When Ira Clifton Copley of Aurora, Illinois, first saw San Diego on a trip with his ailing brother to the Hotel del Coronado in 1891, it was a dingy town on the southern fringe of California, a quick stopover on runs to the Mexican border, a bordello-filled paradise for Pacific Fleet sailors, a dead end for the railroad, a place of palm trees, whitewashed wood-frame cottages, and a blinding sun.

(Story continued on page 22)
### Reader

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**ADVERTISING**

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- Career Training
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- Computers
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- Electronics
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- Career Training
- Getaways
- Great Escapes
- Health and Beauty
- Help Wanted
- Instruction
- Music
- Research Studies
- Services
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- Wedding Guide

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  ✔ Over 10,000 procedures performed

“My vision is amazing after LASIK! Thanks, Dr. Parikh!” – Chargers WR Kasim Osgood, #81
Pro Bowl 2007

**San Diego Reader**
February 28, 2008

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**Manuscript Submissions**
Submissions must be e-mailed to Reader.Manuscripts@gmail.com. Hard copy manuscripts will not be accepted.

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**National Advertising**
Linda Flinders

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### Item of the Week

**$799**

*After *$200* manufacturer’s rebate*

- **Viper** Auto Security
  - Car alarm
    - Starter kill, lights flash, door protection, impact sensor with warnaway and code-hopping technology. Limited lifetime warranty.
    - **$189** installed

- **Autopage**
  - Remote car alarm
    - Code-hopping state-of-the-art car alarm. Starter kill, shock sensor with warnaway flashing parking lights, panic feature. Installation charges not included.
    - **$49**

- **Kenwood**
  - In-dash stereo
    - 200-watt AM/FM, detachable-face CD, iPod jack, and RCA output to add amplifier. Authorized Kenwood dealer. Installation charges not included.
    - **$69**

- **Infinity Speakers**
  - Buy 1 pair of any high-performance Infinity Reference Series car speakers at our everyday low price & get the second pair at half price. Hurry! This deal won’t last long!!!!!!!!

- **Sony Super System Sale!!!**
  - One 180 Detachable Face AM/FM/CD/MP3 player with iPod input, iPod cable and wireless remote control
    - Two Sony 300-watt 6.5” 2-way speakers
    - Two Sony 190-watt 6.5” 2-way speakers
    - One Sony Xplod baseball cap
    - Authorized Sony dealer. Installation charges not included.
    - **$149** complete system

- **Panasonic**
  - 2008 In-dash navigation
    - San Diego’s best deal on a 2008 model Panasonic in-dash navigation
    - San Diego's best deal on a 2008 model Panasonic 7” video touchscreen with navigation and DVD.
      - 12 million points of interest
      - 30GB hard drive built in
      - Plays DVD, CD, MP3
      - You can add Bluetooth or satellite radio
    - Authorized Panasonic dealer. Installation includes all parts and labor.
    - **$899** installed

- **Parrot**
  - Bluetooth Cell Phone Hands-Free System
    - Be safe – Operate your Bluetooth cell phone hands-free! Listen through your existing car speakers. Talk wirelessly. Installation charges not included.
    - **$99**

- **Touch-screen DVD**
  - AM/FM motorized 7” touch-screen DVD. iPod ready. Authorized Jensen dealer.
    - Installation charges not included.
    - **$349**

- **Backup camera and screen**
  - Avoid a backup accident with a rear-view color license plate camera and a rear-view mirror screen.
    - Installation charges not included.
    - **$499** MSRP
    - **$249** for both

- **iPod wired directly to your stereo**
  - Call for price!

- **Rockford Fosgate bass package sale**
  - 12” subwoofer and 800-watt max amplifier. Authorized Rockford Fosgate dealer. Installation charges not included.
    - Get a free box with this purchase.
    - **$199**

---

**Car Audio Heaven**

- **Sports Arena**
  - 619-574-0770
  - 3713 Rosecrans Street

- **Kearny Mesa**
  - 858-505-9099
  - 8199 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard

- **College**
  - 619-287-4422
  - 4951 El Cajon Boulevard

---

“I had a touch-screen DVD and 2 headrest monitors installed in my new GMC. They beat everyone’s price, the quality of the work was superior and they even gave me a ride home. They are the best!”

– Carmel S., Solana Beach
The truth about LASIK prices

Why you would want to pay $599 instead of $299 for Standard LASIK

Global Laser Vision

$599* per eye

All prescriptions
Our low price of $599 is for ANY nearsighted prescription without astigmatism. In our ad prices you will not see words such as "Prices As Low As..." or "Prices Starting At..." All procedures can be financed with $0 down, 0% interest (OAC).

Top 1% of Refractive Surgeons
Our surgeons are Harvard- and UCSD-educated Refractive Surgery Specialists who are recognized as being in the top 1% of their field in the United States.

45,000 local surgeries
Dr. Yaghouti and Dr. Lakhani have performed over 45,000 surgeries in San Diego.

Personal care
You can always see your surgeon before or after your surgery. Our dedicated surgeons, Dr. Yaghouti and Dr. Lakhani, are at Global Laser Center Monday through Saturday.

Our thorough eye exams are always complimentary
No hidden fees or charges ever.

We offer the latest technology
We use the latest technology and leading-edge equipment such as the VISX Star S4 Excimer lasers equipped with Wavefront and Iris Registration Technologies – affording you 98% 20/20 vision after one year (FDA clinical trial using VISX Custom LASIK). We also offer All-Laser LASIK Intralase with 60Hz Fourth Generation Technology.

Other Centers

$299 per eye

How many patients realistically qualify for this price?
The advertised low price of $299 per eye is to get you in the door. Actual price is based on your prescription: i.e., $299 is offered for prescriptions up to only - 1.25 nearsightedness without astigmatism. Only a very SMALL percentage (less than 1%) of patients qualify for this price.

Are the surgeons Refractive Surgery Specialists?
The independent surgeons affiliated with these centers may or may not be Refractive Surgery Specialists.

What is the true experience of your surgeon that is pertinent to you?
Advertised number of surgeries performed reflects a combined total of hundreds of surgeons at these corporate-owned centers nationwide. It does not address the experience of the individual doctor who will perform surgery on your eyes in San Diego.

Is your surgeon always available before and after your surgery?
Procedures are performed by an independent surgeon who typically is only present to perform surgery. At many of these corporate-run LASIK centers the surgeon is available only at the center on the day of surgery.

Will you pay an additional fee for a complete examination?
Many of these centers charge upwards of $100 as an additional fee for a complete examination to determine your candidacy.

*Offer is for new patients only with no prior history of refractive surgery. Offer valid at San Diego location only. Cannot be combined with any other offers. No cash value. Must present coupon at time of consultation. Offer cannot be applied retroactively to prior procedures. Some restrictions may apply. Surgery must be performed by 3/15/08.
**BREAKING NEWS**

**Busted** Back in July 2001, then–San Diego mayor Dick Murphy and the rest of the city council voted to give a cool $1 million of taxpayer money to a small nonprofit outfit called the San Diego Public Library Foundation, which promised to raise contributions for construction of a new downtown library. The group, then presided over by lobbyist James Dawe and La Jolla socialite and fundraising executive Jim Bowers, spent much of the cash on consulting fees and public relations, with relatively little to show in the way of donations. Despite that embarrassment, the group has lived on, each year promising to raise $85 million or so in private funds that the City says is needed to build a “world class” central library near the baseball stadium.

The foundation has missed repeated deadlines to come up with at least $30 million as a show of progress to its ultimate goal. The group reportedly told the Union-Tribune late last year that it has raised at least $15 million toward its goal, but a new report by Eduardo Luna, the City’s internal auditor, has cast fresh doubts on the group’s credibility.

Luna’s audit, undertaken after a complaint was phoned in to the City’s whistleblower hotline, concludes that the foundation “has not always retained records necessary to clearly document contract compliance and proper authorization of expenditures of City contributions.” Luna determined that, as of May of last year, $858,000 of the City’s initial $1 million payment was gone, leaving a balance of $142,000. At the same time, the foundation reported it was holding only about $1.5 million in contributions in trust “for the benefit of the San Diego Public Library System.” (At the end of last June, according to the foundation’s audited financial report, its total assets were worth only $1,201,138. By that time, the remainder of the City’s million-dollar contribution was down to $112,448.)

In addition, the foundation wasn’t able to document completely the status of its pledged donations: “Although there is a written statement from one donor, it implies additional terms are necessary in order to make the promise binding,” Luna’s report says. “We requested documentation to support the pledges, but the Library staff was unable to provide information to support the pledges.”

Making things worse, the foundation “used City contributions to pay for fiscal year 2006 administrative expenses, including $72,000 paid to a consultant for prior year services. The fiscal year 2005 notes to the audited financial statements did not disclose this liability.” In its response to Luna’s report, the foundation noted that “the audit took place in the first year of new administration for the Library Foundation, including less than two months into the tenure of a new office manager who was just beginning to re-organize some systems and procedures.” Foundation officials did not respond to requests for comment made through the library’s fundraising office.

**Juiced old boys** Old politics never die, they just become consultants and fade onto the advisory boards of taxpayer-funded organizations, where they make wealthy new friends, line up clients, and peddle their influence in ever-widening circles. Take the case of Steve Peace and Marty Wilson, brand-new members of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography Advisory Council. It’s described on the institution’s website as “a high-level group of nationally and internationally prominent individuals who provide advice, assistance, and support to Scripps and its director.” The description goes on to say that council members use “their experience, connections, influence, and wealth on behalf of the institution to do things for us that we would have difficulty doing ourselves” and “provide access to people we might not otherwise be able to contact.” Though they come from different political parties, Peace and Wilson are peas from the same San Diego pod. Peace, the Democrat, spent years in the state assembly and senate, where he became notorious for shouting down fellow legislators he disagreed with. But his bio blurb on the Scripps website remembers it differently: “Senator Peace has been credited with presiding over forums that have been described by the press and citizen groups as ‘bipartisan,’ ‘exhaustive’ and ‘open to a full airing of views.’ ” After he was termed out, Peace signed on as “senior advisor” to Padres owner John Moores. Scripps says the ex-senator also “provides independent consulting on public policy issues to private clients.”

Republican Marty Wilson started out as a campaign aide to then–San Diego mayor Pete Wilson. As the mayor moved up the political ladder, Marty Wilson, no relation, followed. These days, according to his Scripps bio, he’s executive director of Arnold Schwarzenegger’s California Recovery Team, which, though the bio doesn’t mention it, is the governor’s campaign fund-raising committee. In December, Wilson’s Sacramento-based company, Wilson-Miller Communications, was paid $75,000 by the campaign against Proposition 93, the failed term limit extension measure.

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**Now, the Hangover**

By Don Bauder

Normally, consumers pull the U.S. out of a recession. This year, they may push us into one. Consumers have loaded themselves with far too much debt. With housing prices plummeting, the game of using the home as a piggy bank — financing consumption by tapping rising home values — is over, while unemployment and inflation both rise. For years, consumption was buoyed by that housing bubble. POP!! Trips to the shopping mall are already shorter and less frequent.

In theory, San Diegans should feel the pain more because they experienced the earlier ecstasy much more intensely. Some local economists, however, are keeping their fingers crossed. They hope that strength in industries such as telecom and tourism will offset the decline in consumer spending. None of these experts can be considered bullish, however. All expect an economic slowdown, and all realize that San Diego, the rest of coastal California, and the East Coast could be more vulnerable than inland areas that plodded along during the boom years.

Consumers are wading in deep debt duff, economist and Forbes columnist A. Gary Shilling of Springfield, New Jersey, points out. The payments that families make to service their mortgage and consumer debt are now within a hair of the all-time high of 140 percent of spendable income; in 1994 such payments were below 70 percent.

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**Neal Obermeyer**

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

By Dorian Hargrove

On a Sunday morning in Hillcrest, at the intersection of Vermont and Cleveland, realtors Dan Cassidy and Mary Young fight the wind and rain to tape banners to the sides of a bus. The banners read Repo Express Foreclosure Bus Tour. Two blocks away, Dan Webb, a realtor and the tour coordinator, greets guests in the offices of the Coshow Real Estate Group, Repo Express headquarters. Webb prints out nametags and passes out plastic folders holding information sheets on bank-owned properties. Each sheet includes a property’s asking price, original listing price, number of days on the market, and a comparative sales analysis. Extra sheets are provided for notes.

The free three-and-a-half-hour Repo Express tour takes house hunters to newly listed REOs, or real estate–owned properties, in a 25-passenger bus, rented for $60 per hour. The tour focuses on presenting “only the best values for foreclosed properties,” Webb says. He and his colleagues stop at nine or ten houses or condos that they deem the best deals, allowing passengers time to look inside and talk to an agent, who has unlocked the front door and can answer any questions.

Webb got the idea for a bus tour while watching an ABC World News piece that featured the Repo Home Tour in Stockton, California, home-foreclosure capital of the country. “I had taped the story,” he said. “I said to Carla Coshow, our broker, that you’ve got to come watch this on the TiVo. She came over and watched it, and I said that we had a short window and that we’ve got to get on this as soon as possible. She said we are a go, and within ten days we had created a new brand.”

By the next day, the new brand had its own website, Repoexpresstour.com, and multiple “creative” postings on craigslist. Webb was evasive about advertising strategies. “I did a mass distribution of press releases,” he said. “I have experience in marketing, and I did a pretty big blast, and I have a bulk marketer who also did one.”

The blasts paid off. On the debut tour of the Repo Express, on Saturday, January 26, crews from ABC World News and Channel 10 News, as well as a reporter and photographer from the Union-Tribune, packed their gear onto the bus. At noon the next day, the day the Union-Tribune’s story ran, the bus departed on its second, fully booked tour. This tour was for first-time buyers in search of good deals in North Park, Normal Heights, and University Heights.

Among the passengers was Darrell Hess, an administrator at San Diego State University who moved here from Chicago. Hess saw an ad for the Repo Express on craigslist. “I moved here in May of 2006 at the height of the housing real estate boom,” he said. “Prices were so inflated that I couldn’t afford anything at that time, and a correction was imminent. I started looking in December 2007.”

Three rows in front of Hess sat Amy Monroe, personal chef and owner of Uptown Chef catering company. She sat next to her parents and family friends. Monroe and her family knew exactly what they wanted. “Prices were so inflated,” she said, “preferably with gas, and a lot of storage space for my containers.”

As the bus pulled up to the first listing, a one-bedroom, one-bath, 569-square-foot Normal Heights condo, Webb and Coshow informed the passengers of the condo’s amenities and said that the listing price of $149,000 offered great value. Webb led the pack toward the unit, while Coshow waited for the last passenger to exit the bus.

Repo’s passengers waited in single-file lines to peer into the tiny bathroom and small bedroom and nudged into one another in bumper-car fashion in the small living room, where agent Paul Rucker stood. Some scattered to take a peek at the air conditioner or water heater.

After ten minutes, the passengers filed back onto the bus and talked among one another, as they did after visits to each property. One passenger, sitting down next to her companion, asked if she could smell the scent of stale beer. “This must have been the party bus last night.” Both laughed it off and eagerly studied the printout for the next stop.

Others, like Eric C., who was on the tour for the second time in two days, circled key points on the printout and discussed with other passengers the location, amenities, and value of the condo.

A few stops later, inside a two-bedroom, 820-square-foot Craftsman built in 1926 and offered at $309,900, the passengers began tossing out ideas for interior design and renovations. The chatter bounced off the walls of the small living room. Forgotten in the excitement was the fact that in this room, at a recent time, the previous owner had coped with the details of losing his or her home.

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After ten minutes, the passengers filed back onto the bus and talked among one another, as they did after visits to each property. One passenger, sitting down next to her companion, asked if she could smell the scent of stale beer. “This must have been the party bus last night.” Both laughed it off and eagerly studied the printout for the next stop.

Others, like Eric C., who was on the tour for the second time in two days, circled key points on the printout and discussed with other passengers the location, amenities, and value of the condo.

A few stops later, inside a two-bedroom, 820-square-foot Craftsman built in 1926 and offered at $309,900, the passengers began tossing out ideas for interior design and renovations. The chatter bounced off the walls of the small living room. Forgotten in the excitement was the fact that in this room, at a recent time, the previous owner had coped with the details of losing his or her home.
Now the hangover
continued from page 6

The personal savings rate is zero. In the early 1980s it was above 12 percent. Shilling thinks a national recession has already started. He predicts that housing prices will decline 25 percent from their peak of October 2005 to a trough in 2010. “On average, anyone with a mortgage has only 31 percent equity, so a 25 percent price decline will be devastating,” says Shilling. He predicts that housing sales will drop 60 percent over the period.

Shilling believes the recession will be the second worst since World War II. Economic growth will shrink by 3.4 percent from the fourth quarter of last year to the fourth quarter of this year. The only worse recessionary decline since the war was the 3.7 percent contraction in 1957–1958. In the current recession, he expects consumer spending to drop by 1.6 percent, peak to trough. In 1957–1958, consumer spending dropped by only 6.5 percent. Ditto for the severe 1973–1975 recession. In six of the other eight postwar recessions, consumer spending actually grew. Today, “The states that had the biggest housing bubbles are suffering the biggest busts,” says Shilling. That includes California, of course. “In a number of cities, foreclosures for sale are more than 50 percent of listings,” says Shilling. Uh-oh. That suggests San Diego is among the worst. It is. Foreclosures here are 49.7 percent of total sales listings. But if it’s any comfort, the data are worse in other large California markets: Riverside–San Bernardino (55.2 percent), Sacramento (62.7 percent), and Oakland (63 percent). San Diego’s housing bubble expanded faster and faster than the bubble in almost any city. Already, prices are down more than 17 percent from the peak in fall of 2005. Home sales are already down 72 percent from the peak. So San Diego’s price plunge is already getting close to Shilling’s 25 percent prediction. The sales drop has already exceeded Shilling’s national forecast of 60 percent. And Shilling is known as a pessimist.

“San Diego had a bigger run-up in prices, so it’s vulnerable to a bigger fall-down,” says James Hamilton, economist at the University of California, San Diego, who specializes in studying both housing and economic contractions. “The data coming in suggest house price declines in Southern California are bigger than in most parts of the nation. I think there is reason to be more worried [about consumer debt] than elsewhere. To the extent our real estate price declines are going to be bigger, we are more vulnerable to a negative shock.” Hamilton, however, is “not as certain as some people are that the equity withdrawal [from homes] was the whole story for the consumption boom, although it must have been part of it.” One offshoot: San Diego’s tech, biotech, telecom, and tourist industries are still strong.

Hamilton is not sure whether the United States will go into recession. His fellow UCSD economist, Ross Starr, thinks the national recession has already begun. It won’t be particularly deep and will end in the middle of this year, “but then there will be a couple of years of what people will call a ‘jobless recovery,’” because of continued weakness in housing. “Because San Diego and all of Southern California had such a vigorous residential sector the last five years, the decline in construction will have a strong regional impact.”

Alan Gin, economist at the University of San Diego, says that San Diego’s last downturn in the early part of the century was caused in part by the bursting of the stock market bubble. “One of the things that helped lift us out was rising equity in homes,” he says. People used a variety of financing methods to borrow on those rising values “and spent it on cars and remodeling.” But he is not sure that in the 2002–2005 housing price run-up San Diegans pulled all that much out of their homes. “If somebody’s house ran up from $300,000 to $700,000 and then dropped to $500,000, how much equity did they tap?” he asks. Possibly in an...
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“Real estate will continue to suffer,” he says, but the tech-related sectors should do well unless the U.S. economy becomes as weak as Shilling says it will. Then there could be problems.

Kelly Cunningham, economist for the San Diego Institute for Policy Research, says, “Things are slowing down. Before, people could spend because they could refinace their homes, get second and third mortgages.” But now that spigot has been shut down. “Retail stores will see slower sales.” San Diegans are loaded with debt: “We’re overextended here more than in other places,” he says. “We certainly had a bubble in housing prices that needs to be brought down to reality, although our reality is higher than the reality elsewhere.” Cunningham says San Diego is not overbuilt in housing. “People still want to live here,” he says. The county has to get back to a price/affordability equilibrium. Then those homes in inventory will be sold and more will be built. Although San Diegans are overleveraged and consumer purchases will slow, “Our economic drivers are not dependent on consumer spending,” he says. (However, others point out that consumer spending is 72 percent of the U.S. economy and at least as much of the San Diego economy.) Cunningham thinks that strength in tech sectors will offset the weakness in construction and real estate. San Diego will add 14,000 jobs this year, up from 11,000 last year, he says. —

Repoland bus tour
continued from page 1

the value of what’s out there and have the chance to become first-time homeowners in San Diego.”

“We’re not focusing on the negative part of this,” Dan Webb said, “because let’s talk about what would happen if these properties don’t get sold. You would have vacant homes and vacant buildings, and that’s not good for neighborhoods. And we didn’t have anything to do with the front side of this, you know; we weren’t part of the foreclosure process, and we don’t know what happened. Our goal is to give the story a happy ending.”

While Webb might be searching for happy endings, both for those looking to buy a home and for Repo Express, if the trends of 2007 continue into 2008, it can only mean that more people will lose their homes. According to DataQuick Information Systems, the number of foreclosures in San Diego County skyrocketed in 2007, rising 353 percent, totaling 7349 cases. Julie Rice is one of those whose house is currently in the process of foreclosure. The payments on her 40-year loan jumped from $2000 to nearly $4500 per month, and she became aware that she owed more than her house was worth. Following the advice of some people in the mortgage industry, she walked away from her home. Despite her unfortunate experience, Rice sees the benefits of Repo Express tours. “It’s a little depressing to capitalize on people’s lives falling apart, but from a marketing standpoint, I think it’s a great idea. I worked in real estate for years, so I realize that gimmicks are great for getting buyers interested. A foreclosure bus probably makes people feel like they’re getting really awesome deals.”
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San Diego Reader February 28, 2008
LETTERS

We welcome letters pertaining to the contents of the Reader.
Phone them in at 619-235-3000, ext. 460, address them to
Letters to the Editor, Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186-5803;
fax them to 619-531-0494; or use our web page at
SanDiegoReader.com/letters.
Include your name, address, and telephone number.
Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

My Disgust

I have to let you know of my disgust with the Reader
after seeing the cover story “To Live and Die in Ocean-
side” (February 21). I am a professional person and live
in Oceanside and don’t even believe that you allow such a
story on the front page of your Reader. I used to work
for the San Diego County district attorney technical
services division, and I saw dead gangbangers come
across my desk on a daily basis, 90 percent from Southeast or the barrio.
How can you slam Oceanside so freely? I don’t think
you have your facts together, as our local law en-
forcement is on top of the gangs and violence. I’m
sorry to say that the Reader has lost me as a reader.
Name Withheld
via email

Really Disgusted

I work with a group of teachers. I’m a teacher here
in San Diego, in one of the high schools, and I
don’t really want to name the high school, but we as a group —
there are 5 or 6 of us, and I know 10 or 15 others — we
were really disgusted with the choice of picture that
you have on the Reader this
week (“To Live and Die in Oceanside,” Cover Story, February 21). It looks like you’re glorifying gan-
g activity or gang membership, and it’s really appalling.
I think it’s a bad message to send to San Diego and our youth, who glorify and
really look up to this stuff because a lot of them are
misled, without parents and families. Whoever
made that choice to put that picture of the gang
member right there, with his head cut off and all the
gang activity on his body, it’s really disgusting, and I
think it’s low class, and I think it sends a bad mes-
sage, and it’s a very bad choice. Please think about
stuff that you do before you do it.
Tom Cottner

Skewed View

Regarding your cover story “To Live and Die in Ocean-
side” (February 21), I would like to express my disap-
pointment. I was born and raised in San Diego and
have lived in Oceanside for the last 20 years and find it
a wonderful coastal com-
munity, full of terrific fam-
ily-oriented, well-educated
professionals in lovely, safe
neighborhoods. Your article continues to perpetuate
the negative reputation of the city I live in, and frankly,
we don’t deserve it. The ar-
ticle states Oceanside has 600 gang members. This is
less than 1 percent of our
total population, I really do
find it offensive the Reader
chose to focus on the least
common denominator of our
city and give the im-
pression we are a gang-ridden,
unsafe community. It is
the wrong impression, and it is disappointing the
Reader is portraying a very
old, tired, skewed view of
this beautiful city.
Nikki Kuech
via email

Wrong Image

I’m sending this email about the recent cover and article in the Reader about Ocean-
side (“To Live and Die in Ocean-
side,” Cover Story, February 21). The cover is a bare-chested
man with
gang names associated
with Oceanside is just plain of-
fensive to us who have
worked so hard at changing
the image of Oceanside and
have worked on wonderful new developments in this
city. The image is just
wrong for an up-and-com-
ing cultural arts city with a
world-class art museum,
two historic theaters, a fab-
ulous Mission San Luis Rey,
pier and harbor, concert
in the park, and many
other cultural events. De-
vlopers have discovered
Oceanside, and new hotels,
office space, restaurants,
and retail are moving into the
downtown area.

This type of journalism is just sensationalistic to pro-
competitive your paper. Oceanside is
metamorphosing into a
highly desirable area. We
are a city comprising many
neighborhoods filled with
families and professionals,
each with our own unique
cultural character and value that
comprise the vibrant beach
and cultural arts city that
we are today.

The San Diego Union-
Tribune and the North
County Times have pro-
duced honest and positive yet balanced editorial re-
garding the incredible
change that has taken place
over many years in our

city. We hope that the
Reader will consider better
continued on page 62

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I wrote this in October 2005: “The thing about the future is, nobody knows what will happen. So, we don’t know what will happen to Michelle Wie. Still, not knowing never stopped anyone from making a bet. Nike and Sony are betting $10 million that Michelle Wie will be the next Tiger Woods.”

There is a reason — make that, reasons, why two greedy corporations spit up 10 million bucks a year to a child. Michelle Wie, at 10, qualified for the U.S. Women’s Amateur Public Links Championship. At 12, she qualified for an LPGA tournament. At 13, she became the youngest player to make the cut in an LPGA major (Kraft Nabisco Championship), finishing ninth. Three months later she wins the Women’s Amateur Public Links tournament. At 14, she plays her first tournament on the (men’s) PGA Tour (Sony Open) and missed the cut by one stroke. Two months later she’s back at the Kraft Nabisco Championship and finishes fourth. At 15, she places second in the LPGA Championship, then flies to France, ties for second in the Evian Masters, then onto the Women’s British Open and a third place tie. The biggest jackpot in sports is Tiger Woods, and Michelle looked like someone who could prosper at his altitude. She can drive the ball like Tiger Woods — 300 yards. She’s attractive. She’s a girl. If Wie could dominate women’s golf and do well on the men’s tour, she could out-earn Tiger. People and businesses that make their money living off athletes drooled and then drooled some more.

So, how has she done since October 2005? Well, Wie became a professional golfer on September 1, 2005. And then not many were interested. The biggest event Wie played in 2005 was the Kraft Nabisco Championship at Mission Hills, finishing 19th out of 20 players. It happens.

So far, so groovy. But then, in July, another leaf drops. She plays in the (men’s) PGA John Deere Classic. After one complete round and nine holes of a second round, Wie is eight over par and ten shots over what is thought to be the cut number. She withdrew from the tournament citing heat exhaustion.

It happens.

Two weeks later, Wie tied for second at the Evan Masters and then finished tied for 26th at the Women’s British Open. In September, she competed in the (men’s) Omega European Masters and finished last among 156 competitors, 15 strokes over par after two rounds.

A week later she competed in the (men’s) PGA Tour at the 84 Lumber Classic, finished 14 over par after two rounds, 23 strokes behind the leaders, nailing down last place, November 2006, and it’s the (men’s) Japan Golf Tour, Casio World Open again. Wie claimed last place among professional golfers. 2007 was worse. Here are the headlines: Missed cut, withdrew, 84th place, withdrew, 69th place, missed cut, missed cut, missed cut, and finished 19th out of 20 players.

On the happy side of the street, Forbes ranked Wie as the fourth-highest moneymaker under the age of 25, reporting that she makes $19 million a year. And then it gets interesting. Part II next week.
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Diary of a Diva

People at other tables were enjoying the summery February weekend in their own ways; they read in silence or chatted about the perfect weather in low voices, like reverent parishioners marveling at a glorious temple. Amid the normalcy that was the patio at Peet’s Coffee & Tea, there sat two loud, vivacious, contradictory men — one with a full beard, the other clean-shaven; one straight, one gay; one Republican, the other Democrat; one with a career in military-war-gaming, one with a career in landscape design; one my father, the other his younger brother.

—Excerpt from “Tale of Two Brothers” by Barbarella, published February 20, 2008

Sheep & Goats

Reimann preached and prayed down amid the people, chanted quietly up at the altar, and processed the elements of the Eucharist from one end of the church to the other. But for all the bowing and kissing and processing and incense, there was a great emphasis on the immaterial. (God was addressed as the King Invisible, and the final blessing invoked the Bodiless Powers of Heaven.) Even as the Liturgy of the Eucharist took center stage, Reimann prayed, “No one who is bound with the desires and pleasures of the flesh is worthy to approach...or serve thee.” And the song sung during the Eucharist itself made reference to the life after this: “Receive the Body of Christ. Taste the fountain of immortality.”

—Excerpt from “St. Anthony the Great Antiochian Orthodox Church” by Mike Lickona, published February 13, 2008

Reading

What are you reading?
"Sex, Drugs, and Cocoa Puffs, by Chuck Klosterman"

Tell me about it.
“It’s not really based on anything — it’s, like, pop culture compared to actual life. In one chapter, he talks about The Real World on MTV; in another, he goes on tour with a Guns N’ Roses tribute band; and then there’s a chapter where he’s coaching a Little League team. It’s random, but he’s a really brilliant writer. I can really relate to the stuff in it because I’m all about pop culture as well.”

—Excerpt from the article “Sex, Drugs, and Cocoa Puffs” by Sonia Eliot, published February 20, 2008

These columns in the Reader feature videos that complement the writing!
• Crasher • Sheep & Goats • Tin Fork • Diary of a Diva • Say What? • Reading • Surf Diego

View them today at: www.SDReader.com
The breath of heaven bush encroaches on my garden statuary. In the back yard, the trumpet vine escapes into the neighbor’s yard. And the branches of our rose bushes ramble into the sky and bend under their own weight, presenting thorny hazards for anyone brave (or stupid) enough to amble up the front walk, usually my kids. I’ve dried a lot of tears and applied Band-Aids to too many scratches lately. Our yard needs a pruning.

It’s been a year since hubby Patrick has tackled any detailed yard work. His last encounter with the pruners produced two casualties—one bent pruner, one scratched and angry amateur gardener. So, as we ate an apricot crostini and sipped coffee on our veranda one late winter Saturday, I gazed at the ragged rose bushes, wondering how to ask him to prune them. Then I remembered, he’s a sucker for new toys. I’ll get him a pair of really good pruning shears. I thought, Then I won’t have to ask him. He’ll be so eager to try them out, he’ll run out and trim everything in sight.

I leaned over and sliced another piece of pastry for my handsome hubby and slipped into the house to call my friend Kate who works with local floral designer Bradley Snyder. Kate said she’d ask him for a recommendation. Snyder’s reply: “Felco trimmers are the best in the world. When you go to the higher end, where you get the blade and everything else. Then if you go and cut on a clean plant, you are actually transporting the disease with it. The Felco pruner has a base, or anvil, on one side and the blade on the other. The blade cuts directly to the anvil, kind of like a squeezing motion. It has a very sharp blade. The Felco pruners come with various-size blades, depending on what you are cutting, and different sizes according to the hand size.

“Felco sells pruners that are designed especially for a small hand, and they also sell some that have a rotating handle so that it doesn’t give you blisters rubbing against your hands. As you squeeze it, the handle actually rotates in your hand, so it never puts tremendous pressure on one point of the hand. Typically, with shears, as you squeeze, they are not going to move on your hand.”

“I’ll get him a pair of really good pruning shears. I thought, Then I won’t have to ask him. He’ll be so eager to try them out, he’ll run out and trim everything in sight.”

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“With pruning shears, you get what you pay for. Most of the imports tend to be what we call knock-offs. If you use them heavily, they tend to fall apart. When you go into a consistent work, you want a better tool. The more common U.S. brand is the Corona brand pruners, which are good quality pruners. The Corona shear is stamped steel. It is all one piece—the blade and everything else. Then if you go to the higher end, where you get into a more professional style, there is the Swiss-made Felco. With a Felco, it all comes apart, so you can replace the blade or you can replace the anvil portion of the pruner. So, it makes for a longer life of the tool.”

“Anvil? ‘There are all kinds of pruners,” Palfox explained. “We offer some called bypass pruners, where the blade cuts across the stationary part; so, it actually cuts through it.”

“Felco sells pruners that are designed especially for a small hand, and they also sell some that have a rotating handle so that it doesn’t give you blisters rubbing against your hands. As you squeeze it, the handle actually rotates in your hand, so it never puts tremendous pressure on one point of the hand. Typically, with shears, as you squeeze, they are not going to move on your hand.”

“Felco typically runs from about $55 to over $100. A Corona shear runs you somewhere from $25 up to about $40, depending on what you are getting. We don’t carry the whole selection of replaceable parts for Felco, but we can order them and get most within a week.”

“I’ll get him a pair of really good pruning shears. I thought, Then I won’t have to ask him. He’ll be so eager to try them out, he’ll run out and trim everything in sight.”

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Mini Me

by Barbarella

The car has become a secular sanctuary for the individual, his shrine to the self, his mobile Walden Pond.

— Edward McDonagh

One damp December morning, while frantically twisting the key this way and that in an attempt to pinpoint the elusive left-to-right combination that would allow me to open the damn door, a magical thought entered my mind: What if I got a new car? Having finally gained access, I sat in the driver’s seat, laid my hands on the wheel at the “10” and “2” positions, and dismissed the idea of a new car as ludicrous. This is reality, I thought, as I buckled my loose and sagging safety belt and slid the corroded automatic gearshift into reverse. My 1998 Toyota Corolla was practical, reliable, and familiar. A new car would not only be unnecessary, it would be downright frivolous. So what if my defective shocks made my teeth clatter every time I ran over a pebble? Who cares if I never liked the mocha latte color of the interior? Sure, the Barb-mobile was a bit dilapidated, but it got me from point A to point B, and that, I have always said, is all I ever wanted out of a car. My modest vehicle was a point of pride. It said, “Look how sensible I am.” And, anyway, I told myself, if I needed to get another car, I would get a used model of the same comfortable and dependable variety.

A week after the traitorous idea had entered and then summarily been shoed from my head, David asked if I’d go with him to the car show being held at the convention center. Because he knew I was interested in motor vehicles as I was in the tone of a pouty teenager. “It’s just like all the rest, only smaller.”

When I stopped glaring at him, I let my eyes roam around the inside of the car. “Ooh, what’s this stuff?” I asked, fiddling with some oddly shaped, gleaming knobs. “Is this mood lighting? Check it out, beh beh, it’s all blue. Now it’s red. Now it’s blue.”

As anyone who has been to an auto-dealer expo might imagine, I was horribly disappointed. I walked into the convention center expecting the car-show version of Angelina Jolie in Mr. & Mrs. Smith, and what I got was Olivia Newton-John in Xanadu. I saw only one concept car, and it wasn’t anything at all like a slick flying saucer — it was boxy and dorky looking, like a Styrofoam station wagon; the only “cool” part about it was the interior seating and its “outside the box” orangey-pink lighting. With the exception of three fancy, expensive cars, which I was not allowed near enough to see, the giant space was taken up with row after row of the same old boring sedans and SUVs.

David and I walked around, occasionally trying out the driver’s seat of this or that nondescript make and model. I have a few friends who are able to name cars at a glance, and for this I confer upon them savant status. I identify cars by color and not much else. Four wheels, a few doors — they kind of all look alike. Only 30 minutes had passed when I began to feel the weight of dejection. “I’m calling it,” I said. “This sucks, let’s bail.”

“Let’s just walk the last two rows over there and then we can go get something to eat.”

“Fine,” I grumbled. I trudged along behind David until he stopped next to a Mini Cooper. “Want to sit in this one?” he asked.

“I’ve sat in, like, five already,” I said in the tone of a pouty teenager. “It’s just like all the rest, only smaller.”

“Come on, I think you’ll like it.” David pulled my arm, opened the door, and gently pushed me into the driver’s seat. When I stopped glaring at him, I let my eyes roam around the inside of the car. “Ohh, what’s this stuff?” I asked, fiddling with some oddly shaped, gleaming knobs. “Is this mood lighting? Check it out, beh beh, it’s all blue. Now it’s red. Now it’s blue. Wow, from in here, it looks like...a toy.” As with anything that catches my interest, I was at first enchanted with the funky little car, and then I became fixated.

One’s car, like one’s dog, can speak volumes about its owner. I wondered what my Corolla had been saying behind my back all these years. A nondescript, champagne-colored sedan like thousands of others didn’t
The “King” sez:

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Copley himself was no shrinking violet. A gas and power company magnate and ex-congressman from the 11th district in northern Illinois, he was targeted by George William Norris, a populist U.S. senator from Nebraska, as an enemy of the people. In June of 1929, Norris hauled Copley before a senate committee and charged, as reported by TIME magazine, that Copley’s growing chain of 29 small-town daily newspapers, which he founded in 1905 when he purchased the Aurora Beacon, had been financed by “power trust” money and “connected with the interests of Samuel Insull, public utility pope of Chicago.”

Copley threatened to sue. “If he will state this outside the Senate,” Copley said about Norris and his accusations, “I will bring him promptly before a Court of Justice,” adding: “A Senator of the United States or an agency of the government of the United States has no right to injure my reputation or my business by making or publishing reckless and baseless charges affecting me and my business integrity…I have no securities whatever in public utilities. There is not a dollar of utility money invested in my newspapers.”

Whether or not he was guilty as Norris charged, the publisher was used to playing hardball. He had gotten into the newspaper business in the first place to settle a political score, according to an account in The Thin Gold Watch, a friendly history of the Copley Press written in 1964 by ex-Copley editor Walter J. Swan-son: “In December, 1905, I bought my first newspaper and used that pretty vigorously to write ‘ex’ in front of a United
States senator who lived in my precinct,” Copley said in a letter to a friend.

For Copley, promotion of commerce and favored politicians, rather than the reporting of uncomfortable facts, was what newspapers were good for. “Believing that the people of Aurora will always boost a booster and knock a knocker,” he editorialized in 1905, “The Aurora Beacon will constantly pursue the policy of shouting for Aurora, first, last, and all the time.

“The Beacon is here to boost and not to knock. This position cannot fail to meet with the favor of every citizen who holds the welfare of Aurora in his heart. Here’s the slogan: ‘Boost with the Beacon.”

Copley purchased both the San Diego Union and the Evening Tribune in 1928. Not all that much had changed about San Diego during the intervening three decades since his original visit. It was still a rough-hewn Podunk place, catering to vice-seekers, hooch-smugglers, Mexican money-launderers, and real-estate speculators, with little in the way of legitimate industry aside from the U.S. Navy and a nascent airplane business that had crafted the Spirit of St. Louis out of simple wood and fiber.

The brothers John D. and Adolph Spreckels, heirs to a San Francisco sugar beet and shipping fortune, had owned the Union since 1890 and the Tribune since 1901. They treated San Diego as a division of the family conglomerate; in addition to banks, hotels, theaters, and the Mission Beach bathhouse and dancing casino, they also owned the city’s streetcar line and some of its water supply. After Adolph died in 1924, and John followed in 1926, Copley patiently awaited his turn in their seat of power.

Shortly after he purchased
the two San Diego papers, a dinner was arranged in Copley’s honor at the Hotel del Coronado. He rose to speak, assuring the crowd that his operating style was far different from that of the Spreckelses: “These papers are not to be personal organs of myself or anyone else. I have no political ambitions. I have no connection with any public utility anywhere and no connection with any other business than the newspaper business anywhere.”

But Copley quickly began to consolidate his hold over the city and its politics. Within months, he purchased and shuttered the Independent, a competing newspaper established by local businessmen George Marston and Ed Fletcher in an attempt to counter the power of the Spreckelses’ interests. Copley also bought the 20-room Spreckels mansion in Coronado.

The Great Depression that soon engulfed the nation was tough on San Diego, but not for Ira Copley, whose personal fortune allowed him to buy up county real estate for pennies on the dollar. No matter how hard up they were, people still had to read the newspapers, gladly paying a few nickels a day to catch up on the city’s crime, politics, marriages, and deaths.

Without television or the Internet to compete, advertisers flocked to purchase ads in the big broadsheets of the Union and Tribune to flog their department stores, subdivisions, car dealerships, gas stations, and other offerings. And there was other business: during the height of the Depression, the list of county property-tax delinquencies grew to 64 pages.

Like the Spreckels family before him, Copley gained a stranglehold over the city’s media and never let go, forging a profitable alliance with landowners and developers. Copley and his newspapers became the oxygen that the town’s businesses needed to breathe; without his say-so, they would suffocate. San Diego was a much smaller and more parochial town than Los Angeles, which made it all the easier for Copley to rule. In 1930, L.A. boasted a population of 1,238,048; that of San Diego was just 147,897.

When author Upton Sinclair ran for governor in the 1934 Democratic primary on a progressive platform he labeled “End Poverty in California,” he took San Diego County by 3000 votes. After the Copley papers repeatedly savaged him during the general election, he lost the county by 10,000 votes. It was just one of many moves Copley made to keep the lid on the city’s radicals and reformers during hard times.

In 1939, Copley targeted the Sun, a scrappy, left-leaning evening daily founded by E.W. Scripps, the wealthy and eccentric Ohio newspaper magnate who had adopted the county at the turn of the previous century and built a sprawling family compound on thousands of acres he called Miramar Ranch. A muckraker at heart, Scripps used the Sun to attack the Spreckelses’ interests, including their 1910 bid for a 50-year city streetcar monopoly.

“We look John D. Spreckels squarely in the eyes and say: We defy...
you!” wrote the Sun.

“Upon that issue there can be no middle ground. Either you are the master and hold in your hand the welfare of every man, woman and child in this town, or the people are their own masters, and will know how to deal with your insolent challenge.”

But Scripps died in 1926 on his yacht off the west coast of Africa, and the Sun had since struggled against the Copley onslaught. “The days of the crusading newspaper and of poorly nourished multiple newspapers were drawing to a close,” observed Union editor emeritus Richard F. Pourade in The Rising Tide, part of a seven-volume San Diego history commissioned by the Copley Press in the 1960s. “The Sun, with its excess of reformist zeal and its occasional support of socialistic causes, had lost much of the confidence of the community.”
As war raged in Europe, Copley bought the San Diego Union and merged it with the Evening Tribune in 1939. With Pearl Harbor only two years in the future, San Diego was poised on the brink of explosive economic growth that would make the Depression and the reformers and revolutionaries it spawned a distant memory. As Copley’s Pourade dismissively noted, “The fever of social change was running down.”

As it turned out, there would be one more San Diego newspaper left for Copley’s heirs to vanquish. The Daily Journal was founded in March 1944 by 37-year-old Clinton Dotson McKinnon, a San Diego Democrat “little bigger than an outsized jockey,” reported TIME magazine that month.

“Newspaper competition comes next week to war-big San Diego (estimated pop. 390,000; 1940 pop. 203,341),” TIME said. “The Journal will break the San Diego general newspaper monopoly of rich, myopic, 79-year-old Colonel Ira Clifton Copley, owner of the arch-Republican morning Union (circ. 44,359) and evening Tribune-Sun (circ. 74,954).

“Turned down by War Manpower’s production urgency committee on a plea to lift his employment ceiling from 42, McKinnon won an appeal to the local War Manpower Commission. His argument, backed by Mayor Harley Knox, labor, religious and other groups; there was ‘community hardship,’ in that freedom of the press existed only for Colonel Copley’s papers.”

Ira Copley died at 83 in November 1947, bequeathing control of his San Diego empire to his adopted sons Jim and Bill. The same year, McKinnon sold the Journal to an investor from West Virginia and ran for Congress.

As Pourade noted in his San Diego history, “The Union-Tribune Publishing Company, freed of wartime newspaper restrictions which had been imposed on The San Diego Union and Evening Tribune, moved vigorously against its new competitor.”

Three years later, the Copley brothers bought San Diego’s Evening Tribune. As McKinnon later observed, “The Journal was a newspaper left to a community hardship, in that freedom of the press existed only for Colonel Copley’s papers.”

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If you have mild to moderate high blood pressure, you may be eligible to participate in a voluntary clinical research study of an investigational drug.

Study participants will receive all investigational study medication and all study-related testing and examinations at no cost. Compensation for time and travel may be available.

If interested, please contact: 858-277-7177 or visit: www.marginc.com

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**BOTOX® as low as $5.40/unit**

BOTOX® injections take as little as 15 minutes and last 3 to 9 months. $8 per unit for first area, $6 per unit second area, $5.40 per unit third area. Introductory price (25 units per area).

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Expires 3/15/08. For weight control New patients only.

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We have new and innovative medications and regimens to help you lose weight without depleting your body of the nutrients it needs and help you feel satisfied.

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**RESEARCH STUDIES**

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**“Thank You”**

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**Generations of men and women have helped in the development of new treatments for Alzheimer’s, Parkinson’s, diabetes and arthritis...and you could help too.**

Covance needs healthy men and women to take part in a clinical research study.

To qualify you must be:
- A healthy male or female age 18 or older
- Able to take part in an outpatient study – no overnight stays required

Participants will receive all study-related exams and investigational medication at no cost and will receive compensation up to $1,000 for time and participation.

Think you can help?
Then call: 866-818-3253 or visit: TestWithTheBest.com today.

Please reference study 6962-178

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**Covance**

The Development Services Company

9665 Chesapeake Dr., Ste. 200
San Diego, CA
Depression
steals more than your mood, it robs you of life’s pleasures.
Are you between the ages of 18 and 55 and finding life hard to tolerate? Has your energy and motivation to enjoy your life decreased? Do you find even simple pleasures empty? If so, you may qualify to try an investigational medication being studied for depression.

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

If you participate, there is no cost to you...instead:
• You receive up to $500 for your participation.
• You receive no-cost research study medication and medical care.
• No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.

Anxiety
doesn’t just stress your mind.
We now know it can...
• Decrease your immune response
• Decrease your physical and mental functioning
• Increase fats in the bloodstream
• Interfere with sleep
• Be mistaken for medical conditions

Are you a Good Sleeper between 21 and 50 years of age?
If so, you may qualify to participate in a research study at our sleep lab.
This study involves no drug therapy; instead, the study tests an investigational noninvasive device. The duration of the study will be approximately 2 weeks, including 3 visits to the sleep lab.

Every study conducted by California Clinical Trials is staffed by a team of physicians and medical professionals trained to place your comfort and well-being first.
Qualified volunteers will be compensated up to $450 depending on your level of involvement in the study. If interested, please call.

Anxiety

We’re looking for volunteers with
Migraine Headaches
If you are between the ages of 18 and 65, in good health and suffer from an average of 2 or more migraines monthly, you may qualify to try an investigational medication being studied for the treatment of migraine headaches.

Every research 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 $250 for three study visits.
• You receive no-cost study-related medication and medical care.
• No reports are made to employers, schools, or insurance companies.

If you are between the ages of 18 and 50, you may qualify to take part in a research study of an investigational medication for Generalized Anxiety Disorder.
Every study conducted by California Clinical Trials is staffed by a team of skilled and experienced physicians and medical professionals trained to place your comfort and well-being first.

If you participate, there is no cost to you...instead:
• You receive up to $400 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.
lican Party. “I worked for the paper for about a year,” Bill said. “The whole idea was that I was going to start at the bottom and work up and sort of take over with my brother. But, well, our politics differed.

“We weren’t really terribly close,” Bill said. “None of us were blood-related. Though we had more or less an identical environment. There wasn’t any real closeness.” The ideological rift between them only widened: “Well, he went right and I went further left. You know, we never really came to any agreement. So it was impossible to think of working together on the newspapers. I got out of that very early.”

Bill, a friend of Man Ray, the avant-garde artist who worked in Hollywood from 1940 to 1951, moved east and became a painter and a contemporary art collector. In the mid ’50s, he sued Jim to liquidate the Copley empire; after a bitter legal battle, the permanently estranged brothers reached an agreement to buy Bill out of the company. Bill’s departure from the scene, coupled with the postwar demise of Clin- ton McKinnon’s Daily Journal, meant that Jim was now freer than ever to impose his will on San Diego and its politics.

As Jim began to consolidate his hold on the Copley Press, the nation’s politics were veering sharply to the right. The death of Franklin D. Roosevelt and the end of his New Deal, coupled with the defeat in 1947 of U.S.-backed Chiang Kai-shek by the Communist Chinese forces of Mao Zedong, gave Republicans the upper hand. The GOP blamed Harry Truman and the Democrats for “losing China” and claimed that Communist spies had infiltrated every level of the federal government.

In 1946, 130 or so miles north of San Diego, a young Navy veteran named Richard M. Nixon ran for Congress from a semirural district centered in Yorba Linda. He had been handpicked by the “Candidate and Fact Finding Committee,” a group of Republican businessmen, to take on incumbent Jerry Voorhis, a New Deal Democrat who had got-
If you take daily medicine to fight chronic pain, you may be at risk for ulcers.

Researchers in your area are studying an investigational medication that may provide pain relief and reduce your risk of gastric ulcers. You may qualify to enroll if you:

- Have a condition requiring daily non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) therapy for at least six months
- Are between the ages of 18 and 49 with a history of an uncomplicated ulcer within the last five years; or are over age 50 (history of ulcers not required)

Qualified participants will receive all study-related medical care and diagnostic testing at no cost, and may be compensated for their time and travel.

To find out if you qualify, call: 858-277-7177
or visit: www.marginc.com

Medical Associates Research Group

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: SDSUCUTA@hotmail.com
http://nas.psy.sdsu.edu
Center for Understanding and Treating Anxiety
6386 Alvarado Court, Suite 301, San Diego

Excessive worries?

Are your worries excessive and uncontrollable? Do you experience fatigue, insomnia, irritability?

CONFIDENTIAL help is available. You may be eligible to receive free treatment as part of a clinical trial of a computerized treatment program at the San Diego State University Psychology Department.

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

Alzheimer’s Disease

FEELING HOPELESS? A new investigational medication is available as part of a research study.

Are you or someone you love:
• Suffering from mild to moderate Alzheimer’s Disease?
• Taking Aricept®, Exelon®, Razadyne®, or Reminyl® for the treatment of Alzheimer’s Disease? • Between 55 and 90 years of age?
• In overall good health? • Not living in a nursing home?

Affiliated Research Institute is conducting a research study on Alzheimer’s Disease. Qualified participants will receive at no cost:
• Study medication • Medical evaluation by a board-certified medical doctor
• Laboratory tests
• Supervised care by medical professionals as it relates to the study
• Compensation for time and travel • Health insurance is not required

If you are interested in learning more about this study, please contact:
(619) 688-6565
See our website: www.ari-inc.com

Sadness? Low energy? Trouble sleeping? Can’t concentrate?

These are symptoms of Depression!

Are you:
• Between the ages of 18 and 70?
• In overall good health?
• Currently experiencing these symptoms?

If you answered yes to all of these questions, you may be eligible for our investigational drug research study. If you qualify and choose to participate, you will receive study medication, physician consultations, study-related medical examinations, laboratory evaluations and follow-up visits at no charge. Health insurance is not required and compensation for time and travel is provided.

If you are interested in learning more about this study, please call:
(619) 688-6565
See our website: www.ari-inc.com

Is your current Anxiety medication not working?

Are you:
• Currently taking one of the following: Cymbalta, Lexapro, Paxil or Effexor for the treatment of Generalized Anxiety Disorder?
• Still having trouble sitting still or finding it impossible to simply relax?
• Currently suffering from obesity?

If you answered yes to all of these questions and are available for study-related visits for a year, you may be eligible for our investigational drug research study. If eligible, you will receive medical evaluations, including blood tests and electrocardiograms, nutritional counseling, investigational medication treatment, and visits to the clinic at no charge.

For more information about this study, please contact:
(619) 688-6565
or visit us online at: www.ari-inc.com

Tired of the weight?

A Type II diabetic?

Are you:
• A Type II diabetic? • Between 18 and 70 years of age?
• In overall good health? • A non-smoker for at least 3 months?
• Currently suffering from obesity?

If you answered yes to all these questions and are available for study-related visits for a year, you may be eligible for our investigational drug research study. If eligible, you will receive medical evaluations, including blood tests and electrocardiograms, nutritional counseling, investigational medication treatment, and visits to the clinic at no charge.

For more information about this study, please contact:
(619) 688-6565
or visit us online at: www.ari-inc.com
ten his first taste of politics as a volunteer in the 1934 gubernatorial campaign of Upton Sinclair. Nixon ousted Voorhis and four years later ran for U.S. Senate.

He beat incumbent Democratic Sen. Helen Gahagan Douglas, calling her “pink right down to her underwear.” Two years after that, Nixon was elected vice president. It was a stunningly rapid rise to power. Copley was not a member of Nixon’s innermost circle, but his zeal and willingness to put the services of his newspaper empire at Nixon’s disposal caught the attention of the future president. Their go-between was Herbert G. Klein, a former sports editor of the Daily Trojan, the student newspaper of the University of Southern California, his alma mater.

Klein first signed on with the Copley Press as a $13-a-week copyboy at the Alhambra Post-Advocate. He was the paper’s news editor when he first met Nixon at the outset of his 1946 congressional campaign. In each of Nixon’s subsequent campaigns, Klein was given a leave of absence by Jim Copley to serve as Nixon’s publicist and press secretary.

“The newspaper paid Klein’s salary during the campaign,” writes Nixon scholar Irwin F. Gellman in *The Con-
**Do You Suffer From Recurrent Genital Herpes?**

We are conducting a research study with an investigational medication to see if it helps reduce the healing time for genital herpes outbreaks.

To qualify, you must be at least 18 years of age, medically diagnosed with genital herpes, and be in good general health.

Qualified participants will receive:
- Study medication
- Laboratory tests
- Study-related physical exams
- Compensation for time and travel

For more information, call: 619-521-2841

**Medical Center for Clinical Research**

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**HEALTHY MALES WANTED!**

Profil Institute is looking for healthy male volunteers to participate in a clinical research study evaluating a previously approved medication.

You may qualify if you are:
- 18 to 50 years of age
- Not having major health problems
- Not currently taking prescription or over-the-counter medications
- A non-smoker for at least 6 months

You may be compensated up to $1,800 (some overnight stays required)

For more information, call (619) 788-9216

Profil
Institute for Clinical Research,
865 Third Avenue Suite #100
Chula Vista, CA 91911

---

**We need 12 volunteers only**

Profil Institute for Clinical Research is conducting a clinical research study testing an investigational medication in Type 2 diabetes adults.

Are you…
- A Type 2 diabetic controlling your diabetes with diet and exercise or Metformin monotherapy?
- Between 18 and 65 years old?
- Otherwise healthy?

If you answered “YES” to any of the above questions, you may qualify for this clinical trial.

Qualified participants will receive:
- Study-related physical exams and lab work at no charge
- Compensation up to $2000 (2 overnights required)

For more information, please contact
Toll-free: 1-866-308-7427
Local: 619-409-1244/619-409-1257
E-mail: studies@profil-research.com

---

**CONSTIPATION**

Straining All The Time…Doesn’t Matter What I Eat

A 9-week clinical trial for men and women between 18 and 75 years of age who struggle with the discomfort and straining associated with chronic constipation is underway. An oral investigational medication is being studied to evaluate the safety, tolerability and effectiveness in adult subjects with chronic constipation.

To possibly qualify:
- Male or female, between 18 and 75 years of age
- Have a history of chronic constipation (fewer than 3 bowel movements per week) for at least 6 months
- No history of abdominal surgery or abnormal EKG

Participants may receive at no cost:
- Study-related exam and consultation with a board-certified specialist
- Study-related labs, EKG and study medications
- Compensation for your time and travel

Interested, call: 619-521-2841

Medical Center for Clinical Research
DEPRESSION

is a common and treatable illness. However, finding the right treatment for each individual can be difficult. If you are currently taking a Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitor (SSRI) for your depression and find that you are still depressed, you may qualify for a research study at the La Jolla VA for treatment-resistant depression.

This study offers the possibility of treatment augmentation with a form of the vitamin folic acid to see if it may boost the effectiveness of your current medication or placebo, individual counseling and compensation for travel. All information is confidential.

For more information, please call one of our study staff at the La Jolla VA:

Ellen Solorzano: (858) 642-3913
Bernadette Di Toro: (858) 552-7598

If you are 18-65 and are experiencing such symptoms of depression as feeling worthless, guilty, sad or blue; if you have lost interest in things, lack energy and concentration, you may qualify.

For more information, please call one of our study staff at the La Jolla VA: Ellen Solorzano: (858) 642-3913 Bernadette Di Toro: (858) 552-7598

Attn: Heavy Drinkers

Researchers at The Scripps Research Institute are working to develop new treatments for people with alcohol problems.

Is your current alcohol use causing problems with your family, your work, your life? If you want to stop drinking, The Pearson Center for Alcoholism and Addiction Research is conducting a clinical trial to help you reach that goal.

Qualified participants receive lab tests, medication or placebo, individual counseling and compensation for travel. All information is confidential.

Call: 858-784-7867 (STOP)
Or visit: www.pearsoncenter.org

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.

Are you taking one of these medications?

Seroquel (Quetiapine)
Risperdal (Risperidone)
Zyprexa (Olanzapine)

Medical researchers at UCSD are currently conducting an outpatient research study investigating an experimental drug (AZD3480) for cognitive deficits (problems thinking). We are looking for people aged 18-55 with schizophrenia who smoke cigarettes.

AZD3480 is an experimental drug not approved by the FDA. This drug is under investigation and being compared to a placebo (an inactive tablet like a sugar pill).

For more information call:
1-866-UC PRICE
(1-866-827-7423)

Medical evaluations and study drug will be provided at no cost. Eligible participants will also receive financial compensation for time and travel.

Do you 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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Here’s a small sample to get you inspired!

#### $70 IPL Fotofacial

- **First time clients only. Offer expires March 31, 2008. Expiration dates are renewed the last week of each month.**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indulge Skin Care</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Free Skin Analysis, Facials, Chemical Peels, Microdermabrasion, Personalized Professional Skin Care Programs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**4111 Randolph Street, 619-236-FACE (3223)**

Reader Coupons 619-236-3000

#### 2-for-1 personal training

- **Offer valid for two adults. Restrictions apply. Offer expires March 31, 2008. Expiration dates are renewed the last week of each month.**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optimum Condition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Custom personal training and fitness training. We come to your office or home.</td>
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</table>

**619-236-4993**

Reader Coupons 619-236-3000

#### Free 90-day supply of Propecia

- **With surgery, minimum 1,000 graft procedure. Offer expires March 31, 2008. Expiration dates are renewed the last week of each month.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ross Medical Hair Restoration, Inc.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Natural-looking hairline, stereo microscopic follicle dissection, scalp evaluated with 200x power video microscope camera.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**4150 Regents Park Row, Suite 245, La Jolla, 858-546-0060**

Reader Coupons 619-236-3000

#### $500 off LASIK Custom

- **$250 off classic. $250 off CK. $100 off Phenyle for amniotic. $500 off Biliparoplasty (upper & lower). Not valid with certain plans/insurance. Cannot be combined with other offers. Must bring ad. Offer expires March 31, 2008. Expiration dates are renewed the last week of each month.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>West Coast Eyecare</th>
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<tr>
<td>$10 off optic or contact lens exam (new fit only). 30% off 2nd pair of glasses.</td>
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</tbody>
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**1-800-631-4600**

www.westcoasteyecare.com

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- **Aqua Day Spa Body scrub and massage $99**
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- **ashlyng.com Free custom CD**
- **Bare SkinCare $25 Brazilian wax**
- **Beauty by Judy 15% off any service**
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- **Champlia’s Beauty Center Sports massage $39**
- **Chula Vista Yoga Center 10 days of yoga $10**
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- **Cosmetic Laser & Skin RejuvenationBotas $9 per unit**
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- **enigma, professional piercing $5 off body piercing**
- **Extreme Smile Makeover $100 off Invagination**
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**San Diego Reader February 24, 2008**
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Pete Wilson

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“looked fresher; Dick looked tired, and I thought it was a shame that his suit did not appear too well on the set that I was looking at. “Also, Kennedy’s expression seemed to indicate that he was ready for anything, whereas Dick’s expression was very studious, but to the point where it looked almost like he was mad or disturbed. I certainly hope we can do better in future exchanges.”

Copley wrote Nixon himself a few days later: “Dear Dick: As you know, I am going to do everything possible through the Copley Newspapers to assist you in your campaign. I feel so vehemently that we need you as the next President of the United States. “I wish you Godspeed, and am rooting for your election in November. Please do not hesitate to call on my organization if we can help you.”

Nixon responded the next month: “The all-out assistance you are giving us — ranging from the loan of Herb Klein and [San Diego Union reporter] Peter Kaye to the help on the San Diego programs — is most gratifying. I only wish we had more like you!” Copley was proud of his contribution, later noting, “In 1960, California went for Nixon by
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Minimum Surgery is only $1999

*Cannot be combined with other offers. First-time patients only.
As during all previous conflicts of the 20th Century, San Diego was vital to the war effort. Coronado-based warships plying the Vietnamese coast and deltas. Miramar-trained fighter squadrons dueled with MIGs over Hanoi. Iron-workers labored in the bowels of the Navy Rework Facility. Much of the local economy still depended heavily on the Navy payroll.

When sailors came home from the sea, they spent their liberty at the peep shows and honky-tonks strung out along downtown’s lower Broadway. When they were killed in action, they were put to rest at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery on Point Loma. To Copley and many of the readers of the Union and Evening Tribune, waging the war until absolute victory over the Vietnamese Communists was a matter of faith.

By the mid-1960s, however, there was something new in the town’s political mix. True to the booster roots of his father, Copley had led the crusade to build a new University of California campus on Torrey Pines mesa. The growing city owned thousands of acres of open space remaining from a Spanish land grant. After a Copley-backed referendum campaign in 1958, the city’s voters easily approved ceding a big chunk of the coveted property to the state in exchange for the promised economic and cultural riches the university would bring.

UC delivered the promised material wealth; it also brought to town something else Copley and his conservative business allies had not bargained for. Anti-war radicals, led by German philosopher Herbert Marcuse, a scholar of Hegel and Marx, took up residence there and began talking revolution.

As resistance to the war grew, so did San Diego street protests. The city had seen nothing like them since the darkest days of the Great Depression, when radicals clashed with nightstick-wielding policemen, and the Copley papers railed against the “vicious Reds” besieging the city. In the 1960s, Copley photographers recall being dispatched to the rallies at UCSD and taking hundreds of pictures of the student demonstrators; few if any of the photographs ever made the paper. The rest, the old timers believed, were being sent to the FBI for analysis.

Among the protestors were many of Marcuse’s graduate students. In 1966 one of them was 24-year-old Lowell Bergman, the future muckraker and 60 Minutes producer, who decided to start an underground newspaper. “The spark was the incessant appearance of editorials in the San Diego Union-Tribune...”
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the violence against the paper was “essentially a rehash of a Wall Street Journal story.”

The protracted war, the revelations of Watergate, a powerful Democratic Congress, and the Washington press corps, especially columnist Jack Anderson — who blew the whistle on the administration’s corrupt financing of San Diego’s aborted bid for the 1972 GOP convention, personally orchestrated by Nixon and Copley — all finally combined to bring down the roof on San Diego’s old-boy establishment.

One fact could not be disputed: Jim Copley and his newspapers, ignoring the avalanche of national coverage, protected Smith and his friends virtually until the very day in June 1973 when federal agents marched into Smith’s office at the United States National Bank and shut him down. At the time, it was the biggest bank collapse in American history.

Four months later, on October 6, 1973, Jim Copley died of a brain tumor, the same night the first copies of the Union rolled off the presses of the paper’s new printing plant in Mission Valley. He was just 57. The Copley newspapers had hidden his lengthy illness from the public, and even his closest executives had little clue to the succession plan. Copley CEO Robert Letts Jones, Stanford alum and all-around good old boy who had been a loyal company stalwart since the mid-1950s, was confident he had been chosen by Jim to carry on.

No outsider can say what really happened during that epic transition. Jim’s letters and papers are still locked away in the vaults of the Copley Library in La Jolla. But what later became clear through legal records was that, as Jim lay dying at Scripps Memorial Hospital, his second wife Helen engineered a bedside coup.

Before his death, Copley signed a revised will and a trust agreement, effectively giving Helen complete control over the estate and casting his two children, adopted during his first marriage, into a gilded wilderness. Jones was dumped, and the spin

Helen was street-smart, but that was about it.

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machine of the Copley Press went to work for its new master.

It became a national story. Nixon was soon to fall, feminism was on the rise, and East Coast magazine editors — as always, tantalized by San Diego’s small-town reputation for sun and sin — devised a Horatio Alger angle. Iowa-born Helen Copley, née Hunt, came to San Diego to escape the Midwest stigma of single, working motherhood, joined Copley’s secretarial pool, got lucky, and married the boss.

According to the national magazines, Jim Copley’s tutelage had transformed his second wife into a brilliant newspaper executive, ready and able to revolutionize the sleepy, right-wing, hidebound media company she’d inherited. No less a journalistic light than Gail Sheehy, later author of the best-seller Passages, was dispatched from Manhattan to produce a glowing profile of Helen Copley for New West, the West Coast spin-off of Clay Felker’s New York magazine.

Helen was already reforming the Union and Evening Tribune, Sheehy reported; the San Diego Zoo was no longer a “sacred cow,” the Copley term for those local institutions shielded by the papers from unflattering coverage in years past. From now on, the coverage of the papers would be straight, free of the taint of boosterism and politics that up until that point had been a hallmark of the Copleys.

It was a myth, of course, similar to earlier tales about Ira and Jim Copley being noble stewards of the public good. Helen was street-smart, but that was about it. She knew next to nothing about actually running newspapers; in fact she proved best at getting rid of one. She dumped the Sacramento Union, one of Jim’s ego ventures, a financially disastrous attempt to go head-to-head with the dominant Bee, owned by the liberal McClatchy family. She also sold off Ira Copley’s mansion in Aurora, along with the company airplane.

Helen’s pick to edit the San Diego Union was Jerry Warren, a former Copley editor who had gone to Washington to become Nixon’s assistant press secretary, reporting to the infamous Ron Ziegler. She hired back Herb Klein, Nixon’s old political operative, giving him the title Editor in Chief of the Copley Newspapers. The predicted breath of fresh air smelled more like stale West Wing deodorizer.
Not that there weren’t a few interesting moments. When the late Otis Chandler of the Los Angeles Times strode down Broadway in the late 1970s and proclaimed that the newly minted San Diego edition of the Times would soon conquer the local newspaper market, the Union and Tribune went on a hiring spree, bringing in J.D. Alexander from the Washington Post to become managing editor of the Union and snapping up local writers from a small alternative weekly called the Reader.

But Chandler’s bet that his brand of aggressive journalism could sell newspapers in San Diego went bad; circulation proved to be miserably low, and he began gradually folding his tent. When the San Diego operation was finally shut down in December 1992, the Times had a total circulation of 60,000 versus the Union’s 380,000, the New York Times reported that month. “Our study of the long-term prospects showed we could continue to grow, but in small numbers,” Phyllis Pfieffer, the San Diego edition’s general manager, told the New York paper. “Otis Chandler’s dream of being a newspaper from Santa Barbara to Tijuana isn’t going to happen in this economy.”

“The view in 1978 was that there was an opportunity there,” L.A. Times publisher David Laventhol told the New York Times. “It turned out to be less so than we thought.” Well before that, the Copley papers had reverted to form; Alexander quit to work for the Hearst paper in Seattle, and vaunted young lights, such as Carl Cannon, son of Reagan biographer Lou Cannon, returned to Washington.

For more than a decade, Helen Copley had stuck like glue to Pete Wilson, the so-called reform mayor elected in 1971, after his predecessor was indicted during the city’s infamous Yellow Cab taxi scandal. Wilson’s aspirations reached far beyond the city limits, all the way to the White House.

In many ways, Republican Wilson was Helen Copley’s Richard Nixon. Her editors backed his every move, with the exception of his so-called growth-management program, which he watered down to meet Copley’s objections. As Herb Klein under Jim Copley had performed for Nixon, the Union’s city hall reporter Otto Bos, a hulking native of Holland, was the paper’s go-between with the Wilson camp during Helen’s time.

Bos, who once proclaimed that his only religion was “Pete Wilson,” wrote reams of Wilson-friendly coverage before becoming the mayor’s press secretary in 1977; he remained a top Wilson staffer and Copley intermediary until dying of a massive heart attack while playing soccer in San Diego.

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investors of their life savings. Revelations that Dominelli and his girlfriend, Del Mar mayor Nancy Hoover, had secretly financed Hedgecock’s 1983 special election victory drew Dick Carlson, an ex-TV anchorman married to a Swanson frozen-food heiress from La Jolla, into the regular election battle.

With O’Connor sitting out the race, the Copley papers swung behind Carlson with a vengeance. On April 20, the Union ran a story on its front page reporting that the county grand jury had heard testimony that $400,000 of unexplained funds had been found in secret bank accounts controlled by the mayor. It looked like curtains for Hedgecock. Except the story wasn’t true.

In May, Hedgecock filed a libel suit against the newspaper for $3 million, alleging that the Union had run the story “to impair and prevent” his reelection bid. “Just as I support the role of an aggressive and independent press as critical to the continued health of our democratic institutions,” Hedgecock said in a statement, “I also believe that when an individual member of the media abuses his or her very considerable power and steps over the line that divides thorough, independent scrutiny from intentional, malicious, unfair attack, someone must stand up and speak out. “Not only did the editors of the Union refuse to correct their original errors, they continued to republish them, with the apparent objective of causing me and my family as much damage as possible.”

At first, Union editor Jerry Warren stuck to his guns, disputing Hedgecock’s repeated charge that the paper was out to get him and was using its news pages to do it. “From the very start, we approached this story on a professional journalistic basis,” Warren said. “The mayor apparently is approaching a suit as a political matter…We’re not running for anything…Of course we stand by the story.”

Added Herb Klein: “The suit by the mayor is not unexpected. He suggests motives which are contrary to fact. The timing of the action and statements and innuendos by the mayor clearly indicate the purely political aspects of his suit.”

Then, on July 25, the paper issued a full retraction. It ran on the front page under Warren’s byline. “The San Diego Union reported on April 20 and 21, relying on statements of sources close to the investigation, that the grand jury was probing allegations about Mayor Roger Hedgecock’s personal and campaign finances. The Union has since learned that key aspects of these stories were incorrect.”

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declined to run for reelection and was succeeded by Susan Golding, whose earlier campaign for county supervisor was financed by her husband, Richard Silberman, Copley’s steady date of a decade before. By the time Golding became mayor, Silberman had been convicted of money laundering and the couple was divorced.

With no personal friends remaining in public office and her health beginning to fail, Copley, nearing 80, adopted a receding profile during the ensuing Golding years. In the summer of 1996, she made no public appearances when San Diego finally hosted the Republican National Convention, Jim Copley’s long-held ambition.

To commemorate the event, Copley commissioned an enormous sand sculpture of a dancing elephant and threw a lavish outdoor party in Embarcadero Park near Seaport Village for thousands of invited guests, presided over by her son David, who greeted visitors while seated in a throne-like chair under a tent.

Only a decade later did the Union-Tribune report that the city had fudged the numbers of its growing pension obligation in order to free up enough cash to subsidize the Republicans. The pension debt would later threaten to bankrupt the city.

Helen Copley died on August 25, 2004, at Foxhill, the sprawling French Provincial estate in La Jolla built by her late husband Jim. She was 81. Her only child, David, then 52, was born after Helen fled to San Diego following a quickie marriage and divorce from his father in Iowa, apparently to give the child a name; Jim Copley adopted David in 1965, immediately after marrying Helen.

At the time of her death, Helen had long since settled her legal disagreement with Jim Copley’s two adopted children from his first marriage, who sued for fraud, claiming she raided their trust fund. The agreement was secret, but it was clear they were out of the company for good. David was his mother’s only apparent heir. She named him chairman and chief executive of the Copley Press and publisher of the Union-Tribune in 1997.

For years, rumors swirled through the Union-Tribune about the state of his health. A huge man with a baby face, Copley was famous for his drinking bouts.

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February 28, 2008
51

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and the extravagant parties he threw. He had been repeatedly arrested for drunk driving, in one case doing a week at a county labor camp after being picked up weaving down a street near his La Jolla mansion in his Porsche.

In 1999, Vanity Fair contributor Maureen Orth wrote “Vulgar Favors,” in which she chronicled the history of Andrew Cunanan, the 27-year-old gay serial killer from Hillcrest who murdered fashion icon Gianni Versace in 1997. Orth wrote that Cunanan had been seen at Copley’s parties and went on to note that the Union-Tribune had been suspiciously slow to report on Cunanan and his relationships with wealthy La Jolla men.

“The San Diego Union-Tribune did not write about Andrew Cunanan at all for weeks,” Orth said in a 1999 interview. “The very first mention, as I recall, was an obituary of his third victim, Lee Miglin, and never mentioned Andrew Cunanan.

“And the first several stories they did were off wire copy and talking to people in Minneapolis and never once asked anybody in Hillcrest nor anybody Cunanan knew to comment. I thought that was just kind of amazing. I mean, you’ve got national reporters coming out from all over the country to do major stories about this guy, and he’s never mentioned in his local newspaper. That’s odd.”

Though it wasn’t acknowledged by the paper, the U-T rumor mill had it that Copley’s heart was bad, caused by his weight and indulgence in food, drink, and perhaps other substances. Then, almost a year after Helen’s death, the U-T announced in July 2005 that he’d had a heart transplant.

“The U-T announced in July 2005 that David Copley had a heart transplant.

anybody Cunanan knew to comment. I thought that was just kind of amazing. I mean, you’ve got national reporters coming out from all over the country to do major stories about this guy, and he’s never mentioned in his local newspaper. That’s odd.”

Though it wasn’t this is wonderful news,” said an email message attributed to him by the paper. “The surgeons and their team at Sharp Hospital in San Diego did a magnificent job. Indeed, over the last two years, they literally have saved my life several times. Thanks to their skill and the scientific advances

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that make their work possible, I can look forward to many years of renewed vigor and productivity.” Copley did recover, but the same could not be said for his newspapers. Circulation continued to fall and advertising fled, a typical American newspaper story made worse by the Copley chain’s reputation for spinning facts, relentless boosterism, and history of conducting political wars on behalf of its owners.

In early 2006, Union-Tribune editor Karin Winner wrote a page-one story about the importance of the state’s Public Records Act, in which she said, “We shine white-hot spotlights on your government — local, state and national — so you can scrutinize and evaluate the actions of the people you elect and the way they spend your tax dollars.” For many readers, accustomed to years of slanted coverage — as well as strategic lack of coverage — clearly designed to protect Copley’s preferred candidates or promote the city’s latest taxpayer-subsidized stadium proposal, the idea that Union-Tribune reporters had started turning over rocks in search of civic evildoing seemed preposterous. But there were a few signs of change, viewed by cynics as the financially flailing newspaper’s last-gasp attempt to recruit new subscribers by building its credibility. In 2005, Winner launched the “Watchdog Report,” a series of investigative stories that delved into long-unreported municipal scandals involving city land sales, lobbying violations, and — at long last — the “money mess” that was the city’s underfunded pension fund. Many of the stories were clearly derived from the work of others; a Watchdog Report about slum property owned by Nick Inzunza, brother of ex-San Diego city councilman Ralph Inzunza, convicted in the Cheetahs strip-club bribery case, had already been done elsewhere. But the mere fact that the stories ran at all seemed to show that Winner was serious about her new direction. In June 2005, the U-T broke the story, reported by Marcus Stern of the Copley News Service, of GOP Congressman Randy “Duke” Cunningham’s sale of his Del Mar house to a lobbyist for whom he’d done repeated favors. Within months, Cunningham, a fighter-pilot hero of the war in Vietnam who had long been a Copley favorite, resigned his seat; he pleaded guilty to multiple bribery counts and was sentenced to six years in federal prison. In 2006 the coverage was awarded a Pulitzer prize, exorcising the old ghost of the San Diego Union, which had never received the coveted award.

(The late Evening Tribune had been given...
two: one for its deadline coverage of the 1978 crash of a Pacific Southwest Airlines 737 into North Park and the other for an editorial series about illegal immigration.

But the Cunningham prize proved a high-water mark for the Union-Tribune. Last fall Marcus Stern announced he was leaving the Copley News Service after taking a buyout offer by the company, which was seeking to radically downsize. Forty-three editorial workers were also targeted for separation under the plan. Watchdog Reports became less frequent, and the paper returned to more familiar territory, settling political scores and promoting expansion of the convention center.

Of late, the paper has taken to relentlessly bashing its current arch-enemy, San Diego city attorney Mike Aguirre, much in the way it went after Hedgecock.

In its all-out assault on Aguirre, beginning after he was elected in 2004, the newspaper became the strange bed-fellow of the big labor unions it had long professed to abhor. Labor didn’t like Aguirre’s focus on the city’s troubled pension fund; the U-T feared he would foil the newspaper’s long-running effort to build a $1 billion-plus stadium for Alex Spanos and his San Diego Chargers, who almost certainly would demand a large public subsidy in the form of cash or real estate.

Leading the charge was sports columnist Nick Canepa, who repeatedly mocked Aguirre. “All along, the leading the charge was sports columnist Nick Canepa, who repeatedly mocked Aguirre. "All along, the
Chargers have insisted they basically have given up on a new stadium within the San Diego city limits because of one man — City Attorney Mike Aguirre,” Canepa wrote last month. “And Aguirre, as we all know, can swat, although he whiffs now and then, such as seeking an evacuation during the fires and jumping in like a porch climber during the La Jolla landslide.

“So I’m wondering. This is an election year, and Aguirre is being challenged by viable candidates. Would the Chargers consider holding back their current efforts to secure a new joint in Chula Vista and wait for the outcome of the city election?”

The voluble Aguirre was more easily rattled by the U-T than media-savvy Hedgecock, and stopped returning the newspaper’s calls, a tactical blunder. He publicly berated one of its reporters, who most observers saw as just doing his job in the allowed tradition of the Copley Press, a simple journeyman carrying out his assignment to dig up as much negative information as he could on the quixotic city attorney.

It was far from the first time that the U-T had ignored the faults of its favorites and played up the foibles of its foes. The troubling question for the paper was whether it would be the last. By early 2008, it seemed clear that the U-T was on the verge of building enough momentum to unseat Aguirre in the June primary. The irony was that Aguirre’s prospective political demise, like that of Hedgecock’s before him, was unlikely to stem the paper’s diminishing circulation or bolster its credibility, and indeed might have exactly the opposite effect. Adding to the pain for Copley, the U-T’s successful efforts to get city voters
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San Diego Reader February 24, 2004 57
Editor Karin Winner moved on to yet another circulation-boosting project, a new section called “Our San Diego.” It has nothing to do with investigative reporting. “We will give you useful information, including home sales by address, ideas for free activities for you and your children, and voices of news-makers in your area,” said a front-page editorial note from her in January. Meanwhile, readership and revenue continue to tumble, and there are growing signs that the end of the Copley empire may finally be at hand. Last March, after years of saying he would never part with his mother’s legacy, David Copley sold off the nine Copley newspapers in Ohio and Illinois, almost 103 years after Ira Clifton Copley purchased the Aurora Beacon. The proceeds of $380 million were said to be needed for inheritance taxes on Helen’s estate. In December 2006, Copley sold the Torrance Daily Breeze for a reported $25 million. The Copley-owned Casa del Zorro, the posh resort in Borrego Springs purchased by Jim Copley in 1980, was sold in December of last year.

Over the last several months, David Copley, now 56, has been a frequent passenger at Jim-sair, the private aviation terminal on the south side of Lindbergh Field. He arrives in a compact black limousine with tan curtains concealing the rear passenger seat from curious states of airport workers who happen by. Followed by their eyes, the car slips through a gate in the airport’s chain-link security fence and glides to a stop beside a sleek Gulfstream IV executive jet, painted blue and white, the official Copley colors, and emblazoned with the tail number 700CN, for Copley Newspapers. (These days, the remaining newspapers consist of the Union-Tribune and the biweekly Borrego Sun.)

Copley is considerably slimmer since his heart transplant; wearing a black sport coat over an embroidered silk vest, he labors up the airplane’s small stairway as a member of the Jim-sair ground squad loads his small rollaway suitcase into the rear hatch. Sometimes a sturdy male aide-de-camp accompanies him, but more often Copley and the plane’s
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- Eyelid Lift
- Forehead Lift
- Neck Lift
- IPL Fotofacial
- Microdermabrasion
- Chemical Peel
- Implants
- Breast Implants
- Breast Enhancement
- Lip Enhancement
- Fillers
- Restylane
- Perlane
- Juvéderm
- Sculptra
- Fat Injections
- Laser
- Laser Resurfacing
- Laser Hair Removal
- Laser Skin Rejuvenation
- Photo Dynamic Therapy
- Acne
- Pre-cancerous Lesions
- Sclerotherapy
- Leg Vein Therapy
- Skin & Scars
- Removal of Skin Lesions
- Scar Repair
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- Ear Pinning
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Creating Beauty One Face at a Time
two-man crew are all alone in the 22-seat Gulfstream on their four-hour-plus trip to New York City.

Why does he go there with such regularity? Nobody outside a very small circle of friends and associates has any idea. Some speculate that he is producing a Broadway play, something he has told friends he aspires to do. Others think he may be negotiating a deal with a Wall Street mogul to unload the Union-Tribune, the last of the Copley family jewels. Another theory has it that he is an outpatient at a Manhattan hospital, but all of that is mere speculation.

What does he think about on those lone journeys east? There are many ghosts to be considered. Twenty-five minutes into its flight, after making a sweeping U-turn over the Pacific, the jet is high over Borrego Springs, where Jim Copley handed out his “Ring of Truth” medals in the banquet hall of Casa del Zorro.

There he honored reporters and editors who hewed the party line who churned out reams of copy in tribute to Richard Nixon and C. Arnhold Smith; David’s mother Helen rewarded staffers who paid homage to Pete Wilson, Maureen O’Connor, and Susan Golding. Later, sportswriters were celebrated for championing the downtown baseball stadium, subsidized by taxpayers.

Two and a half hours later on the way to Manhattan, David can look down on Aurora, Illinois, the birthplace of the chain founded by Ira Copley nearly 103 years ago.

What will happen to the last remaining daily newspaper of the Copley Press? At latest report, in November of last year, audited daily circulation at the Union-Tribune had plunged 8.5 percent, from 304,334 to 278,379. Sunday’s numbers tumbled 7.93 percent, from 390,310 to 359,335. Both were also dramatically down from seven years earlier, when daily circulation stood at 370,395 and Sunday was 439,367.

Some say the operation is hemorrhaging cash, despite the employee buyouts of recent months.

Almost all American newspapers are suffering in the Internet age, but the Union-Tribune is among the most prominent of the walking wounded. The decades-long decay in its circulation, beginning years before the advent of broadband, owes as much to its peculiar heritage of warped coverage and irregular stewardship as it does to the threat posed by the Web. Drones of San Diegans tuned out long ago, and David Copley, cruising at 40,000 feet over the heartland that spawned Ira’s once-mighty Copley Press, seems to have done the same.

Sooner or later, the Union-Tribune will be in different hands. Copley, with no wife, children, or other apparent legal heirs, may sell it for cash, or perhaps bequeath it to charity, in the way that Nelson Poynter gave his stock in the Times Publishing Company, publisher of Florida’s St. Petersburg Times, to his Modern Media Institute (now known as the Poynter Institute for Media Studies). No one yet knows, maybe not even David Copley himself.

— Matt Potter
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LETTRES continued from page 12

November and have not received a response, yes or no either way. I am extremely upset by this, and this is my fourth or so email complaining about the lack of professional conduct of the Reader. My article was as good as any other (I would be willing to resubmit it); however, if it was offensive in any way, I would have had at least expected an answer. I emailed it to the correct address, by which the way is no longer in the Reader, but rather a new address for “Dumped” has taken its place. It is concerning to me that such a thing has taken place, and I have not forgotten about it.

Name Withheld by Request

Legally Stripped

Re “Very Heartening” (Letters, February 14), whose revelations bring to mind this excerpt from our Declaration of Independence: “He [King George] has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his assent to their acts of pretended legislation.” I am reminded of the arguments prof ered by the advocates for “reemp tion” strategies, wherein “John-Q of the clan Citizen” is legally stripped of his/her sovereign status by unwittingly volunteering to be a commercial entity named John Q. Citizen, which is legally subservient to his “upline”: any government agency, inc.; town, inc.; city, inc.; county, inc.; state, inc.; U.S., Inc. It’s no wonder that Congress has defined the Citizen as the "enemy" of the U.S., Inc.

So this is how these seemingly unconstitutional "laws" (Patriot Act, etc.) get properly blessed by the courts. The Constitution is not operable; we all operate in commerce! It all makes sense if you refer to the Uniform Commercial Code rather than the Constitution to determine what’s fair.

For example: the U.S. Marine Corps, Inc., is contracted as a mercenary enforcer for U.S., Inc., which is contracted by the Federal Reserve Bank, Inc., to secure its shareholders’ oil assets in Iraq, composed of oil companies, inc.

This is not new. The En-
Get a Natural Clean
Herbal Substitutes for Toxic Products

I see people all the time spraying Windex on their countertop and then slapping down a sandwich — they don’t realize all the chemicals that are left on the counter from the Windex, like petroleum by-products. That’s like slapping gasoline on your sandwich,” says Aenne Carver, a master gardener who lectures on gardening and herb use.

“If you look at the back of Lysol — and I’m not picking on Lysol — but it says it is an astringent antibacterial and antifungal, and it also says to keep away from children and that it contains petroleum products. My guide rule is, if it says ‘harmful to inhale’ or ‘flush down the toilet’, I don’t want that in my house.”

On Saturday, March 1, Carver will conduct a class called “Go Green with Herbal Cleaning Products” as part of the Natural History Museum’s adult-education program. Carver will show attendees how to make “natural and inexpensive” cleaning products to replace the “hazardous and expensive” brand-name versions. “In the olden days, women made all of their household cleaning products,” says Carver, who grew up watching her grandmother clean the windows with white vinegar and a newspaper.

Carver says the air inside our homes is ten times as polluted as the air outside. The greatest contributors to this indoor pollution are ammonia, formaldehyde, and benzene, released from common items such as paint, fabric, and building materials. “In order to conserve our energy resources, over the past 25 years our buildings have been efficiently sealed from the outside.” It is Carver’s belief that chemical vapors from the toxic ingredients in cleaning products contribute to the “dramatic increase in allergies and asthma” cases. “Luckily, in San Diego we can open our windows, but why even introduce these [chemicals] into our homes?”

Natural cleaning products that are free of toxic chemicals tend to be more expensive than popular brands. “Why spend $14.99 for a glass cleaner when you can make it for pennies yourself?” Carver asks. Though vinegar alone can be used to clean glass, Carver says it takes “a considerable amount” of elbow grease. She offers up her recipe for a natural glass cleaner: one teaspoon of liquid castile soap, six tablespoons of white vinegar, two cups of water, and about 30 drops of essential oils of your choice.

Carver acknowledges that even she doesn’t score a perfect ten on environmental friendliness. “I drive an SUV...what I tell people is, and the way I’m doing it is, try to change one simple thing a week and just keep to it.” One change Carver’s family has made is to switch from disposable bottled water to reusable bottles. “My other recent big thing is I’m really trying to get better at taking canvas bags for shopping. It sounds so simple, but it’s really hard to do. I have to think ahead.” — Barbara

Go Green with Herbal Cleaning Products
Saturday, March 1
10 a.m. to noon
San Diego Natural History Museum
1788 El Prado
Balboa Park
Cost: $35 members; $43 nonmembers
Info: 619-255-0203 or sdnhm.org (under Education tab)
“Cinderella” California Ballet Company presents San Diego premiere of Tony Pimble’s full-length Cinderella, a classic fairy tale with “lavish sets, costumes,” and Prokofiev’s score. 858-650-6741. Saturday, March 1, 8 p.m.; Sunday, March 2, 1 p.m.; Sunday, March 2, 5:30 p.m.; Saturday, March 1, 5:30 p.m.; $25-$60. Ages 4 and up. San Diego Civic Theatre, 1100 Third Avenue. (DOWNTOWN)

“Presenting Your Best” This “Art of Balancing” workshop focuses on making “character, personality, presence, and persona” work for you. Participants will apply what they’ve been taught to choreography for “Mein Herr” from Cabaret. No experience necessary. Wear clothes you can move in. Reservations: 619-995-4547. Saturday, March 1, 1:45 p.m.; $35. A Time to Dance Studio La Jolla, 565 Pearl Street. (LA JUNA)

**DANCE**

“A Day in the Life of a Dancer” Lecture, demonstration by members of San Diego Ballet, with excerpts from Jazzy Suite #1, Mambo, Waltz of the Flowers, Romeo and Juliet pas de deux. 619-441-6103. Tuesday, March 4, 11 a.m.; Tuesday, March 4, 10 a.m.; City Heights Performing Annex, 3791 Fairmount Avenue. (CITY HEIGHTS)

“Bellydance Spectacular” Dondi, Sohaila, Melinda, Lucia, Jason, Dancer Terry. 619-441-4801. Downtown, 8878 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (KEARNY MESA)

**FILM**

“God Sleeps in Rwanda” This Academy Award-nominated documentary set in the aftermath of the Rwandan genocide screens for “Voices: A Women’s Human Rights Film Series” hosted by Evolve Dance Theatre and the Cultural Worker. Tim Botsko and Paula Herring will share stories, photographs of their development work in Rwanda. Reservations: 619-238-1153. Saturday, March 1, 6 p.m.; 10 a.m.; Evolve Dance Theatre, 2011 University Avenue. (LA JUNA)

“Sanctuary” Multiwork by UCSD’s Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Roger Reynolds, which premiered last fall at National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., “captured on HD video.” Screening with “5.1 Surroundsound,” video spotlights UCSD percussionist Steven Schick and computer sound designer Mike Puckette, in Calit2 Auditorium at UCSD. 858-534-3229. Thursday, February 28, 5:30 p.m.; UCSD: University California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive. (UCSD)

“Slave Ship” Discovery Channel film examining African maritime trade aboard Amistad sailing ship, presented against backdrop of African slave trade. Film’s writer and producer, Richard Rivera, a librarian at Valley Center Library, will discuss making the documentary following screening. 760-749-1035. Thursday, February 28, 6:30 p.m.; Valley Center Library, 29800 Cole Grade Road. (VALLEY CENTER)
"Uncounted" Film exposing "how Americans were cheated during the 2004 and 2006 elections — and how enraged voters have turned their anger into citizen activism — to safeguard the vote." 619-236-5800. Wednesday, March 5, 8:30 p.m., San Diego Public Library, 420 E. Street. (CARLSBAD)

"What's Opera, Doc?" Opera Plus program boosts this classic comedy starring Bugs Bunny and Elmer Fudd, along with A Night at the Opera by the Marx Brothers. 760-434-2904. Saturday, March 1, 10 a.m.; Schulman Auditorium at Carlsbad City Library, 1775 Dove Lane. (CARLSBAD)

By, For, and About Women Lunafest film festival featuring diverse lineup of short films on variety of topics. Bill includes Male a Whiff, My Other Mother, Dow Across, A Choice, Breaking the Boundaries, Happiness, The Question, others. Event starts with opening reception celebrating holistic wellness at 6 p.m.; films begin at 7 p.m. in Price Center Ballroom. 858-534-TIXS. Tuesday, March 4, 6 p.m.; 86-87 University of California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive. (UCSD)

Chinese Movie Marathon Chinese New Year celebrations conclude with screenings of Showdown at the Canton Mill (1 p.m.), Zhang Yimou’s To Live (1:30 p.m.), and Ang Lee’s latest, Lust, Caution (7 p.m.). Marathon takes place in Little Theater, room 3601. 760-795-6897. Friday, February 29, 11 a.m.; Miramar College, One Barnard Drive. (OCEANSIDE)

FOR KIDS

"Alice in Wonderland" Pacific Children’s Theatre performs February 29-March 9. Seating reserved at front “for very young children.” 619-920-2838. Fridays, 7 p.m.; Saturdays, 2 p.m.; through March 9, 2008, $7-$10. United Church of Christ, 4070 Jackson Street. (MIRANDA HILLS)

"Disney’s Aladdin, Jr." Young Actors’ Theatre junior division, with actors in grades one-seven, presents "Disney’s Aladdin, Jr." for kids of all ages, February 29-March 16. Performance on March 15 is ASL interpreted. Reservations: 619-239-3432. Thursday, February 28, 10:30 a.m. $3. Ages 2 and up. San Diego Human Society and SPA, 1500 Gaines Street. (ENGLISH VILLAGE)

"Rumplestiltskin" Millie Patterson’s Weaver’s Tales perform through Sunday, March 2. Next up: Bitty Rosey and Bitty Blossom Turn Over a New Leaf by comic ventriloquist Lynn Trimple, March 5, 619-544-9203. Sunday, March 2, 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.; Thursday, February 28, 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.; Saturday, March 1, 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., Wednesday, March 5, 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.; Friday, February 29, 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.; Saturday, March 1, 2:30 p.m.; $3-$5. Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theatre, 2130 Pan American Road West. (BULLSAN PARK)

"Spring Family Festival!" Celebrate spring and Vaishnava Chhau festival in India with activities including sari and yoga demonstrations, henna designs, rice flour floor painting, paper mache, performances of traditional Indian music; learn about different dance forms. Presented in conjunction with “Rhythms of India: The Art of Nandalal Bose (1882-1966);” exhibitions in English and Spanish. Free: 619-232-7931. Sunday, March 2, noon; San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

"Tots and Tales" Interactive story time for prechoolers with crafts and animals. Reservations: 619-235-3432. Thursday, February 28, 10:30 a.m. $3. Ages 2 and up. San Diego Human Society and SPA, 1500 Gaines Street. (ENGLISH VILLAGE)

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Web Page for San Diego Reader
OUT & ABOUT

“About the Constellations of Spring and the Zodiac” Illuminated during “The Sky Tonight” planetarium show. View real sky through telescopes (weather permitting) after show. 619-238-1233 Wednesday, March 5, 7 p.m.; $7-$8. Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, 1875 El Prado. (MALLADA PARR)

“The Evolution of Complexity: From the Human Brain to the Rainforest” Grey Matters lecture series continues with talk by UCSD science professor Christopher Wills. How have complex systems such as the brain evolved? Learn about “a process called frequency-dependent selection.” 619-232-3821. Thursday, February 28, 6:30 p.m.; San Diego Natural History Museum, 1788 El Prado. (MALLADA PARR)

“The Struggle for Women’s Safety and Health in Mexico” Mujeres Unidas, founded in Tetzee in 2005, plans presentation on organization’s mission, experiences, aspirations for Youth Without Borders. Speakers include lawyer Laura Gutierrez Lopez, psychologist Gabriela Ceja Canchola, Dr. Casimira Lopez Hernandez. Talk takes place in wrestling room. 619-934-1069; Saturday, March 1, 6 p.m.; Sweetwater High School, 2900 Highland Avenue. (MALLADA PARR)

“Toward an Integrated History of the Holocaust” UCLA professor Saul Friedlander speaks for UCSD Judaic Studies Program. Friedlander’s publications include Nazi Germany and the Jews and When Memory Comes. 858-534-4551. Sunday, March 2, 4:30 p.m.; Institute of the Americas, Weaver Center, 10111 North Torrey Pines Road. (MALLADA PARR)

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Ensenada La Fonda Hotel Restaurant & Spa Located between Rosarito & Ensenada. Hotel offers 36 oceanview rooms most with fireplaces. Food ranges from Mexican fare to famous lobster fest & all you can eat $13.95 Sunday brunch. 1 hour south of San Diego. 01152-661-835-0308.


“Understanding Islam and Contemporary Muslim Societies” SDSU associate professor Ghada Osman plans lecture in conjunction with “One Book, One San Diego” reading program. Gain general overview of religion of Islam, demonstration of role of the religion in several Muslim societies today. 619-236-3821. Sunday, March 2, 2 p.m.; San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (DOWNTOWN)

“When Women Got the Vote” Lemon Grove Historical Society’s “History Alive” series continues with program by Women’s History Center representative with slides, commentary about this period in U.S. history. Question-and-answer time follows. 619-460-4353. Monday, March 3, 7 p.m.; Ages 12 and up & H. Lee House Cultural Center, 3205 Olivio Avenue.

Author Talk UCSD African-American literature associate professor author Camille Forbes discusses her new book, Introducing Bert Williams: Burnt Cork, Broadway, and the Story of America’s First Black Star, which offers a “window into the issues surrounding race and artistic expression in American culture.” 619-236-3821. Wednesday, March 5, 6:30 p.m.; San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (DOWNTOWN)

Reading Class Dale and Patty Strong of Mountain Beadworks lead class “using the right-angle-weave technique” to construct a charm. Registration 760-765-0370; Tuesday, March 4, 6 p.m.; Julian Library, 1850 Highway 78. (Julian)

California-Friendly Landscaping City of San Diego offers “Residential Low-Water Use” gardening class focusing on garden design for homeowners; benefits of using California-friendly plants, sprinkler system basics for homeowners, introduction to irrigation scheduling. Registration 619-533-4136. Saturday, March 1, 10 a.m.; Ages 18 and up. Rancho Bernardo Library, 17110 Bernardo Center Drive. (LINDA VISTA)

How to Live Happily Ever After with Your Cat Training secrets, cat behavior, preventing destructive behaviors, socialization with people and other animals, how to communicate with cat. Required reservations 619-299-7012 x2247. For humans only. Monday, March 3, 6 p.m.; $35; Ages 12 and up. San Diego Humane Society and SPAFA, 5500 Gaines Street. (LA JUNA VISTA)
**Local Events**

**ROAM-O-RAMA**

**A GUIDE TO UNEXPECTED SAN DIEGO AND BEYOND | BY JERRY SCHAD**

The Spanish colonists who christened Arroyo Seco (“dry creek”) evidently observed only its lower end — a hot, boulder-strewn wash emptying into the Los Angeles River. Upland, inside the confines of the San Gabriel Mountains, Arroyo Seco is a scenic treasure — all the more astonishing when you consider that its exquisite sylvan glens and sparkling brooks lie just 3 to 15 miles from L.A.’s city center.

On the one-way downhill journey described here, you’ll travel the uppermost segment of the Arroyo Seco. Most of the Gabrielino Trail, which receives considerable use — and also a lot of much-needed maintenance — by mountain-bike club members. The upper and middle portions of the route, which are in places narrow with steep drops to one side, are challenging even for expert riders, although not at all hard for hikers. The lower end consists of remnants of an old road built as far up the canyon as the Oak Ridge resort (now Oakville Campground) in the 1930s. Several rest stops and picnic sites line the trail’s lower half, making this a great route for family picnics.

This article contains information about a publicly owned recreation or wilderness area. Trails and paths 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.

**SOUTH OF THE BORDER**

**“11 and 12”** Comic play acted by Florida Meza, Oscar Bonfiglio, others. 011-52-664-687-9368. Monday, March 3, 6:30 p.m. and 9 p.m.; Tuesday, March 4, 6:30 p.m. and 9 p.m.; Wednesday, March 5, 6:30 p.m.; Centro Cultural Tijuana, Paso de los Héroes and Mina Street. (BAJ)

**“Dora la Exploradora”** Play for children starring the Los Angeles television character. 011-52-664-687-9368. Sunday, March 2, noon and 4 p.m.; Centro Cultural Tijuana, Paso de los Héroes and Mina Street. (BAJ)

**“La Ley del Cielo”** The documentary (The Law of the Sky) presented by the Instituto de Antropología of the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM). Discussion led by author Wolfgang Steffen. 011-52-664-173-4307 or 011-52-664-173-4308. Thursday, February 28, 7:30 p.m.; Centro Estatal de las Artes, Boulevard Cordero and Avenida Club Rotario. (BAJ)

**Author Talk** Jesús Muntalvo discusses his new book, Los Hombres Muertos No Cuentan y Otros Relatos. 011-52-664-687-9368. Thursday, February 28, 7:30 p.m.; Centro Cultural Tijuana, Paso de los Héroes and Mina Street. (BAJ)

**Comedy Shows** Palo Polo returns. 011-52-664-681-7000. Saturday, March 1, 10 p.m.; Thursday, February 26, 7:30 p.m.; Grand Hotel Tijuana, Blvd. Agua Caliente 4580. (BAJ)

**Special**

**“MCASD Live!”** Urban fund-raising event will feature a month-long, take on Andy Warhol’s famed Factory, factory-inspired interactive art activities, and range of five live radio shows from retro to electron.). Live music by Autolux and Madame Ur and Su Hombrer. “Urban casual or factory attire” encouraged. RSVP 888-454-3541 x444. Saturday, March 1, 9 p.m.$35-375. Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, Downtown, 1001 Kettner Boulevard. (DOWNTOWN)

**Panache 2008** An annual, signed print by artist Niki de Saint Phalle, a one-of-a-kind overall from “Smokeshop” project of Andrea Titolo are among more than 45 donated artworks, goods, services to be auctioned during annual fundraising gala for Escondido Arts Partnership. 760-480-4101. Saturday, March 1, 5 p.m.$165-375. Escondido

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**Outdoors**

**SUN AND SAND**

**Ocean Water Temperatures**

Ocean water temperatures, of late in the high 70s Fahrenheit, are finally on the upswing as the daylight hours lengthen and the sun arcs higher overhead in the sky each day. It will take about five months of spring and summer sunshine before the ocean’s enormous mass and large heat capacity fully responds to the input of solar energy. A maximum summer water temperature in the low- to mid-70s is expected by August or September.

**Manzanita Shrubs**

Flowering manzanitas, characterized by white, pinkish-white, or bluish-white blossoms with more than 10 petals in the center, are starting to bloom this month in the foothill areas of the Cleveland National Forest. They’re available for sale at the Oakvale Botanical Gardens. (ESCONDIDO)

**Hummingbirds**

Hummingbirds, attracted to sources of nectar by red-colored flowers, are swarming over San Diego County’s backyard gardens, scrub-covered coastal hillides, and areas of the Anza-Borrego Desert withdrawal in flower. Red monkey flower is a favorite source of nectar among the coastal strip, while blooming chuparosa and scarlet calla play the same role in the desert.

**Venus, Mercury, and The Thin Waning Crescent Moon** Form a tight triangle low in the eastern sky at dawn (30 or 40 minutes before sunrise) on the morning of Wednesday, May 3. Venus is bright, but you may have to use binoculars to spot Mercury and the very slender (1% illuminated) crescent moon.

**California Native Plant Society**

California Native Plant Society will discuss native plants of the San Diego area, with a special focus on the Tijuana Estuary. 011-52-664-681-7000. Saturday, March 1, 9 a.m.; Balboa Park Visitors’ Center, 1549 El Prado. (CLAREMONT)

**Celestial Observation**

Celestial Observation. California State Park star party speaker is Scott Kardel of Palomar Observatory and Cal Tech, after lecture, take in evening orientation program, and observe the universe through telescopes. 760-737-2697. Saturday, March 1, 5 p.m.; San Pasqual Battlefield State Historic Park, 1666 San Pasqual Valley Road. (CLAREMONT)

**Guided Nature Walk**

Guided Nature Walk. At west side of park, at Regent’s Road entrance. 011-52-664-9914. Bring binoculars and drinking water. Saturday, March 1, 9:30 a.m.; Marian Bear Memorial Park, Highway 52 and Regens Road. (CLAREMONT)

**History Walk**

History Walk. Self-guided turn of historic or modern-day attraction for “light gardening,” help complete several projects to enhance park trails. No experience necessary. Find garden at Mendocino Boulevard and Grove Street off Voltaire Avenue. 619-297-7380 Sat- uesday, March 1, 9 a.m.; Ages 13 and up. Point Loma Native Plant Reserve, Mendocino Boulevard and Grove Street. (POINT LOMA)

**Macho Rednecks and Blue Bellies**

Macho Rednecks and Blue Bellies! Which fawns are female in which are male? Find out during guided nature walks. 619-668-3281. Sunday, March 2, 9:30 a.m.; Wednesday, March 5, 9:30 a.m.; Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

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**In Studio**

Artist Yvonne Venegas de-mystifies “the art-making process” during artist lecture, hands-on demonstration. Included in regular admission. 760-439-1120. Wednesday, March 5, 12:30 p.m.; California Center for the Arts, Escondido, 340 North Es- condido Boulevard. (ESCONDIDO)

**Look, Up in the Sky**

The future of satellite oceanography and potential to forecast ocean conditions discussed by Michael Freilich, director of NASA’s Earth Science Division, in Summer Auditorium. 858-514-3624. Thursday, February 28, 4:30 p.m.; Scripps Institution of Oceanography, 8662 La Jolla Shores Drive. (LA Jolla)

**Parlez-Vous Francais?** Six-part series of French classes with focus on language and social culture taught by Charles Brown. Class is for beginners and those who want to prepare for trip to France. Reservations: 858-592-4875. Tuesday, March 4, 8 a.m.; $250. Book Works, 2670 Via de la Condi do Boulevard.

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**Annual Book Sale**

UCF Library. Tuesday, March 4, 8:30 a.m.; 4875. Tuesday, March 4, 8:30 a.m.; California Center for the Arts, Escondido, 340 North Escondido Boulevard. (ESCONDIDO)

**Author Talk**

Author’s book talk about his career in Hollywood. 011-52-664-687-9368. Thursday, February 28, 7:30 p.m.; Centro Estatal de las Artes, Boulevard Cordero and Avenida Club Rotario. (BAJ)

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**6-Hour Weekend Special**

Starting at $399 (pragacally included)

**Weekday Special**

Starting at $189 (pragacally not included)

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**Largest Climbing Gym in San Diego**

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**Military Sundays 50% Off Day Pass**

(Excelsior members. Call for details)
Municipal Gallery, 142 West Grand Avenue. (ESCONDIDO)
60th Annual Ocean Beach Kite Festival Kite making, decorating, flying contest for all ages. Vendors, food, entertainment. Kite making (free) or bring your own kite. Carnival rides, craft fair, musical entertainment. Kite making 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; judging at 1 p.m.; parade to beach for kite flying at 2 p.m. 858-274-2016. Saturday, March 1, 9 a.m.; Ocean Beach Recreation Center, 4726 Santa Monica Avenue. (OCEAN BEACH)
Country Fest Radioactive Future presents bands Bartender’s Bible, Sangre Sangre, and Silverbird along with “Fortitude” art show with work by over 20 artists. Opening reception at 8 p.m. 877-658-6369. Friday, February 29, 8 p.m.; Heavy Press, 2312 El Cajon Boulevard. (NORTH PARK)
Doggie Café Take your friendly, on-leash dog to socialize with other canines. Trainers offer training tips on keeping dogs calm, civilized around distractions. Donation. Reservations: 619-299-7012 x2230. Friday, February 29, 6 p.m.; $10. San Diego Humane Society and SPCA, 5500 Gaines Street. (LINDA VISTA)
Foundation for Dog Sports Class Learn skills needed to help your dog get ready for participation in dog sports. Foundation for Dog Sport is intermediate-level class designed to help dogs and owners together learn skills necessary for beginning their dog sport choice. $149 fee includes all six sessions, handouts, prizes. Required reservations: 619-299-7012 x2273. Thursday, February 28, 6 p.m.; $149. San Diego Humane Society and SPCA, 5500 Gaines Street. (LINDA VISTA)
From Vintage to Modern Everything photographic offered during Bargain Camera Show. 310-578-7446. Sunday, March 2, 10 a.m.; Al Bahr Shrine Center, 5440 Kearny Mesa Road. (KEARNY MESA)
HPR “Sampler” Program Dance, music, cultural costumes promised when House of Pacific Relations hosts “sampler program.” Food for sale. 619-234-0739. Sunday, March 2, 2 p.m.; House of Pacific Relations, 2125 Park Boulevard. (SAN DIEGO)
History of La Jolla Walking Tour La Jolla Historical Society and Warwick’s sponsor walking tour (starting at Warwick’s), followed by refreshments and discussion by an architect on history of Irving Gill architecture in La Jolla. Reservations not required. 858-454-0347. Thursday, February 28, 5:30 p.m.; Warwick’s Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)
A Collective Unconscious Gather your thoughts and explain with P&R Discussion Group. 619-370-1027. Thursday, February 28, 7 p.m.; The Other Side Coffee House, 4096 30th Street. (NORTH PARK)
Mexico Tourism, Travel, and Real Estate Expo Expo features exhibitors promoting travel and tourism industry, real estate products from throughout Mexico. Over 60 exhibitors from 15 Mexican destinations will be present. 619-985-4950. Saturday, March 1, 10:30 a.m.; $3. Scottish Rite Center, 1895 Camino Del Rio South. (MISSION VALLEY)
Mexican Park’s Mexican Foam Restaurant Opens for Season Mexican Park’s newest restaurant, Harvest Eatery, opens to serve fresh, organic, and local food. 858-292-5111. Saturday, March 1, 1 p.m.; Mexican Park, 3000 Mission Blvd. (MID-CITY)
BY SONIA ELIOT

What’s That You’re Writing?

NAME: ROGER CONLEE | OCCUPATION: PUBLIC RELATIONS / AUTHOR
NEIGHBORHOOD: DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO | WHERE INTERVIEWED: THE BRICKYARD COFFEE SHOP

What’s the name of your book?
"Counterclockwise."
Tell me about it.
"It’s a combination of alternate history and science fiction because there’s some time travel in it. The alternate history is the what if of book. What if the Japanese had attacked Southern California a few months after Pearl Harbor? — which they could have. They could have in the first few months of the war, up until the Battle of Midway, after that it wouldn’t have been possible for them. But I’ve always toyed around with the idea of what if they had? What would have happened? What would their targets have been? Obviously they would have bombed military bases and aircraft factories in Los Angeles and San Diego. So, in my book I have that happen. And then I have a time-traveling cop from the future and his fiancée travel back to 1942 to alter the outcome. That’s where “counterclockwise” comes in. We toyed with the title, my publisher and I, and almost all time-travel books have the word ‘time’ in the title. Finally, I hit on ‘counterclockwise’ — that says ‘going back,’ so that’s what we did."

What made you write it?
"I’m a self-made historian; history was one of my minors at San Diego State. My greatest interest is modern history: Napoleon’s time on forward. And I have a special interest in the Civil War and World War II. I lost an uncle in World War II in the Battle of the Bulge, and I just have a real interest in that. I’ve always toyed with this idea of what would have happened if the Japanese had gone ahead and attacked California after Pearl Harbor? So I wrote it. I was able to interview some people who lived through that period of time, and they were very helpful. And I very thoroughly researched it. One of my key characters is a reporter for the old William Randolph Hearst newspaper, the Las Angeles Herald-Express, which wasn’t existed for a long time, but I have the actual phone number for the Herald-Express."

Do you have a favorite section?
"The actual attacks on San Diego, Long Beach, Burbank, Ingleswood — I had a lot of fun with those. But the time travel is probably what I enjoy most. My guy goes back and he suddenly encounters Ginger Rogers and James Cagney. In fact, I had a lot of fun with James Cagney; I kind of poke some fun at him. He was such a patriotic guy — I make him kind of overly patriotic. Somebody told me, ‘James Cagney’s grandson is going to sue you,’ and I said, ‘Oh, I hope so!’"

Why should someone read this?
"If anyone is interested in time travel, or interested in what San Diego and Los Angeles were like 65, 70 years ago, they would enjoy this because I really do paint a complete picture of what life was like in those days, what the aircraft attack was like, and the fact that there wasn’t much smog. And there were a lot of orange groves and lemon groves all around, and the whole countryside wasn’t filled with homes as yet. San Diego people will find it interesting; I have scenes at the Embarcadero with the tuna-boat fishermen, one at the U.S. Grant Hotel, North Island Naval Station, a couple of restaurants that don’t exist anymore."

What’s your day job?
"I have a PR firm, "Tell me about your writing habits."
"I usually write in the morning; I’m a kind of a morning person. Being self-employed, I can kind of schedule my time the way I like it. So, I’m often writing at 7:30, with my coffee mug in hand. I write right there at home at the computer. One author once told me that he always wrote in the morning, then in the afternoon maybe he didn’t or maybe he walked, or did research. But he always wrote, every morning, even though he might not have been feeling creative that day or wasn’t in the mood. He said, ‘writing is your job, and you have to go to your job every day, whether you’re on it that day or not.’ And that made a lot of sense to me."

Spring Home/Garden Show
Talks on home and garden topics, hundreds of vendor booths, experts to answer questions. 858-350-3738. Friday, February 29, 11 a.m.; Saturday, March 1, 10 a.m.; Sunday, March 2, 10 a.m. Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)
Street Painting Festival 2008

Women's History Month street painting festival and community resource fair, along main walkway in front of Cesar Chavez Student Services Building. Volunteer artists will transform walkways into colorful gallery, using chalk as their medium; kids’ chalk area available. Street painting runs 9 a.m.-3 p.m. both days (open for viewing until dusk); resource fair is Wednesday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; and Sunday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. in gallery, using chalk as their medium; resource fair, along main walkway in Women's History Month street.

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Free cake tasting: 9:00 Tuxpan, PI Serving San Diego since 1975...

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Free cake tasting: 9:00 Tuxpan, PI Serving San Diego since 1975...

**Bridal Bazaar**

Sunday, April 27
1st Mar Fairgrounds, 11am-4pm.

**Affordable Customized Wedding Ceremonies**

Church services or bar/bat mitzvahs.


**MUSEUMS**

**Antique Gas and Steam Engine Museum**

The museum locates, collects, documents, and preserves historical gas, steam-, and horse-powered equipment related to agriculture and the general development of America. The collection is made up of equipment used in harvesting, mining, oil drilling, and construction industries. Blacksmith and wheelwright shop, country kitchen and parlor, steam-operated saw mill, and 1/3-scale train. 2012 North Santa Fe Avenue, 760-941-1791. (VISTA)
Bancroft Ranch House Museum
Bancroft Ranch House Museum houses indigenous Indian artifacts and memorabilia of early settlers in the area, run by the Spring Valley Historical Society. The home, built in 1863, was registered as a National Historic Landmark in 1962 and is on a spot where Kumeyaay Indians camped more than 1000 years ago beside the spring that later gave the area its name. 9050 Memory Lane, 619-469-1480. (SPRING VALLEY)

Barona Cultural Center and Museum
1095 Barona Road, 619-443-7003. (LA MESA)

Birth Aquarium at Scripps
Facility is a component of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UCSD. More than 60 tanks contain marine life of Pacific Northwest, California coastline, Mexico’s Son of Cortés, and South Pacific. The La Jolla Kelp Tank is a two-story-high tank with giant kelp plants and nearly 30 species of local marine life. "Feeling the Heat: The Climate Challenge" examines science behind climate change; "Art of Deception" explores underwater camouflage; "Wonders of Water" explores aquatic life. 8260 La Jolla Shores Drive, 619-531-5191. (LA JOLLA)

California Surf Museum
"Tom Keck: Exposed" continues through March, 2008. Born in Coronado in 1937 and raised there, Keck "would discover a lifelong play- ground in the Pacific Ocean." Museum features surfing artifacts and memorabilia — such as surf-boards and clothing — of local legends Phil Edwards, John "L.J." Richards, and Peter Johnson, and Duke Kahanamoku. 223 North Coast Highway, 760-721-6876. (SAN DIEGO)

Chula Vista Nature Center
Interactive living museum devoted to the endangered Southern California coastal wildlife found in Sweetwater Marsh National Wildlife Refuge. Visitors can use a Bioscanner to view animals macroscopically; see a Wemscope for views of microscopic organisms found in the "Sweetwater Soup," and interact with comput- erized videos exploring how tides affect the bay in the "Moors, 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. 1000 Gunpowder Point Drive, 619-499-5903. (CHULA VISTA)

Coronado Museum of History and Art
"The Joy of Toys: Antiques, Treasures," on display through Sunday, March 2, includes variety of antique toys, furs, vintage collectibles, comics, Winnie the Pooh’s "40-Acre Woods," more. Ongoing exhibits explore the overall history of Coronado, Navy and Army, Tent City, and the Hotel del Coronado. 1100 Orange Avenue, 619-435-7242. (CORONADO)

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

Gaslamp Museum of Historic San Diego
Glipmse San Diego’s colorful past at the museum, where displays highlight Wynn Earp’s San Diego days, the Peg Leg Gold Legend, the first maps and photographs of Old Town and "New Town," early military history, the naval disaster in 1923 at Point Loma, and more. 619-237-1492. (DOWNTOWN)

Heritage of the Americas Museum
More than 100 Chinese jades of the Late Neolithic (4000-2500 B.C.) through the Ming periods (A.D. 1368-1644) are included in "The Stone of Heaven: The Enduring Art of Jade Age China." From ancient times, jades in China were treasured as talis- mans, worn on the body either as final adornments in death or as or- naments in life. See a rare and valu- able jade burial suit of the Han dynasty (206 B.C.-A.D. 221), one of only two dozen that have been excavated in China. The suits were made of more than 2000 square and rectangular plates of jade sewn together with threads of gold, silver, or bronze (depending upon the status of the wearer). Ongoing.

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

John DeWitt Historic Museum and Library
Museum and library, operated by the Alpine Historical Society, is located in the 1897 home/office of Dr. Sophro- nia Nichols. She was the first doc- tor in Alpine and the first female doctor in the East County. Indian artifacts from the Kingery family on exhibit. 2116 Tavern Road, 619-438-8780. (MIRAMAR)

La Mesa Depot Museum
Located in a restored 1894 wooden train station, exhibits include orig- inal telegraph and telephone equipment, pot-bellied coal stove period furniture. The adjacent freight train display features 1923 steam locomotive, 1937 refrigerat- or car, 1941 caboose. La Mesa Boulevard and Spring Street, 619-465-7776. (LA MESA)

Magee House Museum
Museum, built in 1887 and surrounded by rose gardens, the site includes "one of the last barns still standing in Carlsbad." Docent and self-guided tours of historic house and gardens. 538 Ranch Road, 760-434-9189. (CARLSBAD)

Museum of Making Music
"The Violin in America: Old World Tradition, New World Sound" explores the transplanting of European violin-making trad- itions to American soil by 19ths and 20th century immigration, how communities in New World added innovation to tradition. Exhibition showcases significant violins from 1700s to present day. Closes Sun- day, September 7.

The past 100 years of Amer- ican music and music making are highlighted at the museum, with over 400 vintage instruments, hun- dreds of audio and video clips, and an interactive stage. 3790 Armada Drive, 760-438-3996. (DOWNTOWN)

National City Depot
San Diego Electric Railway Association operates museum in this historic Santa Fe depot with exhibits, video dis- plays, trolley equipment, restored passenger car from National City and Otay Railroad. 922 West 23rd Street, 619-474-4000. (NATIONAL CITY)

Olaf Wieghorst Museum
Displays paintings and prints by Olaf Wieghorst and features exhibits of other artists’ American West art. Adjacent to museum is courtyard with cactus gardens, 20 x 20-foot reproduction of Wieghorst painting Navajos at Castle Creek, and original restored home Wieghorst lived in for many years starting in 1943. 131 Rta Avenue, 619-590-3431. (EL CAJON)

Ramona Pioneer Historical Society and Guy B. Weigh- storm Museum
Complex of his- torical buildings includes the Ver- laque House (the only Western adobe home of French provincial design still in existence), wagons, antique exhibits, and artifacts. There is a cowboys bunk house, women’s clothing and accessories from 1700 to 1900, a ranch blacksmith shop and tack room. The Casey Tibbs Memorial Exhibit is dedicated to the only Westerner who was a world-champion rodeo rider. The Bancroft Memorial Rose Garden is on the grounds. Rare documents, historical exhibits, books, photographs, and a re- search library are also part of the complex. 645 Main Street, 760-789-7644. (RAMONA)

San Diego Aircraft Carrier Museum
Museum onboard the decommissioned USS Midway is open for tours, now berthed at 910 North Harbor Drive. Exhibits include Navy jet simulators, carrier and flight deck touring, captain’s sea cabin, pilot house, navigation bridge. Admission fee includes audio guide. 910 North Harbor Drive, 619-544-9600. (DOWNTOWN)

San Diego County Sheriff’s Museum
The 150-year history of the sheriff’s department is high- lighted at the museum, which is lo- cated "just feet away" from the original cobblestone jail site, built in 1830. The museum boasts artifacts,
San Diego Model Railroad Museum Museum celebrates American railroads with “the largest permanent operating model railroad and toy train exhibit” in North America. Four scale-model railroads of the Southwest, the “San Diego County Relief Map” exhibit, and an interactive toy train. There is a multimedia presentation on railroading, an operating railroad semaphore signal, and interpretive displays on railroads and model railroading. The museum is downstairs in the Casa de Balboa building. 1649 El Prado, 619-238-3929. (Balboa Park)

San Diego Natural History Museum “A Day in Pompeii” features authentic artifacts from Pompeii, buried in 79 CE during catastrophic eruption of Vesuvius. View body casts of volcano’s victims, frozen in their last moments; and objects such as frescoes, jewelry, household items. Closes Sunday, May 4. 232-3821.

The permanent exhibit “Fossil Mysteries” showcases last 75 million years in Southern California and Baja California region, a time known for its rich fossil record. Highlights include life-sized models of Albertosaurus, Lambidosaurus, a sea cow, megalodon shark, more. Current “giant-screen film” is “Ocean Oasis.” 1788 El Prado, 619-232-3821. (Balboa Park)

Serra Museum “Commemorating 75 Years: The Serra Museum” is said to “remember the events leading up to the dedication of Presidio Park and the Serra Museum” on July 16, 1929. The exhibit includes a “visit back in time to 1929.” The museum interprets the Native American, Spanish, and Mexican periods of San Diego’s history and contains Spanish Colonial furnishings, art, and artifacts. It’s located at the site of the West Coast’s first European settlement. 2727 Presidio Drive, 619-297-3358. (Old Town)

Timken Museum of Art Permanent collection includes European old master paintings, 18th– and 19th-Century American paintings, and Russian icons. Saint Bartholomew, the only Rembrandt painting on public display in San Diego, is featured. 1500 El Prado, 619-239-5548. (Balboa Park)

Veterans Museum and Memorial Center Memorial to men and women who served in U.S. Armed Forces, Coast Guard, and Warship Merchant Marine. Located in the former San Diego Naval Hospital Chapel (2315 Park Boulevard), the museum features original service-inspired stained glass, as well as a historical mural painted by Richard DeRosset. Main exhibit hall features displays, exhibits of historic artifacts, documents, photographs, memorabilia, artwork honoring men and women who served. Museum is also home to San Diego Vietnam Peace Memorial and Veterans Memorial Garden. 2115 Park Boulevard, 619-239-2100. (Balboa Park)

Wells Fargo History Museum Museums features a working agents’ office staffed by guides in period costumes and contains a telephone booth for visitors to send and receive messages. Short films on California and Wells Fargo history, a gold display, part of the collection assembled by Wells Fargo agent Samuel Dorsey at the end of the 1800s, an exhibit of Concord Coach 251, a restored stagecoach built in 1867, and the Davies watch. The museum is located in the reconstructed Colonel House. 2733 San Diego Avenue, 619-238-3929. (Old Town)
Oversoul

“When the painter Asher B. Durand first journeyed to New York as a teenager in 1817, from his rural home in Essex County, New Jersey, the city was a knockabout place of 10,000 souls — without public schools, sewer system, effective law enforcement, or firefighting — dispersed among hither-skelter structures, fields, and thoroughfares where pigs and chickens scavenged merely unfettered. During the 40 years he spent there, mostly in Greenwich Village, rising to prominence in what would come to be called the Hudson River School of landscape painting, Durand watched New York become the most important city in the world, inhabited by over a million people and charming with new industry, commerce, and artistic activity. When he made his visual foray to the city, Durand had no notion of becoming a painter. Because as a youth he’d shown considerable gifts as a draftsman, the obvious career choice was in the potentially lucrative work of engraving, so he went seeking an apprenticeship. In time, Durand was running his own successful operation, specializing in portrait painting and banknotes. Except for a year spent in Europe, he stayed in the city until retiring in 1870 to his home grounds in what is now Maplewood, New Jersey, where he lived out his 91 years.

When he took up painting in the 1830s, he went the conventional route of portraiture and genre painting but also made the landscape pictures he’d become famous for. He came of age as an artist when critics and connoisseurs were calling for a nativist art that spoke to America’s grandeur, or beauty as to inspire great admiration or awe.” Durand’s homespun Sublime inflected awe in shimmering sunsets and sunrises, silvered mountain streams, and craggy trees that look like creatures out of Tolkien; deposited in these settings are small genre scenes of farmhouses, herdsmen, flocks of sheep, and pastoral folk working, picnicking, or frolicking.

An important turn in Durand’s development came with his visit to Europe in 1840. His first-hand experience of landscapes by Claude Lorrain and John Constable, and the fine gallery pictures of Watteau, consolidated his desire to cultivate a keener sense of how light defines our feeling for the natural order. For a New York painter, that mattered. California’s light can seethe and sizzle. For a New York painter, that mattered. California’s light can seethe and sizzle. Durand once described his exalting experience of capturing how light touches earth: “The external appearance of our dwelling place is fraught with lessons of high and holy meaning.”

“The external appearance of our dwelling place is fraught with lessons of high and holy meaning.”

Kindred Spirits: Asher B. Durand and the American Landscape
San Diego Museum of Art
1450 El Prado, Balboa Park
Through Sunday, April 27.
For additional information, call 619-232-7931.
be Walt Whitman’s Leaves of Grass. “Our seasons are all poetical,” Irving wrote. “The phenomena of our heavens are full of sublimity and beauty, [such as] the sublime melancholy of our autumn, magnificent in its decay.” Durand’s woodland interiors, with birches and beeches tented over a path that recedes to a door of light, are his moodiest pictures because that wink of light comes at the end of fall’s darkened decay.

When you see The Indian Vespers, you don’t have to be a sentimentalist to feel a pang for the unstewarded wildness that would soon enough be “tamed,” as the red man would be by the encroachments of industry. (Who needs electricity?) Durand lived till 1887, though he ceased painting about ten years before his death, and he lived through Indian wars, increased industrialization, the Depression of 1837, the Nativist fanaticism dramatized in Gargoyles of New York, the Civil War, New York’s draft riots and lynchings, the imperatives of Manifest Destiny, and the beginnings of the Gilded Age.

Two pictures in the exhibition give a sense of Durand’s response to changes other than atmospheric. His First Harvest in the Wilderness of 1855 (painted the same year Whitman’s Leaves of Grass appeared) carves a neatly squared-off hayfield and serpentine thoroughfare from an otherwise irregular, bristling, as yet untended natural surroundings. And Progress (The Advance of Civilization) from 1853 illustrates commerce seething itself into the overarching and still bossy domain of nature. Herders and farmers go about their work under sinking light, while in the distance appear wee steamboats, a train crossing a trestle, a settlement, lakeside houses, and a church spire. Far to the left, several Indians gather close to trees as if in council over the consequences of an engineered natural order.

Durand the painter never really gave up engraving, he just brought over its qualities to his canvases. One of the finest things in the exhibition, Primeval Forest, a sepia monochrome made apparently as a cartoon for a future picture, looks like a large gestural drawing, dematerialized and transparent, an image of nature inspired. In many paintings, Durand’s engraver’s art shows up to advantage in incised, sharply drawn bulging tree roots and boles. In Primeval Forest these values are carried through the entire scene. It has a passion for the simplicity of the sublime, its homely bewitchments. Durand is at the same time a placid painter and busy draftsman. In Primeval Forest, the sepia pales to a pillowed white shore of a stream and darkens to nearly black scraggly treetops. There’s something enchanted in this scene missing from other of Durand’s pictures; enchantment, too, in the smaller canvases of beeches, which have a more assertive energy and touch than the larger landscapes. The most beautiful object in the show is a drawing of Mount Chocorua in New Hampshire: its angelically deft touch makes even the faintest line speak of quiet un-histrionic devotion.

**ART LISTINGS**

**HOW TO SEND US YOUR LISTING:** Contributions must be received by 5 p.m. Friday the week prior to publication for consideration. Do not phone. Send a complete description of the event, including the date, time, cost, the precise address where it is to be held (including neighborhood), a contact phone number, and a phone number (including area code) for public information to READER EVENTS, Box 85683, San Diego CA 92186. Or fax to 619-881-2401. You may also submit information online at SDReader.com by clicking on the events section.

**GALLERIES**

“Fragmentos” Closing reception for Honduran-born artist and chemist Santos Orellana, who “brings his Caribbean flavor” to this collection of paintings combining an array of themes, styles, vibrant colors. 925-305-4864, Colosseum Fine Arts (2400 Kettner Boulevard, Suite F-109). 6 p.m., Friday, February 29.

“On a Wing and a Prayer” Opening reception for featured artists Diane Hattula and Paul Strahm (“Outdoors in San Diego”). Juror Sean Sullivan se-

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**Gregorian Chant Mass**

Schola and congregational singing. Hymnals/missals provided with Latin-English pages.

**Sunday, March 9, 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 Rococo Art
State and Date Streets (Little Italy) • Downtown San Diego
Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego, Downtown:
“Robert Irwin: Primaries and Secondary Shades” is the largest exhibition of renowned artist Irwin’s work since 1993. Exhibit features five new major installations works created specifically for MCASD's galleries, is drawn almost exclusively of works from Irwin’s collection. Closes Sunday, April 13. Find the museum directly across from the Santa Fe Railroad air-paintings.

Rhythms of India: The Art of Nandalal Bose (1882–1966) – is described as the “first comprehensive traveling exhibition outside of India to survey the expansive repertoire of Bose… the father of modern art in India.” Exhibit orbits closing the 100 of Bose’s finest paintings, executed in a variety of styles and media, revealing how Bose contributed to success of India’s non-violent struggle for independence from colonial rule through extra emphasis given to large-scale landscape paintings for which he is best remembered.

“Sing Out! Art of Play” – Art of Play: Kinetic Toys of San Diego, La Jolla. In the 1960s, the La Jolla neighborhood of CA, the “Matrix IL,” the space seemed to recede in all directions, as if the walls were moving. Door-to-ceiling and floor-to-wall, the room is filled with grids and panels of phosphor-green LEDs, creating an immersive web of light. Closes Sunday, April 20.

San Diego Museum of Art:
“Masterpieces of San Diego Painting of the Ten Bamboo Studio” — the largest exhibition of renowned artist, Irwin’s work since 1993. Exhibit features five new major installations works created specifically for MCASD's galleries, is drawn almost exclusively from works from Irwin’s collection. Closes Sunday, April 13. Find the museum directly across from the Santa Fe Railroad air-paintings.


Japanese-American who continued with first- and second-generation Japanese-Americans who continued traditions of bonaiu and usuki. The “Chinese Woodblock Print in the Style of the Ten Bamboo Studio” are likely from a 19th-Century edition of Treatise on Calligraphy and Painting of the Ten Bamboo Studio. Prints are noteworthy for technique of printing using multiple blocks. Both exhibits are ongoing.

Mingel International Museum: Hungarion Folk Magic — The Art of Joseph Domjan,” opening on Saturday, March 1, is comprised of first- and second-generation Hungarians who continued traditions of bonaiu and usuki. The “Chinese Woodblock Print in the Style of the Ten Bamboo Studio” are likely from a 19th-Century edition of Treatise on Calligraphy and Painting of the Ten Bamboo Studio. Prints are noteworthy for technique of printing using multiple blocks. Both exhibits are ongoing.

Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego, La Jolla: In the 1960s, the La Jolla neighborhood of CA, the “Matrix IL,” the space seemed to recede in all directions, as if the walls were moving. Door-to-ceiling and floor-to-wall, the room is filled with grids and panels of phosphor-green LEDs, creating an immersive web of light. Closes Sunday, April 20.

Museum of Photographic Arts, San Diego, Downtown:
“The Photographer’s Eye: A Way of Seeing” is drawn from the museum’s permanent collection. Considers the photograph as art and artists, the photograph as part of the objects the photographer encounters. The exhibit explores how the eye of the photographer and the eye of the viewer work together. Closes Sunday, April 13.


“Art of Play: Kinetic Toys of San Diego, La Jolla. In the 1960s, the La Jolla neighborhood of CA, the “Matrix IL,” the space seemed to recede in all directions, as if the walls were moving. Door-to-ceiling and floor-to-wall, the room is filled with grids and panels of phosphor-green LEDs, creating an immersive web of light. Closes Sunday, April 20.

Oceanside Museum of Art: “Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Ruben Oceanside: Art of the 20th Century” — North County.

Timken Museum of Art: “ Permanent collection includes European old master paintings, 18th- and 19th-Century American paintings, and Romanesque altarpiece of Saint Bartholomew, the only Rembrandt painting on public display in San Diego, is featured. 1500 El Prado, 619-239-5548.

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Lost Pain

“When the gods give evil, you cannot escape their gift.”

That cat Oedipus is a bad mother—…”

“Shut-cho mouth!”

“But I’m talkin’ ‘bout Oedipus.”

In Will Power’s often blazing, at times reductive hip-hop take on Aeschylus’s Seven Against Thebes, Oedipus is an “OG”; an “original gangsta.” He struts like John Shaft and drives a “pimped-out Caddy.” For reasons that could be made clearer, he’s cursed his two sons, Eteocles and Polynices, to slay each other. Despite protestations of got-your-back loyalty, including the vow to stay tight “till Homer is a kid on a cartoon show,” they war and die before the seventh gate of Thebes.

In the original, Oedipus’s motives for the curse are trivial: his sons drank from a golden cup against his wishes and served him too small a portion of meat. Also in the original, Oedipus has a crazed tragic stature: when he learned he killed his father and married his mother, the King of Thebes gouged out his eyes.

For the La Jolla Playhouse production, Edwin Lee Gibson plays Oedipus, and what he does is great: especially dancing James Brown’s double-toe slides, as if putting out two cigarettes at once, and crawling off the stage caped, as in Brown’s famous “Please, please” exit (did he have a heart attack?) and miraculous reentry. But the dazzle omits a key fact: Oedipus has known blinding agony. Few in dramatic history suffer as much. The pain gets lost in Gibson’s pimp-attire and red-rimmed glasses — through which the character sees clearly — and “Mack Daddy” attitude. The Seven is a “remix.” The term comes from music. In its simplest form, it’s a familiar song performed in an alternate version. The idea became popular when reggae producers of the early ’70s (including Lee “Scratch” Perry) dubbed an original, or dropped vocals, or added reverb and echoes, and nudged a familiar tune beyond the score. Hip-hop music now uses “sampling” to combine old and new. The familiar undergoes a brief, or lengthy, sea-change. It becomes both present and not.

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A DJ, played by Chinasa Ogubagu, becomes our narrative thread. She plays a sonorous old recording of Seven Against Thebes, so stately it sounds ancient, and boasts “there are no worlds I cannot mix.” Under the DJ’s guidance, the actors fast-forward, loop, and rewind. The stage becomes a visualization of the music, at times hectic, at others bang-on target, and always performed with precision.

Power, who gives the brothers’ names a different spelling, has found stark contemporary
The Seven Sisters

Richard Greenberg’s comedy-

metrical in the West Coast premiere of Chekhov’s Three Sisters in San Antonio. Throughout their process, from auditions to rehearsals, business keeps trumping, and squabbling, art. In the end, like the Prozorov sisters stuck in rural Russia, the trio comes no closer to their dreams. Everything Jane Martin says about current theater is true: commercialism dominates, interpretations mediate texts, few roles for women. But the play is not.

The Clean House

It’s an oxymoron in Jane Martin’s drama about “an elegant and imperious German-Jewish refugee, her eccentric daughter, straining against her mother’s tight leash, and the mysterious young man who enters her lives.” Kim Rubinstein directed.

The Seven with fixed notions of what musicals must do, will disappoint. Many theaters offer discounts to students, seniors, citizens, and the military. Ask at the box office.

The American Plan

As the brothers, rational Eteocles and artistic Polynices, Benton Greene and Jamyl Dobson are outstanding. They move Eteocles and Polynices, choking Oedipus, on an upper end of the show’s most arresting gods and having a son. In one scene, Eteocles imagines an endless chain of curses, from today’s youth break the cycle of violence?

Oedipus’s father Laius began the curse by defying the gods and having a son. In one of the show’s most arresting scenes, Eteocles imagines an endless chain of curses, from Laius’s giant shadow on the wall choking Oedipus, on an upper platform, to Eteocles, to today. As the brothers, rational Eteocles and artistic Polynices, Benton Greene and Jamyl Dobson are outstanding. They move as if in two eras at once: the stylized ritual of Theban royalty, and the free flow of today (their epic single combat, brilliantly choreographed by Bill T. Jones, also combines both). Most significant: they reach the emotional core of Aeschylus and Will Power’s script: a hunger for hatred (in Sattis’s Thebaid, a later version of the story, the flames of their funeral pyres split in two, like tongues, and snap at each other).

Under Jo Bonney’s direction, The Seven moves at such a relentless pace it almost does a disservice to Power’s rich language and rocketing rhymes. But information overload is a part of a remix aesthetic. Like the DJ, you must find your way, make sense where possible, connect when you can. If you go to The Seven with fixed notions of what musicals must do, it will disappoint. Carousel it isn’t. But if you bring a willingness to let it happen — to go where the play takes you — it could surprise.

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Fences
Baseball immortal Josh Gibson died three months before Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier in 1947. August Wilson's drama opens in 1957. Troy Maxson, a Gibson-like character smugly by the major leagues, shows that although baseball's been desegregated for a decade, the world outside hasn't. Troy is Wilson's, and one of American theater's, most multifaceted creations. Mention a director's name, and everyone else on Mike Buckely's brick-walled set, dapple-lit by Eric Lester. Mark Christopher Lawrence does a special turn as Troy's mentally challenged brother Gabe (who may, or may not, be his angelic namesake). In the end, Gabe swings and misses three times but ends up smashing the deepest home run of all.

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According to the chapter, Leonard P. Stern worked in the Oklahoma territory and the South. He was a dependable and reliable person, which is why the community trusted in him.

Despite this, there was a sense of unease and suspicion among the people. For instance, in the scene where Leonard is accused of stealing, the villagers are quick to question his motives and loyalty.

The chapter suggests that Stern's reliability was a double-edged sword, as it also contributed to the tension and mistrust that permeated the community. But in the end, Stern's loyalty and commitment to the local people ultimately help to save them from a dangerous threat.

Overall, this chapter provides a glimpse into the complex and nuanced relationships that exist in even the smallest of communities, and how individuals must navigate between trust and suspicion in order to survive.
Blurt

live within a five-mile radius of the campus. There isn’t much to do on campus. We don’t have a football or basketball team.

To create a band scene, Levi and the band Morning Riot staged eight off-campus parties within the past eight months. The events featured DJs, live sets by Morning Riot, and alcohol. They charged admission ($5 for women, $10 for men), and guests could only get in if they were dressed according to the prespecified theme (pajamas, sports uniforms, devils and angels, pilgrims and Indians, or Greeks in togas).

“It was an excuse for young people to show up with as little as possible on,” says Morning Riot drummer Josh Ahrend. The jumping

sushi restaurant. “Every event had a line of people around the building.” The last party was held on February 16.

“It was, like, 200 people over capacity… The whole place was like one big mosh pit. There was so much condensation, you could write your name on the windows. There was so much moisture that our equipment started shorting out and we kept getting electrocuted…. There was vomit inside and outside. It was so packed that we cleared everyone out, the place was in shambles…. Two midgets and the dominatrix we hired to perform never got to go on.”

Ahrend says that the owners of Kaito had sold their business and liquor license to another company and that February 16 was their last night in business. (The restaurant’s website, however, indicates that the restaurant planned a move to a different Encinitas location.) ABC administrator Robin Van Dyke admits that ABC investigators were present but she won’t disclose why they were there or how many under-age citations were given out. She confirms that Kaito’s liquor license was being sold but that any ABC-related penalties must be addressed by the old owners before a transfer is allowed. Attempts to reach Kaito management were not successful.

— Ken Leighton

Muscle from Beyond

Newish neighbor David J has reunited with Bauhaus multiple times and is planning a Love and Rockets reunion, but first there’s his musical about the life of Edie Sedgwick, which debuts March 6 in L.A.

“It’s part one-woman show [and] part rock concert, replete with avant-garde minimalist staging and video imagery,” says J on his blog of Silver for Gold (the Odyssey of Edie Sedgwick), which he wrote and directs. Sedgwick is best known as Andy Warhol’s onetime muse whose beauty and descent into tragedy have become the stuff of pop-cultural legend.

“Writing Silver for Gold,” says J, “it felt as if I’d entered into a subtle psychic relationship with this beautiful dead girl, and she was actively encouraging me to write. She became a bright light that glazed all the brighter whenever I started to create. It was as if she was feeding on the attention. This might sound highly fanciful, but that is how it felt. Edie was enduring in her ultimate role, that of the muse. Some incidental music for the production was provided by Marcelo Rudalovich, of the local Trummerflora arts collective.”

During his local residency, David J has DJ’d at clubs and set up a local Bauhaus tribute band at the Casbah. He mentored singer-songwriter Renata Youngblood and recorded with her, reportedly keeping her debut EP for Bauhaus front man Peter Murphy at the (2005) Coachella music festival and thus landing her an opening slot on Murphy’s subsequent solo tour.

Silver for Gold (the Odyssey of Edie Sedgwick) debuts March 6 at the Met Theatre in Hollywood and will run through March 16. — Jay Allen Sanford
money for nice-looking people, get some hot guys down there, goddamn it." One local promoter says service charges have become more common. "It started about five years ago, it's just the newest trend to develop another revenue stream. House of Blues does it. The Sports Arena has a $3.50 service charge. Qualcomm and Coors also charge a service charge for every ticket they sell."

The promoter says that many artists appear for a set guarantee versus a percentage of the door (whichever is greater). Because the service charge is not part of the advertised ticket price, the venue does not have to pay the artist a percentage of that fee. "This way it doesn't get reported [to the artist's agent] in the gross revenue of the show," says the promoter. Melanie says, "I'm self-employed, and I have to watch my money. To me, a service charge is if you go through Ticketmaster."

Consultations with Garay are done in person, over the phone, and via email. He charges $120 per hour, billed in 15-minute increments from the start of the session. The first half hour is free. "No, you cannot have a free daily 29-minute consultation, phone call, or email."

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Anthology general manager Michael Miller responds: "That service charge helps us combat our overall costs like the hardware and software and other costs to produce those tickets and the costs of personnel (to handle ticketing)." Regarding Melanie's complaint: "It is very understandable. It does throw a lot of people off."

— Ken Leighton

Don't Tax Me, Bro! Come tax time each year, accountant Roger Garay advises many local musicians (whom he prefers to keep anonymous). "Many performing artists are self-employed independent contractors, sometimes by choice and sometimes by default, and they receive Form 1099 at year end, reporting their compensation. Other performing artists are paid as employees of the venues where they perform and receive a W-2 at year end, reporting their compensation and the amounts of taxes withheld."

"The reporting rule is that if you pay someone $600 or more over the course of the year, you must issue a Form 1099."

"I have heard many complaints about some venues giving out Forms 1099 instead of W-2s at year end. Everyone complained about having to report their income at all. I believe, however, that the best of all worlds is enjoyed by the artist who receives Form 1099.... It opens the door for them to file a Schedule C — like any other business — and take legitimate deductions that would not be available to them filing as W-2 employees."

"No, you cannot have a free daily 29-minute consultation, phone call, or email."

— Jay Allen Sanford

Phoo Fighting Typo Haters When the Foo Fighters play Cox Arena on Monday, March 3, "All backstage passes must be approved through the Foo Fighters' tour manager. Any retarded house or venue passes are null and void. The old 'résumé on a rope' is not permitted. Regarding advertising, 'Any misspellings or other stupid typos will set the Purchaser back $100, to be paid to Foo Fighters tour manager at settlement.' Backstage, 'Artist shall not be required to share dressing room with any other performer, except Supergrass, Oasis, or maybe Led Zeppelin.... Any strange or lingering odor should be dealt with and covered up wherever and whenever possible.' Also, 'Venue employees hanging out with no apparent job or making out with girlfriends or boyfriends (aka the town census backstage) is not fun for us either, especially when they perform and receive a Form W-2 at year end, reporting their compensation and the amounts of taxes withheld...."

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"No, you cannot have a free daily 29-minute consultation, phone call, or email."

— Jay Allen Sanford

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SOMEBWHERE BACK IN TIME
WORLD TOUR 08
Thursday

“Comedian’s comedian” Dave Attell delivers stand-up to House of Blues tonight. The Comedy Central mainstay saw the release of his first HBO special, Captain Miserable, in ’07. Attell is best known for his insomnia series on Comedy Central, in which the comedian roams city streets after hours. The New York comic calls his act “Wild and funny and for ugly people,” and has taken his camera anywhere worldwide. ⚠️ To the entrance at the Gaslamp across from the convention center sits spanking new Behe... for ugly people,” and has taken his cameras world... ⚠️

Friday

Darth duo Raveonettes kick off their Last Last Tour Friday night at Casbah. Fuzzy guitar squalls and Nico noir visit three decades of art rock. They’re on the road with kinetic kid punks Be Your Own Pet. The Nashville quartet will drop sophomore disc Get Awkward mid-March. That’s a good double bill, clubbers. SoCal garage punks A.D.D.O., out in support of Let It Run — “Th—” "Hitzy meets Black Flag." Dago pirate rockers Thee Corsairs open... Pop vox precision-... Tally Hall "do up" at Beauty Bar. The Abe... Arbor quartet room rock opera to rap opera. Kansas City’s “happy hardcore” act... Out at the beach... Mars will rap at Canes... and Avi Roses on Her Grace rant Winstons.

Saturday

Couple big gigs downtown as Portland’s Pavement placement Blitz Trapper lay out Wild Mountain Nation (SubPop), top of the debut heap last year, with its noisy mash of country-fried indie rock, nu-wave electronics, and post-punk temperament. Cue up some MiyaBace samples and book it! Sold Casbah bil with Seattle sons Grand Archives and

Sunday

Hey Alan, Nick Shot... Cleveland industrial-rock jocks Filter sold out Casbah, sooo... that’s that... Frank Sinatra Jr.’s going to jazz up Harrahs Rincon. The son of Old Blue Eyes isn’t half bad, to tell you true. He did manage pop’s career and conducted the orchestra there at the end, capturing a lot of the Chairman’s mojo. Check Sinatra Jr.’s ’06 debut The Face... Austin’s high-octane country-rock quartet the Mother Truckers pull in to Brick by Brick Sunday night. They’re set to drop Broke, Not Broken. Brick’s booked Sickstring Outlaws and Tornado Magnet in support. Zombie Lounge imports Arizona psychobilly punks Stitch Hopeless & the Howlin’ Jupiters open.... They’ll join... Spaceman... Atlanta’s Thee Corsairs at Casbah... They do.

This Week In Music

Rufus Wainwright
March 4
George Lopez
March 15
Eddie Vedder
April 15
Kanye West
April 20
D’Leppard
April 22
Avril Lavigne
April 30
Michael Bublé
May 2
Jules
May 9
Mila Keys
May 13
Lisa Lampanelli
May 17
Joe Jackson
May 11
Margaret Cho
May 15
Megadeth
May 20

Miguel Bose
March 2
Vicente Fernandez
May 24
The Police
May 26
WWE
June 1
The Cure
June 3
Gary Allan
June 4
David Sedaris
June 30

“Doodledoos Live” March 2
“The Wiggles Live” April 1
“Celtic Woman” May 9

Foo Fighters
March 3


Monday

Blog-world flavor-of-the-month A Place to Bury Strangers challenges cross-town traffic by booking Casbah and Beauty Bar on the same night. The Brooklyn trio is touring in support of their s/t debut — replace Jesus and Mary Chain’s paisley and patchouli with barbed wire and bar smoke. The Strangers play Casbah’s Anti-Monday League with Holy Fuck, Run Run Run, and El Ten Eleven. They’ll join My Best Fiend at Beauty Bar for free sets....

Nirvana brat Dave Grohl delivers his radio-ready Foo Fighters to Cox Arena for big rock show of the week... know, if yet into big rock shows.

Tuesday

Old pop soul Rufus Wainwright tripped into Berlin to record his fifth full-length Release the Stars — classicist sensibilities with a modern-pop mindset. The showman woos Belly Up Tuesday night... NYC nu-soul act the Virgins are back in the states and tour their s/t debut through Casbah. L.A. wavers Killola and locals Vinyl Radio in support. Zombie Lounge stages experimental rockers Secret Fun Club (ex-Some Girls), Brazilian stars, and Powered by Junk.

— Bamby Monk

Rafael Cervantes

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SUNDAY, APRIL 27

THE BLACK CROWES
SATURDAY, APRIL 26

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A lot of folks went home with strangers and wrote us thank-you letters the next day.”

The Swedish Models formed in early 2007 after guitarist Andrew Bernhardt, original bass player Mark Wiskowski, and drummer Dustin Paul called it quits with their band Cape May. The trio then picked up guitarist/vocalist Ryan Waller and added second drummer Andrew McNally. Bass player Keith Hilton, who also played with Bernhardt in Vinyl Radio, recently came on board to take over duties on the low end.

Bernhardt came up with the band’s name during a “break” at one of their first rehearsals, “I went to the toilet to talk to an old man about a mule and came back to our rehearsal room, opened the door, and said, ‘Where are all the Swedish models?’ It would have been sweet to open the door to a room full of hot models, but instead it was just our sweaty and half-drunk band. So we continued on as the Swedish Models from that day going forward.”

“A lot of folks went home with strangers and wrote us thank-you letters the next day.”

Bernhardt continues, “We’re shooting for tasty harmonies on our first full album. The sound of a person’s voice is unique, and if we utilize each of our unique voices as creatively and originally as we do with our instruments, this is going to be a fun and trippy album to listen to.”

**FAVORITE DISC?** Bernhardt: “Led Zeppelin. An all-encompassing, ever-ruuling rock and roll composition of songs that hits from the heaviest to the sexiest and most tasteful areas of voice and instrumentation. Page, Plant, Jones, and Bonham — they deserve to be mummy gods or wizards living in a really cool castle. Cassandra Peterson [Elvira] would be the dog that guards the castle.”

**FAVORITE DVD?** Bernhardt: “This Is Spinal Tap.”

**FAVORITE DISC?** Paul: “A Night at the Opera. This record takes you on a different, memorable journey every time you listen to it. May’s tones are comparable to a reflex hammer striking your elbow, and Mr. Mercury’s talented throat captures multi-part harmonies that are impossible to re-create during a live show — for this reason no one should ever attempt to cover any of the tracks on this record.”

**FAVORITE DVD?** McNally: “The Kinks, The Kinks Are the Village Green Preservation Society. My friend gave me this album two years ago, and I couldn’t believe I had never heard it. Sounds cheesy, but this album changed the way I wanted to write and my band to sound.”

**FAVORITE DISC?** Paul: “A lot of folks went home with strangers and wrote us thank-you letters the next day. A lot of folks went home with strangers and wrote us thank-you letters the next day.”

**FAVORITE DVD?** McNally: “This Is Spinal Tap.”

**FAVORITE DISC?** Paul: “Our first show at the Beauty Bar was memorable because we brought our bikes (my Schwinn Stingray and Andrew B’s banana-seated My Little Pony cruiser) and party favors consisting of noisemakers and horny-goat weed. A lot of folks went home with strangers and wrote us thank-you letters the next day.”

**WORST GIG?** Bernhardt: “The San Diego House Party show that we played. We wanted to redeem ourselves and play there again because we were way too drunk because we’re OBCians and were drinking all day at the OB Street Fair. Ryan’s tuner was tuned a full step down — don’t know how that happened — and things fell apart.”

**MUSICIAN OF THE WEEK**

**BEST GIG?** Paul: “A Night at the Opera. This record takes you on a different, memorable journey every time you listen to it. May’s tones are comparable to a reflex hammer striking your elbow, and Mr. Mercury’s talented throat captures multi-part harmonies that are impossible to re-create during a live show — for this reason no one should ever attempt to cover any of the tracks on this record.”

**FAVORITE DVD?** McNally: “The Kinks, The Kinks Are the Village Green Preservation Society. My friend gave me this album two years ago, and I couldn’t believe I had never heard it. Sounds cheesy, but this album changed the way I wanted to write and my band to sound.”

**FAVORITE DISC?** Paul: “A lot of folks went home with strangers and wrote us thank-you letters the next day.”

**WORST GIG?** Bernhardt: “The San Diego House Party show that we played. We wanted to redeem ourselves and play there again because we were way too drunk because we’re OBCians and were drinking all day at the OB Street Fair. Ryan’s tuner was tuned a full step down — don’t know how that happened — and things fell apart.”

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**MUSICIAN OF THE WEEK**
**Upcoming**

Feb 28  Oregon Prima  
Mar 4  Oregon Guarare  
Mar 5  Oregon 8.8  
Mar 6  Waler II y Orquesta Rumbornay  
Mar 9  ORQUESTA PRIMO  
Mar 11  Trece de la Suerte  
Mar 12  Ritmo Caliente  
Mar 13  Orquesta Primo  
Mar 16  SALSA CALIENTE  
Mar 18  Orquesta Primo  
Mar 19  Waler II y Orquesta Rumbornay  
Mar 20  Salsa Caliente  
Mar 23  TABACO Y RON  
Mar 25  Carlie Chavez y su Afro Truco  
Mar 26  Bomba Chente  
Mar 27  Orquesta Primo  
Mar 30  CHINO ESPINOZA Y LOS Duenos Del Son  

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**Sunday Salsa**  
March 2  
featuring  
Chino Espinoza y los Duenos Del Son  

Doors open @ 6:30 pm, classes start @ 6:45 pm, live band @ 8 pm  
Complimentary Tapas Buffet before 8 pm

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**Great place to host a Birthday Party!**  
Call for details  
858-560-9278

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**Admission Adults-Only Night!**  
Valid Tuesday, March 4, 2008  
*Buy 1 admission and receive 2nd admission free.

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**How to submit a music listing:**  
Call 858-231-3800 weekdays, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., or send email to Reader Music Scene, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186. You may also submit information online at SDReader.com or by clicking on the music section.

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**THIS WEEK’S SHOWS**

**4th & B:** 345 B Street, Downtown, 619-231-4834.  
Friday, 8 p.m. — Sister Nancy, Jamaican dancehall singer. $15.

**710 Beach Club:** 710 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-483-7844.  

**The Alley:** 421 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad, 760-434-1173. Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays — The Love Rangers. Dance music.

**Anthology:** 1337 India Street, Little Italy, 619-595-0300.  
Thursday, 7:30 p.m. — Tom Scott, Grammy-winning saxophonist. $15-$25.  
Sunday, 7:30 p.m. — Deborah Flores, RB&J and CD-release party. $12-$27.

**Athenaeum School of the Arts Studio:** 4441 Park Boulevard, Normal Heights. Saturday, 8 p.m. — “The New Bossa Nova”. Enjoy Brazilian jazz when Luciana Souza (vocals), Larry Koonce (guitar), and Larry Klein (bass) perform for “Jazz at the Studio”. series 654-1387. $19-$24.

**Bar Leucadia:** 1542 North Coast Highway 101, Leucadia, 760-739-2094. Saturday — Death on Mars. Experimental/punk/punk rock.

**Beanou’s:** 5662 La Jolla Boulevard, La Jolla, 858-459-0474. Thursday, 8 p.m. — Greg Feldman. Covers/standards.

**Belly Up Tavern:** 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach, 858-481-9022. Saturday, 8 p.m. — Marcia Ball and John Hammond. Southern boogie singer/pianist and solo-acoustic blues.

**Brick by Brick:** 1130 Buenos Aires, Clairemont, 619-275-2725. Thursday — Sweet Tooth. Eight Minutes to Twilight also perform. Rock/alternative/indie. Ages 21 and up.

**Cafe Lamaze:** 1441 Highland Avenue, Clairemont, 619-275-8252. Saturday — Several Roots, Midnight Reign. Sound Escape and the Yellow Guns perform. Hardcore/rock/metal. Ages 21 and up.

**Car commercials:** 11940 Bernardo Plaza West, Bernardo, 858-367-2322. Fridays, 7 p.m. — Sandy Chappell Quartet. With Brian Andrews, Robert Sebastian, and Hank Young. Standards/jazz/blues.

**Cafe Lamaze:** 1441 Highland Avenue, National City, 619-474-3222. Fridays, 7 p.m. — Several Roots, Midnight Reign. Sound Escape and the Yellow Guns perform. Hardcore/rock/metal. Ages 21 and up.

**Fujiya:** 340 North Euclid Avenue, Escondido, 800-988-4253. Wednesday, 4 p.m. — Wednesday, 7 p.m. — Free First Wednesday Series. Listen for Celtic music by folk guitarist Christopher Dean. 800-988-4253.


**Camel’s Breath Inn:** 1033 Friars Road, Mission Valley, 619-281-3722. Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays — Karaoke. Sing your heart out on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Sunday nights. On Monday nights, you can have fun dancing to a mix of R&B music. $12-$27.

**Canes:** 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach, 858-488-1780. Thursday — Mues. Rapper out of Las Angeles. California. Ages 21 and up.

**Cardiff-by-the-Sea Library:** 2046 North Friars Road, Mission Valley, 619-273-0206.  
Thursday, 7:30 p.m. — Deborah Flores, RB&J and CD-release party. $12-$27.

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J.J. Landers' Irish Pub: 125 South Main Street, Fallbrook, 760-731-0839. Friday, 9 p.m. — Natural Incense. Reggae/ska. Ages 21 and up.

Jack's La Jolla: 7863 Girard Avenue, La Jolla, 858-456-8111. Every day of the week, 6 p.m. — Piano Bar. Every day of the week in the Ocean Room.

Saturday's: 601 South Cedros Ave., La Jolla, 858-481-8671. Saturday, 9 p.m. — Karaoke.

Jimmy Love's: 827 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-595-0123. Every day of the week 5 p.m. — Christopher Dale and Friends. Acoustic pop/rock.

The Jumping Turtle: 1916 Fourth Street, North Park, 619-276-3498. Thursday, 9:30 p.m. — Speed. A high-energy punk band. Friday, 9:45 p.m. — The Syndicate, the ultimate garage band. Saturday, 8 p.m. — The Blokes. Sunday, 9 p.m. — Open-Mike Night. Come out every Wednesday. Includes 20-minute sets and a free beverage for playing. Welcome open jams, songwriters, comedians, spoken word, ethics jams, and collaborations. Ages 21 and up.

Kadan: 619/30th Street, North Park, 619-480-2500. Monday, 9 p.m. — Mayhem Mondays. Punk rock every Monday. Live bands and resident DJ Nate Horror provide the tunes.

Lust/= 3 EZ Pieces. Thursday, 9 p.m. — The Fall Guys. Friday, 9 p.m. — Karaoke. Saturday, 9 p.m. — Mystique.

Molly Malone's: 1130 Orange Avenue, 760-789-9050. Every day of the week. Local musicians who perform a diverse range of music: rock, jazz, blues, classical, as well as traditional Irish folk music. Ages 21 and up.

The Original Wrigley Band: 1107 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-5280. Thursday, 8 p.m. — Jim Stohler. Friday, 9 p.m. — Blue's Pub. Saturday, 9 p.m. — The Fall Guys. McP's Irish Pub & Grill features local musicians who perform a diverse range of music: rock, jazz, blues, classical, as well as traditional Irish folk music. Ages 21 and up.

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THURSDAY
FEBRUARY 28

RESTAURANT & NIGHTCLUB
WITH A SOUTHBAY FLAIR

KRUSH THURSDAYS
SAN DIEGO'S NEWEST 18+
THURSDAY NIGHT HOT SPOT!

HOSTED BY CHASE COSTELLO, RYAN THORSSEN, STEVE CAMP, JACK KINLEY, JASON EMELLE, JORDAN BOWDITCH, STEVE JONES, TONY TRUJILLO & RYAN MANNING

HIP HOP | MASHUPS | PARTY ROCK
FULL BAR AVAILABLE WITH 21 UP ID / DRINK SPECIALS
$3 DOMESTIC BEERS | $5 JAGER SHOTS
$5 VODKA ENERGY DRINKS | $5 LONG ISLANDS

FRIDAY
FEBRUARY 29

VISIONSHOCK SD PRESENTS
2ND ANNUAL GO GO SHOCK II
"5 GO GO DANCERS LIVE @ DECO'S"
DJ'S REYFINO - CLOBBER - TRUST

$1 HOSTED BAR DRINKS FROM 9-10PM
MUST BE ON LIST - RSVP TO GUESTLIST@VISIONSHOCKSD.COM

SATURDAY
MARCH 1

HOSTED BY ROB ZOOMY & RAY

CLUB DEVIATE
3 ROOMS OF BOOM, OUTDOOR PATIO & VIP BEDS
FEATURING
DJ RICH E RICH, DJ XRAY, DJ KENSO,
JAY VALDEZ, DJ CIRCLE K, DJ A-ROCK
MC BIG DADDY

DRINK SPECIALS ALL NIGHT LONG
OPEN BAR FOR ALL VIP INVITEES
CLUBDEVIATE.COM | GETTHEPONT.BIZ | 619.423.5676

WEDNESDAY
MARCH 5

DECO DANCE
THE Hottest 18+ & 21+ SUPER-MEGA EVENT TO HIT SAN DIEGO!

FEATURING IN ROOM 1 (6 ROOMS) & ROOM 2 (16+ ROOM)
DJ DEAD SERIOUS, KAYELLA MIXMasters

FEATURING IN ROOM 3 (21+ ROOM) / PATIO
DJ DUBZ & DJ ENIGMA

18+ TO PARTY | 21+ TO DRINK (DRINK SPECIAL - $5 WELLS)
HOSTED BY ROB ZOOMY | WWW.GETTHEPONT.BIZ | WWW.BABEBLV.COM

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MAKE DINNER RESERVATIONS FOR THURSDAYS AND SATURDAYS AT THE COVER!

619.596.DECCO | WWW.DECOSTV.COM | 731 5TH AVENUE GASLAMP QUARTER SAN DIEGO
The Raveonettes are a duo, and their sound is all about duality and contrast — noisy guitars and careful vocal harmonies, Danish accents and American musical references, modern bizarreness and retro song structures. But the most powerful contrast is that between man and woman.

Raveonettes’ singer-guitarist Sharin Foo is on the phone from her hotel room in London, where she is finishing up a European tour and gearing up for the same in America — the first stop is San Diego — and she’s talking about Lust Lust Lust, the excellent new album she created with bandmate Sune Rose Wagner.

“The other albums are definitely more fictional, sort of little screenplays,” says Foo. “This one is more of an introverted, darker, more personal, intimate sort of album.” It’s also, as the title implies, an album about sex. Specifically, it’s about the power struggle between sex and love, or, as Foo puts it, “trouble between your intellect and the sort of primal parts of you.”

At times, this meant trouble between the Raveonettes. “We had a huge fight about ‘The Beat Died,’” says Foo, “because I’m singing that song, and I obviously wanted to sing it from my perspective as a female. And Sune was getting frustrated about that because he wrote the lyrics as a male perspective...we are at very different states in our lives right now. But at the same time, the songs that Sune writes, they speak to a lot of people, and they speak to me, too. That’s why we work together.”

RAVEONETTES, The Casbah, Friday, February 29, 8:30 p.m. 619-232-4395, 318.

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1. The Raveonettes' album "Lust Lust Lust" was released in 2019.
2. The Raveonettes are known for their unique sound that combines elements of rock, indie, and pop.
3. Sharin Foo and Sune Rose Wagner, the duo behind The Raveonettes, are based in Denmark.
4. The album "Lust Lust Lust" was produced by producer Daniel Lopatin.
5. "The Beat Died" is a track from the album, and it explores themes of duality and contrast.

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**Humphrey’s Backstage**

**The Soul Persuaders**

**UPCOMING SHOWS**

- **Saturday, March 8**
  - **8:30 p.m.** Classic Rock
  - **9:30 p.m.** Acoustic
  - **10:30 p.m.** DJ Music

- **Monday, March 3**
  - **7 p.m.** Blues

- **Wednesday, March 5**
  - **8 p.m.** Blue Rockit

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**UPCOMING SHOWS**

- **Saturday, March 8**
  - **8 pm** Sweet Soul Music

- **Thursday, February 28**
  - **8 pm** Detroit Underground

- **Saturday, March 1**
  - **5 pm** Jazz

- **Monday, March 2**
  - **8 p.m.** Michael Ward with host Toyari & DJ John Phillips

- **Wednesday, March 5**
  - **8 p.m.** Blue Rockit

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**Round Table Pizza:** 1361 East Washington Street, Escondido. Wednesday, 7 p.m. — Silverado Bluegrass Band. Music night hosted by San Diego North County Bluegrass and Folk Club. Events begin with parking lot jam sessions; featured bands take stage around 8 p.m. 760-745-7231.


**San Diego Sports Club:** 1271 University Avenue, Hillcrest. 619-299-7372. Tuesday—Saturday, 4—11 p.m. Live jazz. 858-805-5945.

**The Shout House:** 655 4th Avenue, Downtown. 619-231-6700. Monday—Saturday. 12:30 p.m.—10:30 p.m. "Dance Time! Latin Salsa, Dance Time! Latin Salsa." 619-231-6700.

**The Soul Persuaders:** 1190 Palm Avenue, Ocean Beach. 858-458-7732. Friday—Saturday, 9 p.m.—1 a.m. "The Soul Persuaders." 619-231-6700.

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**Backstage**

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- **Saturday, March 1**
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UPCOMING SHOWS

4th & Bi: 345 B Street, Downtown, 619-231-4543.
April 2 — Betin Cuervas.
April 12 — Merchebra.

710 Beach Club: 710 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-483-7444.
March 7 — Social Distortion.
March 9 — The Aggrolites.
March 10 — The Ian Tordella Band.
March 11 — Vintage.
March 16 — Local alternative/rock/garage band.
March 20 — Trunk Full of Junk.
March 21 — Dresses.
March 23 — Filter.
March 24 — Los Lonely Boys.
March 26 — The Aggrolites.
March 29 — The Ian Tordella Band.
March 30 — Brother Ali.
March 31 — The Skatalites.

What Canobliss lacks in innovation they compensate for with fervor and commitment. Longstanding local metal favorites, the band has polished its act to a gleam, even if that act is a rehash of their genre’s top successes. Soaring vocals, racecar-quick guitars, and machine-gun-popping drums have all been done, but not better than Canobliss can do them.

The 2006 addition of lead vocalist Maldonado brings fresh life and energy to their latest release. Maldonado’s voice rings in somewhere between the emotive of Dio and the fercility and machismo of Hetfield and spurs on the interplay between Russo’s drumming and the dual guitars.

With the splintering of metal into the alphabet soup of subgenres (black, Norse, speed, death), it’s refreshing to hear good old-fashioned heavy metal in the tradition of early Metallica, Megadeth, and Slayer. (Call them “thrash” if you’d like, but anything pre-1990 is considered “old fashioned” to me.) Only post-metal and the like could make a „shock metal“ act like Canobliss sound archaic.

An “intimate” performance by the Bankhead industry.

TO GET YOUR LOCAL CD REVIEWED, PLEASE MAIL IT TO: Music Editor, Hometown CDs, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803

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5 Miles High
Tuesday, March 4
Marc Pierce • Jimmy Grande
Wednesday, March 5
Reverend Stickman • R.D.G.
Fuzz Huzzi
Upcoming: March 6
The Hype

Santee
8528 Magnolia Avenue • 619-596-8350
(Corner of Prospect & Magnolia)
Thursday, February 28
Zone 4
Friday & Saturday, February 29 & March 1 • 9 pm
Classic Rock

6 One 9
Pool Tables • Dart Boards • Hot Spot & Lotto
Free Parking • Free WiFi Access

Second Wind
8515 Navajo Road • 619-465-1730
(Albertsons shopping plaza at Navajo & Lake Murray)
Friday & Saturday, February 29 & March 1 • 9 pm
Classic Rock

www.secondwindbars.com
ATM & credit cards welcome.

Navajo
8515 Navajo Road • 619-465-1730
(Albertsons shopping plaza at Navajo & Lake Murray)
Friday & Saturday, February 29 & March 1 • 9 pm
Classic Rock

143 South Cedros Ave.
Solana Beach
www.secondwindbars.com
www.bellyup.com

Friday & Saturday, February 29 & March 1 • 9 pm

8528 Magnolia Avenue • 619-596-8350
(Corner of Prospect & Magnolia)
Thursday, February 28
Zone 4
Friday & Saturday, February 29 & March 1 • 9 pm
Classic Rock

1st ANNUAL S.D. BASEBALL BASH w/ATOMIC GROOVE
Thu 2/28 • 7:00 PM

BOOGIE NIGHTS
Sun 2/29 • 9:00 PM

AL HOWARD & THE K33 ORCHESTRA
Sat 3/1 • 9:00 PM

PERPETUAL GROOVE PRESENTED BY BACAMALLA.ORG
Sat 3/1 • 9:00 PM

INGRID MICHAELSON
CARY BROTHERS
GREG LAKE
KATE YUNELIK
JESSIE BAYLIN
JIM BLANCO
Thu 3/6 • 8:00 PM

RUFUS WAINWRIGHT
SOLD OUT
Sun 3/4 • 8:00 PM

ESCALERA
JULIANNA RAVE
Wed 3/5 • 8:00 PM

ESCALERA STRIPES AND LINES
DUAL ALBUM RELEASE PARTY!
TODD HANNIGAN
Sat 3/8 • 9:00 PM

THE BLIND BOYS OF ALABAMA
TOM FRIED
Sun 3/9 • 8:00 PM

NEW YORK DOLLS
BILLY MAEDE BAND
Fri 3/14 • 8:00 PM

GRAND OLE PARTY
WE ARE THE FURY
Mon 3/10 • 8:00 PM

MAD PROFESSOR MEETS EJUAN EMANUEL & THE REVELATIONS
Tommy Castro Band
Tommy Castro Band
Wed 3/15 • 8:00 PM

TRISTAN PRETTYMAN
COMMON SENSE
J ARCH • DJ ARTISTIC
Sun 3/16 • 9:00 PM

SHAWN MULLINS
STRING CHEESE INCIDENT
PIERRE BROWN
HI-DEF FROM RED ROCKS MOVIE
Mon 3/17 • 8:00 PM

TRISTAN PRETTYMAN
WIGGLES
Wed 3/19 • 8:00 PM

THE ITALS
LLOYD HEMMINGS
Thu 3/20 • 8:00 PM

JUST ADDED!
4/1 April Fools’ Day Comedy Show w/Dante (from Last Comic Standing), Chris Clobber and Karen Kontowski
4/10 Del the Funky Homosapien • 5/4 Shelby Lynne
5/16 Kathleen Edwards – On sale Friday at noon!

SOLD OUT

SOLD OUT

95 Reader
San Diego Reader February 24, 2013 55

www.bellyup.com

San Diego Reader February 24, 2013 55
Artists: Satanic Puppeteer Orchestra  
Song: “I Stole Your Daddy’s Time Machine” (from their self-titled four CD box set)  
Heard By: Adriana Rhoads, Del Mar

It was cool. It’s very different. At first it reminded me of a video game. I don’t listen to a lot of electronic stuff. I don’t know if the vocals were in key, but it was cool. It was simple; it wasn’t anything trippy in a different time signature. It was both kind of dark, but it was humorous at the same time. When I listened to it, I thought of my friend who goes to a lot of raves and listens to a lot of music like electronic. And I really don’t go to [raves], but I imagine they’d play stuff like that. I’m not sure if it would be radio material — I’m not sure if a lot of people would like it.

It reminded me of the Chemical Brothers and Crystal Method. It had kind of a breakbeat feel in the background. It has natural noises and then a drum machine or an 808 behind it. I thought there was a horn, but it was a whale. You hear birds and then you hear the whales. If you don’t know that, then it sounds like music, but if you do know that, then you’re going to feel something kind of enchanting. The lyrics are more spoken than sung: ‘he says, “the Oraa has a highly developed brain.” I’m not sure if that’s “blockbuster” material because it’s kind of relaxed. I think I would definitely be smoking pot [to that song]… and I don’t even smoke pot.

SANDIEGO SONGS TAKE THE STREET TEST

TO GET YOUR LOCAL CD HEARD, PLEASE MAIL IT TO:
Music Editor, As I Hear It, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92118-5803

Artist: Flicker Noise  
Song: “Information is Power/Family Values” (from Spirit of the Island)  
Heard By: Pogi Sumagil, Rancho Peraquitos

I liked it. It was very laidback. I thought the storytelling was strong, which I like in music. A lot of good, folky country stuff is that way, so I think that’s definitely a strength. To me, the story was about picking up and going somewhere that you’ve never been before, and it seemed like there’s a little anxiety about that. I actually just moved out here, so it’s kind of resonated. There’s a little bit of anxiety, but there’s a lot of hopefulness and it’s very light. It was very optimistic. Initially, I was thinking there was something very Ray Charles about it and there’s also something Johnny Cash about it. Just feels like one of those songs that, down the road, people will still be listening to.
The Red Eye Saloon: 1448 South Mission Road, Fallbrook. April 4, April 5 — The City Limits Band. Although billed as a country band, the City Limits Band can also be heard playing popular classic rock, blues, rockabilly, and surf. The City Limits Band has been performing live entertainment since 2001.


Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park: 5005 Willows Road, Alpine, 619-445-5400. April 19 — Flyleaf and Seether.


Winston: 1921 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach, 619-222-6822. March 6 — Ten Mile Tide. A six-piece band from San Francisco that plays a blend of feel-good acoustic rock, bluegrass, and Americana.

Zombie Lounge: 3519 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park. March 11 — Vanja James, Denise Rowe, and Save Amos. Save Amos features Drew and his brother Michael (Motionless, the Binge), Denise Rowe writes soulful catchy acoustic tunes, and Vanja’s band makes great harmonies.

How to submit a club or DJ listing: Call 619-233-8300 x403, night or day by 5 pm Friday, the week prior to publication. To send weekly or monthly schedules, fax to 619-231-0489 or mail to Reader Music Scene, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA, 92186. You may also submit information online at SDReader.com by clicking on the music section.
San Diego
February 28, 2008


Old-skool hip-hop and '80s music, 619-501-9831.

Friday

hop/funk/rock. Ages 21 and up.

Thursday

Pacific Beach. 858-273-WEST. 21 and up.

Johnny D spin house music. Ages 21 and up.

Thursdays

and DJ SG spin the '80s. 959 Hornblend Street, 94.9.

Ethereal dream-pop bliss

Tuesdays and soul. Special guest joins DJ Mullan. 4or the Nod Productions presents a night of house/electro/techno music. Also features Baquai and David X on the turntables. Ages 21 and up.

Wednesdays

and Daniel Sant. Ages 21 and up.

Jalil. Local DJ spins hip-hop/rock. Ages 21 and up.

Dance in your dazzling duds.

Call Billy or Drew: 619-222-8131. www.myspace.com/kidslam

Yo, DJ!
Talk About a Star

Filter plays the Casbah on Sunday, March 2

It was the night I became a man. It was Ocean Beach, California. It was a Halloween party in 1999 and I was dressed as a P.E. teacher. You should have seen my outfit: tiny blue shorts, a striped half-shirt, and a megaphone. I looked ridiculous and never thought in a million years this would be the night I’d finally get my swerve on.

Myself and a group of friends had just finished playing “Edward 40-Hands.” For those who haven’t experienced this liver-pounnder, it’s a drinking game where you duct-tape two 40s to your hands and you can’t remove them from your grip until you’ve finished both. It’s pretty tough unzipping your pants with two hands full of Oldie English, but somehow, it always gets done.

Needless to say, by the time 80 ounces of malt liquor had infiltrated my bloodstream, I was smashed. I stumbled around, I broke a lamp, I stepped on a sleeping cocker spaniel, and I almost got my ane kicked. I was really, really cranked. Along with the smell of booze, sweat, and Velveeta cheese sauce (which I spilled on my shirt), I must have been oozing pheromones because this hot (I think) Latina kept checking me out. Her eyes said, “Come on, drunkie, make me your bitch lover.” My brain responded with, “Dood, I want a CaliFridgFloooreeynynah burrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr্‌ and some firrrrrrrrrrrranch toast.”

Somehow, I was able to form at least a few sentences because I ended up bedding this lovely lady in the master bedroom of the party pad. It was the greatest 17 seconds of my life. After I finished, I got up, shook her hand, asked what her name was, and went back to the living room. When I arrived, red-faced and wearing a plaid bathrobe, Filter’s “Hey Man, Nice Shot” was playing on the stereo I smiled, high-fired my best friend, vomited all over myself, and woke up the next morning with a crazy hangover and the word “wancker” spelled backwards on my forehead.

The Filling Station: 9522 Miramar Road, Mira Mesa. 858-576-0737. Fridays and Saturdays, 9 p.m.: DJ Dance Party. Dance to your
fridays over 65,000 songs for your pleasure. Ages 21 and up.
Inferno Young Adult Nightclub: 775 Market Street, Downtown. 619-550-7777. Thursdays, 10 p.m. – 9 p.m. Wall Street Bar. DJs and dancing in the Wall Street Bar.
Kadai: 6090 30th Street, North Park. 619-540-2250. Mondays, 9 p.m. Mayhem Mondays. Funk rock every Monday. Live bands and resident DJ Nate Horror provide the tunes. Ages 21 and up.
Saturday: Bruk, the Night. First Saturday of the month, electronic, crunk, and glitch hop. Ages 21 and up.
Kava Lounge: 2122 Kettner Boulevard, Little Italy. 619-543-0933. Saturday: Ascension. First Saturday of the month with DJs Robin Roth and Tom King. Laid back and room to dance.
Moondogies Pacific Beach: 833 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-483-6550. Saturdays, 9 p.m.: “What’s Good”. DJs Enigma and Cisco. Hip-hop, R&B, and Top 40. Sundays: DJ Famous Dave mixes house, electro, and classics in the Onyx room. DJ Nate Horror provide the tunes. Ages 21 and up.
Onyx/Thin: 552 5th Avenue, Downtown. 619-235-ONIX. Fridays, Hybrid. DJ set along with Jay “Tasty” Vidalas and Fabio. DJ Rags and Chris Herrera mash club classics in the Onyx room.
Side Dari: 536 Market Street, Downtown. 619-696-0946. Thursday: Dirty Heads • One Drop. 9 p.m. Live bands and resident DJ Marc Thrasher. Music video mixes. Ages 21 and up.
Sick puppy: 600 Fifth Avenue, Downtown. 619-226-1616. Fridays and Saturdays, 9 p.m. DJ Marc Thrasher. Music video mixes. Ages 21 and up.
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When I heard about a party at "Grandma's," I didn't think it would be something that I'd tell my buddies about the next day.

Grandma BB's Hilltop Hideaway is in Oceanside, and the Southern California Cartoonists Society meets there on occasion. This was one of the saddest and most interesting parties I've attended.

It was to celebrate the life of cartoonist Paul Norris. You may not know that name, but you know the superhero he created — Aquaman.

As I looked at the art on the walls, mostly by Norris, there were several pieces that grabbed me, such as Don Soul's caricatures of Spinal Tap.

I spoke with a gentleman in his 70s who told me about Norris. "He moved from Ohio to Oceanside in 1960, I believe. He married an art student from Dayton, and he did three years in the Army."

I said, "Just like another local celebrity, Ted Williams." But, unlike Williams, or anyone else that I know of, Norris made a unique contribution to the war. He drew comic strips for military publications, and at the end of the war, he drew propaganda leaflets that encouraged Japanese soldiers in Okinawa to surrender. At that time, most propaganda demonized the leaders of the other side, while Norris took a humanitarian look at enemy soldiers and appealed to that. Some Japanese soldiers had Norris's leaflets in their pockets when they surrendered.

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Norris was in the only thing that ever separated them."

The crowd was moved to tears when Norris's sons, Reed and Michael, got up to speak. Reed became an industrial designer and talked about watching his dad draw and how he would give Reed scraps of paper to practice on. He spoke about shades of black... thick and thin lines. When he said, "I got a Windsor number three," everyone laughed. I didn't get it.

Michael told a story about doing a re-creation of the USS Bismarck in their back-yard swimming pool. It involved rubber cement and cherry bombs. They threw matches in, got some explosions, and did some damage. I asked where a kid gets that kind of ammo. He said, "When we were kids, we used to shoot a .22. You could do that back then. To get stuff like cherry bombs, all we had to do was drive from New Jersey to Florida. At the border, you could buy anything."

I told him that at a previous party I met a guy who did a school project that involved lighting Army men on fire in his backyard. They wouldn't light until he poured gasoline over them. When he and his friend couldn't control the fire, they kicked the gas can into the pool, which spread the flames.

A few of us continued to talk about the crazy things we'd done as teenagers. A guy who saw me taking notes said, "Oh, you're the party crasher. I like
That was like watching a sit-com with stabbing!

We talked about variety shows, and she mentioned writing for Lily Tomlin and winning an Emmy writing for Cher. I thought about telling her that I once won an award because of Cher — singing one of her songs at a karaoke contest. I decided not to because it would’ve made me sound gay (not that there’s anything wrong with that). And, her being a comedy writer, I’d need to step up my material if I was going to make her laugh.

I met a guy named Charlie, who deals in animated art. We talked about music and he told me that when he was a kid, his twin brother wanted a bike for Christmas and he asked for an Elvis album.

“I think I got the better deal,” he said. We talked about music memorabilia, and Charlie told me that when Jerry Lee Lewis and Fats Domino came to play the Sports Arena, he bought one of their albums at Tower Records, which was across the street. He told his wife that the bands wereprobably staying at the hotel behind the arena, and he went there to get the record autographed. Jerry Lee Lewis opened the hotel door and grabbed his wife and dragged her inside. Charlie said, “I thought my wife was going to get raped and killed by Jerry Lee Lewis, which...was kinda cool...in a strange way.” I said, “Well, he was nicknamed ‘the Killer.’”

He continued the story, saying, “She was just sitting there talking to him, and he signed my album.”

He told me that when he worked as a butcher, boxing legend Archie Moore walked into the shop. “I wanted to ask for his autograph, but I was afraid I’d be fired.” Charlie did an impression of Jimmy Stewart as he told me about driving up to UCLA for a film screening after reading in the newspaper that Stewart might be in attendance. He said, “They asked if anyone had any questions, so I asked him his most embarrassing moment. I figured every actor has a few where they forget a line or trip on something. He just said, ‘I don’t have any.’”

As I was leaving, I talked with one of Norris’s sons in the parking lot for 30 minutes. He told me about being in a punk/new wave band in the late ‘70s. He said they had their 15 minutes of fame with a TV appearance. “I still have the TV Guide we’re listed in.”

As I drove home, I thought about his father creating Aquaman and contributing to Tarzan, Jungle Jim, Flash Gordon, Brick Bradford...the tons of pages Paul Norris’s work has appeared in.

The son’s only page is a TV Guide listing. "Crash your party? Call 619-235-3000 x421 and leave an invitation for Josh Board."

Columns archived at SDReader.com
The Better Half is a restaurant after my own heart, and the hearts of all adventurous foodies. Almost everybody I know (including the pickiest, crankiest, “allergic to everything” gourmet princess in all my acquaintance) has embraced it as their new favorite — and those who haven’t live out in La Mesa. The motto of world-traveled chef John Robert Kennedy is clearly “Don’t bore, explore!” He most recently cooked at Cafe One Three, but past credits include stints working under four of San Diego’s 800-pound gorillas — Thomas Keller, Daniel Boulud, Gary Danko, and Charlie Trotter. And you know those guys don’t hire just any old schnook!

I’m not crazy in love with every single dish here. In fact, I have some reservations about several them. But frankly, I’d rather be quibbling with chef Kennedy’s least perfect creations than gobbling the flawless, clichéd “Cal cuisine” palate-bashers of less passionate chefs.

Even the owner has heavy foodie cred: Zubin Desai, an erst Indian ex-Manhattanite, was most recently manager-sommelier at Solana Beach’s awesome Blanca. He named the Better Half for the worldwide wine list — all in half bottles, which are perfect for singletons, couples, and groups eager to tinker up their own flights. Prices range from dead cheap to aristocratic, but most are affordable, and some (particularly the French bottlings) are bargains, considering quality versus price. And if you want to bring your own prized bottle to match with a good dinner, corkage is just $5 — or free, if you share a little with the stuff. (Nearly all the servers are trained sommeliers, i.e., genuine wine enthusiasts. They’ve also tried all the food, so they can provide intelligent explanations.) A similar sense of generosity, and of high ethics, seems to pervade every aspect of this restaurant’s operations. Look at the boilerplate and notice the amazingly reasonable prices for food with top-notch ingredients and labor-intensive preparation. Each dinner even begins with a charming little amuse-bouche. How these people make a profit is beyond me.

The restaurant occupies the space that was formerly Talus Café, slantingly across the street from Chilango’s. (Yes — rejoice! Chilango’s has re-opened, right where it used to be! I really wanted to get that in early here!) One plate-glass front window affords a full view of the immaculate kitchen, including a front-window corner filled with varied Bread & Cie loaves — and while you’re gaping at the cooks, they’re likely to grin right back at you. (They actually look happy at their work.) The interior is oddly bifurcated, with the reception desk and kitchen to the left of the entry on a small open courtyard with pots of herbs (I spotted lemongrass, fennel, and a young bay tree). The dining room is in a separate structure, up two shallow stairs and through a door on the right, with sparkling little lights (romantic but exceedingly dim) and tables topped with tan butcher paper over tablecloths. Near the front is a fireplace filled with empty wine bottles and two tall candles in glasses. Music plays softly, if at all, but one table of excessively audible — not a din, just an affront to everybody I know (including the pickiest, crankiest, “allergic to everything” gourmet princess in all my acquaintance) has embraced it as their new favorite — and those who haven’t live out in La Mesa. The motto of world-traveled chef John Robert Kennedy is clearly “Don’t bore, explore!” He most recently cooked at Cafe One Three, but past credits include stints working under four of San Diego’s 800-pound gorillas — Thomas Keller, Daniel Boulud, Gary Danko, and Charlie Trotter. And you know those guys don’t hire just any old schnook!

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Ratings reflect the reviewer’s reaction to food, ambiance, and service, with price taken into consideration. Menu listings and prices are subject to change.

To go San Diego Reader.com to find hundreds of past reviews.
of fat, and actually needed the coarse-grain housemade mustard that I applied to them for texture. You should try it — I had 33 years of nonstop falsehood, and I don’t want any more of it, it’s older than timbale or prudence.

I envy the Lynnester, living in the States, at this time of year.) The “starch” is murmured when, exploring the banquet department of the military, there were some things that I should try it if you’re curious. The tender meat isn’t my taste. The tender meat isn’t — it’s old-fashioned meat, mint and basil on the plate. It’s just not to my taste. The tender meat isn’t — it’s old-fashioned meat, mint and basil on the plate. It’s just not to my taste. The tender meat isn’t — it’s old-fashioned meat, mint and basil on the plate. It’s just not to my taste. The tender meat isn’t — it’s old-fashioned meat, mint and basil on the plate. It’s just not to my taste. The tender meat isn’t — it’s old-fashioned meat, mint and basil on the plate. It’s just not to my taste. The tender meat isn’t — it’s old-fashioned meat, mint and basil on the plate. It’s just not to my taste. The tender meat isn’t — it’s old-fashioned meat, mint and basil on the plate. It’s just not to my taste. 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**Vietnamese Beef Noodle Soup**

**Menu:**

- Phở Bo (Vietnamese Beef Noodle Soup) **$12**
- Bún Bò (Vietnamese Shrimp & Vermicelli Noodle Soup) **$14**
- Mi (Vietnamese Rice Noodle Dish) **$10**
- Cơm (Vietnamese Steamed Rice) **$8**

**About the Chef:**

Chef Tran is a native of Vietnam and has been cooking Vietnamese cuisine for over 20 years. He opened the restaurant in 2006 with the goal of bringing authentic Vietnamese cuisine to San Diego. Tran believes in using fresh, locally sourced ingredients and preparing dishes with traditional techniques.

**Specials:**

- Phở Bo Phở (Vietnamese Beef Noodle Soup) **$12**
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- Mi (Vietnamese Rice Noodle Dish) **$10**
- Cơm (Vietnamese Steamed Rice) **$8**

**Opening Hours:**

- **Monday – Friday:** 11:00 AM – 9:00 PM
- **Saturday:** 10:00 AM – 9:00 PM
- **Sunday:** 10:00 AM – 8:00 PM

**Address:**

760 7th Ave, San Diego, CA 92101

**Phone:** 619.297.1101 or 3150

**Website:**

www.vietdowntown.com

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**The Island's Champagne Sunday Brunch Is Back!**

San Diego Reader, February 24, 2006

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The Island's Champagne Sunday Brunch Is Back!
Willy’s Tip

“If I don’t make up three songs a day,” he says, “I start worrying.”

Ah. There he is. Right down the pasaje, Willy Clauson. He’s sitting under a very big vaquero hat, smoking a cigar and playing his guitar in front of his museum. Song’s “Adelita,” about the Mexican Revolutionary gal who’s still such a heroine in front of him says, “Tips appreciated.” Love Willy. Also kind of hold him in awe. He’s a folksinger. World class. He lives down here in Tijuana. He was just a kid in Veracruz when he discovered “La Bamba.” He slowed its tempo down and adapted its words and created a certified U.S. folk hit. Then Ritchie Valens made it an all-round classic. Fifty years later, Willy’s still at it. “If I don’t make up three songs a day,” he says, “I start worrying.” But he has to keep earning money. That’s why he’s outside the museum (where he gives lessons, guides tourists, holds musical events), earning a spare penny a day. “I start worrying.” But he has to keep earning money. That’s why he’s outside the museum (where he gives lessons, guides tourists, holds musical events), earning a spare penny or two singing. “I was thinking of getting something to eat,” I say.

“Well, my friend, I’ve just had some albondigas at the Hidden Outpost. The Rocha family. Wonderful. About $4, except I pay by the month. Come.”

He walks me down the pasaje, Rodriguez Passage, one of those shopping arcades between Revolución and Constitución, and through to this little eatery that opens out onto the arcade next door, Pasaje Foreign Book, which is where the old Foreign Club of the Errol Flynn era was. Now it’s got a Caliente betting palace in it.

His “Hidden Outpost,” Puesto Escondido, is that exactly, tucked away in this space between the two pasajos. It’s nice. Cream walls, brown tile floor, and a cream tile-topped counter with about eight stools, plus three or four tables, and a roll-up metal front. We’ve come in the back way. “This is Margarita,” Willy says, stopping by a middle-aged couple at a rear table. “And her husband Manuel. He’s the chef. You could have albondigas, but they also do a beautiful shrimp dish. Uh, I’ve got to get back.”

Willy takes off to guard the museum, and Manuel points me toward the front counter. I hoist myself aboard one of the stools. “We’ve got tips.”

“I order that. And get a pleasant surprise. First, you get a molcajete — the traditional black Aztec volcanic rock mortar bowl — filled with chips and salsa. Then, included in the deal, there’s a soup and an agua fresca, either a red jamaiac (hibiscus) or a milky horchata type. Turns out today’s is cebada — barley. I get that, and it tastes a little like vanilla. Then Lizbeth brings a bowl of “sopa de caracol.” It’s a beef-tomato broth with conch shell-shaped pasta floating in it.

While I’m slurping that, I sniff delicious aromas from where Vida the clancing away at the stove. She has some oniony-garlicky thing going. Then she tosses on a bunch of shrimp. Now it’s cheese. She whacks it all onto a nice flowery china plate loaded with brown rice, adds an avocado salad, and presto! Plus a round box of hot tortillas. I can’t believe it’s all for four Washingtons.

But the killer comes in the taste. This is sophisticated stuff. Man, with that melted Washingtons.

“I’ve been a waiter for years. I always dreamed of having our own restaurant. I found the food around Revolución was really bad. So I have tried hard here. But we have to sell a lot, because our profit margin is very slim.”

He says a huge Chinese restaurant is going up across the arcade. It’ll stretch all the way from Revolución to Constitución. He looks a little worried. “I think we’ll be okay,” he says. “Or, we can always go back to Mazatlán.”

So, hey. This beautiful lost corner of really good cooking at really good prices may not last. Best git down here, while the gittin’s good.
Team Blend

“My kids’ eyes lit up — the peaches on the trees were literally two-hand peaches.”

Don’t misunderstand — Robert Baizer is glad he went to Sundance. He had a lovely time — made even lovelier by the happy reception accorded Bottle Shock, a film he helped to finance. By festival’s end, he and the other producers were left with the happy problem of figuring out their best options with regard to distribution. Whichever deal they made, it seemed certain that the film, a crowd-pleaser about the famous Paris tasting of 1976, would wind up on the big screen. So that was all right.

Still, he was sad that attending the Park City film festival caused him to miss an intimate evening with Itzhak Perlman up at the Napa Valley Reserve, an organization that Baizer describes as being “like a golf club, only instead of greens and a clubhouse, they have vineyards and caves.” (And the occasional dinner in the company of a musical giant.)

Baizer’s journey to the clubby heart of Napa — the Reserve is situated adjacent to the Meadowood resort in St. Helena — began in upstate New York, while he was attending Cornell Business School in the early ’90s. The university also had room, explains Baizer. “In Manhattan, your dining room credenza was your wine locker.”

A business opportunity brought him home to San Diego in 2000, where he found himself exposed to “a lot more California product.” Somewhere along the way, he put himself on the waiting list for Harlan Estate, easily one of the premier Cult Cabs on the market.

“And then one day,” he recalls, “I got this cryptic letter, talking about a new project that was forming in Napa Valley that was the result of almost ten years of work. It wasn’t super descriptive — there was a lot of esoteric language. That’s very Bill Harlan. A couple of times a year, you’ll get this little card from him, just for being on his list, and it will have a quote from some Greek philosopher. And maybe about three months later, it will occur to you what it might be in relation to. And for his other label, Bond — once a year, he sends out a beautiful 8 x 10 photo, usually black and white.

I actually have a photo of me in the vineyard next to my row, and it’s a nice thing to look at on a stressful day.” Members can purchase anywhere from a quarter-barrel to three barrels of wine.

“I’m making a half-barrel each year in conjunction with another member who’s here in San Diego, so we can use a standard Bordeaux barrique. We’ll work on it full time. So he came up with this concept — at your convenience, you do whatever you want, or can. And when you’re not there, the project runs on autopilot and the Harlan team makes sure that everything that needs to happen happens. I don’t make it up to prune, the Harlan team will prune my vines for me. But if I want to do it, they’ll let me do it, and they’ll show me exactly what to do. And they’ll assist me if I ask for it.”

Ditto harvesting, winemaking, blending — you name it.

Baizer estimates that so far, he’s gotten up to twenty-five of his members involved with this in some way. “This” was the winemaking life and lifestyle, the return to the land that entices the businessman as he stews in his office. As the Reserve’s website puts it: “Napa Valley living is inspired by agriculture, food, and wine, and is connected through farming, the ebb and flow of the seasons, and a love of the land.”

The Napa Valley way of life is a magical balance of work and rewards, activity and rest, vineyards and cellar, garden and kitchen, quiet time alone and celebrations with family and friends. With acres of vineyards, orchards, and gardens, the Reserve is the essence of a wine estate as it has always been in Napa Valley. The wine in the glass is from the vineyard. The honey on the table is from the hives on the hill, and the olive oil from the orchard. The heirloom tomatoes are picked from the garden at perfect ripeness each day and taken straight to the kitchen…”

“I think Harlan thought it through,” surmises Baizer, and realized that the people who were asking didn’t necessarily have the time or inclination to work on it full time. So he came up with this concept — at your convenience, you do whatever you want, or can. And when you’re not there, the project runs on autopilot and the Harlan team makes sure that everything that needs to happen happens.

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Buildings, only recently constructed, are available online at SanDiegoReader.com. Free estimates are based on the latest inflation information for a crowd of over 100 people. Moderate: $10 to $15: expensive: $21 to $29; very expensive: more than $30. Please call restaurants in advance for reservations.

RESTAURANT LISTINGS
The Reader’s Guide to Restaurants are recommended listings written by our reviewers (Ed Ballard, Barbara David, Ambrose Martin, Shari McCallum, Mark Nosh, Eleanor Widmer, Naomi Wine). Each entry contains a fraction of the 700 reviews. A complete searchable list is available online at SanDiegoReader.com. Price estimates are based on the latest inflation information for a crowd of over 100 people. Moderate: $10 to $15. Very expensive. — N.W.

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Friday, February 28, 2008

Over 400 more restaurant listings at SanDiegoReader.com
brunch buffet Sunday. Preshow prix fixe upper moderate to la carte expensive. — N.W.

Isabel’s Cantina 966 El Dorado Street, Pacific Beach, 858-272-8403. This cheerful café instantly became a gathering spot for many PB-ites, including the worshippers of adults. Chef-owner Isabel Cruz, who calls herself “Food Girl,” has imported much of her Mission Café menu of Latin-Asian-sorts-health food to the beach. A self-confessed “lazy cook,” she focuses on wholesomeness rather than authenticity. Breakfast and lunch are the main meal here and include competently made eggs, lucious scrambled eggs, huge sandwiches, and lengthy slabs of coconut French toast. Competent Latin-style dishes include tamales with any meat. Devotees of Southeast Asian cuisines, however, may be disappointed by the simplistic slabs in that direction. If your dish is too mild, house sauces (chili oil, sah, chipotle sauce, etc.) are available on request. Beer and wine. Small, free front parking lot; pay lot across the street at west end of the block. Three meals daily; closed 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Inexpensive to low moderate. — N.W.

Kaiserhof 2523 Sunset Cliffs Boulevard, Ocean Beach, 619-224-0606. Even on weekdays, crowds fill this restaurant and forgave, showing down on hefty, hearty German cooking in a festive atmosphere. Flavors are authentic, but can be monotonous due to the kitchen’s reliance on commercial products (especially a heavy-flavored beef/bear that makes all the sauce taste alike). Good schnitzel, potato pancakes. The excellent apple strudel is the only dessert made in-house. Reservations advised, especially for patio seating. Lunch Monday through Sunday, dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Moderate. — N.W.

Nine-Ten 910 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-964-5400. Chef Jason Kohl’s level of craftsmanship shows a culinary sophistication that would be at home in San Francisco or New York. You’ll find adventurous, seasonal cuisine emphasizing “market fresh” local produce (much of it organic or sustainably raised), naturally raised meats, and wild seafood. It’s not just the food that’s fresh — the ideas are, too, and the flavor matches are flawless. The wine list is superb, and new personnel in the front of the house have brought up the standard of service. Validated valet parking, full bar. Reservations urged. Open daily, three meals. Expensive. — N.W.

Red Sails 2614 Shelter Island Drive, Point Loma, 619-223-3030. One of the city’s oldest eateries has been renovated to look like it always has, but better. The dining rooms resemble those on a river paddleboat or a small, rakish cruise ship, while the bayside patio is a funky waterside pleasure, beset by piracy. The fun doesn’t look like it always has, but fresher. City’s oldest eatery has been renovated to look like it always has, but better. The dining room shows the sea, and the bayside patio is a funky waterside pleasure, beset by pirate. The fun doesn’t look like it always has, but fresher. You’ll find adventurous, seasonal cuisine emphasizing “market fresh” local produce (much of it organic or sustainably raised), naturally raised meats, and wild seafood. It’s not just the food that’s fresh — the ideas are, too, and the flavor matches are flawless. The wine list is superb, and new personnel in the front of the house have brought up the standard of service. Validated valet parking, full bar. Reservations urged. Open daily, three meals. Expensive. — N.W.

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Santo Ristorante “811 Herschel Avenue, La Jolla, 858-454-3315. The name is Italian for “saint,” and the Northern Italian/regional cooking shines here, especially the fish and seafood dishes. Fresh seafood specials are available every night, in addition to those on the menu. Excellent pasta with mushrooms, ravioli with quail, and lamb chops. Separate room for bar, separate private dining room. Open Monday through Saturday, dinner nightly. Enclosed patio for lunch. Not to be missed. Moderate (prices) to expensive. — E.W.

Sushi on the Rock 7734 Girard Avenue, La Jolla, 858-456-1138. This nifty, high-energy spot — a boy, a lounge-like space with a sushi bar in back — draws a lively twentysomething crowd (although older folks will have plenty of company, too). Unlike more traditional sushi bars, there’s a vast selection of “nuck and roll” — huge, cre-
The reborn Alex’s (now in the Mr. A’s building) is rightly famous for its fabled cuisine, but the cooking is first rate, featuring rice with poultry, meat, and caper mayonnaise. Or a dessert founded on the onion roll loaded with marinated mushrooms, roast peppers, caramelized onion, goat cheese, and caper mayonnaise. Or a dessert founded on the onion roll loaded with marinated mushrooms, roast peppers, caramelized onion, goat cheese, and caper mayonnaise. Or a dessert founded on the onion roll loaded with marinated mushrooms, roast peppers, caramelized onion, goat cheese, and caper mayonnaise. Or a dessert founded on the onion roll loaded with marinated mushrooms, roast peppers, caramelized onion, goat cheese, and caper mayonnaise. Or a dessert founded on the onion roll loaded with marinated mushrooms, roast peppers, caramelized onion, goat cheese, and caper mayonnaise. 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Or a dessert founded on the onion roll loaded with marinated mushrooms, roast peppers, caramelized onion, goat cheese, and caper mayona...
inside. The Original BBQ chicken pizza, the chain’s first hit, is still their top seller. It has barbecue sauce, smoked Gouda and mozzarella cheeses, BBQ chicken, red onions, and cilantro. The BBQ chicken chopped salad is good too, as is the lamb burger. If you’ve got a sweet tooth, but are embarrassed to order Hawaiian pizza, try the pear and Gorgonzola. It has caramelized pears, caramelized onions, Gorgonzola and other cheeses, and hazelnuts. — E.B.

China Tsoo 106 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-239-4290. Don’t blink or you’ll miss this Galapam bargain. The menu claims “New York-Style Fine Chinese Cuisine.” Would you settle for decent Brooklyn- or Bronx-style eat-n-drink? Here you’re getting cheap-but-good Chinese fare for the price of a cup of soup nearby. Lunch specials with soup, two egg rolls, rice include green pepper steak with onions, kung pao chicken, beef broccoli, shrimp with vegetables—all made with no MSG and minimal cornstarch. The owner’s last place was in New York, where customers ranged from Kofi Annan to Robin Leach. Chef Chen even has some of his old dishes here, on a page of mul-ti-regional “chef specialties” (490 to $107 on the menu). But what really makes this a “New York-ah” spot will bring joy to hungry mouths all over the restaurant—stretched-out and small Balboa Park—at delivery-from 8 to 9 hours, from Pacific Highway to 6th or even farther. Open 11 a.m. to 11 p.m, closed Sunday. Secre-tary—E.B.

El Comal 3946 Illinois Street, North Park, 619-239-7101. No border com-promise here, just great home cooking from the mainland (Michoacan, Guer-rer, Puebla, Oaxaca, and the Yucatan) in a pair of restaurants founded by Luz Herrera Ibarr, a home-tender from Acapulco. Stuffed tortilla dishes are back in their proper places—appetizers or lunches (don’t expect numbered “combo plates”). A large platter of plates that “serves two” (actually stuffs four) is a fun way to try a bunch of them, including outstanding pork-filled soups that taste like somebody’s loving monaica made them. Also try the mole, a mild, sub-stantial, house-made tortilla folded over your choice of meat with melted cheese and guacamole, perfect for lunch. For entries, look to the caserole, with such exciting choices as Lengua en Salsa Verde (tongue in tomatillo sauce), Barbacoa de Chivo (tender goat in a lively red “barbecue” sauce), and an excellent Mole Blanco (tender chicken breast in sweet-spicy chocolate-based mole sauce). Fish are also well treated. Grilled meat choices, which include a full parrillada assort-ted (tender steak, fajitas, and) are cut thin and cooked well done. Full bar at North Park location; Mexican and U.S. beers at both. Three meals, seven days (shorter hours in Chula Vista). Inex-pensive. — N.V.

Downtown Johnny Brown’s 1220 Third Avenue, Downtown, 619-232-8414. Walk up through the Com-munity Concourse past the ship foun-tain and hangar—downtown’s answer to a European sidewalk café. There has a generous patio of chairs and umbrel-las. All green and white. You get two types here: sport-minded types (a turn-and-burn, edge-burnt, spicy. Soup’s bobbing with fresh-cut vegetables. Also, tamales, tacos or Southwest Chicken. What’s best: sitting outside and watch-ing people—not traffic—blaze by. — E.B.

Extraordinary Desserts—Lit-tle Italy 1435 Union Street, Little Italy, 619-294-7001. Patrons looking for a quiet dessert still cling to the orig-i-nal charming cottage near Balboa Park. Those wanting more of a meal instead for the newer Little Italy location, a tidy, noisy space with industrial-chic decor and a menu of eclectic small plates—roeza spread, bruschettas, sandwiches, and chocolate. Flavors tend to be intense, some creations (such as bacon-cured salmon sand-wich and pain travers, a celery-date spread) are wonderful, others are ex-citingly small. Both locations offer pastry cases full of desserts that jump to “extraordinary.”

To eat on-site or to take home. Chef-owner Karen Kraume incorporates fla-vors inspired by the global reach of her travels, from the cooking schools of Paris to the rice fields of Bali. The white cakes are food for angels. Wines (includ-ing champagne), beers, fruit shishers, Vegetarian-friendly menu. Both locations open seven days, three meals. Upstairs location desserts only, all day. Moderate. — N.W.

Greystone 645 Fifth Avenue, Downto wn, 619-232-0225. The Italian steak-house fare here centers on dry-aged prime beef, game meats (including ex-ceptionally tender bison), lobster, and paella as the main draws, with suffi-cient starters and desserts. An im-presive wine list offers award-winning Cal-ifornia and Italian bottlings at $35 to $35 but runs up to the stratosphere of first-growth Bordeaux, super Tuscan, and scandalously overpriced Napa reds. Bossy, sometimes-abrasive waiters push higher-priced choices. Patrons are mainly “suites” with deep expense-ac-count pockets, loudly talking business meals and bingo! — downtown’s answer to a European sidewalk cafe. Place has Wheelchair access to the street patio and bar area only (dining rooms are up or downstairs). Reservations urged but may not be honored promptly. Dinner nightly. Extremely expensive. — N.W.

Harnsy Sushi 3964 Harney Street, Old Town, 619-294-9727. This friendly little spot on a side street serves as a re-peat haunt of pretty-good sushi just a few steps from Old Town’s monopoli- zing tacos and margaritas. You can also get sushi, Japanese appetizers, and a few mixed-ethnicity entries: (moodles, pasta, teriyaki, tempura) made with seafood or chicken breast. Beef is served, but numerous dishes are vege-tarian. Good sake list. Sound system runs loud inside; patio dining available in warm weather. Cost-cutting for lunch/dinner nightly until midnight, with a $15 Tuesday through Saturday. Sushi prices lower than most, entries inex-pensive to moderate. — N.W.

Hong Kong Restaurant 3871 Fourth Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-291-9449. Where to get a good Chinese meal after midnight? This restaurant (next to Column One’s statues and fountain shop) serves meals till 2:30 a.m. Inside is typical Asian decor, includ-ing black-and-white Chinese brush paintings and carved cherry wood chairs. Their long menu offers trad-itional Swedish and Mandarin fare. The Hied, pork-fillet wontons on raw cabbage are delicious, especially spiced with fiery Chinese mustard. The Sin-

Snow Crab Every Night Prime Rib Fri.-Sun. All-you-can-eat buffet Free drink seafood | sushi bar | Hawaiian barbecue | dim sum SUNDAY CINNON STREET, RIB & JUMBO SHRIMP ARE NOT Served 4 - 9:30 PM lunch buffet $7.99 A.G.E 1-6, 7-15 $4.99 MON.-SAT. 11 A.M.-4 P.M. $11.99 $2 off dinner buffet $11.99 A.G.E 1-6, 7-15 $4.99 MON.-THURS. 4-9:30 P.M. $13.99 FRI. & SAT. 4-10:30 P.M.

Lobster Sunday with buffet $13.99

Lunch buffet | dinner buffet

Pick-up or delivery special

10% off total bill

Free Delivery Party of 10 or more.

Historic Tivoli Bar - over 100 years old & the beer still runs cold! (Lowest prices in the Gaslamp!)
Lunch Buffet $5.50
Includes salad bar. Valid Mon.-Fri. 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Lunch Buffet 50% Off Med-Pizza
Buy one medium pizza ($12.25) and get 2nd medium pizza ($7.50) for 50% off.
family recipe of Samoan toasted "plate lunch." Above all, there's pub grub. The chicken wings are very good, and you can get all three usages (Buffalo, BBQ, and Asian) on one order. Perfect bang for mummified couples with one sports fan and one fashionista (the latter can head for Nordstrom and save discount outlets nearby). On game days, patrons are allowed just one game in the dining room ($15 maximum), but you can linger from wake-up to closing on the patio or in the bar. Open daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — N.W.

Sluggers by the Ball Park 1219 Market Street, Downtown, 619-546-9873. Not your typical hot dog stand. Sluggers café is all glass, steel, cinder blocks, and new. This eatery catches much of the Padres business, serving Vi-enna-branded hot dogs and Polish sausages. "Served Chicago-style" — meaning, the dog's topped with tomato wedges, mustard, pickle, onions, and peppers, all, they say, on a steamed poppy-seed bun from Chicago. Other goodies from the Windy City include the Comiskey Park Pole (a charbroiled Polish sausage dog) and the Italian Stallion (charbroiled Italian sausage in bun). Place is still a little cinder blocky but a good rendezvous for a broskwi and a dog after work. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Super Cocina 3627 University Avenue, City College Heights, 619-584-8244. If you're looking for authentic, rustic Mexican home cooking, this simple, bright eatery is the place. There's no doubt; indeed, local Mexican housewives from many regions prepare their specialities for the restaurant. They're mainly fascinating, complex meat or poblano stews, made without border compromising — if a dish should be spicy, it is spicy. The array of about a dozen entrées changes daily from a rotating repertoire of about 100. The counter people will give you tastes of any entrée before you choose the two you want, which come in generous dollops with rice, lively saucier beans, and tortillas. For breakfast, the éclairels are Newman. Free parking, family atmosphere, no alcohol, clean, only. Open daily, 8 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Very inexpensive. — N.W.

Taka 555 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-338-0555. The sushi at this downtown 4-star sushi bar is Japanese-restaurant at top-quality. (Just) take (from the live fish tank) go down soft and silky smooth, unlike their frozen brethren. And the fish is highly-skilled: the well-seasoned sashimi is briefly made all evening, and for once the spicy scallop hand roll has scallops, mayo, wasabi, and spicy pepper running all the way through, not just slapped on top. Savory appetizers supplement the sushi, including miso-baked black cod and mushroom-topped asparagus (lighty Fried) tofu. The only problem: the latter you arrive, the louder it gets. Make reservations, and if you value your ears, go at an early hour. Dinner nightly. Most dishes inexpensive, but many little bits can eat a hole in your wallet. — N.W.

Tamale Cart 1852 National Avenue, Logan Heights, 619-338-9148. If you've ever wondered what it would be like to eat at the Atacama sea, come here and try some of the tamales — classic Aztec food — in all their flavors. Tamales are sort of steamed cornmeal dumplings wrapped in corn husks, served with sauce. The choice of goodish stuffed in the middle are steps of pork, beef, chicken, or cheese, as well as pineapple, strawberries, or coconuts. While you're at it, try the traditional accompaniment, the champaquaro drink: milk mixed with mazo — ground corn meal — chocolate, and cinnamon. In this mainy Spanish-speaking market you can wish, wash, and pick up a few bargains too. Tamales make a great breakfast. Three should do it. Those are made by the Restaura- Chiapanecos up at 25th and Mar- ket. Open breakfast through lunch, seven days. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Uncle Joe's Pizzeria 6911 El Cajon Boulevard, (In Madison Square plaza just west of the 805) 619-584-2350. The owner's a retired Navy medic, one of the first women to serve in the Middle East combat zone. She's named sandwiches for career stops, like "The Re- cruit Training Center, Orlando, Florida" (chicken breast, bacon, avocado, provolone cheese, spinach, tomatoes, and onion) or "North Island Dental Clinic" (turkey, ham, bacon). But try a main dish like eggplant Parmesan or chicken with sautéed mushrooms. Or a massive chunk of lasagna, pure bread and salad. Coffee? You get a huge French-style press-the-coffee-down affair. Your big decision: eat out on the flowers-strewn patio next to a tiny kitchen with a bamboo ceiling, bare floors, and live ducks — and right outside, the real Montgomery airfield. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B.

Woodstock's Pizza 1645 El Cajon Boulevard, College Area, 619-263-9999. It's a college pizza joint, but the fare rates well above standard beer bal- l. For that matter, the burgers — Karl Strauss and Wyder's Calient (along with the usual Coors Light and Bud) — aren't exactly cheap-euds. Crispy white or severely robust whole wheat — are pressed,ossed, and then folded over the at edge, producing a spongy, crunchy-crusted rim. The marinara is rich, goosy whole-milk; the marinara sauce is dark and spicy, and the to- pings are fresh, hearty standouts. Watching your weight? Two low-fat combos (half the cheese) are available. Inexpensive. — A.M.

Zocalo Grill 2444 San Diego Avenue, Old Town, 619-286-9840. This casual, festive spin-off of the Bajaiane town features "Pacific coastal cuisine," an eclectic international hedgepodge with a fine Mexican accent and "something for everyone." And some of those something are delicious — a stacked salad of shrimp and avocados, or coconut shrimp kabobs emerging from a pineapple, or huge beautiful grilled lobster with avocado salsa. Appetizers are discounted at happy hour, and you can make a whole dinner out of sub- stantial "tapas" sized for sharing. The heated, semi-rooted outdoor terrace encourages alfresco dinner-year-round. Full bar with inventive margaritas, eight draft beers, and California wines in- cluding Bregman's own custom blends at good prices. Wheelchair lift in back, ramp at south side of terrace. Reservations strongly advised for weekends. Open daily, lunch Monday through Tuesday, dinner daily. Mod- erate. — N.W.
Fabulous tapas menu!

Fresh local cuisine featuring rotating seasonal menus.

Executive Chef: очер克莱 Smith
142 University Avenue (at Third St.)
619-682-1355
Closed Mondays

and excellent chicken taco; the salty short ribs are tough, though. Plate dinners include one to three entrees (priced accordingly) with steamed or saucy sides. Except Sunday (dinner all day Sunday).

**NORTH COASTAL**

Bubby’s Gelato 937 South Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-436-3566.

This tiny storefront does only a few things (soups, gelato, and sorbet) but does them exceedingly well. The gelato sandwiches really live up to their designation, with intriguing combinations (kale, black beans, black beans, garlic, grilled eggplant; Granola is among the choice of ingredients) on soft, round Italian bread. (Oh can you just get a taco that good? You can.) Gelato are about twice as rich as Häagen-Dazs, and very delicious, and San Tong’s menu — but who gives a flyin’ fajita to their designation, with intriguing combinations (kale, black beans, black beans, garlic, grilled eggplant; Granola is among the choice of ingredients) on soft, round Italian bread. (Oh can you just get a taco that good? You can.)

**THE ONE AND ONLY TRUE THAI BUFFET IN SAN DIEGO**

Thai Cafe

Weekday Lunch Buffet 7.50

Thai Tea or Soda 75¢

Dinner Buffet 8.99

Happy Hour daily 4-7 pm

25% off

Lunch only. With coupon. In-store purchase only may not be combined

The one and only true Thai buffet in San Diego.

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50% off

Buy one entree and one beverage, get a second entree of equal or lesser value 50% off. Not valid with any other offers. Expires 3/1/08.

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**Calendar**

**RESTAURANTS**

San Diego Reader 112

San Diego Reader, 700-744-7398. Additional locations in Carlsbad and Temecula. This affordable seafood bar packs in diners like sardines. Fresh fish and lots of it is happenin’. Go ahead, order the Sony. It’s gonna be good. Whether you’re looking for fried or grilled seafood or steaks, or even a changing array of bold flavors, e.g., vanilla nougatine and chocolate cinnamon. Open daily 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., closes late on Friday and Saturday. Inexpensive to moderate. — N.W.

The Philadelphia Sandwich Company

1901 Conway Street, San Diego 619-424-4995. This seafood pierogi restaurant is a monument to Philadelphia cuisine, including sports sandwiches, historic photos, and colorful memorabilia’s comforters. The menu is equally devoted to the city’s cuisine, especially in two great sandwich categories: the hoagie and the cheese steak. The mixed-meal hoagie is more than a hero — its flavor array is similar (but not as intense) as a New York mafalda. As for the cheese steak, it starts with steak strips, onions, and your choice of cheese, and expands from there. Philly natives may like the simple version with Cheez Whiz, but the luxurious “everything” procedure with more mayonnaise is more popular. “Philly fries” (with garlic) are the right go-with. The menu also offers Penn-sylvania-p Chile peppers (for us peasants who don’t have a hostess). Open daily from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. and a lively salsa on the table. Open regular Sunday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and a lively salsa on the table. Open regular Sunday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

The Place: El Parque

142 University Avenue (at Third St.)

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El Dorado — Palomar, Chula Vista, 619-426-6485. The food of Peru is arguably the zestiest in South America, and Chula Vista’s growing Peruvian community espouses authenticity. El Dorado is there for them. The papa re-frito is pure bliss — a little football of creamy mashed potatoes, lightly fried around a filling of ground beef, olives, and raisins. Sevo de avo features young goat in a complex, herbed slow-cooking sauce with cilantro. Peruvian ceviche is lively and garnished with smoked hominy-corn kernels. Also helpful, cheeseburgers on soft rolls (with fries plus soda included in the price). El Dorado is heaven too, if you’re into an atmosphere with lots of vegetation and pastas in between dishes. A simple papa al servillito — pasta tubes with a tomato, mozzarella, and basil sauce — is charming. Pasa put down here too, if you’re into anchovies. Interesting regional menus from the province of Puno pop up during the first two weeks of each month. Diners recommend a menu of dishes from a specific region of Peru. Mary’s Cafe — 1930 Cleveland Avenue, National City, 619-477-6645. Italian dishes ranging from the letters “the baker,” after all. Beyond the menu here is Mexican — not tacos but bistecchina — a filling of ground beef, olives, and raisins. Mary’s own Vic, the morning cook, always gives you more than enough. For lunch or early dinner, try the meat loaf with mixed veggies, boiled potatoes covered with gravy, toast, and soup or salad. Or chicken-fried steak with all the fixings. Also helpful, cheeseburgers on soft rolls (with fries plus soda included in the price) and that old American favorite, a fried egg sandwich with chips. Open 4:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays. Inexpensive. — E.B.

The Tin Fish — 410 Seaside Drive, Imperial Beach, 619-286-6424. At a table by the fish shack at the far end of the pier, you can watch people and pigeons (and people feeling pigeons) as you dig into huge portions of simple seafood, apostrophized by the sea air. The full of fire features fish — fried, grilled, showed, or wrapped into burritos, tacos, or sandwhiches. The big fried combos are about what you’d expect, but more piquant pleasures come in smaller packages. Portions are generous, whatever you order. The spicy fish tacos are really spicy, while the fried onion rings are of surpassing delicacy. All of the fish cakes are huge and seriously crabley, with plenty of meat and very little filler. With a call, they’ll even give you a lift from the parking lot to their restaurant. A second branch at 1607 Atherton Avenue, Imperial Beach, 619-288-8100, offers patio dining across from the Convention Center, with live music during summer. Both locations open daily for lunch and early dinner. Inexpensive to low moderate. — N.W.

Anthony’s Fish Grotto — La Mesa, 619-463-0168. If you don’t want overcomplicated food, Anthony’s obliges. Fish and chips is still the simplest and the best. On Island’s Planter, combined with bitter-fried calamari, shrimp, oysters, scallops, and clam strips, Anthony’s has been up and running for six decades now, with the买房 bourgeois just next door. The menu offers 18 different seasonal fish to choose from, “Or you can get the bread — delicious lobster dishes (in season) like lobster thermidor with a creamy, wine sauce. No reservations. Open daily, lunch through dinner. Moderate. — E.B.

La Casa del Zorro — 3845 Ypa Pass Road, Borrego Springs, 760-767-3323. La Casa Del Zorro is Borrego Springs’ most renowned and ambitious restaurant, set in a deluxe former house south of town. (Drive through the parking lots until you reach the lindo swimming pool, the restaurant’s small but perfectly shaped market is just to the left.) The menu offers elaborate French specialties (out here in the desert) and entrees (and people feeding pigeons) as you dig into the sea air. The bill of fare is tuned way down for the kiddies but breaching if only to get your teeth into the to-die-for bread. Il fornaio” means “the baker,” after all. Beyond the menu here is Mexican — not tacos but bistecchina — a filling of ground beef, olives, and raisins. Mary’s own Vic, the morning cook, always gives you more than enough. For lunch or early dinner, try the meat loaf with mixed veggies, boiled potatoes covered with gravy, toast, and soup or salad. Or chicken-fried steak with all the fixings. Also helpful, cheeseburgers on soft rolls (with fries plus soda included in the price) and that old American favorite, a fried egg sandwich with chips. Open 4:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Mary J’s Cafe — 1331 First Street, Coronado, 619-437-4911. Il Fornaio’s defensive architecture walk it off from the Great Unwashed — the tourists wandering around Coronado’s Old Ferry Landing — but it’s hard breathing if only to get your teeth into their-to-die-for bread. “Il fornaio” means “the baker,” after all. Beyond the menu here is Mexican — not tacos but bistecchina — a filling of ground beef, olives, and raisins. Mary’s own Vic, the morning cook, always gives you more than enough. For lunch or early dinner, try the meat loaf with mixed veggies, boiled potatoes covered with gravy, toast, and soup or salad. Or chicken-fried steak with all the fixings. Also helpful, cheeseburgers on soft rolls (with fries plus soda included in the price) and that old American favorite, a fried egg sandwich with chips. Open 4:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays. Inexpensive. — E.B.

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The Owl Cafe — 763 Mission Boulevard, Imperial Beach, 619-644-7000. This classic American cafe is over 50 years old and still serves good old-fashioned food morning, noon, or night. Try breakfast special 1: pancakes, sausage, and two bacon strips. For lunch, the fish dip sandwich. Full-plate dinners — and they are full — with fried rice and chicken-fried steak. Open Monday through Friday 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Closed Sunday. Inexpensive. — E.B. E.O.F.
Over 75 Restaurant Coupons at SDReader.com

Here’s a small sample to whet your appetite!

**Free saganaki**

- When you purchase two lunch or dinner entrees, $6.95 value, get a saganaki FREE. Limit two per table. Offer expires March 31, 2008. Expiration dates are renewed the last week of each month. Coupon not valid on holidays.

**Greek Village**

- Reader Coupons

**50% off entree**

- Buy one entree, get second entree of equal or lesser value 50% off. Offer expires March 31, 2008. Expiration dates are renewed the last week of each month. Coupon not valid on holidays.

**Lai Thai**

- Reader Coupons

**Free BBQ**

- Buy one sandwich and two drinks and get one sandwich of equal or lesser value free. Offer expires March 31, 2008. Expiration dates are renewed the last week of each month. Coupon not valid on holidays.

**Lightnin’ Jack’s BBQ**

- Pulled pork, catfish, beef brisket, hickory pit-smoked rib tips, bbq chicken and more! Beer and wine. Catering available.

**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 March 31, 2008. Expiration dates are renewed the last week of each month. Coupon not valid on holidays.

**Extreme Pizza**

- 50% off any entrée

**Greek Village**

- Reader Coupons

**Free**

- Reader Coupons

**Lai Thai**

- Reader Coupons

**Restaurants listed without coupon offers have only menus online. Restaurants with * have multiple locations. See online menu or coupon for all locations.**
Full plate, half-heartedly picked at:

Be Kind Rewind. Twisted, tangled, snarled zaniness around a behind-the-times video store, facing foreclosure, in Passaic, N.J. An habitué of the place (Jack Black, at his most demonically possessed) unwittingly erases the entire stock after he becomes “magnetized” while attempting to sabotage the next-door power plant: “I didn’t sabotage the power plant; the power plant sabotaged me.” With the help of the phlegmatic clerk (Mos Def, a half-step faster than Stepin Fetchit), he then sets about to re-shoot every requested title on home video — for some reason, the re-shot movies are said to have been “Sweded” — and thereby pumps new life into the business. Zaniness notwithstanding, there is a lumbering logic at work, a natural next step in the movie fan’s expanding sense of entitlement: first a video store on every corner, then a camcorder in every pot, et voilà. My movies, my remakes, all mine. Director Michel Gondry, a specialist in zaniness if not nearly a master of it (The Science of Sleep, Human Nature, Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind), apparently sees nothing wrong with any of these developments (Power to the People!), though he can’t quite get out of the way of the steamroller of Copyright Infringement. His offhand style, by which he clearly conveys a looseness of standards, lacks the precision demanded of comedy. But his cheap knockoffs of big movies — Ghostbusters, RoboCop, Rush Hour 2, Driving Miss Daisy, The Lion King, et al. — have touches of invention that would do credit to any gang of let’s-put-on-a-show neighborhood kids: e.g., the tomato pizzas that stand in for exit-wound blood splatters. In the end, the film as a whole seems little more than a tedious set-up for these knockoffs, which can be accessed, at your convenience, at a web address disclosed in the final credits. I didn’t jot it down. I’d had enough.

Charlie Bartlett. A poor little rich boy, drummed out of every private school in a reachable radius, shows up undiplomatically for his first day at public school in a blazer and tie, totting an attaché case, glad-handing like a Presidential candidate. But after a beating or two, he attains his uppermost goal in life — popularity — by peddling prescription meds to his classmates and offering confessional-style counseling in adjoining stalls in the boys’ lavatory. Oversated teen comedy, but not grossly so, never gross-out-ly so, with an above-average range of emotion for the genre, and a narrowly pallid palette. Directed by Jon Poll (George and Ringo?), it ingratiates itself chiefly through the choirboy delicacy of its star, Anton Yelchin, who could practically pass for preteen, an inherently more ingratiating age. Kat Dennings, the moderately Goth romantic interest, helps out with the ingratiation, while Hope Davis and Robert Downey, Jr., as the respective single parents of the hero and heroine, contribute little but indie prestige.

Military Intelligence and You! Amicable, amusing anti-Americanism, in the form of a spoof of a WWII military training film, “declassified” under the Freedom of Information Act.
San Diego

Black-and-white Hollywood war films of the period, featuring the likes of William Holden, Alan Ladd, Arthur Kennedy, Lloyd Nolan, and Roman Ragon, some of whom have been obviously redubbed, are mixed in with a not exactly shocking black-and-white period piece featuring Patrick Muldoon, Mackenzie Astin, Elizabeth Bennett, and John Rixey Moore, all of whom have been well coached, and all of whom are game. Modern anachronisms infiltrate the stiff-upper-lip dialogue and the stentorian narration to make plain that the writer and first-time director Dale Kutzer is thinking of a more up-to-date war and another, more tragically or less, can of worms. One of these worms from Butterscotch to Autumn Harvest to Tangerine, “Lower our threat level from Orange to Yellow — a call to mind the cinematic heyday of the period, featuring the likes of William Holden, Alan Ladd, Arthur Kennedy, and...”

San Diego Latino Film Festival, a dependably vibrant event which this year celebrates its fifteenth anniversary, or its Quincennial, as we’ve been taught to say. The program is always a bit of a crapshoot, but that’s just part of the vibe. The film is a rather wholesome, but even I am pleased, for example, to see an old favorite of the festival, Arturo Joyce, back again. He directed his own new movie, El Carnaval de Sodoma, as well as with an old one, El Lucar Sin Limites, both centering around the enclosed worlds of brothels. Even if I can no longer consider a film of his, even since he began shooting in digital video, to be a good bet, it’s a bet I’ll always be happy to make. (The earlier film, shown at the 1979 San Diego International Film Festival on whose selection committee I served, was directed by Paul Auster.)

The Band’s Visit — Reviewed this issue. With Rachel Weisz, Eddy Alafra, Rachel Birna, and Khaled Natour; directed by Eran Riklis. (HILLCREST CINEMAS, FROM 2/29)

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Diary of the Dead — George A. Romero, passing off Ontario as his Pennsylvania habitat, raises more zombies for the purpose of running them further into the ground. The tetralogy hereby becomes a panopticon. The borrowed Bler-Wich gimmick of filmmaking students recording the events on shaky camcorders is more expedient than plausible, and the obligatory “social commentary” — mostly on the Isabel of modern media — is now more self-conscious, overt, and verbalized, especially in the first-person narration of a film-within-the-film called The Death of Death. But there are still touches, dashes, bloody spatters of imagination and humor. With Michelle Morgan, Josh Close, Shawn Roberts, Amy Lalonde, and other unknowns. 2008.

The Diving Bell and the Butterfly — Julian Schnabel relates another true-life tale from the wide world of art, this one a little more liberated from convention than his Before Night Falls (though it immediately and continually brings to mind Alejandro Amenabar’s The Sea Inside), the tale of Jean-Dominique Bauby, an editor at Elle magazine, who in the prime of life suffered a stroke that left him paralyzed but for his left eyelid (and his imagination and his memory), and who dictated a memoir, letter by letter, through a system of blink signals: one moving part only, the right shoulder joint, like a cardboard-cutout puppet, the best arm swinging back and forth on its hinge, the rest of his body stock-still. You wonder whether Alba, to “prepare” for the part, bothered to look at concert footage of Anne-Sophie Mutter, Sarah Chang, Leila Josefowicz, Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg, anybody at all. With Alessandra Nivola, Parker Posey, Saralynne Abraham, and Rachel Ticotin; directed by David Moreau and Xavier Pahud. 2008.

Feast’s Gold — Matthew McConaughey and Kate Hudson fight to out-cute one another, and out-bronze one another, as a still-in-love divorced couple on a Caribbean treasure hunt, in competition with a murderous rapper. Some of the brutality is truly brutal, none of the humor is humorous. With Donald Sutherland, Ray Winston, Alexis Diziena, Even Bremner, and Kevin Heffernan; directed by Andy Tennant. 2008.

Carmen, Muntany, del Mor Highlands B; Escovedo 10; Palm Valley 16; Gaslamp 15; Grossmont Center; La Costa 6; La Jolla 12; Mira Mesa 18; Mission Marketplace 13; Mission Valley 20; Ocean Side 16; Otay Ranch 12; Palm Promenade 24; Parkway Plaza 18; Poway 10; Rancho Del Rey 16; Ranch San Diego 15; River Village 8; San Marcos 18; San Dieve In; Town Square 14; Vista Village.

4 Months, 3 Weeks, and 2 Days — Romanian filmmaker Cristi Mungiu details a squalid quest for an illegal abortion in the final years of the Ceausescu regime, and discloses, in passing, a good deal about a way of life, and in particular about the foundation stone of the black market. Alongside a strong film, in the mode of rub-your-nose-in-it naturalism, arising itself of the aesthetic precepts selectively followed by the Danish Dogmatists, the Iranian Kiarostami, the Belgian Dardenne brothers, among others. Bowed down to a basic checklist: a humanoid camera, handheld and motor-propelled; a bias towards the “in-tegrity” of long takes, whether static or kinetic; an observance of one or more of the classical unities (the action here lasts less than a day); location-shooting only, in “natural” light (a resultant greey-gray overcast); no special effects; no background music. 4 Months tells the line, makes no missteps, and it holds interest if it doesn’t quite stir excitement. The entire cast, helped perhaps by the unfeasibility of its faces and its tongue, closely guards the illusion of reality. But Vlad Ivanov, helped most definitely by the natural dominance of his role as the ontological abortionist, unflinchingly yet unpredictably patient, is the clear standout. Nonscript in his physical features, casually stranded in black leather jacket, striped sweater, and blue jeans, he manages to be intimidating, manipulating, and ultimately abusing without ever looming larger than life, a mundane villain. Although the film, like Vera Drake a few years earlier, doesn’t debate the rights and wrongs of abortion (just another of the facts of life), it has something for both sides of the argument. It has, on one side, again like Vera Drake, a hazardous backstairs makes venture for which no one could be nostalgic and to which no one would choose to return. And on the other side it has, in a towel on the bathroom floor, an unmistakable human fetus whose exact age is told in the title, and only there. (The expectant mother is prone to waffle.) The rights and wrongs of it can’t be properly debated till we’re clarified what “it” is. The fetus, as “real” as everything else in the film, makes it clear. Anamaria Marinca, Laura Vasiliu. 2007.

The Band’s Visit — Ari Folman, a former Israeli military intelligence officer, returns to Israel after a stint in a refugee camp in the Congo and enlists in the Israeli National Symphony Orchestra, where he befriends the orchestra’s beiden yeni acayip: İtzhak Perlman’ın cellasını ve laflarını görmezden gelmek; onun ve onların konser fotoğraflarını izlemek. Bu film, bir rock videosu gibi sunuluyor; sahnenin herhangi birinin parmakla değil, kafasından bir sevgiyle hareket etmesi bekleniyor.
A Great Day in Harlem

MICHAEL PROFIT
Projectorionist, Hillcrest Cinemas

A Great Day in Harlem is a documentary about the making of a single photograph of a large group of jazz giants perched on the steps of a Harlem brownstone. It's a joyful photo of a joyful yet chaotic reunion moment. The DVD offers extras that are longer and more detailed than the feature. The film itself is a valentine to any jazz fan.

Straight No Chaser is another documentary focusing on the life, performances, and appeal of the late, great Thelonious Monk. There aren't so many “talking head” interviews with his friends reminiscing, but rather fly-on-the-wall scenes of Thelonious himself, ordering lunch, choosing what tie to wear, or just waiting to go on stage. And then there are the performances — rare, candid, and sublime.

A GREAT DAY IN HARLEM (USA) 1995, Homevision List price: $24.99

MUSHI-SHI: VOLUME ONE (Japan) 2006, Funimation List price: $29.98
THE ANIMANIACS: SEASON ONE (USA) 1993, Warner List price: $14.98 (five discs)
PINKY AND THE BRAIN: SEASON ONE (USA) 1995, Warner List price: $14.98 (four discs)

In Brugeois — Writer-director Martin McDonagh, in his feature debut, dispatches British hit men to lie low, after a job with messy collateral damage, in the “fairy-tale” Medieval town near the coast of Belgium, where one of them (the dreamy Brendan Gleeson) is interested in seeing the sights while the other (the righteous Colin Farrell) sizes the place up as a “shithole,” excepting only a Bosch museum piece. Together they engage in forced, overwritten, exhibitionistic comic dialogue at some variety of metacommentary on the thoughts of suicide. Ralph Fiennes, attempting to do (if not outdo) Ben Kingsley in An Hour Four, comes into it late as a hot-tempered, high-principled crime boss. A little later, bullets fly, blood flows. The beauties of the town survive all this, and even the view photography. 2008.

MICHAEL PROFIT, Hillcrest Cinemas

MUSHI-SHI

Behind-the-scenes anime and manga club

Mushi-Shi is an exquisitely animated tale of a bashful master wandering through rural Japan helping people. What are mushis? Primal entities/spirits that exist somewhere between our world and the next. I'm not a fan of Steven Spielberg, but I have to give him credit for producing two of the best American cartoons to hit the tube: The Animaniacs and its spin-off, Pinky and the Brain. The Animaniacs offers inspired lunacy as Wakko, Yakko, and sister Dot wreak havoc on everything from Apocalypse Now to Godzilla. Pinky and the Brain revolves around two lab mice — one is a genius, the other insane. The genius sounds like Orlando Bloom. Very nearly every night he plots to take over the world.

BETH WEIDINGER
Coordinator, after-school anime and manga club

The Ladykillers

Taste of Cherry

The Wizard of Gore

No Country For Old Men

The Coen brothers’ first literary adaptation, from McCarthy’s original, overflowing pulp thriller, plumbed up by folkloric first-person social commentary in Iraqis, about a Texas good ole boy who stumbles upon the internecine scene of a drug deal gone bad, makes off with a satchel of cash, and tries to ditch the implacable hired killer (among others) on his trail. Sharing the writing credit as always and sharing the directing credit as they only began to do with The Ladykillers, the brothers were smart to cut down the social commentary — the Decline of Western Civilization as viewed by an aging third-generation lawman — to a single block of voice-over at the outset (“Some of the old-time sheriffs never even wore a gun”), and to sprinkle any additional such commentary lightly into the dialogue (“Once you quit hearing ‘sir’ and ‘ma’am,’ the rest is soon to follow”). Without those repeated and repetitive interruptions, the simple pursuit narrative — the killer pursues his fitcher, the lawman pursues both — unfolds as lean, linear, streamlined, and yet slow, steady, and long, never very deep, never very inventive. They have followed McCarthy’s blueprint scrupulously, even dastardly, and have humbly harvested his big-lip-edging dialogue; and the major unconventionality in this mostly conventional thriller are all there. (For better or for worse.) To be sure, the Coens are meticulous technicians, supremely skillful, attentive to the least detail. And while the body count climbs numbingly high, the tension in individual set pieces is treated out to an exquisite

JUNO

Hard Candy

The Kite Runner — From the Khalid Hosseini novel, directed by Marc Forster (Finding Neverland, Stranger Than Fiction), a story about a storyteller, and in large part a story truly worthy of a storyteller. The remaining parts are hackneyed and/or hokey. Main elements: two boyhood pals in Kabul, 1975, the son of master and servant, and the psychologically leveraging betrayal of the second by the first, our evolving storyteller. Notwithstanding the graphic barbarism of the Taliban in the year 2000, the film takes a tactical and tactical approach to the Islamic topic, and the nostalgic re-creation of life in the Afghanistan of yesteryear (randomly photographed in the bargain) is highly beneficial: the competitive, combative, and colorful kite flying, the rapturous dubbin’ of The Magnificent Seven (Charles Bronson’s accent giving him away as a native Karen), the tawny comforts of the hero’s home, the imposing figure of the principled, civilized, dignified father (ably embodied by the star of Taste of Cherry, Homayoun Ershadi), destined to run a gas station in Fremont after fleeing the Soviet invaders. The devastating plot device of dividing a screen role between a younger and an older actor are brutally spotlighted in the scene where a Taliban bully tells the now adult hero that he never forgets a face, even to truth in the face of a resemblance the single that the bull last saw. It is not surprising that the hero, in turn, doesn’t recognize the bully. With Khalid Abdalla, Zekeria Ebrahimi, and Ahmad Khan Mahmidzada.

Military Intelligence and You! — Reviewed this issue. With Patrick Muldoon, Elizabeth Bennett, Mackenzie Astin, and John Rixey Moore; written and directed by Dale Kaufer.

Charlie Bartlett

NOW PLAYING
The Orphanage — Spanish ghost story that moves at all times to stay within arm's reach of ambiguity — real ghosts or overheated imagination? — in the mold of the James Ivory prototypes. "The Turn of the Screw," or at any rate in the mold of the academic squabbles over it. James may have set out to write a straightforward ghost story, but was, bless his unfailled soul, incapable of it. Director J.A. Bayona is no James, nor is he even a Jack Clayton, nor, the judicious filmmaker who turned The Turn... into The Shining, into The Others on screen. The basic situation without doubt seems primed for "resonance," and the lead actress, Belén Rueda, seems primed almost for spontaneous combustion. An adopted orphan returns to the paratypical orphanage thirty years later, with plans to respose it, and with an adopted, HIV-positive orphan of her own. The boy, already inclined towards imaginative combustion, appears to have made contact with the ghosts of half a dozen children still hanging about the place, and soon goes missing. His mother then goes bananas. These are big performances in a small film —ving comic-strip memoir by Marjane Satrapi, Persepolis — Cartoon recap of the Christian Brici, James McAvoy, and Reese Witherspoon, directed by Mark Palansky. (CAROLYN MOUNTAIN; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ENTRANCE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 13; SAN MARCOS 18)

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**MOVIETIME SHOWTIMES**

**Bargain showtimes are in parentheses.**

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**CENTRAL**

**CLAIROMON**

Town Square 14

6963 Clairemont Drive (858-274-2334)

Call theater for program information

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**DOWNTOWN**

Gaslamp 15

1530 8th Avenue (619-222-0400)

Call theater for program information

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**Horton Plaza 14**

(619)443-5471

**DEFINITELY, MAYBE** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:30, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30)

**Atonement** (PG-13) Fri. (10:15, 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:15)

**DEFINITELY, MAYBE** (PG-13) Fri. (10:15, 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:15)

**THE SIBERIAN CHRONICLES** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:30) 2:20, 5:30, 8:40, 11:50

**Step Up 2 the Streets** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, 10:00)

**DEFINITELY, MAYBE** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:45, 1:45, 4:45, 7:45, 10:45)

**DEFINITELY, MAYBE** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:45, 1:45, 4:45, 7:45, 10:45)

**DEFINITELY, MAYBE** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:45, 1:45, 4:45, 7:45, 10:45)

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**Mission Valley 7**

*7:00 Soundbar Cinemas (619-685-2841)*

**Atoning** (PG-13) Fri. (10:15, 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:15)

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**Mission Valley 20**

*6948 Camino Del Oro North (619-338-2262)*

**Atoning** (PG-13) Fri. (10:15, 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:15)

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**MOVIE SHOWTIMES**

NOW PLAYING

CHECK LOCAL LISTINGS FOR THEATERS AND SHOWTIMES

SORRY, NO PASSENS ACCEPTED FOR THIS ENGAGEMENT.

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**STATE UNIVERSITY**

Ken

429 Adams Avenue (619-491-6236)

**Military Intelligence and You!** (Not Rated)

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**UPTOWN**

**Hillcrest Cinemas**

**Goodbye Lenin!** (PG-13) Fri. (10:00, 12:45, 3:30, 6:15, 9:00)

City of Men (Cidade dos Homens) (R) Fri. (10:00, 12:45, 3:30, 6:15, 9:00)

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**EAST COUNTY**

**El Cajon**

Parkway Plaza 18

495 Parkway Plaza (619-465-7100)

Call theater for program information

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**LA MESA**

Grosmont Center

Grosmont Center (619-465-7100)

Call theater for program information

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**RANCHO SAN DIEGO**

San Diego Natural History Museum

178 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-238-1233)

**Ocean Cineplex (Not Rated)** Fri.-Sun. 12:09pm; Mompeli: The Last Day (NR) Fri.-Sun. 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00

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**SOUTH BAY**

**Chula Vista**

Chula Vista 10

Broadway between L and M (619-338-2414)

Alvin and the Chipmunks (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:00, 2:30, 6:00, 9:30)

The Eye (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:15, 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30)

Hannah Montana & Miley Cyrus: Best of Both Worlds Concert Digital 3D (G) Fri.-Sun. (10:00, 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 6:45, 8:55, 11:00)

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**SANTEE**

San Diego Civic Theatre

San Diego Civic Theatre (619-231-1000)

**Vote** (NR) Fri. (10:15, 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00)

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**Mission Valley 18**

10750 Waringo Parkway (619-635-7700)

Call theater for program information

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**MIRA MESAS**

Mesa 18

10750 Waringo Parkway (619-635-7700)

Call theater for program information

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**MISSION VALLEY**

Fashion Valley 18

10750 Waringo Parkway (619-635-7700)

Call theater for program information

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**WHAT'S YOUR VANTAGE POINT?**

NOW PLAYING

CHECK LOCAL LISTINGS FOR THEATERS AND SHOWTIMES

SORRY, NO PASSENS ACCEPTED FOR THIS ENGAGEMENT.
**NORTH INLAND**

**CARMEL MOUNTAIN**

Carmel Mountain
1620 Carmel Mountain Road (858-674-4700)
Call theater for program information

**ESCONDIDO**

Escondido 16
350 W. Valley Parkway (760-291-0119)

The Bucket List (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (1:35) 4:30, 7:05, 9:40, 11:05; Definitely, Maybe (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:20) 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30; Fool's Gold (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:30) 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30, 11:00; U2 3D (PG) Fri.-Sun. (1:00) 3:45, 6:30, 9:15, 12:00

**FALLBROOK**

River Village
3287 S. Mission Road (760-643-8784)

Definitely, Maybe (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:15) 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30; Fool's Gold (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:30) 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30; The Spiderwick Chronicles (PG) Fri.-Sat. (12:30, 2:30) 4:30, 7:00, 9:30; Sun. (11:00, 1:30, 3:45) 6:15, 8:30, 10:30; U2 3D (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:30) 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30

**POWAY**

Poway 10
13477 Poway Road (858-464-9626)


**NORTH COASTAL**

**CARSLSBAD**

Plaza Cinema Real
2825 Marion Road (760-231-7469)


**DEL MAR**

Del Mar Highlands II
11400 Del Mar Highlands Road (760-404-2740)

Be Kind (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:15, 2:30) 5:00, 7:15, 9:00; Definitely, Maybe (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:15, 11:15, 1:15, 1:55, 3:55, 5:55, 7:55, 10:25); The Spiderwick Chronicles (PG) Fri. (11:00, 1:00, 3:00) 5:15, 7:15; The Worlds Concert Tour: Disney Digital 3D (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:15, 1:45, 3:15, 5:45, 8:15, 10:45) Sun. (11:00, 1:30, 3:30) 5:00, 7:00; World Tour (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:30, 1:00, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; Sun. (10:30, 1:30, 3:30) 5:30, 8:00

**FLOWER HILL 4**

2690 Via de la Villa (760-468-9425)

In Bruges (R) Fri.-Sat. (10:15, 12:30, 3:00) 8:15, 10:00, 11:45, 1:30, 3:15, 5:00, 5:45, 7:30, 9:15; The Other Boleyn Girl (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:45, 1:30, 3:15, 4:30, 6:15, 8:00, 9:45, 11:30, 1:15, 2:45, 4:30, 6:15, 8:00, 9:45, 11:30, 1:15; The Spiderwick Chronicles (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:00, 1:30, 3:00) 5:15, 7:15; The Worlds Concert Tour: Disney Digital 3D (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:15, 1:45, 3:15, 5:45, 8:15, 10:45) Sun. (11:00, 1:30, 3:30) 5:00, 7:00; World Tour (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:30, 1:00, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; Sun. (10:30, 1:30, 3:30) 5:30, 8:00

**ENCIINITAS**

La Paloma
47 South Coast Highway 101 (760-438-3801)

Into the Wild (R) Fri. 6:05, 9:05 Sat. 3:05, 6:05 Sun. 3:05

**LA COSTA**

La Costa 6
6941 El Camino Real (858-436-5221)

Definitely, Maybe (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:15, 12:30, 3:00) 6:15, 9:15, 12:00, 2:45, 5:45, 8:45 Sun. 10:30, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30; The Other Boleyn Girl (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:00, 1:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; The Spiderwick Chronicles (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:00, 1:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30

**OCEANSIDE**

Mission Marketplace 13
Call Boulevard and Mission Avenue (760-635-2690)

Definitely, Maybe (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (2:15, 5:30); The Eye (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15, 11:30) 2:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10:15, 12:45, 2:15, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15, 11:30; Fool's Gold (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:45) 4:15, 7:45; Jumper (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:30, 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30, 8:30) 10:30, 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30, 8:30; U2 3D (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:30) 2:30, 4:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30; U2 3D (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:30) 2:30, 4:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30; Vantage Point (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:30, 2:30) 4:30, 7:00, 9:30; World Tour (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:30, 2:30) 4:30, 7:00, 9:30

**OCEANSIDE 16**

401 Mission Avenue (760-439-1733)

San Diego Reader February 28, 2008

**Starts Friday, February 29**

Check Local Listings For Theaters And Showtimes

Sorry, No Passes Accepted For This Engagement
autobiographical) Slums of Beverly Hills, seeks the universal in the individual — the particulars, the peculiarities, the normal abnormalities (the lachrymosity of Hoffman, the mendacity of Linney) — which is the right way to go about it. The peculiarities needn’t have been so arty-farty peculiar.

With Peter Friedman and Cara Seymour: 2007.
★ ★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE, THROUGH 2/28)

SemiPro — Seventies-period basketball comedy with Will Ferrell, Woody Harrelson, and André Benjamin, directed by Kent Alterman.
(CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 18; FASHION VALLEY 14; HORTON PLAZA 18; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MBA MESA 14; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANISDE 18; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; POWAY PLAZA 18; PORVY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 18; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 5; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE, from 2/29)

The Signal — High-concept, low-budget, no-name horror show. An irritating transmission over television, radio, and telephone drives half the population homicidally insane: “This is without a doubt the most f**ked-up day in the history of mankind.” The movie is divided into three Roman-numeralled parts, and the jokiness dissipates with the materialization: a kit and caboodle of butt-ugly CG beings — sprites, sylphs, fairies, a dragon-sized griffin, a honey-loving brownie, toadlike goblins vulgarized beyond recognition as an exemplar of the enterprising capitalist. (The accompanying music credited to Jonny Greenberg warps beyond recognition as an exemplar of the protagonist’s subsequent, warped mind.) The build-up (scarily sounds in the walk, a plattered-over dumbwaiter, a warning written in dust) holds promise, but the premise dissipates with the materialization: a kit and caboodle of butt-ugly CG beings — sprites, sylphs, fairies, a dragon-sized griffin, a honey-loving brownie, toadlike goblins vulnerable to tomato sauce, and the shape-shifting Ogres, Malagorts, the anti-Shark, who could somehow rule the world if he could possess the book. Saccharine family fare based on the kiddie-lit series by Tony DiTerlizzi and Holly Black. With Freddie Highmore (as twins), Mary-Louise Parker, Sarah Bolger, Joan Plowright, and David Strathairn; directed by Mark Waters. 2008.
★ ★ ★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 18; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GRISSOM CENTER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MBA MESA 14; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANISDE 18; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; POWAY PLAZA 18; PORVY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 18; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 5; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE, from 2/29)

2 Days in Paris — Futuristic chatter between mid-diesh luvvies, two years too together, an upright American designer and a caretaker French photographer, visiting her parents in Paris, Julie Delpy, 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 impudent in her choice of costumes, her one-time beauty in real life, Adam Goldberg: little chemistry and little individ-ual charisma. 2007.
★ ★ ★ (SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY, 3/3, 6:30 P.M.)

Vantage Point — Anti-terrorist exploita-tion to do with an apparent assassination of the U.S. President on Spanish soil on the eve of a peace accord, but an actual assassina-tion of his look-alike: “Sie, we’ve used doubles since Reagan,” a page out of Sad-dam Hussein’s playbook, and the terrorists know that playbook backwards and for-wards. The narrative goes over and over the same compressed sequence of events from differing points of view, until, on the sixth pass, the full story comes to light in all its laughable absurdity. With Dennis Quaid, Forest Whitaker, Sigourney Weaver, Matthew Fox, and William Hurt; directed by Pete Travis. 2008.
★ ★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 18; FASHION VALLEY 18; GRISSOM CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MBA MESA 14; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANISDE 18; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; POWAY PLAZA 18; PORVY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 18; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 5; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE, from 2/29)

27 Dresses — Girly fairy tale to do with the proverbial always-a-bridesmaid, twenty-seven times as actual count, with a closeness of once-worn gowns to prove it, who stands mutely by as her dutty younger sister returns home and steals her dreamy boss right out from under her nose. Screen-writer Aline Brosh McKenna and director Anne Fletcher unprotestingly accept all the romantic-comic conventions, the con-trivances, the clichés, and tidy them into shape as if with a needle and void of varnish. Katherine Heigl, blandly beautiful whenever her face-crumping frenceness isn’t spoiling the effect, gets an opportunity to play a more coherent character than in Knocked Up, and demonstrates a fine control of the light and shade of Legible emo-tion. She keeps the blues at bay. James Marsden, Malin Akerman, Edward Burns, Judy Greer. 2008.
★ ★ ★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; OTAY RANCH 12)

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Last week's place: (clue: Holding up well) A lace bustier that Madonna wore during her 1989 Virgin Tour, now an artifact displayed in the new Hard Rock Hotel at 345 Sixth Avenue, downtown. The hotel, which opened last December, is packed with some of the chain’s $50 million collection of 69,000 rock-memorabilia pieces. Last week’s winners: David Koza, Kyle Davis, Damon Flemington, Martha Trotter, Diana Mewbleau.


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etstream.net. (AAN CAN)
OFF THE CUFF
by Josh Board

Does the opposite sex have it easier?

Diana Durie
Cedar
El Cajon

I would say yes. My daughter and
I are cyclists, and on the regional
level, from a competitive level, it’s a
battle with a very small number of
race promoters don’t have to make
cater to many categories, and they
prefer the men’s categories because
there is more money and also
more races. All the prize money is
prized towards the men side. Women
are lucky to even win grocery money.
And for women over 35, races are
unheard of. For those reasons, it’s
easier for guys.

Marni L. James
Shawnee
Carroll Valley

My thinking is that men don’t
have anything any easier. With
all the women’s rights and every-
thing, I don’t think it’s possible for
men to get away with anything. There
will always be a woman behind them,
making sure they get fair treatment.
Maybe years ago it was easier for
men, but not anymore.

Tah McNaughton
Alied Gardens

Of course they do. They have
seen how it’s bought for them. They
have seen how it’s bought for them.
They get their books carried to school.
Men hold their due. The list of
advantages women have goes on
and on.

Jason Miller
Manager
San Carlos

I don’t think it’s easier for women.
I think there are too many dif-
frent avenues. I think some things
are easier for women, but then there
are other things that are harder for
women. Women work now than they
used to back in the Leave It to
Bathers day. But even then, who said
staying home and taking care of a
household tax easier than the husband
going to work.

Myra Smith
Project Coordinator
San Diego

I am a woman working in the con-
struction industry and see every-
day how men have it easier than
women. Women have to work harder
to prove themselves, whereas men
don’t. Men are given more oppor-
tunities to advance, grow, and learn,
whereas women have to fight and
struggle for them. I am currently the
president of the National Asso-
ciation of Women in Construction
in San Diego, and we promote edu-
cation, growth, and success for
women in the industry with differ-
cent educational opportunities.

Geraldine Mary
Consultant
San Diego

It goes both ways, really. It’s defi-
itely much easier to please a man.
A lot of ways, if you know what I
mean. We seem women to each have
our own recipe, and we leave it up
to the man to figure out. That has to
be difficult for men.

But for women, putting on makeup
every day is a bear. Messing with
your eyebrows, shaving your legs
... sometimes I wish I was a man so
I could go out without make-up.
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Say What?

Robert Adam | Age: 35 | Occupation: Chef | Lives: Santee

My word is ‘squadouche.’ Which basically means ‘nothing.’ Do you really care who gets what? You've never heard it from... But basically used in the context, “Hey dude, what's got you down?” “Squadouche!” I didn’t get anything.” I work in a kitchen, and sometimes you have to be loud to get your point across, especially when something is asked of you, so you just shout “Squadouche!” You won’t know you did it. I think I heard it for the first time in a casino; some guy lost a bunch of money and I heard him say, “I’m going home with squadouche.” I hope that didn’t have anything to do with it, because it’s nothing. I made the whole thing up anyway. Squadouche.

See the video
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LA Jolla. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, remodeled. Close to beach, ocean views. $1600. 7515 Glorietta Bay. 619-239-1651.

LA Jolla. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, newly remodeled townhouse. $2100. 7492 La Jolla Shores. 619-236-2271.

LA Jolla. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, with ocean view, fireplace, a/c, garden. $2650. 7492 La Jolla Shores. 619-236-2271.

LA Jolla. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, remodeled, ocean view, fireplace, a/c. $2500. 7492 La Jolla Shores. 619-236-2271.

LA Jolla. 4 bedroom, 3 bath, remodeled, include A/C, washer/dryer, pool. $3500. 7492 La Jolla Shores. 619-236-2271.

LA Jolla. 4 bedroom, 3 bath, remodeled. $3500. 7492 La Jolla Shores. 619-236-2271.

Lemon Grove. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, NO PETS, great for pets. $1050. 619-259-1165.

Lemon Grove. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, NO PETS, great for pets. $1050. 619-259-1165.

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LA MESA. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, remodeled, fireplace, shared 2 car garage, near SDCC, public trans, shopping. $1500. 619-235-8200.

LA MESA. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, newly remodeled, great floor plan, walk to SDSU, pool, laundry on site. 619-236-2271.

LA MESA. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, nicely remodeled, include A/C, washer/dryer, pool. $3250. 7492 La Jolla Shores. 619-236-2271.

LA MESA. 4 bedroom, 3 bath, remodeled, include A/C, washer/dryer, pool. $3500. 7492 La Jolla Shores. 619-236-2271.

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According to notes from the Historical Society, the “three-story building served both as church and as a business investment. The upper floors were used as a public meeting hall, school as well as the street house; various offices and business buildings.”

Demolition of the brick edifice occurred in 1907, and the Owl Company Building took its place.

— by Robert Mizrahi
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PACIFIC BEACH. 1 bedroom. $1,000. Stunning ocean view! 505 1/2 E St. 714-505-3006.

PACIFIC BEACH. 1 bedroom apartment. Unit is a 1/2 block to beach. First floor. Pets negotiable. 415 1/2 E St. 714-505-3006.

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I DREAMED MY UNCLE AND I WERE AT A DRIVE-THRU A FEW MILES FROM A CUP OF FRIED QUARTERS.

WELL, WE'D BOTH FRIED BUTTERS AND WE BOTH HAD OURS.

TO OUR SALAD, WE TOOK OURS AND THEN WE HAD OURS.

...AND WE HAD OURS...}

SLOW WAVE

I'M NOT SURE IF WE SHOULD HAVE HAD OURS... OR JUST HAD OURS...

BUT WE DID HAVE OURS...

...AND THEN WE HAD OURS...
LEAD STORY
— Five of the ten best-selling novels in Japan in 2007 were originally composed, and serialized, on cell phones, thrust out by women who had never written novels, for readers who mostly had never before read one. The genre’s dominating plottlines are all affairs of the heart, and its characters, obviously, are simplicity of plot and character and brevity of expression (lest authors’ sore thumbs and readers’ tired eyes bring down the industry). Said one successful cell-phone writer, for a January dispatch in the New York Times, her audience doesn’t read works by “professional writers” because “their sentences are too difficult to understand.”

The Entrepreneurial Spirit!
— The New Lucky Restaurant has been around since the 1950s in Ahmedabad, India, serving diners among the gravestones located at various points around the tables. No one is certain who was buried under the restaurant, according to a December Associated Press dispatch, but Indians aren’t much spooked by the experience. Said a retired professor: “Gravestones in India are never scary places. We don’t have a nice literature of horror stories, so we don’t have much fear of ghosts.” The restaurant’s main concern is that waiters know the floor plan and don’t trip over the ankle-high monuments.

— It’s the “holy grail” of beers, said a Boston pound manager, but, still, only 60,000 cases a year of Westerleyen are brewed because the Belgian Townshend family, with the centuries-old recipe refuse to expand their business (and even get on the phone to harass big-marketers). Westerleyen is sold only at the monastery gate, by appointment, with a two-case-a-month limit, at a price that’s reasonable for real beer, but anyone who gets it from a re-seller will pay ten times that much.

Science on the Cutting Edge
— Latest Ape-Human News: The Fourth Texas Court of Appeals in January affirmed a lower-court decision that monkeys and chimpanzees have no legal right to file lawsuits against an animal preserve for mistreatment. In Apeoland, animal rights groups and the University of Texas at Austin had never written novels, for readers who mostly had never before read one. The genre’s dominating plottlines are all affairs of the heart, and its characters, obviously, are simplicity of plot and character and brevity of expression (lest authors’ sore thumbs and readers’ tired eyes bring down the industry). Said one successful cell-phone writer, for a January dispatch in the New York Times, her audience doesn’t read works by “professional writers” because “their sentences are too difficult to understand.”

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— The New Lucky Restaurant has been around since the 1950s in Ahmedabad, India, serving diners among the gravestones located at various points around the tables. No one is certain who was buried under the restaurant, according to a December Associated Press dispatch, but Indians aren’t much spooked by the experience. Said a retired professor: “Gravestones in India are never scary places. We don’t have a nice literature of horror stories, so we don’t have much fear of ghosts.” The restaurant’s main concern is that waiters know the floor plan and don’t trip over the ankle-high monuments.

— It’s the “holy grail” of beers, said a Boston pound manager, but, still, only 60,000 cases a year of Westerleyen are brewed because the Belgian Townshend family, with the centuries-old recipe refuse to expand their business (and even get on the phone to harass big-marketers). Westerleyen is sold only at the monastery gate, by appointment, with a two-case-a-month limit, at a price that’s reasonable for real beer, but anyone who gets it from a re-seller will pay ten times that much.

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He was gorgeous. Kristen and I sat on the lawn at Orange Glen High School, watching Chris walk down on his way to the cafeteria. It was winter in sunny Southern California, and he wore a brown pullover sweater with a red reindeer across the front. It looked more sophisticated than I was concentrating on. He seemed to like me yet never asked me out. Finally, my crush on him grew to a fever pitch. Without any regard for Kristen’s feelings (she was secretly hoping he’d ask her out, too) I invited him to a movie. He accepted, and four days afterward was hip-hopping on the moon.

We were inseparable soul mates and spent long hours on the phone. There was nothing I couldn’t say to him, and everyone at school picked up on the joy we had. One teacher even commented to her class about us.

But underneath, problems were brewing. I graduated from high school while Chris still had a year left to go. I got a job in a car wash and had to pay for most of our dates. I had to drive him around to look for a job because he hadn’t gotten his driver’s license yet. I began to feel more like his mother than his girlfriend. I looked with envy at the guys my friends were dating.

The straw that broke the camel’s back was when Chris met a new friend at school. He and Stuart would spend a lot of time together, and Chris and I double dated with Stuart and his girlfriend, Doree. It seemed as though Chris and Stuart had a secret world together, one that grew a little larger when a third friend, Kyle, joined the fray. It seemed that Chris was enjoying their company more than mine, so one day I called Chris and told him that it was over.

Because he had been abandoned by his father as a boy, he took the news hard. He yelled and sobbed in front of my parents’ house and even pulled a wrought-iron fence right out of the ground. My mother called his mother and asked her to come pick him up.

A few months later, I started college. I found it to be a boring and lonely place. I longed to have someone to talk to again and go places with. My thoughts kept drifting back to Chris and the soul mates that we once were.

I called him one evening and asked him if he’d like to drive down to SDSU! I picked him up and maneuvered at how good he looked. His acne cleared up, and he sported a shorter haircut. My desire for him was so great that I decided that we did indeed belong together. As we walked to the library, I stopped, took his hand, and said, “I’ve really missed you. I’d like to try getting back together.”

“I’m gay,” he said.

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by KARA MYERS | ESCONDIDO

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Thirty Years Ago

While I have permitted myself, the last week or two, to become hopelessly tangled up in writing about, or trying to, Win Wenders’s _The American Friend_, a near traffic jam of other important movies has materialized behind it. The pileup — Luis Bunuel’s _That Obscure Object of Desire_, Barbara Kopple’s _Harlan County_, U.S.A., Werner Herzog’s _The Great Ecstasy of the Sculptor Steiner_, and coming next week, his _Stroszek_ — has reached such a point that I’ve given up any silly notion of dealing with each.


Twelve-Five Years Ago

I'm worried about something. I've seen the city workers pushing those carts with the long steel necks that drain the money from the parking meters. What's to prevent them from going around on their off hours and collecting pocket change?

Only once in San Diego's 45-year use of parking meters has someone circumvented the change?—

I, Necks that drain the money from the parking meters: Pyro, Renwal. Dave, 858-756-6121.

—*The American Friend*, March 2, 1978

Fifteen Years Ago

Here we are at ground level, under the freeway tracks it turns into Sorrento Valley Boulevard. Eidelews Street has appeared on local maps for 70 years. It's still shown (Edelweiss tracks) in the Thomas Bros. guide. But there isn't a single street sign for it. And passersby and businesses in the area say they've never heard of it.

—“LOST ROADS OF SAN DIEGO,” Margot Shoen, March 4, 1993

Ten Years Ago

On Wednesday, February 4, 1998, José Tovar Serrano, 35, and his brother Ruben, 33, were killed in the torrential El Nino storm that began on the night of February 3.

Ramón, 35, takes to me the brothers' house, and as we drive to Lomas del Rubi, Ramón explains how the tragedy occurred. There had been, he says, a concrete retaining wall protecting a house 30 feet up the hill from the brothers' house. This wall did not have sluice holes cut into its base that would have allowed mud and water to come through. "Without those holes," Ramón says, "the pressure built up, and the wall and the mud collapsed on the men while they slept."


Five Years Ago

"Fly, lonely angel/high above these streets of fire/—

Those are lyrics from "The Angel Song," by Great White, the band that set a Rhode Island nightclib on fire February 20, killing nearly 100 fans and one band member, guitarist Ty Longley.

I talked to Ed Tate, the sound technician at 48thR, where Great White played January 12 (37 days prior). He told me, "During the sound check in the afternoon, the guitar techs attached some fireworks to the guitar. They shot way up high, and smoke was everywhere."

—BLURT: "FLY, LONELY ANGEL/HIGH ABOVE THESE STREETS OF FIRE," Josh Board, February 27, 2003

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[Editor’s note: Regi Rae admits that she submitted her blog mainly to draw attention to her videos. It was a good trick. Her investigative report on HOP’s refusal to sell Smiley-Face pancakes to people over 12 bodes well for the future of Internet journalism.]

POST DATE: July 17, 2007
POST TITLE: Supermarkets Aren’t that Super

Grocery workers. Every year, we watch them strike. Is there really ANYONE in this world who wakes up and decides that working in a supermarket is their dream job? If you’re reading this right now, and you or a pal of yours is thinking about sending your resume to a local corporate market, stop it from happening. Stop before I’m forced to watch you wave your little cardboard signs in my face one to six years down the road, because it takes you a lifetime of checkout experience, mixed with many aisle clean-ups and grumpy hungry people who complain about long lines at 6 p.m. while the self-check-out lane is vacant, to realize that you’re unhappy. Maybe a release form should be attached to the applications informing applicants that they won’t make more than 20 bucks an hour because it is, in fact, a supermarket, not a stock market. Everyone needs to use the self-checkout lanes from this day forward. You see, pissy cashiers who act like they don’t want to help you...yes, happy, until they SLOWLY realize they’re being replaced, and one to six years later they are jobless. Bet the self-checkouts won’t strike and wave signs in their faces, showing them my girlies, not ever. I’d still like to meet her. One day.

POST DATE: February 28, 2006
POST TITLE: If You See a Woman...

...run away. Go. Don’t look back to see what she’s wearing; don’t stop to hear what she has to say. Just keep moving. Keep marbles in your pocket at all times and toss them to the ground if you hear her female feet clicking on the pavement three steps behind you! (Deep breath) AND FOR LOLLI-POP SAKE, DON’T MAKE EYE CONTACT! Do you hear me?! We have to keep forward. You see, pissy cashiers...are jobless. Bet the self-checkouts won’t strike and wave signs in their faces, showing them my girlies, not ever. I’d still like to meet her. One day.

POST DATE: May 7, 2005
POST TITLE: Wish I Was a Fish

I woke up in time to hop in an editing suite...still wearing the clothes from the night before and, well, my fingers were glued together. For once in my life, I felt like Barbie. How did this happen? [Flashback.] I had a shot of Jagermeister...all right, it was a glass, a small one...just not as small as a shotglass [tear here]. I was playing beauty school and found my nail glue while in a drunken state. They should really put labels on the glue about not using while intoxicated. Not that I’d read it while drinking, but I’d feel better knowing the words were there somewhere. As I squeezed the tube, glue ran down my fingers. My fish were the only witnesses around. Their mouths dropped open...and then closed...and then opened again...and then closed...I really thought they were in shock along with me, until I remembered, in my drunken state, Nope, they are simply breathing. And, well, since they don’t have eyelids, they can’t blink, leaving their eyes wide open at all times. I proceeded to walk toward them, showing them my hands, hoping that somehow they’d have a solution. They had nothing. So I decided to have a contest — a staring contest — they won. At that point I must have passed out.

POST DATE: April 13, 2005
POST TITLE: New Goal

Note: I drank bubbles as a kid hoping to have a really super-cool bubble effect each time I spoke. Merrrr. Regardless of what Mama says, I think it would have worked had she not panicked, called the poison hotline, forced me to drink half a gallon of milk, and watched me puke up my five-year-old plan. Piff.

POST DATE: October 16, 2004
POST TITLE: Hand Me Annunda Shotglass!

Went to P.B. in search of girls. No, no...WOMEN...1:19 a.m., talked to too many women...4:21 a.m., talked to too many women. Reasons I left resting before sex, reasons to go back are many. Homestay, any state, 4 girls...not there, 4 girls...not there...run away. Go. Don’t look back. For once in my life, I felt like a Barbie. How did this happen? [Flashback.] I had a shot of Jagermeister...all right, it was a glass, a small one...just not as small as a shotglass [tear here]. I was playing beauty school and found my nail glue while in a drunken state. They should really put labels on the glue about not using while intoxicated. Not that I’d read it while drinking, but I’d feel better knowing the words were there somewhere. As I squeezed the tube, glue ran down my fingers. My fish were the only witnesses around. Their mouths dropped open...and then closed...and then opened again...and then closed...I really thought they were in shock along with me, until I remembered, in my drunken state, Nope, they are simply breathing. And, well, since they don’t have eyelids, they can’t blink, leaving their eyes wide open at all times. I proceeded to walk toward them, showing them my hands, hoping that somehow they’d have a solution. They had nothing. So I decided to have a contest — a staring contest — they won. At that point I must have passed out.
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I LIVE ABOVE A LIQUOR STORE IN CITY HEIGHTS. The store’s sign stands out in the neighbor- 
hood, as it’s the only one in English. Across the street is a Vietnamese donut shop and a
	
torta. Smells of meat juice, lime, and brewing starch fill the air like custard in a maple
	
bar. At night, rummies stumble from the bright oasis under my place to the donut shop and
	
back to my place, their expeditions between the two poles dictated and scheduled by the
	
alternating rise and drop of the two main chemicals in their blood and brain, sugar and alco-
	
hol. They pee behind the donut shop. I’m thankful for that.

Every window on the block below ten feet, and half above that mark, bear etched tags of
	
rival gangs. There’s one on my second-story living room window. It was in this neighbor-
	
hood before me. On summer days, the swirly spider-webby scratches in the glass gleam in
	
the sun rays. I’m not even sure what the tag depicts. It looks like an “A” with the partial out-
	
line of a wing. At night when I can’t sleep, mottled strands of cream-and-brown carpet fibers
	
bend beneath my toes and I stare at the little etched mark in the yellow
	
beam of a soda pop street lamp.

People are afraid to come to my part of town, sometimes rightfully so. At the broad
	
intersection beneath my etched window, I can see sensible drivers lock their doors. On my
	
first day here, I did too. The idea is that if things go haywire, you get an extra five seconds to
	
lie across the front seat and stab at whatever vehicle controls you can mash an instep or palm
	
against, and in the half-safety of steel, deliver yourself away from the area of danger. It’s not
	
a bad idea. Lately, there’s a group of guys going around separating people from their cars and
	
wallets.

On this night, I sit beside my yellow window, press my upper arm against the cold pane, and
	
look downward, past my little half-winged “A” scratch in the window to the intersection below,
	
where a rummey had no car door to lock, and something unknown relieved him of a
	
good deal of his alcohol-diluted and sugar-caramelized blood. Around him, bone-white TV
	
news vans form a semicircle in the wet black asphalt.

WHAT I WILL AND WON’T WATCH THIS WEEK

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28

THE BOLD AND THE BEAUTIFUL

CBS 9:30 a.m.

I watched the Oscars the other night. Well, part of the Oscars because, really, who can suf-

fer the whole way through? Here’s what doesn’t make sense. Anton Chigurh looks like a
	
drop-forged street-tough killer when he’s in a powder blue leisure suit and floppy wig — not
	
exactly the manifest of outfits. But, put him in the man’s man formal uniform, the tuxedo, and
	
he looks like your drunk uncle who cries a little too much at weddings.

SCRUBS

WGN SAT 8:00 P.M.

Here is a bit of advice that you can rely on without exception: if you walk into a dentist’s office
	
and he is over 60 years of age, walk out. Because he thinks you’re a sissy what with your
	
scrubs and he looks like your drunk uncle who cries the man’s man formal uniform, the tuxedo,
	
part of the Oscars because, really, who can suf-

fer the whole way through? Here’s what doesn’t make sense. Anton Chigurh looks like a
	
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exactly the manifest of outfits. But, put him in the man’s man formal uniform, the tuxedo, and
	
he looks like your drunk uncle who cries a little too much at weddings. You get the
	
point. You get the point. You get the point.

SATURDAY, MARCH 1

VIVA PICATA

FOX 8:30 a.m.

Reminds me of that time I fell for the line “just

let me take a couple naked pictures of you,

baby. Nobody’ll see them but me.” I didn’t really want to, but

I thought, hey, there aren’t any porno sites for big-butt, bearded,

tattooed... Oh, great. There they are. Yep. I’d recognize that hoax

mask and those hot-pink ice skates anywhere.

MYTHBUSTERS

DISCOVERY 9:00 P.M.

I’ll make it easy on anyone who wants to tell me about “The Secret”. I want a time machine and a pet

dinosaur, so, really, all you have to do is come up with the time machine and we’ll both be. I believe in your “Secret”

thing, and when I bring him back, you can pet my new friend, “Snappy”.

SUNDAY, MARCH 2

EVER INCREASING FAITH

LIFESTYLE 7:00 A.M.

Also related to the Oscars: can we please do away

with the annual compulsory black church choir bit about the hardships of love and breaking
down walls and teaching children with love and prayer and, rather, teach children about hard-

ships of walls and teaching and loving and children and prayer? I would not presume to

speak for Him, but I am guessing that God would appreciate not only praise but fresh lyrical

themes as well.

MONDAY, MARCH 3

PUSSYCAT DOLLS PRESENT: GIRLICIOUS

CW 9:00 P.M.

My reality show about becoming the next Evel

Knievel will have to wait. I don’t have the

money for a motorcycle. Until I save up, I’ll have to make due with my spangled jumpsuit, ten-
speed bicycle, and ramp I made out of 2x4s and a Frisbee. So far, I’ve only jumped over a dead

cat, but it’s all about progression.

TUESDAY, MARCH 4

AMERICA’S NEXT TOP MODEL

CW 8:00 P.M.

The better show is Korean-American Gladi-

ators, in which tiny dry-cleaning shop own-

ers are pitted against bodybuilders in chal-

lenges of strength, skill, and endurance. If

you’re smart, you’ll wait for the “Playing Cello While Doing Long Division” round before placing any bets on Jumbo McStemiospoints.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5

SAM THE COOKING GUY

CAI D4 9:30 P.M.

Sometimes I wonder if Luke would’ve been better off had he not been rescued by Ewoks. I

mean, have you ever had Ewok food? They are persistent: it’s tough to turn them down once

they’re passing that stinking bowl of berries and bugs around. And there’s something that looks

like it could be a squirrel. Trust me, you don’t want any. The rest of the rebellion you’re going to

spend mapping out the distance and number of Storm Troopers between you and

a restroom.

THURSDAY, MARCH 6

LOST

ABC 8:00 P.M.

Here are some questions you can ponder, you

know, to keep yourself from getting bored during the week waiting for the next baffling

episode of Lost. What the hell is a caper? Why are there fewer and fewer hunch-

backs? Why is a month of sixth-grade P.E. class dedicated to square dancing? What did
caverns use to brush their teeth? Why are the Japanese and Swedish so weird? The

answers next week. (Or not; you never know with me.)
Motorcycles

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ADED but runs well, $1500/best. In Hemet, about 60-70K miles, needs to be regist-

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“Come here on vacation, leave on probation.”

By John Brizzolara

Tourism is, of course, huge in this town. Myself, I never thought of San Diego as a destination. I’d given the place pretty much no thought at all — it was just off the one major route that I often traveled — until last winter. Then I called a 48-foot ketch down from Santa Barbara and rounded the kelp beds off of Point Loma. That boat trip is another story (one no one believes, anyway, except my ex-wife who was there) and so is my history with military towns, but all things San Diego have pretty much become the point.

Occasionally I am taken by surprise by the reality that I have lived here for almost three decades. It hardly seems possible. I have no recollection of ever saying to myself, “I will live in San Diego for the rest of my life.” But that’s what has happened. It is likely that all objectivity about the place has fled and so perhaps the entire narrative of a first year here when all your relatives and friends from back East want to come stay with you and visit every single one of them plus Disneyland. Between 1980 and 1983, I may as well have been a tour guide. I have resolved never to set foot in San Diego or the zoo (or Disneyland) again.

In 1981, a bartender friend of mine came out from Brooklyn. He picked me up at the airport and drove to the Grant Hotel because I thought he would like the bar there. I parked across the street (when you could still do that) and we crossed in the middle of the block. There was little traffic at 10 p.m. (it was 1981). A squad car screamed up behind us, lights flashing, out of nowhere. My friend had a no-hander ticket but I did not point out this oversight. My friend laughed and ripped up the ticket. He told me that was a mistake. Until 1988, a warrant hovered in cyberspace and over the state of California for my friend. Had he returned and been stopped for anything, he would have done a year, I’m guessing, in county jail.

Here is what the site has on clubs and nightlife:

“The Bitter End. 750 7th Ave. (619) 338-8300. The top floor is a fancy lounge area with big soft chairs, loveseats, couches, and fireplaces. A nice place to relax after work or a conference...it’s very mellow and quiet. The main floor is your normal bar with tables and chairs, pool tables...a louder, more upbeat type crowd with the loud music. The bottom floor is a dance club...just dancing and very loud. There is a bar on all three floors, so you never have to go far for a drink. It’s located on the corner of 4th and E”

“Jimmy Love’s. 672 Fifth Ave. (619) 595-0123. This is a pretty cool place to hang out as well. The main floor has a dance area and usually a live band. The bottom floor is more mellow...quiet, pool tables, and much cooler in temperature. Both floors have a bar for drinks.”

“4thb8” 345 B St. (619) 231-4343. Named for its location, literally being on the corner of 4th and B Street downtown, is a great place to see live music — bands more rock oriented than pop.”

Sounds fairly hip, but it can’t be completely hip: I’ve performed at 4thb8 with Jose Sinatra. Sinatra is hip; I am not — even “fairly.” The last time I was in Jimmy Love’s was way back when Billy Thompson was firing off Bloomfield-like blues runs onstage. I have never been inside the Bitter End; I have plenty of memories of the New York, even if I could find down the rising in my throat at the sight of all the beautiful people lined up to get in the Bitter End and drinking cosmopolitan/chocolate/fuzzy-peach/melon martinis at Jimmy Love’s bar, I could not go in. I’m pretty sure it’s a probation violation.

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