Angel in the Rubble
After the wildfire. By Chi Varnado

City Lights
The Fed, Wall Street’s best friend; more snowbirds
in San Diego; and City Lights shorts

Friday nights in Zona Norte.

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Straight From the Hip
Hey, baby, love those eyes

The Sporting Box
Eye on Stanford, microscope on Harbaugh

Sheep and Goats
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French germs are somehow...better

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This is a Santee party!

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Movie Review and Guide
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LA MODEL

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   "I’m definitely the fearful type... so I talked to lots of people who did the procedure. My
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   – Mocha Shawa, San Diego, CA

Q: Is the surgery painful or difficult?
   "I had no pain during the procedure and no discomfort or pain afterward. Best of all, I can
see without my glasses or contacts. It feels great.” – Greg Schwenk, San Diego, CA

Q: How soon after the process can I begin normal daily activities again?
   "When I came out of the surgery room I could see the hands of the clock – I was doing
normal things the next day... amazing immediate results!” – Glenn T. Casey, Chula Vista, CA

Q: How long does the process take?
   "You and your staff told me that it would be a ten-minute, painless procedure and that I
would be able to see very close to 20/20 as soon as the next day. Sure enough, it was
painless, done in minutes, and I see 20/20.” – TP Fortin, San Diego, CA

Q: Do the effects of LASIK wear off over time?
   "I had the surgery done over 8 years ago and my sight is still a perfect 20/20.”
   – Sandra Maza, San Diego, CA

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Beyond Our Means

By Don Bauder

It was succor for Wall Street and “Sucker!” to the overall economy, including San Diego and other cities with housing-related economic woes. On September 18, the Federal Reserve prescribed a double dose of sharply lower interest rates that will provide little help to the anemic housing industry, accelerate the plunge of the dollar, bring rising inflation, discourage the recently needed savings, and in other ways harm the long-term interests of the U.S. economy. But the lower rates will buoy Wall Street’s financial-engineering sharks and hence the stock market — and that’s what’s important to the central bank.

When Alan Greenspan headed the Fed, Wall Street knew he would put its interests first. Greenspan would pump liquidity into the system when he sensed the lending markets had become “seized up.” What worried him was that the corporate activity, which lines the pockets of the biggest banks and brokers, actually works against the economy: money is spent to finance acquisitions instead of being put into research and development, productivity-enhancing equipment, wage incentives, and the like. However, financial engineering tends to lift the stock market because investors are reluctant to sell a stock when they believe a takeover piranha might purchase it for a fat premium.

Some thought Greenspan’s successor, Ben Bernanke, would resist Wall Street’s entreaties and do what is right for the long-term good of the economy. But he caved. What happened September 18 was predictable. The stock market (which was continued on page 8)

No Snowbird Heaven

By Don Bauder

It’s an ill wind that blows no one any good, so will the weak dollar help San Diego? For example, the Canadian dollar, which as recently as early 2002 was worth 62 cents, is now at parity with our dollar. Will Canadian snowbirds rush in bigger numbers to the desert this winter? Will San Diego get more Canadian tourists? Surprisingly, the effect may be small. Yuma, Arizona, attracts 70,000 snowbirds a year. “The RV parks expect no more than normal,” says Ken Rosevar, head of the Yuma County Chamber of Commerce. The number of visitors kept rising while the Canadian dollar (called the “loonie” because of the loon on the coin) was weak. He doubts traffic will pick up with the loonie strong.

El Centro, which gets about 10,000 snowbirds a year, doesn’t have room for more, although they may go out to Bureau of Land Management space in the desert and also go to Brawley, Niland, and Holtville, says Cathy Kerness, head of the El Centro Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau. She hopes that those staying nearby will do more shopping in El Centro.

Erica Savage, executive director of the Borrego Springs Chamber of Commerce, says, “I hope that with the Canadian dollar, we will find a lot more of our northwestern tourists venturing down for longer stays” and spending more. The town has a full-time population of 3000 that swells to 7000 in the winter.

However, Jack Giacominii, who runs three large hotel facilities in Mission Valley, doubts there will be much effect on San Diego tourism. “There are more conditions than just the balance of the dollar and the loonie,” he says. “Typically, the weather has a lot to do with it — if it’s bad weather there and good here. The exchange rate doesn’t hinder anybody unless it’s way out of control, so I don’t expect a significant change because of that.” He does believe, though, that Canadians who come here will spend more money.
Disneyland for Grown Men

By Jennifer Cooke

When the Mexican kids growing up in the ’80s in the South Bay of San Diego heard stories of Tijuana’s red-light district, known as the cahuila (pronounced ca-HWE-la). We had never been there to see it, so it loomed in our imaginations as a place crowded with “houses of ill repute,” “ladies of the night,” and other exotic goings-on we didn’t fully understand. Its mystery made it useful in a cautionary way, such as “You better stop acting like such a slut or you’ll end up working in the cahuila!” It could be employed as an insult: “I saw your mom in the cahuila!” Since the Spanish word for cage, jaula (pronounced HOW-la), sounds similar to cahuila, I imagined the place as a giant cage, a birdcage full of half-naked women, their limbs dangling from between the bars. (I later learned that the correct word is “Coahuila,” a street in Tijuana’s Zona Norte named after the state in Mexico.)

Just as I never believed my girlfriends would become hookers in a Tijuana brothel, I never expected male friends to become customers. I viewed prostitution as a service used out of necessity by men who were unattractive, socially awkward, or married and looking for extramarital sex. Perhaps a single man found himself at an age where he wasn’t comfortable carousing with friends. “It wasn’t as popular back then,” he says, “but everybody knows about that spot now.”

And by “everybody” he means guys like himself, the kind you might find downtown any night at the Martini Ranch or Stingaree.

I come right out and say it: he could probably get any number of females in the Gaslamp to go home with him. Why pay for it? “It’s just the beauty of no attachments and no commitments, no BS,” he says. “You see a hot chick, you go your thing, and you never have to talk again.”

Tourism in Tijuana has taken a devastating blow in the wake of 9/11, but you would never know it from Hernández’s description of a Friday night in one of the oldest brothels in the Coahuila. Apparently, business is booming and the place filled to capacity with raucous guys partying like it’s 1999 — or any year before 2001.

Hernández and his friends park at the Shops at Las Américas in San Ysidro and walk across the border to catch a cab. He tells the driver the name of the hotel, “and the driver gives kind of a snicker and takes you straight over there.”

When the guys make preliminary stops on Revolución, they take precautions: “We always make sure and put our condoms on in our socks so we don’t spend it!”

He and four other men talk to are adamant that the girls are “gorgeous” and “stunning.” Hernández says, “There are some old, ugly ones but not many, and they don’t get much attention from anybody.”

While there is a dance floor, Hernández says he’s seen a girl dance only once in all the times he’s been there. There is no pretense about the purpose of the establishment. “You’re either drinking or [having sex] or both, or the staff kicks you out.” Hernández and his friends make the rounds of the room, looking for the best girls. The degree of small talk varies from sitting down together for a couple of drinks to walking straight up to the preferred girl and asking, “¡Cuito?! (“How much?”). Hernández says he prefers the latter approach.

The going rate is $60. That gets you 20 to 30 minutes upstairs at the adjacent hotel, which can be entered from inside the bar. “When I first went, there was never any line for the hotel,” he explains. “You just went straight up the stairs to the hole-in-the-wall front desk and paid $11 for the room. The last time I went, though, the line of people wrapped all the way around the inside of the bar along the wall. It’s crazy how popular that place has gotten.”

Once inside the 10-by-12 room, Hernández says there is no time to waste. A guy had better stick to the allotted time limit or someone will come knocking at the door “whether you are done or not. You don’t mess around over there because they will [mess] with you if you act up.”

As he describes the room, he cracks, “There’s no telling when the bedspread and sheets were washed. You don’t think about that at the time, though.” His concern about cleanliness never goes further than the linens, however. What about sexually transmitted diseases? What about HIV? Hernández is one of the first generations
Beyond our means
continued from page 6
already up for the year) soared. The dollar’s plunge accelerated. It is now down 20 percent from five years ago. The prices of oil, gold, other metals, and agricultural commodities rose sharply, partly a result of the weaker dollar. Inflation is almost certain to rise. Real estate experts say the interest rate cuts will not make mortgages more available or help borrowers with adjustable rate mortgages facing costlier monthly payments. This housing crisis was caused by ridiculously high prices (for example, San Diego’s median home price is almost $500,000), and the Fed’s move won’t help stem a probable long-term home price decline or San Diego’s descent into near-recession or recession.

But as soon as the Fed made its announcement, the Wall Street sharks were able to borrow money (often junk debt) to make their forays. Wall Street celebrated, knowing that Bernanke was now in its pocket. Why? Here’s one reason: the top 20 hedge-fund and private-equity-fund bosses annually rake in 22,255 times the pay of the average U.S. worker — making more in ten minutes than the average Joe makes all year. Those Wall Street nabobs are feeding money to politicians of both parties, and Federal Reserve members are highly sensitive to politics.

The problem: America is living beyond its means. U.S. consumers, who account for 72 percent of the total economy, have negative savings — spending more than they take in and piling up frightening debt. Consumers were formerly borrowing against the rising values of their homes, but that game is over. The nation attracts funds from foreign countries, so our consumers and governments can continue their spending binges. These foreign countries hold half our debt. As the dollar crumbles, we’re more vulnerable.

The Fed wants to keep the acquisition/junk-bond game going, but what has it done for the economy? What has it done for San Diego? In 2000, Petco Animal Supplies underwent a leveraged buyout. Two financing firms took over Petco, saddling the company with heavy debt. The buyers took the company private, then took it public again two years later and made 600 percent profits bailing out of their stock. Partly because of that debt load, Petco began losing out to its Phoenix-based competitor PetSmart. Last year, PetSmart offered $33 a share for Petco, but PetSmart didn’t want Petco’s two top executives. So Petco sold itself a second time for only $29 a share to the same group that had pulled the stunt in 2000. Those two executives were promised fat remuneration. Some Petco shareholders are justifiably suing. “Financial engineering by the Wall Street folks generates fees, but investors get harmed,” says Darren Robins, the lead attorney. Accredited Home Lenders peddles subprime mortgages. Last year its stock went over $60. Now it will be sold for $11.75 a share to a private equity group that reduced its original offer of $15.10 after the subprime mess worsened. The company is losing money by the barrel and has fired 1600 workers. Wouldn’t it have been better to let Accredited die?

In the mid-1990s and in 2000, the Union-Tribune took on debt to buy a bunch of newspapers in Illinois and Ohio, even though for several years young people had not been reading newspapers. But management was cocksure of its course. This year, with the help of a large Wall Street investment group, Copley was able to unload the money-losing papers for $382 million. Fortress Investment Group had forwarded money to the buyer, a newspaper chain that was too deeply in debt to finance the deal itself. Copley had paid $175 million for two of the papers. Another one had been purchased in the 1920s, so it’s hard to know if Copley got out even. Instead of making those acquisitions, Copley should have spent the money upgrading operations.

In 1985, investors purchased Jack in the Box fromRalston Purina in a leveraged buyout. The company was saddled with junk debt for years, which was a burden in hard times, such as the 1993 episode in which 2 died and 400 fell ill after eating in Jack restaurants. Ten years ago, the junk debt was 80 percent of capitalization. Now it’s down to 24.5 percent, and Jack is one of San Diego’s best-managed companies. But it would have performed much better through the years if it hadn’t had to carry all that low-quality debt, even if it had still been a part of Ralston Purina.

Grown men
continued from page 7
“The girls all use condoms. And the girls are clean! They take a shower right in front of you!” For his part, Hernández says that every weekend can be risky, “whether in Tijuana or in Pacific Beach on the prowl,” and leaves it at that. One recurring theme I hear is that since prostitution is legal in Mexico, Tijuana’s health department regularly tests the girls for sexually transmitted diseases. “You can’t get that kind of guarantee from a random girl you meet over here,” one man tells me.

So what is it about guys like Hernández? Is the traditional dating scene that tiresome? “If you think about it,” he says, “it’s cheaper altogether” to go to his favorite Coahuila bar. “Dinner, movies, concerts, gas money driving everywhere — it’s so much work, and this could take weeks with a girl you meet in San Diego. In Tiju, you pay your money straight up, and you’re done in 30 minutes. Like me and my friends always say, all men pay for it one way or another.”

The growing social acceptability in the United States of these “regular Joes” becoming “regular John” may not be occurring in Tijuana. I meet Luis in a quiet bar in Chula Vista, where he often comes after work before crossing the border to go home. He shoots pool with a coworker named Brenda, and we chat after Luis offers to buy me a drink. They seem excited to see a new face in their regular hangout, and even the bartender gets in on the conversation. After a few drinks, they say they are going dancing that night in Tijuana, and I ask, “Going anywhere near the Coahuila?”

The smile leaves Luis’s face, and all chitchat comes to a halt. He puts his pool cue back in its case as he tells me no, he’s not going anywhere near the Coahuila. “You know why?” he asks me in Spanish. “Because my parents brought me up right. I don’t go to places like that.”
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I, Jefferson Jay

I was reading today in this week’s issue of the Reader that the Destructo Bunny is the host of the Tuesday-night open mike at Portugaliga (“Hometown CDs,” October 4). I found this to be shocking, because as far as I know, I, Jefferson Jay, have been hosting the Tuesday-night open mike at Portugaliga for the better part of the last year, plus. So I was calling to clarify that detail of your album review and correct it for the record. The open mike starts at 9:00 at Portugaliga every Tuesday night. We have a great time, and it’s free of charge, and everybody’s welcome.

Jefferson Jay

**Writer To Writer**

You have some of the finest writers that I’ve ever read. Your writer Barbarella is fantastic. She’ll write things that I’ll think I’ll be very bored with, and the way she handles it just fantastic. This last article that she wrote, “Being Fat Sucks” (Cover Story, September 27), I think is just fantastic work. And everybody’s welcome.

Barb, I’ve been reading you for years and had no idea you had a weight struggle (“Being Fat Sucks,” Cover Story, September 27).

Really impressed with your sane approach to the problem.

I have to tell you though, in my experience you way understated how abusive society is toward the overweight.

Your life, pre-skinny, even beats the crap out of my (now formerly) skinny life!

Having a closet full of size 4 and 6 clothing, it’s only recently that I gained a lot of weight myself for the first time, due to an athletic injury.

The fact is, as ridiculous as people act when you are “hot,” they are equally ridiculous in the negative when you are not.

Apparantly human nature swings wildly in either direction.

So shut up.

Barb, you’re right about one thing—being fat sucks!!!

Anonymous e-mail

**Re-Formed**

I wasn’t sure if I cared for Barbarella all that much. I pretty much enjoyed her writing, but I didn’t know she was a “fat chick” like me (“Being Fat Sucks,” Cover Story, September 27).

And they are everywhere. Having been athletic and thin most of my adult life, now suddenly exercising in public has become a nightmare.

I drive for 30 minutes each way just to hike in a rural area to get away from prying, critical, smirking, harassing eyes.

What happens there? The damned trail workers actually put down their tools, put their hands on their hips, and literally “set a spell,” staring right at me the entire time I’m dragging my fat ass around those trails.

There are two particularly nasty ones that I call Heckle and Jeckle.

Do they think I drag that big fat ass out of bed at 5:30 a.m. and drive all that way just to take a bunch of s*** from them???

Who invented this new rule that treating anyone like this is acceptable? Forget about getting the fat people go through is unbelievable! I had no idea!!!

Fat people are the “un-touchables” in our society today. The absolute lowest caste.

So listen up, all you guys. And African Americans. And Hispanics. And Isaiah Washington. And T.R. Knight, etc.

Honey, you don’t know discrimination until you are a fat, middle-aged white chick with no money and no husband and no job.

So shut up.

Barb, you’re right about one thing—being fat sucks!!!

Anonymous e-mail

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Thanks, Barb, for your story. You always had that beautiful face. Then when you changed your picture on your column, I knew something was up. Congratulations on your reformation. You are truly an inspiration to me.

Krista Bruce
La Mesa

Fat Chicks
What an extraordinary piece on being a fat chick (“Being Fat Sucks,” Cover Story, September 27). If just one reader who has never “been there” comes away with a true inking of what it’s really like to go through life like that, I would call that an authentic “cross-cultural” experience. She is articulate, courageous, profoundly open. She thoroughly covered the complexities, candidly addressing every aspect of what it’s like to be, or to have once been, obese. (Believe me, you never get all the way past it; it leaves a permanent scar.) She exposes how interdependent people are for the preservation of our self-images; they can be so fragile. I choked back a sob along with her as I read — without surprise — that the medium fit. Thank you, Barbarella, for your fine writing and the gift you, Barbarella, for your

Story, September 27). If just one reader who has never “been there” comes away with a true inking of what it’s really like to go through life like that, I would call that an authentic “cross-cultural” experience. She is articulate, courageous, profoundly open. She thoroughly covered the complexities, candidly addressing every aspect of what it’s like to be, or to have once been, obese. (Believe me, you never get all the way past it; it leaves a permanent scar.) She exposes how interdependent people are for the preservation of our self-images; they can be so fragile. I choked back a sob along with her as I read — without surprise — that the medium fit. Thank you, Barbarella, for your fine writing and the gift you

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Hey, Matt:
Here’s another argument for you to settle. I say we’re born with full-size eyeballs. They don’t grow as we get older. The person who’s wrong says that can’t be possible because babies are so tiny and everything else grows, so why not eyeballs.

— W.B., San Diego

Hmmmmm. Growing eyeballs? Where do you people get these fool ideas? I figured this one for a slam dunk. But, no! Amazingly enough, the person who’s wrong is right! Our eyeballs are only 80 percent of their full sparkly potential when we’re born. Average, 18 to 20mm, measured along its up-down axis at birth. Grown-up peepers: 25mm, more or less. Babies’ eyes look huge in comparison to adults’, partly because our skulls (and brains) blow up to three times birth size by the time we’re fully grown.

Matthew Alice:
With all this landslide and broken water main stuff in La Jolla and PB, I’ve been listening to news reporters talk about ING-rah-m Street. It’s ING-rams, you idiots. But the thing that bothers me most is why everybody calls GAR-net Street Gar-NET Street. You don’t call the gemstone a gar-NET, so why is the street pronounced that way? It’s obvious to any fool who cares to pay attention that Garnet is one of several streets in PB named after gemstones, and so it should be pronounced like the gemstone? And if I try to pronounce it GAR-net, people always, always say, “Ya mean Gar-NET?” No, I mean GAR-net! Can you please explain why the name is universally pronounced incorrectly?

— Standing my ground on GAR-net Street

Whew. Grandma hosed this one with that sink-spray thingie she uses to cool down the elves. Hey, Standing, nobody knows exactly, but the heart of PB is a generally laid-back, take-it-as-it-comes, don’t-get-your-board-shorts-in-a-bunch kinda place, so nobody really cares, exactly. But I’ll admit we’ve discussed this a few times with Mr. PB History, John Fry, who has a reasonable take on what might have happened.

Before WWII, PB was just another small San Diego nabe, full of locals, mostly who might very well have pronounced the street like the gemstone. (Garnet Street had been Garnet Street since 1900.) John doesn’t have documentation to that effect, but it’s a reasonable assumption. PB boomed in the war years, what with all the nonlocals and out-of-staters who came through in the Navy and moved in to work in the defense industry. One of the main drags in the area, serving this military-industrial complex, was Barnett Street. Definitely pronounced Bar-NET Street. Could this have influenced the pronunciation of that other main drag, Gar-NET Street?

John Fry speculates it might have happened. Droves of folks with no link to PB history might have gradually changed it. That’s the sanest — actually, it’s the only explanation we could find. I expect we’ll hear others, so stay tuned.

Oh, and your friend Ingraham Street was originally Broadway, until downtown San Diego changed D Street to Broadway; and since the city couldn’t have two Broadways, PB changed its Broadway to Izard (rhymes with lizard), then to Ingraham, and then renamed the northern end of Broadway-Izard-Ingraham “Foothill Boulevard.”

In the meantime, Standing, why don’t you head out to East County and hike up Cowles Mountain. It’s pronounced like “coals,” not “cowls.” There’s another one to get you all riled up. If you tell everybody you just hiked “Coals” Mountain, you’ll be right, but I guarantee you they won’t know what you’re talking about.

Matt:
We have all learned Roman numerals in school, but one number has caused me some anguish. A number 1 is I in Roman, 2 is II, 3 is III, but 4 is IIII on watches, not the usual IV. Why?

— Goodguyray, the net

Dear Matthew Alice:
Have you ever noticed the Roman numeral 4 on watches and clocks? It’s WRONG! Instead of the usual IV, like we all learned in grade school, it says IIII! What’s the story? Is there a story?

— Ellen, La Mesa

Of course there’s a story. There’s always a story. Not one worth all the hand-wringing and exclamation points, but a story nonetheless. I include both letters just so you won’t feel alone. Ray and Ellen. There’s at least one other person in this joint sweating the IIII. (I feel like that oily eHarmony guy. Maybe this is one of the 29 dimensions of compatibility.) Anyway, once, things were cool and nobody cared what time it was. Then somebody invented the sales meeting, so somebody else was forced to invent the sundial. At this time — in the West, at least — the Roman way of writing 4 was IIII. It appeared like this on Roman sundials. And on every sundial made after that. And every sundial made after that. And then every clock. And then every watch. Long after the Romans shortened IIII to IV. It’s tradition, say timepiece historians.

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

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USD Football Coach Makes Good

Watching the USC/Stanford game on Versus. The spread is 4½ in most of Vegas, 41 at stations. Under is 57½ in Nevada, 58 on the Internet.

It appears Stanford is not intimidated by the number 1 or number 2 (depending on the poll) team in the nation. The Cardinal are tackling crisply and blocking with power. USC has been on my watch list since they played Washington and squeaked out an ugly 27-24 win. So, going in, I didn’t think they’d cover. I thought they were good for a 17-, 14-point win.

Incredibly, Stanford is in this game. They’re playing well and every break has gone their way. The last 13 seconds in the first half is the game’s major tell. The Trojans are up, 9-2, have 4th down on the Stanford one-yard line. USC tries a run-off right tackle and Stanford holds!

I’m interested in Stanford this year because of their head coach, Jim Harbaugh, who, until ten months ago, was the head coach at the University of San Diego. Harbaugh got a well-timed promotion from a non-scholarship Division II football program to the Division I Pac-10 beauty section.

That happens about as frequently as your cable company lowers its rates. So, the question of the moment is, “What the deal with Harbaugh?”

He played college ball at Michigan, started all four years, finished third in the 1986 Heisman vote. He was drafted in the first round, 26th pick, by Chicago in ‘87. Played for the Bears, Indianapolis, Baltimore, two years with the Chargers, and Carolina. His career lasted 15 years, which is rare by NFL standards — extremely rare for NFL quarterbacks. He didn’t like Harbaugh as a quarterback. I pegged him as a little north of mediocre, just good enough for a team to keep him and hope, rather than go to the draft or free agency and try for a quarterback who could make a difference.

Harbaugh was voted to the Pro Bowl once, awarded Comeback Player of the Year and AFC Player of the Year. But it was his life after NFL World that intrigued me.

Retired NFL players usually drift into some form of sales, car dealership, financial services, and so on. Harbaugh went to work for his father, who was head football coach at Western Kentucky. He was an unpaid assistant coach. In fact, he was an unpaid assistant coach during his last NFL seasons.

Donnas with phone calls, e-mails, letters, camping out in the family living room, charming mom, dad, and wonderkind, all the time selling the glory that is Western Kentucky University. Eight years of it. (By the way, WKU won the Division I-AA national championship in 2002, the year Harbaugh took a job with the Oakland Raiders.)

There are other parts to him I like: Harbaugh Hill Foundation, the James Whitcomb Riley Hospital for Children, the Jim Harbaugh Foundation, and the Uhls’ Children’s Home. And, just to even out all that goodness, he’s part owner of Panther Racing, an Indy Racing League team and two-time IRL champion.

I mentioned he went back to the NFL as Raiders offensive assistant coach in 2002. He took the University of San Diego coaching job before the 2004 football season began, which is where I picked up his story.

USD seemed like a strange choice. The Toreros play football (but no other sport) in the Pioneer League, which is an odd-duck conference. It’s a Division I-AA football league, consisting of eight teams scattered in California, Iowa, Indiana, North Carolina, Kentucky and Florida. Not one of its schools award football scholarships.

Under Harbaugh, San Diego won the Pioneer Football League Championship twice, and was NCAA Division I-AA Mid-Major National Football Champion. In other words, USD is number one when measured against other non-football scholarship schools.

Not bad, but not the best of it either. USD has been ranked as high as 16th in the Division I-AA CSN Coaches Poll. That’s a big deal. Harbaugh went up against every scholarship-bloted I-AA college in the land. Big schools. Big stadiums.

Here are the latest CSN Coaches Poll rankings:

Number 1 is University of North Dakota (Great West Conference, undergraduate enrollment is 12,025, in-state tuition $34630). Number 2 is University of Montana (Big Sky Conference, undergraduate enrollment 11,240, in-state tuition $4712). Number 3 is Georgia Southern University (Southern Conference, undergraduate enrollment 12,648, in-state tuition $5162). All these schools award scholarships even to first-year students.

University of San Diego’s undergraduate enrollment is 5,790, zero football scholarships, in-state tuition of $30,704.

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San Diego Reader, October 11, 2007 17
Denomination: Acts 29  
Address: 1717 Morena Boulevard, Bay Park, 619-393-1998  
Founded locally: 2005  
Senior pastor: Duane Smets  
Congregation size: 50  
Staff size: 1  
Sunday school enrollment: 4  
Annual budget: n/a  
Weekly giving: about $500/week  
 Singles program: no  
Dress: casual  
Diversity: mostly Caucasian  
Sunday worship: 11 a.m.  
Length of reviewed service: 1 hour, 30 minutes  
Website: www.theresolved.com

From The Best of Jonathan Edwards, found on the book table at the back of The Resolved Church's shadow-dark worship space: "The extreme dangers of lust: The more irregularly a man walks, the more his mind will probably be blinded because sin prevails so much more. The same lust that leads them into that evil way blinds them to it."

Stern stuff; the crowd, however, seemed anything but — some relaxed to the point of bed-headed scruffiness, others artfully casual. Nobody particularly formal and certainly nobody buttoned-upright. Kenny, a painter, explained one of the canvases hanging on the side wall, swirls of lime green against a black background: "These images were actually captured from a video that I shot of various chemicals and paints and stuff. It's very close-up — like, microscopic. I grabbed still and did photorealistic paintings of them. It looks like a completely abstract image, but it's actually photorealism. So, it's basically about having people change their perspective on things.... If you can see things from a different perspective, there are layers of understanding that can be found."

The poetry of the psalm at the call to worship picked up the artistic vibe: "Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge..." The band — a guy, a girl, and a guitar — strummed out a hipster-folk rendition of "Just As I Am without One Plea." "Just as I am without one plea/ But that thy blood was shed for me/ Just as I am and wanting not/ To rid myself of one dark blot... Lamb of God I come, I come to thee."

"We're trying to start a church here," said pastor Duane Smets during his opening remarks. "We need churches in San Diego.... What we've been doing here is laying a foundation by studying the Book of Romans. It's the most precise, most clear, most exhaustive presentation of the Gospel in the entire Bible. Some of my pastor friends think I'm crazy for taking on Romans as a first book for us to study through."

Sunday's sermon was "Adopted Forever," the fourth in the "Jesus Family" series. The first three focused on the battle with sin, but the fourth was more cheerful in tone: an examination of Romans 8:14-15: "Those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God, for you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption, as sons, by whom we cry 'Abba, Father.'"

Smets defended Paul against charges of sexism, noting that all might receive the "full rights and privileges" status of sons in God's family. He attacked the notion that we are all God's children simply by virtue of being created, noting that Jesus named some of his critics as children of the devil. He lauded Paul's rhetorical technique, his invocation of slavery and adoption — two worldly practices well understood by his Roman audience — in his description of God's salvific action. He sought to distinguish between being motivated by a fear of punishment and being motivated by "a fearful respect and acknowledgment of God.... Our main relationship with God becomes no longer one of enmity and strife, but one of love, where God is our Father: God is not after external compliance. He's after real, deep, loving adoring from the heart. He could force us to do what is right, but He doesn't; He uses irresistible, compelling grace to draw us in to see His wondrous love. To see that He is Father, and He is worthy of our lives.... Is God your Father? If not, who on what are you living for?"

Toward the end, Smets paused and addressed the congregation with a sweetly earnest plea: "You're fading on me; just stay with me a little bit longer. I've got a lot to say today. We're always waiting to just get out, but you need this. We spend so much time watching TV and going out and having fun, which isn't bad — I love that stuff — but let's just listen to the word of God a little bit longer. It's what feeds our souls. I'm just afraid sometimes that we get too fat on unspiritual things, so that we have no room left for divine things.... Either that, or I just really suck at preaching."

"Know that adoption is real," he concluded. "It's what your heart longs for...and it's sure and it's permanent.... You're made for more than just the silly pleasures this world offers."

What happens when we die? "I believe in a heaven and a hell," said Smets. "I think of heaven as an unending place of God ever showing us new pleasures and glories of Himself. And I think of hell as not just the separation from God, but the continual outpouring of his judgment. The full presence of His justice that Christ appeased on the cross."

— Matthew Lickona

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This week’s postings:

On the Comeback
Posted by Patrick Daugherty on October 7, 2007
It’s as if everybody, from the guy who changes the water bottles in the locker room to LaDainian Tomlinson to Norv to A.J. Smith, all realized at precisely the same moment that their jobs were at risk. To have the entire Chargers team–offense/defense/special teams/coaching–magically return to…
Read more and add a comment.

Husband Stabs Wife to Death
Posted by Mike Hemmingson on October 3, 2007
A swift de facto divorce…
Read more and add a comment.

Shooting in Wee Hours Leaves One Down
Posted by Mike Hemmingson on October 3, 2007
Shooter misses wife but gets husband…
Read more and add a comment.

The Name Game
Posted by Josh Board on October 7, 2007
People who have normal names with weird spellings…
Read more and add a comment.

Don’t Taser Me, Bro!
Posted by Josh Board on October 6, 2007
Cops in the news using pepper spray and tasers…
Read more and add a comment.

Shocked at Small Crowd
Posted by Josh Board on October 5, 2007
Review of Michelle Shocked CD and concert…
Read more and add a comment.

My Brunch with Yoko
Posted by Jay Allen Sanford on October 6, 2007
Instead of a lawsuit, I was served brunch…
Read more and add a comment.

Local Website Review: CityVibz
Posted by Jay Allen Sanford on October 4, 2007
Urban Entertainment Guide, plus “Humanure Art Show” inspired by Cattle Decapitation…
Read more and add a comment.

Local Musical Kids TV Show
Posted by Jay Allen Sanford on October 3, 2007
Merry musicians meet many muppets…
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Spring Valley Couple Charged by FTC
Posted by Don Bauder on October 8, 2007
The Federal Trade Commission has charged Lawrence and Stephanie Jordan of Spring Valley with making claims for women’s health products that were not backed by scientific evidence. The couple’s companies, Springboard and Pro Health Labs, sell alternative hormone replacement products online. The products were falsely touted as being effective in…
Read more and add a comment.

Sanders’s Charter Committee “Civic Sham”
Posted by Don Bauder on October 7, 2007
In an op-ed in the Oct. 7 Los Angeles Times, Prof. Steve Erie of UCSD and Vice President Norma Damashek of the League of Women Voters write that Mayor Jerry Sanders’s Charter Reform Committee is a “civic sham.” The mayor has stacked the committee with “downtown lawyers and lobbyists,” say…
Read more and add a comment.

47 Earthquakes in Early September
Posted by Don Bauder on October 4, 2007
Katheryn Rhodes, Point Loma engineer, points out that in late August and early September there were 47 earthquakes in San Diego. All were near Mission Beach in the vicinity of the current landslide at Soledad Mountain Road and Desert View Drive. Most were low on the Richter scale (1.3-2.4, etc.)…
Read more and add a comment.

Issa’s Foot Lands in Mouth Again
Posted by Don Bauder on October 3, 2007
San Diego County Congressman Darrell Issa has managed to expose his cerebral deficiencies in public again. Rep. Henry Waxman’s House Committee is investigating the violent activities of Blackwater USA in Iraq. Said Issa, “If Henry Waxman today wants to go to Iraq and do an investigation, Blackwater will be his…
Read more and add a comment.

Blackwater Opponents Energized
Posted by Don Bauder on October 3, 2007
The weak defenses of Blackwater USA at the hearings by the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform are delighting those battling the company’s plans to put a training facility in East County’s Potrero. The committee has found that since 2001, Blackwater has received more than $1 billion in federal…
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San Diego University

October 11, 2007

My daughter is obsessed with horses. Her room is decorated with equine photos, her bookshelf stocked with classic horse books, and her dream is to raise horses. For her birthday this year, we gave her riding lessons. She could hardly sleep with the excitement, and mom got on the hunt for riding boots.

Robin Vogel, apparel buyer for Mary’s Tack & Feed in Del Mar (858-755-2015) was a bounty of knowledge. "We specialize with English riding, hunter jumper, or dressage. Dressage almost looks like figure skating. It has a set pattern and the horse stays on the ground, as opposed to jumping over a course of jumps. Both styles of riding require a tall boot to compete in. For basic riding, taking lessons, schooling, or riding for fun, a paddock boot is suitable. A paddock boot is a short ankle-height boot that you pair up with a half-chap, a leather legging. You get the protection on your leg [from the chaps], and the boot zips on and off." Vogel says fit is the first concern. “Tall boots are expensive, so you want to make sure that you are measured properly,” said Vogel. "It is not just your foot size, it’s also the widest part of the calf and your height. The boot should be very tight and snug against your leg. What’s popular now is most of the tall boots come with a zipper. They used to not, but now almost all of them do. It makes for an easy on and off; though, once you zip them up, they are still pretty tight. You want the tall boots to be a little too tall when you buy them. The front of the boot should come up a bit over the kneecap, not all the way over, but covering the bottom part of the knee cap. The leather will soften up and as it breaks in, the leather around the ankle will start to wrinkle, and the boot will drop down about an inch. So you have to start them out too tall and let them drop."

Should you break the boots in before riding with them?

When you first start wearing the tall boots, it is basically agony. You are walking around like a Nazi because you can’t bend your knees until the boots break in. We recommend that when you get the boots, wear them around the house for a little while.” The break-in period for the boot depends on the quality of the leather. And “the quality of the leather is softer as you go up in price.” Vogel says that they do sell an entry-level synthetic boot for someone trying out showing for the first time, unsure if they will stick with it. “A synthetic boot is probably going to be harder to break in because it’s a little bit more stiff. And when you look at the boot, you can see the quality difference between a synthetic-leather boot and the real-leather boot.”

What about the heel height?

“The heel is actually very low,” she explained. “You do want a heel on any boot or footwear that you would wear riding a horse because otherwise your foot could potentially slide all the way through the stirrup. If something happened where you fell off the horse, you want to be able to get off the horse, get away from it. If your foot is caught inside the stirrup, you’ll be dragged. So that’s why the boots always have a heel but a low heel, anywhere from a half-inch to an inch.”

What about care for the boots?

“A big mistake people make is they think they can clean their boots with saddle cleaner. Leather that’s used for a saddle is from a different part of the hide. It’s a much heavier-duty leather for the saddle and because of that, the cleaner that’s used can be harsher. Sometimes it’s too harsh for the very delicate leather that is used for boots. The leather on boots you want to be soft and supple so that the rider can have a good connection through the horse to their leg. You want to be able to feel the horse, and if the leather is too thick and too stiff, you’re not going to get that feel. So you want to make sure that you use a conditioner that is made for boots. Vogel Leather Conditioner [$12.99 for 8 ounces] is a very popular conditioner at our store. Another good conditioner we sell a lot of is called Oakwood Conditioner [$8.99 for a 4.5-ounce tube].”

Vogel says you should clean your boots almost every time you use them. “You should treat your boots the way you treat your skin because leather is skin.”

Vogel offered some boot suggestions. “Ariat is a popular brand, and they have put a lot of work into the technology of the internal parts of the boot. The shank that runs through the bottom of the foot is wider so your foot has more support and you don’t get that fatigue, that achy feeling in your foot. Their entry-level tall boot called Heritage sells for $239. Their entry-level paddock boot, also called Heritage, for someone who will only be riding about once a week, costs $109.” For those looking for a higher-end boot, Ariat sells the Crown tall boot with a zipper for $549. And their paddock boot, called the Cobalt XR, costs $179.

Columns archived at SanDiegoReader.com

1. Ariat Cobalt paddock boot
2. Tall boots
3. Half chaps (covering boot)
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To the sober person, adventurous conduct seems insanity.  
— Aristotle

I awoke to the same rhythmic rocking that had lulled me to sleep seven hours earlier. I could hear David stirring on the bunk above, an indication that it was safe for me to open the blinds and let the morning light fill our cabin. We dressed and brushed our teeth, folded the top bunk to reveal a decorative reproduction of a Victorian-era sketch of Paris, and converted the bottom bunk into a couch. We were relaxing, watching the landscape flash by, when there was a knock at the door. It was the steward of our first-class car delivering breakfast. He seemed to be avoiding eye contact. I presumed it was because I had inadvertently made him blush the night before, when I had asked him about a white container kept in one of the cupboards. There was a hole at the bottom of the cupboard that drained to the ground below. The vessel turned out to be a chamber pot, or, as the man had explained while turning rouge, a receptacle “for in the night.”

Breakfast consisted of espresso and a pastry sealed in a plastic bag. I downed my espresso, but refused the rest. I had been served stale pastry for breakfast three mornings in a row at the Venetian bed and breakfast we had left hours before. I’d slept better on the train than I had in three nights, and I was feeling optimistic about the day ahead. We’d soon be pulling into the station in Nice — I could wait for real food.

By the time we’d collected our rental car, found our way out of a crowded and hectic Nice (with the help of several moped-riding locals and the map given to us by the rental-car agency), and reached Chateauneuf Villevieille (a small village in the mountains), it was lunchtime. We followed the signs to the restaurant one floor up. A woman greeted us at the top of the outdoor staircase. She had the weathered face and scraggly hair of one who is accustomed to a life of hard work. She smiled, revealing a few missing teeth, and gestured for us to choose our seats. I glanced into the dining area, where two older men were drinking and smoking at a bar while a television blared, and then,shrugging off the steadily increasing chill in the afternoon air, I chose one of the pre-set tables on the outside terrace.

I turned a blind eye to the layers of dirt on the white plastic chair and took my seat. I had decided when I woke up that morning that everything was going to be okay — after all, I was in another country, and people in other countries lived differently, so I had to be flexible. David had forewarned me that in France, not everything comes sterilized and shrink-wrapped. I tried not to tremble when I noticed a spider climbing the tablecloth to my left and forced a stoic expression as I used my napkin to wipe the terrin from my glass. Because the air was humid, my efforts resulted in more of a smear than a wipe. I tried to convince myself that the French dirt would add complexity to the flavor of the house wine we’d ordered, an inexpensive Montrachet.

“How are you doing?” David asked after wine had been poured into my dirt-streaked glass and the food was set before us.

“What? I’m great! We have fresh, French food.” David said, showing his dimples.

“Are you kidding me? We’re in France, right?” I was looking for reassurance. Before David could give me any, the woman appeared at our table. Between David’s high school French, the woman’s rudimentary English, and my mediocre miming abilities, we managed to order a charcuterie plate, cheese board, and two glasses of white wine.

When I realized we’d be drinking from the dust-covered glasses on the table, I told myself that everything was going to be okay — after all, I was in another country, and people in other countries lived differently, so I had to be flexible. David had forewarned me that in France, not everything comes sterilized and shrink-wrapped. I tried not to tremble when I noticed a spider climbing the tablecloth to my left and forced a stoic expression. I used my napkin to wipe the terrin from my glass. Because the air was humid, my efforts resulted in more of a smear than a wipe. I tried to convince myself that the French dirt would add complexity to the flavor of the house wine we’d ordered, an inexpensive Montrachet.

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mountain air, real French cheese, and—"

"Hey there," David said, addressing the two mangy dogs that had rushed him. The smaller dog, its long shaggy hair matted with burrs, resembled a homeless Benji. While David showed the mongrels some love, I seized on his distraction to douse my silverware with the hand sanitizer I keep in my purse. I tried not to think about the grease and organisms living beneath all that fur that David wasouching. I wanted to insist that he disinfect his hands before sharing the food with me, but I was trying so hard to prove to him that I could adapt, that I could be flexible and cool, that I didn’t always have to freak out over something "so silly" as a few germs. I kept my mouth shut but my eyes wide open, memorizing every place his fingers touched and taking care not to eat anything within the vicinity.

A man who appeared to be the chef showed up with our check. I craved not to count how many times he wiped his running nose with his bare hand. I kept a smile plastered to my face all the way to the car, and let it fall away only when I was sure David was focused on the road.

Our room at La Parare was perfect—a tucked into a hill, nature’s splendor on display outside, but not inside (meaning I would not have to contend with creepy-crawlies), and linens that were plush, white, and clean.

"I knew today would be splendid," I said, kicking off my shoes and falling onto the bed with a book.

"Hey, there’s a little scrapbook here," said David. "It’s a guide compiled by our hosts."

"Yeah! What’s it say?"

After reading tips on places to visit in the surrounding area, David came upon a section about local restaurants. "It says the place on the main road has good food, but, ha!—that the poor decor should be overlooked. And then...huh."

"What?"

"Nothing," David muttered.

"No, really. What is it?"

"It says here that they strongly recommend the place behind the church."

"What? Why?" My heart was pounding with apprehension, but a grin remained pasted on my face. "Really, it’s cool, I don’t care what it says. I mean, the food was good and we had a great time, right? Go ahead. Tell me."

David studied my face for a moment, decided to believe me, and said, "It says not to go there because they don’t meet basic hygiene standards."

"Oh, that’s it?" I said, wondering if my grand shrug had been a bit too melodramatic. "That’s nothing. To keep from gagging, I thought happy thoughts about glitter, unicorns, and Prada, while conjuring images of the sparkling clean dining establishments I dined at in Tokyo. Then, changing the subject so as not to give in to an overwhelming urge to vomit, I said, "What do you say we go have an espresso and pretend we’re French?"
Four years after the Cedar Fire

Angel in the Rubble

(continued from front page)

‘Ye

Ah, I do too,” I say, “and there are hot and cold pockets in the air outside, which means the east wind is on its way.” Kent grew up on the East Coast and is not as familiar with the natural omens of our area. Our 1920s two-story cabin is nestled in an oak-studded box canyon, located about a mile due north of San Vicente Lake. There’s only one way out of this valley that cradles five houses belonging to the four generations of our family that have lived here: three dwellings at the end of the canyon (Mom’s house, my sister’s vacant dome, and my old trailer with an add-on), my grandmother’s cabin (a quarter-mile out the road), and our own paradise across the creek.

There’s only one way out of the valley.

At 3:00 a.m. a ridge-sitting neighbor calls.

“Chi? Do you know about the fire? It’s going to get us…. You may be all right, but we’re up on top. We’re going to get it. This is it.”

I hear her words and feel the need to go to where there’s a decent vantage point on this fire. Though I turn on an old flashlight, I can barely see the ground in front of me. After fumbling with the car’s resistant door handle, I drive out our dirt road and up a neighboring ridge. I park on an overlook and get out of the car. By now the warm wind has begun to carry the daunting smell of a forest fire. I lean against the car and watch the fire-brightened sky in the distance. The first flames burn over the far ridge, and the hairs on the back of my neck rise. A bright orange snake slithers along the mountainscape as it heads toward San Vicente Lake. I’d better go hook up the rig and load our livestock before my car gets blocked in on top of this mountain.

I find Kent still in bed and convince him to get up and moving. I’m amazed at the calm in my voice.

Our rock chimney towers high above the smoking ash debris of the absent house.

Remains of Varnado home
By now the warm wind has begun
to carry the daunting smell of a forest fire.
“Could you hurry and hook up the patio hose to the roof sprinkler? I’ll turn on the yard sprinklers and — oh crap…” The flashlights are dead, so I put new batteries in them. I call my sister.

“We’re starting to evacuate. Did you know there’s a fire?” She doesn’t know. I call her again about moving her old horse from up the canyon.

Kent holds a flashlight and guides me as I back the truck to the horse trailer. We crank the trailer tongue down over the ball, then cram the emergency brake wire, weaving it through a clip dangling from under the truck, then cram the electrical plug into the receiver. We run up to the barn, yank open the door. I stand there dumbfounded for a few seconds, trying to figure out what tack to take. A wave of déjà vu crashes over me. I wonder if this will be a dry run, the way all our other evacuations have been, I shove a saddle and a couple of bridles into Kent’s arms and scoop up another two saddles to load into the back of my old Toyota wagon. We carry more armloads out and throw them into the car, until there’s no more room except for two laundry baskets full of photo albums I snagged on my way out of the house. We’ll hold off loading horses until daylight, if possible, to avoid trailering problems.

I check on the roof sprinkler, only to find that it needs manual assistance to get it to oscillate. After removing the screen from an upstairs window, I climb out onto the roof. I stand on tiptoes, slipping on the loose, mossy cedar shingles, and reach up to turn the head a few times. I get soaked in the process. Finally, the dang thing decides to work on its own. I climb back in through the window.

Kent, our ten-year-old son Chance, and I hurry out to catch the horses as it begins to get light. My sister drives past to get her old horse. My teenage daughter Kali goes off to help her. We lead our nervously snorting horses down to the rig and stroke their necks, saying, “It’s okay now.” I load the two horses first, because I know the donkey will be trickier. We tug, heave, even try lifting her feet into the trailer — all standard donkey-loading procedures — to no avail. By this time the smoke is billowing over the mountains, and I cry, “Bailey, you either need to get in now or you’re gonna have to stay here!” Fortunately, she decides to be a smartass, and within a minute she’s in the trailer and we close the door.

“Can we hurry up and go? It looks like the fire is coming!” Chance’s quivering voice conveys more than his words. We pull out of there, leaving Kent to load the goats and dogs. We are taking the horses ten miles across town to my sister’s house.

About a half mile down the road, a woman is waving her arms for me to stop. “Do you have room for my horse?” she asks.

“No, I’m sorry. I’m full.”

“What do I do?”

“You wait until you absolutely have to leave,
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This ceramic woman’s bust, of beautiful proportion, has always been one of my favorite works of art. This is my angel in the rubble.

non-milk goats are too scared to let us catch them, and they have to be able to get free.

Meanwhile, Kali is crawling along the floor in the smoke-filled garage, trying to find the cat. I’m worried, but I have to drive the empty rig out, since it’s blocking the road. I tell Kent, “Don’t leave without her!” A neighbor jumps into my truck. In the cloud of dust behind us, I see Kali. She’s trembling, clutching the cat in her arms.

I drop off my passenger in a neighbor’s yard. I am relieved to see the camper following behind. Kent had already brought out Kali’s truck, and his van, crammed with four of our dogs. There should’ve been five, but in the commotion no one has noticed. Kali lifts the cat into her truck and drives to my sister’s house.

We now begin our relay race out with only two drivers for three vehicles. We manage — Kent’s a runner. We both gag and cough from the smoke burning our throats. As we leave our canyon, flames, shooting a hundred feet high, blaze down the mountainside toward the Fernbrook houses.

* * *

When I was a kid, this old two-story cabin, down the dirt road from where we then lived, enraptured me. An artist had built the cottage during the 1920s, nestling it into the hillside, and the place oozed charm. No two rooms were constructed on the same level. Rockwork in the patio led the way to a cistern on top of a boulder behind the house. If I was having a particularly tough day, I would venture down here with my dog and guitar and enjoy the peaceful setting. At that time, no one lived full-time in the cabin. It belonged to several families who retreated there a few times a year. Huge live oaks shaded the house and front yard.

In 1992, Kent and I bought our paradise and moved out of my old trailer/house that I’d built on Mom’s property. It’s funny how things
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Melted aluminum has oozed out from the old cars that have been parked in the canyon for decades into trails of metallic blood on the ground.

Former owners had painted over old cowboy paintings on the dining room walls, which I knew about from childhood escapades. A friend rubbed the edges of the pictures, working our way inward. Through several layers of paint, we uncovered cowboys flying off bucking broncos.
They belonged here. It is said that San Diego landscape painters would come up the mountain to paint this house. The kids stay in the house, while Kent and I lie on our bed in the camper, over the truck cab. We can see out to the mountains toward our place. "I wonder if this is what a volcano looks like," I say.

Two days after evacuating, Kent and I decide to go home without the kids. We park the van at the top of Mussey Grade, because the police won’t let us drive down. Flames are still burning the brush behind the homes at the top of the grade. The smoke chokes us. We each carry water and a bag of nuts and hoof it down the road.

We make our way into the canyon. Trees and bushes are still burning all around us, but at a slower rate, as

“I wonder if this is what a volcano looks like,” I say.

An arm from the Paradise fire has started to reach around us from the north. For days we’ve been on alert to the possibility of evacuating from my sister’s place. There are four fires burning now, eating up vegetation and dwellings. Authorities fear that the fires might connect and overwhelm the entire county. We sleep hesitantly, looking out the camper window at the glowing horizon.

“Looks like this area saw the worst of the whole Cedar Fire. It took between 2000 and 3000 degrees Fahrenheit to melt that cast iron.”
the bulk of the fuel is gone. The first house we pass, an old rock dwelling called the Fernbrook House, stands within its smoking surroundings. Up the hill and off to the left is a new house that seems to have escaped the fire, but several neighbors have lost their homes. Nobody is here. It feels as if we’re moving through a war zone. The tractor guy’s abode has escaped obvious damage, but his outbuildings are smoldering. The Lady Farmers’ house is flattened, and there’s no trace of the barn. Melted aluminum has oozed out from the old cars parked for decades in the canyon, like trails of metallic blood on the ground.

Once we reach our property, Kent heads to the field, while I make my way to the house. I can’t see it yet, because I haven’t passed the bulldozer by the driveway that shields the view. My breathing is shaky and labored. I take another few steps, stop, and gasp. Our rock chimney towers above the smoking debris of the absent house. Rock steps lead up to the site of our cherished home, now in ruins. My heart sinks. Everything we have worked so hard at creating and protecting is gone, burned beyond recognition. The refrigerator, washing machine, piano, beds… all gone. Water dribs drabs out of the melted stand pipes. The stench nauseates me. I have loved this house since I was a girl, and now it feels as if a part of my soul is gone. My eyes well with tears, but I turn them off. It’s the only way to endure the huge task that lies ahead. I pick up a blackened pair of cutters to shut off the water meter. Without speaking, Kent approaches. The enormity of it all seems to affect him as it has me. We stand together and stare. My eyes fill again. I trudge off to the field, where every barn and outbuilding is gone, except one, the out- house. What a surprise — it even sits under a clipped tree. I go in and relieve myself, feeling fortunate that the structure remains. Remembering how Dad built it for us.

I walk back to join Kent. A few oaks in our front yard look okay, but the rest of the canyon is devastated, a wasteland, a lunar landscape.

A few days later, the ashes are still hot, but the kids have managed to pull a few burned items from the debris. I pick up a piece of something that must have been part of the piano. It dissolves in my hand.

Kali and Jessie, my oldest daughter, who stayed in San Diego during the fire, rummage in the remains that have fallen from their upstairs bedroom to join the artifacts in the dining room. The birdcage, a twisted mass of metal, leans against a warped antique bed frame.

Later, Chance points into the ashes and says, “Is that what I think it is?”

I reply carefully, “I think so, Chance… You sure have eagle eyes.”

Down in the ash are the bones and burned tufts of hair of Patch, our old, blind dog. The one that Kent forgot to save. Kent is up on the hill at that very moment, calling for Patch. Chance and I exchange an uncomfortable glance. Neither of us will mention our findings to Kent that day, since he blames himself so harshly.

In the morning I tell Kent that Chance had found Patch and that he seemed spoooked.

Kent says, “Last night, when I was helping Chance with his bath, he asked if you had told me anything. I wondered what he meant.”

Later, we talk about Patch with the kids. None of them wants to go back to the cottage.
SYNERGY CLINICAL RESEARCH CENTER
“Together...we can make a difference!”
www.synergysandiego.com

Listen to “Tomorrow’s Health Today Show” on CASH 1700 AM Radio every Saturday morning from 11 am to 12 noon, sponsored by Synergy Clinical Research Center.

Research Study

If you are 18-65 years old and you are currently addicted to heroin or prescription opioid pain relievers, you may be interested in learning more about a new clinical research study.

Synergy Clinical Research Center is conducting a clinical research study to evaluate an investigational new treatment. If you qualify, you will receive study-related care at no cost and you will be compensated.

If you are interested in participating in this study and would like more information, please call the number below:

1-888-619-7272

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

Would you like to help others like yourself in finding better treatment options? 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 diabetes treatment. You may be eligible if:
• You have been diagnosed with type 2 diabetes and are currently being treated with Metformin.
• You are between 18 and 75 years of age — Women must be surgically sterile or at least 2 years postmenopausal.
• You are not currently being treated with any other antidiabetic medication other than Metformin.

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

Have you or someone you know been diagnosed with Bipolar Disorder?

Are you currently receiving treatment with lithium, olanzapine, Lamotrigine, or valproic acid? Are you currently experiencing depression? You are not alone!

Synergy Clinical Research is conducting research studies for Bipolar Disorder with Depression. All study-related procedures will be provided at no cost. Participants will be compensated for time and travel after each completed visit. We understand…

Call Synergy Clinical Research at: 1-888-619-7272
Together…we can make a difference.

If You Or Someone You Know Suffers From Schizophrenia or Schizoaffective Disorder

and are between the ages of 18 and 65, you or that person may be eligible to participate in a clinical research trial.

Participants will receive study-related exams and investigational drug at no charge and compensation for time and travel.

For more information, call:
888-619-7272
Synergy Clinical Research Centers

If you are one of the 15 million adults affected by depression, you may be eligible to participate in a research trial of a new depression medication now being studied.

You may be eligible for the study if:
• You are between the ages of 18 and 70.
• You are experiencing symptoms of depression.

All qualified participants will receive study-related care and study medication for up to 8 weeks at no cost.

To find out if you qualify for this study, or for more information, please call:
1-888-619-7272
or visit: www.parAGOnstudy.com

Do you have trouble sleeping?

Are you:
• 18 years of age or older?
• History of insomnia for at least 4 weeks?
• Having difficulty staying asleep?
• 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
with us. We respect their wishes. Kent and I bury Patch’s remains in the orchard. Kent says, “It’s okay that the kids aren’t here. Doing this together feels right, somehow.” I say, “I think so too.” We walk back down the hill holding hands.

Two weeks later, trees are still burning, and a fire marshal drives up to check the area. He takes in the devastation at this end of the canyon. Eyeballing what’s left of Mom’s wood-burning stove, he says, “Looks like this area saw the worst of the Cedar Fire. It took between 2000 and 3000 degrees Fahrenheit to melt that cast iron.”

Our extended family has lost five houses in this canyon. Family history and treasures have gone up in smoke. Still, we paw through the ashes. Chance finds a few burned coins from the area where his room used to be. We’re all in different spots, picking up items that seem to call to our fingertips. The flattened house feels much smaller now, demarcated only by the crumbling edges of the foundation.

Kali finds some pinkish-colored ashes amidst pieces of the clay cookie jar that contained my mother’s ashes. We’d lost Mom to a brain tumor seven months earlier. Kali looks subdued, raking her fingers around her feet.

“How could you forget Gramaset, Mom?”

“I don’t know. We barely got ourselves and the animals out.”

My sister says, “She was already ashes. She belonged here.”

“But now she’ll just go to the dump,” Kali complains.

“Pick up those different-colored ashes and put them in this vase,” I say, pulling up an ornamental pot that had been on my dresser.

Kali takes the vase and begins her task. I dig again through the area that had been our dining room, where the china cabinet from my grandma in Mississippi
Too Shy?

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

Confidential help is available. You may be eligible to
Receive Free Treatment
with computerized therapy as part of a research program.

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

CENTER FOR UNDERSTANDING AND TREATING ANXIETY
6386 Alvarado Court, Suite 301, San Diego

Anxious/Worried?
Difficulty Sleeping?
Restless/Tense?
Difficulty Concentrating?

You may be eligible to receive
free treatment
as part of a clinical trial of a computerized treatment program for generalized anxiety disorder at the San Diego State University Psychology Department.

Center for Understanding and Treating Anxiety
Call: (619) 229-3740
http://nas.psy.sdsu.edu

Life with UC is complicated.
Taking medicine for it shouldn’t be.

Help us study a once-a-day investigational treatment for Ulcerative Colitis. Join today.

We are looking for men and women who suffer from ulcerative colitis (UC) to participate in a clinical research study to see if long-term treatment with an FDA-approved medication, in an investigational form, can keep your UC from flaring up.

We encourage you to inquire if you:
• Are > 18 years old with either inactive or active UC (mild to moderate)
• Have a previous diagnosis of UC
• Have NOT been in relapse for > 6 weeks

There are only 4 to 6 study visits and 1 to 3 study phone calls depending on UC activity. This clinical research study can last up to 14 months. If you qualify and choose to volunteer, you will be provided with all study examinations and an FDA-approved UC medication at no cost to you during your study participation.

For more information, please contact:
Andrea Dawson, CCRC
(619) 260-1012, ext. 226

San Diego Reader, October 11, 2007

Type 1 Diabetes: How Does It Affect You?

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

Profil Institute for Clinical Research invites you to participate in a research study involving an investigational insulin for people with Type 1 Diabetes.

You may be compensated up to $2750.00 for your time and travel. Four overnights are required.

Participants must be:
• Between 18 and 55 years old
• Diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes for 1 year
• Otherwise healthy

For more information, please call:
619-409-1257

Profil Institute for Clinical Research
once stood. I feel something hard and smooth through my gloved fingers. I grasp the familiar form, pulling it toward me through the ash. I look at it disbelievingly before holding it up to show everyone.

“Can you believe it?” I shriek through the mask. “It’s in perfect shape!”

My family stares with widened eyes — they too recognize the clay torso of a woman, a sculpture Mom made for Dad when we were kids. She’d made it with red mud from the clay pit on the mountain. This was the piece she used to cast her bronze replicas at the foundry at Palomar College.

This ceramic bust, beautifully proportioned, is one of my favorite works of art. This is the angel in the rubble. Dad gave it to me after Mom passed.

* * *

The compassionate side of humanity emerges in the aftermath of the Cedar Fire. Friends, relatives, and volunteers generously donate their time to help us clean up. This is an outrageously

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**Research Study**

If you are 18-65 years old and you are currently addicted to heroin or prescription opioid pain relievers, you may be interested in learning more about a new clinical research study.

North County Clinical Research (NCCCR) is conducting a clinical research study to evaluate an investigational new treatment. If you qualify, you will receive study-related care at no cost and you will be compensated.

If you are interested in participating in this study and would like more information, please call the number below:

760-639-4378

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**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.

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**ARE YOU TOO SHY?**

✔ Do you get VERY NERVOUS around people?
✔ Do you FEAR being the center of attention?
✔ Do you 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 to treat social anxiety disorder. Medical assessment and clinical care provided.

For more information, call 1-877-UCSD-SHY (1-877-827-3749) or e-mail: veryshy@ucsd.edu

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**RESEARCH STUDIES**

**DO YOU SUFFER FROM EXCESSIVE DAYTIME SLEEPINESS?**

Do you have sleep apnea and use a CPAP?
Do you also take medication for Depression?

If so, you may qualify to participate in a research study for adults to treat daytime sleepiness.

QUALIFIED PARTICIPANTS MUST BE:
- 18 and older
- On a stable CPAP Therapy for at least a Month
- Taking medication to treat depression

QUALIFIED PARTICIPANTS WILL RECEIVE:
- All study-related care, exams and study drug at no charge
- Compensation for time and travel

(877) 927-5337

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**TROUBLE STAYING ASLEEP?**

Do you NOT feel rested when you wake up?

If so, you may qualify to participate in a research study for adults who experience problems sleeping throughout the night.

QUALIFIED PARTICIPANTS MUST BE:
- 18 and older

QUALIFIED PARTICIPANTS WILL RECEIVE:
- All study-related care, exams and study drug at no charge
- Compensation for time and travel
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 now know it can...

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

If you are between the ages of 18 and 64 you may qualify to participate 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.

Are You A Night Owl Who Can’t Fall Asleep Till Midnight (or Later)?

Who me? Yes, you, the one who is up most of the night. Have trouble getting up early in the morning? Feel like you could sleep all day and should say, “who, who” all night?

If you are healthy but have chronic problems falling asleep before midnight, 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.

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

- You may receive up to $2600 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.

Schizophrenia

can tear families apart.

Do you or a loved one have schizophrenia? Have they tried Seroquel®, Risperdal®, Geodon®, Zyprexa® or Abilify®? Do they still feel hopeless, have side effects or continue to suffer from troubling thoughts or voices?

This loved one’s problem can break your heart. We are caring, experienced professionals funded by a well-known pharmaceutical company to conduct an inpatient and outpatient research study for qualified people with schizophrenia.

If your loved one participates, there is no cost...instead:

- They receive up to $1530 for participation.
- They receive no-cost research study-related medication and medical care.
- No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.

Are you being treated for your sleep apnea and depression but still have sleepiness during the day?

Because these two disorders have tiredness and fatigue in common, people who suffer from both feel like they drag all day long. California Clinical Trials is conducting a research study of an approved medication to see its effects on individuals with both sleep apnea and depression. If you are 18-65 years of age and in stable health, using your prescribed CPAP regularly and taking antidepressant medications, you may qualify to participate in this research study. 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 will receive up to $550 for your participation.
- You will receive 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
dirty and never-ending task. We haul wheelbarrow loads of twisted metal and the charcoaled remains of our former lives into 40-yard Dumpsters that the county provides. Two women cook lavish dinners that each feed us for almost a week. Others give us money hidden in sympathy cards or at the bottom of boxes filled with donated clothes.

In another week the Disaster Emergency Center is up and running. They take over the old post office building on the far side of town. Kent and I wait in line on that first morning and get our FEMA number. Each department needs its own questionnaires and forms filled out. It’s frustrating to fathom the amount of paperwork and phone calls it takes to start your whole life over again.

About a month after the fire, we’re finally able to get a small portion of our piddly insurance money, enough to buy two small, used trailers to live in. It’s time to move out of my sister’s yard. We still have no electrical power, so we purchase a generator from Home Depot and learn to use it. The noise it makes is deafening. We try to run it only a couple of hours in the morning and evening, just enough to charge the battery.

Kent and I consider our options for building, weighing cost, the desire to blend into the environment, as well as questioning what we can live with. I know that at this point I need a house I will love, or someday I may not want to come home. After losing Mom and my house in the same year, I feel fragile.

I’ve always loved log cabins, and after a bit of research and soul-searching, we find a company that builds with big, dead-standing lodge-pole pine. It’s important to us that it be handcrafted, not machine-milled. This outfit agrees to come spend the summer camping out in our yard and eating my trailer cooking in order to erect our structure properly. This alternative style of building is not common knowledge among contractors in Southern California.

In April, I submit our plans to the county building department. I call them after the estimated “ten days max for fire victims to get their plans approved.”

“No, they’re not ready yet,” the phone

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**Research Studies**

**Periods Too Heavy?**

If your periods are too heavy, a research study is underway using 2 investigational products for women with heavy menstrual periods. If you are over 18 years of age with regular periods and struggle with this heavy flow, you may want to consider this research study.

To possibly qualify you must:
- Be at least 18 years or older
- Have heavy but regular menstrual periods
- Not presently on oral contraception or willing to go off

Participants may receive study-related:
- Exam and consultation by a board-certified physician
- Lab studies, Pap smear and ultrasound
- Compensation

For more information call:
619-521-2841
Medical Center for Clinical Research

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**ARE YOU A NIGHT OWL?**

Do You Go To Bed At A Late Hour?

If so, you should know about a Research Study of an Investigational Medication for the Treatment of Delayed Sleep Phase Syndrome (DSPS).

**QUALIFIED PARTICIPANTS MUST BE:**
- Be 18 and older
- Go to bed later than you would like

**QUALIFIED PARTICIPANTS WILL RECEIVE:**
- All study-related care, exams and study drug at no charge
- Compensation for time and travel

**ARE YOU TAKING AMBIEN®?**

Pacific Sleep Medicine is currently participating in a national clinical research study of an investigational use for an approved prescription sleep medication.

If you are interested in participating in this new clinical study, you must be:
- Undergoing treatment for at least 3 months
- Currently using Ambien® at least 4 nights per week
- Must be willing to discontinue Ambien® (after signing an informed consent document)

Study-related medical exams, laboratory tests and study medication are provided at no cost. Qualified participants will be compensated for time and travel.
Three weeks later, I plead, “I need to get these plans through right away. The contractor willing to do my foundation is running out of time to budget for me. We need a house! I lost my mom seven months before the fire, and then we lost everything. I have a teenage daughter I’m really worried about, as she was very close to her grandmother. Our family is living in two tiny trailers, and it’s pulling us apart. I really need your help!” The building department duly expresses condolences, then continues with 12 pages of corrections. I wonder if they know how volatile a 16-year-old girl can be when she’s so recently lost her favorite person in the world (Gramaset) and then every tangible item she could call her own. Her displaced anger toward me is slashing away at my self-esteem.

Six weeks later, I present the engineer with the plan-change artillery loaded in my backpack: Wite-Out, pens, tape, glue stick, pencil, and eraser. I am a woman on a mission, and I won’t take “no” for an answer. This time it works.

July 2004, nine months after the fire, brings both excruciating heat and our log delivery. The foundation and subfloor are ready. The 35-ton
crane sets up in our front yard and begins its spiderlike dance. The boom is shortened, and the massive metal mandibles lower down to the tractor trailer, loaded with 2000-pound Tootsie Rolls. Our log crew’s work rhythm synchronizes. Amos guides the hook to the log and clamps it in the center, where it can be lifted a few inches to determine whether it’s balanced. Merl lends his hands to the teeter-totter, and the process is repeated until the load is centered and tied on. Amos gives the crane operator a thumbs-up, and the dangling stick rises slowly over the oak trees, 50, 60, 80 feet up, where it looks like a toothpick in the sky. It trapezes toward the south mountain before descending to our future cabin. Adam and Justin stand on top of two perpendicular walls, clad in shorts and sandals, arms reaching upward to each end of the incoming log to steer it into its resting place. Bruce is on the ground, giving the crane operator hand signals, not unlike sign language for the deaf. It might as well be, for nothing can be heard over the generator and crane.

* * *

By October, I’m spending most every day and evening staining the inside trim. All the nail holes need to be filled with wood putty, sanded, and then two clear coats have to be hand-brushed over it.

One evening, Kent finds me still at it when he gets home from work. “How much longer are you going to be here?” he asks.

“Oh, I don’t know,” I respond tiredly. “At least a couple more hours.” I point out what I want to accomplish tonight. I continue painting. Later on, sometime after 9:00 p.m., I hear the door open and smell a wonderful hunger-enticing aroma. Kent appears with plates of baked salmon and salad, along with a bottle of wine. He says that Chance has already gone to bed. We sit on upside-down buckets with the plates in our laps and enjoy one of the most delicious meals I’ve ever had.

“You know, all this wood is sure interesting to look at,” says Kent. “I don’t think we’ll ever get tired of it.” “Yeah, see this knot here,” I point out. “It’ll be right over the dining-room table. No telling what our friends will see in it when they sit here drinking wine with us.”

Indeed, our comrades have seen a variety of images in this gnarly indentation of the log: an old woman with a long nose, a ship traversing a tumultuous sea, and a prairie dog coming out of its hole. The knots are too numerous to count. They will entertain us for the rest of our lives.

— Chi Varnado

### RESEARCH STUDIES

#### Do you suffer from Osteoarthritis of the hip?

Are you currently taking medications for pain relief? If you are 40 years old or older and are generally in good health, you may be eligible to participate in a clinical trial evaluating an investigational oral medication.

For further information, please call: 619-229-3909

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

#### Attn: Heavy Drinkers

The Scripps Research Institute is conducting 2 investigational studies associated with drinking:

- **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:

(838) 784-7867 (STOP)
## Health & Beauty Coupons at SDReader.com!

Here’s a small sample to get you inspired!

### One-hour sports massage $59

- **A $79 value. Deep tissue, therapeutic, chair massage or Swedish. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Offer expires October 31, 2007. Expiration dates are renewed the last week of each month.**

  **Chesara’s Touch Massage**

  Are you suffering from migraines, backache or athletic aches and pains? Let our knowledgeable staff assist you!

  4411 Mercury Street, Suite 215, Kearny Mesa, 850-277-1900

### Get $25 off your first Micro Dermal Tone treatment

- **MDT** is a non-invasive face lift using microcurrent. Safe, painless, low-level waveform-shaped currents to reprogram the muscles to nearly original muscle shape. Please call for details. Offer expires October 31, 2007. Expiration dates are renewed the last week of each month.

  **Sanctuary Spa**

  “Spa for One” Sanctuary is a special place that started out as one room for one guest at a time. Now it has expanded so that more than one person can take pause and still feel like they are the only guest.

  609 S. Vulcan Avenue #101, Encinitas, 760-543-7772

### 10% off any service

- We offer a wide range of services for age management. Holistic medicine, cosmetic medical solutions, cellular reduction, leg vein treatment and hair removal. We also offer facials and massage. Offer expires October 31, 2007. Expiration dates are renewed the last week of each month.

  **Continuum Aesthetics**

  We employ a comprehensive holistic approach to cosmetic procedures including dermabrasion, chemical and laser peels, Restylane, Thermage and Botox treatments. We also offer color science mineral makeup.

  4510 Executive Drive, Suite 125, Golden Triangle, 850-642-1838

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### Head to toe treatment only $145

- **Aromatherapy Facial – Glycolic Acid Peel – 1-hour body massage and reflexology foot massage.** Extra paraffin foot dip – 1 body spa treatment. Offer expires October 31, 2007. Expiration dates are renewed the last week of each month.

  **Spa for One**

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  609 S. Vulcan Avenue #101, Encinitas, 760-543-7772
MY DAD STUTTERED FLAMBOYANTLY. HE DID EVERYTHING ABUNDANTLY, ELABORATELY, EXTRAVAGANTLY, BUT HIS STUTTERING WAS GRANDIOSE.
Laser skin care

One Week Only!

Cosmelan Mask & Cosmelan Acne Specials
October 16-20
Superior treatment for acne, sun-damaged skin, freckles, pigmentation, and melasma.
Cosmelan Mask $649 (Reg. $700)
Cosmelan Acne $649 (Reg. $750)
Please book your appointment immediately due to limited space: 1-866-BEST-LOOK (1-866-237-8566)
Bring a friend (new patient) and each receives $25 off treatment!

Laser Hair Removal
• Lip or chin
$49*
• A 50% discount!
• Ask about other areas

Just For Men Laser Hair Removal
• Chest
$179*
• A 50% discount!

IPL® Photofacial
$199*
• A 50% discount!
• For rosacea, redness and flushing

*These coupons apply to a single treatment of any Laser Hair Removal or Photofacial only. New patients only. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Cannot be applied retroactively to prior procedure. Offer expires 10/27/07. Must present coupon prior to treatment. No cash value.

Complimentary consultation
• 2 weeks only

Masks and peels
Cosmelan
• For treating pigmentation disorder and melasma
Jessner's Peel
For treating acne and scarring
Cosmelan acne
• To regulate oily and acneic skin

Wrinkle treatments
Botox® $218 per area
• Wrinkle reduction treatment
• Forehead, glabellar, crow’s feet
• All 3 areas if injected same day are only $595

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• New & exciting FDA-approved treatment to smooth away the facial wrinkles. Regular price $549. Expires 10/27/07.

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<tr>
<th>Service</th>
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<td>$50 off non-</td>
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<td>Brazilian &amp; Underarms</td>
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<td>Chest or Abdomen</td>
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You might think — noticing the books I was conspicuously reading and annotating, and I’m afraid you were meant to notice them and me — that the question “Why was I here?” was a Big Question and that the question “Why was I here?” was the question I kept asking.

Boy oh boy, you think you know your aliens! I felt so cliched - mi-fa-so-la-ti-do — and so do I.

The diesely whine while sputtering — even a martyr had to take time off for a swim. I was questing for a vision of any mortal, and only a pinch less magnificent than the history and potential he had bestowed upon himself. Were any father such impulsive love as I showered on that man. Later, when I became disillusioned, when I imagined that I understood Duke Wolfe for what he really was — a deadbeat bullshit artist with a vener of charm rubbed right through from negligent overexercise — I hated him, and like the love before it, that hate too was indulgent, exorbitant.

This June afternoon outside the bus depot, examining my father blinking behind the thick lenses of owlish Goldwater specs, I was too wary to indulge contempt. The eyeblasses, out of register with Duke’s formerly stylistic presentations, were the least of it. Even at his lowest, he’d enjoyed flamboyant temperamental resources: flash and spritz and nonchalance. Now he seemed timid, dulled, hung over. I was all too inured to his hangovers, which used to provoke in my dad manic snap, as though he’d decided that if this was as bad as it got, bring it on, let’s start another IV Mount Gay rum drip. What I was seeing luminescent toward me was a crummy linen-ish jacket. This wasn’t what I’d have expected: seersucker, maybe, or the soiled white linen suit that Sydney Greenstreet might sport — ties-up in the tropics and all that — but no this, some thing on whose behalf a thousand polyesters had lost their lives, some rag that needed a cleaning the day it was sold, tarted up with cheapjack brass-crested buttons. From Duke’s good old bad old days of smart tailoring, what a fall was here! Halting toward me was a zombie. Dad Wolfe looked as though he’d been shot smack in the heart with about 500 cc of Thorazine. Talk about taking the edge off! He looked like they’d sawed through his brain.

My brother Toby, 15, wasn’t it? Even a martyr had to take time off for a swim. I was questing for a vision of any mortal, and only a pinch less magnificent than the history and potential he had bestowed upon himself. Spare any father such impulsive love as I showered on that man. Later, when I became disillusioned, when I imagined that I understood Duke Wolfe for what he really was — a deadbeat bullshit artist with a vener of charm rubbed right through from negligent overexercise — I hated him, and like the love before it, that hate too was indulgent, exorbitant.

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was with him, hanging back gingerly, vigilant. I felt like someone to whom something bad would soon happen. Toby looked like someone to whom it had already happened. This was the more alarming because he looked so wakeful and sharp. He had a strong, bony face, with steady eyes and a jutting chin. He was tall and lean, handsome, like our mother. He didn’t appear vulnerable; he gave an impression of competence, but after all, he was a kid.

I hadn’t seen Toby during the past seven years, but we’d recently been in touch by telephone and letter, and I knew that he’d had a rocky time of it with his stepfather. Coming across the country to try my only sibling, I’d phoned from a roadside diner to tell Duke which bus to meet and I’d reached Toby. He didn’t know where our father had disappeared to. No sooner had Toby arrived than Dad had taken off with a woman friend in a fancy Italian car. He had left his teenaged son with a hotel phone number and a vague assurance that he’d return to La Jolla in a few days. Years later, here’s how Toby re-collected the situation in his heartbreak memoir, This Boy’s Life (1989):

That night the man leaned against the apartment door and sobbed while I stood in the darkness on the other side, silently hugging the rifle, sweating and shaking as in a fever.

Toby collapsed the remaining ten weeks of our family summer into three paragraphs. In The Duke of Deception (1979), my book of memories of my father, I gave it more, ten pages, but I guess I’m not through with that reunion yet, and I guess I’m not soon going to be. Almost 20 years ago, for research on behalf of The Duke of Deception, written to give my sons as much of their father’s history as I could articulate, I gumshoed details about my father’s final years in California, in and out of prisons and state mental hospitals, on the dole or on the lam. I did this digging in the beach towns south of Los Angeles, where Duke Wolff came to his dismal end, dying in a tiny apartment in Manhattan Beach two weeks before the milkman found him in August of 1970. I could bear seeing that place, endure an interview with the police who knew him too well, with his parole officer, with merchants he’d stiffed and neighbors he’d bullied. But till now I’d kept my distance from pretty La Jolla and from San Diego and from up close and personal memories of my terminal pileup with my dad.

Finally, I figured, what the hell, then was a long time ago. As a writer, and especially as a husband, and most especially as a father, I’m all for generosity, bygones being bygones, healing. So I was unprepared for the vividness of my recall of that summer, of the effect on me of finding our apartment near Windansea Beach, of finding the hangar (or one just like it) where I worked for Convair Aeronautics on Pacific Highway, of searching for the San Diego city jail (since torn down) where I last saw my father, of bringing all this back so that maybe (fat chance!) I could get it buried for good.

Behind the wheel of theubby-mummy rented Pontiac, driving to La Jolla, Duke was stiff and tentative. This was unlike him. I remembered him as a bold driver, fast and cocksure, every little journey to the grocery store a high-octane adventure in squealing tires and red-lined rmps. Now Dad held to the slow lane, glancing anxiously in the rear-view. His face had once been imposing, Mussolini-monumental; now his nose was bulbous, stippled with burst blood vessels. The few times he spoke, I saw that his false teeth, what he used to call China clippers, were loose against his gums. I
had questions:
Where had he gone, leaving Toby alone? How could he take time off from his job? Asking this question I gave the impression, meant to give it, that I didn’t believe he had a job. How soon could he give me cash (I came down hard on cash, to distinguish it from a check or an IOU) to repay my yachtsman classmate’s yachtsman daddy? These questions immediately returned us to our fundamental relationship: I was the hectoring (and mind-dullingly dull) parent; Duke was the irresponsible (and charmingly fun-loving) kid. The exchange didn’t leave much for Toby to do except sit in the back seat and study his fingers, as though he might be looking hard at his hole cards.

Duke was miserly with basic information — what exactly he did for a living, where he had gone “in the desert” (as he put it) or why.

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expertly with his lighter, inhaled intertemporarily, remarked that it had been an oddball visit so far. I asked him to steer while I lit a Camel expertly with my lighter, inhaled intertemporarily, and warned him that smoking was bad for his wind, especially if he planned to make a name for himself playing football at the Hill School back in Pennsylvania, where he was beginning on full scholarship in September.

My avuncular manner surprised me. I prided myself you look out for you. Maybe I was out I was practicing to become a teacher. Maybe I was out for me. I prided myself scholar in September.

And so, dressed in long trousers and boat shoes and a white Lacoste tennis shirt, I accompanied Toby across Vista del Mar and Neptune Place to the Pump House and down concrete steps to the beach. The first things I noticed were the binnacle’s sets of waves breaking way off shore, nor the surfers...
"Uh-huh," I said. When the landlord left, Toby said, "Tell me something. Did Dad really go to Yale?"

"What do you think?"

“So that would pretty much rule out his graduate degree from the Sorbonne,” we laughed together, bless him.

Sometime after midnight we quit talking, stopped paddling way out there waiting to ride, nor the surfers with lots of white hair washing their boards near the water’s edge. I noticed, of course, the babes, and so did Toby.

* * *

"Hubba hubba," he said with reassuring irony, a family vice.

So we sat for a long time on a couple of hand towels, talking about the future, with our eyes cocked on the very here and now, avoiding the subject of our father. In no time at all I felt the love for my brother that till now I’d only assumed, too reflexively, as a given. He was witty, resourceful, a hit parade of corny songs, which he was willing to sing out loud. “On the Wings of a Dove” and Hank Williams — “Hey, hey good lookin’, whatcha got cookin’, how about cookin’ something up with me?” He could do a Jimmy Rogers yodel in caricature of a locomotive whistle, and he knew the gospel classics, “The Old Rugged Cross.” He did tenor lead, I did baritone. Even then, he remembered the words I’d forgot. The dynamite chicks stared frankly at us and our noise, with what I imagined that afternoon — but never imagined again — was interest. I didn’t get dark till nine or so. We waited. The landlord came asking for rent. He was kind, patient, pretended to believe that we didn’t know where our old man could be found. He said it had gone too long now, that Duke was months behind, that he had no choice...

“Do what you have to do,” I said, thinking about a sailboat waiting for me back East.

“Such a shame,” he sighed, “a man of his attainments, with his education!” He worked for General Electric, as a given. He was witty, patient, pre-tended to believe that we didn’t know where our old man could be found. He said it had gone too long now, that Duke was months behind, that he had no choice...

So we sat for a long time behind, that he had no man could be found. He said it had gone too long now, that Duke was months behind, that he had no choice...

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Dynamics’ Convair Astronautics. By supun I knew this, and knew as well that he was catatonic, and roughly what catatonia was. He would be removed that afternoon to a “more appropriate facility,” and I could guess what that would be. As obdurately as my heart had hardened, I heard myself telling the doctor to tell Dad his sons were here for him, we were behind him all the way. Toby nodded.

“Well,” the doctor said, “he has said a few words. He keeps asking for a woman who lives in town. Could you help out with this, maybe let her know he wants to see her?”

“No,” I said.

That morning I worked out a deal with the landlord. On principle he wouldn’t let us stay in the apartment on which so much rent was due, but he’d let me lease, in my name, an identical unit down the exterior hall, same monthly rent but this time he required an up-front security deposit, first and last month in cash or cashier’s check by the end of business tomorrow.

I borrowed it from a classmate, the roommate of the son of the yachtman dad from whom I’d borrowed my bus fare. Tangled, well! It took a boy of my educational attainments to keep all those debts straight, all the lines of credit, but a boy of my educational attainments also knew how to keep in on sympathy. My classmate friend cabled the money from New York that afternoon, and that night Toby and I moved our father’s entirely unpaid-for worldly goods to our new residence.

Drunk on resourcefulness, I bought a car and found goods to our new residence. From New York that afternoon, I heard myself telling the doctor, “I could guess what he has said a few words. He is catatonic, and roughly behind him all the way. Toby nodded.”
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to the fiery thing that toppled over after achieving an altitude of about 18 inches.

* * *

My job at Astro was simple. I summarized it in The Duke of Deception: Dad was embalmed in an academy of laughter down in Chula Vista, not much of a detour from my weekend line of march to Tijuana. Toby and I were permitted to visit only on Saturdays, which suited my schedule fine, and when we visited he behaved like his old self, which, on the best day of his life, did not display a mastery of your everyday parenting skills. He seemed oblivious to any inconvenience he might have caused his sons, made no mention of the carnage of Toby’s first week in La Jolla. Quotidien challenges were beneath his notice: whether he’d lost his job (he had), how much longer his insurance would support his treatment (not long enough), by what transport we’d conveyed ourselves to our audience with him (he did fret about a car “I had to desert in the desert,” a play on words that amused him so exceedingly that he neglected the situation’s starker implication, soon enough to weigh heavily on him).

We met a few of his new friends, men and women jollier than I would have expected, but their serenity might have been an outcome of the electric shock therapy Duke resolutely and justly resisted. He was busy with workshop therapy, making a leather portfolio into which he burned my initials. This was a difficult gift to receive, and to hold now, not least because it fell into a category of assets — personalized keepsakes — that opened a painful fissure between Toby and me.

One thing, and it was a thing, was uppermost on my father’s mind when my brother and I visited his asylum in Chula Vista. This was a silver cigarette lighter inscribed with his name in London after the Blitz by friends in the RAF when he was in England on behalf of North American to deliver P-51 Mustangs. He wanted that lighter; jepters, did he desire that silver lighter; did we grasp that the lighter Mater-Tered to him? He decided that we had lost it during our move from one apartment to another. Oh, was he disappointed! His new friends would like to see that inscribed silver lighter, and he’d like to show it to them.

Why didn’t we just run back to La Jolla and find it, “chop-chop”?

It’s amazing what kids — even kids as old as I was then, old enough to buy a car on the installment plan and to sign a lease — will accept as the way of the world. I don’t mean merely that kids are subject to arbitrary tyrannies, though they are; I mean that until I had sons I never really understood how emotionally derelict my father was. I judged the cost of his selfishness on an empirical scale, by the measurable havoc he inflicted on me. It wasn’t till I had sons that I began to understand that such lunatic solipsism as Duke’s shook the rudiments of his sons’ worlds, misaligned the paths connect-
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and get it, which I did. She was waiting by a VW van, pretty much holding her pretty hand out.

I don’t have to tell you how the party went. What party, eh? Surf Boulevard in Pacific Beach?

Seven years later, reading Tom Wolfe’s title essay in The Pump House Gang, I felt a full flush of shame rise from my toes. The keg scam was a chestnut among the surfers and surfer-babes at Windansea. But that was the least of my mortification there. Frank laughter was the worst of it. Back home at the Jersey shore or on the beach at Watch Hill, blinking preposterously behind my groundbreaking round, silver-framed glasses (so far ahead of the curve that the nickname “granny glasses” hadn’t yet been invented), in my navy polo shirt to hide my chubby titts, in my Brooks Brothers madras bathing costume, by George I was a stud muffin! Here, carrying a Great Book past those hep longboarders in their mut-hugger nylon suits with competition stripes, I was a freakin’ joke!

A few months ago I re-read The Pump House Gang. Try it yourself, it’s a consolation, the revenge of the weenies. The first paragraph introduces us to someone who could have been the younger sister of the honey who burned me for keg money.

“I’m Pam Stacy, 16 years old, a cute girl here in La Jolla, California, with a pair of orange bell-bottom hip-huggers on….” Oh my, bring those hip-huggers to my beach and I’ll show you a fun time!

* * *

After I re-read Wolfe’s essay, I walked that beach again. Same comely youngsters. Now, at 38, worse even than then. I’m invisible. I could be wearing a swallow-tail coat and periwig. I could be barrel-naked; I could go swimming in a jester’s cap and bells. Same outcome: mere air, imperceptible, unseen, not there, not here, a real nowhere man.

So where, during these humiliating hours after work, was Toby? Safe inside, at his books, writing essays I assigned him. It took him a while to forgive me for practicing my apprentice teaching skills on him. To prepare him for the exactions of a classical education at the Hill School, I obliged him to do a day’s work, to read a book a day while I did a day’s work while I did a day’s work, to read a book a day and write an essay every week: “Blindness and Insight in King Lear and the Oedipus Tyrannus”; “The Bound-
He slept on a pull-out sofa-bed in our one-roomer, and mid-August, when the alarm clock woke me for work, I saw the stupid, pretty thing on the floor beneath his blue jeans. In the sullen light of dawn, I made out an inscription engraved on it. My father’s initials in elegant sans serif. No RAF boys, of course, but another name for sure, a new engraving, commissioned up on Girard Avenue, TOBY. I remembered the hours we’d spent together hunting for that costly goddamned thing, TOBY’s helpful suggestions where next to search: the beach, Dad’s suit pockets, maybe it had fallen out of Dad’s trouser pocket into one of the shoes in his closet?

That morning was awful, and I want to pull a curtain across it. Duke was coming “home” from Chula Vista that afternoon; I was meant to pick him up after work. I didn’t know what we’d all do, where we’d live, how we’d sit together in a room, how we’d look at one another, what in the world we were supposed to do now. What I knew for sure: TOBY hated us both, his father and his brother. I knew why he hated the one, but not the other. Now I think I know all I’ll ever know about that aspect of that summer, and all I want to say to Toby is, Forgive me. Even though he has pardoned me, and himself, just this last time. Forgive me.

I fetched Duke; he raged at TOBY. We sent my brother home to my mother on a bus. As sad as it was between my father and me, after TOBY left it got worse. My father wasn’t allowed to drink — all that medication — but of course he drank. How many days did the nightmare last? Few, I think. He tried to talk me into staying with him instead of going to Turkey. I managed not to laugh in his face. My work at Astro was a mercy, got me out of the apartment. My infamy on the beach was a joy, got me away from him. And I’d invited a couple of visitors, Princeton friends.

One was coming up from Mexico in a Cadillac hearse, the other, from whom I’d borrowed the money to rent our apartment, was in the navy, coming to San Diego to join his aircraft carrier. I’d paid him back; breaking a Wolf family tradition, I’d repaid all my debts to friends that summer.

While my erstwhile classmate from the hearse was visiting, Duke was arrested in San Diego. For a wonder, he wasn’t drunk and he wasn’t up to mischief. He was buying breakfast food at a late-hours store and he’d made a U-turn in my Ford. He’d stuttered when the policeman stopped him. They took him downtown. It went hard on him. By the
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Drive dimly lit the black water. Big wet flakes flew at our windshield; the dash glowed greenly. The car was heavy and solid; we were heavy and solid. My friend had been successful in business, investing prudently but shrewdly the inheritances of people who trusted his judgment and honor. His voice was measured. He told me. He told me how he had got the landlord at Playa del Sur, who didn't yet know I'd run out on him just after running out on my father, to let him in. How he had waited there. How he had had a beer or two from the fridge, and then a glass or two or three of the Wild Turkey I was drinking back then. How he had stretched out and taken a nap. How he had wanted to walk down to the beach, but the landlord wouldn't give him a key. How he had waited and waited for me to come back from work. How he began to feel pissed off, put-upon. How he couldn't wait any longer; the Saratoga was cruising west; he was due aboard. How he had noticed my dad's shoes in the closet, really nice shoes, beautifully cared for, church shoes, dark brown cap-toes. How something — boredom? — had urged him to try those shoes on his own feet. How they had fit as though they were made for him. How he had stolen them.

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"What color?" I wanted to know.

"Greenish, heather, I guess you'd call it. Nubby but soft, a really nice tweed sport coat."

"It wouldn't have been mine," I said. "I didn't own a jacket that fits that description," I lied.

"What color?" I asked. You see, in Boston, so far from Windansea that winter night, at last, I was finished with all this, who stole what from whom, who borrowed and who paid, who was owed what. I'm finally at the end of all that. This time I mean it. This time, again, I really mean it.

— Geoffrey Wolff

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Hello Ollie, Bye-Bye Matt
I have been a big Ask Alice (“Straight From the Hip”) fan for years but wanted you to know Ollie (“Remote Control King”) has taken over as my top favorite. That guy is hilarious, and I don’t watch much TV nor even understand half of his references. The wheel-chair story, while not PC, was most excellent, and it even had a happy ending, sort of. Can you just send me those two columns each week? I don’t need any plastic surgery.

C. Carlyle via e-mail

Drop The Gun
Re “Can’t Put Worms Back in Can” (Letters, Septem-
ber 27). Blast away, Bob. You can do that so well. Thanks for your invitation to not be an idiot. I agree with you, Bob, let’s drop the whole gun issue. I won-der if you can do that. A

My favorite thing to do is to summon the courage to walk into the proverbial lion’s den with an open and loving heart, she transformed not only her own world but that of her supposed enemies and ours as well. The monsters’ ink and repellant manners she had moments before taken as her neighbors’ essence were revealed to be no more than the fragile coat of armor frightened beings use to protect themselves against past injustices and imagined future ones.

Perhaps if we, like Beth, could but once set aside our personal and media-manu-
factured fears, we might see beyond the thin “armor” of religion, politics, and class. We might dare meet each other with trembling but open hearts and transform our world into one without the need for hand grenades, hydrogen bombs, or Halliburtons.

— Ken Carter

Del Mar

country Joe and the Fish, Crosby, Stills & Nash, The
original Chicago Transit
Authority, and a host of others! It was a fantastic day for a young teenager!! And what about It’s a Beautiful Day at the Old PB Bowl-
ing Alley converted into the
venue called Earth! An all

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Arts without Agenda
North Park Hosts U.N. Peace Envoy

The Salvation Army objected not to seeing a purely cultural event with political eyes and then complained that the event was political,” says Manal Swairjo, co-organizer of the concert featuring Lebanese oud (Arabic lute) composer Marcel Khalifé. The concert was scheduled to take place at the Joan B. Kroc Theatre at the Salvation Army Corps Community Center. After six months of organizing and four days before the contract was to be signed, the Salvation Army rejected Swairjo’s application to use the center as a venue.

“We have no problem with objections or precautions,” says Swairjo. “We’re always open to dialogue. What was most disheartening was the preemptive judgment. There was an initial prejudice existing against our advocacy.”

The Salvation Army objected not to the performer, who is a United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Artist for Peace, but to the organization presenting him. Swairjo, a professor of biochemistry at Western University in Pomona, is active in the Arab-American community — she advises San Diego’s chief of police in this regard and is the cultural coordinator for Al-Awda, the “Palestine Right to Return Coalition.”

According to Van Cleef, the Salvation Army directed the concert organizers to find another “suitable” venue. Four weeks after the application form and informed that it must application without any explanation and Swairjo’s claim that the center cert to proceed. On July 31, when Swairjo’s partner contacted the theater manager to request a signing chart, he was sent a rental application form and informed that it must be filled out to “formalize” the rental contract.

 “[The theater manager] e-mailed my partner, saying that they were declining our application without any explanation and referred him to the Salvation Army captain John Van Cleef. He called Mr. Van Cleef and asked for an explanation. Mr. Van Cleef argued that the event was unbalanced and divisive. When he was asked to explain more explicitly, he said it was unbalanced because it didn’t include an Israeli performer and that it will upset certain people.

When asked what people, [Van Cleef] said the Jewish community in San Diego. Many of us Jews in our organization.”

Van Cleef communicated the center’s stance to me via e-mail. “The single-focus agenda of Al-Awda placed the Army in a dilemma, who is an advocate for peace, he made a whole concert discredited and not qualified to be in his venue because of our advocacy,” argues Swairjo. “It’s not professional or respectful — it’s discriminatory. They are no doubt having constant cultural functions, and never did they require any one community to be inclusive of the rest.”

When asked to explain what it is about Al-Awda that might cause divisiveness, Van Cleef points to the section of Al-Awda’s mission statement that reads, “Al-Awda unequivocally supports the fundamental inalienable, individual, and collective rights of all Palestinian refugees to return to their original towns, villages, and lands anywhere in Palestine from which they were expelled.”

The implications of such an agenda, he states, “speak to a broad, historic, sensitive, and political issue. The Salvation Army — an apolitical organization — does not want to be misunderstood as having taken one side or the other.”

“Al-Awda is basically a human rights organization.” Swairjo explains. “It advocates for Palestinian refugees of war and calls for universal human rights. Several significant members of the Jewish community are involved with Al-Awda because they understand that the right of Palestinian return is essential for any peace. Just like Amnesty International works on politically controversial issues, like the rights of political prisoners, doesn’t mean Amnesty International is a political organization.”

According to Van Cleef, the Salvation Army directed the concert organizers to other “suitable” venues. Four weeks after being rejected by the center, the concert was rescheduled to take place at the Stephen and Mary Birch North Park Theatre. “We were more explicit this time and asked early enough for an application,” says Swairjo. “But we had to start from scratch — print tickets again, do advertising, flyers, and posters. It was a lot of work and cost.”

—Barbara

Marcel Khalifé and the Al Mayadine Ensemble
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7 p.m.
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North Park
Cost: $35 to $100
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“Ten Years After the Javier Villarrutia Prize” is in honor of lecture by Jorge Ruiz Duenas, Thursday, October 11, 7 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, in Zona Río). Free. 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

Piano Concert by Marcela Hersh, Thursday, October 11, 7:30 p.m., at Teatro Benito Juárez (Avenida Guadalupe, between Calle 2 and 4). $10 general; 011-52-664-176-3005 or 011-52-664-177-1195. (TIJUANA)

“Novus Aer XV” presented by name Alberto Stanley, Thursday, October 11, 8 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, in Zona Río). $25 U.S. 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

“Scenography,” lecture by Jorge Ballini, Friday, October 12, 7 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street). Free. 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

Maria Carrasco Ballet Company performs Flamenco dance, Saturday, October 13, 8 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, in Zona Río). Tickets: $35, $45. 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

Zoo and Susan 4 plus rock concert at El Foro, Jai Alai Palace (on Avenida Revolución) on Saturday, October 13, 11 p.m. 619-734-2323. (TIJUANA)

Cuen, Trucks, ATVs, Motorcycles from both sides of border compete in challenging closed-circuit race starting 9 a.m. on Sunday, October 14, 8 and 6 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, in Zona Río). $15 U.S. 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

“Star Wars” music performed by Sinfónica Juvenil de Tijuana, conducted by Pavel German, Sunday, October 14, 8 and 6 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, in Zona Río). $5 general. 011-52-664-167-1637. (TIJUANA)

The Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1991 was awarded to Richard Ernst, “for his contributions to the development of the methodology of high-resolution nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectroscopy.” Ernst speaks Monday, October 15, in commemoration of 50th anniversary of Universidad Autonoma de Baja California (UAAC). Talk starts at 11 a.m. at Centro Comunitario, Calzada Tecnológico on Mesa de Otay. 011-52-664-682-1075. (TIJUANA)

“Coqeloses o Cuella,” political topic explored in comedy by Las Reinas del Cabaret Político en México. Performances slated for Monday, October 15, at Teatro UAAC (Mexicali), Tuesday, October 16, at Teatro UAAC (Ensenada), and Wednesday, October 17, at Centro Cultural. Curtain rises at 8 p.m. each night. Tickets: $15, $20 U.S. 011-52-664-687-9600. (MEXICALI, ENSENADA, TIJUANA)

Guitar Recital by Jason Vieaux, Tuesday, October 16, 7 p.m., at Multiforo ICBC (Avenida Centenario #10151, in Zona Río). 011-52-664-684-8609. (TIJUANA)

Alberto Cortez in Concert, Tuesday, October 16, 9 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street). $25 U.S. 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

“A Witness” is topic for lecture by Associated Press photographer Jean-Marc Bouju, who won World Press Photo of the Year in 2003 for his image of hooded Iraqi war prisoner holding his son at detention camp in Najaf. Bouju speaks on Wednesday, October 17, 7 p.m., at ICBC (#10151 Calzada Centenario). Free. 011-52-664-684-8609. (TIJUANA)

“Behind the Wheel,” sculptural assemblages, paintings, installation by John Dillemuth may be seen through Sunday, December 16, at Galería H&H (Avenida Esteban Cantú 2651, Colonia Dávila). Exhibition opens with reception on Thursday, October 18, 7 p.m. 011-52-664-900-6133. (TIJUANA)

“Tango de Nuestro Tiempo” — music by César Fulla y César Olguín on Thursday, October 18, 8 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street). Tickets: $15, $20 U.S. 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

Tribute to Elvis by Scott Bruce and John Mueller (as Buddy Holly) at Camino Real in Zona Río on Thursday, October 18, 8 p.m. 011-52-664-633-4000. (TIJUANA)

OUTDOORS

Chinese Flame Trees are now displaying colorful clusters of orange, reddish, or salmon-pink seed pods. Good specimens line the south end of Baboo Drive in Bahía Park, and Lake Murray Boulevard through San Diego’s San Carlos district. Most of the remainder of San Diego’s ornamental trees will continue to remain drab until November, the onset of “autumn” botanically, at least near the coast.

The Smoggiest Days of the Year are most likely to occur during the next several weeks. Persistent temperature inversions (warmer air overlying cool marine air) are frequent this time of year. These inversions conspire with the mountainous topography of East County to trap locally generated air pollution under a low-lying lid. During the worst episodes, San Diego County’s coastal area is the hapless recipient of additional smog sneaking down from the Los Angeles Basin. This often occurs when a Santa Ana wind condition...
began to weaken: L.A. smog blown offshore by a Santa Ana may get pushed back our way when the normal sea breeze returns.

The Tawny Hues of the Black Oak Tree are just beginning to highlight the slopes of San Diego County’s higher mountains. Named for the dark coloring of its bark, especially when wet, the black oak is the only deciduous oak native to the county. Associating with pines, firs, cedars, various evergreen oaks, and occasionally chaparral, the black oak lends a true autumn coloring to popular areas such as the Cuyamaca, Laguna, and Palomar Mountains.

Look for “Eastern Vagrants” and migrating birds when visiting Point Loma with Audubon Society birders, Saturday, October 13, 8 a.m. Birders visit Cabrillo National Monument, possibly Point Loma with Audubon Society birders, Saturday, October 13, 8 a.m., at Escondido Community Garden. Instruction and demonstrations in building and maintenance of backyard compost piles, worm bins. Free. Garden is just north of Highway 78 on Center City Parkway; park behind garden in cul-de-sac at Morning View Drive and Lincoln Avenue. Fee: 760-839-6216. excavation.

Tracking Walks for beginners and intermediates hosted by San Diego Tracking Team, Saturday, October 13, 8 a.m., at Los Penasquitos Canyon Preserve Adobe Ranch House (take Canyonside Park Drive off Black Mountain Road, follow signs to ranch house). Learn to track animals, discover their environments. Wear shoes that are good in mud. Free. 858-484-3219. (RANCHO PENASQUITOS)

Enjoy Autumn Foliage and lakeshore birds during walk with trail guide, Saturday, October 13. Outing starts at 8:30 a.m. at Kumeyaay Lake campground entry station in Mission Trails Regional Park (Two Father Junípero Serra Trail). Free: 619-668-3281. (SAN DIEGO)

Rot Happens, master composters lead composting workshop Saturday, October 13, 8-30 a.m., at Escondido Community Garden. Instruction and demonstrations in building and maintenance of backyard compost piles, worm bins. Free. Garden is just north of Highway 78 on Center City Parkway; park behind garden in cul-de-sac at Morning View Drive and Lincoln Avenue. Fee: 760-839-6216. excavation.

Seacliff Beach Cleanup at Torrey Pines State Beach hosted by San Diego Coastkeeper on Saturday, October 13, starting at 9 a.m. Free. Directions: 619-758-7743. (LA JOLLA)

Second Nature Walks at the Reserve, San Elijo Lagoon Conservancy hosts walk exploring migratory birds and native plants, Saturday, October 13, 9 a.m. Free. Directions: 760-436-3944. (CARDELL)

Trail Patrol Training offered for potential volunteers at San Dieguito River Park, starting Saturday, October 13, 9 a.m.–3 p.m. Learn about natural resources in...
In 1991 Orange County opened the 1500-acre Whiting Ranch Wilderness Park, which spans across the foothills of the Santa Ana Mountains just east of the communities of Lake Forest and El Toro. One surprise can be found in the upper reaches of a narrow ravine through the park called Borrego Canyon. There you’ll come upon strangely weathered outcrops of red-tinted sandstone, rising a sheer 300 feet above the bottom of the ravine. It’s a perfect spot to plant a small shrub of desert lavender for which Borrego is famous. Rarely is it as well exposed as here.

From that trailhead, follow the well-traveled Borrego Trail going up Borrego Canyon. You immediately plunge into the densely shaded reaches of a narrow ravine through the park called Borrego Canyon. There you’ll come upon strangely weathered outcrops of red-tinted sandstone, rising a sheer 300 feet above the bottom of the ravine. It’s a perfect spot to plant a small shrub of desert lavender for which Borrego is famous. Rarely is it as well exposed as here.

After no more than about 40 minutes of walking and 1.3 miles, you come to Mustard Road, a fire road that ascends both east and west to ridgetops offering long views of the ocean on clear days. Turn right on Mustard Road, pass a picnic site, and take the second trail to the left (the Red Rock Trail — for hikers only), into an upper tributary of Borrego Canyon. Out in the sunshine now, you meander up the bottom of a sunny ravine that becomes increasingly narrow and steep. Presently, you reach the base of the eroded “Red Rock” sandstone cliffs, formed of sediment deposited on a shallow sea bottom about 20 million years ago. The fenceless remnants of shellfish and marine mammals, underlies much of Orange County. Rarely is it as well exposed as here.

Like most trails in the Whiting Ranch Wilderness Park, the Borrego Trail is open to mountain biking and horse riding, as well as hiking. Mountain bikers, however, are not allowed to ride all the way to the Red Rock cliffs. If they get as far as Mustard Road, they must return to the trailhead by a roundabout route looping east, because Borrego Trail is posted as one-way uphill for bicycles.

This article contains information about a publicity owned recreation or wilderness area. Trails and pathways are not necessarily marked. Conditions can change rapidly. Hikers should be properly equipped and have safety and navigational skills. The Reader and Jerry Schad assume no responsibility for any adverse experience.

RED ROCK CLIFFS

Hike to Orange County’s micro Grand Canyon in the foothills of the Santa Ana Mountains.

Distance from downtown San Diego: 82 miles

Hiking length: 4.0 miles round trip

Difficulty: Moderate

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Rosarito Beach Hotel Family Vacation Getaway Package: $169

DANCE

Get Your Groove On! Latest dance steps taught by instructor/dancer Prince on Thursdays at Dancing Unlimited (4569 30th Street). Beginners at 7–8 p.m., intermediate/advanced 8–9 p.m. $10 per class, $35 for four. 858-633-1211. (MIRAMAR PARK)

ZYDECO DANCES

dances are offered every Thursday at Tio Leo’s (3502 Napa Street, between Morena Boulevard and Linda Vista Road). Beginning dance classes at 7 p.m.; open dancing to recorded tunes from 8–10 p.m. Donation: $1. 619-583-9956. All ages and abilities. Partners not required. [BAY PARK]

FILM

The Bellamy Brothers perform their hits at the top of the 858-534-TIXS. (LA JOLLA)

Belly Dance Workshop by Lelania on Saturday, October 13, 1 p.m., at Ginzeng Yoga (2985 Beech Street). “Focus is on feeling the root and expression of movement.” $15 in advance, $20 at door. 619-338-9642. (BOURBON STREET)

Jeremy and the Zydeco Hot Boys plan CD-release party and play for dance hosted by Ron Temps Social Club and Gator by the Bay Festival, Saturday, October 13, at War Memorial Building (3825 Zoo Drive, at Park Boulevard). Dance lessons at 6:20; dancing from 7–10:30 p.m. $14. 619-496-6650. (BOURBON ST)

Hustle Club Party, Saturday, October 13, 8 p.m.–midnight, at Dance North County (535 Encinitas Boulevard, suite 100). Melanie Dawson leads intermediate/advanced hustle workshop, 7–8 p.m. ($15), followed by dance ($7). 760-803-9982. (ENCINITAS)

Old Time String Band makes music, Steve Barlow calls contra dance on Saturday, October 13, 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. Free predance jam, 6–7:30 p.m. (LA JOLLA)

“One Shot” has West Coast premiere when Ronald K. Brown/Evidence takes stage on Saturday, October 13, 8 p.m., for UCSD’s ArtPower series at Mandeville Auditorium. Tickets: $32, $36, available at 858-534-TIXS. (LA JOLLA)

Fusion-Style Bellydancing by Sarasavi Modern Tribal, Saturday, October 13, 9 p.m., at Egyptian Tea Room (4644 College Avenue). All ages. Free admission. 619-265-7207. (COLLEGE AREA)

SUNDAY ZAPATEADO, Ballet Folklorico on Aztlan performs dances from different states of Mexico on second Sunday of each month at Centro Cultural de la Raza (2215 Park Boulevard). Dances of Michoacan performed October 14, 2 p.m. Free. 619-235-6139. (MIRAMAR PARK)

ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCING takes place every Sunday, 6–9 p.m., at Joan Hart Academy of Dance (Oak Knoll Plaza, 12227 Poway Road). All callers lend a hand on October 14. Beginners’ instruction at 6 p.m. $6. 858-676-9751. (POWAY)

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San Diego October 11, 2007 23
Tell me about the style.

“This is my second-and-a-half time trying to read it. The language is a little bit difficult — Fanon uses a lot of elevated language. The book was written a long time ago, so that contributes to it.”

What about beloved?

“That’s fiction about a woman, Seethe, who escapes slavery on a plantation called Sweet Home, and is trying to live out her freedom. She goes through a lot; some of her children die. The book goes on to talk about the house she lives in, how it’s cursed because her youngest daughter died there. Later, we find out that Seethe killed the daughter because the thought she’s going to be taken back into slavery.

Do you have a favorite character?

“Beloved — the daughter that Seethe killed. She comes back in a spiritual way and in a physical way. She grows up in the spiritual realm and haunts the house, and then manifests in the body and comes to live in the house. The family thinks she is just a runaway slave. I liked her as a ghost because her presence was punishing her mom, but at the same time, in her physical form, Beloved is protecting Seethe from outside danger.”

What book has been most life-changing for you?

“The Bluest Eye by Toni Morrison. The book is about a girl who is a victim of incest — she was raped by her father. The girl is trying to find her own beauty and throughout the book, she wants blue eyes because she thinks that is beautiful. I was molested as a child, so I relate to the main character. In the end, the girl has a conversation with herself and decides that she has blue eyes. Her eyes never actually turn blue, but that is kind of her finding her own beauty. I did the same thing.”

What magazines or newspapers do you read?

“I don’t read magazines, and I only read the Union-Tribune classified section.”

Do you talk to your friends about reading?

“A lot of my friends are into the popular, juicy, romantic novels. They have stories where somebody stole somebody else’s man and now they’re having a baby. I don’t get into that. It seems just like watching TV. I like more complex books, ones that I have to read over and over again. I tell them about the books and suggest they pick them up, but they just kind of blow it off.”

By Sonia Eliot

What’s That You’re Reading?

NAME: APRIL R. WHITE | AGE: 19 | OCCUPATION: STUDENT
NEIGHBORHOOD: LA MESA | WHERE INTERVIEWED: SAN DIEGO CITY COLLEGE

What are you currently reading?

“I’m a spontaneous reader — read something, then start something else. Right now, I’m rereading Black Skin, White Masks by Frantz Fanon, and also Beloved by Toni Morrison.”

Tell me about the books.

“Black Skin, White Masks is about Africans who assimilate into French culture. Fanon thinks that minorities, especially Africans, want to be white or Caucasian. He says black women want to marry white men and consider them to be kind of like demigods. He also says black men want white women. He says that by doing this, it enhances their whiteness.”

What do you make of the argument?

“He’s making three assumptions based on a very small sample of people in Martinique. Then he stretches his conclusions way past that sample. I also find the marriage assumption disturbing because he based that on the narrative of a slave who talks about her master kind of endearingly.”

Lectures

“Boom Time,” mixed-media exhibition exploring “experience of facing the complexities and contradictions of today’s world from the perspective of five boomer-generation artists” continues in Kruglak Gallery at Miramar College (in student center at One Barnard Drive). Artists plan talk on Thursday, October 11, 11 a.m. Free. 760-757-5808.

Pulitzer Prize-Winning Novelist Jane Smiley (A Thousand Years, Ten Days in the Hills) and local debut novelist Marjorie Hart (Summer at Tiffany) will discuss their recent books and answer questions during author’s luncheon hosted by Words Alive, Thursday, October 11, noon, at Manchester Grand Hyatt (One Market Place). $75. Space availability, reservations: 858-274-9673.

Saving the Past with food historian Arvly Hackett from San Diego Union-Tribune, Thursday, October 11, 11:30 a.m., at Museum of San Diego History. Food samplings from Mexican/Ranchero period, participants explore “ordinary and unique examples of cultural heritage that defines the diverse and rich history of the San Diego region.” $20. Required reservations: 619-232-6201 x 140. (Balboa Park)

“Hand in Hand Schools: A Pathway to Peace in the Holy Land” presented by organization founder Dr. Gordon, Thursday, October 11, 7 p.m., in Francis Parker School Field House (6001 Linda Vista Road); Hand in Hand seeks “to build peace between Jews and Arabs in Israel through development of bilingual and multicultural schools.” Mike Felt and Nader Eshrahi will also speak. Suggested donation: $10. 619-445-2596. (Linda Vista)

“Hollywood in the Fifites: The Golden Age of Movie Musicals” is topic when the “Facing the Music” lecture series continues on Thursday, October 11, 7 p.m., at Athenaeum Music and Arts Library (1088 Wall Street). $17. 858-454-5872. (La Jolla)

“Preservation and Revitalization of Sherman Heights” — Louise Tinto focuses on historical, architectural significance of Sherman Heights Historic District for University Heights Historical Society on Thursday, October 11. Talk starts at 7 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church (3993 Park Boulevard). Free. 619-297-3166. (University Heights)

“Emotion and Artistic Expression” — this “narrated slide show by mind/body psychologist and certified sex therapist Mary Lou MacFarren” is Friday, October 12, 7 p.m., at Bonita Museum and Cultural Center (4355 Bonita Road). $17. 858-454-5872. (La Jolla)

“Savor the Past” and “Black Skin, White Masks” is about Africans who assimilate into French culture. Fanon thinks that minorities, especially Africans, want to be white or Caucasian. He says black women want to marry white men and consider them to be kind of like demigods. He also says black men want white women. He says that by doing this, it enhances their whiteness.

What do you make of the argument?

“He’s making three assumptions based on a very small sample of people in Martinique. Then he stretches his conclusions way past that sample. I also find the marriage assumption disturbing because he based that on the narrative of a slave who talks about her master kind of endearingly.”

Tell me about the style.

“This is my second-and-a-half time trying to read it. The language is a little bit difficult — Fanon uses a lot of elevated language. The book was written a long time ago, so that contributes to it.”

What about beloved?

“That’s fiction about a woman, Seethe, who escapes slavery on a plantation called Sweet Home, and is trying to live out her freedom. She goes through a lot; some of her children die. The book goes on to talk about the house she lives in, how it’s cursed because her youngest daughter died there. Later, we find out that Seethe killed the daughter because the thought she’s going to be taken back into slavery.

Do you have a favorite character?

“Beloved — the daughter that Seethe killed. She comes back in a spiritual way and in a physical way. She grows up in the spiritual realm and haunts the house, and then manifests in the body and comes to live in the house. The family thinks she is just a runaway slave. I liked her as a ghost because her presence was punishing her mom, but at the same time, in her physical form, Beloved is protecting Seethe from outside danger.”

What book has been most life-changing for you?

“The Bluest Eye by Toni Morrison. The book is about a girl who is a victim of incest — she was raped by her father. The girl is trying to find her own beauty and throughout the book, she wants blue eyes because she thinks that is beautiful. I was molested as a child, so I relate to the main character. In the end, the girl has a conversation with herself and decides that she has blue eyes. Her eyes never actually turn blue, but that is kind of her finding her own beauty. I did the same thing.”

What magazines or newspapers do you read?

“I don’t read magazines, and I only read the Union-Tribune Classified section.”

Do you talk to your friends about reading?

“A lot of my friends are into the popular, juicy, romantic novels. They have stories where somebody stole somebody else’s man and now they’re having a baby. I don’t get into that. It seems just like watching TV. I like more complex books, ones that I have to read over and over again. I tell them about the books and suggest they pick them up, but they just kind of blow it off.”

By Sonia Eliot

What’s That You’re Reading?

NAME: APRIL R. WHITE | AGE: 19 | OCCUPATION: STUDENT
NEIGHBORHOOD: LA MESA | WHERE INTERVIEWED: SAN DIEGO CITY COLLEGE

What are you currently reading?

“I’m a spontaneous reader — read something, then start something else. Right now, I’m rereading Black Skin, White Masks by Frantz Fanon, and also Beloved by Toni Morrison.”

Tell me about the books.

“Black Skin, White Masks is about Africans who assimilate into French culture. Fanon thinks that minorities, especially Africans, want to be white or Caucasian. He says black women want to marry white men and consider them to be kind of like demigods. He also says black men want white women. He says that by doing this, it enhances their whiteness.”

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Caroline Arnold speaks for Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators on Saturday, October 13. Arnold is author of more than 130 books on diverse array of subjects. Meeting begins at 2 p.m. in room 108 of Hahn School of Nursing building at University of San Diego (at Linda Vista Road and Marion Way). $9. 619-668-8661 (LINDA VISTA).

"Literature and French Painters, Ekphrastic Literature: A Piece of Art" presented in English by author Susan Vreden for Alliance Française, Saturday, October 13, 2 p.m., at Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center (4126 Executive Drive). "Ekphrastic literature" makes reference to or describes a piece of art. Donation: $5. Potluck lunch follows discussion. 619-549-3088 (CARLSBAD).

The Vilna Ghetto, Its Fate During the Holocaust, and his parents' stories of the place provided fodder for ten years of research by Michael Bart, who will discuss his upcoming book about Abba Kovner’s Partisans of Vilna for San Diego Jewish Genealogical Society. Talk starts at 1 p.m. on Sunday, October 14, at Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center (4126 Executive Drive). Talk will talk “mixing of personal stories in the face of important historical facts and how he dealt with establishing a perspective to create a cohesive book.” $3. 619-583-0826. (LA JOLLA).

Seascapes Painting created with pastels by artist Mary Lake for Pale- tol Society of San Diego on Sunday, October 14, 2 p.m., at Mission Valley Library (2123 Fenton Parkway). Free. 619-713-1128. (MISIION VALLEY).

"Who Are All Those Figures in Benin Art?" Find out why Barbara Blackman speaks for African Arts Council on Sunday, October 14, 3 p.m., in Copley Auditorium at San Diego Museum of Art. Benin’s Renaissance bronzes and ivories featuring many figures wearing complex regalia; some depict heroes and heroines in Benin’s history, others represent anonymous courtiers with ceremonial roles at the courts of Benin’s kings, queens, hereditary nobles. $15 general; 858-538-6788. (CARLSBAD).

World Trade Center Collapses discussed by Bay Area architect Richard Gage for San Diegos for 9/11 Truth on Sunday, October 14, 6:30 p.m., at Joyce Beers Community Center (1230 Vermont Street). 619-222-2120. (HILLcrest).

"Science in the Service of Art" is focus when USCD research physicist John Asmus describes projects involving scientific technologies in conservation, restoration of artworks. Lecture for North County chapter of San Diego Museum of Art on Monday, October 15, 6:30 a.m., at St. Peter’s Episcopal Church (334 14th Street). Free for first-time guests, $5 otherwise. 619-755-6462. (ODESSA).

"Israel at the Time of the Dead Sea Scrolls" illustrated by New York University professor Lawrence Schiffman on Monday, October 15, 8:30 a.m., at St. Peter’s Episcopal Church (334 14th Street). Free for first-time guests, $5 otherwise. 619-755-6462. (ODESSA).


Four Corners Workshop hosted by San Diego Writers’ Guild on Monday, October 15, 7 p.m., at Joyce Beers Community Center (on east side of Vermont Avenue, north of University Avenue). Participants choose two of four 30-minute workshops covering fiction, nonfiction, memoir, and poetry led by Yvonne Nelson Perry, Larry Edwards, Claire Accomando, Katie Davis-Steward. $5. 760-471-3523. (MISIION VALLEY).

"Fighting Cancer with Your Fork" is subject for Vicki Newman, R.D., Tuesday, October 16, 10 a.m., at Moores UCSD Cancer Center (3855 Health Sciences Drive). Free. Reservations: 838-822-2236. (LA JOLLA).

Women PeaceMakers Programs planned at Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice at University of San Diego (5998 Alcalá Park). “Liberat- ing Minds Imprisoned by War Trauma and Media Bias: A Conver- sation with Irina Yaranskaya from South Ossetia (Georgian-Ossetian Conflict Zone)” planned Tuesday, October 16.

Latefn Amin Siergar from Indonedia presents “Reviving Traditi- onal Law to Transform Contemp- orary Tribal and Migrant Disputes” on Thursday, October 18. Lectures begin at 12:30 p.m. Free. Reserva- tions: 619-260-7509. (LINDA VISTA).

“Shore and Lake Bird Photog- raphy” taught during classes be- ginning at San Diego Natural His- tory Museum on Tuesday, October 16, 6:30 p.m. (continuing October 20, 23). Equipment, field techniques, locations, artistic prin- ciples for “capturing great bird photographs.” $75. Registration: 619-233-2020. (HILLCREST).

CWF Book Sale — Oct. 19 & 20

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**Calendar**

**LOCAL EVENTS**

**About Reader and Arts Library (1008 Wall Street). Lecture series on Thursday, October 18, 6:30 p.m., at San Diego Museum of Art. Learn about one of Doré’s few old-time melodrama and olio, presented by veterinarian and holistic medicine expert Cesar Morales, Thursday, October 11, 8 a.m., at Whittier College (7121 Girard Avenue). Free. 858-454-1880. (LA JOLLA)**

**“Get That Tune:” Name That Tune (Temptation Defied, or In-” • 6 p.m., at San Diego Museum of Art. Featuring “Framed by violence and dance and percussion. Contemporary dance is performed to structured improvisation, "layered with textures of sight and sound." Curtain time: 7 p.m. at the La Palapa (1002 North Highway 101). Special performances by Allen Silver and Dana Terry. $15. 858-655-0040. (LA JOLLA)**

**Cape Verdean Singer Sara Tavares (Musician’s Night for Rural Africa),”**

**Revenge of the Donut Boys:** read from his new book, *The Cru-**

**Sherry Moses:** The Dog Who Inspired Virginia Woolf, Elizabeth Barret Browning, Edith Wharton, and Emily Bronte, signed and dis-**

**Rocktober:** Finding Stella plays Friday, October 12, 6 p.m., at Hard Rock Cafe (909 Prospect Street); concert benefits Breast Cancer Research Foundation and Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center. Donation: $5. For those 21 and older. 858-454-0347. (LA JOLLA)**

**Facility Recital** by USD instruc-**

**Mojale Dance Collective Joints Rhythm Talk performance on Friday, October 12, 7 p.m., at USD intruc-**

**Cape Verdean Singer Sara Tavares (15498 Espola Road). Tickets: $12–$20. 858-748-7474. (CLARKE MOUNTAIN)**

**Flamenco-Nova** performs for Jazz As-**

**Local Singer-Songwriter Local Singer-Songwriter Local Singer-Songwriter Local Singer-Songwriter”**

**“A Night for Rural Africa,””**

**“Let My Voice Ring Out,””**

**Dane Terry. $15. 858-566-4040. (LA JOLLA)**

**Saturday Backyard Concert on October 13, 7:30 p.m., at MiraCosta College Theatre (One Barnard Drive). $10 general. 619-216-8282. (OCEANSIDE)**

**Flame-Flicker-Jazz-band performs with flamenco dancer Sol on Saturday, October 13, 7 p.m., at Le Papagayo (1002 North Highway 101). No cover. 619-944-8252. (CLAIREMONT)**

**Pajama Blues Boys take stage for San Diego Folk Heritage, Saturday, October 13, 7:30 p.m., at San Die-**

**National Domestic Violence Awareness Month commemorated with benefit concert on Saturday, October 13, 6:30 p.m., at Joyce Beers Community Center (1220 Cleveland Avenue). Seven artists from new Women on the Move CD” will perform, joined by local singer-songwriters Bridgette and Lisa Sanders. Sug-**

**Beers Community Center (1220 East B Street). Free admission. 619-688-9745. (NORTH PARK)**

**Russian Children’s Choir shares songs, dances of their homeland in rur-**

**Drive Your Dream Car**

**Honeymoon Cruise for Two**

**San Diego Luxury Transportation • 858.693.3377**

**About Reader and Arts Library (1008 Wall Street). Lecture series on Thursday, October 18, 6:30 p.m., at Beaver Conference Center, Institute of the Americas (10111 North Torrey Pines Road). Vivacon will compare/contrast policies in Mexico and in Colombia and how concern for human rights can shape them. Free. Requested registration: 858-453-5860 x129. (LA JOLLA)**

**“Soundswaves” Art Talk by Julio Cesar Morales, Thursday, October 18, 11 a.m., at San Diego Museum of Art. Learn about one of Doré’s few paintings, its dramatic setting. $15 general. $23 lunch. Reservations: 619-232-7932. (BALBOA PARK)**

**“Souvenir For The Dramaticus: Gau-**

**Dante’s Murder of Roscia” is topic for “Collection Spotlight” se-**

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**San Diego Luxury Transportation • 858.693.3377**
SPECIAL

It’s Already Time to Scream? Del Mar “Scaregrounds” host annual Scream Zone through Wednesday. October 31. This year haunted pageants, house of horrors, the chamber. Ticket prices, hours 858-755-1161.


The World War II Victory Ship Lane Victory visits Maritime Museum of San Diego (1492 North Harbor Drive) for public tours through Sunday, October 14.

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Adopt a Russian Child

Please attend a free informational meeting Thursday, October 18, from 7-9 pm. (Ask about our Asian program.)

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Toll-free 877-542-7772
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Mary Birch North Park Theatre (2895 University Avenue). “Khalil’s passion lies in transforming the Arab music tradition, picking up the thread spun by the great composers and musicians of the 20th Century.” Tickets 835-6100. 619-239-8836. (NORTH PARK)


Cape Verdean Singer Sara Tavares in concert, Wednesday, October 17, 8 p.m., at Anthology (1357 India Street). Her new CD is Balancé. Tickets $8–$23. 619-595-0030. (UNIVERSITY CITY)

Raggle Taggle plays Celtic tunes, and there will be face painting, crafts, refreshments during open house on Wednesday, October 17, 4–6 p.m., at Clairemont Library (2920 Burgundy Boulevard). 858-381-9935. Free. (CLAREMONT)

“A Working Man’s Apocalypse: Short Stories” read from by author William Lavaas for Hugh C. Hyde Living Writers Series, Wednesday, October 17, 7:30 p.m., in room 2050 of Malcolm A. Love Library at San Diego State University. Lavvas teaches creative writing at SDSU. Free 619-594-5138. (NORTH PARK)

Experience the Magic of Live Theater when “Free Night of Theater” begins Thursday, October 18, November 20, December 11. $15 general, $10 seniors. $5 for students. 619-570-6340. (SAN DIEGO)

Bruce Gorder USCSD SK Walk for Melanoma is Saturday, October 13, on USD campus. Registration begins at Moores UCSD Cancer Center at 8 a.m. Registration: 858-822-6175. (LA JOLLA)

Rides to Suit Every Rider! San Diego Bicycle Club’s “world famous” Saturday rides start at 8:30 a.m. at 8715 Via La Jolla Drive (in parking lot at La Jolla Village Square). Fast rides, core training, and development rides offered. Helmets mandatory. 619-610-6400. (MIRAMAR)

What’s a Mohan Veenan? Find out when talented multi-instrumentalist Harry Marx performs for AcousticMusicSanDiego concert on Thursday, October 25, at Normal Heights United Methodist Church (4650 Manchester Street). Tickets $44 (dinner package); $18, $22. 619-301-8716. (MIRAMAR)

Solid Blues, soul singer Maris Staples appears with harmonica player Charlie Musselwhite, North Mississippi Allstars, and blues pianist Joe Krown in concert on Friday, October 19, 8 p.m., at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). Tickets $25–$40. Reservations 800-988-4233. (ESCONDIDO)

Booker Prize-Winning Author Yann Martel and illustrator Tomislav Tomicic discuss and sign their book The Life of Pi. Deluxe Illustrated Edition, Monday, October 22, 7:30 p.m., at Warwick’s Bookstore (7812 Girard Avenue). Free. 858-454-0347. (LA JOLLA)

“Songs Without Words” discussed and signed by Ann Tucker (The Dive from Claudia’s Pier) on Wednesday, October 24, 7:30 p.m., at Warwick’s Bookstore (7812 Girard Avenue). Free. 858-454-0347. (LA JOLLA)

Can One Person Make a Difference? Pulitzer Prize-winning author Tracy Kidder discusses and signs Mountains Beyond Mountains, his book about Dr. Paul Farmer, Thursday, October 25, 7:30 p.m., at Warwick’s Bookstore (7812 Girard Avenue). Free. 858-454-0347. (LA JOLLA)

Bruce Gorder USCSD SK Walk for Melanoma is Saturday, October 13, on USD campus. Registration begins at Moores UCSD Cancer Center at 8 a.m. Registration: 858-822-6175. (LA JOLLA)

Racing starts with race program for “B” and “C” category racers on Friday at 6:45 p.m; “Invitational Madison” gets underway around 7:30 p.m. Competition resumes at 11 a.m. Tuesday, August 17, on motor-paced Madison track. The “MADRID-MADRID” Miss and-olds; juniors and sprinters racing also planned. Find San Diego Velodrome at 2221 Morley Field Drive; 619-573-4953. Spectators welcome. (MIRAMAR)

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Running Center Southern California Cross Country Invitational is Saturday, October 14, 8 a.m.–2 p.m., at Guajome County Park. Registration on site. 619-247-7540. (GOLDEN HILLS)

Tuesday, October 16, 1–3 p.m., at GUI (Baldwin Park); Registration: 619-238-8585. Free. 619-238-8585.

Thursday, October 18, from 7-9 pm. (Ask about our Asian program.)

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Please attend a free informational meeting Thursday, October 18, from 7-9 pm. (Ask about our Asian program.)

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Toll-free 877-542-7772
www.adoption-options.org

Tennis for the Cure, tournament benefiting Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure, Saturday, October 13, 11 a.m.–4 p.m., at University City Racquet Club (3585 Governor Drive). Open to all levels of players. Fee: $25–$100. 858-452-5683. (UNIVERSITY CITY)

Jump to Fall, cuisine demonstration and tastings, Saturday, October 13, 7 p.m., at Blossomdale’s San Diego (7075 Friars Road). Free. 619-610-6400. (MIRAMAR)

Amateur Boxing Show, Saturday, October 13, 7–10 p.m., at Knockout Fitness Club (1231 Camino Del Rio South). Tickets: $15 adults, $8 for those 12–16, free for those five and younger. 819-291-2131. (MISSION VALLEY)

All-Woman, Full-Contact Football! So Cal Scorpions host Las Vegas Showgirl on Saturday, October 13, 5 p.m., in Edward’s Stadium (near to La Jolla High School, 750 Nautilus Street). Ticket prices 877-717-8464.

“Total Combat 24 War at the Amnon” mixed martial arts extreme cage fighting with fighters using variety of combat styles against opponents. Saturday, October 13, 7 p.m., at Arnold Sports Center (Ashford College Avenue). Tickets: $30–$180. 819-392-4660. (MIRAMAR)

“Walk to Cure Diabetes” around USD campus hosted by Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation on Sunday, October 14. Check-in: 9 a.m., walk off at 9 a.m. on UCSD School of Medicine lawn (9500 Gilman Drive). 858-397-0240. (LA JOLLA)

Ramona, the Shortest Way, bicycle to Ramona for lunch from Doyle Park (1875 Regents Road) with San Diego Bicycle Touring Society riders, Sunday, October 14. The 68-mile starts at 8:45 a.m. Bring money for lunch in Ramona. 619-473-8513. (EDENSDA)

San Diego Chargers host Oak- land Raiders in Qualcomm Stadi- um on Sunday, October 14, 1:15 p.m. Game broadcast on CBS listens on radio station KLOZ-FM, Rock 105. 3. Tickets $84–982 available through Ticketmaster (819-220-TIXS). (MISSION VALLEY)

Del Mar Festival I Horse Show runs Wednesday–Sunday, October 17–21, at Del Mar Fair- grounds, beginning at 8 a.m. each day. Evening events begin at 7 p.m. Thursday–Saturday. Ticket information: 949-496-4064. (DEL MAR)

It’s Already Time to Scream? Del Mar “Scaregrounds” host annual Scream Zone through Wednesday, October 31. This year haunted pageants, house of horrors, the chamber. Ticket prices, hours 858-755-1161.

The Haunted Hotel at 424 Market Street serves up screams through Wednesday, October 31. $13.99. Hours 619-471-2727.

The World War II Victory Ship Lane Victory visits Maritime Museum of San Diego (1492 North Harbor Drive) for public tours through Sunday, October 14. In-
**Calendrier**

**LOCAL EVENTS**

**O U T & A B O U T**

**Family Fall Festival**, enjoy BMX and skateboard shows (11 a.m., 1, 3 p.m.), free food booths, giant inflatable at San Elijo Hills Family Fall Festival at San Elijo Middle School (1600 Schoolhouse Way), 10 a.m.–4 p.m. on Saturday, October 13. Festive program and contest with Century Challenge of MS Bike Tour. Free. 888-726-3545. (SAN MARCOS)

**Folding Festival**, origami lessons by knowledgeable paper folders promised Saturday, October 13, 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m., at Mirfit in Encinitas. (MIRFIT)

**Octobersfest is Saturday, October 13, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., in parking lot on Newport Avenue and nearby grassy area. Sausage toss, live music, dancing, vendor booths. Free admission. 619-224-9006, (OCEANSIDE)

**S A N D I E G O R A D I O.COM**

**Sacred Craft Consumer Surfboard Expo** is October 13 and 14 at Del Mar Fairgrounds. “Bring together all who love surfboards and all things surfboard.” Show opens 10 a.m. both days, closes at 6 p.m. on Saturday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday. Display booths from “virtually every major American surfboard company,” panel discussions by experts in surfboard manufacturing, design including “legendary shapers” Al Merrick, Rusty Preisendorfer, Gary Lindy, Mike Eaton and Mickey Munoz. Earth, Ferns, Mathias Billo and Timmery Patterson, $5, for those 16 and younger. 616-445-9700. (DEL MAR)

**23 at Spanish Village (1770 Village Place). Free admission. 619-232-3522. (BALBOA PARK)

**Fall Plant Sale** hosted by California Native Plant Society, Saturday, October 13, 11 a.m.–3 p.m., in Casa del Prado courtyard. Native plants and bulbs, seeds, books, expert tours on hand to answer questions. Free admission. 685-926-8664. (SAN DIEGO)

**Festival Ecuador** — “a downtown town for all your senses” — is Saturday, October 13, 11 a.m.–10 p.m., centered at 120 West Grand Avenue. Festival promises samples from over 20 restaurants, two stages with live music, gallery receptions, more. Tickets, $20, $30. 760-765-8877. (ESCONDIDO)

**Polish Festival** with folk dancing, food, Polish music, a Oktoberfest, at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Saturday, October 13, 1–4 p.m., in Falls Church Elementary School. (ESCONDIDO)

**Annual Rose Show** hosted by East County Rose Society is Saturday, October 13, 1–4 p.m., at Foothills Adult Education Center (1550 Melody Lane). Hundreds of roses and rose arrangements on display, rose advice from “accredited consulting rosarians,” more. 619-582-3794, 619-463-6977. (SOLIDAGO)

**World-Champion Pizza Toss** 7th annual Pizza Tournament to benefit three local charities, Saturday, October 13, 11 a.m.–4 p.m., at Squaw Valley, 4200 Squaw Valley Road. Tossing, $25 for adults, $10 for children. 520-701-2633. (WATTS)-

**Knitting Circles** for those who already know how to hook up “and meet other knitters and exchange ideas,” Saturdays, 2–5 p.m., at Knitting by the Beach (1124 Orange Ave). Free. 858-509-9276. (SOLIDAGO)

**SOUTHWESTERN ARTISTS’ ASSOCIATION’S FESTIVAL AND ART AWARD** is Saturday, October 13, 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, October 13 and 14, in Gardner 23 at Spanish Village (1770 Village Place). Free admission. 619-232-3522. (BALBOA PARK)

**Sierra Club for Singles!** For singles in their 30s and 40s year with Sierra Club membership. **Hiking, Camping, Dancing, Socializing, Parties, Events, Travels, and much more!** 619-233-1765. (SAN DIEGO)

**Are you single and over 40?**

**The Great Train Robbery** and **Death Rider the Stage featuring Backcountry Players, Saturday, October 13, at Pacific Southwest Railway Museum. (Highway 94 and Forest Gate Road). Train departs at 4 p.m., dinner follows train journey $50 (adults only). Reservations: 619-478-5403. (CAMPO)**

**Bird Mart and Educational Fair** sponsored by North County Aviculturalists, Sunday, October 14, 10 a.m.–6 p.m., at Bernardo Winery (1339 Paso del Verano Norte). Vendors offering bird-related wares, education booths, hourly educational presentations (11 a.m.–5 p.m.). Free admission. 760-740-2472. (CARLSBAD)

**MUSICAL STORY TIME** at The House of Spain (4096 30th Street). Free. 619-370-7117. (NORTH PARK)

**The Rabbit on the Moon** cast of 13th annual Little Italy Picnic Festa, Friday, September 14, 11 a.m.–4 p.m., at皮革 Pork, 2201 Oak St., La Jolla. Free. 619-713-2633. (POINT LOMA)

**Are We a Drugged Nation?** Discuss with P&R Discussion Group, Thursday, October 18, 7 p.m., at Sand Diego Museum of Art, 1500 El Prado. Free. (SAN DIEGO)

**The Street and Prescription Drugs** — Are We a Drugged Nation? — Discuss with P&R Discussion Group, Thursday, October 18, 7 p.m., at Sand Diego Museum of Art, 1500 El Prado. Free. (SAN DIEGO)

**WORLD-CLASS HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL — THE ICE TOUR** hits Sand Diego Sports Arena, October 12–14. Cast of “world-class ice skaters” in roles of all characters in High School Musical including Troy, Gabriella, Sharpay, Ryan, Chad, Taylor, music is from Disney Channel’s original High School Musical movie and High School Musical 2. Performances begin at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, October 13 and 14, 6:30 p.m. on October 15. (SPORTS ARENA)

**Musical Story Time** led by educator Anne Fennell, Saturday, October 13, 11 a.m., at Historical Society of San Diego, 1373 El Prado, (SAN DIEGO)

**Festival Escondido** — “a downtown town for all your senses” — is Saturday, October 13, 11 a.m.–10 p.m., centered at 120 West Grand Avenue. Festival promises samples from over 20 restaurants, two stages with live music, gallery receptions, more. Tickets, $20, $30. 760-765-8877. (ESCONDIDO)

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MUSEUMS

Birch Aquarium at Scripps, an aquarium and museum under one roof, is the facility of a component of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UCSD. More than 60 tanks contain marine life of Pacific Northwest, California coastline, Mexico’s Sea of Cortes, and South Pacific. The La Jolla Kelp Tank is a two-story-high tank with giant kelp plants and nearly 80 species of local marine life. “Feeling the Heat: The Climate Challenge” examines science behind climate change. “Art of Deception” explores undersea camouflage. “Wonders of Water” water play area includes three interactive stations. The Lynne and Howard Robbins Shark Reef Exhibit features a 13,000 gallon shark tank with black tip, white tip, bamboo, and wobbegong sharks.

The aquarium is located at 2000 Expedition Way (off North Torrey Pines Road, south of La Jolla Shores Drive). 619-534-FISH (5347).

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 Wentscope for views of microscopic organisms found in the “Sweetwater Sog,” 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. (la jolla)

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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)
Events that are underlined occur after October 18.

HOW TO SEND US YOUR LISTINGS: Contributions must be received by 5 p.m. Friday the week prior to publication for consideration. Do not phone. Send a complete description of the event, including the date, time, cost, the precise address where it is to be held (including neighborhood), a contact phone number (including area code) for public information to READER CLASSICAL MUSIC, Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186. Or fax to 619-881-2401. You may also submit information online at SanDiegoReader.com by clicking on the events section.

GALLERIES

Actress and Artist Jane Seymour will be on hand for receptions October 12-14 at Samic Gal- lery. Exhibit: Prosper's Prospect. Receptions 6-9 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. on Sunday. Exhibit includes original paintings, watercolors, limited editions. Reservations: 858-456-3265 (samic.com).

18th Annual “Wildfires in Art” exhibit, an all-media show juried by wildlife and landscape painter Gary Johnson for Foothills Fine Art Association, continues through Thursday, November 1. Reception and sale for public, Saturday, October 13, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., in Porter Hall (4910 Memorial Drive).

“Boo Time,” mixed-media exhibition exploring “experience of facing the complexities and contradictions of this world from the perspective of five boomer-generation artists” continues through November 13, in Kreugl Gallery at MiraCosta Col- lege (in student center at One Barnard Drive). Reception for artists is Saturday, October 13, 5 p.m. 760-756-5366 (MIRA)."
tions shown in relationships highlighting similarities and differences among them. Museum has formed a collection of mingles now comprising 17,000 objects from 141 countries such as collection of 19th-Century African tribal currency, group of masks including example of Amazonian feather work, ritual objects, selection of monumental containers. Closes Sunday, May 11. The Mingei is located on square with San Diego Museum of Art, 619-239-0013.

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“ConcarStories: Iana Qu Queneel,” also closing on December 30, “investigates nomadism and temporal living situations.” See several new large-scale drawings and an animation responding to artist’s binational life between San Diego and Tijuana. Find the museum at 700 Prospect Street. 858-454-3541.

Museum of Photographic Arts, “Picturing Eden,” continuing through Sunday, January 13, examines “many facets of paradise, from a place of contemplation and restoration to a site of loneliness and despair.” Exhibition includes work by more than 30 artists, including Michael Kenna, Sally Mann, Han Nguyen, and Doug and Mike Starn.

“Public Privacy: Wendy Richardson’s Surreptitious Cellphone” is said to explore “how 20th-Century Americans occupy personal spaces while going about their daily lives in the public eye.” Richardson allows viewers to observe people in mundane routines by shooting tiny movies on her cellphone video camera. Closes Sunday, January 6.

Also on view through January 6, “New Light: Selections from MoPA’s Education Programs,” including photographic and multimedia pieces by more than 60 San Diego students. Find the museum in the Casa de Balboa building, at 1649 El Prado. 619-232-7931.

Oceanside Museum of Art, fifth juried exhibition of regional artists is “OMA Regional 5,” in which jurors Jean Lowe, Leah Ollman, and Tyler Stallings selected art from over 440 works submitted. The 33 works selected for show include drawings, mixed media, paintings, prints, sculpture. Exhibition continues through Sunday, November 11. Find museum at 704 Pier View Way. 760-721-2787.

San Diego Museum of Art, “Contemporary Links 5 — Alex Arrechea: Scalpel and Cotton” includes large-scale photomural based on Diego Rivera’s Hands of Dr. Moore, a large sculpture installation involving surveillance cameras and projected image of Rivera’s Mandrágora, several large-scale works on paper based on art objects in museum’s Latin American collection. Closes Sunday, October 14.

“Animated Painting,” opening on Saturday, October 13, and continuing through Sunday, Jan-

uary 13, boasts “25 cinematic works by 14 international contemporary artists who adapt traditional painting and drawing methods to the concepts and technologies of animation.” Participating artists include the Barnstormers, Sadie Benning, Jeremy Blake, Sebastián Díaz Morales, Kota Ezawa, Ruth Coe, William Kentridge, Ann Lefkaoz, Takashi Murata, Serge Onnen, Julian Opie, Wim Pijtman/Sanapong, Qiu Anxiong, and Robin Rhode.

“Tastes in Asian Art,” continuing through Sunday, November 25, features over 80 new works, many of which have never been displayed before. Highlights include new subsection of sculptures of jahans (enlightened monks), newly restored Chinese ancestor portraits, a screen of samurai warriors, an elaborate deck devoted to Tibetan art featuring bronze sculptures, furniture, furniture, 18th-Century shrine doors.

“Lyric Visions from Nezami’s Quintet,” continuing through Sunday, December 16, includes more than 20 paintings created for or inspired by Nezami’s texts, among the most celebrated and influential poetic works in all of Persian literature.” Paintings range in date from 15th to 20th Centuries. For further information, call 619-232-7931.


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Gregorian Chant Mass

Celebrate: Bishop Salvatore Cordileone. Come early to get parking easily (Little Italy Festa in progress).

Sunday, Oct. 14, 4:00 pm
Pizza Social with singing by the Schola after Mass.

Our Lady of the Rosary Church
San Diego’s Jewel Box of Baroque and Rocco Art
State and Date Streets (Little Italy) Downtown San Diego

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San Diego Early Music Society

Friday, October 19, 2007, 8:00 PM
Ensemble Célebrité lanéquin
“Le chant des Oiseaux” Renaissance chansons by lanéquin. Le xeune, and others

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2007, 8:00 PM
Julia Gooding, sopranino — Timothy Roberts, organ — Jeremy West and Jamie Savan, cornettos
“Puer Natus” Christmas music from 17th-century Italy and Germany for sopranino and two cornettos by Schütz, Frescobaldi, Praetorius, Cima, and others

FRIDAY, JANUARY 11, 2008, 8:00 PM
Asteria — Sylvia Rhyme, sopranino, and Eric Redlinger, tenor and lute
“Flower of Passion — Thorn of Despair” Courty songs of the late Middle Ages

FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 2008, 8:00 PM
Rebel
“Regala Ptars” Music by Ross; Biber, Schmelzer, Purcell; Telemann; Leclair; Mancini, Vivaldi

SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 2008, 8:00 PM
John Holloway, violin — Jaap ter Linden, viols — Lars Ulrik Mortensen, harpischord
“Madcap, Red Priest, and Angel” Music by Veracini (the Madcap), Vivaldi (the Red Priest), and Leclair (the Angel)

Tickets on sale now... call (619) 291-8246 or visit www.sdemus.org
Look Inside

Depending on your penchant for gossip, you may wonder if what you’re hearing’s too personal.

Harvey Fierstein’s musical remake of A Catered Affair begins like a pebble tossed in a pond. Janey and Ralph are getting married. They don’t want a big wedding, just a ten-dollar/ten-minute affair at City Hall, then off to California: no strain on her parents’ finances, no excluded invites. No hassle. Their decision would help her father, in fact. He doesn’t say so, but he could use that money to buy a taxicab with his partner. But Janey’s mother wants her oft-neglected daughter to have the big church, the white gown, plus a sit-down dinner for 150. The practical “I do” ripples into strained friendships and bottom-line revelations — and then deeper ones.

The Old Globe’s opening-night performance mirrored this effect. Affair is “Broadway Bound” this spring, but for about the first 20 minutes it was hard to tell where the show was headed. Backed by three-story Bronx tenements and sliding parts of brownstone walls, the cast performed a boffo dance number (they open, in fact, just singing “la…la…la…,” as if warming up). The first quartet of songs, sung while people folded clothes or changed the sheets, were unremarkable backstory material. Fierstein, a theater icon, took stage and played front, as if he had grafted a star vehicle for himself onto a lightweight family-squabble piece.

Somewhere in those 20 minutes, however, a transformation occurs: not onstage, but in expectations. Throughout, the cast performs under-the-top, at a human speed with nary a bell nor whistle. Compared to most musicals, Affair feels humble (maybe too humble for Broadway).

And the play’s the thing. If you’re expecting a musical built on externals, or to be pummeled by jazzy sights and ear-splitting sounds — known locally as being Carmen-ized — Affair will disappoint. It’s built from the inside and grounded on emotional truth.

Toned-down externals magnify feelings. When the family argues, or when Fierstein’s Winston says they’re excluding him from the wedding because he’s gay, it’s not as if we’re watching actors nor whistle. Compared to most musicals, it’s like overhearing your next-door cause he’s gay, it’s not as if we’re watching actors, or when Fierstein’s Winston says they’re excluding him from the wedding because he’s gay, it’s not as if we’re watching actors, or when Fierstein’s Winston says they’re excluding him from the wedding because he’s gay, it’s not as if we’re watching actors.

And the arguments aren’t one-sided. For much of the play the father, Tom (Tom Wopat), has “absent” etched across his forehead like a scarlet. A. His wife’s complaints pile up until Wopat explodes into “I Stayed,” a lion’s roar of fidelity and commitment. The song isn’t one to hum on the drive home but, like most of John Bucchino’s score, it’s appropriate for that character at that moment. The pop-based, serviceable music comes under the story. The exception is Fierstein singing “Coney Island,” and the finale, “Coney Island Chorale,” which offer some of the sanest advice around.
Director John Doyle stresses the play’s interiors with radical choices. Instead of cramping every frame with business, he often leaves the whole stage silent. At one point the show must jump from an entertaining sequence to the death of the son. How to make the transition? Bring in an American flag, folded like a three-cornered hat. Then do nothing. Give the audience a chance to breathe, and change keys in its mind. At another point, the astonishing Faith Prince, who makes Aggie, the mother, a fracturing fortress, sits in a pool of light. Doesn’t move. At first you think someone missed a cue. Then you realize that Aggie needs this time alone and that neither words nor music would be adequate. Eventually she crosses the stage, walks up a steel fire escape, gazes down and pauses again. Liked Tadashi Suzuki and the plays of Maria Irene Fornés, the director lets stillness tell the story.

With one exception, the production’s fiercely period: square, bulky ’50s suits and dresses, imitation-Hollywood makeup, stiffed-back rectitude. The production is also ensemble-based, with one exception. For about the first third, Fierstein plays not Winston but himself, today: he’s fun and flamboyante himself, today: he’s fun and flamboyante (the choice also creates aesthetic crossed-purposes: will Caterina be just a star vehicle?). As the play proceeds, Fierstein pulls back into the ensemble, becomes Winston, and the military. Ask at the box office.

Ain’t Misbehavin’
The San Diego Rep opened its 22nd season with what may be this country’s most durable musical rescue: Richard Maltby Jr. and Murray Horwitz’s tribute to the great Fats Waller, which conjures the soul of the 285-pound genius who wrote Tin Pan Alley tunes for the “Downtown” crowd, and stride pianist sparklers for the “Uptown” of the Harlem Renaissance. The Roberts literally conjures Waller by playing a recording of his music, then bringing in JMichael’s live, four-piece band underneat. One could quibble about some scenes that didn’t quite cohere on opening night, but overall it’s a joyous, sassy winner, especially when the talented cast renews Uptown in Act Two. Decked out in Reggie Ray’s beautiful white silks and furs, and performing in the smooth, elegant style of the era, they swing into light numbers, buoyant as clouds, belt the audience participation-pleaser “Fat and Greasy,” and dive deep, as a unit, with an unforgettable “(What Did I Do to Be So) Black and Blue.” Other highlights include Van Jones’s hyperenergized “Squeeze Me” and Robert Barry Fleming’s drug-addled “Viper’s Drag (The Reefer Song),” in which he is both languid as a sloth and elastic as a serpent.

Worth a try.

SAN DIEGO REPERTORY THEATRE, LYCEUM STAGE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN, THROUGH OCTOBER 14, THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATTREE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-544-1100.

Anna in the Tropics
San Diego Mesa College stages Nilo Cruz’s award-winning drama about Cuban cigar factory workers and the arrival of a mysterious lector. SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE, 7250 MESA COLLEGE DRIVE, KRONK MESA THROUGH OCTOBER 14, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. 619-388-2304.

Biloxi Blues
Sunshine Brooks Theatre stages Neil Simon’s semi-autobiographical drama. Eugene Jerome is drafted, in 1943, and sent to basic training in Biloxi, Mississippi. SUNSHINE BROOKS THEATRE, 217 NORTH COAST HIGHWAY, OCEANSIDE, THROUGH OCTOBER 24, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M., MATTREE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 760-529-9140.

The Busy World Is Hushed
Diversionary Theatre presents Keith Bunin’s new drama about Hamah, minister and Bible scholar, her estranged son Thomas; and their need for reconciliation. Dan Kirsch directed.

DIVERSIONARY THEATRE, 4345 PARK BOULEVARD, UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS, THROUGH OCTOBER 28, THURSDAY AT 7:30 P.M. FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATTREE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-220-0097.

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Cadenza: Mozart’s Last Year
How did Mozart die? Or, who killed him? Or, by the end of Robert Fraden’s deadly second-act lecture on quantum physics, synchronicity, and mystical eugenics, who cares? The world-premiere play’s best scenes come early. Mozart (Bly Greene, hyper, haunted, and terrific throughout) glows rhythmically from rolling balls on a billiard table. Other sounds, a canary’s in one instance, inspire opera. And in the background, some of the best music ever written. Then the great composer weakens. Is it rheumatic fever, TB, just overwork (four performances a week)? Or, poisoned — by Salieri, or Mozart’s Masonic brotherhood? That’s the set-up for the abstract and goofy second act (Einstein’s an ideal husband. Or is he?). The writing’s so stiff it also commits murder: it kills the energy built up in Act One. Except for Greene, and Paula Berkenshten’s Costanza, the acting’s one-note amateurish. The production boasts an appealing effect: “bliss light” casts a hundred emerald dots across the stage, but overall, opening night was a mish-mash of missed cues and a floating stick (the “magic flute”?). We do learn that Mozart actually wrote Jimi Hendrix’s “Voodoo Chile,” learn that Mozart actually wrote the “magic flute” (the “magic flute”?). We do exist — Lilith). The writing’s so stiff it also commits murder: it kills the energy built up in Act One. Except for Greene, and Paula Berkenshten’s Costanza, the acting’s one-note amateurish. The production boasts an appealing effect: “bliss light” casts a hundred emerald dots across the stage, but overall, opening night was a mish-mash of missed cues and a floating stick (the “magic flute”?). We do learn that Mozart actually wrote Jimi Hendrix’s “Voodoo Chile,” though one had suspected that all along.

San Diego Reader October 11, 2007

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“A TRULY ORIGINAL MUSICAL. A LUSH ROMANTIC SCORE BY JOHN BUCCHINO, AN HONEST AND WITTY BOOK BY HARVEY FIERSTEIN AND MULTILAYERED, THOUGHT-PROVOKING STAGE DIRECTION BY JOHN DOYLE.”
NORTH COUNTY TIMES

A CATERED AFFAIR

Book by Harvey Fierstein
Music and lyrics by John Bucchino
Directed by John Doyle
Old Globe Theatre

Based on the Turner Entertainment motion picture distributed by Warner Brothers and written by Gore Vidal, and the original teleplay by Paddy Chayefsky

In the 1950s, Bronx family ties are strained when a couple decides to give their daughter the grand wedding they never had. This world-premiere musical is funny, heartwarming and uplifting for audiences of all ages.

NOW PLAYING! ONE WEEK ADDED!

PARK BOULEVARD, BAULEDA PARK, THROUGH OCTOBER 28; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, AT 2:00 P.M. 619-234-5623.

The Compleat Female Stage Beauty
Palomar Performing Arts presents Jeffrey Hatcher’s drama about when women were first allowed onstage in the 17th Century. Pat Larner directed.
PALOMAR COLLEGE, HOWARD BRUBECK THEATRE, 1140 WEST MISSION ROAD, SAN MARCOS, THROUGH OCTOBER 14; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, AT 4:00 P.M. AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 760-744-1150.

Humble Boy
New Village Arts presents Charlotte Jones’s award-winning (and deservedly so) comedy-drama about Felix Humble, aspiring physicist, who must “square off” against his difficult and demanding mother.” Kristianne Kurner directed.
NEW VILLAGE ARTS THEATRE, 27878 STATE STREET, CARLSBAD, THROUGH NOVEMBER 11; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 760-433-3245.

An Ideal Husband
The Lamb’s Players present Oscar Wilde’s comedy-drama. Robert Chiltem’s an ideal husband. Or is he? Kerry Mead directed.
THE GLOBE THEATER, 1010 PACIFIC BEACH DRIVE, SAN DIEGO, THROUGH OCTOBER 12; THROUGH NOVEMBER 18; SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AT 4:00 P.M. AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-437-0800.

Joey and Maria’s Comedy Italian Wedding
Joey and Maria tie the knot in “not-so-ordinary interactive dinner theater.” JOLLY FOLLY ON THE BAY, 1355 NORTH HARBOR DRIVE, SAN DIEGO, OPEN ENDED RUN, FOR DAYS AND TIMES CALL 800-944-5538.

Medea
The Old Globe stages Euripides’ tragedy, translated by Mariam McDonald, about ultimate revenge. Rolf Yoger directed.
ETHIPEN THEATRE, 3704 SIXTH AVENUE, HILLCREST, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11, THROUGH NOVEMBER 11, THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-688-9210.

Most Wanted
As part of its Page to Stage Workshop series, the La Jolla Playhouse presents Jessica Hagelbrenner and Mark Bennett’s work-in-progress musical about a young killer, based on the life and crimes of Andrew Cunanan. Michael Greif directed.
MINDGAMES, 1635 LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE, UCSD, THROUGH OCTOBER 14; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 858-550-1010.

National Comedy Theatre
Impromtu comedy, making up funny stuff on the spot, is difficult enough. Years ago, however, Keith Johnston thought it’d be more exciting if gone competitively. He got the idea from pro wrestling (“where Terrible Turks mangled defrocked priests while grannies waved their handbags”). National Comedy Theatre, an off-shoot of Johnston’s Theatresports (artistic director Gary Kramer says the two compare like “rugby and American football”), resembles an athletic event more than an improv team. Shows wear uniforms and compete on Actroturf. Using suggestions from the audience, they compete on Actroturf. Using suggestions from the audience, they

“WORTH A TRY.

MARQUIS THEATER, 3157 16TH STREET, MISSION HILLS, OPEN-ENDED RUN; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. AND 9:45 P.M. 619-295-4999.

North Park Playwright Festival
Cirrus Productions presents its fifth annual festival: “28 new, short plays from local, national, and international playwrights interpreted by 19 directors and performed by over 40 actors.”
NORTH PARK VAUDEVILLE AND CANDY SHOPPE, 2031 EL CAJON BOULEVARD, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12, THROUGH NOVEMBER 3; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. FOR A LIST OF PLAYS AND PLAYWRIGHTS, CALL 619-220-8663.

Oscar and the Pink Lady
An instance of the Eva Le Gallienne Imperative. Decades ago, the great actor did some of her best work in a bithle piffle that critics panned. The production closed, and audiences missed her performance. The play, those who saw
Seven Crimes: A Celebation of Murder, Mayhem, and Multilication

Longtime fans of Slenderman Theatre, and I number myself among them, may have a hard time watching its current offering. In the Virolleau and Seven Crimes, the acting is vague and, surprising for Nodge, uncommunicated. Sometimes melodramatic, sometimes parodic, but rarely funny or sexy or convincingly ghoulish, it never finds a consistent style. The writing (translation by David Rouault) and Scott Feldner's direction are loose. And even sound wizard Scott Paulson's inventive music can't fill the dead air in the one-act, which takes 90 minutes to unfold. A witness of Conner's lines lack all three pieces and needs a better making and b) better acting. And the whole production, a sci-fi brainstorm to reanimate his dead daughter with an electrical dynamo-gismo. The show works. But the results are as impractical as they are predictable. The stage offers four strong visuals (Elisa Perez's lighting, yellow shafts invading the fanned-open shafts of black Nick's set, especially) and more engaged performances, but hardly is worth the trip.

Tenth Avenue Theatre, 130 Tenth Avenue, Downtown, Through November 4; Tuesday, Thursday through Saturday at 8:00 P.M., Sunday at 8:00 P.M. 619-554-3484.

Shipwrecked!

An Entertainment

South Coast Repertory Theatre presents the world premiere of Donald Margulies's drama, based on an unlikely hero in Victorian England. Bart D'Eriano directed. South Coast Repertory Theatre, 7600 Avenida de la Playa. 619-557-1000. 6:30 P.M. TUESDAY, AND SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. 619-554-3484.

Thoroughly Modern Millie


The Trial of the Catonsville Nine

The Sun Villagers present a reading of Daniel Berrigan's drama about nine Catholics who burned draft files to protest the Vietnam War. D.J. Sullivan directed. SUN Villagers, 1555 Tyler Ave. UCSD, CANDLELIGHT HEIGHTS, THROUGH October 29; MONDAYS AT 7:00 P.M. 858-274-1731.

Triple Espresso: A Highly Caffineated Crude & Insane Production

A Caffeine-powered live lounge act at the Triple Espresso Coffeehouse. 20 lively patrons sip a house blend — “Graca,” “Scandinavian Blizzard,” or “Melody Chunk” — and hear how true to life 70’s tunes on the piano. He and his companion, here to celebrate his 25th anniversary, never met. They’re “losers,” they admit, but not “ordinary” ones. And hey, their reunion could help them face scaring issues from their medicolegal past. The story lines are straight from Forever Plaid: There’s also the Forever Plaid problem: the three comedians are far too talented to play inert characters. One’s a whiz at the piano. An other’s a first-rate mime, and the third a crackjoke magician. The trio’s so talented that, on the play’s complications to overcome, you wish they’d quit trumping up the pseudo-drama and get on with this highly entertaining, lightshow-right.

The Turn of the Screw

Cygnet Theatre stages a dramatization of Henry James’s creepy ghost story about a governess, two recent orphans, and a sadistic valet. Janet Hajek-Hayashida directed.

Cygnet Theatre, 4043 EL CAJON BOULEVARD, COLLEGE AREA, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, THROUGH NOVEMBER 11; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-534-1103. 619-534-1103.

Where There’s a Will... There’s a Wake

Mystery Cafe Dinner Theatre presents James Pacinella and Will Robertson’s interactive comedy, set in a 1920s speakeasy where suspicion shrouds every “gangster, game, and dame.” Pacinella directed.

Mystery Cafe, Imperial Police Restaurant, 205 MAHMIA STREET, MISSION HILLS, OPENED END RUN; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-546-1800.
Michigan band that last month had the number-one record on Billboard’s Top Rock Album and Top Alternative Album charts. This week, Pierce the Veil is on a two-week tour of Europe set up for them by the Agency Group Ltd., the L.A. booking company that handles the White Stripes, Nickelback, and 500 other nationally recognized artists. PTY sold out their last two main-room shows at Soma. (Switchfoot and As I Lay Dying are the only locals that have bigger Soma draws.) But PTY singer/guitarist/songwriter Vic Fuentes says he never seriously thought about getting a gig at the Cashbah or any other local over-21 venue. “I know their demographic is different,” says Fuentes. “A lot of our people couldn’t get in.

PTY’s success is an example of how wide the chasm is between what appeals to the local teen crowd and the music tastes of SD’s over-21 crowd.

“I think a lot of bands in our genre are content knowing they aren’t necessarily radio bands. Kids find out about you on the Internet or MySpace. Bands don’t even have their own website, they use MySpace... We don’t get approached a lot by over-21 clubs.”

Soma owner/operator Len Paul acknowledges rock’s latest generation gap. “Punk is now for people over 40. There are virtually no kids who like punk. Punk is completely dead. The new generation of kids 13 to 18 are trying to claim their own scene... This music now isn’t like screamo used to be. I call it hard-edged indie metal with an emotional edge.”

Yet, Paul says his post-scream kids have the same ethics as the punks of the ’80s. “Many are politically conscious, vegan, antiwar, straight-edge — the same way with early punk. But punk today has nothing to do with that; punk now is all about sex and drugs. It seems like 100 percent of the punk crowd now wants to be the Sid Vicious/ann’t-it-cool-to-live-on-the-street-and-never-wash-crowd.” — Ken Leighton

**Major Duel Ahead?**

Insiders say L.A.-based AEG — the country’s second-largest concert firm that controls Coors Amphitheatre, 4ихb, House of Blues, and SDSU’s Open Air Theatre and Cox Arena. San Diego’s outdoor venues include Coors Amphitheatre (20,000), the Open Air Theatre (4600), Promoters are less likely to use the Embarcadero/Bayside facility (5000-8000) due to noise issues. High labor/union costs associated with the use of Balboa Park’s Starlight Bowl (3500) influence the viability of that amphitheatre. A call to local AEG chief Steve Redfearn was not returned.

San Diego’s last major duel between promoters was in the mid-’90s. Bill Silva Presents and L.A.-based Universal Concerts (which later morphed into House of Blues Concerts, then Live Nation) were vying to build outdoor amphitheaters. Universal hoped to build in Chula Vista; Silva had his eye on Poway. Both sides knew that whoever garnered approval first would win the market battle because the county could not support two amphitheaters. Resistance from Poway residents killed Silva’s plans. Chula Vista welcomed the construction of what was named Coors Amphitheatre. When it became clear that Universal would become the premier local concert company because it controlled the largest venue in town, Silva folded up his local operations and moved to L.A. to manage artists and book the Hollywood Bowl. — Ken Leighton

**My Kingdom for a Drummer!** “Our last drummer disappeared [went to] jail for art theft,” says Tim Malley, guitarist and singer for Tim and the 23s. “After our second practice with him, we couldn’t get abold of him. It seemed really strange because we thought he liked the music. After a few weeks, we just figured he flaked and split without returning our calls.”

The missing drummer did get around to contacting the band. “[John] said he had to lay low for a little while, he didn’t want to have a problem because he couldn’t play that well. There were a couple of good players, but they wouldn’t do anything unless we guaranteed them big pay at every gig.”

Tim’s former drummer is reportedly still jailed and awaiting trial. Tim and the 23s appear with their new drummer on Friday, October 19, at 710 Beach Club.

— Jay Allen Sanford

**Loud European Party Intended** For over a year, DJ Olivier Dalle has hosted a DJ and artist lineups at Social Green or the Epicentre. They were the hit of the house — Intended to be a loud European party with screamo bands and DJs from Paris, Amsterdam, London, and Berlin. Due to the high costs involved, the promoter and venue elected to cancel the event.

— Earl Nowak

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EASY TO GET TO. HARD TO LEAVE.
“We sometimes had hard times when we first came here,” says Dalle. “There was this big anti-French thing at the time. In ‘03 and ’04, every TV sitcom had a French guy who was a villain or a bastard. It was rude to Dalle, but business wasn’t exactly Madison Avenue. I made this to explain it as being a song about a Smart who wished he was Gargamel. Was a Giant,” and I wanted to tell them, “Well, they’re not our songs. They’re songs by a band we really like called GBV. Didn’t you hear us announce that during the set?” And then they’d say something like, “Divided By Choices!” We could do all sorts of funny things that mainstream cover bands can’t do. Occasionally we’d tell the audience something like, “Danny (a member of the Fading Captains) wrote this one…” We’d get a little snicker out of this, as the majority of the crowd would be clueless. I wanted to take it as far as giving fake explanations for song titles. For example, we covered a GBV song called “Wished I Was a Giant,” and I wanted to explain it as being a song about a Smart who wished he was Gargamel.

One time we were playing a set, and an irate guy in a Grateful Dead T-shirt came up to us and told us to turn it down because we sucked. This was the angriest Deadhead I’ve ever met in my life. He was asking us who our sound engineer was (this wasn’t exactly Madison Square Garden), and then he tried to walk up to the PA and turn down the sound himself, which of course didn’t happen.

We played a late-night set at Chasers for the guitarist of a band that played before us. When he left, we played for the bartender, who couldn’t see us but clapped after every song. We still jumped around on the stage. It was pretty much a practice with two free beers.

When Robert Pollard (the songwriter behind GBV) started the band in Dayton, Ohio, in the mid ’80s, he stopped playing out live after a handful of shows. In later years he claimed that the people in Dayton “didn’t get it.”

Though Pollard wrote and recorded songs in his basement that came to be considered underground classics, our experience with the Fading Captains proved that Guided By Voices is something that most people will never get. We retired from playing live after a short run.

— Dryw Kelts
# October

## Grand Opening Series

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### Special Event: Halloween
- **DINE**: 5-9:30 PM
- **Happy Hour**: 5-7 PM
- **Club**: 10-2 AM
- **Thur-Sat**:
  - 1/2 Price Wine
  - $5 U-Call-It Cocktails
  - Free Edamame
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*420 E Street | Downtown | San Diego*
Thursday 11

Japanese nu-waves Polysics strike a Devo pose — check their matching jumpsuits and spacy specs — and recall the Akron five's punk-pop breakdowns and synth. Their first disc for Toto Records, Polysics or Chirpsi, is a hit collection of szaz pop that's gar-nered cult praise and bur-geoning U.S. fanbase. San Fran nu-wave experimentalists Numbers open the Casbah set featuring their fourth Kill Rock Star disc of pulsing drone, Now You Are This. L.A. punk duo No Age have canceled, so don't go looking for them. However, do go looking for their SubPop debut Wendos Rippers.. .Hard acts to follow, but if you miss the door, Moools and MT. Erie will be at the Che. Moools is a Japanese downtempo indie-rock trio, Japanese sung. MT. Erie is Phil Evrum's alter-ego from his Microphones joint — same lo-fi plucks and hum, different shade of grey matter...Missed another door, haul it down to Bar Blacklight, a disc of sunshine pop — a departure from their usual so- donic. They're on with L.A. duo The Bird and the Bee and hot-shit local trio Grand Ole Party, whose Humankind is one of the most anticipated releases of the year. Can't find a drop for date, but it's available for download. Belly Up supports the Keep a Breast foundation and promotes breast cancer awareness Friday by staging world-funk-longBranch band Delta Nove and local Latin-flavor dub at Mr. Tube and the Flying Objects (feat. Pall Jenkins of Qu'est-ce Que Blackheart). Qur'est-ce que C'est and Dj Gold Cobra (eastern house) join the proceedings...Never benefit going down at 1SDU's Open Air. As the Concert of Hope to end youth homelessness. Check the big boppers and blues rookers R.B. King, George Thorogood, Paul Rogers, Tah Mahal, Blind Boys of Alabama, Kenny Wayne Shepherd, and...the punk Penelope Houston and her San Fran band the Avengens join two-punks Pansy Division, also from the Bay Area, for Casbah set.

Saturday 13

Pop-rock paradox Weird Al Yankovich rolls into House of Blues Saturday night. Dude made his comeback last year with kid-hit “White and Nerdy” from his disc Straight Outta Lynwood. The band rocks the un-originals — a hit at Del Mar this summer...2007 SDMA nominee Rosies on Her Grave (best Rock Album — From Red to Grey) bring stacks of 80's guitar rock to Ken Club. The power chords blend when guitarist Lindsey Matheson shades out flash-flavored leads and frontman C.J. Gladstone affects Are'A's swagger and growl. Alt-rock quartet Transfer warms the stage...Tucson's Hacienda Brothers ride into Casbah for a night of jive-joint country. It's a CD release for their new disc, Music for Ranch and the Town. The Haciendas will be joined by San Diego roots-rokers Bartender's Bible, whose Rinnie Rock Recording Sessions is now available. From the takes of Anywaze, Jason Corbin's rousing some David Berman poetry and voice lessons. Nothing wrong with dunking Silver Jews in yer Merle Haggard...the remnants: U.K. garage-rockers Brian Auger (Zeppelin), Hendrix, Rod Stewart) rolls his rig to Anthology...Canadian dad-rock act Tragically Hip 4th & B....The 25-year vets were inducted into the Canadian Music Hall of Fame last year...And party band Subdues pour Newswires brew of blues and cajun rock on the Belly Up crowd.

Sunday 14

Rock-caravan Live Nation books Dashboard Confessional onto Soma's stage. The radio-ready Bono, FL band is slashing new Nervous disc — seventh in as many years — The Sights of Poison Trees. Augustine and John Raiton also play...Love is a battlefield, Pat Benatar...The time four Grammy-winner and guitarist/producer Neil Giraldo (who gets equal billing these days) will fall at House of Blues Sunday night. Neil also performs...Martin Sexton and Martyn Joseph. a couple solo singer/songwriters, bring acoustic to Belly Up. Sexton is a one-man band of sorts, using foot-stomps, guitar palm beats, and hom-beat scales to emulate Delta folk and blues. While Welsh/Spanish Joseph wields harp, soulful voice, and drum-alongs. Joseph is the elderly troubadour, bring- ing 25 years of recording and touring to the gig. His latest, Venus, is available via Pipe Records...Old-school picker Ricky Skaggs delivers Kentucky Thunder to California Center for the Arts in Escondido. The collective were recipients of 2006 Grammy for best bluegrass disc, instrumental.

Monday 15

New Jersey son Duncan Sheik toasts his latest collection of soft rock, The Nightingale, at Belly Up. Sheik is described by rock writers as the heir to Nick Drake for unique tuning and emotional words and voice. He's touring with a new band that includes a guy named Matt Johnson. Anyone know if this is Matt Johnson of The The fame?...Ex-Pixie Black Francis will play a Rock-and-Roll Hall of Fame-sponsored set at the Club, natural his new one, Riling, which comes closest to his Pixies heyday than most of his recent noise output...Blitzen Trapper's 2007 disc, the self-released Wild Mountain Nation, describes a norser, up-tempo Pavement vibe. For the Portland band's lo-fi, DLY effort, Pitchfork hung an 8.5 and dropped it in their recommendend bin. The Trappers will catch you at Casbah...The Cult will reunite their '80s psych-rock hits. They deal at Pala casino. — Bamby Monk
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FR 10.19 HALLOWEEN COSTUME PREVIEW FASHION SHOW WITH DJ MISS LISA
FR 10.26 STEVE ANGELLO | WED 10.31 HEAVEN & HELL HALLOWEEN PARTY WITH ROBBIE RIVERA
THU 11.15 ON BROADWAY 7 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

San Diego Reader, October 11, 2007
Invisible Man

“I never believed in love at first sight until I started buying guitars.”

Brandon “the Sideman” Walters can be seen all over San Diego — and up and down the West Coast — performing with the likes of Greg Laswell, Erin McCarley, Molly Jenson, Ryan Calhoun, Champion Vinyl, Blackout Party, and the Irvington Band. He came to San Diego to attend college, and when he went to start a band he discovered that he’s best suited to being in the repertory. On his MySpace page Brandon declares, “We sidemen and women rarely garner the attention we imagine we sometimes deserve.” No whining, Brandon, please.

BEST GIG?
“My favorite gig was playing the Fillmore in San Francisco. That place boasts an impressive roster. I grew up in the Bay Area, and as a kid I romanticized the idea of playing there. Every band I’ve ever admired has played the Fillmore: The Grateful Dead, Led Zeppelin, Cream, and more recently the Smashing Pumpkins. I was touring with San Diego’s Greg Laswell, and we were opening up for Sia. After soundcheck, I skipped dinner and paced the halls of that historic citadel with a sort of reverence, as if I were treading on holy ground. It was so surreal. That night I felt like I was playing alongside Jerry Garcia. I know it sounds like pompous bullshit, but playing there was a highlight of my life.”

FAVORITE QUOTE?
“In and of itself, nothing really matters. What matters is that nothing is ever in and of itself.” — Chuck Klosterman

FAVORITE BAND?
“My favorite band of all time is the Beatles. It’s all there. You can find the saddest sad song, the happiest happy song, and everything in between in the Beatles’ catalog. To this day, Revolver is still in heavy rotation on my iPod.”

IF YOU COULD HAVE DINNER WITH ANYONE...
“All of my friends — quality time is important and hard to come by.”

IF YOU COULD BE ANY CELEBRITY...
“Marilyn Monroe — childlike innocence, while being a sex symbol for generations. That’s remarkable.”

LAST BOOK READ?
Cosmopolis: The Hidden Agenda of Modernity by Stephen Toulmin

TOP FIVE DESERT-ISLAND BOOKS?
1) The Plague by Albert Camus
2) The Brothers Karamazov by Fyodor Dostoevsky
3) The Geography of Nowhere by James Howard Kunstler
4) I'm Not Stiller by Max Stiller
5) Crowds and Power by Elias Canetti

GUilty Pleasure?
“In my most masochistic of moments I stay up until 5 a.m. watching Pat Robertson and his white magic, moon-faced cult family hour The 700 Club infomercials.”

FAVORITE SAN DIEGO HANG-OUT?
“The Ould Sod, the little bar that could. I’ve cultivated a fantastic, albeit metaphorical, garden inside that bar. I’ve met more genuine people that have seen me through good times and bad over there than any other place.”

BEST THING TO DO WHEN DRUNK...
“Continue drinking until it’s early enough to open up a bar. My standing — more like crawling — record is 1:30 p.m. the next day. One time I also slept in the bed of my friend’s truck, downtown.”

DO YOU BELIEVE IN LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT?
“I never believed in love at first sight until I started buying guitars. I become borderline obsessive. I court guitars — I take them out to dinner, I buy them flowers and a Hallmark card. When I buy a guitar it’s because I can’t picture life without it.”

\[\text{Brandon “the Sideman” Walters}\]

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Daryl Auger’s Republic of Strings: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, October 19, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.
Big Head Todd & the Monsters and Collective Soul: 6th & B, Friday, October 12, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 619-226-7662.

SATURDAY
The Tragically Hip: By the Bay, Thursday and Friday, October 18 and 19, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.
Jimmy Eat World: House of Blues, Friday, October 19, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

SUNDAY

Calendar
CONCERTS

THURSDAY

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Daryl Auger’s Republic of Strings: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, October 12, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.
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Jimmy Eat World: House of Blues, Friday, October 19, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

SUNDAY

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Tuesdays

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Ween: House of Blues, Monday, November 5, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.
Richie Havens: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Tuesday, November 6, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.
The Gin Blossoms: House of Blues, Wednesday, November 7, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.
Mason Jennings: Belly Up Tavern, Wednesday, November 7, 143 South

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Lenny Kravitz’s former saxophone player

THIS SATURDAY - 10/13
Famed jazz pianist and Hammond B3 organist

KRISTIN KORB TRIO

LEE ROCKER

WEDNESDAY - 10/17
Jazz acoustic swing

THE ORIGINAL STRAY CAT!

FRIED - 10/19
Happy Hour!

Metta Quintet

Ira B Liss

Big Band Jazz Machine

Sacha Boutros

with

Red Holloway

Michael Ward

10/12

10/14

10/16

10/20

HAPPY HOUR!
STARTING AT 5:30PM TUESDAY - THURSDAY
JOIN US FOR
DRINK & MENU SPECIALS IN THE LOUNGE & BAR

NO COVER NIGHTS!
ANTHOLGY HOUSE BAND
OCTOBER 11, 18 & 25

VENUE BOX OFFICE HOURS
Noon – 8pm Tues – Sun
All shows subject to change.

ANTHOLGY • FINE TUNED MUSIC & CUISINE
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Irish pub
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  NFL games
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Thursday 10/11
• DJ Brendan B.
• $3 pint specials
Friday 10/12
• Graza
• Jason Ott
Saturday 10/13
• Jump Start
Sunday 10/14
• Football • Food & drink specials
  Monday Madness 10/15
• Drink specials all day
  Tuesday 10/16
  • Martini specials
  Wednesday 10/17
  • Tony Cummins

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619-276-3993
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DRINK SPECIALS ALL NIGHT

Win Cash and Prizes for the Best Costume &
* Sexiest
* Scarcest
* Most Original
* Best Couple

* Must sign up by 10:00PM to be eligible in the costume contest.
* $25 Cover * $15 with Costume
* Holiday DJ * DJ Local!

Pre-Sale Tickets available at the Pacoanga Box Office. TOMORROW DAY!

VIP bottle service and receive VIP entry for everyone in your party. For more information and VIP reservations, call 935/713/144 or www.silkspacanga.com.

No masks, simulated weapons, or extreme face make-up permitted. Must be a Rewards Club Member to win a cash prize. Must be 21 or older to enter. Management reserves all rights.

TICKETS
858 481 8140

143 South Cedros Ave.
Solana Beach

DELTA NOVE

10/11 • 9:00 PM

THE SUBDUES

10/13 • 9:00 PM

MARTIN SEXTON

10/14 • 9:00 PM

AC/DY PRESENTS

DUNCAN SHEIK

10/15 • 8:00 PM

MEGGY NDEGEOCELLO

10/16 • 8:00 PM

PINE MOUNTAIN LOGS

10/17 • 8:00 PM

SIN CITY REVUE II:

THE SIN CITY ALL-STARS

10/18 • 8:00 PM

COMMON SENSE

10/19 • 8:00 PM

COLBIE CAIILLAT

10/20 • 8:00 PM

PINE MOUNTAIN LOGS

10/21 • 8:00 PM

JUSTIN JAMES

10/22 • 8:00 PM

HOT ROD LINCOLN

10/23 • 8:00 PM

SIN CITY REVUE II:

THE SIN CITY ALL-STARS

10/24 • 8:00 PM

JUNIOR BROWN

10/25 • 8:00 PM

REDWALLS

10/26 • 8:00 PM

HOLY BROOK

10/15 • 8:00 PM

VAN HUNT

10/16 • 8:00 PM

HOLY BROOK

10/17 • 8:00 PM

JUNIOR BROWN

10/18 • 8:00 PM

SIA

10/19 • 8:00 PM

MUM

10/20 • 8:00 PM

PACIFICA

10/21 • 8:00 PM

JUST ADDED!

10/24 David Fuentes (of Hepcat) Memorial Show featuring All Star Band, Skanic & more!

12/28 Boogie Nights – Metal Snake • 12/31 New Year’s Eve – The Aggrolites On Sale 10/19 at noon!

12/12 Cowboy Mouth • 12/13 The Knitters • 1/8 David Lindley

FREE PARKING! Low Service Charges! Free Coat Check! Great Bar Prices! Great Food!
CONCERTS

Trans-Siberian Orchestra: Casper, December 1, 4905 Main Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Fall Out Boy: San Diego Sports Arena, Saturday, December 1, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-1411.

The Decemberists: San Diego Civic Theatre, Saturday, December 1, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-1411.

Social Distortion: House of Blues, Tuesday and Wednesday, December 4 and 5, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Ahmad Jamal: Anthology, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, December 6, 7, and 8, 1337 India Street, San Diego. 619-590-0510.


MARC Cohn: Belly Up Tavern, Saturday, December 8, 145 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Tori Amos: Copley Symphony Hall, Wednesday, December 12, 1425 Seventh Avenue, downtown. 619-230-4343.

Chimaira: House of Blues, Wednesday, December 12, 1555 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Unwritten Law: House of Blues, Friday, December 14, 1555 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.


The true story of a band member who is a virtuoso with the mandolin is hard to match. Darol Anger is an acoustic violinist. Bluegrass is perhaps what keeps him on track, even when playing jazz. Jazz violinists, to my ear, are always slightly off pitch. Maybe it has something to do with the open tuning of the instrument in contrast to the exotic keys that jazz favors. I don't remember any theory; it's been worked out all of the equations, and with his jazz groups Montreux and the Turtle Island String Quartet, he explored a jazz kind of new-age sound that still retained the footprint of Americana. The bluegrass seed has infected all of Anger's playing, which is remarkable for a Bay Area longhair with fast chops and a wild intellect.

Anger didn't grow up in bluegrass country but came to idolize it from afar. Along the way he bepeeded up the traditional roots music by melding it with anything — funk, jazz, whatever. He gave each of his new creations a name: psychgrass, chambergrass, and so on. Bluegrass itself may have staked out from poverty roots, but it is an intrinsically technical music that takes years to master and requires that the performer play at a bloody fast pace. In other words, good bluegrass pickers can rip. Anger first received notice for this ability during the '70s with David Grisman, a mandolin player who may have been the first to meld jazz with bluegrass. Grisman called it "dawg music.” If there is a kind of music that Anger is not comfortable with, I haven't heard it, I think he and Eddie Van Halen would have a lot to talk about — both have been accused of reinventing their respective instruments, and to a large extent, they have.

DAROL ANGER

AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, December 28, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

BANDS

Mother Truckers: Saturday, October 19, 8 p.m. 2241 Shelter Island Dr. 619.224.3577.

DANCE

Thursday, October 11 • 8 p.m. • Jump Blues

Sue Palmer & Her Motel Swing Orchestra

O.B. Oktoberfest

Saturday, October 13 • 6 p.m. • Modern Dance Music

Y3K

9:30 p.m. • Donas Crush

Monday, October 15 • 7 p.m. • Blues

Chez Cannon’s Blue Monday Blues Party

Wednesday, October 17 • 8 p.m. • Country Rock

Chuck Cannon

UPCOMING SHOWS

Saturday, October 20

Zac Harmon

Saturday, October 28

Diane Schuur

Saturday, November 3

Dennis Jones

2241 Shelter Island Dr. 619.224.3577

Tickets for “Upcoming Shows” available at Ticketmaster and Humphrey’s. Reserved seating for “Upcoming Shows” available with dinner. All shows are 21 years and up.
The Kava Lounge: Saturdays, acoustic/rock. 4993 Niagara Avenue, Ocean Beach. 619-222-7678. Thursday, 7:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., John Cain, international jazz/blues/Latin/pop/stand guitar.

The Lodge at Torrey Pines, 11405 N Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla. 619-455-4420. Grill: Friday and Saturday, 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., Mike Nelson, solo jazz guitar.

Shower Café: Fridays and Saturdays, 619-543-0933. Friday, 9 p.m. to 11 p.m., Pedro Junior and the Orange Vels.

E Street Cafe, 128 E Street, Encinitas. 760-230-2506. Music in acoustic/folk unless otherwise noted. Thursday, 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Joe Taylor. Friday, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Matt Anad. Thursday, 9 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., Jerez Granda. Saturday, 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Pete Nelms. Sunday, 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Jesus Jerez. Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., Petey Roos, piano/jazz.

Missions Valley Resort: Fridays and Saturdays, 619-298-8281. Friday and Saturday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., Dynamic and the Shanty Shores, Indian/Middle Eastern fusion.

710 Beach Club, 710 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-885-7944. Friday, Poppy, rock. Saturday, Starting at Strung and Fratello’s Papers, rock. Monday, Aaron Rhyth and Algea, acoustic/rock.

What’s Good

San Diego Reader.com also submit information online at San Diego CA 92186-5803. You may submit information online at SanDiegoReader.com or call the music section.

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Los Angeles band Rilo Kiley can pull off the kind of guitar-based pop that is often included on the soundtracks of TV dramas. They can pull it off all-country. On their new album, they pull off unself-conscious, new-wave disco. They can even pull off something like old-fashioned soul. But everyone seems to agree that the band’s greatest asset is singer-guitarist Jenny Lewis. Even Blake Sennett, who co-founded the band and once sang that the band’s greatest asset is singer-guitarist Jenny Lewis, seems to feel that way. These days, he takes the lead on Rilo Kiley albums about as often as Keith Richards does on Stones records.

**5 NOTE**

BY WILLIAM CRAIN

After Lewis’s high-profile gig singing backup with the Postal Service, and after the huge success of her solo album Rabbit Fur Coat last year (it sold everything in Rilo Kiley’s catalog by a wide margin), her old band just seems like a star vehicle for her, a stepping stone on her unstoppable way to superstardom.

Or maybe not. Lewis can sing in different styles, but her default mode is a sort of dry, nasal, Californian-accented sound that neatly matches her blunt lyrics. It’s a plain voice, and that makes it all the more effective when she gets a little catch in her throat at an emotional moment or when she suddenly hits a sweeter, more musical tone. It seems like the voice of someone you might know — a cool friend who has an exciting, well-connected life but is also a little self-destructive, lonely, and cynical about love. That’s appealing, but it’s also why Lewis may not go permanently solo and may never have a fragrance line to compete with Gwen Stefani’s: she’s just too human.

**RILO KILEY**

**Soma, Friday, October 12. 619-226-7662.**
North County

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

Belly Up Tavern, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-9022. Thursday, 9 p.m., the Dark Star Orchestra. rock. Friday, 9 p.m., Delta Nite, Mr. Tub and the Flying Object, and Q'ntar or Que C'ntar. rock/rock/funk/woodguitar. Saturday, 9 p.m., the Subdudes and Lee Rosevere.

Vegan Festival, Saturday, October 27 + Las Vegas

Get your tickets now at vegano.com!

The last chance to see the pyramid in the United States on the alive 2007 tour.

Vigo Cafe, 4th Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-266-6934. Live music, call club for information.

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Vigo Cafe, 4th Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-266-6934. Live music, call club for information.
Calle Barcelona, Carlsbad. 760-479-0242. Friday, 9 p.m., Joey Pearson, folk.

Hennessey’s Tavern (Carlsbad), 2772 Rosecrans Street, Carlsbad. 760-728-6951. Thursday, 8:30 p.m., the Glasses Boys, Irish folk/fiddle/mandolin.


L’Auberge Del Mar Resort and Spa, 1145 Casino Del Mar Dr, Del Mar. 858-729-6408. Saturday, 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., Adrienne Nims and Spirit.

La Costa Resort and Spa, 2100 La Costa Drive, Carlsbad. 760-438-9111. Thursday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., Mike Nelson, jazz.

Max Fina Cantina, 2781 State Street, Carlsbad. 760-931-3407. Wednesday, 8 p.m. to midnight, Mike Gardner, acoustic rock/folk.

McCabe’s Beach Club, 1145 South Tremont Street, Oceanside. 760-439-6666. Friday, 4:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., Acoustic rock.


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Every Sunday
Served with all the fixin’s
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Free pool 7 am-4 pm
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Artist: Revenge Club
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Tracks: 1 Clinical 2 Bulls 3 Social Life 4 The Way Sean Drives 5 Witch’s Root 6 Your Underground 7 Doug’s Getting Wasted 8 Bitchin’ Summer 9 Nocturnal 10 It Was Raining 11 Summary 12 Amsterdam 13 Worktime Pessimism 14 Secret
Band: Any Lawson (vocals, guitar), Doug Whalen (guitar, vocals), Sean Lawson (bass, vocals), Mike Eckhart (drums)

Hometown CDs

REVENGE CLUB
106 San Diego Reader October 11, 2007
**South Bay/Coronado**

**Bono Gino Restaurant**, 110 Bona Road, Bona 619-475-2840. Friday, 9 p.m.; Jose Silver, variety. Saturday, 9 p.m. to midnight; Fota and Friends, 4th & Mission.

**The Butcher Shop**, 500 Broadway, Chula Vista 619-420-9440. Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 9 p.m. to midnight; Stage 4th Mission and Friends, Bar Room.

**Hotel del Coronado**, 1770 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435-6611. Rock and story: Thursday through Sunday, 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.; Tony Lasley, Latin jazz. Friday and Saturday, 8:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.; Ron’s Garage, classic rock.

**Sun Deck**: Saturday, noon to 4 p.m.; Frank Mantau, acoustic/guitarist.

**1500 Ocean**: Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.; George Gonzales, guitar.

**McP’s Irish Pub and Grill**, 1107 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435-5240. Live music nightly.

**East County**


**Downtown Cafe**, 102 East Main Street, El Cajon, 619-440-5887. Friday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.; Jimmie and the Singjays, classic rock/oldies/country.

**Fannie’s Nightclub**, 9435 Campo Road, Spring Valley, 619-696-2244. Friday and Saturday, live rock/alternative.

**Muharney’s Wagon Wheel**, 8041 Magnolia Avenue, Santee, 619-448-8356. Friday and Saturday, country music.

**Renegade Inn**, 14335 Old Highway 80 (half mile east from Lake Jennings turnoff), El Cajon, 619-561-4305. Friday and Saturday, Smokey’s, country.

**Second Wind**, 8204 Magnolia Avenue, Santee, 619-561-4305. Friday and Saturday, Sirens’ Cove, classic rock.

**Tom Giblin’s Irish Pub and Restaurant**, 601 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad, 760-753-7234. Friday, 9 p.m.; Broton Lane, acoustic/Irish folk. Saturday, 8:30 p.m.; Clay Celus, acoustic rock. Wednesday, 8 p.m.; Nice Jovens, acoustic rock.

**The Common Loon**: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub
**Cradle of Filth**: Soma
**Cydonia**: Brick by Brick
**Dashboard Confessional**: Soma
**Empire State**: Dreamstreet
**The End**: Soma
**Escape the Fate**: Soma
**Max Field’s Puppet Show**: Chi Café
**Firethorn**: Tiki House
**Fusser**: Dreamstreet
**Steve Goldberg and the Arch Enemies**: The Jumping Turtle
**The Hoodmen**: Soma
**Horse the Band**: Soma
**Ideas**: Brick by Brick
**Jesus James**: E Street Café
**Kill Me Tomorrow**: Chi Café
**Lord**: The Casbah
**Love Hate Hero**: Soma
**Love’s Holiday**: The Casbah

**Magnolia Black**: Dreamstreet, 710 Beach Club
**OB3**: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub
**The Orange Velvelitz**: Dreamstreet
**Penny Division**: The Casbah
**The Playground Slaps**: Lestar’s Coffee House
**Prosthetic Arms**: Brick By Brick
**The Vains of Jenna**: Soma

**Buon Giorno Restaurant**, 14335 Old Highway 80, North Second Street, El Cajon. 619-440-5687. Friday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.; Tony Lasley, Jazz guitarist.

**The Butcher Shop**, 500 Broadway, Chula Vista 619-420-9440. Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Wednesday, 9 p.m. to 10 p.m.; Ray Grover, similar to pop/Latin.

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**Tommy’s Italian Restaurant**, 110 North Second Street, El Cajon, 619-440-2878. Friday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.; Frank Z, stand-up/comedy.

**CALENDAR BANDS**

**ALTERNATIVE**

**Acumen Nation**: Brick By Brick

**All Points West**: E. J. Landers’ Irish Pub

**Anomalous**: Soma

**The Anti-Defamation**: Brick By Brick

**The Atoms**: The Casbah

**Augustana**: Soma

**Between the Buried and Me**: Soma

**The Bird and the Bee**: Soma

**Black Ambulance**: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub

**Bless the Fall**: Soma

**Blindheim**: O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub

**Calabria**: Dreamstreet

**The Clay Colton Band**: Tom Giblin’s Irish Pub and Restaurant, E. J. Landers’ Irish Pub
Climate Crisis: The CBS Trio: Steve Brewer: Brax: Blitzen: Nightclub (continued)

ROCK

The Troy Dante Inferno: Daily Dose: The Cured: Aaron Cuandra: The Cradit Union: Nightclub

Humphrey's

The Detroit Underground: Delta Nove: Tavern Formerly Buster Daly's

Soma

The Ould Sod

The Casbah

'Canes

THE DROPS OF SUDER Dick's Last Resort

The Electric Waste Band: Winstons The Endless Bummer: Ché Café

Fifth Market: 710 Beach Club

Fleetwood Maxx: McCabe's Beach Club

Flash Lamp Eaters: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

Floter: Brick By Brick

Mike Gardner: North Bar Sports and Spirits, Mac Fina Cantina

Neil Giraldo: House of Blues

Good Times: Henry's Pub

Grand Ole Party: Soma

Great Glass Elevators: Epicentre

Joey Harris and the Mentalists: Letlos coffee House

Hippi Grenade: Winstons

Inhale: Saff N' Saile

Joey and the Stingers at Downtown Cafe

Lights On, No One Home: The Casbah

Lizard Fish: Homossey's Tavern (Carlsbad)

Love Campaign: Epicentre

Mad Martign: Brick By Brick

Mr. Tubie and the Flying Objects:

Mobius: The Casbah

Mount Eerie and the Moools: Ché Café

Muzzle: Brick By Brick

Nate Donnis: Tom Gibb's Irish Pub and Restaurant

The Numbers: The Casbah

One in the Chamber: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

Operation Human Shield:

Pink Floyd: 710 Beach Club

Polyvice: The Casbah

Private Domain: Dick's Last Resort

Qu'est-ce Que C'est: Belly Up Tavern

Radiostar: Canes

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San Diego Songs Take The Street Test

as i hear it

BY BRIAN CARVER

Artist: Jenn Grinels

Song: "No Better" (from the CD Little Words)

Heard By: Matt Valdivia, University Heights

I thought it was pretty cool. It had a stronger electronic side to it than I was expecting. It was pretty up-tempo. I couldn't think of any specific artists, but it reminded me of a lot of U.K. drum-and-bass stuff that I've heard, though. It definitely had more of an East Coast hip-hop roof. The tracks I listened to didn't really have many strong verses, but really strong hooks. The track "Red or Blue" that I listened to seemed [to say] "whatever gang you're with doesn't really matter." It was pretty forthright in what it means, I think. I would imagine cutting the hell out of (those tracks) with other records at a club or something.

TO BRIAN CARVER

Skyline City

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Yo, DJ!

Talk About a Star

I've seen Jane's Addiction probably 15 times, and I definitely remember the early shows as being completely out of control. That was the genius of frontman Perry Farrell... you never knew what to expect. He definitely put danger right back in rock 'n' roll.

The first time I saw Jane's Addiction was at their practice space in Los Angeles. I was a DJ for KCRW [SDSU's station], and the buzz on the band was already incredible. They had just released their first record and only were playing bar shows. I went up to interview the band, and they invited me to their practice spot because I wasn't old enough to get into their shows. I sat and watched in awe as they ripped through "Jane Says," "Pigs in Zen," and "Mountain Song."

At that time [1987], the band was absolutely drug-free. In fact, Perry had a rule about drug usage in the band; it wasn't allowed ever. Obviously, things changed pretty drastically throughout the band's career. I honestly think that Jane's Addiction shows were some of the best shows I've ever seen in my life. Perry always pushed the boundaries. He challenged his frat-boy audience by making out with Dave Navarro on stage. He challenged the security crew at any show by jumping into the audience and pulling fans onto the stage. He challenged club owners by jumping onto the bar and kicking everybody's drinks off. He took you out of your comfort zone and made you take notice.

One of the most memorable shows I've seen was in New York City [in 1989]. The band played a show in a former church. The band played upstairs with the Butthole Surfers while a drag club ensued downstairs. Some of the drag queens came upstairs to complain about the noise, so Farrell invited them to get up and dance onstage. He then pulled a woman out of the audience and proceeded to engage in a rather steamy affair on stage with her. People in the crowd started climbing the lighting scaffolding and knocking amps off the stage! It was totally out of control... an insane circus! Just the way he wanted it.

BLUES / SOUL
Ayanna and the Exiles: Patrick's II
Blue Rocker: Dada's Last Resort

The Blues Brokers: The Crook
The Blues Invaders: Pat Joey's
Chef Cannon: Humphrey's

Tomcat Courtnoy: Turquoise Café
D.A. and the Hitmen: Tiki House
Fuzzy and the Bluesman: Corona's Jazz Bar

Hugh Gaskins and the G-String Daddies: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub
Robin Henkel: Terra
Mia Jones and the Ko Trifecta:
South Park Bar and Grill

Lady Dottie and the Diamonds:
Henry’s Pub, Winston

Ronnie Lane:
Patrick’s II

Red Lane:
Coyote Bar and Grill

The Bill Magee Blues Band:
Patrick’s II

Modern Day Moonshine:
Winstons, Martini Ranch (Gaslamp), Thrusters, House of Blues

Jeff Moor: The Calypso Café

Jeff Moore and the Witchdoctors:
The Kraken

The Mother Truckers:
Humphrey’s

Mystery Train:
O’Connell’s Pub and Nightclub
BLUES / SOUL (continued)

The 145th Street Deluxe Blues Band: Patrick’s II
Plato Soul: The Kraken

Danny Sanchez and the Kings of Pleasure: Patrick’s II
Dean Smith: The Calypso Cafe
The Texas Twisters: Patrick’s II
Theo and the Zydeco Blues Patrol: Coyote Bar and Grill
Billy Thompson: The Calypso Cafe
Johnny “V” Vannazer: Patrick’s II
Billy Watson: Coyote Bar and Grill

RAP / HIP-HOP

Deep Rooted: Dreamstreet
Dudley Perkins: Dreamstreet
Trigg Nami: Dreamstreet
Vokab Kompany: Winstons

EVERYTHING ELSE

Tom Barabas: G5-Georges on Fifth
John Cain: Shooters Bar and Grill, Bahia Resort Hotel
Ray Correa: Sevilla
Jah Sun Kine: Dreamstreet
Trigga Nam: Dreamstreet

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12

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EMERSON DRIVE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18

LUKE BOOR
KYLE PHELAN
DAILY DOSE
BLIZZARD

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13

Tribute to the Cure

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17

NEW DAYZE • DROVER MAD
CASSANDRA

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18

40 OUNCES
TO FREEDOM
(Sublime Tribute)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24

SIX REASONS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20

Canes and Organika present

stranger

ROOTS COVENANT

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27

DEAD MAN’S
PARTY
Olga Bango Tribute
MANGANISTA

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2

GET BACK
LORETTA
THE SILENT COMEDY • CRASH ENCORE

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3

Tainted Love
(80’s Tribute)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8

THE HOLD
STEADY
ART BRUT

LITTLE BROTHER
DJ FINGAZ

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10

JUNIOR REID
& THE REGGAE ANGELS
CARBINE

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11/14: Mims
11/15: JGB featuring Melvin Seals
11/17: Killers of Comedy
11/24: Guttermouth

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San Diego Reader October 11, 2007 113
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DAMARU-World Beat Music & Dance
posted: May 28, 2007, 11:05 AM

Reply: click here

Damaru is a world beat music group from San Diego, CA that incorporates African and Middle Eastern rhythms into an incredibly energetic and danceable groove. With the addition of bass, sax, flute, guitar and vocals, Damaru has created a sound that is original and unique. While based on traditional drumming traditions, the music transcends boundaries of ancient and modern for a cross-cultural world fusion. Damaru performs throughout the Southern California area and has a self-titled CD available. With nine tracks of original arrangements, this CD is a must for anyone interested in African drumming and world beat music. Live performances can be presented in a variety of formats, from an intimate percussion ensemble to a full electric band, complete with dancers.

DAMARU appears first Thursday monthly at Claire de Lune, 2906 University Ave., North Park.
COP BREAKS SPEEDO LIMIT

by Josh Board

I got an invite to a party in Santee. I was told there’d be a band called Mudwolf playing in the back yard. I figured, hey, I love Steppenwolf...and Wolfmother. Odds are I’ll like this wolf band, too.

It was near Santana High School, and I wondered if that meant the neighbors would be used to noise and not call the cops when the band started. When I got there, Paul, the bass player, told me, “There are three cops here. It’s doubtful that the cops will come and break this party up.”

The house was in a cul-de-sac and the back yard overlooked a canyon. I asked the band about their name. One of them said, “It’s a combination of Muddy Waters and Howlin’ Wolf.” A teenager nearby said they hadn’t heard of them that it was Muddy Waters’s name. One of them said, “It’s a canyon.”

There were two cocktail tables and two tables of food. Inside, there was more food and a crowd of people watching ultimate fights on TV. Outside were heat lamps, a fire pit, a kegerator, which I’ve noticed have become popular at parties, and what someone told me were citronella tiki torches, designed to keep bugs away. I noticed how well they worked when I went to the other end of the back yard to jot notes and moths were flying all around the light.

“The magazine isn’t as old as the band, you idiot.”

“Hey, when that guitar player gets their name from a ‘Rolling Stone’ that the Rolling Stones got their name from. Another teen said, “I thought it was from the Bob Dylan song.” Another said, “I thought it was because of the magazine,” to which his friend replied, “The magazine isn’t as old as the band, you idiot!” A guy in his mid 40s overheard all this and said, “I thought the band got their name from that old poem about a ‘rolling stone gathers no moss!’” I said “No mas” and went to get a drink.

There was a guy wearing a hat that had breasts on it. I heard him say to someone, “My eyes are down here.” And later: “Is this a boob party, or is it just because it’s Santee?”

I went to the kitchen for a soda and was talking with a lady when a glass broke on the floor. The hat guy helped collect the shards, he looked up at the woman I was talking with and said, “You just wanted me to bend down so you could see my tits. But they’re fake, you know.”

Someone leaned in to me and said, “He’s a cop, if you can believe that.”

Half an hour later, I saw him wearing a hat with a male body part dangling from it. He’s a cop, if you can believe that. He’s a cop, if you can believe that. A guy came by wearing a shirt that read “Camel Toe Hot Sauce,” and I overheard a guy say, “This is a Santee party.”

I had to drop my date off and head to another party. As we were leaving, we saw two teenaged girls by a tree. One of them said, “You ask him. Come on, go ask him.” They had a camera, and my date said, “They probably want a photo of you.”

I asked them what was up. “Do you want pictures of us?” They said, “No mas.” I asked them what was up. “Do you want pictures of us?” They said, “No mas.”

There was a guy wearing a hat that had breasts on it. I asked someone nearby. I was told that his teenage daughter was there and that she gets embarrassed when he does this.

When Mudwolf started, my date said, “Hey, when that guitarist was turning up, I heard him play The Simpsons theme.” I said, “I was stoked to hear Neil Young’s ‘Down By the River.'”

A woman staggered around swinging from a bottle of Captain Morgan and offering some to anyone she’d pass. A guy came by wearing a shirt that read “Camel Toe Hot Sauce,” and I overheard a guy say, “This is a Santee party.”

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p.m., and the party was wrapping up. There were some left-over tacos and they rented a margarita machine for $75. I tried to draw one out, but there was just slash.

I was told that I missed hula dancers, which they paid $300 for. “Are you trying to rub all this in because I left-over tacos and they rented a margarita machine for $75. I tried to draw one out, but there was just slash.

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Alpine Days & Boogie Nights
Eight Minutes to Twilight

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UPCOMING:
Thursday, October 18
Fuzz Huzzi

San Diego Reader
October 11, 2007
117
Bay Area–based chef Bradley Ogden is still the official guiding spirit at Arterra, but ever since executive chef Carl Schroeder left to open his own Market about 18 months ago, the top toque working actively in the kitchen has been Brian Pekarick, who inherited the job after several years under Schroeder here, and even earlier at Bertrand at Mr. A’s. He’s less a graduate of the Bradley Ogden “school” of cuisine than one of the “sons of Gary Danko,” whom many consider San Francisco’s best chef. (I ate a final feast at Gary Danko’s restaurant the night before I moved to San Diego. It was exquisite.)

Schroeder’s food at Arterra was excellent, clearing to the Ogden mode of great ingredients in tasty, unchallenging, all-American combinations — but it was somewhat less exciting than what it’s become, now that he’s free from having to please corporate diners whose minds are more on their deals than on their dinners. In contrast, Pekarick’s cooking at Arterra absorbs all the attention you can spare. Every dish, starting with the “amuse,” is complex and creative, an adventure for the mouth. It’s artful, perfectionist food to savor, not gobble as you talk business. But there is a downside to this rampant fruitfulness: It can be a tad exhausting.

We began with an “amuse,” a soup spoon filled with Chino heirloom tomato soup, one shrimp, gently pungent opal basil microgreens, and additional tiny unnamed garnishes. You’re supposed to swallow it all at a gulp, chewing the shrimp en route. I’d have preferred to attack it bite by bite with chopsticks, savoring each flavor in turn before upending the spoon. It was so delicious, it nearly brought tears to my eyes.

A tiger prawn “BLT” offered two garnishes for the prawns mingled with sweet corn relish and applewood-smoked bacon. Refereeing the bout from the center: a mound of newborn arugula and a little patch of “avocado terrine” (chopped avocado and veggie friends, disciplined into a minuscule parade-ground square). Charming, especially the avocado terrine. (It reminded me of a dish I badly miss, a lobster and avocado terrine at San Francisco’s sublime La Folie.)

A Chino Farms fig salad was, in comparison, a relaxed composition. The salad, spotted with fresh black figs, consisted mainly of arugula in a fine truffle vinaigrette, with a few slices of silky Parma prosciutto draped across the greenery like Venus lounging on her daybed. Along the edge of the plate were several lumpiaike crisp rolls of thin pastry filled with caramelized onions and enough Brie to bind them. I’m not sure the rolls and the salad really had much to say to each other, but both were precious — in both senses of the word, gemlike, but also a bit “arty” as a combination.

By now, I was starting to notice that the chef here is so smart and so inventive, he has a tendency toward overkill — too much wonderful stuff on every plate, wearing the palate. (I had
a similar experience with Tony De Salvo at Jack’s, where I enjoyed the doggie bags over several nights better than eating at the restaurant, I wanted to put my hands on Pekarcik’s cheeks like a fond old aunt and say, “Don’t work so hard, darling. You’ve made your point, now relax a little — so we can relax too.”

The entire liked best was Hawaiian hamachi (yellowtail), arriving pearly and opalescent, some of it straight up, some in the lightest tempura crust. It came with a garnish of thin, delicate soba noodles in a spicy sauce, mingling with spinach and baby fava, tomato bits, pistachios, and purple string beans, plus a dab of spicy cori-colored sambal aoli. Textures ranged from meltingly soft to vegetatively crunchy. I’m not sure that the combination works in absolute harmony, but it offers a bustling, anarchic pleasure. Like Kowloon’s Temple Street Night Market or a street scene in a Charles Dickens novel. I wasn’t thrilled with grilled dayboat scallops. The huge scallops were a little coarse texture and not quite vibrant, perhaps the result of sitting on the tarmac too long on the flight from Boston. Many top local chefs have switched to Mano de León scallops, farmed in Ensenada, which arrive here in the morning. Jim Brian is extremely involved in sports and was thoroughly involved with the chef orchestrated the line-ups, and was thoroughly involved with the chef. I love how working in a kitchen was very similar to baseball. I loved how working in a kitchen was very similar to baseball. I loved how working in a kitchen was very similar to baseball. I loved how working in a kitchen was very similar to baseball. I loved how working in a kitchen was very similar to baseball. 

Brian Pekarcik (pronounced Peh-KAR-chik) was born in Korea and adopted by a Slovak family in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. “I grew up with my grandmother’s strong Eastern European flavors and aromas, like chicken paprikash. My mom, as a job when I was growing up, would cook for the priests at the rectory, and I’d be dragged along, and she’d also help out at her friend’s bakery making wedding cakes, and I went with her there, too. So I always had an interest in having fun in the kitchen and making my meals, so to speak. I was the youngest of four children, and I was extremely involved in sports during high school. By the time I got home from practice, whatever food for the family had become reheat and leftovers for me. So I liked to put things together in my own way — making the tortellini and Bernanke’s eyeshaws, few people have unlimited expense accounts. Desserts were nearly fabulous. My favorite was the relative simplicity of an almond cake with poached pear, honey, and Mascarpone d’Asti essence — that is, something small, light, and crafty. Plum clafoutis is not the homestay custard but a more elaborate deconstructed version, the plums standing alone on the plate. Valrhona chocolate caramel crème is so sweet and gooey that even Jim, the Chocolatier Samurai, found it a bit much. There’s also a sampler of artisanal American-made cheeses, with options for port or Madeira accompaniments. If I ate at Arterra on my own time, I’d order at least four appetizers and then fast forward to the cheeses — or perhaps I’d nixle “small plates” and the cheese sampler on the lovely new outdoor patio. I’d miss some deliciousness, but I’d feel calmer.

The entrée I liked best was 10 oz. slice of spice-rubbed loin Farms pork (the pedigree must be dragged along, and she’d also help out at her friend’s bakery making wedding cakes, and I went with her there, too. So I always had an interest in having fun in the kitchen and making my meals, so to speak. I was the youngest of four children, and I was extremely involved in sports during high school. By the time I got home from practice, whatever food for the family had become reheat and leftovers for me. So I liked to put things together in my own way — making the tortellini and Bernanke’s eyeshaws, few people have unlimited expense accounts. Desserts were nearly fabulous. My favorite was the relative simplicity of an almond cake with poached pear, honey, and Mascarpone d’Asti essence — that is, something small, light, and crafty. Plum clafoutis is not the homestay custard but a more elaborate deconstructed version, the plums standing alone on the plate. Valrhona chocolate caramel crème is so sweet and gooey that even Jim, the Chocolatier Samurai, found it a bit much. There’s also a sampler of artisanal American-made cheeses, with options for port or Madeira accompaniments. If I ate at Arterra on my own time, I’d order at least four appetizers and then fast forward to the cheeses — or perhaps I’d nixle “small plates” and the cheese sampler on the lovely new outdoor patio. I’d miss some deliciousness, but I’d feel calmer.

The chef Pekarcik is in charge.

To be a chef, it’s become so overglorified a profession,” he says. “But people don’t realize, it’s really such hard work. It’s a little gross, to have that passion for it. My wife, when we’re in the car, has stopped asking me when I’m quitting. ‘What are you thinking?’ I should tell her something romantic, but I’m actually thinking about food. Since I live close to the restaurant and have a short commute, it ends up that I get my best ideas in the shower.”

Congratulatory note: The current issue of Gourmet magazine includes a nationwide survey of “Best Farm-to-Table” restaurants. Two of ours made it: Carl Schroeder’s Market and the Linkery.

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San Diego Reader October 11, 2007 119
Thais That Bind
Cozying up to an elephant seems to be the thing around here.

She’s holding on to his little tufts with both hands. She nuzzles her face right into his trunk, between his eyes. You can tell they’re in love. The picture of the shaved-head girl monk and the young Thai elephant standing out in this land of ice creams and art shops.

It’s a blow-up picture outside one of the open-sided kiosks here at Coronado’s Ferry Landing.

“The sign says “Little cafe, lotta Thai.”
Well, you know me and Thai. It’s a right-brain thing. That place was my life for a couple of years.

“Course, when I get through the terrace umbrella to the counter, expecting some cute Thai gal, the joke’s on me. There’s this tall, blond-headed guy waiting.

“Simple?” he says. He points to a dozen woks steaming over their hot bath. Wow. Whole array of red, yellow, green, brown stews and curries, and golden deep fries.

“How’s about some panang, and, uh, spicy basil chicken.”

I’m being clever here. I figure panang, because that’s your cliché Thai curry dish. But done right, it’s rich, not too coconut-sweet, and with enough curry and color, you can bet the rest of the menu’s gonna be okay too. I go for the spicy basil chicken because it has the two-pepper warning. I need to know how hot it is “hot.” Hate when hot’s not.

The guy brings me the samples. Mmm. Panang’s fine. Rich, pink. Sweetness doesn’t kill the curry taste. Spicy chicken’s OK, but really, not what-in-the-back-of-your-gills fiery. Ah, well. Guess they have to consider their more delicate customers.

So the deal is simple. A la carte dishes are $7.95, a two-entrée combo plate is $8.95, and a three-entrée plate is $9.90. Apart from panang, they have red curry chicken, green curry pork, pineapple curry with chicken, then dishes like chicken and veggies in oyster sauce or grilled chicken satay. They also have a vegetarian section with pad Thai noodles, basil eggplant with crispy tofu, and a yellow tofu curry with potatoes and carrots in a coconut-curry cream sauce.

The good thing is, you can see what your choice is. Not just pretty pictures. And it’s the visuals that get me. A tilapia “topped with sweet veggies and Thai chili sauce” sits there in its wok, squares of the sauteed flesh floating in a sea of chopped-up scarlet and green and yellow peppers and veggies. I order that. And while I’m on the seafood kick, I go for a second entree of cashew shrimp.

Damn. Second thoughts. Cashew shrimp’s kind of Chinese-ish. Now I’ll miss out on all the curries I love.

The guy, Derek, asks if I want white rice or brown. Ohh. That’s good. Brown means whole-grain. Nuttier, healthier than white.

“I Brown,” I say.

I hand over my $8.95 for the two-entrée plate, plus $1.50 for a Thai iced tea. It’s $11.26 with tax.

I see they have a license for draft beer and wine.

“Chang means ‘elephant.’ ” Chalinee says. I look at the photo of the girl monk and the elephant.

“Cozying up to an elephant seems to be the thing around here,” I say.

“Don’t worry,” says Derek. “Our Elephants will be nice and chilled.”

The Place: Thai Cafe, 1201 First Street, Kiss, Coronado, 619-522-0217

Type of Food: Thai

Prices: All single dishes are $7.95, a two-entrée combo plate is $8.95, and a three-entrée plate is $9.50. Seafood choices include tilapia with Thai chili sauce, cashew shrimp, coconut crunchy shrimp. Meat dishes include panang chicken curry, spicy basil chicken, Thai pork salad, grilled chicken satay. Vegetarian dishes include basil eggplant tofu, yellow curry tofu, pad Thai noodles. Dessert, mango with sticky rice, $3.50

Hours: 11:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m., seven days

Bus: 904

Nearest Bus Stop: First and B

Bus: Coronado ferry (leaves Broadway pier downtown on the hour, leaves Coronado Ferry Landing on the half-hour)

Nearest Ferry Stop: ferry/fishing pier 20 yards from cafe
The Joy of Aging

“We go back to ’59 on Burgundy, ’61 on Bordeaux, ’74 on California.”

You can still get an ice-cream cookiewich out of the freezer case at Bob’s Fine Wine & Liquors in San Clemente. You can still get a 60 of Bud, or lemon ice Gatorade, or Faygo orange soda. And, of course, you can still get tequila, or vodka, or whiskey. But you can also get Silver Oak Bonnie’s Vineyard Cabernet from 1975, or a magnum of Lafite-Rothschild from 1961, or a magnum of 1983 Mayacamas Chardonnay, or a vertical Caymus Cab covering all of the 1980s and then some. And that’s just for starters. The shop is crammed with boxes, many of them older, many of them wooden, many of them bearing coveted names — the abundance makes it feel more like a collector’s overstuffed storage locker than a liquor store.

Remarkably, what’s on the floor is less than 10 percent of the shop’s total inventory; the rest is kept in temperature-controlled storage — the sort of place where allocated wine goes to await its glorious return to public life. “We go back to ’59 on Burgundy,” says shop owner Robert Clanton, “’61 on Bordeaux, ’74 on California. We’ve always wanted the client to be able to get a nicely aged bottle of wine, something that’s ready to drink now. People drink wines too young. A common story I’ll hear from winemakers is when the drink now. People drink wines too young. A common story I’ll hear from winemakers is when the

I’ll tell consumers, ‘I know you like such-and-such a wine, but try this one over here. It’s aged six or seven years, and it’s really creamy. The tannins have dropped off; it’s supple, it’s mouthfilling. It’s got multiple folds of flavor in the back of the palate, little spirals of provençal herbs at the sides.” For many people, he says, it’s just a matter of getting them to try it.

The great fear with older wine, of course, is that you’ll pay for all that aging and end up with something faded and sad, whether through improper storage or more natural causes. Clanton’s response is twofold. First, as to questions of storage, “I know the history of every bottle in the shop — nothing from the Internet or private collectors. I only buy library releases from the wineries themselves.” The rest has been in the store’s inventory since its release — one of the advantages of inheriting a business that started way back in 1970. Second, Clanton stands behind his product. “If the customer takes it home and it’s not good, they can bring it back and I’ll make it right.” (Of course, you have to make certain allowances for age: your vintage Chardonnay will most likely show a little bit of caramel extract, and you would do well to expect some raisin in your older Zinfandel.)

That kind of assurance means that Clanton has to keep track of his inventory as best he can — retasting, revisiting, and when necessary, calling the herd a bit. Happily, he’s developed a knack for it. “I started at such a young age; I didn’t realize at the time that I was developing my palate memory. Now, I’m really good at tasting wines and discerning how long they’re going to age. It’s all the things you read about — measuring tannin, acidity, structure — really taken together as mouthfeel. You taste a winery A upon release and say, ‘Wow, that reminds me of winery C 20 years ago.’ And you reflect back upon what winery C turned into over time.” He grants that the current trend toward making drink-it-now wines means that “a lot of them will fall apart” over time, but overall, he isn’t worried. “You’ve seen so many cycles in the wine industry over the years — it’ll turn around. I’m not worried about this phase in the marketplace.”

Clanton has certainly seen his share of cycles — he isn’t kidding about the starting “at such a young age.” His father (the original Bob) opened the shop in 1970, before little Bobby was even a teenager. “I was a kid in the shop, and I’d over hear things. I still remember how, in the ’70s, winery owners still had to sell their wines. Miljenko Grzich and Al Brounstein — of Stag’s Leap and Diamond Creek fame — used to come down to the shop. Joe Heitz would come down; he’d get upset if you didn’t buy his Chardonnay, which was horrible. He’d be all gruff, but my dad was a gruff guy, too. You always knew where you stood with people of that generation — PR was not a fine art at all.” Except maybe for Robert Mondavi. “He had come down, and my dad was tasting his wines, and it must have been a weaker vintage. Dad said, ‘You know, Bob, it tastes a little light to me.’ And Mondavi looks at my dad and says, ‘Well, Bob, I like to think of it as elegant!’ I’m sure my dad bought it anyway.”

Mondavi & Co. were making the stop in San Clemente because Bob’s Liquors had made a commitment to serious wine, largely thanks to one Dave Pricewood. “He was a retired guy from back East — he had owned some wine shops and was very savvy. He was bored and wanted something to do, so he said, ‘Bob, why don’t you hire me, and we can get some wines in here?’ Dad hired him, called my mom, and said, ‘Hey, I think an angel just walked in here.’ Working with him, my father became very wine savvy. My dad was always bringing wines home to taste and evaluate, and I would get to taste and evaluate, too.”

Pricewood’s arrival was just one in a series of minor miracles that made Bob’s Liquor possible, says Clanton. Mom and Dad were scientists — she a biochemist, he a physicist — who went into

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**Crush**

MATTHEW LICKONA

San Diego Reader, October 11, 2007
my dad and saying, ‘Hey, I re-
highly was stuff I already had in
Wine Buyer's Guide
Parker. “I was starting to amass
reason why he was so happy to
lighter in body.” It’s part of the
French were generally
creamy, decadent wines, and
the rest was (labor-intensive)
the landlord to give them a shot
liquor. The Clantons convinced
a liquor store could mean good
fair trade was still in effect, and
liquor licenses and got lucky —
Sr. entered the ABC lottery for
retail only because they needed

Dad bought a lot of French and German stuff, but young Bob saw California as the fu-
tion next to an Alpha Beta
grocery store — which, being
Mormon owned, didn’t sell
liquor. The Clantons convinced
the landlord to give them a shot
for the sake of the family, and
the rest was (labor-intensive)
history.

Bob saw California as the fu-
tion next to an Alpha Beta
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liquor. The Clantons convinced
the landlord to give them a shot
for the sake of the family, and
the rest was (labor-intensive)
history.
muyo) easily packs a half pound of lobster (available at lunch on Fridays). The selection is generous, stocks prime rib, seafood, chicken, and pork — all expertly prepared and served in record time. 6 Days when you don't give a rip about the surgeon general's latest warnings, run to Red Tracton's and indulge your all-American appetite. Lunch Monday through Saturday; dinner nightly. Expensive. — S.M.

Spices Thai Cafe 3810 Valley Center Drive, La Jolla. Fiestas Carmel Shopping Center, Del Mar (east of Carmel Valley turn-off), 858-259-0895. 6935 Mira Mesa Boulevard, Mira Mesa, 858-352-8485. 16441 Bernardo Center Drive, Rancho Bernardo, 858-674-4665. Superb Thai restaurant that’s not only elegant but whose food contains no MSG and very little fat. The seafood dishes rate highly. Among other delicacies are duck and frog legs. Put Spices Thai Cafe at the top of your list. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.W.

Tomiko 87 Encinitas Boulevard (at Roti Western, just west of I-5), Encinitas, 760-633-5387. A lovely setting overlooking Moonlight Bay you can enjoy Japanese and Pacific Rim fusion cooking and cooking and sushi in a serene but lively dining room. When the sushi bar is free from the weekend rush, the quality can be amazing: steamingly fresh sashimi, world-beating silky tea. The sushi master also keeps an eye on the restaurant’s seafood purchases, so they meet exacting standards. Appetizers such as “salmon toro tartare” and “drunken black cod” are rewarding, as are the simple, excellent fusion-tinted seafood entrées. Reserve for weekends, especially for sushi bar. Lunch weekdays, dinner nightly. Moderate. — N.W.

Tuscan Sun Italian Grill 3070 North El Camino Real, Encinitas, 760-833-4546. A town abounding in Italian restaurants ought to have a great Italian deli, and it does. You’ll find domestic and imported deli meats and cheeses, fresh-baked breads and focaccia, marinated veggies, and a wealth of gourmet products from Italy. The specialty is the “Caprese” (tomato–mozzarella–basil) sandwich on focaccia bread with a variety of fillings, best served grilled and dressed with pesto. The on-the-go take-out menu includes pizza, pasta, salads, and a host of sandwiches. Open daily. — N.W.

NORTH INLAND

Athens Market Cafe 1140 Carmel Mountain Road, Suite 112, near Pacific Theatres, Carmel Mountain Plaza, 858-675-2225. At this offshoot of Mary Pappas’s downtown Athens Market, sister Vicki’s food is just as good. If you want a big start, order the agnolotti, a cheese appetizer that comes flaming to your table. And you can’t lose with moussaka, a big oval sample of dolmades (stuffed grape leaves), kebavko (a delicious Greek sausage), spanakopita (spinach in filo pastry), tomatoes, cucumbers, tabbouleh, hummus, feta cheese, and olives. But come for the lamb. It’s wonderfully flavorful, spiced in the souvlaki entrée (which comes with hummus and tzatziki) or as lamb chops. Moussaka (baked eggplant, zucchini, and ground beef) goes down well too. Or what’s wrong with a simple plate of feta cheese, kalatamas olives, and a glass of Greek red? Open daily, 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B.

Bamboo Hut Black Mountain Village, 9754 Mira Mesa Boulevard (one driveway west of Black Mountain Road), Mira Mesa, 858-348-0414. You’ll find a taste of Hawaii in a strip mall in a neighborhood that’s all mall. The bright little hut has bamboo charms, a thatched roof, bare floors, and unclothed tables, with a sushi counter next to a tiny kitchen with a marinade prep grill. A large lattice covering offers outdoor seating a few steps from the door. The quality of the food is all over the map, though — this is the place to try your first Spam sushi. The seasoned sushi is good, though, including a fine Rainbow Roll with really sweet crab, the more creative rolls run to cream cheese and hot sauce. “Local food” choices include a tasty ahi poke and excellent chicken katsu; the kalbi short ribs are tough, though. Plate lunches include one to three entrées (priced accordingly) with steamed or mildy garlic-flavored rice, macaroni salad, and green salad with bright orange dressing la Kraut French. So sure they deliver what you ordered, there may be slipups. Open seven days, lunch and dinner. Very inexpensive. — N.W.

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Try Our All-New Bucan Mio. Three great portion sizes are now available at Buca. You now can get exactly what you want with Bucan Mio, split a meal for two to make with Bucan Small, or share Bucan Large dishes with a big group. The choice is yours. So come in soon because there’s always a good reason to Buca.

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The Place: El Parque 2659 Reche Road, Fallbrook, 760-733-2775. Just think Little Red Riding Hood — this is Grandma’s place. Okay, it’s not a little old, thatched cottage — it’s a cream-painted metal shed with a gable roof in front. But it is in the Live Oak woods, and you can sink your teeth into some pretty fair Mexican food here, sitting alongside an interesting bunch of agricultural workers and maybe some ruby miners. Good combination plates include the tostadas and beef tacos, and burritos and enchiladas. The time to be here is Sunday morning, when those veggies grow in here for the menu, cooked in a three-foot-high pot. Open daily, breakfast through early dinner. Inexpensive. — E.B.

The Wayside Cafe 307 South Main Avenue, Fallbrook, 760-723-9833. Locale love meeting and eating in this long low-porched building — partly because it all just feels small-town America. The place used to be Mahy’s Service Station. You can even eat in the old Lake Bay to eat. Count on generous servings, especially the mountain-piles of red-skinned home fries as a side at breakfast. Open for breakfast and lunch daily. Inexpensive. — E.B.

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Barbarella 2317 Avenida de la Playa, La Jolla, 858-454-3737. This popular restaurant sits nestled in an English garden just blocks from the beach. You can dine inside the flower-strewn 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 whole wheat bread to nibble on. The menu changes daily, offering fresh fish, steak, chicken, pastas, sweets, and salads, all cooked with a twirl of imagination that delivers on the flavor front. For instance, pizza topped with smoked salmon, crème fraîche, chives, and fresh capers. Or delicate Alaskan halibut212 served over creamed spring onions with a warm, zesty salsa. If a fresh fruit crêpe hap- changes daily, offering fresh fish, steak, or in the small dining room. Once La Jolla Shores, 858-454-7373. This proves it is the legendarily lean prairie lunch order, the buffalo burger, has a prika in the spices. The most popular salady. Or steam-up-your nose veg- sions. Brainchild of cardiac surgeon that’s really, really good for your cus- The idea is brilliant: Just serve food that aren’t on the same crusade. Inex- proves it is the legendarily lean prairie lunch order, the buffalo burger, has a prika in the spices. The most popular popular salady. Or steam-up-your nose veg- sions. Brainchild of cardiac surgeon that’s really, really good for your cus- The idea is brilliant: Just serve food that aren’t on the same crusade. Inex- proves it is the legendarily lean prairie lunch order, the buffalo burger, has a prika in the spices. The most popular popular salady. Or steam-up-your nose veg- sions. Brainchild of cardiac surgeon that’s really, really good for your cus- The idea is brilliant: Just serve food that aren’t on the same crusade. Inex- proves it is the legendarily lean prairie lunch order, the buffalo burger, has a prika in the spices. The most popular popular salady. Or steam-up-your nose veg- sions. Brainchild of cardiac surgeon that’s really, really good for your cus- The idea is brilliant: Just serve food that aren’t on the same crusade. Inex- proves it is the legendarily lean prairie lunch order, the buffalo burger, has a prika in the spices. The most popular popular salady. Or steam-up-your nose veg- sions. Brainchild of cardiac surgeon that’s really, really good for your cus- The idea is brilliant: Just serve food that aren’t on the same crusade. Inex- proves it is the legendarily lean prairie lunch order, the buffalo burger, has a prika in the spices. The most popular popular salady. Or steam-up-your nose veg- sions. Brainchild of cardiac surgeon that’s really, really good for your cus- The idea is brilliant: Just serve food that aren’t on the same crusade. Inex- proves it is the legendarily lean prairie lunch order, the buffalo burger, has a prika in the spices. The most popular popular salady. Or steam-up-your nose veg- sions. Brainchild of cardiac surgeon that’s really, really good for your cus- The idea is brilliant: Just serve food that aren’t on the same crusade. Inex- proves it is the legendarily lean prairie lunch order, the buffalo burger, has a prika in the spices. The most popular popular salady. Or steam-up-your nose veg- sions. Brainchild of cardiac surgeon that’s really, really good for your cus- The idea is brilliant: Just serve food that aren’t on the same crusade. Inex- proves it is the legendarily lean prairie lunch order, the buffalo burger, has a prika in the spices. The most popular popular salady. Or steam-up-your nose veg- sions. Brainchild of cardiac surgeon that’s really, really good for your cus- The idea is brilliant: Just serve food that aren’t on the same crusade. Inex- proves it is the legendarily lean prairie lunch order, the buffalo burger, has a prika in the spices. The most popular popular salady. Or steam-up-your nose veg- sions. Brainchild of cardiac surgeon that’s really, really good for your cus- The idea is brilliant: Just serve food that aren’t on the same crusade. Inex- proves it is the legendarily lean prairie lunch order, the buffalo burger, has a prika in the spices. The most popular popular salady. Or steam-up-your nose veg- sions. Brainchild of cardiac surgeon that’s really, really good for your cus-
fine seafood, juicy meats, and prime steaks with seasonal veggie garnishes.
Preparations are pleasing but in no way
authentic. Breakfast and lunch are the main meals here and include com-
petent eggs, luscious scrambled eggs, huge sandwiches, and weighted slabs of
cranberry sauce, and the strawberries are huge. "If your dish is too mild, house sauces
are available on request. Beer and wine.

Central San Diego

El Comal 3522 Imperial Avenue, Grant Hill, 619-239-7010. (Other loca-
tions: 334 Broadway, Chicana Vista, 619-420-1811; and 346 Illions Street, North Park, 619-294-8921.) No wonder compromises here — just great home-
cooking from Michoacan, Guerrero, Jalisco, and Oaxaca, prepared by Luz
Herrera Barea, a biology teacher from Acapulco. Try the house taco (two docs
with carne asada, frijoles, cheese, and onions) or the mole de carne adobada
(pork, melted cheese, and guacamole in the kitchen). The meat combination platter
includes the forlorn population of adults. Chef-owner Isabel Cruz, who
calls herself "Food Girl," has imported much of her Mission Cafe menu of
Latin-American-south-of-the-border to the beach. A self-confessed "lazy cook," she
focuses on wholesomeness rather than authenticity. Breakfast and lunch are
available. Daily three meals until 11 p.m. Inexpensive to low moderate. — E.B.

Kaiserbar 2253 Sunset Cliffs Boule-
dray, Ocean Beach, 619-224-0606. Even on weeknights, crowds fill this
restaurant and its terraces, showing down hefty, hearty German cooking in a festive atmosphere. Flavors are auth-
entic, but can be monotonous due to the kitchen's reliance on commercial products (especially a heavy-flavored
eel sauce that makes all the sauces taste alike). Good schnitzel, potato pan-
cakes. The excellent apple strudel is an eight-pound monster that needs one
hour's "make and bake" time. They also do Chicago hot dogs, fish burgers, beautiful spicy fries, juicy Italian beef au
dijon sandwiches, and a decent "Lefty's" pizzadilla (spaghetti, eggs, bacon, Parmesan, and cream). Open for break-
fast and lunch six days, closed Sunday. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Old World Restaurant 3590 30th
Street, North Park, 619-216-6668. This is a delight for anyone who loves North-
ern European food. Their "Great Grilled Grouper" — homemade corned beef
on rye with Swiss cheese, sauerkraut, Thousand Island dressing, and mustard is, as they say, "gemütlich." Also, try the
sausage platter: grilled bratwurst, kiel-
bas, sauerkraut, potato salad, spicy mustard, and rye bread. Open for break-
fast and lunch six days, closed Sunday.
Inexpensive. — E.B.

Red Sea Restaurant 717 University
avenue at Euclid, City Heights,
619-285-3722. You'll find richly sea-
soned (and potentially very spicy)
Ethiopian cuisine, served communally on a tray lined with a porous pancake,
injera, which looks like an edible dish towel and serves both an edible spoon
and an edible tablecloth. (Use pieces of it to scoop up morsels in your right
hand.) The most combination platter here isn't nearly as exciting as several of
the specialties. The kitfo (spicy beef tartar) is very good, the gored-gored (most common ethio-
pic dish) looks good but is not an option, and when both are cooked (or not cooked) to your order, and seasoned to your specifi-
cations (if you say "hot," expect fire). Veget-
able items are fine, too, the yellow split pea,
especially, spic with flavor. Restrooms not wheelchair-accessible. Vegetarian

Uncle Joe’s Pizzeria 991 El Cerrito
Boulevard, Talmadge, 619-584-2535.

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FAR EAST

La Casa Del Zorro

Borrage Springs parking lot on Canyon Drive at Yaqui Pass Road, Borrage Springs

San Diego County

La Casa Del Zorro is Borrage Springs’ most renowned and ambitious restaurant, set in a desert resort off–Easton Drive. (Drive through the parking lots up to the large white sign and then go straight ahead past the even larger sign, then make a left into the Zorro lot. These people make the best carne asada in town.) The owner has the meat trucked in from the Palominos (or at least all the way) to create the best carne asada in town. It’s a giant screen? Open for lunch and dinner daily. Moderate.

EAST COUNTY & COLLEGE AREA

Greek Town

Colleges Area

Grossmont College, 8800 Grossmont College Drive, El Cajon, 619-644-7000. This is not UCSD, with its dozen food trucks and Persian and Somali food tents on campus. Grossmont College’s single cafeteria (open to the public) is big, echoy, and only serves standard-issue food like crumb-coated chicken katsu, cheeseburgers, hot dogs, and really, really cheap pizzas. Break- fast? How about a smoothie and fruit set without bus drivers and students? Health food fans do have a plentiful salad bar. It’s quite an experience, sharing lunch with local and foreign students, looking over the rolling hills to El Cajon — like being at an international finishing school, in, well, Switzerland. Inexpensive.

E.B.

Mario’s de la Mesa

8425 La Mesa Boulevard (at Grant), La Mesa, 619-443-0000. The man on the menu (on the restaurant’s sign and menus) holds two flags, those of Mexico and the U.S.A. — very appropriate. Few dishes (except maybe the noodles) will push the plate past forty in any direction, but be sure to ask what’s going on, everything is so darn tasty. Tamale house are special: rich, pil- lowy clouds of corn muffled richly scented pork packed with raisins for a smidgeon of sweetness. Pork and beans are so light as to seem to float. Spanish rice is soft and very sweet, full bar, great (but pricey) wine list. Reserve for weekend evening or lunch. Open daily. Very expensive.

E.N.

Woodstock’s Pizza

6195 El Cajon Boulevard, College Area, 619-285-0999. It’s a whole new concept in pizza. Get your wood-fired, artisan pizza, served on the wood-fired bar. For that matter, the beers — Karl Strauss and Wyder’s Cider (along with the usual Coors Light and Bud) — aren’t exactly conducive to restrooms next to stairs. Free music, DJs, Belly Dancing, Reggae, Brazilian Forró, and American-Mexican-Italian-with- something-for-everyone menu of American-Mexican-Italian with a tinge of neo-Nouveau decor and a cute neo-Nouveau decor and a cute neo-Nouveau decor, their cooking hints of their region — a touch of the mediterranean, a touch of the middle east, and a touch of the south and southwest. A few Mediterranean dishes, turning out divine Platos estante, and cheese on eye. Open for breakfast, lunch, and after-work dinner.

E.B.

Extraordinary Desserts

1430 Union Street (at 14th), Hillcrest, 619-294-7001; also 2929 Fifth Avenue, La Jolla, 619-452-7001. Patrons looking for a quiet dessert still cling to the original charming cottage near Balboa Park. The menu offers elaborate seafood appetizers (out here in the desert), desserts, and a decor of eclectic small plates. Meze spreads, bruschettas, salads, and cheese plates. Flavors tend to be intense; some creations (such as a bacon-cured salmon sandwich with pita and pesto, a celery-date caviar) are worth every scrap of the kitchen. Inexpensive. Moderate.

E.N.

La Jolla Rancheria

4700 La Jolla Boulevard (off La Jolla Boulevard), La Jolla, 619-294-3559. This restaurant has taken a giant step up from standard Thai eateries. Most of the menu consists of the usual dishes, but each branch also offers a selection of chef’s specialties. Some of these are more authentic; others are more cre- ative than the norm. The dishes are from northern Thailand, and something in their cooking hints of their region — a certain zestiness, a love of strong cit- ruses and fresh herbs that speaks of the Ping River and the hills of Chiang Mai. Well-chosen, affordable wine list, Asian and American beers, and cocktails based on sours (Asian lower-proof rice liquor), including a yummy rambutan cosmos. Now and when crowded. Reservations recommended. Hillcrest on weekends. Lunch and dinner daily. Low moderate.

E.B.

Olive Cafe

674 Main Street (between 6th and 7th), El Cajon, 760-336-0289. This American classic is over 100 years old and still serves good rib-stick- ing chicken soups (grilled lemon-thyme chicken soup and the excellent chicken soup), or on the side). Open weekdays and Saturday only. Inexpensive.

E.B.

Harney Sushi

9450 Scranton Rd. #11 4A, Sorrento Valley, 858.459.0474

Enjoy Vietnamese, Thai, Chinese or Italian. Live Music, DJs, Belly Dancing, Reggae, Brazilian Forró, Open Mic Night. Call for times and performers or visit: www.sдушina.com

Portugalia

San Diego’s 1st and only Portuguese restaurant

4839 Newport Avenue

Ocean Beach • 619-222-7697 Catering available

La Jolla Rancheria

4700 La Jolla Boulevard (at Marine Street, 1 block south of Pearl) 858-459-5877

Live Music, DJs, Belly Dancing, Reggae, Brazilian Forró, Open Mic Night. Call for times and performers or visit: www.sдушina.com

Portugalia

San Diego’s 1st and only Portuguese restaurant

4839 Newport Avenue

Ocean Beach • 619-222-7697 Catering available

100% Vegetarian

Enjoy Vietnamese, Thai, Chinese or Italian. All dishes are 100% vegetarian, most dishes and all desserts are also vegan.

Free Appetizer

With purchase of two entrees.

Free Portuguese or Brazilian entrada

Buy one entree and 2 appetizers and get a second entrée of equal or lesser value free. Expires 10/25/07.

Live Music, DJs, Belly Dancing, Reggae, Brazilian Forró, Open Mic Night. Call for times and performers or visit: www.sдушina.com

Portugalia

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4839 Newport Avenue

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La Jolla Rancheria

4700 La Jolla Boulevard (at Marine Street, 1 block south of Pearl) 858-459-5877

Live Local Lobster $29.95

Voted “Best Lobster Dish” by San Diego Magazine 2007

• Fresh local seafood
• Fresh tortilla meals on the premises
• Prime rib served on weekends
• Extensive tequila selection

Full bar

4700 La Jolla Boulevard (at Marine Street, 1 block south of Pearl) 858-459-5877

Got Huesvos?

Breakfast at Beaumont’s 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Mon-Sun. Full Bar Games On Patio Dining HAPPY HOUR 4-6 p.m daily LIVE MUSIC Thurs-Sun. 5662 La Jolla Blvd. • Bird Rock • 858.459.0474 • Beaumontsteaery.com

Harney Sushi

3761 Sixth Avenue (at Robinson), Hillcrest, 619-294-3559. Also at 990 Market (at Ninth Avenue), downtown, 619-555-0115. This restau- rant has taken a giant step up from standard Thai eateries. Most of the menu consists of the usual dishes, but each branch also offers a selection of chef’s specialties. Some of these are more authentic; others are more cre- ative than the norm. The dishes are from northern Thailand, and something in their cooking hints of their region — a certain zestiness, a love of strong cit- ruses and fresh herbs that speaks of the Ping River and the hills of Chiang Mai. Well-chosen, affordable wine list, Asian and American beers, and cocktails based on sours (Asian lower-proof rice liquor), including a yummy rambutan cosmos. Now and when crowded. Reservations recommended. Hillcrest on weekends. Lunch and dinner daily. Low moderate.

E.B.

Prado

House of Hospitality, Balboa Park, 619-557-9441. In a magical space at the heart of Balboa Park, Prado fea- tures cute Nouveau décor and a something-for-everyone menu of American-Mexican-Italian with- Asian-touches cuisine. The food brings few surprises, but is flavorful and served in huge portions. Top choices include meaty crab cakes and an astonishingly tender, slow-roasted pork loin. A mélangé of banana tree and the good dessert. The bar makes a nice stop dur- ing a museum-crawl and offers other red-fried oysters and a range of gussel- up margaritas. Keep an eye out for free special prix fixe dinners that include tickets to museum exhibitions. Dinner reservations vital. Best interior can be noisy, but bright, umbrella-topped terr- race tables are quiet, and scenic. Moderate to expensive wine list. — N.W.

Rancho 3890 Fifth Avenue (south of University) Hillcrest, 619-325-1800. The full menu of Lushanese-Iranian cream sures from mee (tapas) to house-made sausages and fried-unpeeled wooden barrel stouts with Hungarian touches. Go for the pretzels, hibachi hot dogs with sauerkraut, or East Coast-genuine sandwiches like corned beef, dry Genoa salami,otto salami, bolusina, or liverwurst. That Bains Liverwurst is da bomb. Caesar salad with chicken or a cup of tortilla soup are good light alternatives. Open breakfast through early dinner daily.

E.B.
India Princess

Royal Indian Cuisine

$10.95 Dinner Buffet
Reg. $13.95

Sun. & Mon. – Vegetarian & Non-Vegetarian • Tues. – All Vegetarian
Wed. – Introducing Indian-Asian fusion


FREE DINNER
Buy 1 entree and two beverages and receive a 3rd entree of equal or lesser value free. Includes buffet and specials. Max discount $12.

With coupon. Expires 10/25/07.

LUNCH BUFFET
Mon.-Fri. only.

CHAMPAGNE BRUNCH
11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Hillcrest • 2925 4th Ave.
(619) 297-5017
San Marcos • On Restaurant Row
760-744-7599
Take-out • Catering • Banquet
For delivery call: 858-792-1000

www.indiaprincess.com

3257 India Street, South Mission Hills
619-574-7737

It’s the smell of the spicy chicken grilling that will get you every time.
Whatever the recipe — and Su-Mei Ye, the owner and celebrated
chefs, says it’s from the

Alaskan, Thai and ethnic La-Northeast — it catches your nose. We’re talking
“boxing arena grilled chicken,” after

the place where she smelled its spicy
cooking aromas while growing up in
Bangkok. You have a choice of
to go with the chicken, from

心理咨询 to sweet pepper. Also try
the noodle soups, like Tom Yam with
shrimp, so-sweet, spicy, delicious, and
surprisingly filling. The food here is
real, fresh, genuine Thai cuisine with

Chinese echoes — like Su-Mei Ye her-
self. Middle-class San Diego seems to
have adopted her eatery, despite the
fact you’re in a pretty stark gray-and-
self. Middle-class San Diego seems to
fact you’re in a pretty stark gray-and-


Cafe Milano

Make your next party
memorable at Café Milano
Beautifully prepared 4-course dinner for 10-100 people.
Book your holiday parties now!

Dinner starts at $22 per person
Private room up to 100 people
25 years of making parties amazing!

711 Pearl Street, La Jolla
(858) 54-3806
www.CafeMilanoLaJolla.com
Open 7 Days • Lunch & Dinner

DOWNTOWN

Bandar Fine Persian Cuisine $25 and 517 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-238-1011. In a comfortable setting, the Persian menu offers just a “pick list” of popular dishes culled from this fabled cuisine, but the cooking is first rate, featuring line ingredients prepared with care, skill, and healthfulness. The “Bandar Special” extra combo lets you choose any two kebabs (chicken, game hen, beef), beautifully marinated and cooked to your or-
der. Entrées featuring rice with poultry are elaborate and refined, spiked with
tangy barberries, sour cherries, or lemons and date. The list of Persian desserts now includes Persian ice cream, a non-ethnic exotic treat. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Moderate. — N.W.

Broady Pizza: 100 Broadway (at Tenth Street), downtown, 619-232-6294. This restaurant, near the downtown Senior Center and City Col-
lege, offers no-nonsense Italian-American food. And they’re not skimpy: from a pizza slice to barbecued beef sandwiches to a Louisiana-style sausage link sub, portions are generous. If you want a hearty dinner, try the whole slab of beef ribs, with veggies, garlic bread, and salad. Unfortunately, the quality has dropped; the formerly

All-You-Can-Eat Sushi Bar $22.95 per person

With this ad. Up to 5 persons. Reg. $24.95.

Lunch Daily: 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Dinner Daily: 5-9 p.m.

Appetizers: Gyroza, Egg Roll, Soft Shell Crab, Miso Soup, Shrimp Tempura, Chicken Tenyaki, Agedashi Tofu, Green Salad, Rice
Nigiri Sushi: Albacore, Amaebi Avocado, Clam, Crab, Eel, Egg, Inari, Hamachi, Ikura, Saba, Smelt Egg, Octopus, Oyster, Salmon, Scallop, Shrimp, Smoked Salmon, Squid, Tuna, Uni, Red Snapper
Cut Rolls: California, Caterpillar, Cucumber, Philly, Rainbow, Crab, Soft Shell Crab, Spicy Tuna, Tempura Shrimp, Vegetable, Yummy, Firecracker, Seafood Dynamite, Shrimp
Hand Rolls: Eel, Salmon Skin, Scallop, Crab, Spicy Tuna, Shrimp, Tempura Shrimp, California

8657 Villa La Jolla Dr., Suite 126
La Jolla • (858) 550-0861
near AMC 12 Theatres
www.ginzasushi-shanghairestaurant.com

Mexican Food – Daily Specials

25% off your entire check.
All beverages excluded. One coupon per check per table. Not valid with other offers or specials. No take-out orders, please. Expires 10/25/07.

$6.25 Lunch Specials
11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Not valid with other offers. No take-out orders, please. Expires 10/25/07.

1037 Broadway, Chula Vista
619-691-9812

Tosowsems Dinner Hour
Monday - Friday
5:00-7:00 p.m
Buy any dinner entre and get a second entre of equal or lesser value discounted up to a max value of $12.95 with this

'12th' Second Entrée

Offer expires 10/25/07.

San Diego Reader October 11, 2007 127
**Lai Thai Restaurant**

The first original Thai restaurant in the South Bay. 50% Off

Buy one entree, get second of equal or lesser value 50% off. One coupon per table. Not valid with any other offer. Exp. 5/27/07

Happy Hour 4-6 pm • Thai Beer • $2 Lunch Specials

9-5.75-795

Serve 11 am-3 pm, Thursday-Sunday. Everyday Happy Hour 4-6 pm. $2 Beer. $2 Lunch Specials.

Mr. Thit’s Mai Tai Lounge (2) 5th Avenue (at F Street), Gaslamp, 619-232-1385. If you traded Vip’s (or can remember it, anyway), you may be amused at the revival of the genre here. Check out their Mai Tai grass skirt! With huge tit gags and the vadis “Vadis Young. Served with a side of fresh Asian fusion items, elements sushi, and the occasional spent into fusion

Homemade Chicago Sandwiches

**Italian Beef • Italian Sausage • Chicago Hot Dogs**

Purchase 1 menu item at regular price, get 2nd menu item 1/2 off. Gluten Free available. With this ad, expires 10/31/07.

**Pampas Restaurant**

**Help Us Celebrate Our 8th Anniversary**

at San Diego’s most authentic Argentine restaurant specializing in 100% organic steak

Tango & Salsa Show – Friday & Saturday. Oct. 26 & 27

Live Music Fridays & Saturdays. Happy Hour 5-7 pm. Tue.-Fri.

$10 Off 860 Aero Dr. 858-278-5979

pampasrestaurant.com

$12 Off Only valid on check of $50 or more. One check per table. Not valid with any other offer. Exp. 10/31/07

**Ethiopian Buffalo All You Can Eat**

8 days a week 11 am – 10 pm • $12 per person

Ethiopian Beer & Honey Wine. Whole fried chicken specially served Wed. & Sat.

HABA ETHIOPIAN RESTAURANT

2432 El Cajon Blvd. (Between Texas & Arizona St.)

619-295-3755

Mon-Sat 11 am – 10 pm • Sun. 11 am – 9 pm • Va • Va • NC

**Peruvian Cuisine in Pacific Beach!**

Food to die for at great prices!

**Latin Chef Restaurant**

1142 Garnet Avenue

858-270-8810

Catering available

**Homemade Chicago Sandwiches**

**SOUTH BAY & CORONADO**

Azuura Point 300 Coronado Bay Road (between Silver Strand Boulevard, Coronado, 619-424-8000 or 619-424-4877. Not just for tourists, but a lovely gem for locals. The luxurious dining room with its wraparound windows on the bay is one of the most romantic spots in town — comfortable banquet seating, a view from every table, and an atmosphere that is quite unique, not formal. The light, elegant, healthful Mediterranean-style cuisine (Northern Italy and butterflies France) emphasizes seasonal ingredients, as local and sus- tainably raised as possible. Ceci beans, among herbs and some fruits organically grown on the resort grounds. Embroi- deries can be witty and a bit whimsi- cal. An excellent wine list at vey rea- sonable marks-ups are strong on half-bottles. If you want a tasting din- ner with a connoisseur, the knowledgeable, trustworth somme- lacal. An excellent wine list at very reasonable marks-ups are strong on half-bottles. If you want a tasting din- ner with a connoisseur, the knowledgeable, trustworth somme-
out-on-the-street restaurant somehow got it right. Simple tables on the side-walk, daily made-on-the-premises semolina pasta, most dishes costing in the single digits. A simple fettuccine Alfredo is a pleasure at a frosted with a glass of wine, sparkling against the fresh flowers on the table, watching Coronado's world go by. One good — and vegetable — special to ask for is the vegetable pesto, a combo of arugula hearts, spinach, capers, mushrooms, onions, and olives over spaghettini. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive. — E.R.

La Bella Pizza Garden 933 Third Avenue (at 1st Avenue), Chula Vista, 619-426-8620. From the outside, La Bella looks like an Italian farmhouse, with gargoyles, bright green shutters, and maroon canopies. A real extended family runs this business. Their secrets are long closed (from breakfast to after midnight), big meals, and small prices. The menu includes standards like spaghetti with meatballs or lasagna, including sides of garlic bread, soup, or salad. The hit with kids is "Papa's Favorite," an 8-inch pizza with ham, salami, mushrooms, sausages), but also try the baby eel appetizers, chorizo (pork and maroon canopies. A real extended family runs this business. Their secrets are long closed (from breakfast to after midnight), big meals, and small prices. The menu includes standards like spaghetti with meatballs or lasagna, including sides of garlic bread, soup, or salad. The hit with kids is "Papa's Favorite," an 8-inch pizza with ham, salami, mushrooms, sausages), but also try the baby eel appetizers, chorizo (pork and ground veal with a creamy, winey sauce. Try to be there at least a half hour before the show will do its darndest to distract you. This is an ideal place for families, except Sunday (dinner all day Sunday). Moderate. — E.R.

Taboada 10611-A, Zona Río, Tijuana, 619-463-0368. You're going to get a seat on the downtown flagship of this local chain, usually an hour or two before your meal, your partner, and the harbor someplace. You don't want over-complicated food. Anthony's obliged. Fish and shrimp are fairly reliable. Some staffers speak some English. — E.R.

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Over 75 Restaurant Coupons at SDReader.com

Here's a small sample to whet your appetite!

Free entrée
Buy one entrée and two drinks, and get second entrée of equal or lesser value free. Offer expires October 31, 2007. Expiration dates are renewed the last week of each month. Coupon not valid on holidays.

Portugalia
Portugalia
Experience authentic Portuguese, Brazilian and Lusophonic cuisine by chef and owner Jason Manoel Agrella Nascimento.

1839 Newport Avenue, Ocean Beach, 619-222-7678
Reader Coupons www.sdportugalia.com

20% off all menu items
Or 50% off sushi and rolls only. Excludes beverages. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Offer expires October 31, 2007. Expiration dates are renewed the last week of each month. Coupon not valid on holidays.

RB Sushi
Open 7 days. Lunch and Dinner Monday-Saturday. Sunday dinner only.

14005 Bernardo Center Drive, Rancho Bernardo, 858-613-9000
Reader Coupons 619-235-3000

Free mini pizza
With purchase of Coors original pitcher. Not valid with any other offers. One coupon per table. Dine-in only. While supplies last. Additional toppings extra. Subject to change without notice. Offer expires October 31, 2007. Expiration dates are renewed the last week of each month. Coupon not valid on holidays.

Rossi's Pizza – A San Marcos Tradition
Rossi's is a great family restaurant where kids can run around and play games. Catch the game on our 73-inch HDTV. Over 25 beers on tap.

158 S. Rancho Santa Fe Rd. (at Grand), San Marcos, 760-727-4747
Reader Coupons www.rossispizza.com

Free empanada
With purchase of an entrée. One coupon per table. Not valid with any other offers. Offer expires October 31, 2007. Expiration dates are renewed the last week of each month. Coupon not valid on holidays.

Pampas Bar & Grill
Dine in a unique Argentine ambience. On our menu you will find 100% natural Angus beef steaks, free of hormones, steroids and pesticides, as well as the finest free-range poultry and fresh seafood.

8990 Aero Drive, San Diego, 858-278-5971
Reader Coupons 619-235-3000

Pacific Beach, Mission Beach & Ocean Beach
Atoll at the Catamaran Hotel
The Blue Parrot Bar & Grill 50% off entrée
Canes $5 off any entrée
Costa Brava Free tapas for lunch
French Gourmet Free dessert
Great Moon Buffet 10% off total bill
Gringos Free appetizer at lunch
Lahaina Beach House Free breakfast
Limón 25% off chicken, ribs or 2 tacos
Pacific Beach Bar & Grill 2 for 1 entrée
Pacific Rotisserie Free entrée
Sam's by the Sea
Saska's $12 off second entrée
Vegan Zone 50% off entrée

La Jolla
Cafe Milano Free Comedy Store tickets
Cendio
Clay's La Jolla
Fugu's Sushi & Wok Lunch specials $5.95
La Jolla Brew House Free lunch or dinner entrée
Marrakesh 50% off lunch
Su Casa 20% off entire check*
Vida Gourmet

Uptown & North Park
A La Francaise
The Asian Bistro Free entrée
B Fried Rice
Binh An $4.95 Vietnamese dishes
Cay Nhan
Harar Ethiopian Restaurant Free sambussa appetizer
Hob Nob Hill $2 off entrée
India Princess Free dinner*
Lips 50% off dinner
Rudford's $2 off entrée
Seasons Any entrée free
Vinylad.Program Free Swedish sandwich or dessert

North County
Calypso Free appetizer
Cayucos Free saganaki
Jamroc 101 Free island sampler
Mikko Japanese 50% off sushi
Noodles & Company Free dessert
Pariah Free appetizer
Pho Lucky 10% off entire check
Portugalia Free entrée
Rossi's Pizza Free mini pizza
Santa Fe Cafe 50% off 2nd entrée
Sips Free vegetarian lunch or dinner entrée
Wild Note Cafe

Clairemont, University City, Miramar Rd.,
Poway, Mira Mesa, Scripps Ranch & Kearny Mesa
Ashoka the Great 50% off lunch or dinner
Beach Boys Sushi & Roll 50% off special rolls
Boning Boys Lunch special $8.99
Filling Station Free appetizer
Honey's Cafe
La China
Mo's Island Grinds 50% off plate lunch
Pampas Free empanada
RB Sushi 20% off all menu items
Thai Cafe $1 off buffet
Trattoria Firenze Free lunch or dinner entrée

Midway, Old Town & Mission Valley
The Amigo Spot 15% off bill
Bemignari's Free lunch or dinner
Forever Fortune 2 for 1 entrée
Old Town Mexican Cafe
Pho Saigon Star 15% off entire check
Rockin' Baja Baja Bucket for two $29.95
Royal Spices Thai Cuisine 20% off receipt
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 2nd dinner buffet
Habana Cuban Free appetizer
La Fogata 50% off entrée
Stockdale's 50% off Southern Alabama cuisine
Windy City Beef 1/2 off menu item

South Bay & Coronado
Lai Thai 50% off entrée
Mariscos La Costa Azul 25% off entire check

Downtown & Point Loma
The Boathouse 2 for 1 entrée
California Grilled 20% off catering
Dublin Square 2 for 1 breakfast
Ember's Grille 50% off entrée
The Field Free lunch
Hard Rock Cafe*
Hornblower Cruises
House of Blues 20% off restaurant receipt
Humphrey's
Jewel Box 2 for 1 entrée
The Local 53 Thursdays
McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant
Mister Tiki Mai Thai Lounge
Mondo Gelato Free gelato
Olé Madrid 2 for 1 lunch or brunch entrée
RA Sushi
Rei do Gado
Rock Bottom
Sevilla
The Shout House
Thai Time Free fried spring rolls
Vision's 25% off sushi
Whiskey Girl
Xavier's Free appetizer

Restaurants listed without coupon offers have only menus online. Restaurants with * have multiple locations. See online menu or coupon for all locations.
One thing to be said for The Darjeeling Limited, and it’s no small thing, is that the film bears an individual stamp. A stamp as flat as a postage stamp, as emphatic as a rubber stamp.

Director Wes Anderson, a well-known commodity after Bottle Rocket, Rushmore, The Royal Tenenbaums, and The Life Aquatic of Steve Zissou, favors fabulously balanced, nailed-down compositions, the figures pinned to a shallow background like butterfly specimens. Stressing their separateness, he has no intention to hinge his shots together into a smooth and seamless line, but instead slots them into place as if on disconnected planes, setting up a clumping rhythm of starts and stops, glazing the screen with the deadest of deadpans, and erecting an invisible wall (invulnerable even to the occasional uncharacteristic zoom) between the film-maker and his characters, freakishly feckless people, abject puppets manipulated by a man with little regard for human diversity and volition. The effect — the unhumanness of these humanoids — is often amusing and always distancing. The danger in the director’s method is that it can be too distancing and therefore not amusing enough. Since he always clamps a tasteful mute on the audience’s merriment, the standard laugh-meter is an unreliable measure.

If this outing seems a cut above all previous ones, it may be the benefit of a real, a tangible, a substantial background against which to display his specimens: three, thirty-something brothers who have not spoken to one another in the year since their father’s funeral, now heading out together on a “spiritual journey” in a first-class sleeper car across India, with the ultimate aim of tracking down their mother (a no-show at the funeral) in a convent at the foot of the Himalayas. In other words, a typical Wes Anderson operation, bringing about the insecure bonding of misaligned oddballs, but in an atypical exotic setting, the better to draw out their oddness. Owen Wilson, a constant Anderson collaborator, reeks of insincerity — his distinctive scent — in the role that most demands its opposite, the role of the instigating trip planner, the conciliatory bonder, the self-styled peacemaker, reaching out after a failed suicide attempt, with a faceful of bandages still to show for it. (We trust it’s just coincidence, not cause-and-effect, not prognostication, that the actor in real life tried suicide after his on-screen character tried it.) Adrien Brody and Jason Schwartzman, another past Anderson collaborator, are far better-behaved puppets; and Bill Murray, almost as constant a collaborator as Wilson, pops up in a funny cameo, first thing out of the gate. India and Indians, meantime, are treated with a respect comparable to, if not superior to, Albert Brooks’s treatment of them in Looking for Comedy in the Muslim World (while the central characters can offer no challenge to Brooks’s), and the rich, saturated, radiantly warmed color from Anderson’s regular cinematographer, Robert Yeoman, does full justice to the local palette. Musical accompaniment has been cunningly culled from the films of Satyajit Ray, for the most part, and James Ivory. There is a companion short film, Hotel Chevalier, a prologue of sorts, set in Paris and centered solely around the Schwartzman character. This, available for free on iTunes if you can...
be bothered to register online, is hardly essential, except to explain the blink-of-an-eye appearance of Natalie Portman in the feature film. The Anderson completist and the Portman torch-carrier will find it worth the effort. We Own the Night spins the old story, with new operatic embellishment, of brothers on opposite sides of the law (Mark Wahlberg, Joaquin Phoenix), plus a father firmly on the wrong side (Robert Duvall), and Russian drug dealers so ruthless and repugnant as to straighten out the bent brother. All pretty obvious and overstated, although a couple of big developments come sooner than might have been anticipated, and director James Gray (The Yards, also featuring Wahlberg, and Little Odessa, also featuring Russian mobsters) stages an exciting shootout on wheels in a low-visibility rainstorm. If this scene could be bodily transferred, let’s say, to The Godfather, it would be celebrated as an immortal cinematic set piece. The Polish contemporary classical composer Wojciech Kilar, whenever there’s a breathier in the Eighties oldies, contributes some weighty, heavy-treading incidental music.

The Final Season is a square baseball movie, “based on a true story,” about a small-town Iowa high school housing nineteen state baseball championships in its trophy case (“We grew ballplayers here like corn”), now facing consolidation into a larger school district, and entering its last year of independence under a wet-behind-the-ears rookie coach (and, for good measure, former girls’ volleyball coach). They wouldn’t be making a movie about it if they couldn’t give you reason to cheer. They, and more specifically director David Mickey Evans, cannot quite give you reason to sweat, however. Sean Astin, who also executive-produced, plays the new coach with an air of classical composure.

Elizabeth: The Golden Age invites Cate Blanchett, or a bloodless, morose likeness of her, to resume her role from the nine-years earlier Elizabeth, under the same director, Shekhar Kapur, for a collection of the Virgin Queen’s greatest hits: Mary, Queen of Scots; Sir Walter Raleigh; and, in a madly cross-cutting climax, the Spanish Armada, dispatched by the subtile-speaking Catholic fanatic, Philip II (“Elizabeth is darkness, I am light”). A histrionic history lesson and courteously soap opera (the pregnant handmaid, the secret wedding, the queen’s cracked heart but not visage), ludicrous in its extravagance, good for a snicker but not for an education.

The Farrellys’ remake of The Heartbreak Kid, thirty-five years after the original, serves as a handy gauge of the decline of Western civilization. Apart from their substitution of bodily-function gags for social observation and verbal wit, the well-cast and well-constructed comedy about the man who strays on his honeymoon (as directed by Elaine May and written by Neil Simon) has been badly recast — Ben Stiller, Malin Akerman, Michelle Monaghan in place of Kathy Bates, Jeannie Berlin, Cybill Shepherd — and ruinously reconstructed, so that we now have an unwieldy, drawn-out first act, an interminable and repetitious middle act, and a hasty, slapdash last act. The Farrelllys have given the groom a mountain of “motivation” to stray, and given him the Perfect Woman to stay with, thus taking the sting out of the joke and exposing themselves as a couple of consummate clowns.

**MOVIE LISTINGS**

All reviews are by Duncan Shepherd. Priorities are indicated by one to five stars, and summaries 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.

Across the Universe — Two-and-a-quarter-hour promos for the Beatles without ever mentioning them by name. A generous, even overgenerous sampler of their songs (thirty-three of them, by the count in the press notes, leaving aside the numberless others that are quoted from or alluded to) has been re-recorded, or “covered” as they say in the business, by a fictitious cast of characters plunked down against the following backdrop of the Sixties: the war, the draft, the protests, the drugs, the psychodicks, the Sexual Revolution, all that. To link the Beatles with the upheaval makes a certain sense. Unlike, say, the more turgid, part, too, may simply be that two-and-a-quarter hours are too long for a prom. With Evan Rachel Wood, Jim Sturgess, Johanna Bennett, Anna Friel, T.R. Knight, and David Hoflin. 2007.

**SEPTEMBER 14, FROM 10/12; FLOWER HILLCREST 4, FROM 10/12; THEATER ON THE SQUARE, FROM 10/12; HORTON PLAZA 14, FROM 10/12; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 14; MISSION VALLEY 20; CERRITOS 18, FROM 10/12; PALM PROMENADE 24, FROM 10/12; RANCHO DEL REY 16, FROM 10/12; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15, FROM 10/12; SAN MARCOS 18, FROM 10/12; VISTA VILLAGE, FROM 10/12**

Death Wish — Consuelinho (Nanni Moretti), a group that really did evolve (or, as some say in the business, by a fictitious cast to) has been re-recorded, or “covered” as leaving aside the numberless others that are quoted from or alluded to) has been re-recorded, or “covered” as.

This ‘Kid’ hits the comic bullseye! Scene for scene the most explosively funny movie Ben Stiller and the Farrelly Brothers have made since There’s Something About Mary. It creates so many huge, and we mean humungous laughs you’ll probably have to see it more than once just to catch all the dialogue. ...a honeymoon you won’t soon forget.

**MAXIM**

Pete Hammond

**AN OUTRAGEOUSLY HILARIOUS COMEDY!**

This ‘Kid’ hits the comic bullseye! Scene for scene the most explosively funny movie Ben Stiller and the Farrelly Brothers have made since ‘There’s something About Mary’. It creates so many huge, and we mean humungous laughs you’ll probably have to see it more than once just to catch all the dialogue. "...a honeymoon you won’t soon forget."

**BEN STILLER**

THE HEARTBREAK KID

The Brave One — Distaff revenge story — and the whole thing is acted and directed (by Neil Jordan) with a high seriousness not borne out by the plot. With Jodie Foster is playing Charles Bronson. The emphasis is on her psycho-temporal split personality of the wrong cadaver and escalating labors, as a funeral at a country estate turns into a group that really did evolve (or, as some say in the business, by fictitious cast to) has been re-recorded, or “covered” as leaving aside the numberless others that are quoted from or alluded to) has been re-recorded, or “covered” as

The Darjeeling Limited — Reviewed twice, this instant. With Owen Wilson, Adrien Brody, Mark Ruffalo, and Anjelica Huston, directed by Wes Anderson. 

**FASHION VALLEY 18; SLASH 15; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 15**

The Farrellys have given the groom a mountain of “motivation” to stray, and given him the Perfect Woman to stay with, thus taking the sting out of the joke and exposing themselves as a couple of consummate clowns.

The Assassin of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford — Westen with Brad Pitt, Carey Affleck, and Sam Shepard, directed by Andrew Dominik. (FASHION VALLEY 18; LA JOLLA 12; ★★★)

The Bourne Ultimatum — The Bourne abounds. It isn’t just that Part III in the adventures of the amnesiac superspy adds more ridiculousness. It’s that, at these lengths, the ridiculousness multiplies exponentially. More ridiculousness, that is, and more and more ridiculousness. (The sentiment of软 spot found in Paris I and II are here concentrated in a couple of female, mothily, protective, nurturing CIA agents who, alone among their heartless colleagues, are interested in keeping the hero alive.) Paul Greengrass’s frantic visual style — a hand-held camera in the grips of defirn tymens — fosters irritation where it intended excitement. With Matt Damon, Joan Allen, Julia Stiles, David Strathairn, Scott Glenn, and Albert Finney. 2007.

**FASHION VALLEY 18; SLASH 15; ★★★★**

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**FASHION VALLEY 18; SLASH 15; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 15**

Death at a Funeral — The title is too harsh. The comedy doesn’t die, it just labors, as a funeral at a country estate turns to farce and farce, beginning with the delivery of the wrong caskets and escalating with a bottle of mind-altering hallucinogens. Matthew MacFadyen, Kelsey Grammer, Alan Tudyk, Daisy Donovan, Rupert Graves, Pe-
ter Dinklage, and Jane Asher; directed by Frank Oz. 2007.

**Eastern Promises** — A Christmas baby, orphaned in the delivery room and provisionally named Christian (“Sounds like Christmas”), leads a London midwife (Naomi Watts) on a quest for the infant’s nearest relative, and straight into the dark nearest relative, and straight into the dark

The death in a Turkish bath between two armed and fully clothed thugs and a vulner-

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ably ar...
n’t despise you, Harry. If he did, He would—
It’s hard to make our hearts so brave”) tends
to illustrate the mildness—highlighting, in other words, the
distance between the tall talk and the flat mundan-
ity. When all is said and done, none of the
expansive talk adds greater interest than the
expanses of flash, female only. Robert Ben-
sel Kramer vs. Kramer, Places in the
Heart, and perhaps most pertinently Billy
Bullgate (if you remember Nicole Kidman in
the full-length mirror), directed. With
Morgan Freeman, Greg Kinnear, Radha
Mitchell, Toby Hemingway, Alexa Davalos,
Selma Blair, and Jane Alexander. 2007.
★ CARMEL MOUNTAIN; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; SAN MAR-
COS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; THROUGH 10/11

The Final Season — Reviewed this issue.
With Sean Astin, Powers Boothe, Rachel
Leigh Cook, Michael Angarano, and Tom
Arnold; directed by David Mickey Evans.
★ CARMEL MOUNTAIN; ESCONDIDO 15;
GASLAMP 15; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKET-
PLACE 13; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 14; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 10; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; FROM 10/12

For the Bible Tells Me So — Daniel
Kaslik’s documentary on Christian fun-
tirling. Certainly not one of Irving Thalberg’s
primitive 1930 soundtrack, inaudible; but
— Tod Browning’s somewhat
DanielKaslik.com

Harry Potter and the Order of the
Phoenix — Pot V, if you’re counting. War
with the Dark Lord, as you might recall
looks on course to be the World’s Oldest
Grad Student of Witchcraft and Wizardry
by the time the war actually arrives. Just
Miranda Richardson environs the previous
installment in the new role of a nosy re-
porter, Imelda Staunton envelopes this one
as a Draconian educational reformer be-

run-of-the-mill projects for MGM. ★ ★ ★ (MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART, LA JOLLA, 10/13, 7 P.M.)

Harry Potter and the Order of the
Phoenix — Pot V, if you’re counting. War
with the Dark Lord, as you might recall
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installment in the new role of a nosy re-
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into the Wild — Illustration, in a sketchy
hand, of the Jim Krakauer nonfiction book
on Christopher McCandless, a 1990 college
graduate, on the doorstep of Harvard Law
School, who gave away his tuition fund to
Oxfam, obliterated his identity, renamed himself Alexander Supertramp, and
swapped the evils of society for the purity
of the northern wilderness ("No longer to
be poisoned by civilization," he wrote into a
wooden shingle at his encampment), where
ultimately he starved to death in 1992. It may not sound like much of an
idea for a film. It isn’t. A Seventies-style
road movie, redolent of Seventies-style dis-
affection, it has a strong element of travel-
tour, as our happy-go-lucky hobo rides his
aging Onan wrested to South Dakota, abandons it at Lake Mead, kayaks down
the Colorado River, drifts into Mexico, train-
hops up to L.A., thums his way to the
Salt Lake, Ana Borrego, and Alaska. In
that final destination, the travellor veers
toward nature documentary. At nearly two
and a half hours, the film feels very, very
long, albeit short on relatable incident: the
protagonist goes places, he meets people,
and then he goes to a place where he won’t
meet people, where he will meet only his
end, a martyr to something or other. Direc-
tor Sean Penn unmistakably takes himself
very seriously, and takes his protagonist al-
most reverently, painting him as something
of a holy fool (a reader of Tolstoy, even
though an eater of meat when he can get it),
and offering up this speculative re-
enactment as nothing less than an endor-
sement. At the top, he sets the tone with a
high-down epigraph from Lord Byron: “I
love not man the less, but Nature more” —
that one. The kid sister periodically supplies
some explanatory narration ("I understand
what he was doing"), and Penn and his Eddie
Vedder chimes in with a half-dozen or so
acoustic songs in sympathy and support. Of
the real protagonist’s earnestness and con-

tiction, the film can tell us next to nothing.
Of the filmmaker’s, it can tell us much. And
then it can tell us again. And again.
With Emile Hirsch, Marcia Gay Harden, William Hurt, Jena Malone, Vince Vaughn, and Hal
Holbrook. 2007.
★ (FLOWER HILL 4, FROM 10/12; MILLCREEK
CINEMAS; LA JOLLA VILLAGE, FROM 10/12)

In the Shadow of the Moon — Slick
assembly of archive footage and interviews
with retired astronauts (Buz Aldrin, Al
Bean, Gene Cernan, Mike Collins, Jim
Lovell, Edgar Mitchell, Harrison Schmitt,
Dave Scott, and John Young), to tell the
story of the Apollo moon shots. It’s a big
story — history merged with science
fiction — and collectively the men are al-
most equal to it. Directed by David
Yates. 2007.
★ (GASLAMP 15)

In the Valley of Elah — A more com-
mandable writing and directing effort from
Paul Haggis (write only on Million Dollar
Babies and Flags of Our Fathers, among oth-
ers) than his hokey Oscar-winner,
Crash. More focused, more concentrated,
more self-contained, more consistent: an uncom-
romisingly mournful murder mystery,
and a wild-eyed, churning horror fantasy about a veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom (remember when?) who goes missing upon his return to Fort Rudd, New Mexico, and who turns
up on the outskirts of the base, stabbed,
dismembered, and burned beyond recogni-
tion. Say what you will about the film-
maker’s political point-making, it never
close up the restless flow of the narrative,
and at the same time he shows a true cine-
matic eye for tacky Americana, the streets,
the stores, the townscapes, etc., so that
whenever we go anywhere on screen — an
army barrack, a motel, a public restroom,
a strip club, a coffee shop, a “drive-up” bar,
and fast-food joint — we can feel we’re truly
been there, really seen it. (The mood light-
ing of nauseous green and blanched white
is a case of whatever would be the opposite
of gliding the light — suffling the weak, pos-
ibly — and equally uncanny.) Tommy
Lee Jones, as the victim’s father, a retired
M.P. and current gravel hauler who presses
the investigation forward when the military
looks for an easy way out, has just the right
amount of starch in his performance,
touchingly repressed. Charlize
Theron on the other hand, as the beleaguered civilan cop who
 eventually takes an interest, is per-
haps more emotional than you want from a
cop, but not more glamorous, with
man
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In the Shadow of the Moon — Slick
assembly of archive footage and interviews
with retired astronauts (Buz Aldrin, Al
Bean, Gene Cernan, Mike Collins, Jim
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story — history merged with science
fiction — and collectively the men are al-
most equal to it. Directed by David
Yates. 2007.
★ (GASLAMP 15)
The Jane Austen Book Club — Chick-Lit trifles, after the Karen Joy Fowler best-seller, about six contemporary Sacramen- tos, five women and an odd man out, who meet informally to discuss the six great Austen novels, one per month, and to demonstrate the books’ continued relevance by unconsciously patterning their lives after them. Not too awfully disagreeable, despite the strenuous efforts at ingra- tiation. With Maria Bello, Amy Brenne- man, Emily Blunt, Kathy Baker, Maggie Grace, and Hugh Dancy. Written and directed by Robin Swicord. 2007.

★ CAMERON, MOUNTAIN, ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; MIRA MESA 18; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE.

The Kingdom — A remedial history les- son on U.S.-Saudi relations, behind the opening credits, introduces a hypothetical massacre of a hundred-plus American citi- zens at an oil-company picnic, the handi- work of an “Obama wannabe.” Speedily onto the scene — where were they on 9/11? — comes an FBI response team (Jamie Foxx, the take-charge cop; Jennifer Garner, the superwoman; Chris Cooper, the token good actor; Jason Bateman, the obligatory wiseacre), to take names and kick ass, but first to burn the ears of the local Saudi investigator with their salty Free Speech. (Aided Rahoom, as the part, is, is likable as he is expendable.) Director Pete Berg’s bob-and-weave cam- era, that cliché of immediacy and urgency, is a continual annoyance, and in the cli- mactic action is worse than that. Our in- ability to follow what’s happening can scarcely convince us it’s actually happening. 2007.

★ CAMERON, MOUNTAIN, ODEON VILLAGE 10, ODEON HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANVIEW 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVIERA VILLAGE 6; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE.

King of California — Twelve-pound ham: Michael Douglas, looking like an es- caper of Treasure Island, as a bipolar jazzman dragging along his long-suffering daughter (Evren Rachel Wood) on a quixotic quest for a buried cache of 17th- century doubloons. The background music keeps insisting, to no avail, that this is a romp. Colorful bit part for Kathleen Wil- hoite as a weekday Costco drone and week- end swinger. Written and directed by Mike Cahill. 2007.

★ HILLCREST CINEMAS, THROUGH 10/11

Labyrinth — In outline, it sounds like a children’s story an adult could endorse and enjoy. But “in detail” is another matter. A self-absorbed teenager, put out at having to babysit her little brother, invokes the gob- lins to take him away (she has been rehears- ing a play coincidentally called The Labyrinth, about goblins stealing a child). To his chagrin, they do just that, and now she has to exercise some selflessness and fetch him back. The creatures, alas, are un- der the direction of Jim Henson (the Mup- pet man), or in other words are about as menacing as Woolworth’s toy department, and David Bowie’s Goblin King, with a Tina Turner-ish Kabuki haircut, is like an obli- ging guest star on TV’s The Muppets Show. Written by Terry Jones (the Monty Python man); photographed by Alex Thomson; with Jennifer Connelly. 1986. ★ 20TH CENTURY FOX, VISTA VILLAGE, 10/13 MIDNIGHT.

The Heartbreak Kid

The Last Winter — Eco-horror film — or in the words of a heedless oil prospec- tor, “some global-warming shit” — about na- ture in revolt at the Arctic Circle. A slow first hour, but eventually a few decent spe- cial effects on a flagrantly frugal budget.

With Ron Perlman, James LeGross, Connie Britton, and Kevin Corrigan; written and directed by Larry Fessenden. 2007. ★ 20TH CENTURY FOX, VISTA VILLAGE, 10/11 MIDNIGHT.
Bargain showtimes are in parentheses.

CENTRAL
CLAIREMONT
Town Square 14
6063 Clairemont Drive (858-274-1234)
Eastern Promises (R) Fri.-Sat. (12:05, 2:45)
E and I (R) Fri. (11:20)
Emile (PG) Fri. (11:15, 2:15, 5:30), Sat. (12:00, 2:00, 5:00), Sun. (12:20, 2:20, 5:20)
Equalizer (PG-13) Fri. (11:15, 2:15, 5:30), Sat. (12:00, 2:00, 5:00), Sun. (12:20, 2:20, 5:20)
Feast of Love (R) Fri. (11:20, 2:20, 5:30, 7:40), Sun. (11:15, 2:15, 5:30, 7:40)
Fast Food (R) Fri.-Sat. (12:00, 2:00, 5:00, 7:20), Sun. (12:20, 2:20, 5:20, 7:20)
Happy Potter and the Order of the Phoenix (PG) Fri.-Sat. (12:00, 2:00, 5:00, 7:20), Sun. (12:20, 2:20, 5:20, 7:20)
In the Valley of Elah (R) Fri.-Sat. (12:00, 2:00, 5:00, 7:20), Sun. (12:20, 2:20, 5:20, 7:20)
The Jane Austen Book Club (PG-13) Fri. (12:05, 4:40, 7:20)
The Kingdom (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:45, 2:20, 4:30), Sun. (11:45, 2:20, 4:30)
Michael Clayton (R) Fri. (1:30)
Mission Hills
LA JOLLA
La Jolla 12
6875 Villa La Jolla Drive (858-535-2262)
Eastern Promises (R) Fri. (4:30, 9:35) Sat. (11:20, 4:35) The Valley of Elah (R) Fri.-Sun. (1:50, 7:10) Into the Wild (R) Fri.-Sun. (1:30, 4:40, 8:05) Labyrinth (PG) Sat. (11:55p.m. Lost, Caution (NC-17) Fri.-Sun. (1:30, 4:35, 8:15) We Own the Night (R) Fri. (1:40, 4:20, 7:00), Sat.-Sun. (1:10, 4:20, 7:00, 9:45
MIRA MESA
Mira Mesa 18
3703 Westmore Parkway (858-635-7700)
Call theater for program information
MISSION HILLS
Cinema Under the Stars
4000 Goldrich Street (858-293-2423) The Usual Suspects (R)
VISITOR CENTER
Fashion Valley 18
7907 Friars Road (858-558-2862)
GALPAN
Resident Evil: Extinction (R) The Seeker: The Dark is Rising (PG) Superbad (R) 3:10 to Yuma (R) We Own the Night (R) Why Did I Get Married? (PG-13)
Mission Valley
Shadow of the Moon (PG) Fri.-Sun. 1:50, 7:10
I Now Pronounce You Chuck and Larry (PG-13) The Kingdom (R) Michael Clayton (R) Resident Evil: Extinction (R) The Seeker: The Dark is Rising (PG) Superbad (R) 3:10 to Yuma (R) We Own the Night (R) Why Did I Get Married? (PG-13)
Mission Valley
The Bourne Ultimatum (PG) The Brave One (R) Eastern Promises (R) Elizabeth: The Golden Age (PG-13) Feel the Noise (PG-13) The Game Plan (PG-13) Good Luck Chuck (R)
WHAT DID I GET MARRIED FOR? (PG-13)
Mission Valley
Japanese Cinema Drive (858-685-2841)
After This Our Exile (No Rating) Sat. 8:00p.m., All Guitar Nation (R) Fri. 7:00p.m.; American Pastime (No Rating) Sat. (2:30p.m.), And Thereafter I (No Rating) Fri. 5:15p.m., Baby (No Rating) Fri. 9:30p.m.
Blackout (No Rating) Sat. 8:45p.m., Dark Matter (No Rating) Sat. 1:10p.m., The Heartbreak Kid (R) Fri.-Sat. (10:10, 13:40, 3.40, 7.30, 10.30 Sun. (10:10, 13:40, 3.40, 7.30) The High Rollers (No Rating) Fri. 6:30p.m., Hula Girls (No Rating) Sun. 4:30p.m., I’m a Cyborg, But That’s OK (No Rating) Sat. 6:00p.m., The Inheritance (No Rating) Sun. 7:45p.m., Isabel (PG) Fri. (3:15p.m.), Men of Hula (No Rating) Sun. (4:00p.m.), Michael Clayton (R) Fri.-Sat. (10:10, 13:40, 3.40, 7.30, 10.30 Sun. (10:10, 13:40, 3.40, 7.30) The High Rollers (No Rating) Fri. 6:30p.m., Short Film Program (No Rating) Sat. 6:15, 7:15 Sat. (12:30, 5:30) 3:15, 5:15, Sun. (12:30, 5:30) Special Program (No Rating) Sat. (2:00p.m., Sun. (3:00p.m.), Spokey the Spooky Pumpkin (G) Sat.-Sun. (1:00p.m.), The Cats of Mirrrikon! (No Rating) Sun. 11:00p.m., The Great Happiness Space: Tale of a Osaka Love Thief (No Rating) Sat. 7:45p.m., The Rebel (No Rating) Sat. (3:15p.m), The Trouble With Romance (No Rating) Fri. 9:15p.m., Tie A Yellow Ribbon (No Rating) Sat. (2:45p.m.), The Victim (No Rating) Sat. 7:30p.m., Undooding (No Rating) Sat. 8:15p.m., Vanaja (No Rating) Sun. 5:00p.m., The Victim (No Rating) Sat. 9:30p.m., We Own the Night (R) Fri. (11:00, 2:00, 5:00, 8:00, 11:00 Sun. (12:00, 3:00, 6:00) What the Snow Brings (No Rating) Sat. (12:00p.m)
Mission Valley
1640 Camino Del Rio North (858-558-2262)
Across the Universe (PG) The Brave One (R) Elizabeth: The Golden Age (PG-13) Feel the Noise (PG-13) The Game Plan (PG-13) Good Luck Chuck (R) The Heartbreak Kid (R) The Kingdom (R) Michael Clayton (R) Resident Evil: Extinction (R) The Seeker: The Dark is Rising (PG) Superbad (R) 3:10 to Yuma (R) We Own the Night (R) Why Did I Get Married? (PG-13)
STATE UNIVERSITY
Ken
4682 Almaden Avenue (818-819-4236)
For the Bible Tells Me So (R) Fri. 3:00, 5:15 Sat.-Sun. 2:40, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30
UPTOWN
Hillcrest Cinemas
3963 Elfin Avenue (858-429-0286)
Call theater for program information
Reuben H. Fleet Science Center
1875 El Prado, Balboa Park (858-248-2123)
Coral Reef Adventure (No Rating) Sun. 2:00p.m. Sat. 2:00, 6:00, Dinosaurs Alive! (NR) Fri. 1:00, 4:00, 9:00 Sat. 11:00, 1:00, 4:00, 9:00 Sun. 1:00, 4:00, 9:00, The Living Sea (Not Rated) Fri. 6:45p.m., Mysteries of Egypt (Not Rated) Fri. 7:00p.m., Sea of Sharks: A Prehistoric Adventure (No Rating) Fri. 12:00, 5:00, 8:00 Sat. 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00, Sun. 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00
San Diego Natural History Museum
1500 El Prado, Balboa Park (858-232-5821)
Ocean Oasis (Not Rated) Fri. 10:15a.m.
VISTA
City Hall at program information

Vista Village
Highway 99 at Vista Village Drive
(760-946-7469)

Across the Universe (PG-13) Fri. 1:00, 3:00, 4:30, 7:00, 10:00; Elizabeth: The Golden Age (PG) Fri. 11:15, 1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:45; 9:15; The Game Plan (PG-13) Fri. 11:05, 1:10, 3:15, 5:20, 7:25, 9:30; Resident Evil: Extinction (R) Fri. 12:00, 2:15, 4:30, 6:45, 9:00, 11:15; The Heartbreak Kid (R) Fri. 11:20, 1:50, 4:20, 6:50, 9:20; The Jone Aston Book Club (PG-13) Fri. 10:30 p.m.; The Kingdom (R) Fri. 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30, 8:30; The Heartbreak Kid (R) Fri. 11:15, 1:45, 4:15, 6:45, 9:15, 11:45; The Kingdom (R) Fri. 12:15, 4:15, 8:15, 12:15, Sat. (10:30, 1:30) 4:30, 7:30, Sun. (10:15, 12:45, 3:15) 4:15, 7:15, 11:15; The Seaker: The Dark is Rising (PG) Fri. 13:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15; We Own the Night (R) Fri. 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, Sat. (10:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00); The Seaker: The Dark is Rising (PG) Fri. 11:00, 11:30, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00; We Own the Night (R) Fri. 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, Sat. (10:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00); The Seaker: The Dark is Rising (PG) Fri. 11:00, 13:30, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00; We Own the Night (R) Fri. 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, Sat. (10:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00); The Seaker: The Dark is Rising (PG) Fri. 11:00, 13:30, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00; We Own the Night (R) Fri. 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, Sat. (10:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00); The Seaker: The Dark is Rising (PG) Fri. 11:00, 13:30, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00; We Own the Night (R) Fri. 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, Sat. (10:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00); The Seaker: The Dark is Rising (PG) Fri. 11:00, 13:30, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00; We Own the Night (R) Fri. 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, Sat. (10:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00); The Seaker: The Dark is Rising (PG) Fri. 11:00, 13:30, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00; We Own the Night (R) Fri. 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, Sat. (10:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00); The Seaker: The Dark is Rising (PG) Fri. 11:00, 13:30, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00; We Own the Night (R) Fri. 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, Sat. (10:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00); The Seaker: The Dark is Rising (PG) Fri. 11:00, 13:30, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00; We Own the Night (R) Fri. 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, Sat. (10:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00); The Seaker: The Dark is Rising (PG) Fri. 11:00, 13:30, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00; We Own the Night (R) Fri. 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, Sat. (10:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00); The Seaker: The Dark is Rising (PG) Fri. 11:00, 13:30, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00; We Own the Night (R) Fri. 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, Sat. (10:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00); The Seaker: The Dark is Rising (PG) Fri. 11:00, 13:30, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00; We Own the Night (R) Fri. 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, Sat. (10:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:0)
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SanDiegoReader.com
The Usual Suspects — Is this a ripple in the inevitable Tarantino backwash? The cast team composed of the Mexican girl’s guilt-ridden brother (Cesar Ramos) and a lonesome American cop (Kevin Kline) on the trail of a missing daughter of his own. Based on a nonlinear piece from the New York Times, and directed by the German Marco Kreuzpaintner, the film is slightly, sullenly educational, but its relationships and conflicts (presumably based on deficient imagination) are rudimentary. Particularly off-putting is the spectacle of the brother setting aside his guilt and striking comical sparks with the gringo (the classical music on the car stereo is torture to him) in an apparent attempt to become the next Diego Luna, Latin cutie-pie. 2007.

2 Days in Paris — Fatuous chatter between mid-thirties lovers, two years together, an upright American designer and a carefree French photographer, visiting her parents in Paris. Julie Depay, surrounding herself with her actual family, and showing unknown depths of self-indulgence, is the star, director, writer, editor, composer, and vocalist over the closing credits. And she is unlucky or imprudent in her choice of mate, her one-time beau in real life, Adam Goldberg, little chemistry and little individual charisma. 2007.

We Own the Night — Reviewed this issue. With Joaquin Phoenix, Mark Wahlberg, Robert Duvall, and Eva Mendes; written and directed by James Gray. 2007.

We Own the Night — Reviewed this issue.

Cinema Under the Stars, 10/11 through 10/13, 8:30 p.m.

 opration Center: Horton Plaza 24; Mission Valley 19; Mission Valley 20; Ocean Side 18; Palm Promenade 24; Parkway Plaza 18; Poway 10; Rancho Del Rey 10; Rancho San Diego 15; River Village 8; San Marcos 18; Town Square 14; from 10/12

We Own the Night — Reviewed this issue.

Supporting this piece are reminiscent of the four-letter words and their compounds. (Unusually amusing example: five participants in a police lineup performing their different interpretations of “Hand me the keys, you fucking cock sucking?” End, or close to it, of Tarantino correspondences. The emergence of a mythical omniscient shadowy arch villain improbably named Keyser Söze — the mere mention of whose name in underworld circles produces an effect comparable to the mention of E.F. Hutton in old TV ads — pushes the proceedings more toward Fu Manchu and Prof. Moriarty. And the further the villain emerges from the shadows, the less believable he becomes. In the bigger picture: the more you know of the plot, the less sense it makes. It’s too bad, because the assembled actors — Gabriel Byrne, Stephen Baldwin, Kevin Spacy, Kevin Pollak, Benicio Del Toro, Chazz Palminteri, Pete Postlethwaite—are vividly individualized, especially visually. And the young director, Bryan Singer, is clearly conscientious and resourceful. Most memorable moment: the two-gun Baldwin patiently lining up two moving targets and taking them out simultaneously. 1995.
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Start your high-paying sales career today!

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If you like talking with people and you’re looking for something new and exciting, let’s talk!

30-year-old company.

• Great hours: 7 am-2:30 pm Monday-Friday.
  No overtime, weekends or evenings.

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JOIN A TEAM 10,000 STRONG!

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MORTGAGE COLLECTORS

At GC Services, L.P., we’re celebrating our 50th year as the unparalleled leader in quality performance and client service. Come join our growing team in San Diego.

Account Representatives are responsible for handling both inbound and outbound calls for credit card members. Candidates must be able to negotiate, provide payment options and/or resolve disputes with card members. The ideal candidate will be a self-starter, motivated by money, with excellent verbal and written communication skills. Experienced individuals in customer service, call centers, and/or sales thrive at GC Services.

Mortgage Collector must have 2+ years’ experience in delinquent loan accounts. This is a unique project for a self-motivated, highly organized individual.

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Drivers:
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- Climb grades
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Housekeeper

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Become One of America’s Finest and Discover the Possibilities!

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Test Dates:
- Saturday, Oct. 13 @ 8 am
- Friday, Oct. 19 @ 8 am

For more information, call (619) 531-COPS or visit our website at: www.sandiego.gov/police
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- Apartment Maintenance
- Hang-Tape-Mud Drywallers
- Commercial and Residential Plumbers
- Painters

Delivery Drivers
- Class A B • Local/Intrastate
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Class C drivers must have 1 year of experience, pass drug screen, and be able to read Thomas Guide.

Office
- Managers • Recruiters • Receptionist
- Account Managers and Sales Staff

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Riverside and Orange Counties 951-760-7100
Fax: San Diego and Imperial Counties 858-292-0230
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E-mail: Help@gostaff.com
Apply online: www.gostaff.com

Careers in Probation

Correctional Deputy Probation Officer I
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:
$35,069-$44,741 annually
Safety Retirement-Sworn Officers 3% at age 50.
Bilingual men/women encouraged to apply.

Test dates:
October 13, 2007, 8 am and November 17, 2007, 8 am
Montgomery Middle School
2470 Ulric Street • San Diego, CA 92111

Maximum 85 applicants. Applications available at the test site.
For additional information, contact the department's Jobline: 858-514-8558
www.sdcourts.ca.gov/probation

Free meals and parking! Sandiegosports@ sandiegostorms.com. Fax 619-446-5005.

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**TOP REP: $110,000 FOR ’06**

**$10/HR + GENTLE COMPENSATION**
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MDI offers paid holidays after 520 hours and vacation bonuses after 2000 hours • Immediate openings

Experience required • Various shifts • Come in or call now!

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**REAL ESTATE SALES**
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- **REAL ESTATE SALESPERSON**

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Home.com, a leader in real estate Internet technologies, is looking for strong Sales Account Executives to grow business. We are interviewing those who show a high degree of self-confidence, self-motivation and exceptional communication skills. Proven closing abilities a plus. Sell Web services and Internet advertising to realtors. Full-time only if you’re a qualified Salesperson who believes in yourself, quotas will be a nonissue.

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• Fun work environment
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by Joe Sayers ©2007

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SALES: Guitar Trader is looking for motivated, outgoing, enthusiastic individuals to sell guitar and instrument retail. Experience in sales and retail management is a plus. Training provided. Seeking self-motivated, presentable, upbeat individuals with a positive attitude that want to make sales and customer service for the industry! Apply in person at Guitar Trader, 7130 Clairemont Mesa Blvd, San Diego, CA 92117. 858-977-9067. Bar/restaurant experience helpful.

SALES: WAC: Are you seeking to explore an interesting field which combines your love of travel with an opportunity to travel the world? We are currently seeking a travel agent with a passion for travel to join our team. Apply in person at 2144 El Cajon Boulevard, San Diego, CA 92113. 619-260-5501.

SALES: Shield Security has immediate openings, part-time and full-time, for our Security Guard position. Security Guards must be over 18 years of age, proof of State ID card, current California Guard License #765155, AA/EOE. For more information, Call 619-390-1888 or call 619-390-6864. Call 619-440-6802.

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SALES: Inside/Outside Sales. Travel between Reed and Thomas in La Jolla. Talented, driven sales people who can adapt to a fast-paced environment. Experience preferred, but will train. Must be willing to travel. Contact Ben Chapman, 858-555-8068 x343, ben.chapman@vickers.com. *Starting hourly at $8.50 per hour. Full-time or transitional opportunities. Call 619-531-9909 for more information.


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- **Weekdays**
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- **Immediate availability**
- **Salary to Be Determined**

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**Yoga**

- **10am Monday**
- **4:30pm Wednesday**
- **10am Wednesday**

**“Medical Massage” 1**

- **October 16**

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18th Place's week's place: (Eclipsed Sun's table-top golf?) A. J. Lambert attempts to sink his disc in the ninth “hole” at Sun Valley Golf (and disc-golf) Course, 5800 Memorial Drive, La Mesa (“the table”), Sun Valley’s nine-hole course is overshadowed by the better-known Morley Field disc-golf course in Balboa Park. Last week’s winners: Leanne King, Spencer Olson, Stevens Moore, James Bennett, Edward Bray

Medical/religious affiliations.

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It would be funny, I guess, to have the tombstone say “nice try” I haven’t really thought about what I’d like an obituary to say about me. It could talk about what a good family I had and things like that.

I would have the tombstone say, “Question Authority!” I just lost my husband, so to think about what my obituary is a hard one. He was my best friend for eight years. We played guitar together; I played lead, and he played rhythm. I travel a lot, selling my jewelry at Ren fairs. I guess my obit can mention my husband and how much I missed him.

I’ve already decided I’m going to be cremated. So, there wouldn’t be anything written on a tombstone. Regarding an obituary — wow — I haven’t given it really much thought. I would want it to talk about my family, and if there was some way, to convey how lucky I’ve been in life. With everything, I was in a car accident that should’ve killed me. I used to do a lot of crazy things in my younger days that I should’ve gone to jail for. I think I’m lucky that I am still around.

I want in my obituary is a hard one. It would be funny, I guess, to have it say “Question Authority.” I just lost my husband, so to think about what my obituary is a hard one. He was my best friend for eight years. We played guitar together; I played lead, and he played rhythm. I travel a lot, selling my jewelry at Ren fairs. I guess my obit can mention my husband and how much I missed him.

The tombstone and obituary should both say “dog lover, surfer, and friend to all.” I’m very attached to nature. It could mention that I had a good time here, skiing, hiking, swimming, doing yoga, and bicycling. I have kids and would want them to party afterwards and celebrate.

I would want it to talk about my family, and if there was some way, to convey how lucky I’ve been in life. With everything, I was in a car accident that should’ve killed me. I used to do a lot of crazy things in my younger days that I should’ve gone to jail for. I think I’m lucky that I am still around.

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Surf Diego

Name: Lisa Spears
Occupation: Junior architect
Lives: LA.
Surf: La Jolla Shores

Lisa Spears lives in Los Angeles but travels the California coast in search of surf spots. She counts La Jolla Shores as a favorite. She rides an 8’ Robert Smith board (dubbed “Mello Yellow”) and describes her style as “always just cruising.” And she and her husband have spent many weekends surfing and picnicking here, but that’s not why La Jolla stands out as her most memorable destination.

“After an afternoon of surfing, my husband (then boyfriend) and I got to have lunch,” says Spears with a smile. “We went to the water’s edge to wash our hands and he had a ring and proposed.”

On their next trip to La Jolla, Lisa took her wedding band to her husband for safekeeping. “When they got out of the water, he removed the wedding and sand out at the shoreline. “I thought he would lose his ring and I would have mine forever, but it didn’t turn out like that,” Spears says. “At least it wasn’t totally my fault.”

Spears calls the experience a “marriage-strengthening exercise,” and she found the same ring design to replace her lost band.

----

**Surf Diego**

**Location:** La Jolla Shores

**About the Surf Spot:**

La Jolla Shores is a popular surfing destination known for its consistent waves and wide, sandy beach. The surf is suitable for all levels, from beginners to advanced surfers. The area is known for its clean, powerful waves that break over a shallow ledge, creating a fun and challenging environment for surfers.

**Surfing Information:**

- **Surfing Conditions:** Generally consistent waves with good to excellent conditions most days.
- **Surfing Levels:** Suitable for all levels, from beginners to advanced surfers.
- **Surfing Equipment:** Surfboards, wetsuits, leash, and basic surfing knowledge required.
- **Surfing Safety:** Be aware of rip currents and marine life hazards.

**Additional Information:**

- **Location:** 7500 North Torrey Pines Rd, La Jolla, CA 92037
- **Surfing Times:** Year-round, but conditions are best from late fall to early spring.
- **Surfing Tips:** Know your limits and always surf with a buddy.

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**Contact Information:**

For more information, visit the official La Jolla Shores website or contact the local surfers for tips and advice.

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**Surfing Resources:**

- [Official La Jolla Shores Website](http://www.lajollashores.org)
- [Surfline](https://www.surfline.com)
- [Surfing Magazine](https://www.surfingmagazine.com)

---

**For More Information:**

Contact Lisa Spears at [lisa.spears@surf-diego.com](mailto:lisa.spears@surf-diego.com) for more details and local surfing tips.

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**Additional Notes:**

La Jolla Shores is a great place for both experienced and new surfers, offering a unique surfing experience with its varied conditions and challenging waves. Whether you’re a beginner looking to improve your skills or an advanced surfer seeking a new challenge, La Jolla Shores has something for everyone.

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Table–top or Jacuzzi

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We offer a variety of services for flooring. Over 18 years General Contracting experience. All home repairs/remodels/improvements. Call now for your free estimate. 619-579-8060. Materials can be provided. Baseboards, cabinets, trim, walls, drainage, countertops, overlays, driveways, patios, sidewalks, retaining walls, recessed lighting, tile, grout, electrical, plumbing, painting. 30 years experience. 619-775-6708.


Major credit cards. 10% off 45+ packages of 3. 858-438-9400. www.asianbodycare.org

Molding for Less. Moldings for Less. 4241 Old St. Mailing address: 975 Hornblend, Suite E, P.O. Box 50. 1-Hr. Massage $25. 858-274-3600.

45 1-Hr. Massage for $45. First-time clients and couples. 50 1-Hr. Massage. 25th anniversary. 70-75. 858-274-3600.

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San Diego: October 11, 2005

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S A Y W H A T?

Chris Lonner

Age: 27
Occupation: Student researcher
Lives: La Jolla

My friends and I love playing Halo 2 by breaking out our video game
dang. A word that gets thrown around a lot in online gaming is
noob. It means someone who

isn't shifty at video games even
though they've played a ton. You
can also call your opponent (or your
friend) a noob when he or she uses
cheap maneuvers or figures out a
way to win in a less-than-

honorable way. We've started
using noob in daily conversation,
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LA JOLLA. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. $700. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. $895. 4444 Parks Street. 619-274-6772.

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LA JOLLA. Large, 2 bedroom. $1300. 6252 Windansea Drive. 619-224-6509.

LA JOLLA. 1 bedroom, $1150. 2 bedroom, $1390. 3 bedroom, $1850. 2735 Ocean Front Walk. 858-273-5979.

LA JOLLA. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. $1025/month. 10950 Hillside Drive. 619-462-6798.

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LA JOLLA. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. $1250. 1677 Ocean Front Walk. 858-273-5979.

LA JOLLA. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. $850. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. $750. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. $1200. 4444 Parks Street. 619-274-6772.

LA JOLLA. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. $895. 2995 South Mission. 619-252-5175.

LA JOLLA. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. $1250. 117 W. Prospect Drive. 619-224-6509.

LA JOLLA. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. $1200. 2995 South Mission. 619-252-5175.


LA JOLLA. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. $950. 4444 Parks Street. 619-274-6772.

LA JOLLA. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. $1150. 11000 Windansea Drive. 619-224-6509.

LA JOLLA. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. $1300. 5542 Windansea Drive. 619-224-6509.


LA Jolla. Large, 1 bedroom. $1125. 5542 Windansea Drive. 619-462-6798.

LA Jolla. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. $1300. 4010 Manchester. 619-858-8400.

LA Jolla. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. $1000 plus parking. 3245 South Ocean Front Walk. 619-937-0910.

LA Jolla. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. $900. 2 bedroom, $1150/up. 5495 Windansea Dr. 858-462-6798.

LA JOLLA. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. $1000. 5395 Napa Street. 619-294-3830.

LA JOLLA. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. $1195. 4010 Manchester. 619-858-8400.


LA JOLLA. 1 bedroom. $1150. 2 bedroom. $1390. 3 bedroom. $1850. 2735 Ocean Front Walk. 858-273-5979.

LA JOLLA. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. $1250. 117 W. Prospect Drive. 619-224-6509.

LA JOLLA. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. $1000/month. 1107 Victoria St. 619-462-6798.

LA JOLLA. 1 bedroom. $1100. 2 bedroom. $1400. 1107 Victoria St. 619-462-6798.

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ATTENTION: Honda/Acura Owners

As those of you familiar with our automotive repair shop, we like to introduce ourselves. We are a family-owned and operated general auto repair business. Our goal is simple—provide top-quality service and good, honest auto repair service. We have no interest in selling you unnecessary repair, and you don’t really need it. We simply believe in telling you like it is and telling you what you need to do. Although we enjoy selling you the part or the service that improves your vehicle’s performance, we would rather have you hire us for the service you want.

Jerry Sample, Jr. (General Manager) is an ASE Master Technician who is also Acura/Honda factory-trained. With over a decade of experience, including one year working as a mechanic, Jerry brings both local automotive knowledge and a broad view of auto repair. He has been a master technician for over 10 years. He has worked with all makes and models of vehicles and has a wealth of knowledge about the industry. Over time, customers are more likely to achieve satisfaction with our service because they are familiar with our name, feel comfortable coming back to see us, and have the assurance that they will be treated with respect.

Jerry Bryan (Service Manager) has over 30 years of experience in the automotive business. He is an ASE Certified Technician and has been with us for over 20 years. He is knowledgeable about the industry and has a wealth of knowledge about the vehicles we work on.

The quality of our customer service and the loyalty of our customers are the key to our success. Jerry Bryan is a member of the ASE (Automotive Service Excellence) organization, which is dedicated to promoting the highest standards of ethics, professionalism, and quality in the automotive repair industry.

We provide a wide range of services, from basic maintenance to complex repairs, including:

- Oil changes
- Tune-ups
- Engine repairs
- Brake service
- Transmission service
-Computer diagnostics
- Electrical repairs
- Emissions testing
- Tire service
- Safety inspections
- Preventative maintenance

In addition to our regular services, we also offer a variety of specialty services, such as:

- Acura/Acura oil changes
- Honda/Acura oil changes
- Honda/Acura tune-ups
- Honda/Acura transmission service
- Honda/Acura computer diagnostics
- Honda/Acura electrical repairs
- Honda/Acura emissions testing
- Honda/Acura tire service
- Honda/Acura safety inspections
- Honda/Acura preventative maintenance

We are committed to providing our customers with the highest quality service at a reasonable price. Our goal is to exceed your expectations and build long-term relationships with our customers. We look forward to serving you and your family's automotive needs.

ATTENTION: Honda/Acura Owners

Are you looking for a full-service repair shop that can handle all of your vehicle's needs? Look no further! We have been serving San Diego for over 20 years and have earned a reputation for providing high-quality service at a reasonable price.

With our ASE-certified technicians and state-of-the-art equipment, we can handle anything from basic maintenance to complex repairs. We offer a wide range of services, including:

- Oil changes
- Tune-ups
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If you’re looking for an auto repair shop that can handle all of your vehicle's needs, look no further! We have been serving San Diego for over 20 years and have earned a reputation for providing high-quality service at a reasonable price.

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LEAD STORY
— Ralph Whittington, 57, retired in 2000 as curator of the main reading room at the Library of Congress but was better known as the "King of Form" for his private collection that he recently sold (500 boxes of it) to the Museum of Sex in New York City. Whittington’s home (which he has shared with his mother since his wife left him) was, before the sale, “packed to the rafters,” said his contests-buyer to the Washington Post in August. “Downstairs, you had to walk side-to-side to get through the rooms.” Said Mom, “It’s something he loves. He sees men his age go to bars or on dope. But he [was] home day and night [indexing and cross-referencing]. That [gave] me peace of mind.”

Awesome!
— Ferruccio Pilenga recently turned out another class of graduates at his Italian Dog Rescue School, which he says is the only one in the world that trains canines (mostly Newfoundlands with some Labrador) to jump out of helicopters into rough waters for rescues at sea. Pilenga told London’s Independent in August that it takes about three months to teach them, and that they are of the most use in treacherous waters near NATO’s rescue boat would be shreded, but his dogs, on long leashes, can fight through flailing arms and get the victim to hold on while the dog is dragged to the rescue vessel.

Not Our Fault
— Dennis and Betty Hager filed a lawsuit in Wilmington, N.C., in July against the school system for causing them emotional pain and suffering by not stopping the love affair between their 16-year-old daughter and the school’s married 40-year-old track coach. However, the Hagers have already signed a form (to satisfy state law) to allow their daughter marry the coach.

— Helene de Gier filed a lawsuit earlier this year against the National Postcode Lottery of the Netherlands, claiming emotional distress from not winning even though she never entered. That particular lottery picks a geographical postal code at random and awards prizes to all of its residents who have entered that lottery. So many of her neighbors were flaunting prizes, she felt humiliated, she says. Seven people on her street won the equivalent of about $18 million each.

Latest Human Rights
— Zoroastrianism is just for the Kid: (1) One Alabama teacher, already fired but awaiting trial on a charge of raping a student, has not only received his regular paychecks for nearly two years and will continue to until the trial is over, but has also been awarded two routine raises, based on a 2004 state law boosting teachers’ rights. (2) The largest school district in Montreal, Quebec, was ordered by an arbitrator to rehire a teacher whom it had fired in 2004 for illegally failing to disclose a conviction for killing his wife. The arbitrator ruled the firing improper, in that homicide is unrelated to the teacher’s classroom work.

That’s & It’s a Good British Prisoner: Britain’s chief inspector of prisons, Anne Owers, included in a recent inspection report of facilities her advice that prison wardens try to improve respect for inmates by having guard address prisoners by their preferred names and keep on cell doors:

before entering. A guards’ association spokesman said the suggestion lacked even a “modicum” of sense.

Fine Points of the Law
— Louisiana prosecutors want the death penalty in the first trial for accused serial killer Sean Gillis, but to get that for an individual murderer, state law requires an “aggravating circumstance” beyond the murder, such as kidnapping or robbery. At an August hearing, a prosecutor said Gillis had “robbed” his first victim, that he had absconded with one of her arms and a part of a leg. Gillis’s lawyer argued that that was not “robbery.” In that those parts were merely “left over” from the homicide.

— In Abbotsford, Wis., in August, Harvey Miller, 43, and Edwin Marzinek, 35, were both ticketed for $411 while driving the same car, Miller for driving without his leg but was steering. Marzinek was operating the foot pedals. Both men argued to police that neither of them was, by himself, “operating” the car.

Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186 or to WeirdNewsTips@yahoo.com

WeirdNewsTips@yahoo.com

by Chuck Shepherd

© 2007

San Diego Reader, October 11, 2007


SOUTH PARK: 3 bedroom, 2 bath. 1200 sq ft. 2 car garage. Large lot. Great location. 10328 Sorrento Valley Blvd. 619-683-7638.

The Signs

I guess I should have known better. Perhaps I should have noticed her yellow-red, blotchy skin tone. Been wary of her too-perfect presentation. I could have called the references she offered. But she seemed so mature, so open in her communication, so professional. She even had a job — in a law office. Quite a departure from the previous seven prospective roommates.

Move-in day proceeded smoothly. Deposit check didn’t bounce, and first month’s rent was paid early. Her furniture fit perfectly, and she was clean and respectful. I should have known that it was too perfect.

Late on a Sunday night of the first week I received a phone call from a man asking if I could please come and pick up a friend of mine who was walking half-naked down a neighborhood street in Pacific Beach. He tells me that he got her name and my number from an address book in her purse. She is not coherent enough to remember where she lives and can’t find her car.

She is extremely intoxicated and apologetic on the drive home. Before I have a chance to ask her how this happened, she says that she is a recovering alcoholic and just had a couple of glasses of wine to forget a recent breakup. She promises that this is a one-time occurrence and that she will not drink again. She promises not to bring alcohol into our apartment. It’s after midnight, and I have a meeting at 8 a.m., so I keep the conversation short, but red flags fly throughout my dreams that night.

The next morning, as I walk out to the kitchen for my morning coffee, I see that our front door is wide open. I look out the door and see her dragging a liter of Bacardi and a case of beer up the long flight of stairs. I tell her she cannot bring that into the apartment and that she must look for a new home and move out by the end of the week. She explains that she must “come down” slowly from her binge and that only alcohol will ease her hangover. She is crying and mumbling something about not having anything to live for.

She starts drinking and soon passes out in the living room. I go into her room and find her phone book. I reach her mother, and she tells me that her daughter has created hell for the family for the past 30 years and deserves to drink herself to death. A friend of hers I reach confirms that she is past help and has been to rehab many times without success. Since she had finished half a liter of rum and had started on the beer — before 8:30 a.m. — I realize that I cannot leave her alone. Thoughts of finding her dead in my living room from alcohol poisoning lead me to call the police.

Four officers arrive within 20 minutes. They wake her and try to communicate. One tells me that there is nothing they can do since she is not a threat to me. I explain that she is definitely a threat to herself.

They handcuff her and escort her out of the apartment to a Medical Health Center. I notice that all of the bottles of wine and alcohol that I was saving for special occasions had been emptied overnight. I leave for work to face the consequences of missing my client meeting.

That night I toss and turn and finally fall asleep around 3 a.m. I am awakened three hours later by the phone. She is sober and apologetic, asking me to come and pick her up and bring her home since she has no transportation. I tell her that I will leave some of her clothes and toiletries outside the front door. The rest can be moved out when I return home from work. She swears at me and says that I am not being fair.

I never see her again. Her father calls to say he will move her belongings. Apparently, the paintings she has are worth a lot of money. They thank me for contacting them and trying to help their daughter. They say it’s too bad that I didn’t see the signs. I tell them that their daughter was a great actress.

It takes me a couple of months to summon the courage to try again. My ad states “references required and checked,” and I make the necessary phone calls since the signs are not always obvious.

Tell us the story of your roommate from hell and we will publish it and pay you ($100 for 500-2000 words).

E-mail story to roomie@sdreader.com

Or mail to:
San Diego Reader/Roomie
Box 85803
San Diego, CA 92186
**IN THE READER**

**Thirty Years Ago**

The phone is answered, and the voice I hear is Mort Sah's.

"In an article in the Los Angeles Times [August 8, 1977], you were quoted as saying that there should be 50 comedians doing what you are, but there aren't any.

"What about David Brenner, Robert Klein, Chevy Chase?"

"Brenner does the New York/airlineodies-axes bit, Klein is a traditional monologist, and Chase has a whole flock of writers who do his work. The same is true about women. Gra- cie Allen was funny. Carol Burnett is funny. Lily Tomlin thinks she's funny, but sometimes she's anti-working class."


**Twenty Years Ago**

Why would the Ralphs supermarket chain want to build a new store on the parking lot of the former Sports Arena FedMart? Ralphs already has a handsome wood-and-glass market in the Mid- way Towne Center, just a half mile west at Midway Drive and West Point Loma Boulevard.

— CITY LIGHTS: "FOOD CHAIN MAY THROW UP ANOTHER OUTLET," Neal Matthews, October 14, 1982

**Fifteen Years Ago**

Yeah, I work at a downtown hotel — let's call it the Farmer. Night manager. More like a glorified, janitor-bouncer-babysitter for a zoo-full of strange things, which are sometimes not quite human and sometimes all too human.

The electrical system has to be the living nightmare of every fireman in downtown San Diego. Open wires spliced to bare wires. Switches that have no covers and were probably conceived by Edison. Switches that invite involuntary electrocution. Bulbs hanging by exposed wires dangling from the ceiling.

— "RESERVATIONS," Lawrence Freeman, October 15, 1992

**Ten Years Ago**

He stands with a solid, bovine mixture of con- tentment and resignation until — BANG! — the bullet disappears into his skull and then his legs fold and he drops straight down and rolls on his side and kicks and gags as the eight-inch butcher saw knife saws an opening in his neck. A few more great kicks at the air and his motion stops, but the blood will keep pouring from that hole for a long while yet. The blood is blood-red; other reds do not describe it, it describes other reds. A girl washes the concrete with a hose while he bleeds out, and the blood feathers out in the water as they stream together toward a sewer grate, leaving long black clots that must be helped along by the direct spray of the hose.

Randi, a reticent 13-year-old girl, was "very fond of him. I couldn't watch him get shot." But she can watch him be skinned and gutted.

— "PISTOL PETE WAS FAT IN ALL THE RIGHT PLACES," Matthew Lickona, October 16, 1997

**Five Years Ago**

While David Westerfield prepares for life in prison or an endless series of appeals from death row, most San Diegos have overdosed on opinions about his guilt or innocence. One group that has not been heard from, however, is the inmates at downtown’s central jail, where Westerfield was held during his trial.

Michael Collins, 34, was jailed for possession of a methamphetamine pipe and spent none of his time watching the Westerfield trial. "None of the other inmates watched it either. We were wondering where he was. They all thought he was guilty. Me too. With all the forensics evidence? Yeah. You bet your ass. When the law gets you, the law gets you."

— CITY LIGHTS: "BURN HIM ALIVE," Robert Kumpal, October 10, 2002

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Life is good. Well, let’s just say my life is way better than yours. Just this week, I have slept with six different beautiful women. I have been in three different dope cities and dined at some of America’s best restaurants, most of it comped. I had a money-counting session with some koi fish Japanese guys I know — let’s just say it required a money counter. And I have done it all while puffing on cigarettes and being swathed in custom made Italian fabrics. By the way, how was your week?

But it always wasn’t like this. There are many moves and lessons I have picked up along the way, many during childhood. Here are some of them:

Get a Good Running Partner
Back in elementary school, first grade, I met one of my best friends, who became very instrumental in my becoming an International Playboy. The first day of school, we had a new kid come to class; let’s call him “Jason.” So, anyway, when the teacher was trying to go over our lessons, Jason starts picking up cockroaches and throwing them at all the little girls in our class. You can imagine that the shrieking from the girls was deafening. Personally, I was laughing my head off. He was soon sent out of class to sit in the hall. I noticed that the girls actually kind of liked him. He was too young to care, but I did catch it in my young skull that maybe being a “nice guy” wasn’t the best way to get girls.

Later, during recess, I saw Jason playing on the monkey bars, and I could see he had mad skills. Back flips off the monkey bars and such. I approached him. I think I said something like, “I know you’re new here and don’t have any friends. I really love your material. That whole cockroach thing was genius. You and I need to team up. I think we can do well together.” He agreed. He became my first “running partner.” See, I was a great idea man, and I needed someone with heart to help carry out my schemes. Jason was it. We pulled off a lot of great heists together, and later in life, Jason’s climbing ability, utter disrespect for authority, and fearlessness made him a great second-story man.

Style and Smoking
When I was in, I think, third grade, my family and I went on a trip to Northern Ireland. I remember my dad took me to meet some of my relatives — IRA, all of them. My uncle, who dressed in the Irish IRA height of fashion for those days — black leather jacket, black slacks, and Irish flat cap — was sitting on the back of a truck. Then I saw him take a “strike-anywhere” match, strike it on the bumper of the truck, and light his cigarette. I was awestruck. It was the coolest thing I had ever seen done in my young life (probably even cooler than Jason’s cockroach thing). Puro cool. Uncut raw like the Toro at Nobu Lon
don. I also noticed that two fly girls, Irish Lasses — one red	head with freckles, the other brunette — looked over at him and giggled. He subtly ignored them. There were so many things I learned that day. Not the least was that I realized I liked girls with freckles. Most importantly, I learned how to have true style, and that if you want true style, you are going to have to smoke. No way around it.

Cash and Making It
When I hit the fourth grade, I wanted to start making some dough like a bakery. I remember at the time that Bubble Yum and Bubblicious were in a marketing war. All the kids wanted the stuff. Bubblicious were in a marketing war. All the kids wanted the stuff. When I hit the fourth grade, I decided I was going to be the idea man, and I needed someone with heart to help carry out my idea. He agreed.

Genius. You and I need to love your material. That’s $4,950. 760-436-0528.
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**Title:** The G Manifesto: The Guide to Getting More out of Life
**Address:** [www.thegmanifesto.com](http://www.thegmanifesto.com)

**About:** Michael Porfirio Mason
**From:** Little Italy/Miami Beach
**Blogging since:** September 2005
**Post date:** August 9, 2007
**Post title:** The Making of an International Playboy
AUSTRIA IS NOT MEXICO. That’s the slogan Ron and I devised after our third day in Vienna. The whole slogan goes, “Hey, settle down, man. This isn’t Mexico,” which means: There are rules you aren’t following and I am going to bitch you out for it because we are a stern people. This is not a loose country where you can run wild and naked in the streets. You will behave while staying in Austria!

Half of Austria had bitched us out a hot minute after we’d stumbled from the cabin of our plane. “This is not where you wait in line for the bankomat!” a woman barked at me. I’d been in Vienna half the time it takes to boil an egg and already somebody had gone berserk on my ass.

“Vy are you stoppin’ here!” a man in a striped sweater and argyle socks screamed, shaking and spitting, at Ron. “Zis is the bike path. You cannot stop your bike here!” And the perturbed gentleman rang his little bell to punctuate his smug statement with a blaring, brrring.

Polizei pulled us over for running a red light on bikes. A woman barked at us for sitting in the wrong spot and eating ice cream. “I’m not making that up! You cannot eat that here!” she hollered in my face, her bulbous nose and jawline flexed with every angry syllable. We were in a park. Apparently, the rule is no ice cream in Viennese parks. I had no idea.

Across that whole city I overstepped yellow lines, broke invisible barriers, and fled waiting from authorities because of a law that I wasn’t aware of.

Part of me wanted to quit, pack it in, spend the rest of my European vacation in a hotel room watching German game shows and drinking mai tais from room service. The other half were in a park. Apparently, the rule is no ice cream in Viennese parks. I had no idea.

By my fifth day in Vienna, I was Viennese. I wore my scarf tight against my stiff collar and a sunlamp. Open your mouth; pay no attention to “Thank you,” which sounds like “Thank you” in Hungarian stops and powder somebody right in the beak.

If “thank you” is enough, VH1.

“Hey, settle down, man! This isn’t Mexico!”

I figure becoming a repo man is my last legal "Your dealer alternative" repossessor, and I only need to find something that will ride a cow. I only need to find something that will ride a cow’s milk and put it in cartons and stick in fluorescent-shelved grocery stores, what do baby cows eat? It makes you think, doesn’t it? No, it doesn’t. Because you don’t care about this nation’s baby bovine crisis — you’re kind of a jerk.

THE SALT-N-PEPA SHOW
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13

VH1 8:00 P.M.

Welcome to marriage. Now, all the world is your nightstand, but there’s a fly in your water. It’s the middle of the night, your throat is dry like the floor of an auto-body shop, and you reach for it. You don’t need to turn on the lamp. Open your mouth; pay no attention to the tiny flapping wings. Till death, buddy. Till DEATH!

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14

LIFE IS WILD
CW 8:00 P.M.

This one time in Hungary, I got a little blitzed on Slovakian beer and stumbled out onto the mooslin cobblestone. On a bridge, I passed a man, he sat on the thick, rough concrete ledge and looked into the flowing Danube River, the color of strong tea. I knew he would jump if I didn’t do something, so I pulled him by his shoulders and pinned him to a street lamp and shouted at him. He didn’t speak English and my Hungarian stops were in a park. Apparently, the rule is no ice cream in Viennese parks. I had no idea.

An hour of holding him there and he said it — “kosonome” — and we separated and walked away from each other.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 15

RODEO
FSN 8:00 P.M.

Once I get funding, my chihuahua rodeo will be bigger than McDonald’s. Think about it.

VH1 8:00 P.M.

I never thought it would really happen. Every night I don my long black wig, grip my black microphone, and belt out about eight different renditions of “What a Man.” Sometimes I slow it down. Other times I’m feeling spunky and I really swing my hips and shake my stuffed bra. I never expected this, though. I don’t know if “thank you” is enough, VH1.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17

I WANT TO LOOK LIKE A HIGH SCHOOL CHEER-LEADER AGAIN
CMT 5:30 P.M.

Oh, honey, you really can’t live your life like this. Sure, it would’ve been nice to marry Biff Banhoff, captain of the football team, but that’s over now. Your stroky droy job and those pleated jeans aren’t winning any contests, but the kid who sold you printer cartridges yesterday looked down your blouse. It’s the little victories we grasp to get us by now, sweetheart. The little victories.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18

REPO MEN: STEALING FOR A LIVING
DISCOVERY TIMES 8:00 P.M.

I figure becoming a repo man is my last legal chance to pistol-whip somebody. It looks so cool in the movies. You bust out a revolver if the customer doesn’t pay you what you want. I never expected this, though. I don’t know if “thank you” is enough, VH1.

Holy fancy Christmas. I mean, I’ve hoped, but I never thought it would really happen. Every night I don my long black wig, grip my black microphone, and belt out about eight different renditions of “What a Man.” Sometimes I slow it down. Other times I’m feeling spunky and I really swing my hips and shake my stuffed bra. I never expected this, though. I don’t know if “thank you” is enough, VH1.