reds' shortstop earned a larger salary than the entire nine-man Padres squad.

"We have a stadium," Lucchino turns and waves at the huge cement bunker behind his back. "This is a stadium. What we're thinking about is a ballpark. Stadiums are 70,000-seat concrete monoliths. We're thinking of an oldfashioned baseball park. Now that the Chargers' expansion is behind us, I think it's time to focus our attention on a way to preserve the Padres in this community."

—CITY LIGHTS: "HAVE YANKEES TAMPERED WITH IRABU?" Patrick Daugherty, April 24, 1997

Five Years Ago

Bears are coming to San Diego County coming back, rather. For over a century, our mountains have been free of the omnivorous mammals. But prior to 1866, grizzlies roamed the backcountry of San Diego County. The last of the local grizzlies — a 2200-pounder, the heaviest ever recorded in California — was killed that year in Valley Center.

Now, bears are starting to return to San Diego — not grizzly bears but their smaller cousins, American black bears.



San Diego Reader, April 24, 1997

On May 15, 2000, David Benson shot and killed a black bear 35 yards from the front door of his ranch house in Ballena Valley, nine miles east of Ramona.

To get to San Diego County, the bears have to trek from their nearest known area of residence, the San Jacinto Mountains in northern Riverside County.

—"BEARS SET UP HOUSEKEEPING IN SAN DIEGO." Ernie Grimm, April 25, 2002

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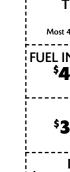
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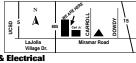
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BRIAN M. PALMER

Long Beach

SICK HAIRCUT, DUDE!

Some time ago, a heavily tanned, broad-shouldered, six-foottall baseball player from Texas, who used the word "dude" to refer to males and females alike, took up residence in the cubicle next to me. His name was Pat, and he was the son of one of the attorneys at work. Word around the coffee room was that all the ladies found him to be delicious eye candy. My initial impression was that he was a nice guy, if a bit dopey.

Pat noticed my calculator watch during our first encounter and asked, "Do you balance your checkbook on that thing?" Before I could answer, he added, "Damn, dude, I haven't seen one of those since the '80s!" and started laughing. I was at a loss for words. "I got it at Kmart," was all I could think to say.

A few days later, I was absentmindedly studying the porcelain tile in front of my face in the bathroom when a booming voice, asking if I did anything fun that weekend, so startled me that I nearly lost control of my stream. I looked over to see Pat standing in front of the mirror, applying gel to his bangs and giving me a smile. I'm reticent to divulge personal info with people I don't know very well, particularly when I'm urinating, and said, "I got my hair cut, but that wasn't too fun." Pat replied, "Sweet, dude! Looks good!"

Later that week, I passed by Pat's cubicle and he asked, "Did you get a haircut, Brian?" I paused for a couple seconds, trying to figure out if this was a joke, but judging by the expectant look on his face and the lack of laughter, he was really asking. I told him that I had gotten my hair cut the weekend prior. He nodded his head thoughtfully, as if I had

just said something wise, but didn't add anything more to the conversation. I took this momentary lapse as the opportunity it was and slowly inched away from his cubicle. When I was about 20 feet away, I heard his loud voice call out, "Sick haircut, dude!"

I didn't have any problems with Pat other than the fact that he made a lot of loud calls on his cell phone. The most memorable was a 25-minute chat with a friend of his from Texas named Lorenzo — "Lorenzo, what's up, fool?" It seemed Lorenzo had suffered some sort of setback and needed consoling. In a hushed (for him) tone, Pat asked Lorenzo for his zip code so he could send him a postcard and asked if Lorenzo had received his text message. "If that doesn't cheer you up," Pat said of the text message, "I don't know what's wrong with you." And then, much to my entertainment and surprise, he upped the ante and said, "If that doesn't cheer you up, you should go out into the woods and shoot yourself."

As the weeks passed, my study of Pat became more nuanced. He became less

and less of a source for entertainment and derision, and more, to my surprise, a source of inspiration.

I'm not sure if it was a result of hailing from the Lone Star State or being genetically blessed, but Pat was so direct and honest, so genuine and unselfconscious, that he put most people instantly at ease. He also possessed the kind of curios-



ity about his surroundings and other people that most adults had long since shed. Within five minutes of meeting Edgar, a guy I had worked with for years, Pat had him telling his life story, a harrowing tale of his exile from Cambodia and the eventual emigration of his family to the United States. Up to that point, I had always assumed Edgar was

born in the U.S. and had never thought to ask where he was from. "Wow, that's amazing, dude!" Pat said to Edgar after listening intently to his story. "How do you say 'hello' in Cambodian?" Pat asked. Though it took him about a week to get the pronunciation down, he greeted Edgar every morning with, "Chum reap suor."

> One by one, Pat won over the rest of his coworkers. I never quite got used to conversing with him in the bathroom, and it took some training to shut out his deafening cell-phone conversations, but after awhile, I no longer thought of him as the goofy jock that I once did. Just when it

seemed we were starting to become friends, the summer ended and it was time for Pat to return home to his cheerleader girlfriend, baseball team, and Lorenzo, who apparently did not commit suicide in a forest. I like to think that it was because of Pat's text message.

http://www.brianmpalmer. com/blog/

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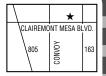




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ALLIED GARDENS. White Elephant Sale. Friday/Saturday, 4/27-4/28, 8am-1pm. The Cliffs Senior Mobile Home Park, 4950

Old Cliffs Road (off Mission Gorge Road).

4/28, 8am-2pm; Sunday, 4/29, 8am-noon. Household items, clothing, books, inflatable boat, etc. 5136 Leicester Way (near Waring and Zion). ALLIED GARDENS. Yard sale. Saturday

CITY HEIGHTS/FAIRMONT PARK, Whole neighborhood yard sale. Saturday &am-12noon. Over 25 households off Home Avenue and Gateway. Look for signs and

EL CAJON. Escuela Primaria Jamacha. 2962 Jamul Drive 92019. Sabado 28 de Abril de 8am-1pm. Ayude a nuestra escuela y obtenga grandes gangas en mu-

EL CAJON. Huge rummage sale. Saturday, 4/28, 8am-1pm. Great deals on lots of new and used items. Jamacha Elementary School, 2962 Jamul Drive 92019.

EL CAJON. Moving sale. Saturday, 4/28. 10am-5pm. Living/dining/bedroom furniture, Maytag washer/dryer, refrigerator, lawn mower, gas trimmer/blower, lighting.

HILLCREST ESTATE SALE. Saturday April 28, 8am-11pm. 2169 Brant Street. Everything must go! Please call 518-653-

LA MESA, 8am-noon. Moving sale; men's and women's clothes, shoes, books, houseware, miscellaneous. 8230 Vista Drive, La Mesa, 91941.

LA MESA. Garage sale. Saturday, 4/28, 8am. Multifamily sale, lots of great stuff. All proceeds go to benefit family in crisis. 7936 Cinnabar Drive.

MISSION HILLS. Community garage sale. Saturday, 4/28, 8am-noon. 80+homes in gorgeous metro neighborhood. Map/addresses available at 8am day of мар/ацигеsses available at 8am day of sale at 1621 West Lewis Street. 619-574-5116.

NORTH PARK, Moving sale, furniture, bedroom sets, antique sewing machine, miscellaneous, good condition. Must sell. 4135 Arizona Street, Friday, April 27, Saturday, April 28, 8am-4pm.

OCEAN BEACH, Huge yard sale, multi-family. April 28 and April 29. 10am-6pm. Furniture, electronics, clothing. 4820 Santa Cruz Avenue. 619-246-8560.

OCEANSIDE. Garage/moving sale. Saturday, 4/28, 6am. \$1+. Going north on Douglas, pass North River Road, first right, left at stop, right on La Quinta.

PACIFIC BEACH. Personal property auction at 2112 Balboa Avenue on Tuesday, 5/1 from 10am-noon. For details please call 858-454-4200 x104.

call 858-454-4200 x104.

SDSU. Sunday, April 29, starts at 9am. Theatre, film, and TV books, LPs, scripts, magazines, programs, posters and more! SDSU Don Powell Theatre. 619-594-8262.

UTC/LA JOLLA. Moving. Sunday only, 4/29, 9am. Many items available. Massage chair/couch, office chair, etc. 7957 Camino Tranquilo (Regents Road and Arriba). 858-457-2174.

VISTA. Huge clearance sale! 100s of items: \$2, \$3, etc. Saturday April 28, 9am-4pm. Women's clothing and accessories. Garment Gourmet Resale Shop, 831 Williamston, (off East Vista Way). 760-

4S RANCH. Community garage sale. Saturday, 4/28, 8am-1pm. Over 45 homes participating. Maps/directions available at Starbucks in 4S Ranch. 16621 Dove Canyon Road. 858-688-0189.

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POST DATE: November 17, 2006 POST TITLE: Another Straight Edge Rant by Another Straight Edge Asshole: Dirt-e Chris xROTx Don't worry about other people selling out. Last time I checked, it's their life, and they can do what they want. As long as a sell out doesn't blow smoke in my face, I don't give a fuck what they do. Punk rock and hardcore is about living for one's self. Are you worried about the image of Straight Edge? Are you going to leave it behind if it gets a bad rap? I know I'm not.

If it was called XshitlessX instead of Straight Edge, and everyone hated it, I doubt a lot of these kids would have gotten into it. Now it seems it is - for the most part — just a place for a lot of lost ones to be accepted, and they will move on when their life hits a different path. That's fine, be confused, it's a part of life. But it does expose your weakness as a person when you show you just wanted to belong to something all along.

What are the "rules" of Straight Edge? Don't drink, don't smoke, don't fuck...

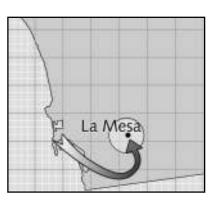
Straight Edge is actually just a term to describe one's personal choice to abstain from mindand body-altering substances. It's using all of your mind and body instead of killing off some of it.

TITLE: Esteban Says "Go Die!" | ADDRESS: http://www.myspace.com/estesketch AUTHOR: Esteban | FROM: La Mesa | BLOGGING SINCE: 2004

POST DATE: January 31, 2006 POST TITLE: Straight Edge — From the Roots to the Future Let's go back to the early '80s, a time of punk rock and its death in the public eye. Here in North America, punk moved underground. The early punk scene was filled with kids who felt betrayed by society. Naturally, there was a sense of nihilism that came with such a scene. Among some of the punks, this nihilistic view seemed like pantomime. Ian MacKaye and Jeff Nelson were two of these punks. They were in a band named Minor Threat, based out of Washington, D.C. One day, while making a flyer for a show their band was to play, Jeff made a comparison between the lifestyle they lived and the ruler, or "straight edge," they were using to make the flyer. A movement was born.

The tenets of the movement were very basic. People who called themselves Straight Edge abstained from drugs, drinking, and smoking, so as to keep their

minds clean and grow apart from this nihilism that was plaguing their scene. At the time, shows were usually held in bars that would mark the hands of underage kids with an "X" to show they were not to be served alcohol. Eventually, the Straight Edge kids



began to show up at the shows already "X'd up," regardless of age, so as to say, "I'm Straight Edge; don't bother offering me alcohol."

The scene these kids (both Straight Edge and not) were involved in was called "hardcore." Hardcore was more aggressive than typical punk; bands that were disillusioned

with the society offered to them. Hardcore localities were also abbreviated with an "X," such as "NXY" for New York Hardcore. Straight Edge Hardcore became abbreviated as "XXX" and was later adopted by the Straight Edge community as its insignia of

Ray Cappo of Youth of Today was a man who preached the tenets of Straight Edge as well as that of veganism, and this was one of the first times that the two were put together. Abstinence from casual sex was added on as one of the accepted tenets of Straight Edge when Christian and Krishna movements became involved. Because so

many kids who claimed Straight Edge were also vegetarians and vegans, it became inevitably linked to Straight Edge.

Now we get to the kids that make the best of lifestyles look like an angry militant mob and the ones that make us all look like hippie tree-huggers. There will always be kids that go to parties, knock over people's drinks, and look for

fights; these kids were undoubtedly assholes long before they ever put an "X" on their hands. Yet at the other end of the spectrum, there are kids that are so caught up in being "positive" that the movement never progresses. Ideally, it takes being slightly positive and slightly militant, and the knowledge to know when to be which.

Hard-line is something that I will touch on very briefly, only to separate it from Straight Edge. Hard-line is an extreme form of veganism, which includes beliefs in use of sex as a means of procreation only. They are anti-porn and anti-masturbation. They are environmentalists and naturalists. They are not all Straight Edge, though many are.

Although Straight Edge is something that is said to be taken to the grave once claimed, many people fall off, or "break edge." For those that do, the scene is unforgiving at best. Many of these "edge breakers" do so when they come of age to drink, enter college, or break up with a significant other that was Straight Edge. Sometimes, kids "break edge' when they realize that Straight Edge is not a way to win friends, or that it is "cooler" to smoke and listen to indie rock. Not all is lost, because there are some that hold true to what they believe and remain Straight Edge their entire lives; they remain as an example to the younger kids to stay strong and never sell out.

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\$12°5

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185/70R14 \$3**7**99

185/60R14 \$4099

195/60R15 \$47°°

OLIVIERI MANOR IS THE NEW NAME OF MY APARTMENT. It was formerly known as the Embassy of Cool, but I was watching a Batman cartoon on TV last weekend and it struck me: Bruce Wayne has a manor. That's why he gets chicks and cars and things that shoot ninja darts and grappling hooks.

I'll start redecorating immediately. Manors don't have the Red Bikini Farrah Fawcett posters on the wall or those white stackable plastic lawn chairs for living room furniture. I'll need a lot of leather and dark wood. In the "den," which used to be the "closet," I'll hang the bulged-eye heads of dangerous safari animals and communist spies that I've strangled with my bare hands. And I'm going to steal a pony from East County, paint it with stripes, and raise it in my kitchen as a zebra. Of course, the kitchen won't be the "kitchen" anymore; it'll be the "zebra stables." Or, better yet, the "west zebra stables."

Oh, man, this is going to get me so many babes. I'll need a "babe grotto," a sort of rocky fountain area where they can cavort and splash — maybe where my green corduroy

Yes, thank you, Dr. Freud, this won't fix all my problems. I'll still be a chubby, balding, drunken degenerate who smells a little like sour milk. But I'll be all those things in a leopardprint smoking jacket and moose-hide slippers. And I'll carry a gun. A firearm, small and slim, maybe gold, that won't pull the waistband of my Asian silk boxers down too much. For someone with a manor, the threat warning is set to "red" all the time, everywhere.

Then, through Ollie Corp., my international shipping and distribution company, I'll hire a personal assistant. And, "Oh, aren't you Katie Bowery, the girl who snubbed me at senior prom? What a coincidence that you now work for me. Welcome to my manor.

"Don't mind Ricardo, my giant retarded butler and bodyguard. I rescued him from a burning orphanage in Haifa. He's harmless...as long as you don't cross me.

"Dress code for Ollie Corp. is casual swimsuit, and your office overlooks the poppy field, lake, and rustic cottage. No, I'm not the same bespectacled comic-book-reading geek I once was. Yes. I am a man of power. I have a manor.

"Step lively, and watch the zebra poop."

WHAT I WILL AND WON'T WATCH THIS WEEK

THURSDAY, APRIL 26

7/39 NFWS

NBC 6:00 P.M.

RRRRGGGGH! Listen. No one cares about the latest talentless karaoke singer being kicked off of the talentless-karaoke-singer show. It's not news. I don't care what his hair looked like. I don't care that he was gay or straight or black or white or brown or pink or how many people voted or what Paula Abdingdong said about him or who cried. If you don't put the news back on, I'll put a clown suit on and drive my truck filled with flaming schoolchildren through that studio to give vou some news to talk about.

FRIDAY, APRIL 27

30-MINUTE MEALS

FOOD 6:00 P.M.

Summer's arriving. I've already started prepa-

rations. I've bought a kitschy "Kiss the Cook" apron, and I'm silk-screening all my underpants with "Hi, my name is The Cook," and I'm only going to wear those two clothing items to barbecues. Ah, sizzling meat and novelty jockey shorts... God bless America.

SATURDAY, APRIL 28

CAR WARS WITH FUNKMASTER FLEX ESPN 9:00 A.M.

While driving, I base the "right of way" on who's not acting like an ass. You're going to drive in reverse through the intersection? You're going to wait until I go, sir. Talking on the phone, slapping your kids, and applying makeup whilst U-turning? Halt until I have passed, madam. Since I wrote this observation in my journal while driving and drinking coffee, I naturally gave up any claim to leave my stop first.

However, I still held the right to shout, "Go to hell!" at anyone who glared at me. This is how the real world works, kids.

SNAKEHEAD TERROR SCIFI 5:00 P.M.

Some plot is afoot. The grocery store used to pack your ice cream in a white bag that held some magical property to keep your frozen goods cold during transport. Brown bags don't do it; I'm sure of that. Supermarkets don't give out white bags anymore. I'm

guessing that frozen lizard embryos are being used to create a race of super humans, and the government has commandeered all the white ice cream bags for the experiments. Follow the paper trail of the white ice cream bags, and you'll find the army of green scaly clones. Oh, you'll find them.

SUNDAY, APRIL 29

POISON IVY

WR 12:00 PM

Is this the movie with that blonde kid from E.T. and the ugly girl from Roseanne? I haven't seen it, but I've got a better story already concocted. The ugly girl from Roseanne is tired of wearing those unflattering jeans that are pleated and loose at the hips. The E.T. girl swills vodka from the bottle and touches the ugly girl on the nose. Her finger lights up and a spaceship comes to take them away. More liquor. Abe Vigoda. Ugly girl, take those hideous pants off and pillow fight the blonde. Roll credits.

MONDAY, APRIL 30

SPIDER MAN 2

FX 7:00 P.M.

I like the Spider Man series, but the girl who plays Lois Lane has a forehead like a porpoise sonar dome and a snaggle tooth on the front top row of her yacker. If it wasn't for that weather balloon of a head, she could probably eat an apple through a picket fence with those piranha choppers. That's where the plot falls apart for me. Spidey shouldn't be head over heels for that odd-looking goose.



Everybody Loves Raymond

TUESDAY, MAY 1

FUNNIEST PETS AND PEOPLE

WGN 6:00 P.M.

I went on a date with a girl who talked about her cat for three hours. I say "date," but I really mean I stared at her chest, drank a quart of gin, and nodded whenever she said the name Admiral Fluffy McNapandpounce. Attention, ladies, your pet isn't as cute as you think. We're only there for the cleavage and cocktails.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2

EVERYBODY LOVES RAYMOND

CW 6:00 P.M.

Everyone's getting home from work at six o'clock and about the only thing on are crappy sitcoms about pushover husbands and wisecracking wives. I want to relax after work, not struggle to convince myself that Ray Romano and that fat guy from the King of Queens are funny. I'm going to start TiVoing caveman documentaries so I can catch a glimpse of naked halfape-woman boob. I don't care if they're hairy; it's something to watch, dammit.

THURSDAY, MAY 3

LIVE FROM LINCOLN CENTER SPECIAL: A GALA NIGHT AT ALICE TULLY HALL

PBS 9:00 P.M.

Am I supposed to know what the hell the Lincoln Center is or the importance of Alice Tully and her hall? PBS, the next time you have a beg-a-thon, send me the money and I might tune in to your awful shows. Might.

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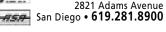
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Brakes \$4495 Pads or shoes
Labor Special!! Includes replace pads or shoes, inspect rotors, repack wheel bearings. Parts additional. Semi-metallic or premium pads not included. Turn rotors extra if needed. Most cars and light trucks. With this ad.

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A UTOMOTIVE



San Diego Reader April 26,

BMW 740iL, 1996, V-8, power all, 5-disc CD, 116,300 miles, gold with tan leather, excellent condition, must sell, \$6900.

CHEVY VAN G-30, 1984, 1 ton, diesel,

DODGE COLT, Relatively new clutch, and axle. Sunroof, 4 speed. Not running \$200, 619-264-9167

FORD CONTOUR GL, 1997, 4 door, low miles, automatic, air conditioning. Power steering, brakes, windows, locks, tilt cruise. Stereo, cassette. Premium wheels.

FORD MUSTANG, Mach 1, 2003. Immac-ulate. Low miles, 5 speed. Mach sound, loaded. Garage kept, all service records, like new! \$17,500/best, 619-276-6012.

INCE TIEW! \$17,50U/best, 619-276-6012.

HONDA CIVIC, 1990. 4 door, 5-speed, CD player, \$1750. Call 619-607-7079.

HONDAS FROM \$500. Police impounds and tax repos. Cars, trucks, SUVs. Many makes and models! For listings, 800-495-0660 x2180.

HYUNDAI ACCENT. 1998. Cute, runs

HYUNDAI COUPE, 1991. New alternator, 5 speed, sunroof, 2 door, stereo. Not run-

ning \$375. 619-264-9167.

LINCOLN TOWNCAR, 2004 Signature light gold, 39K miles, excellent condition 25mpg, loaded, \$19,000. 619-887-6808.

Free Classifieds!

MAZDA MPV, 1995. Like new! V6, auto matic steering, air, power windows, one owner, really sharp! All original. 100,000 miles. \$2750. 619-607-7079.

MERCEDES 450 SEL, 1977. V-8, out of car, block, loose parts, fuel injection, A/C compressor, fan, rear engine adapter \$200 cash, 858-578-8968.

MERCEDES BENZ C240, 2003. Excellent

MERCEDES BENZ ML430, 2001, 106,000

MERCEDES-BENZ 300 CD, 1982, classic turbo diesel, runs strong, sleek 2-door model, rare collector's edition, straight body, power windows, sunroof, origina paint, needs work, \$3950. 858-272-4866.

MERCURY SABLE WAGON, 1997

MITSUBISHI ECLIPSE SPYDER, 2005 gray convertible, V-6 automatic, all power, AM/FM CD system, cruise, leather, side air bags, traction control, 18,500 miles. \$18,000. 858-401-9590.

NISSAN MAXIMA GLE, 1996, 4-door sedan, 3.0L V-6 FI DOHC 24V, front-wheel drive, well maintained, very reliable car, clean title, tinted, nonsmoker, \$3800. 619-309-6167.

PRIVATE PARTY WILL PAY cash for cars running or not, lost title O.K., 858-481-

TOYOTA COROLLA, 1991, 124K miles great gas saver, new radiator, rear brakes, stereo, 4-door sedan, great con-dition, \$2495. 619-462-2614.

TOYOTA TERCEL, 1993, 2 door, 4 speed, 4 cylinder, air conditioning, 123,800 miles, good gas mileage, \$1600/best. 619-223-3012.

VOLVO 960 SEDAN, 1995. 2.9L-F1-6. Au tomatic, leather, sunroof, cruise, ala CD. Just smogged. Super safe and pendable. \$3150/best, 619-322-3079.

VW JETTA GL WAGON, 2003. Black. 44,000 miles. Automatic, AM/FM, cassette/CD/premium sound Monsoon stereo. Air conditioning, roof rack, more. Only \$11,995/best, 619-573-6800.

Only \$11,995/best, 619-573-6800. **\$500! POLICE IMPOUNDS.** Cars, trucks, SUVs from \$500! Hondas, Chevys, Jeeps, Toyotas, Nissans and more! For listings and information, call 800-495-0660, xC664.

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CHEVY ASTRO, 1997, \$7995 or \$2000 cash discount or \$1000 down drives it away. Buy here, pay here. Vin-219154. A Plus Rentals, 760-250-7055.

CHEVY SUBURBAN. 1986. Loaded! Runs great. \$2500 or best offer. 858-568-2003.

DODGE DURANGO, 2000, aquamarine color, V-8, automatic, 4-wheel drive, power steering/brakes, front/rear air conditioning, power seats, doors, mirrors, windows, cruise, tint, \$8300/best. 619-665-5866.

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DODGE RAM 2003, quad cab. Bed liner. Gold. CD stereo, sports wheels. Excellent condition, \$14,000. 619-271-6832.

FORD 350 CAMPER SPECIAL, 1971 Never needs smog! Over hauled engine and suspension, \$1000/best. 619-204-4455.

FORD ECONOLINE, 1971, good condition, current registration, runs well, must sell, \$900. 619-423-6855.

TORD F-150 PICKUP, 1998, extra cab, tow hitch, runs great, 116K miles, 8' bed, Heritage model, Triton V-8, 4.6 liter, CD changer, \$7595. 619-462-2614.

FORD RANGER, XLT 2003, 46,500 miles All maintenance/check ups during the warranty done by certified Ford dealership, records to prove it. \$11,000, 619-300-3943.

GMC SUBURBAN 1500 SLT. 1999. 4x4 leather interior, 3rd row seat package, dual air conditioning, tinted, \$9500. 619-251-2698. INTERNATIONAL TOW TRUCK, 1999, very good condition, 5 speed, new tires, air conditioning, muy buenas condiciones, \$27,000, 619-527-8931

JEEP GRAND WAGONEER, 1990 Woody runs great, wood panel looks great, 4-wheel drive, air conditioning, leather interior, stereo, tape, CD changer, keyless, tint, \$4000. 858-245-9595.

MAZDA MPV, Mini van, 1993. MPG 30-32, V6. Automatic, A/C, rear defroster, heater, stereo, alloy wheels. Tinted windows. White exterior, gray fabric interior. \$1800. 760-602-9211.

TOW TRUCK/TON DIESEL, Super duty, sling, wheel lifts, dollies \$4950 trade classic car. 1994 Volvo, 4 door automatic, just serviced smogged \$2950, 858-663-3399.

TOYOTA 4RUNNER, 1990. 4 wheel. New motor, tires, rims, tow package, CD, amp. Stereo, running boards. Runs and looks good, \$4250. Consider trade? Need pickup! 619-466-2403.

TOYOTA RAV4 L. 2002. Black, 50K miles Like new. Air conditioning. Moonroof. Power windows and locks. \$13,499. 858-483-6601

TOYOTA SEQUOIA, 2005, 4-wheel drive, phantom gray, 53K miles, Toyota maintained, excellent condition, \$26,000/best. Mike, 619-540-0467.

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BRAKE CO Semi-metallic pads \$20 extra. Not valid with other offers. Offer expires April 30, 2007. Expiration dates are renewed the last week of

Brake Co. Automotive Center

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5812 Miramar Road, UTC, 858-546-1200

Reader Coupons 619-235-3000

Smog check \$16.75



Plus \$8.25 for certificate. Most cars. Trucks, SUVs, vans, 1996 and newer cars extra. Also offering tune-ups, valve jobs, engine overhauls, brakes, shocks, smog checks and engine steam clean. Offer expires April 30, 2007. Expiration dates are renewed the last week of each month.

Thao Automotive

2 locations! Hillcrest: 3752 Park Blvd., 619-692-1065 3400 El Cajon Blvd. (just east of 805), 619-640-4606 or 619-640-4607

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Twisted Dreams Racing **25% off 30K/60K/90K scheduled service** University Transmissions Free "Check Engine" light diagnostic

Value Transmission **\$75 off clutch special** Welltech Auto Service **Smog check \$15.75** Wentworth Automotive \$24.95 AC service

San Diego Reader April 26,

"Don't know if you remember me. Bad Chemicals, the bartender."

By John Brizzolara

I read Kurt Vonnegut throughout the '70s, a bit in the '80s, and then didn't. The last of his novels I read was Timequake. I don't remember much of it, but the memory is a warm one because it was Vonnegut and because his lovable reprobate of a character, science fiction writer Kilgore Trout, makes a return appearance in that volume. By the time I read Timequake I was 41. My youthful enthusiasm for Vonnegut's work had waned, and that was a regrettable thing; but life goes on. I think the reason I stopped reading him was because of a phenomenon Vonnegut himself once described. I forgot exactly how he put it, but it was in response to critics who described his work as sophomoric. Vonnegut's reply somewhere (maybe to me over the phone at two a.m.) was that they use that word because he asks the kinds of questions in his books that college sophomores ask. Answers are never proffered, but we move on and simply stop asking why it is we're born only to suffer and die, or why mediocrity is the American Gold Standard, or what is the nature of evil. Is it just bad chemicals in the body and brain? The more serious and mature of us stop asking those questions. Not because we ever receive an answer, but only to avoid the label "sophomoric."

I suppose Slaughterhouse-Five was the first of his novels I had read. For two years in the late '60s I had figuratively folded my arms across my chest, chewed my gum as if it were an ongoing cosmic endeavor, and rejected anything intellectual such as reading books, much less going to college. I remember the novel had recently been issued in paperback, and I saw it on a rack at Kennedy

airport while waiting for a stand-by flight to Luxembourg. I grabbed it and Johnny Got His Gun, by Dalton Trumbo, and a science fiction novel called Garbage World, by Charles Platt, who taught a course in SF at the New School in New York.

For the next three days, sleeping on my backpack next to my girlfriend (later wife) in the airport, I read those novels. Slaughterhouse-Five was last. For the next week, every time a car passed us on the road north to Amsterdam, I would say, "So it goes," until my girlfriend begged me to stop saying that. So I said, Poo-tee-weet?" instead. Another Vonnegutism from that book, and it drove

During the '70s I wrote science fiction, getting encouraging rejections such as, "Near miss...maybe if ending were more upbeat..."etc., just as Vonnegut (or his agent) seemed to be distancing himself from that label. I don't know if it was Vonnegut's calculation that was behind this or someone else's, but it was a smart move and it worked. Had he not done so, I would not be reading about his death on Friday the 13th of April (though he died the Wednesday before) as a major news item. His passing would be back-page stuff, much like, say, that of Philip Jose Farmer, a brilliant SF writer who wrote Venus on the Half Shell, under the name Kilgore Trout. And it was Farmer who wrote that, not Philip K. Dick, as I read somewhere on the Web. Farmer also wrote dozens of other groundbreaking and brilliant stories under his own name, though never breaking out of that genre ghetto.

I was to sell my first two short stories in the fall of 1980. Earlier that year. I was tending bar at a place in Manhattan, at 52nd and Second Avenue, called Dustin's. It was a slow Saturday afternoon on a fine spring day, with only two customers drinking the heart right out of it. They were middle-aged and attractive, divorcees is my guess, and instead of being seated at the bar they were at a deuce next to a window open onto Second Avenue. Vonnegut walked by, recognized them, and stood outside talking to them for some time. I approached and asked if he would like a drink on the house and told him I was a fan. He said he was on some meds and thanked me. I said something stupid about "bad chemicals," a reference to something in his books as an explanation for horrific human behavior. He smiled and said something I've forgotten.

Several days later I read an interview with him in which he said he had insomnia and wished people would call him up in the middle of the night. Soon after and fairly lit on something or other, I did.

"Don't know if you remember me. Bad Chemicals, the bartender at Dustin's on 52nd? I read in [the Voice?] that you might be open to late-night phone calls, and your number was listed?

'Oh, yeah, that's fine. I remember you."

I suggested he might be bombarded with late-night calls now, and he said that was not the case. I was the first, and he did not regret saying it. We talked mostly about science fiction, and his character Kilgore Trout, and insomnia, and



pills, and his children, Chicago, the convention in '68, William Burroughs, Genet, Terry Southern, a recent rejection slip I had received from Galaxy Magazine, and when we rung off he said, "Call anytime." But I never did. The next day I was hung over, embarrassed, unclear as to several things I had said.

I will certainly remember some fiction-writing advice he gave me and almost apologetically. "It's hack advice, really," he had said. "Just don't write any sentence that does not do one of two things: advance action or character. That's it. It's like a two-part engine." I wrote those two stories — my first sales — that summer and most of my first (published) novel with that in mind.

I always thought I might talk with him again sometime. I regret not being able to ask him how one manages, as he did so well, to write from profound sadness without, at any time, appearing to whine — just as he did in those closing pages of Slaughterhouse-Five, which Wilfrid Sheed called "a funny book at which you are not permitted to laugh, a sad book without tears." If you haven't read it, I'm giving nothing away. It is the end of WWII in Dresden, Germany. Character Billy Pilgrim and other American prisoners of war emerge from hiding to the smell of "bodies rotted and liquefied, and the stink was like roses and mustard gas.

"There was nothing going on out there, no traffic of any kind. There was only one vehicle, an abandoned wagon drawn by two horses. The wagon was green and coffin-shaped. Birds were talking.

"One bird said to Billy Pilgrim, 'Poo-twee-weet?"

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