I’m sitting on a leather couch in the middle of a darkened black-walled, black-ceilinged room talking to a man who, at taxpayer expense, takes hormones to become more like a woman yet is in the middle of an experimental performance in which he seeks to become a dragon. CONTINUED INSIDE
March 26, 2009

NEWS & FEATURES

My Gender Is Bunny
By Ernie Grimm

City Lights
A bigger convention center for fewer conventioneers;
and Under the Radar

Will the new Padres owners please stand up; and Stringers

Letters .................................................. 16

Sporting Box
The Tiger Woods of bowling

Best Buys
Training wheels for computer beginners

Diary of a Diva
The amazing assembly

Should Call Him Khem
The satay, the porn, the loneliness. By Rachel Vaughn

Tales of Real Men
The mythology of the Navy SEALs. By R.W. Bell, Jr

Puzzle .................................................. 120

Off the Cuff .......................................... 124

Say What?
Kicks and sticks and chicks

Typo Patrol Results .............................. 136

Reader Pop Quiz .................................. 138

News of the Weird ............................... 141

Back When
They ballpark the price of your burger

CALENDAR

Your Week and Welcome to It ................... 57

Roam-O-Rama
Scenic biking from Esco to Valley Center

What's That You're Writing?
Sarah Shun-lien Bynum discusses Ms. Hempel Chronicles

Classical Music Guide ............................ 68

Art Museum and Gallery Guide ............... 68

Pop Music
Blurt ..................................................... 70
Club Crawler ....................................... 78
Rapper Kayo loves the money (and Fam Mart) ........................................... 80

Crasher
He hogs the camera and sneaks out early

Restaurant Reviews and Guide
Hane: an Ota branch with beautiful flowers

Ed hangs with the convention crowd

Theater Review and Guide
Working's about the job of making theater

Movie Review and Guide
Duncan Shepherd shares his highs

Classified Ads
Antiques & Collectibles ................. 141
Appliances ............................ 141
Automotive .............................. 142
Bicycles .................................. 140
Business Opportunities ................. 119
Career Training .......................... 115
Classes/Lessons ......................... 121
Computers .................................. 140
Counseling/Support ...................... 123
Electronics .................................. 141
Employment Services ..................... 115
Furniture .................................... 141
Garage Sale .................................. 142
Help Wanted .............................. 113
Massage ...................................... 121
Miscellaneous For Sale ................. 142
Motorcycles .................................. 142
Music ......................................... 125
Natural Health & Fitness ................. 122
Natural Health Directory ................ 130
Notices ....................................... 124
Parent Resources ........................... 123
Personals ..................................... 125
Pet Central ................................... 122
Photo ........................................... 140
Real Estate .................................... 140
Rentals ........................................ 126
Roommates ................................. 125
Services Directory .......................... 128
Sports ......................................... 140
Stage Notes ................................... 123
Tickets ....................................... 140
Travel & Getaways ......................... 125
Wanted/Trade .............................. 141
Wedding/Party Guide ...................... 123

Display Ads
Automotive .................................. 134
Career Training ........................... 116
Getaways ..................................... 58
Great Escapes .............................. 58
Health and Beauty ......................... 39
Help Wanted .................................. 113
Instruction .................................... 121
Music .......................................... 125
Rentals ........................................ 132
Research Studies .......................... 86
Services ....................................... 121
Singles Events .............................. 67
Wedding Guide ............................ 58

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Does New Center Make Any Sense?
By Don Bauder

All across the United States, and around the world, convention centers are vastly overbuilt. Supply exceeds demand. So municipalities that own the centers resort to price-slauling. They often lose money on their centers and have trouble servicing their debts. Nonetheless, new centers keep being built while existing centers undergo expansion.

What is the source of this disquieting information? None other than two trade associations representing the convention and meetings industry: the Destination Marketing Association International and the International Association of Assembly Managers. On August 25, 2007, they put out a report that underscored the industry dilemma. “Supply of available exhibit and meeting space across the nation currently exceeds demand, resulting in a buyer’s market,” laments the report. This buyer’s market “has exacerbated an already competitive environment, resulting in the need to discount rental rates or increase services that can create a competitive advantage.”

As margins shrink, problems meeting debt service escalate, says the paper.

Carol Wallace, president and chief executive of the

Neal Obermeyer

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Frye Says City Budget Deficit Much Higher: Actual budget deficit could be $60 million, not the $45 million that the City reports...

Read Don Bauder news updates like these every day at SDReader.com

continued on page 8
The Padres’ Mystery Lineup

By Matt Potter

Who are the new would-be owners of the Padres, and are they fit to own the team? Recent documents unearthed from city hall under the California Public Records Act suggest that City officials may not be doing enough to find out.

The public face of the Padres’ new ownership is ex-sports agent and former Arizona Diamondbacks co-owner Jeff Moored. But Moored has declined to say who else is buying the team with him.

The question of ownership is critical to San Diego taxpayers, who subsidize Petco Park to the tune of $11 million a year, as well as to baseball fans, who want to make sure the new owners have enough money to build a winning team.

But does the City even have the right to ask about such matters? Section 13.3 of the Padres Park Joint Use and Management Agreement between the City and Padres, L.P., dated February 1, 2000, addresses that issue: “The Padres have the right to transfer ownership of the Padres’ franchise during the Term to the extent permitted by Major League Baseball, without the City’s consent; provided, however, that in connection with such sale, the new franchise owner must (i) concurrently acquire all of the Padres rights and obligations as the previous owner, John Moores, had agreed to. If they don’t, there’s the very real possibility that they might walk away at any time, leaving the taxpayers high and dry.

But the new owners may not be asked to make that written commitment. In a letter dated February 17, Katherine K. Pothier, executive vice president of the Padres, asserts that “neither Section 13.3 nor Section 28.17 applies to the Transaction.” She goes on to say, “The Transaction involves the sale of partnership interests in the Padres, which will continue to own, operate and manage the Franchise. There is not and will not be any new franchise owner or entity to assume obligations under the JUMA.”

In other words, Pothier, a lawyer, makes a lawyerly argument that Padres L.P., a Delaware limited partnership that technically owns the Padres franchise, remains the owner of the team—even though the partnership’s old owners are being exchanged for new owners, as yet to be identified.

At the bottom of her letter, Pothier provided a signature line for the City to attest that it has “Accepted and Approved” her interpretation of the contract. On the copy of the letter furnished by the City that line remains blank.

If Pothier’s interpretation prevails, the City won’t be able to find out anything about the financial wherewithal and business reputation of whoever is buying the team. Will the City take on the Padres and its new buyers in order to defend the integrity of its agreement with the team?

Apparently the jury is still out.

There is one more wrinkle. The city charter contains Section 225, which requires that anybody doing business with the City must make complete disclosure of the names and identities of those direct and indirect owners.

Tim Moore, City ballpark administrator, says the City hasn’t yet decided whether it will invoke Section 225 and ask for that information.

“No transaction has taken place yet,” Moore said in a telephone interview last week. “It [Section 225] may not be relevant to this transaction.”

City emails released under the Public Records Act show that Padres vice president Pothier has been lobbying hard against any disclosure under Section 225.

In a February 12 email to Moore and deputy city attorney Brock Ladewig, she wrote, “I reviewed Section 225 of the City Charter and do not think it applies. The right and the lease have already been granted to the Padres L.P. and is not being altered. No additional rights are being granted.”

In a February 1 email to Moore and deputy city attorney Tim Moore, she wrote, “I reviewed Section 225 of the City Charter and do not think it applies. The right and the lease have already been granted to the Padres L.P. and is not being altered. No additional rights are being granted.”

In a February 1 email to Moore, she wrote, “I reviewed Section 225 of the City Charter and do not think it applies. The right and the lease have already been granted to the Padres L.P. and is not being altered. No additional rights are being granted.”

The City and Padres, L.P., dated September 13, 2000, is not being altered. No additional rights are being granted.

Section 28.17 applies to the Padres rights and obligations under this Agreement for the remainder of the Term.”

That seems simple and reasonable enough. The new owners, whoever they are, must furnish the City with a signed statement agreeing to shoulder the same financial obligations to San Diego taxpayers, who are the new would-be owners of the Padres, and are they fit to own the team?
Convention center
continued from page 6
San Diego Convention Center Corporation, is a former president of the International Association of Assembly Managers, which copublished that paper noting the surfeit of convention center space and the resulting profit-and-debt squeeze.

The paper was published before the travel and tourism industry collapsed, points out Heywood Sanders, professor of public administration at the University of Texas at San Antonio and a recognized expert in the convention center business. In 2005, the Brookings Institution published a Sanders study that became a bombshell. He pointed out that attendance at major trade shows was no higher then than in 1993. Nonetheless, localities were engaged in a “type of arms race,” spending more and more to build and expand convention centers, despite the glut. This 2005 paper is in the process of being updated, says Sanders.

Now, in a recession that could possibly become a depression, the convention and meetings business is “manifestly down,” says Sanders. U.S. numbers have declined sharply, and 62 percent of show organizers around the world experienced a business decline last year, with 70 percent predicting a drop through the second quarter this year, according to UFI (Union des Foires Internationales), the Global Association of the Exhibition Industry.

“The dynamic is exemplified by San Diego. The worse it gets, the greater demand to build more,” says Sanders. As I interview him, he goes to Google and learns that the Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce is touting a consultant study that calls for a bigger convention center. There are others: Cleveland is pushing a medical mart, San Antonio wants a bigger center. A number of cities are considering or proceeding with plans for publicly financed hotels next to convention centers: Portland (Oregon), Dallas, Fort Lauderdale, Tucson, Kansas City, and Columbus (Ohio) are telling taxpayers that their convention centers will begin to thrive if there could just be a taxpayer-financed hotel next door. Columbus is claiming that a new hotel will lift convention center occupancy from 60 percent to 70 to 75 percent. San Diego has already subsidized a convention center hotel.

The race to build new convention centers, expand existing ones, and construct taxpayer-subsidized hotels “represents a remarkably narrow and uninformed view of larger market realities,” says Sanders. In almost every case, a city will commission a consultant study that argues in part, based on inadequate or misinterpreted data, that the national demand for convention center space is steadily increasing and that their city will be able to attract a larger number of events and get a larger economic impact if it would expand available space. “The reality is that

Strings
continued from page 7
fact that there is already a track record of the school not assisting the residents with issues related to trash, traffic, noise, and drug use around the field by the groups that use the field during the evenings and weekends. With lights, that means not only will weekend events be filled with field use, but so will the nights. More problems arise at night — just look at the existing crime reports around the school.

By natived123 3:17 p.m., Mar 22, 2009
3. This was a very sad evening. It was a terrible lesson in civics and fair play for the young people who were involved in the meeting, as well as an object lesson in the value of working together.

By harrigan 8:33 p.m., Mar 22, 2009
4. This story illustrates the problem we’ve grown in our society. Because sports are pervasivelygrafted onto the schools, it becomes “residents vs. students.”

Everywhere in the world, these events provoke fights, drunkenness, and other antisocial behavior. Coaches teach how to “beat” the other team. It’s all about testosterone and adrenaline, and there’s nothing to do with education.

By Fred Williams 2:27 a.m., Mar 23, 2009
I.B. Neighbors More Than O.K.
By Peter C. Salisbury, 3/2/09
Imperial Beach — On Sunday, March 1, just before noon, contractors working at South Bay Union School District’s

VIP Village preschool discovered a fire in a classroom and immediately called 911.

“We lost materials and mementos,” said school director David Sheppard, “but [firefighters] limited damage to just one classroom, came back to check on the structure throughout the day, and then came back the following Friday to talk to the students about fire safety....

“[T]he Imperial Beach Optimist Club...wrote checks to the two teachers — Daniela Varela and Mark Somoyar — to help offset some of their personal losses. Vons on Saturn Boulevard donated stuffed animals.”

Slasher apprehended
By Mark J 3/18/09
Spring Valley — According to a police-radio scanner, at 3 p.m. on Wednesday, March 18, a 15-year-old male was stabbed on Central Avenue and Troy Street. Sheriff’s deputies arrived and found the victim sitting on the sidewalk. Deputies set up a perimeter and ordered nearby schools into lockdown mode.

The victim stated he was walking down the street when he was approached by two individuals and was stabbed by one of them. According to deputies, both suspects were Hispanic males with shaved heads in their late 20s. One of the suspects wore a gray shirt and brown pants, and the other had on a big brown jacket, no shirt, and brown pants.

Witnesses directed police to the suspects, who were at nearby Lamar County Park. When police approached, the suspects ran through the park and jumped over backyard fences to try and get away. With the aid of an SDPD helicopter, National City police officers, and the California Highway Patrol, the suspect wearing the gray shirt and brown pants was arrested on the 3200 block of Central Avenue. Three witnesses identified him as the sole perpetrator.

continued on page 12
Convention center
continued from page 6

this rarely happens.” And the same consultants keep getting hired over and over by competing cities.

A similar herd mentality has almost run the global economy into the ground. In recent years, economists and executives geneflucted at the altar of a number of myths: that housing prices would always rise and people would always pay their mortgages; that gambling on derivatives distributed risk, rather than increased risk, ad nauseam.

San Diego is considering a 500,000-square-foot convention center expansion, along with a hotel that could bring the cost to $1 billion. The expansion would double capacity. The convention center claims it is running at full capacity. Sanders and others, including me, doubt that. “Both the Convention & Visitors Bureau and the convention center tend to count bookings whether or not the people actually show up,” says Sanders.

But even inflated numbers are sagging. ConVis reports that delegate attendance last year was down 3.3 percent. For January of this year, total San Diego hotel occupancy was down 13.7 percent, according to Smith Travel Research, which is not known for pumping up its numbers. Revenue per available room was down 20.9 percent. That last figure was worse than Anaheim, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Orlando, according to Smith figures. In February, occupancy was down 11.5 percent, and the trend continued in the last week of that month.

In any downturn, commercial travel plummets earlier and faster than leisure travel. “In bad times, corporations immediately start to limit their travel, cancel conferences, cancel meetings, take a planned three-day meeting and make it a one-day meeting. The leisure traveler takes a little longer to react,” says Jerry Morrison, La Jolla-based hotel specialist. Thus, the big downturn in San Diego is fundamentally from the commercial side, he says.

The weakness will persist through this year “and maybe into 2010,” says Morrison. After that, economic growth will probably be anemic for several years. That will hurt commercial travel, including the convention and meetings business. Typically for San Diego, the mayor has named a 17-person task force to report back on the feasibility of the expansion project. Even more typically for San Diego, almost all of those 17 task-force members are quintessential establishment boosters who have regularly supported corporate-welfare projects, or socialism of the risk and privatization of the gain. The task force includes both the new vice chairwoman of the Convention Center Corporation and the outgoing chairwoman. It includes four executives from the hotel-motel industry, two from real estate, two associated with the Regional Economic Development Corporation, and one from the San Diego County Taxpayers Association, a group that represents only a handful of taxpayers — super-rich mending fish for fat government handouts. Since this project would not be up and running for about five years, Morrison, who is not an establishment cheerleader, thinks it is probably a good idea.

But Heywood Sanders, who has an idea of how many new centers may be built and old centers expanded by 2014, says, “Can [San Diego] build an expanded convention center if they can find the dollars to pay for it? Sure. Does it make any sense? Are they going to get any persistent increase in new business? The answer is clearly no: The bar for dealing with reality in San Diego has never been set very high.”

Even Las Vegas is considering delaying its convention center expansion. But in San Diego, do you think for one minute that the establishment-packed task force will look at the question analytically, taking the market glut into account? Remember, they will be playing with other people’s (taxpayers’) money.
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- Marisa K.

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Mystery lineup
continued from page 7

Padres L.P. continues to hold the interest.
That drew a quick response from Ladewig. “Katie, I must respectfully disagree with your analysis. I believe new persons will be gaining some ‘right, title or interest arising out of a contract’ when the new partners are installed. If the issue becomes a problem, we can look at this more closely.” Reached by phone this week, Ladewig said he has had no further contact with Pothier.

Bruce Henderson, a former city councilman and longtime critic of the 1998 deal between the City and John Moores that created Petco Park and surrounding developments, says there is no question that Section 225 should be applied to the latest transaction.

“Section 225 is a very important rule that government is supposed to be following. Right in its title it says that it is mandatory. And the purpose of 225 is very simple: council members, the mayor, city staff should know whose economic interests are before them in order to be certain there is no conflict of interest, and the public needs to know the same thing, so if there is a conflict of interest they can blow the whistle on it.”

“That’s why 225 was passed overwhelmingly by the voters in 1992. There was no real opposition to it. It was added as a charter amendment, not just a section of the municipal code but a mandatory provision of the charter.”

San Diego’s history of finance-related political scandals — including the Valerie Stallings case, in which the city councilwoman was forced to resign after receiving gifts from Padres owner Moores — makes enforcement of Section 225 critical.

“If something is going to be acted on by the city council, staff should at the very outset find out whose economic interests are directly or indirectly affected,” Henderson says. “That way as staff works on it and as the matter works its way up to city council, everyone knows whose economic interests are involved. If you get the disclosures right in the beginning it helps you avoid potential conflicts of interest.”

Henderson adds that scrutiny of those seeking to take over the Padres is also needed to make sure that the franchise is free from any criminal taint. “There are lots of reasons why you need to know who you are doing transactions with. They could be convicted felons.”

“If somebody comes in and says, ‘I’d like to do a transaction with the City, but, by the way, I won’t tell you who...”

continued on page 14

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Mystery lineup
continued from page 12
I represent; you can just do the transaction in my name, although I’m not really the person who is responsible for all this.’ Charter Section 225 in effect says, ‘No, you can’t do that.’

Henderson says that the argument made by Padres vice president Pothier that the baseball team would continue to be owned by Padres L.P. doesn’t wash. ‘The essence of 225 is that you know who the economic interests are that you are dealing with. So if the owners of an entity are changing, you need to know that.

’Just the fact that the entity hasn’t changed, if you think about it, doesn’t really answer the question of who is the City doing business with.

’Is their money dirty, or do you have reason to believe it’s dirty? Is it drug money? You don’t want to do business with people who have drug money. ’But more than that, even if it’s clean money, it’s very important for you to know who’s involved. Council members need to know, are any of these people contributors to their campaigns. That way, if there is an appearance of impropriety, they can address it right up front.

’Secrecy is power. The fact is that Major League Baseball may very well over the years have developed a policy that they want to provide confidentiality so that people really don’t know who owns baseball teams.

’They say it’s just the Padres. If you allow them to get away with that, you never know that local powerbrokers who are influencing legislation at the local, state, and national level have interests that they are pursuing. That’s what corporations and partnerships are often used for, to hide the real economic interests that are involved.

’Obviously those people with economic interests would like to keep things secret. They’d like to be able to stand in front of the council and say, I’m just a concerned citizen, I have no economic interest whatsoever, I just want good government.’

’In fact, that’s the last thing they want, many of them.

Stringers
continued from page 12
North County Transit District uprooted 13 dying or diseased eucalyptus trees on Highway 101 in Leucadia last January. Eight months earlier, community members held candlelight vigils for two diseased, 114-year-old cypress trees chopped down in a nearby park.

Last February, the tree slaughter continued when 11 30-foot-tall saplings from Orpheus Park were axed because they were restricting neighbors’ views. The decision drew widespread criticism. Andrew Watkins took up residence in one of the 30-foot-tall tipu trees for seven days, trying to prevent crews from removing it.

The issue has since blossomed into a thorny one during the last two Encinitas City Council meetings.

At the March 11 meeting, the community expressed their concerns.

’You made fun of [Watkins] in emails, in the press — you dissed him...but he was our hero,’ said one resident during the meeting.

One week after that meeting, on March 18, in an effort to reassure residents the city is dedicated to maintaining its status as a community of trees, the city council unanimously adopted the Urban Forest Management policy.

’The policy, once approved, ‘trees are an integral part of the city’s infrastructure.’

That Dog Will Manhunt
By Frank Marrazza, 3/19/09
South San Diego — On March 17 at 405 p.m., an SDSFPD helicopter circled the neighborhood at 1-5 and Tocayo Avenue. Police announced over their P.A. system that they were in pursuit of a suspect described as a black male, 5’10” tall, approximately 140 lbs., wearing black shorts and a white shirt. Any sighting, they announced, should be made known to the police.

At 4:55 p.m., after officers had scoured the area on foot and from the air, there was a sighting of the suspect about a half mile south on International Road, which ends in a field on the U.S./Mexico border.

At that point, the helicopter, patrol cars, and the U.S. Border Patrol all began to intensify the search in the border field and adjacent areas. They consistently broadcast the description of the suspect and urged residents to look in their yards and garages.

At 5:09 p.m., the Border Patrol, San Diego cruiser units, and officers following on foot converged at International Road and Dalsay Street. At 5:11 p.m., at the intersection of Deep Haven Lane and Pikake Street, a resident yelled, ’There he goes — he’s jumping the fence.’

Almost simultaneously, helicopter personnel stated over the P.A. that the suspect was heavily tattooed and in his late teens. At 5:18 p.m., at the corner of International Road and Wardlow Street, the SDSFPD and Border Patrol let loose their dogs as the suspect was seen at the end of Wardlow, which runs parallel to the border.

A stray dog seen wandering the neighborhood during the activity got caught up in the action and followed the police dogs in the pursuit!

At 5:25 p.m., the suspect was apprehended on the 2600 block of Wardlow, a couple hundred yards from the border.

Become a Stringer: Earn $50 for your neighborhood news story, $10 for photo, $15 for video. See guidelines at SDReader.com/strings.

They want some special decision that will help them economically, and the public be damned. That happens all the time when you don’t have full disclosure.”
Andy, President of Car Audio Heaven, hits another home run over the fence with up to 70% off on San Diego’s best selection of mobile electronics. Hurry for best deals.

**Viper** Car Audio Heaven announces an incredible promotion on top-of-the-line Viper car alarms. **Viper**

Buy one of the fantastic Viper car alarms below and save up to $150 by receiving a gift card you can apply towards your purchase instantly.

**Viper** Car alarm

- **Satellite radio and CD changer**
- **Front USB input for iPod and front**
- **3 sets of preamp outputs for 3 amps**

Installation charges not included. Authorized Viper dealer.

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**New for 2009** – Introducing a fantastic new in-dash navigation unit with a 4.3" color touch screen TomTom portable unit which snaps into the front panel of this unit. Leave it in dash or take it with you for portable navigation. Also includes AM/FM/CD/MP3/DVD and iPod control. Navigation features voice guidance and 2.98 points of interest. This unit has built-in Bluetooth for hands-free calling. You can also add an optional backup camera or satellite radio.

**Item of the Week!**

**NEW Double-DIN 200-watt AM/FM CD**

- **USB iPod control**
- **Free front iPod cable**
- **Optional satellite radio**
- **Optional Bluethoot**

Installation changes not included. Authorized Clarion dealer.

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**Huge Blowout on a 200-watt AM/FM/CD Player with Front-Panel iPod Input**

- **Front-panel USB iPod input**
- **Built-in Bluetooth for hands-free calling**
- **Optional satellite radio**
- **Includes wireless remote, iPod control**

Installation changes not included. Authorized Clarion dealer.

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**Rear-view Backup System with Rear-view Camera and Mirror with Screen**

- **Automatically activates when you back up**
- **2-button remotes. Starter kill, shock sensor with waraway flashing parking lights, panic feature**

Installation charges not included. Authorized Audipox dealer.

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**Avoid a Car Audio Heaven Blowout Deal on (2) 900-watt Peak Dual 12" Woofers in a Box and a 600-watt Class D Amplifier**

- **Hurry! Save over 44% on both for only**

Installation charges not included. Authorized MTX dealer.

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**MTX**

- **iPod wired directly to your stereo**
- **Apple iPod Solutions will add sound directly to your radio. No nosy FM modulator. PCC, Kenwood, Pioneer, Alpine, GM, Chrysler, Nissan, Ford, Honda, Mercury, VW, Toyota, Audi and Acura. Installation changes not included.**

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CORRECTIONS
In last week's table of contents, the entry "Beginners' guide to Somali food" should have read "Beginners' guide to Somali food."

In the March 5 Reader Puzzle, the clue for 54 down was "'T.J. Hooker' actor Adam." It should have read "'T.J. Hooker' actor Adrian."

Necks Red All Over
I thought the article on El Cajon was well written and from a rounded point of view ("El Cajon," Cover Story, March 12). It was interesting to note that the area reminded Iraqis of home, so now I can imagine what parts of Iraq must be like without having to go there!

The term "redneck" comes from the fact that the backs of farmers' necks become red from working out in the fields all day. Growing up in the state of Alabama (which is usually viewed as more backwoods, ignorant, and redneck than it really is by the rest of the country), I certainly can understand why some people from El Cajon may take offense at the term "redneck."

When I was a young girl in Alabama, I can remember people moving there from California who would be shocked that we actually had paved roads, wore shoes, and had buildings with central heat and air-conditioning.

Redneck is a trait that isn't located in one specific area of the country — it seems to be a way of life. Some of the common characteristics of rednecks that you can find just about anywhere in this country are jacked-up trucks; cars with useless, fake racing gear on them; low education; limited vocabulary; fear of "strangers"; ultra-conservatism; and fear of change. I'm sure that if the term "redneck" could be socially defined, you would find them around the entire world.

However, I have lived in a dozen states and traveled through just about all of them and must say that nowhere else besides El Cajon and East County have I ever seen trucks with plastic testicles hanging off the back. Now, that's pretty darn redneck! So El Cajon, you might as well embrace the term and learn to accept it.

Kathryn Estes
via email

Story Needs More Color
Regarding Bill Manson's El Cajon opus (Cover Story, March 12): How could someone debate a city's redneck "cred" without inspecting how this alleged mentality affects its African-American residents? Ask the local black folks what it's like to live here, how they were received when they moved to town, how their kids feel about it, and so on...

When I first moved to San Diego in 1979, El Cajon was considered a redneck magnet ("Get out of El Cajon", a co-worker once cracked), but on a lower scale than Santee (I once lived there for several months and don't recall seeing another black person, other than the mailman) and certainly not Lakeside, which was Klan country.

Had Manson dug deep and indulged in real journalism instead of trying to write an essay and toss himself into the story every chance he got, he would have unearthed this: The American Community Survey estimate from 2005-2007 (found on census.gov) put the El Cajon African-American population at 7.1 percent. That means you're more likely to run into a black person in El Cajon than San Francisco. That percentage is up from the 5.4 from the 2000 census. Quite an amazing hike in a short time, especially since, let's face it: When most people think of El Cajon, blacks don't come to mind. A better, more interesting angle to this story would have been El Cajon's changing face, not some self-promoting tale that was twice as long as it needed to be. The redneck or not aspect could have easily been woven into the story. Not only would it have been fun to read, but people would have actually learned something. Gee, what a concept.

Tony Cooper
Downtown

On Life Support
This is in response to the story written by Sandra Keener, on downtown, entitled "Second Worse," from March 19, 2009. On the next page (46), when referring to an affordable housing project proposal, she asks, "What exactly is supportive housing?" Here is your answer:

Think about some of the types of people who live in affordable housing in the downtown area. Many of them are mentally/physically/socially disabled, struggle with substance abuse, have been on-and-off homeless, former foster kids or runaways who are now adults, etc. Most have no family nearby to help or are estranged from them, so they have little or nothing in the way of a support system. They may not have the simple skills that others take for granted, skills that are required in order to maintain their housing and the finances to pay for it.

Supportive housing helps to keep these individuals from losing their housing and ending up back on the streets again. This involves many things, such as life skills training, mental health counseling, employment skills, medical referrals, etc. The support staff goes out of their way to help these individuals in any way they

continued on page 56.
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BY PATRICK DAUGHERTY

Two-Hand Draw

YOU’ve been waiting for it, and now it’s finally come, the capstone of televised sporting events: Lumber Liquidators U.S. Open. This is professional bowling at its best and the last of four major tournaments on the 2008–2009 Professional Bowling Association (PBA) tour. The winner collects $100,000 and a three-year exemption. Participants can be found at the Brunswick Zone Carolier Lanes in North Brunswick, New Jersey, starting Sunday.

Professional bowling has been on television since 1962. Broadcast entities, in chronological order, are: ABC, HBO, USA Network, NBC, ESPN, CBS, and ESPN. In the 1970s and early ’80s, more people watched bowling on Saturday than any other sport, save college football. Bowling had better TV ratings than the Masters golf tournament or the NBA Finals.

Nowadays, the sport has fallen so low that its current television network, ESPN, paid nothing for broadcasting rights. And, PR-wise, LUMBER LIQUIDATORS is an unfortunate reminder that the PBA TOUR came within an ace of going bankrupt. So what’s up in Bowing World? Well, the money is still lousy. Chris Barnes, the reigning PBA Player of the Year, won the Go RVing Match Play Championship last week. Got a check for $25,000, which is typical for a non-major tournament. Chump change… NASCAR gas money.


According to the U.S. Bowling Congress, league bowling has dropped 2 million bowlers since 1980. Why for?

Here are some possibilities. Bowling a 220 game used to be considered a very good night’s work. Get a 220 average and you were king of the bowling alley. Now, 220 is an average score. Why for?

Bowling-ball technology and lane machines have, critics say, made bowling 220 so easy that no one has to learn how to actually bowl.

Some people — maybe you, maybe me — blame it on Kegel, creator of the Sanction Machine, a fiendish device that applies oil onto bowling lanes. The beast has four pumps and the ability to lay down a predetermined amount of oil onto a lane. You could, and many have, put more oil on the inside of the lane and less oil on the outside. This pattern is called a top hat pattern, and it will funnel a bowling ball directly to the pin sweet spot for a strike whether your throw was off or not.

Bowling balls mutated, each generation more powerful than the one before. In the 1980s, polyester and urethane ruled Bowling Ball World. Then Nu-Line churned out resin balls in the 1990s. The resin ball produced more fiction than earlier balls, which meant, particularly when matched with an oil pattern that funneled the ball home, more room for error, more strikes.

Now comes the particle ball. It’s more porous than the resin ball, creates more friction, makes the ball hook more, gives the player more room to be off on his throw and still make a strike. Add a generous lane pattern of oil (Bowling World uses 20 times more oil than it did in 1980), and you have an exposition in scoring. Bowling 220 is humdrum.

Not a pretty picture. People abandoned the sport. Those who stayed played for bus fare and sold body organs in order to get on national TV.

What’s needed is a Tiger Woods, and there might be one out there. His name is Jason Belmonte, a 25-year-old from Orange, a small burg located 125 miles west of Sydney, principal city of Australia.

His parents owned a bowling alley and tyke Belmonte was pushing balls down the alley before he could crash a tricycle. Pushing bowling balls down the alley turned out to be the key. He never stopped. Belmonte has perfected the two-handed throw. Watch him throw a 300 here: youtube.com/watch?v=jZQf5nrQumk

Most pro bowlers get 300 revolutions per minute when they throw. Belmonte gets 600. Belmonte places two fingers from his right hand in ball holes, throws the ball off his hip, and uses his left hand to spin the ball, which, upon impact, causes pins to jump and pop.

Belmonte has been playing on the European and Asian tours, although he has played in two PBA tournaments this season (finished 10th and 15th) by way of a Commissioner’s Exemption. He draws crowds and media like…well, like star athletes in other sports do. Incredible. Has he to ESPN and watch him play the U.S. Open.
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“A lot of people who come are in their 40s and 50s — they missed the computer revolution…” — Eve Kelly

“Eve, maybe you can help me,” pleaded my Aunt Azelda, slowly shaking her snowy mane. “They finally put in a computer station here at the senior center. I asked your nephew to get me started on the thing, but he just moved so fast. It’s second nature to him — he doesn’t know how to slow down and teach. But you, you’re… older.” I tried not to look hurt and promised Azelda I would look into getting her some help.

Doug Bush, owner of Computer Etc. Training Center in Miramar (858-578-9476, computeretcsoftwaretrainingcenter.com), was there for me. “We offer a range of classes for beginners, people who have never even touched a keyboard. A lot of people who come in their 40s and 50s — they missed the computer revolution, and now they’re catching up. But I also get people ranging from 80 right on down to 11 or 12.”

“We have eight computers here in the classroom, or people can bring their laptops. The classes are small — never more than eight people and usually fewer. Classes include a 30- to 35-page handout that gives step-by-step instructions. We find that half-day classes keep things from becoming a marathon, so they run throughout the week from either 9:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. or 6:30 p.m. to 9:45 p.m.”

The most basic class is Beginning Computers. “Besides basic keyboard and mouse skills, we cover saving files, using the Internet, sending and receiving email, attaching a file — those sorts of things. Then comes Beginning Windows — Windows being the operating system that controls the interaction between the computer’s hardware and the software you install. It’s what lets you manipulate files. You learn about managing files, putting them in folders, and creating shortcut icons for your desktop. There’s also some basic word processing — things like making text bold or italicized.”

More advanced word-processing skills are covered in the three levels of Microsoft Word classes. “In Beginning Word, you cover formatting and saving files and things like inserting graphics into text documents. Intermediate Word will teach you to do page breaks and column setup and how to work with headers and footers. And in Advanced, we get into indexes and tables of contents and the creation of master documents and subdocuments.”

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San Diego
March 26, 2009

I gave a rundown of my day, as I do every morning for David's benefit. As our social secretary, it's my duty to inform him of any obligations before he sets off going about his business. "I'm having breakfast with Jen, then I have a meeting in Little Italy — that should last a few hours, and after that...huh. I've got nothing else planned until we leave tonight to check out Fred's show at Jett Gallery."

"Oh, yeah?" David's dimples appeared, those mischievous pits. I raised a brow, an invitation for whatever quip was coming. "I've got an idea for something you could do," David said. The indentations in his cheeks deepened. "You could assemble the grill."

He said it to be funny, of course, to propose something absurd so I would scoff, so he could say, "Just kidding," so we both laugh at the silliness of the suggestion. But before I could recite my lines, something in my mind misfired. I was just about to gasp — a theatrical sound we both knew would trigger David's giggles — when it struck me that what he'd said wasn't so preposterous. I felt the heat of my cheeks rise, the blood rush to my head. I mentally catalogued my old apartment, checking off one decorative or functional object after another, labeling each "moron" required. Aside from the few necessary items friends assembled for me, I avoided the purchase of complete products for the same reason I never liked the Turf Supper Club, where the patrons cooked their own food on a communal grill: I believe if I'm paying for it, it should be assembled.

When I lived alone, it seemed there was always a friend around who was happy to do the grunt work for me. Stephanie put together my IKEA bed frame, and Zim installed my new shower-head. I mentally catalogued my old apartment, checking off one decorative or functional object after another, labeling each "moron" required. Aside from the few necessary items friends assembled for me, I avoided the purchase of complete products for the same reason I never liked the Turf Supper Club, where the patrons cook their own food on a communal grill: I believe if I'm paying for it, it should be assembled.

"How can that be?" David asked. Jen looked at me expectantly, waiting for the punch line. There wasn't one. In my traditional nuclear family of two parents and four girls, the responsibility of putting shit together most often befell my father. Bicycles, dollhouses, dressers, art desks — you name it, Dad assembled it, narrating the process with muttered obscenities when the instructions were counterintuitive. On a few occasions, when the Navy whisked my father to Hawaii, Iceland, or Germany, Mom was left to pick up the pieces. It was the Barbie Dream House that was her undoing. When we were old enough not to take it the wrong way, Mom shared the misery that was the six hours it took her to construct the three-foot-tall toy mansion.

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"Come on, you can't be that surprised," I said, smiling. "There were lots of things I'd never done before I met you." I left David to wonder how I'd gotten this far and turned to Jen. "Okay, let's do this. Please pass me that big plastic thingamajig with the curve in it."

It soon became clear that all I had to do was match a plastic or metal piece with its illustrated twin in the booklet. A moron could do this, I thought. Then, poking fun at myself in a way no other person could get away with, I smiled inwardly and thought, a moron IS doing this.

As I worked through the illiterate-friendly steps, studying the pictures on the page and literally putting two and two together, David eyed me. Earlier, he had said that because he's a guy, he has been tasked to assemble an incalculable number of items. I suggested it probably had more to do with his attending school for engineering, but I conceded the point. My handy girlfriend (Stephanie, Jen, and Janet) were more exceptions than rule. I thought of the men in my family — Simon building a hothouse in which to grow his chili peppers, Brad tiling the bathroom, Sean erecting the gazebo and his son Liam constructing complicated Lego contraptions, Roger drilling equidistant holes in the concrete around the pool for a fence; all the guys I know are drawn to doing things that women seem to think a mechanical...ahem...erection gene is located in the penis.

"Okay, let's do this. Please pass me that big plastic thingamajig with the curve in it."
David was waiting for a reason to be amused. He almost got one when Jen and I scrambled to find a block of wood, one of the "tools" the booklet said we needed. But the picture of a wheel resting on the block beat David to the punch in explaining its function—we didn't really need a block of wood so much as something to protect the side of the wheel from getting scraped while we hammered on the other side.

With Jen's assistance, it took me less than an hour from the time we opened the box to having a fully functional "Weber Q 320." David looked more impressed than I wanted him to. "It wasn't difficult," I said. "The way you guys bitch about putting stuff together, I thought it was going to be a lot harder. It was actually pleasurable, in that 'I conquered the task' sort of way," I nodded at my handiwork, feeling quite accomplished. Then, trouncing any attempt David might make to take advantage of my bravado, I said, "Don't expect me to cook on it."

For more stories and videos by this author, go to sdreader.com.
“A lot of people have relationships
ICHA

Cárdenas, the 31-year-old man/woman/dragon in question, sits in a chair three feet from the couch. He’s facing me, but I can’t see his eyes due to the stereoscopic headset he’s wearing as part of a performance art project called Becoming Dragon. The headset limits Cárdenas’s view — except for peripheral vision — to the online world of Second Life, where he’s spent every waking moment of the past 11 days living as a dragon named Azdel Slade.

The room is in the California Institute for Telecommunications and Information Technology building on the campus of the University of California, San Diego, where Cárdenas is a third-year graduate student in the master of fine arts program with a personal emphasis on performance and media. Becoming Dragon is part of Cárdenas’s master of fine arts. For the performance, Cárdenas is spending more than 15 consecutive days living in Second Life. “My contract with myself was to be in Second Life for 365 hours [wearing the headset], except when I go to the bathroom.”

In addition to the headset, Cárdenas wears motion-capture hardware on his

and get married as dragons.”
Cárdenas has a hard

time saying exactly

when he got the idea
to perform Becoming

Dragon. "For the last

three years," he says,

"I've been doing work

that deals with the body

and technology, specifi-
cally putting the body

online. I've been think-

ing about online public

spaces such as YouTube,

MySpace, or Second

Life. I think of it as an

online 'public space'

since there are 15 mil-

lion users. Also," Cárdé-

nas chuckles, which

about the question of

species identity."

Though the idea of

species change sounds

absolutely loco to just

about everybody, Cárdé-

nas in his travels in Sec-

ond Life has found a

community of people

“Generally, I do like femme

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Do you or someone you love suffer from **ALZHEIMER’S DISEASE**?

If you are:
- Male or female between 50 and 85 years of age
- Fluently read and speak English
- In good general health

**YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN A CLINICAL RESEARCH TRIAL FOR AN INVESTIGATIONAL NEW MEDICATION**

Participants will receive free of charge:
- Study-related exams
- Investigational drug
- Compensation for time and travel

For more information, call: 1-888-486-9150

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Do you or someone you know suffer from **OSTEOARTHRITIS** **OF THE KNEE OR HIP**?

If you are:
- Over the age of 18
- Are in good general health
- Currently on a stable dose of oral NSAID therapy

**YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN A CLINICAL RESEARCH TRIAL**

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

For more information, call: 1-888-486-9150

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Are you overweight with type II diabetes?

You might qualify to participate in a new clinical research study. We are investigating new treatment options through medical research that may help overweight people with type II diabetes lose weight.

You must be:
- Between 18 years old and 65 years old
- Considered to be in stable health
- Taking oral medication for type II diabetes
- Not taking insulin
- Able to perform an exercise program
- Willing to participate approximately 1 year (17 visits)

Qualified participants may receive at no charge:
- Personalized dietary counseling
- Study-related investigational medication
- Compensation for your time and travel

To learn more, call: Synergy Clinical Research Center 1-888-486-9150

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Do you or someone you know suffer from **DEPRESSION IN SENIORS**?

Are you or someone you know:
- Male or female between 50 and 85 years of age
- Fluently read and speak English
- In good general health

**YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN A CLINICAL RESEARCH TRIAL FOR AN INVESTIGATIONAL NEW MEDICATION**

Participants will receive free of charge:
- Study-related exams
- Investigational drug
- Compensation for time and travel

For more information, call: 1-888-486-9150

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Do you or someone you know suffer from **DEPRESSION**?

Are you or an adolescent you know:
- Suffering from depression?
- Are between 12 and 17 years of age?
- Have had symptoms for greater than 2 months?

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

Participants will receive free of charge:
- Study-related exams
- Investigational drug
- Compensation for time and travel

For more information, call: 1-888-486-9150

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Do you or someone you know suffer from **OSTEOARTHRITIS** **OF THE KNEE OR HIP**?

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- Currently on a stable dose of oral NSAID therapy

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Participants will receive free of charge:
- Study-related exams
- Investigational drug
- Compensation for time and travel

For more information, call: 1-888-486-9150

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Do you or someone you know suffer from **CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE (COPD)**?

Are you at least 40 years of age?
Are you using one of the following bronchodilators:
- Serevent (Salmeterol)
- Foradil (Formoterol Fumarate)
- Spiriva (Tiotropium Bromide)

You may be eligible to participate in a single-visit clinical research trial.

Qualified participants will receive at no cost:
- Study-related exams
- Compensation for study participation

For more information, call: 1-888-486-9150

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**SYNERGY CLINICAL RESEARCH CENTER**

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Diagnosed with Type 2 Diabetes?
Taking Metformin or Glucophage?

If so, Profil Institute for Clinical Research is currently conducting a research study of an investigational oral medication for Type 2 Diabetes.

You may qualify for the study if you are:
• A Type 2 Diabetic
• 18 – 75 years old and otherwise healthy
• Treating your diabetes with Metformin or Glucophage alone.

If you qualify, you may be compensated up to $3,485 for time and travel. Up to 8 consecutive overnight visits may be required.

For more information please call Profil toll free at 1-866-245-7194.

You long to change their species from human to some kind of animal, real or imagined. “I’ve discovered as part of this performance that there are a lot of people who have sex and have relationships and get married as dragons and bunnies and other species. The most common thing is hybrid species. Right now, I’m a dragon. But there’s also another avatar I use which is this thing called a Neko, which is a half-cat, half-human kind of person. Nekos that are half-human, half-animal are really common in Second Life. Something that’s happened in the last few days [during the performance] is I’ve met a bunch of people who call themselves Oth-erkin, and they have this whole community who feel really deeply, painfully, truly that they are some other species.

This couple that talked to me was a dragon-man and a fox-woman. They both said, very seriously, that if they could get species-change surgery, they would do it in a second.

“Does that strike you as insanity of any kind?”
Well, it struck me as surprising,” Cárdenas lets out a long, rolling dragon chuckle that echoes off the walls of

RESEARCH STUDIES

Avoiding Relationships?

Confidential help is available. You may be eligible to receive free treatment with computerized therapy as part of a research program.

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http://nas.psy.sdsu.edu

CENTER FOR UNDERSTANDING AND TREATING ANXIETY
6386 Alvarado Court, Suite 301, San Diego
Researchers at Sharp Mesa Vista Hospital are currently enrolling men and women in inpatient and outpatient studies. Eligible participants may receive all study-related care at no cost, and may be reimbursed for time and travel. Participation is confidential and trials are safely conducted under the supervision of experienced physicians and research specialists.

To learn more, call the Sharp Mesa Vista Hospital Clinical Research Center at (858) 694-8350.

**CLINICAL RESEARCH**

**SCHIZOPHRENIA • DEPRESSION • BIPOLAR DISORDER**

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

Participation is confidential and trials are safely conducted under the supervision of experienced physicians and research specialists.

To learn more, call the Sharp Mesa Vista Hospital Clinical Research Center at (858) 694-8350.

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**Body Dysmorphic Disorder**

Are you preoccupied with a defect in your physical appearance, spending hours a day worrying about it or looking in the mirror? Do you groom excessively or try to camouflage your flaw? Do you avoid having people see it?

Dr. Sanjaya Saxena from the UCSD OCD Program is looking for people who are excessively concerned about a physical flaw to take part in a study that is providing:

- 12 weeks medication
- Brain imaging scans
- Diagnostic evaluation
- Neuropsychological evaluation
- Study participants must:
  * Be age 18-65
  * Not be on any medications that affect brain functioning
  * Not have any active medical conditions
  * Weigh less than 280 lbs.
  * Not have a history of chronic alcohol or substance use
  * There is NO monetary compensation for participation.

For more information call Dr. Jennifer Sumner at (858) 534-8056.
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Call: 619-442-4215

Medical Center Clinical Research, a center of excellence in dermatological care, is conducting a clinical research trial of an investigational medication for hand eczema (also known as hand dermatitis).

**We need participants:**

• 18-75 years of age

• with hand eczema lasting at least six months

**Qualified participants will receive:**

• study-related evaluations by a board-certified dermatologist and study medication at no cost

• compensation for time and travel

No insurance required.

Conveniently located in Kearny Mesa.

Call us at: 858-279-SKIN (7546)

E-mail: info@therapeuticsresearch.com

Website: www.therapeuticsresearch.com

**Hand Eczema?**

Therapeutics Clinical Research, a center of excellence in dermatological care, is conducting a clinical research trial of an investigational medication for hand eczema (also known as hand dermatitis).

Cárdenas’s hormone therapy is “covered by the University of California health insurance.”

**Got a Going, Going, Going... Bladder Problem and sometimes you don’t make it??**

A 52-week clinical research study is underway for men and women with 

**urinary frequency and urinary urgency**

using an investigational oral medication. If you suffer from the embarrassment of way too many trips to the bathroom or the loss of urine before you make it there, you may be suffering from **Overactive Bladder.**

To possibly qualify:

1) Male or female, 18 years or older

2) 8 or more trips to the bathroom and at least 1 episode of an urgent need to use the bathroom

Participants may receive at no cost:

1) Study-related examinations and consultation by a board-certified physician

2) Labs, EKG and all study medications

3) Compensation for your time and travel

Interested in more information, call:

**Medical Center for Clinical Research**

619-521-2841
very closely related to them.”

Cárdenas was seven years old, the fourth of four siblings, living in Miami, Florida, when his parents divorced. He lived with his mom and sister for eight more years, until his mother was diagnosed with schizophrenia. After that, he lived with his dad and stepmom for a couple of years, then with his sister for two years. Given that background, it would be easy to label him the product of an unstable upbringing. But that would be too easy. He was stable enough to acquire a degree in computer science from Florida International University. And as I talk with him, he rattles off quotes from a half dozen or so philosophers and authors, despite 11 days of poor sleep and the mind-numbing effects of wearing the stereoscopic goggles. And there’s a cool-headed albeit radical quality to the goals he’s trying to achieve with this project. “Yeah, sure,” he says, “I’m trying to explore in terms of living in Second Life the potential for species-change surgery, and I’ve been researching the limits of biotech and how far we are away from species-change surgery. I’m also definitely doing it as a political gesture,” he says, “to make more space for transgendered people. It seems like if it were more accepted that people want to get species-change surgery, maybe I wouldn’t get such funny looks for wanting to change genders.”

Cárdenas adds, “I felt a little guilty for talking to the transspecies people because I don’t really identify as a dragon. I picked dragons because, for one, they’re not so easy to gender male and female. And most dragon literature, Western and Eastern, features dragons having shape-changing ability. So that’s something I really want to think about with this performance; how do we think and talk about people who are changing, people we don’t have names or labels for, somebody in transition who is not male or female. And how does that change our ideas of politics. We have had years and years of movements, writing, and struggle based on particular identities. How do we update our thinking so that we’re not talking about the women’s movement or the black power movement but something else? And that’s not to discredit those move-
Currently Treating Your Diabetes with Insulin?

If so, Profil Institute for Clinical Research is currently conducting a research study of an investigational oral medication for Type 2 Diabetes.

You may qualify for the study if you are:

- A Type 2 Diabetic
- 30-75 years old
- Using insulin alone or insulin in combination with oral anti-diabetic medications
- Females must be post-menopausal or surgically sterile

If you qualify, you may be compensated up to $2,730 for time and travel. Up to fifteen overnight visits may be required.

For more information, call Profil Toll Free @1-866-245-4987

RESEARCH STUDIES

Flu Vaccine Research Study

Healthy Volunteers are needed for an investigational Flu Vaccine Study. Call to see if you qualify.

Participants receive up to $360.

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
Are you currently diagnosed with Schizophrenia?

You may qualify to participate in a research study involving an investigational medication. Qualified candidates will be compensated for time and transportation up to $1950.

Call 619-481-5252 for more information.

The California Neuropsychopharmacology Clinical Research Institute, LLC “CNRI, LLC”

Is Waking Up Tonight Affecting Your Tomorrow?

Do you or someone you know have trouble staying asleep? Is it affecting daytime activities? A research study of an investigational medication is underway for people who have trouble sleeping, characterized by difficulty maintaining sleep.

To qualify for participation in the research study, you must:
- Be at least 18 years old
- Have trouble staying asleep through the night
- Be impacted in your daily life by your sleep problems

If you qualify and choose to participate in this study, you may receive study medication and you will receive 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.

Affiliated Research Institute specializes in clinical research programs, both inpatient and outpatient, with an emphasis on psychiatric and neurological disorders.

Outpatient Clinical programs offered at Affiliated Research Institute include:
- Alzheimer’s Disease
- Bipolar Disorder
- Depression (18 years and older)
- Insomnia
- Schizophrenia
- Smoking Cessation

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

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

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Call us today at 619-481-5252
The cost of the Becoming Dragon project Cárdenas estimates to be “around $40,000 to $50,000.” On top of that money are the hours spent on the project by volunteers such as Mehrmand and four other support staff who bring Cárdenas food and help with the equipment. Then there’s space usage and equipment usage. The motion-capture system he’s borrowing from the university “is a half-million-dollar system. So there’s a cost associated with using that. The beginning first few months of this project was me writing grants.” He got a $2500 grant from the University of California Institute for Research in the Arts and a $5000 grant from the California Institute for Telecommunications and Information Technology. “The money I raised went to other equipment, videotapes, and things like that.”

The University of California Institute for Research in the Arts is a grant-giving office that provides up to $5000 to artists within the university system. The institute, says its website, “is committed to supporting risk-taking research that might not otherwise find funding from other University or extramural sources.”

The California Institute for Telecommunications and Information Technology has

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**Clinical Research Study Seeking Healthy Volunteers**

Profil Institute is seeking Healthy Volunteers to participate in a clinical research study to evaluate the effects of an investigational drug on insulin absorption.

**You may qualify if you are:**

- 18-55 years old
- A non-smoker
- Not currently taking prescription medications, birth control pills are okay
- In good health with no major medical conditions

You may be compensated up to $2520 for your time and travel. No overnight stays and 8 study related visits are required.

For more information, call Profil Toll Free @ 1-866-209-0450

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**UCSD research study on Schizophrenia and Schizoaffective Disorder**

Are you taking a medication like Seroquel, Zyprexa, Geodon or Abilify? Would you like to try something new? UCSD is conducting a research study on the effects of an investigational drug called Lurasidone, not approved by the FDA.

To find out if you may qualify and how to participate, call: 1-866-UC PRICE (1-866-827-7423)

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**Research Study – Type 2 Diabetics**

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buildings at the San Diego and Irvine campuses of the University of California. The buildings were erected with $100 million of state money. The group’s website is full of nebulous writing about shifting research paradigms and bridging the gaps between disciplines and between academia and industry. It amounts to a telecommunications and information technology research institute funded by a combination of state, federal, and industry money.

Cárdenas says “the bulk” of the funding for *Becoming Dragon* came from the Center for Research in Computing and the Arts, which, its website says, is “an Organized Research Unit of the University of California, San Diego whose mission is to facilitate the invention of new art forms that arise out of the developments of digital technologies.”

Cárdenas adds, “CRCA estimates that they provided over $20,000 worth of support including the space, the equipment including the motion capture system, and months of staff support time from numerous people. And that number was before an additional $2500 they contributed toward buying computers.”

Ars Virtua, a media and art center within Second Life, provided Cárdenas “a grant of usage of their virtual land. They granted me a parcel that is 4096 square meters.”

*Becoming Dragon* is Cárdenas’s final performance for his master of fine arts. He plans to push on for a Ph.D. in fine arts. For his Ph.D., he says he’s thinking about doing some kind of performance art involving “body hacking.”

“Body hacking,” I ask, “as in hacking with a hatchet?”

Cárdenas roars with computer-modulated dragon laughter — a terrifying sound. “No, no, no, no, no, hacking as in hacking a computer.”

More dragon laughter.

“I think about hacking with computers as another kind of exploration — finding novel ways of doing things with computers and technology. If you look at the *Hacker’s Dictionary* definition of ‘hack,’ it’s not breaking into computers, which is more ‘cracking.’ But when people say, ‘That’s a good hack,’ it means, that’s a clever, novel way of doing that thing. The journalist Quinn Norton has written a lot about body hacking, which is people doing DIY [do it yourself] body modification. Usually, it’s DIY body modification that is functional. Quinn Norton got an implant of a magnet in her finger, which basically gave her a sixth sense to detect if something was magnetic. That’s one classic body-hacking example because it’s functional and it’s a modification.”

Cárdenas isn’t sure what form of body hacking he may perform on himself or what the end of his transsexuality will be. “I’m still a work in progress.”
progress,” he says. “Part of the idea of body hacking is that your body is the platform, which is also totally related to performance art. When I think of body hacks for myself, I think about how could I experiment on myself safely, or relatively safely,” Dragon chuckles, “to move toward some of these things like fur or color changes or something like that. That’s something that I’m thinking about for my Ph.D., or for future projects, at least: how does body hacking and widespread access to medical knowledge transform our potential for being something else? Because, right now, the potential is totally limited by the medical institution and the psychiatric institution. For instance, if you just want to become a woman, you have to go through a year trial, you have to convince them that you’re passing [as a woman] for the whole year.” (Cárdenas chose 365 hours for Becoming Dragon to call into question this one-year requirement.) “But body hacking is interesting to me because medical knowledge and medical hardware are getting cheaper, the way the video cameras are getting cheaper. So it seems like soon we’ll be in a much easier position to change ourselves. Ten years ago, the performance artist Orlan, who is my biggest inspiration, was doing performance by getting plastic surgery live onstage. She was getting body modifications to look more like famous pieces of art. Eventually, she got horns implanted in her forehead. Well, nowadays you can just go to a piercing place to get horns put on your forehead. It’s not the most crazy thing.”

Before I leave Cárdenas to live out his final four days as a dragon in Second Life, I ask, “Do you believe that there’s a God who created you as you are?” “Oh, no,” the dragon answers, “that’s as far from what I believe as possible.”

Author’s note: Micha Cárdenas asked that feminine pronouns be used in this story. With respect, the author declined.

— Ernie Grimm
I salvaged a Lonely Planet Thai language phrase book years ago, a souvenir of my father’s long-ago Navy travels in Southeast Asia. Practical and illuminating, it highlights the primary concerns of visitors to that sultry locale — so it’s no surprise that a great deal of textual space is dedicated to food, hospitals, and sex.

"Di-chan ben pà-yâht" translates to “I have intestinal worms.”

His name is Khem. He is a retired store owner from Nakhon Pathom. I am new to the building and look like a Japanese princess. He tells me this by way of introduction. I should call him Khem because his full name, he insists, is too difficult for anyone to pronounce, and he is tired of hearing it loused up. I consider this while he presents me with a plate of chicken and beef satay, perching it atop my bag of groceries. I am not Japanese. And I suppose it hardly needs to be clarified that I am also definitely not a member of any country’s ruling or defunct monarchy. At best I might be descended from a line of minor tropical jungle chieftains or damp, consumptive potato farmers.

I don’t mention any of this to him. It would seem rude, contrary. I was new to the apartment complex, and the man had just given me a plate of skewered meat. Instead I thanked him and promised to return his plate the next day. The satay was followed over time with a noodle dish, coupons for Fresh & Easy, a small pot of pink azaleas, sticky rice, a single energy-efficient lightbulb, the admonishment to get married and have children as soon as possible, then more satay. I haven’t known Khem long, but in the months since meeting him I have learned two things about my new neighbor: he is a fine cook, and he may be a porn fiend.

"Row mâi ben kon fâ-rang-sêt. We’re not French. Kà-nom bang tam dôo-ay bâang kôw sãh-lee têe mâi òrk. Whole-wheat bread. I can imagine this isn’t asked for that often."

His wife, a Filipina, died years ago. They met in Bangkok, where she worked as a maid in some rich widow’s house. They ran the store here together, and even after widowhood set in he stuck around.

Author: Rachel Vaughn
Neighborhood: Paradise Hills
Age: 27
Occupation: Website Content Editor/Freelance writer

Editor’s note: This is the winner of February’s $100 third-place prize for our monthly neighborhood-essay contest.
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not exceptionally so), is also better for what lies in proximity rather than what it offers within its own borders. That being: everything else considered by the people who live here as Paradise Hills, sometimes down to and including National City, the South and North Bay Terraces and, on occasion, Bonita. Its citizens are an expansive and imperialistic people, largely working- to lower-middle class, natives in the sense that any long-rooted military community is native, “a diverse population,” according to Wikipedia, “consisting primarily of people of Filipino and Latino descent.” This makes Khem something of an anomaly in the area. As a lover of most things anomalous, I’ve begun to treasure him recently. His too-large trouses (you can’t call them anything else) cinched up neatly to his chest. The neon-green fly swatter whapping when he’s out smoking on his porch. Once I tried to give him some pizza from Mike’s Giant on Reo Drive. I don’t cook. He was kind enough to never mention it again.

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Defense of Food.

the confines of his two Khem might be doing in knew: steak is really just a told us what he already modern age has since powers that most impress blues music the rest of the time, I would assume that low self-esteem or a cough syrup addiction would be to blame, but maybe it will be a medium-done chateaubriand that eventually causes me to hulk out into a raging slut one day. I have meat at almost every meal, and if Kellogg was right, I’m not sure there’s enough Valtrex in the world for me to enjoy satay for breakfast anymore.

Khem pooh-poohs this and straightens out of his plastic lawn chair. “Why do you have to care about that? What food is good to eat. If you like it, it’s good. That’s how to enjoy life.”

Di-chân chór păng bôh gàp don-dree bèe pâht.
I like erotic movies with bamboo xylophone music. Khem might, too, but I’ve never enquired.

“What’s that book? You are always reading. You should be dating instead — find a nice boy who will read to you.”

That book was Michael Pollan’s In Defense of Food. I bought it at Costco while sample grazing and working out the math of a family pack of pot stickers for a single girl with few hobbies. I wondered if this was where the author pictured his work ending up. And before such an indifferent audience! Eat fewer processed foods, sure. More greens, no slick packaging. Meanwhile, we can buy cocktail shrimp by the truckload and chocolate by the crate.

“It’s about food,” I reply. “Our relationship to it, and how trends have affected the way we view the things we eat. It’s kind of interesting.”

And it was, insofar as finding that the founder of the Kellogg’s breakfast-cereal behemoth did so because of a rectally fixated paranoia is interesting and enlightening. That is to say, a scaring masterwork. From what I remember, Kellogg believed that excessive consumption of meat created toxic chemical deposits in the small intestine that were responsible for compulsive masturbation. To combat this protein-borne perversion, he jockeys for more carbs on the breakfast table and frequent yogurt enemas. His cereal empire survives in our supermarket aisles, but it’s Kellogg’s intuitive powers that most impress me. Empirical science of the modern age has since told us what he already knew: steak is really just a gateway meat to more depraved sexual acts.

I hate to think what Khem might be doing in the confines of his two bedrooms if he were to eat more of his own incredible barbecue. If rather than cooking fish half the week he began to substitute carne asada or pork chops. And what about me? I only just figured out my ovulation cycle by my level of desire to get all ups with Liam Neeson, which intensifies toward the middle of the month and subsides into a more manageable budding appreciation for Delta blues music the rest of the time. I would assume that low self-esteem or a cough syrup addiction would be to blame, but maybe it will be a medium-done chateaubriand that eventually causes me to hulk out into a raging slut one day. I have meat at almost every meal, and if Kellogg was right, I’m not sure there’s enough Valtrex in the world for me to enjoy satay for breakfast anymore.

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The time is the late '60s and it is a typically quiet afternoon at the Coronado bar, the Tradewinds. Suddenly the tranquility is disturbed when a group of 20 to 25 young Navy midshipmen enter the bar to do some afternoon drinking. They are away from home on a weekend cruise and are feeling festive and carefree. In fact, some of them are feeling so good they sit down without bothering to remove their hats. They are quickly reminded by the Tradewinds’ usual patrons, some Navy SEALs, to comply with Navy etiquette and remove their covers.

A few sharp words and baleful looks are exchanged but the midshipmen eventually comply with the request. After one drink the young men, feeling increasingly uncomfortable, get up to leave. As they go to retrieve their hats, the one who had argued the most vociferously with the SEALs hesitates over the table on which his hat has been thrown. He stares intently into the cocktail lounge twilight. Closer inspection finally reveals that cradled in the white satin lining of his precious hat is a large, fresh turd.

Without further ado the punches start flying. Chairs are heaved overhead and bottles are broken. It isn’t long before all the midshipmen find themselves lying in the parking lot, bloody and battered. They manage to pick themselves up and return to their ship, vowing never to visit the Tradewinds again. Nobody had told them it was a SEAL bar.

Those were the good old days in Coronado. The Vietnam War was in full swing and SEAL personnel were on a six-month-on/six-month-off rotation. When they returned to Coronado, the site of their training facility and headquarters, they were generally rambunctious. At that time the Tradewinds, at Tenth Street and Orange Avenue in downtown Coronado, was their bar.
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There was always a keg of beer ready — just for the SEALs. If somebody got divorced or engaged, there was a keg. There were even a couple of kegs for people who had been killed in action. And the woman who ran the place didn’t resist that policy. She even hired SEALs as bartenders.

After a few kegs had been drained, the fights would usually begin. The SEALs had been trained to fight and most of them were pretty good at it. Furthermore, almost all the SEALs in Coronado would be going back to the jungle again, so what did they really have to lose by getting into a bar fight?

Today the old Tradewinds is called Mulvaney’s and the ambiance is considerably more tame. If there are ever any UDT/SEALs inside, you would never know it. The end of the Vietnam War is, of course, a major reason why the SEALs are no longer considered the rowdy group that terrorized Coronado Island with loud parties and drunken brawls. Scuffles like the one with the midshipmen in the Tradewinds don’t really happen anymore. Which is not to say that today’s SEALs are not as tough as those from the war years in the late ’60s and early ’70s. The current training classes, producing about 70 graduates today as opposed to about 120 then, might even be a little better now, a little more rigorous. The men are without question an elite band, chosen for their athletic ability and intelligence. And it is equally true that they still have an unsavory reputation, a notoriety perhaps retained from the bellicose Vietnam era.
water Demolition Team and the SEALs actually began before Vietnam. In fact, the two units were conceived separately, both of them for very specific reasons, and today they remain separate, though it is not uncommon for a person to be a member of both.

The older of the two outfits, the Underwater Demolition Team, was founded in 1943. The need for underwater combat demolition experts had been established a year earlier on the Japanese-held island of Tarawa, where insufficient hydrographic intelligence had resulted in the drowning deaths of hundreds of Marines. Called the Navy Combat Demolition Unit, these predecessors of the Underwater Demolition Team were trained intensively. The theory at that time was that a man is capable of roughly ten times the physical output as is commonly thought. This premise still holds for UDT training.

UDT’s brother unit, the SEALs (Sea, Air, Land), was commissioned by President Kennedy in 1962. Most of its personnel were former UDTs, and they received training from Army, Navy, Marine, and Air Force schools as well as their own. Their basic mission has always been to conduct unconventional warfare, counter-guerrilla and clandestine operations in maritime areas and riverine environments. Basically, they were in Vietnam looking for a fight. When they went out on an operation, it was usually to destroy something or someone. Whenever there was a particularly difficult or dirty job to do, it was usually one of the small, seven- or eight-man SEAL or UDT units that was called upon to make sure it got done. Also, the UDT/SEALs were very successful in training the Vietnamese ARVN forces, gathering intelligence from the Viet Cong, and performing demolition work. By their own account, their most impressive statistic was their “kill ratio” — very one-sided in favor of the SEALs.

There were fatalities, approximately thirty-seven in all, and an unheard of number of purple hearts (one SEAL reportedly received his seventh over there), but the North Vietnamese were said to have definitely got the worst of the exchange.

Many military experts feel that the key to the success of the UDT/SEALs was and is their training, and few would argue about its reputation as one of the most arduous programs in the Armed Services. It’s a long list to enumerate, but the first step for the prospective SEAL is to have all the obvious physical qualifications. He needs to have, like most military specialists, good eyesight, no color blindness, no respiratory or asthmatic conditions, and a heart free of murmurs.

His next step, because underwater work will occupy a great deal of his time, is to pass a standard Navy diving physical. After that, another screening test. This time the novitiate has to swim 300 yards in seven and a half minutes — using any stroke except the overhead crawl. He also has to pass an extensive physical training test of pushups, pull-ups, and sit-
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48 Up, and has to run a mile in seven and a half minutes or less. Then more diving tests. The trainee is taken down to 160 feet to test his reaction to pressure and then up to 60 feet, where he is put on pure oxygen for 30 minutes to test his chemical tolerance.

If the candidate passes all these tests and gets acceptable marks on the CGT (General Classification Test) and ARI (Arithmetic) intelligence tests, then he is subjected to scrutiny by the Bureau of U.S. Navy Personnel. The bureau puts various factors in balance — and makes its decision.

The young man who is ultimately chosen to be a Navy SEAL (among roughly 40 percent of those who apply) has gone through a great deal, but he has really only just begun; three more phases of training await him. At one time not long ago only 33 percent made it through all phases, though the ratio is a little higher today. During phase one, the men are pushed to their mental and physical extremes. The notorious “hell week,” a torturous period of intense physical conditioning, takes place during this stretch. Those who survive move on to six intensive weeks of diving, perhaps the most critical training the students receive. The final phase, hand warfare, is conducted for five weeks in Coronado and three weeks on remote San Clemente Island. When the trainees finally complete this phase, they are hard; the baby fat is gone; the pinkness and puffiness have disappeared.

These graduates are now part of the “team,” the word used to describe all UDT/SEAL members. If that sounds fraternal and elitist, it is no accident. That is the way Navy wants it; the feeling of privilege is consciously fostered. But are the SEALs the suicidal lunatics, the steely, cold-blooded killers, the nonstop drinking, partying fanatics some accuse them of being? Ask any SEAL and he will say no — emphatically. Older SEALs will admit that during Vietnam there were indeed some rauco us parties in Coronado and that a lot of SEALs hung out together in bars. But starting fights, pushing around innocent people, going on mad, murderous rampages? Most wonder where these stories started.

One of the older SEALs who remembers those days is Lt. Phil “Moki” Martin. A Hawaiian, born and raised on the island of Maui, Martin joined the Navy at 17. He had always been involved in water-related activities and going into the Underwater Demolition Team seemed the natural thing for him to do.

Between 1967 and 1972 Martin spent a total of 32 months in Vietnam, where he participated in more than 120 missions and on more
than 25 occasions was involved in live-fire situations. He is one of the vintage Vietnam era UDT/SEALs. At 38 years of age he is one of the few old enough to look at the UDT/SEALs with some sense of historical perspective.

Today Martin has an office job, anathema to most SEALs. At the Amphibious School he is the “Special Warfare Logistics/Swimmer Delivery Vehicle, Diving Officer.” But he still remembers the old days, the days when the SEALs developed their redoubtable notoriety. Yet what Martin remembers is invariably not as sensational as some of the stories that circulate among younger SEAL trainees in Coronado. He is tired of the tales which graphically describe rabid SEALs throwing a juke box through a bar window with three guys still hanging on it. He thinks that the stories should concentrate more on the fact that Navy SEALs are complicated, that they are not all medal-hungry, amoral maniacs.

Martin, of course, does not deny that there were fights, lots of fights. Or that he was involved in some of them. But he has since settled down a bit; he doesn’t jump out of as many airplanes or take as many risks when he is scuba diving. And despite the fact that SEALs have the highest divorce rate in the Navy, he remains happily married. There was a time when he was younger, though, when the things he did were not risks so much as fully calculated acts with a high probability for success. Bar brawls were among them. If his memory serves him correctly, Martin cannot recall a SEAL ever losing a fight.

Probably the biggest fracas in which he was personally involved took place at Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam. He was a member of a squad of seven SEALs who went into a bar for a drink or two on the eve of an operation into the jungle. No sooner had they walked into the club than a melodramatic hush fell over everyone, “kind of the way it happens in the movies,” Martin said smiling.

The squad went to sit down, but before they were even in their chairs the Navy chief who ran the club asked them to leave. He was reasonably polite about it, but the time was only 10:15 and the bar wasn’t due to close until 11:00. The chief persevered, he pleaded, and the SEALs finally agreed to go. As they started to walk out the front door, the chief stopped them and asked them to leave through the back. To Martin this was simply uncalled for.

While the chief was “pushing” Martin and the others out the rear door, Martin recalled, “a punch came flying out of the air somewhere behind me. Some say I threw it but I don’t know…” Fights quickly broke out all across the room; basically it was the seven SEALs against the 20 regular Navy men who had been in the bar. It was the SEALs who ended up walking out, though, leaving an assortment of bodies scattered about. Martin remembers that not a soul was left standing. The SEALs left through the front door.

Martin also recollects some pretty good tussles in the old Tradewinds. “In those
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Immediate tooth replacement!
Vietnam days,” Martin said, “you could stand in there about every night and watch some guy come in and try to start a fight with a UDT/SEAL member.” Being a SEAL then was a little like being a gun-fighter in the old American West. You were a man with a reputation and every tough kid in town wanted a chance to knock you off. This (sometimes reckless) curiosity about the SEALs was actually late in coming. The first official civilian news release on the UDT/SEALs was not circulated until 1967. Before then, they were one of the Navy’s best-kept secrets.

Next came a Reader’s Digest article. The writer, Martin said, called the SEALs “rock-muscled, computer-minded geniuses who could rappel out of a helicopter one hundred feet down to the ground and then hand-over-hand right back up the line to the helicopter.” The success these near supermen were having in Vietnam was heavily applauded by the magazine. In Martin’s opinion, it was articles like that which piqued people’s interest. Tough sailors and civilians alike wanted to find out just how formidable these SEALs really were.

Martin can recall one fight in particular at the Tradewinds. It started when four regular Navy men swaggered into the club looking as if they meant trouble. Within minutes, one of the four stood up at the bar and announced at the top of his voice, “I think I’m tougher than any SEAL in here!” According to Martin, there must have been 30 to 40 “team” members in the bar at that time, but they all just glanced up and went back to their drinks and conversation. All, that is, except the youngest SEAL present, who directed some harsh words to the offending sailor.

Before anything could start, the two were pushed apart by a SEAL officer, who then offered to buy the sailor a drink. While he was paying for the liquor, one of the sailors turned to his friends and said in a rather loud voice that he’d “like to punch this big fucker right in the goddamn nose.” This comment did not help to calm matters any, especially since the “big fucker” was actually a Navy heavyweight fighter and perfectly capable of destroying all four sailors with a single blow.

Sensing a possible massacre, another SEAL named Ed Reynolds intervened. He told the sailors, “Listen, this guy [the SEAL officer] can whip my ass, and I know I can whip all of yours. We can step right outside the bar here and let’s do it.” It was only about three minutes later that Reynolds reentered the bar kneading his right hand. “Somebody better call an ambulance,” he said calmly. An ambulance was summoned as Reynolds returned to his drink and the conversation he had left in mid-sentence.

Martin, in reciting the incident, was quick to point out that in this case, and all others of which he knew, the SEAL did not start the fight. In fact, he insisted, most UDT/SEALs will walk away from a fight if they can. But they’ll never, under any circumstances, back down.

Another SEAL of the old school who has seen a...
couple of barroom scuffles is Senior Chief Elvin “Doc” Johnson, currently a corpsman at Seal Team 1 in Coronado. One of the more renowned SEALs, whose exploits are passed on to young trainees in the true oral tradition, Johnson spent many an evening in the old Tradewinds itself. To look at Johnson is to wonder why anyone would be foolhardy enough to want to start a fight with him. It’s not so much that he’s big, which he is, but that he looks...mean. And according to SEALs who have seen him in action, his looks are not exactly deceiving.

Like Martin, Johnson claims that the SEALs were not responsible for the majority of fights in Coronado; he, too, saw more SEALs walk away from challenges than accept them. But he won’t deny that the Tradewinds’ atmosphere was often highly volatile. “That was pretty well a team bar,” Johnson told me with a half smile. "Just anybody that wasn’t in the team didn’t go in there.”

He added that he never saw a fight between two SEALs in the bar and he claimed to have seen a fracas of any consequence only once.

As far as Martin’s assertion that SEALs are challenged and provoked frequently, Johnson is in perfect agreement. “It happens,” he said matter-of-factly. “It happens a lot if somebody knows that you’re a SEAL.” But as far as Johnson was concerned, most SEALs were not looking for fights, particularly those returning from Vietnam. “They came back to have a good time,” he said. “You could get all the fighting you wanted over there.”

Johnson, with gentle modesty, took exception to Martin’s assessment that he, Johnson, was one of the toughest SEALs. In his opinion that accolade was best applied to Michael Thornton, winner of the Congressional Medal of Honor, and in Johnson’s mind, the strongest man for his size he had ever seen. Johnson was a privileged witness to Thornton’s participation in one of the most fabled fights in SEAL team history.

Johnson and Thornton had attended an arm wrestling party on Whidby Island in Washington State; one of the SEALs had beaten the widely heralded State champion. “These guys were civilians,” Johnson recalled, and I thought they kind of drew us into the situation.” There had been some betting, and as the evening progressed the losers became more and more irritable and belligerent. “Eventually,” Johnson continued, “the guy called Thornton some names and hit him. In retaliation Thornton knocked him out, picked him up and stuck him in a dry wall, gave the guy a concussion, and broke...
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San Diego Reader March 26, 2009 53
his colleague—then proceeded to go back and start drinking.”

‘Moki’ Martin is not unfamiliar with Michael Thornton’s adventures. He best remembers the Vietnam story, the well-known tale of how Thornton won his Congressional Medal of Honor. In Martin’s opinion, what Thornton did more or less summarizes the U.S./SEAL attitude. “It was not so much just being bigger, but it showed a great deal of camaraderie between two individuals,” he said.

As Martin tells the story, two Americans and some Vietnamese were sneaking back from an operation when they encountered fire and were overwhelmed. With some difficulty they finally managed to slip away. When at last they reached the beach where their boat was hidden, Thornton noticed that his American counterpart, Tom Norris, was missing. He questioned one of the Vietnamese, who told him that he thought Norris was dead. This wasn’t good enough for Thornton, and he immediately went back into the jungle in search of Norris.

After crossing sand dunes and open fields, Thornton miraculously found Norris, gravely wounded in the head but alive. “I wish,” Martin told me, “there would be some painter who could paint a picture of Thornton with this wounded man over his shoulder in a fireman’s carry, and then using his weapon, firing his weapon, shooting his way out, running back over the sand dunes, down to the beach. It’s everything you’ve seen Audie Murphy do in the movies. It’s one of those rare heroic acts. If you polled a hundred SEALs and asked them if they’d do it, I think maybe only ten would say, ‘yeah.’”

Vietnam was a matter of some personal heroics for “Doc” Johnson as well, and though he was not awarded the Medal of Honor, he did receive his share of Purple Hearts; he was wounded on three separate occasions between 1968 and 1971. The first injury occurred while he was searching underwater for a Viet Cong cave on a riverbank. He surfaced and was greeted by a VC soldier who dropped a hand grenade on his head. Johnson tried to throw it back but the thing went off about three feet away. The result was shrap-
nel imbedded in his skull, eye, and throat. That earned him a year of recuperation in Japan. But he went back to the war zone again and was wounded again — once by gunshot and another time again by shrapnel. Today he still bears physical scars from the war; the mental ones have not been as debilitating to him as they were to certain others. "I feel no personal guilt [about Vietnam]," Johnson told me, his mood darkening. "I feel that we've been slighted... This shame and this guilt feeling from the American public is a bunch of horseshit. Oh, I don't feel guilty about anything I did. I don't perceive of myself as a woman- or baby-killer; I saw civilians die, but it was always in situations that were set up by the other side. If I was a Marine infantry corp and started taking fire from the other side of a rice paddy, then I'd return the fire. Nobody said anything about the VC putting women and kids out in front of them as shields."

Martin, too, feels that the American obsession with guilt is misplaced. "Because of the publicity about the Vietnam war and the movies it generated," he said, "I get the impression the Vietnam person is usually wild-eyed or crazy, and years later he'd have these recurring dreams or desires to do some of the things he did in Vietnam, or that he's a doper. With all my contacts around the community, I've yet to see someone like that. The common talk is that we need another war, but none of the other."

"We were trained to do a job," Martin continued unemotionally. "Maybe that sounds mechanized. Vietnam was shitty, but SEALs were coming back and volunteering to return. There were very few getting killed over there like with the Army regulars. But you don't have a community of 600 men, trained as UDT/SEAL operators, and not have three or four who go off the deep end. You find that in any organization. We had a couple we had to remove from Vietnam — not because of anything that they'd done, but because they wanted to stay there!"

The Navy continues to train SEALs, combat-ready young men whose desire to test their skills is frustrated by the current lack of a live battlefield. As a result, the men who got a chance to fight in Vietnam are the objects of considerable admiration. "Doc" Johnson has observed that the SEALs who got their training right after the conflict ended are the ones who feel the most slighted. "They don't have that to add to their credibility when they say something to somebody, when there's a direct conflict between them and an officer, say. It's not a spoken thing — it's an unspoken thing."

"Moki" Martin also feels that many of the recent trainees resent never having seen action. "I just sense it," Martin says. "I haven't seen any real indication that some of these guys felt left out, but I've heard conversations like, 'I joined the Navy too late,' or 'Some of you guys were really lucky to get in those operations in Vietnam.'"

Perhaps not surprisingly, Martin frequently hears talk about the possibility of another war; El Salvador has been the object of some lively conjecture. "It's understandable," Martin says of the hopeful speculation. "Because they were weaned on those experiences, those operations reports that they read. It's like the young Indian warrior on his 16th birthday who has to go out and prove his manhood. They give him a spear and a shield and his loincloth. But what if there's no mountain lion to kill? What if there's no enemy brave to go after? So he's just sitting there on the hillside."

Update: Martin retired from the Navy in 1983. He remains an active member of the Naval Special Warfare (NSW) community and in April 2008 received the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with combat V for valor. ■

— R.W. Bell, Jr.
can. Some even help them clean their apartment if the person is physically or mentally not able to do so. They are a godsend and worth much more than the pay they receive. I believe they’re funded by the government as part of the “end homelessness in ten years” program. I am very grateful for the services they provide.

Name Withheld by Request via email

Graphic Novel Time Waster
Once again, Duncan Shepherd wastes everyone’s time reviewing a movie based on a comic book or comic book characters (Movie Review, March 12). It is seriously doubtful that there is a single person with even the most transitory awareness of Shepherd’s reviews who would think that for even one second he would give Watchmen anything other than a black dot. Shepherd is as predictable as he is dense.

Shepherd demonstrates open disdain for the medium of comics. When others call Watchmen the most celebrated graphic novel of all time, Shepherd snidely equates the comic medium with reality TV or MMA fighting. At least Shepherd is honest enough to admit his bias.

Again this begs the question: why bother having Shepherd review such films as Watchmen or The Dark Knight when he’s going to automatically give them a black dot? Apparently Shepherd is some sort of fixture at the Reader, his longevity there somehow lending his spew a gravitas far beyond its merit. Not only is Shepherd’s taste in films elitist and narrow, but he indulges himself by wasting entire columns verbally maudering on about a favorite actor or some mentor who taught him how to be full of himself. On the other hand, such asides as Shepherd is given to could be said to be about as much use to the average moviegoer as his reviews are themselves.

As assuredly as the sun will rise in the morning and set at night, Shepherd will continue to pan movies based on comics. It is conceivable that some might even find comfort in this.

David A. Latlap
Pacific Beach

Comments from Reader Website
Comments are not edited for spelling, punctuation, or grammar.

San Diego
March 18, 12:15 p.m.
Posted by dbauder on March 18, 2:31 p.m.
Response to post #4: The U-T was going to make some layoffs in February and didn’t do it. I think that will now be left to Black. One employee was quoted saying today in Editor & Publisher, “There hasn’t been any leadership, we’ve had an absentee owner for a long time, now someone’s going to come in and try some new things. I think that makes people cautiously optimistic.

Another employee said that new ownership is “better than just hanging on with [David] Copley.”

Best, Don Bauder
### Thursday | 26
**ANOTHER DAY IN PARADISE**
For 30 years, native San Diegan Dan Reagan has been belting out Latin and jazz on his trombone in New York and touring with J. Lo and Marc Anthony, among others. The prodigal trombonist returns home to debut his new group. See **LIVE MUSIC**, page 84.

### Friday | 27
**AN EVENING OF TANTRA THEATER**
We’re born, we die, and in between is the stuff of life — the comedy, drama, dance, and “sacred sex” — all of which will be tackled on an outdoor stage (yeah, you heard me, “all”) by Tantra Theater Troupe. See **IN PERSON**, page 61.

### Saturday | 28
**BRING A DESIGNATED DRIVER!**
Admission to this Belgian beer party at Pizza Port gets you eight tasting tickets and a commemorative glass. Your designated driver will keep you out of jail and remind you to grab that glass when you’re finished comparing any of 60 flavors of beer. See **SPECIAL**, page 64.

**CELEBRATING CÉSAR**
Celebrate the man who inspired a state holiday in recognition of his life’s work to benefit the rights of laborers. Sherman Heights honors César Chávez with a parade and festival. See **SPECIAL**, page 64.

### Sunday | 29
**HONK!**
In a valiant attempt to undo the damage of fashion magazines and plastic-surgery reality shows, the Encore Youth Theatre presents the musical version of *The Ugly Duckling*, a classic tale about loving yourself for who, and what, you are. See **FOR KIDS**, page 60.

### Monday | 30
**FROM THE ELITE TO THE STREET**
How did fashion — previously established by an elite group of Paris designers — wind up coming from the street? Guest curator for Mingei International Museum Joyce Corbett has an answer. See **LECTURES**, page 62.

### Tuesday | 31
**WORKING**
This musical, written by Stephen Schwartz (*Wicked, Godspell*), entwines the lives of 26 average working Americans, including a waitress, fireman, housewife, teacher, and supermarket checker. Songs by Schwartz, James Taylor, and Lin-Manuel Miranda. See **THEATER**, page 103.

### Wednesday | 1
**BETTER THAN NORMAL?**
People don’t like to think of themselves as “average.” But can drugs approved for people with cognitive deficits be taken by average people to make them “better”? Panelists will explore the ethics of so-called “smart drugs” at Reuben H. Fleet Science Center. See **LECTURES**, page 62.

**NO FOOLING — IT’S TAX TIME!**
If you make less than $100,000 a year and have difficulty navigating numbers on Turbo Tax, the AARP is here to help. Volunteers for the Tax Assistance Program will help you crunch the numbers for both federal and state. See **SPECIAL**, page 64.
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els, and linens are included. Pet-friendly available. Check rates and book online: www.bigbearcoolcabins.com or 888-550-8779.

CALIFORNIA CENTER FOR
THE ARTS, Escondido.

“THE CHIPPER LOWELL
EXPERIENCE.”
Wednesday, April 1, Center for
the Arts, Escondido. (SEE IN
PERSON)
Gaslamp ART SHOWCASE

FREE EVENT
3.29.09 Noon to 5 pm
A beautifully diverse Art Show throughout The Gaslamp Quarter
featuring
An outdoor street exhibit and unique installations in fun Gaslamp businesses

PARTICIPATING ARTISTS
Bret Barrett
Aleksandr Bederman
Kim Bly
Josue Castro
Stephanie Clair
Lynn Daniel
TRUE Delorenzo
Shana Di Mase
Bird Dwyer
Jason R. Feather
Steve Gesling
Teresa Henning
Kelly Hutchison
Renae Johnson
Diane Johnson
Katherine Keeling
Sherry Krulke-Beaton
Jeanne Lee
Gene Locklear
Shalisha Loyd
Martha E. Martin
Trevor Mezak
Jesse Miller
Melanie Moore
Bryan Palacios
Ramon Purcell
Risk
Gustof Anders Reoth
Brad Rudd
Brenda Salamone
Madeline Sherry
Mark Smith
Christopher Talbot Frank
Pete Tillack
Eliza Tolley
Rich Walker
Sanford Wolcott
Micah Wood
Sherry Yafai
Tatiana Zaykovskaya

PARTICIPATING LOCATIONS
Abbott Realty Group
Acqua Al 2
BondiAustralian Beer & Food
Brokers Building
CJ Gallery
Dakota Grill & Spirits
Exclusive Collections Gallery
Gaslamp Quarter Historical Foundation
Hard Rock Café
Heavenly Cupcake
Hosteling International
The Ivy Hotel
J6 Bar / Hotel Solamar
Kurios Boutique
Mister Tiki Mai Tai Lounge
Michal J Wolf Fine Arts
Rock Bottom Restaurant
Rockin Baja Coastal Cantina
SD Trading Co.
SD Wine & Culinary Center
Shorelines Gallery
Siamaack Fine Arts
Starbucks
The Art of Tim Cantor
To The Point + Reviva Med
Toscaana Cafe & Wine Bar
Tribal Gear

VISIT: WWW.GASLAMP.ORG
for fun list of special offers & great discounts from participating Gaslamp Quarter Businesses

Gaslamp Quarter Association
(619)233.5227

San Diego Reader March 26, 2009
Resting high above the city of Escondido, Valley Center is well on its way to becoming a rural suburb. As houses and country estates pop up on sparsely lots, the area is bit by bit losing its agricultural identity. Yet, citrus and avocado orchards still shape the rocky hillsides, and plenty of oak-dotted pastures — replete with sheep, horses, and cattle — can be found on the flatlands. Valley Center remains nearly as good a place to tour on a bicycle as it was many years ago — at least that's true for rides early on Sunday mornings, when traffic volumes are low.

This suggested ride, a looping 15 miles through the southern fringes of Valley Center, will give you ample opportunity to practice climbing in low gear as well as enjoy the beauty of a nearly hidden reservoir — Lake Wohlford. On the oak- shaded county roads hereabouts, you'll feel as if you're a long way from the 200,000 plus souls in the Escondido valley below.

A convenient place to start is on Valley Parkway at Las Brisas Drive (a minor residential street) in northernmost Escondido. This intersection is about 0.3 mile north of Bear Valley Parkway and 0.1 mile south of Washington Avenue. Ample outiside parking is available.

Cycle north on Valley Parkway for nearly a mile, and turn right on Lake Wohlford Road. Almost immediately, you begin a 750-foot-elevation climb on steep and winding pavement with little or no shoulder. Professional racers participating in last month's final stage of the AMGEN Tour of California bicycle race labored up this hill — one of many challenges on the 97-mile, Rancho Bernardo to Palomar Mountain to Escondido route. You, however, can take your time on the ascent. Most of the effort of the entire ride takes place on this two-mile uphill stretch.

Near roadside mile marker 2 and a crossing of Escondido Creek, Lake Wohlford Road begins to flatten out. Just ahead, you catch your first glimpse of the lake. In the following two miles, the giling is easy as you curve gently along the north shore, passing the Lake Wohlford Cafe and the scattered cabins of a resort community. Ahead, on the right, you may hear the sound of water rushing through the Escondido Canal.

It shunts water southward from the San Luis Rey River to feed Lake Wohlford, which lies on a separate watershed (Escondido Creek). After a total of 6.7 miles, you enter the flatter landscape of Woods Valley. Turn left onto Woods Valley Road. On this fine rural road, you pedal easily through pasturelands, wild grasslands, and shade-giving canopies of live oaks. Palomar Mountain comes into view on your right, while steep Bear Ridge lies to the left. On the right after only a mile lies the entrance to Bates Nut Farm, where tourists go to buy nuts and nut-related concoctions.

Woods Valley Road ends at Valley Center Road. Turn left to complete the loop on this newly expanded, divided highway, complete with 4- to 8-foot bike lanes.

Early spring in Woods Valley:

March 26, 2009 — 10:00 am

Saturday, April 18, 2009 — 10:00 am

Shoot a handgun, rifle & shotgun for the first time.

(It won't be your last.)

Come experience a FREE hands-on seminar about the sport of target shooting.

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

San Diego Reader | March 26, 2009
If I Ran the Zoo

Herschel Avenue.

YMCA Community Center, 7877

303 Main Street.

$15. Ages 5 and up. Avo Playhouse,
p.m.; Saturdays, 7 p.m.; Sundays, 2

forms. 760-521-1725. Fridays, 7
to discover his own true beauty, " as

Kids in the Kitchen

Cannon Art Gallery at Carlsbad Li-

March 28, 11 a.m.; free. William D.
divided. 760-602-2021. Saturday,

Family Open Studios

art making
workshop in conjunction with “Cardinal Points/Puntos Cardi-
nados” by artist Tom Zoellner, who

Latino Art and Latin American Art

from the Sprint Nextel Art Collection.

In Person

“An Evening of Tantra Theater”

Comedy, drama, and dance to en-
tertainment and enlightenment by Tantra
Theater Tour Group. A "not afraid to

“Train of Thought” Spoken-
word poetry, hip-hop, acoustic ex-
pression, stand-up comedy all wel-
come during open-mike showcase. Guest
feature every week. Sugges-
ted donation: $3. 858-670-7496.
Saturday, March 28, 8:15 p.m.;
$24-$30. Lawrence Family Jewish
Community Center, 4126 Execu-

drive. (SA DTLA)

The Help

Debut novelist Kathryn
Stockett is joined by actress Oc-

tavia Spencer for reading/perfor-

ance from her new book. Spencer
inspired the Minnie" char-

there: 858-454-0347. Thurs-

Mariners Bay (La Jolla)

Chesapeake Bay.

San Diego Children’s Choir

Saturday, March 28, 7 p.m.; free.
San Diego Children’s Choir, 3320
Monroe Street. (Sl Özellik)

Open Air Opera

Digitalopolis. 858-748-0505. Satur-

day, March 28, 7:30 p.m.; $15. Ages

and colleges, two concerts by Fre-

quency, MiraCosta Jazz Ensemble,
hosted by Frequency (the Mira-

San Diego Children’s Choir

in concert. 619-656-2525.
Sunday, March 29, 4 p.m.; First
United Methodist Church of
Chula Vista, 1200 East H Street.
(Sk SD Vista)

Squeaky-Clean Comedy!

Family-

friendly shows for all ages. 858-

433-1457. Saturdays, 7 p.m.; $5.
Navied’s Comedy Club at Bella
Roma Pizza and Restaurant, 6850
La Jolla Boulevard #103. (SA DTLA)

San Diego Opera

An evening of opera from the
San Diego Opera. (SA DTLA)

San Diego’s Largest Skydive Center

Skydive San Diego

Save $30
enjoying the biggest thrill of your lifetime!
Weekday Skydive Special: Mon.-Fri., excluding holidays.

Other conditions may apply.
Must be 18 years of age and weigh less than 240 pounds.
619-216-8416 | SkyDiveSanDiego.com

100% SATISFACTION GUARANTEED!
BY SONIA ELIOT

What’s That You’re Writing?

NAME: SARAH SHUN-LIEN BYNUM
AGE: 37
OCCUPATION: AUTHOR, DIRECTOR OF UCSD’S MFA IN WRITING PROGRAM
NEIGHBORHOOD: LARCHMONT VILLAGE
WHERE INTERVIEWED: IN HER CAR, ON THE WAY TO UCSD

Tell me about the writing of Ms. Hempel Chronicles.

“It began as just a single story that I wrote in the fall of 1998. But then the character kept popping up in my head. I would write another story — sometimes months or even years later — and think I had said everything that needed to be said. But then something else would want to be made known. My writing practice tends to be very erratic — I always encourage my students to develop a daily writing practice, and I’ve never succeeded in doing it myself. The thing that’s great about the story form is that it’s something you can write over, say, a summer break — a relatively brief but concentrated period of time. When I write, it’s on a computer, and I usually have to clean the entire house first — maybe take a shower before I’m finally ready to sit down.”

What’s that about?

“It’s all about young, inexperienced middle-school teacher in her mid-20s. The story covers several years, so we see her grow through her 20s. She’s working with children who are navigating their passage from childhood to adolescence, and she herself is trying to figure out what it means to be a grown-up.”

What inspired it?

“A number of things — in part, absolutely, my own life. I’m probably one of the very rare people who looks back fondly on her own middle-school years in Boston. I love that time of transformation, when you start building your own identity very deliberately. And also taught middle school for many years in Brooklyn. I owe a great deal to the students and teachers with whom I worked. They provided much of my favorite material in the book.”

What book has been most life-changing for you?

“Jane Eyre completely killed me when I read it in eighth grade — it’s one of my favorite middle-school memories. I was totally gripped by the story, and I felt such a connection to Jane and was swept up by the figure of Mr. Rochester. And I think, in part because they had a picture of Charlotte Brontë on the cover, that it was the first time I began to think about the writer, the person out of whose imagination the story arose. I’ve read the book at many different points in my life — it’s interesting because Jane Eyre is also a teacher, and the book describes her both as a child and as a young woman. I never thought of the connection between Jane Eyre and Ms. Hempel Chronicles, but it’s funny to think that they cover somewhat similar territory.

What can a narrative convey that other media cannot?

“I think one of the great things about a novel is that it requires that you spend time with it — at the very least, many hours if not many days or weeks. I think getting immersed in that kind of prolonged imaginative experience is powerful. There’s a sense of the novel traveling with you through your life. Also, fiction allows us to spend a long time inside another person’s head, to fully enter someone else’s consciousness. I think those are two specific gifts that a novel offers.”

Do you see any connection or contrast between Ms. Hempel Chronicles and your early work, Madeleine Is Sleeping?

“Ms. Hempel is written sort of in a classic realist mode, and Madeleine Is Sleeping comes out of a more fantastical tradition, with a more unconventional form. But I actually feel a little self-conscious because I think both books have all the same tics and obsessions — the same preoccupation with transitional moments between childhood and adulthood, the same sort of sexual preoccupation. They seem very similar in that sense.”

For more stories by this author, go to sandiegouniontribune.com.

Victoria Martino continues lecture series she began with her late hus-
band, art historian Konrad Ober-
huber. During five-part series, Martino will present slides, play the vi-
olin. This week, learn of “The Generation of Beethoven.” Series fee: $60 for members, $85 for non-
members. 858-454-5872. Tuesday, March 31, 7:30 p.m.; $14-$19. fee: $60 for members, $85 for non-

Less Grass, More Fun!” El Prado.

Martino will present slides, play

Smithsonian: The Pace to Cures” California Institute for Regenerative Medicine (CIRM), the state stem cell agency, holds a town forum on ways CIRM is in-
vesting Proposition 71 funds to improve human health, advances in stem cell science from some of the most distinguished researchers in the field. These CIRM-funded speakers will focus briefly on a par-
ticular topic, followed by question-
and-answer period. RSVP: 415-

March 29, 5 p.m.; free. Hall of Na-
tions, Presidents Way at Pan Ameri-
Can Road. (BALBOA PARK)

Sogetsu School Ikebana Learn basics of Ikebana (Japanese flower

• Taught by our certified instructors
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Call or go online for reservations. (619) 661-0194 www.pcskydiving.com Open 7 days a week • MC/Visa Gift certificates available.

*Next purchase $70 video ($195 total cost). Weekdays only. Add $20 for weekend jumps.

Outdoors

Pacific Coast Skydiving

$125* Tandem

* Scenic flights over the ocean and downtown San Diego

• Jump from altitudes over 2 miles above the ground

• Ask about RVT video technology

* Must purchase $70 video ($195 total cost). Weekdays only.

The Sticky-Sweet Odor of citrus blossoms is wafting on the spring breeze this year, as it has in every year since the 1870s, when the county’s first commercially planted orange and lemon groves began to produce fruit. From early plantings in areas like National City and Lemon Grove, citrus groves spread east and north as urbanization encroached. Today, a car or bicycle trip through Rancho Santa Fe, Pauma Valley, and the outskirts of Escondido, Vista, and Fallbrook induces a pleasant rem-

The Thin-Grinned Waxing Crescent Moon returns to the evening sky this week on Friday, March 27. Look low in the west at dusk. Subsequent days will see a thicker crescent moon higher and higher in the western sky when darkness falls.

Outdoors

Orchid Trees, now at their flam-
bouyant best in front yards and public spaces throughout the city, are showing off their large, orchid-
like flowers in shades of pink, pur-
ple, and maroon. Orchid trees thrive in areas with a mild winter climate, hence their popularity in Hawaii, Southern California, and Arizona.

Prophetic Update!

1875 Dove Lane. (CARLSBAD)

The Age of Romanticism, Realism, and Impressionism”

Victoria Martino continues lecture series she began with her late hus-
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Sogetsu School Ikebana Learn basics of Ikebana (Japanese flower

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• Wedding programs
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ple, and maroon. Orchid trees thrive in areas with a mild winter climate, hence their popularity in Hawaii, Southern California, and Arizona.
Where's Venus These Days? In late March, Venus makes the transition between “evening star” and “morning star,” an event known as inferior conjunction with the sun. During this particular conjunction, Venus passes several degrees north of the sun, an occurrence that repeats every eight years. On Thursday, March 26, sharp-eyed observers (or anyone using binoculars) may notice Venus very low in west just after sunset, and again notice Venus very low in the east preceding sunrise. By early April, Venus will have attained a very favorable “morning star” position. It will remain easily visible in the east at dawn for an entire week.

**DEAR EDWINA**
San Diego Junior Theatre, through Sunday, April 5. (SEE FOR KIDS)

**FEATURES**
March 26, 2009

**HOMEGROWN SHOW** Take in student exhibition, demonstrations by local artists. 619-461-4440. Saturday, March 28, 10 a.m.; free. Fusisong11 Family. 882 La Mesa Boulevard. (SANTEE)

**Magnificent Chinese Boxes of the Past** Opening reception for collection of finely crafted boxes from Qing dynasty. These utilitarian treasures were uniquely crafted for a specific use to carry a workingman’s lunch, a lady’s makeup, a scholar’s calligraphy tools, or any number of treasures great or small. Exhibit features boxes crafted from carved wood, lacquer, bamboo, leather. 619-338-9888. Saturday, March 28, 2 p.m.; free. Chinese Historical Society of San Diego. 404 Third Avenue. (SAN DIEGO)

**Spring Constellations and the Hubble Repair Mission** Enjoy “The Sky Tonight” planetarium show. View real sky through telescopes (weather permitting) after show. 619-238-1233. Wednesday, April 1, 7 p.m.; $9-$10. Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, 1875 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

**“Symptoms of God’s Love”** St. Mark’s annual religious art festival exhibition continues on Saturdays through April 11. Art juror was Hirosdi Miyazaki, poetry juror was Brandon Cesnay. 837-271-1480. Saturday, March 28, 10 a.m.; free. Saint Mark’s United Methodist Church, 3307 Clairemont Drive. (CLARION)
Fred Hall’s Fishing Tackle and Boat Show Promotions: All manner of fishing gear, vendors’ booths, and seminars. Free for those under 15. 8:30-3:33:9. Thursday, March 26, 6:30 p.m.; Friday, March 27, 1 p.m.; Saturday, March 28, 10 a.m.; and Sunday, March 29, 10 a.m. at Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2200 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar.

Gaslamp Art Showcase Event features variety of artists in juried showcase; view many artist exhibits, shows, tours throughout Gaslamp Quarter on Island Avenue between Fourth and Fifth Avenues. Participants include Michael J. Wolf Gallery, Shorelines Gallery, Siamak Art Gallery, CJ Gallery, Brokers Building, Exclusive Collections Gallery, more. 619-233-5227. Sunday, March 29, noon; free. Gaslamp Quarter.

Get (Wood) Working! Woodworking demonstrations for all levels — learn about refinishing, wood turning, joinery; furniture building. 858-268-1050. Saturday, 9:30 a.m.; through Thursday, December 31, free. Richelle Woodworking and Hardware, 8199 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (858) 573-4012.

Get to Know Rolando The 13th Rolando Street Fair promises over 120 vendors of arts, crafts, food, and music. 619-358-0660. Saturday, March 29, 10 a.m.; free. Rolando Street Fair and Rolando Boulevard at EL Cajon Boulevard. (858) 699-2727.

Gray Whale Season Surfaces! Outing hosted by Birch Aquarium at San Diego Harbor Excursion boat Scripps naturalists on hand to share information about gray whales, the ecology, and history of San Diego Bay and Scripps Institution of Oceanography. Dolphin, sea lions, marine birds make guest appearances. Registration: 619-234-4111. Thursdays, 9:45 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; Fridays, 9:45 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; Saturdays, 9:45 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; Sundays, 9:45 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; through Sunday, March 29, $15-$35. San Diego Harbor Excursion, 1050 North Harbor Drive. (619) 236-4623.

Hate Wasting Water? Water conservation tips offered by experts during tours slated for Saturday each month. Participants learn of international plants that are easy to grow, from areas such as the Mediterranean basin, Cape South Africa, Australia, Chile, and California natives. Learn to plant, grow, cultivate with “easy how-to” guidelines and instruction. Included in regular admission. 760-436-3036 x206. Saturday, March 28, 10 a.m.; $10. Quail Botanical Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens Drive. (760) 690-9665.

House of Lebanon Lawn program with folk dances performed in regional native costumes. A local Lebanese artist will perform traditional song, music, and poetry depicting Lebanese heritage and culture at International Cottage. Food for sale. 619-234-0793. Thursday, March 29, 2 p.m.; free. House of Pacific Relations, 2125 Park Boulevard. (858) 520-0900.

Is Laissez-Faire Capitalism Dead? Present your ideas when PRR Discussion Group meets. 619-370-1027. Thursday, March 26, 7 p.m.; free. Elfin, 4906 30th Street. (858) 273-0840.

Japanese Art, Culture, Tradi- tions: A talk by Sumi-e artist Taka Sumi-e Society’s annual art exhibition in Casa del Prado room 101. Sumi-e, the art of Japanese brush painting, will be demonstrated. Original works on display, fashion show of wearable art; tea ceremony will be demonstrated. 619-255-2501. Saturday, March 28, 11 a.m.; Sunday, March 29, 11 a.m.; free. Casa del Prado, El Prado. (619) 557-8900.

Knitting Made Easy Do you knit? Join a very relaxed group of people “meeting” every Saturday to knit and chat. 858-573-1396. Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; free. Serra Mesa Kearny Mesa Branch Library, 9005 Aero Drive. (619) 278-8164.


May the Best Hand Win World Series of Poker circuit hits the area. 760-751-3100. Friday, March 27, noon. 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Fri., Saturday, March 27, 3 p.m.; Saturday, March 28, noon; Sunday, March 29, 1 p.m.; and 2 p.m. Monday, March 30, noon; Tuesday, March 31, noon 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. Wednesday, April 1, 1 p.m. Harrah’s Rincon, 777 Harrah’s Rincon Way. (858) 751-3100.


Ramona Music Fest Live music by Sara Petite, Earl Flores, Full Cir- cle Band, Friends in a Chord, as well as classic cars on display, children’s activities. 760-788-8148 or 760-788-2889. Saturday, March 28, 2 p.m.; free. Del Dios County Park, 17953 Dos Picos Park Road. (RAMONNA)

Randek? Unranked! You are in- vited to play chess. Organizers say “Kibitz at your own risk.” 858-568- 1641. Saturdays, 1 p.m.; free. La Jolla Library, 7553 Draper Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Sight and Sound Preview night with performances by the Burning of Rome, Gregory Page, jugglers, and deejays. Proceeds benefit Autism Research Institute. Compli- mentary beverage with paid admission before 8:30 p.m. 619-846-7180. Saturday, March 28, 7 p.m.; Ages 21 and up. Planet Rock Gallery, 311 Ray Street. (NORTH PARK)

The Smell of OMA The frag- ance OMA will be launched dur- ing opening reception for “Institu-
FREE 7” TIKI STATUE
No purchase necessary.

9-foot Palapa Structures $690
Largest tiki store on the West Coast! • Bamboo Furniture
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OUT & ABOUT

"JEWISH MUSIC WITH REVIVALIST JOY"
Debbie Friedman, Saturday, March 28, Lawrence Jewish Community Center.
(SEE IN PERSON)

Paws in the Park Annual dog walk benefiting Escondido Humane Society. Bring your canine pal to walk either: 1.5-mile or 2.5-mile routes, enjoy festival/exo, contests. Registration at 8 a.m.; walk at 9 a.m. Donation: 760-853-1111 x380. Saturday, March 28, 2 p.m.; Sunday, March 29, 2 a.m.; free. Del Mar Horsepark, 14550 El Camino Real. (DEL MAR)

Introduction to Road Cycling REI Outdoor School hosts day of cycling on strand in Coronado with techniques and tips on offer for getting the most out of your biking experience. Designed for beginners, and those getting back into cycling. Bikes provided, or bring your own. Registration 619-591-4924. Saturday, March 28, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Ages 14 and up. REI Chula Vista, 1515 Birch Road, Suite 150. (CHULA VISTA)

Race for Autism Event with 5k race and one-mile family fun/walk. Starts and finishes at Sixth Avenue and Laurel Street. Registration: 9 a.m. 760-763-8500. Saturday, March 28, 7 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Balboa Park, Park Boulevard at Presidents Way. (SAN DIEGO)

Run for the Arts Fundraiser for Lakeside Union School District arts education. Organizers plan “part jogathon/2-mile race, fun/walk/art, festival, and student art/performance showcase.” 619-390-2608. Saturday, March 28, 9 a.m. Lindo Lake, 9841 Vine Street. (LA JOLLA)

San Diego Walk for Darfur Pink Floyd Benefit to benefit women and children of Darfur region of Sudan, with proceeds sent to American Jewish World Service (providing humanitarian aid since 2004). Event for all ages, fitness level, run, jog, or walk approximately two or four miles. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m., walk steps off at 9 a.m. 858-535-1111 x8301. Sunday, March 29, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. De Anza Cove, 3000 East Mission Bay Drive. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Stickball Sundays Preseason stickball scrimmage games played with “players who show up” to play. League play begins April 5, 619-320-9030. Sunday, March 29, noon; free. Ages 15 and up. Stickball games, West Ash Street at State Street. (LITTLE ITALY)


MUSEUMS

Antique Gas and Steam Engine Museum The museum locates, collects, documents, and preserves historical gas-, steam- and horse-powered equipment related to agriculture and the general development of America. The collection is made up of equipment used in lumbering, mining, oil-drilling, and construction industries. Blacksmith and wheelwright shops, country kitchen and parlor, steam-operated saw mill, and 1/3-scale train. 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. 9090 Memory Lane, 619-469-1480. (SPRING VALLEY)

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

Birch Aquarium at Scripps Faculty 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 Sea of Cortes, 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” waterplay area includes three interactive stations. The Lenny and Hood Robins Shark Reef Exhibit features a 13,000-gallon shark tank with black tips, white tip, bamboo, and wolf-eating sharks. 2000 E. Pacific Beach Dr., 858-534-FISH. (LA JOLLA)

California Surf Museum Along with a timeline of surfboards, fea- tured opening exhibit at new location is “Sidewalk Surfers,” offering historic look at roots of skateboarding. The skateboard evolved as a method of enjoying feeling of surfing while waves were flat or inaccessible. Display focuses on surfboard shapers and professional riders and their skateboard molds over the years. The 312 Pier View Way, 760-721-6876. (OCEANSIDE)

Campeo Depot State Highway 94 & Forrest Gate Road, 760-767-5311. (LA JUNIPER TOWNE)

Chula Vista Nature Center Interactive living museum devoted to the endangered Southern Cali- fornia coastal wetlands, located in Sweetwater Marsh National Wildlife Refuge. Visitors can use a Bioscanner to view animals macroscopically, use a Wentzscope for views of microscopic organ- isms found in the “Sweetwater Soup,” and interact with computerized videos exploring how tides affect the bay in the “Moores, Tides, and the San Diego Bay” exhibit. Pet sharks and rays in the David A. Wergeland Shark and Ray Experience, see burrowing owls and mi- gratory birds, and enjoy the xer- ophytic 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 Plant Drive, 619-409-3083. (CHULA VISTA)

Coronado Museum of History and Art “Ozily Yours: L. Frank Baum in Coronado” focuses on the life of L. Frank Baum in Coronado and his writings (which include the Oz books). Learn about “this Renaissance gentleman, his cre- ativity, and his generosity.” Exhibit with photographs, books, and memorabilia closes Tuesday, Sep- tember 15.

TOAST to Frankie Laine Share annual birthday celebration for Lained with “memorable stories, video clips, music, great food.” RSVP: 760-943-9911. Sunday, March 29, 2 p.m.; $20-$25. Little Italy Spaghettia, (1935 India Street. (LITTLE ITALY)

Urban Trees Public art exhibit of 31 “urban trees” along North Em- bacerado on Harbor Drive (be- tween cruise ship terminal and Hawthorne Street) continues through July. Artists were supplied with a 12-foot tall pole placed in a concrete planter to serve as tree’s base; artists then alter the pole by attaching materials (e.g., photographs, video clips, music, great food.)

SPO K N S

Benefit on the Bay The 22nd annual charity bay race and regatta promises sailing yachts competing on challenging ten-mile course around San Diego Bay. Race entry fee: $60. Benefits San Diego Hos- pital and Institute for Palliative Medicine: 619-222-0438. Sunday, March 29, noon; Southwesten Yacht Club, 2702 Quailtounge Street. (POINT LOMA)

Consider Kayaking Southwest Kayak Symposium with classes for all levels and ages of kayakers, demonstrations, kayak manufactur- ers and instructors. Entry fee: $10, good for both days. Additional fees for classes, clinics. Reserva- tions: 619-523-9977. Saturday, March 28, 9 a.m.; Sunday, March 29, 9 a.m. (VISTA)

Devil Dog Duathlon The first 5k follows flat route loop- ing through 43 Area; 30k bike course takes you out and back through Camp Pendleton (not a closed course); last leg is another 5k through 43 Area. Registration at 7 a.m., mass start at 8:30 a.m., in Las Palmas Area. 760-725- 0836. Saturday, March 28, 7 a.m.; free. Camp Pendleton, Harbor Drive at 1-5. (OCEANSIDE)

Extra Hillist San Diego Bicycle Touring Society bicycles plan 70- mile ride to Ramona, following route up Scripps and down High- land Valley. 619-473-8513. Sunday, March 29, 8:45 a.m.; Doyle Park, 8175 Regents Road (UNIVERSITY CITY)

Giddyup Spring Classic Quarter Horse Show. 714-444-2018. Thurs- day, March 26, 8 a.m.; Friday, March 27, 8 a.m.; Saturday, March 28, 8 a.m.; Sunday, March 29, 8 a.m.; free. Del Mar Horsepark, 14550 El Camino Real. (DEL MAR)

Introduction to Road Cycling REI Outdoor School hosts day of cycling on strand in Coronado with techniques and tips on offer for getting the most out of your biking experience. Designed for beginners, and those getting back into cycling. Bikes provided, or bring your own. Registration 619- 591-4924. Saturday, March 28, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Ages 14 and up. REI Chula Vista, 1515 Birch Road, Suite 150. (CHULA VISTA)

Old Town to O’side Look for Knockerbob bicycles in parking lot of Old Town Trolley Station for 40-mile outing north to Ocean- side. Once there, riders will find a place for lunch, then hop on Coastal for ride back to start (bring money): 619-240-6699. Sat- urday, March 28, 8:45 a.m.; Old Town Transit Center, 4005 Taylor Street. (OLD TOWN)

Fly with your Lucky Charm In-flight/post-flight champagne
Private “sweetheart” flights for two 10% discounts for military, senio and college students (reservations apply)
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Panda-моним Balloon Flights 760-717-8444 panda-мопномflights.com

Calendar LOCAL EVENTS

Regional Mammals: An out-of-box plan for Oceanside Museum of Art’s site-specific installation cre- ated by conceptual artist Brian Goeltzenleuchter exploring per- ception of fragrance as an art medium for interior environ- ments. The OMA fragrance ac- companies exhibition as both a scene presented in installation and as retail product. 619-435-3720. Saturday, March 28, 5 p.m.; free. Oceanside Museum of Art, 704 Pier View Way. (OCEANSIDE)

Think Poemess Discuss selected poems by John Donne when San Diego Great Books group meets. Newcomers welcome: 619-440- 5625. Saturday, March 28, 2 p.m.; free. San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (DOWNTOWN)

March 26, 2009

San Diego Reader March 26, 2009
Ongoing exhibits explore the overall history of Coronado, Navy and Army, Tilt City, and the Hotel del Coronado. 1100 Orange Avenue, 619-435-7242, www.coronadohistory.org

San Diego Natural History Museum “Gunther von Hagens Body Worlds 2 and The Brain — Our Three-Four Diamond Gem: The Original Exhibition of Real Human Bodies” showcases “the original, precedent-setting public anatomical exhibitions of real human bodies, by physician, anatomist, and inventor of Plastination, Dr. Gunther von Hagens.” Exhibition offers visitors in-depth view of the intricately designed human body, comparative anatomy showing wellness and disease, and mysterious world of the brain. Closes Sun., October 4.

San Diego Historical Society • Administration Operations • 3035 Health Street, 619-234-5000, www.sdhsmuseum.org

San Diego History Center • 1540 Pan American Plaza, 619-233-6520, www.sandiegohistory.org

San Diego History Center’s 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 multi-media presentation on railroad loading, 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, 619-696-0199. (Balboa Park)

San Diego County Sheriff’s Museum • The 150-year history of the sheriff’s department is highlighted at the museum, which is located “just feet away” from the original cobbledstone jail site, built in 1850. The museum boasts artifacts, photographs, equipment, uniforms, and vehicles, along with exhibits from each of the department’s makeup up the organization such as crime scene, K-9, court service, detentions, crime lab, bomb squad, and many others. 2384 San Diego Avenue, 619-260-1850. (Old Town)

San Diego Model Railroad 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 multi-media presentation on railroad loading, 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, 619-696-0199. (Balboa Park)

San Diego Bay Museum • A barge that once was a floating restaurant is now an outdoor museum. 1200 Taylor St., 619-232-3821. (Balboa Park)

San Diego Natural History Museum • Members of San Diego Natural History Museum and San Diego Museum of Art are now members of the San Diego Natural History Museum’s Balboa Discovery Pass program. The pass offers admission to any of the seven museums in Balboa Park. 1788 El Prado, 619-232-3821. (Balboa Park)

San Diego Museum of Art • The museum is free the first Tuesday of each month, from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm. 1400 El Prado, 619-232-3821. (Balboa Park)

San Diego Air and Space Museum • Offers indoor flights, spacewalks, and space shuttle rides. 200 W. Grape St., 619-294-0473. (Balboa Park)

San Diego Aircraft Carrier Museum • Features a Boeing B-52 Stratofortress, an F-14 Tomcat, the USS Hornet Aircraft Carrier, and more. 300 N. Harbor Blvd., 619-294-0473. (Balboa Park)

San Diego Air and Space Museum Planes of Fame • One of the world’s finest collections of military aircraft. 2325 East Benicia Street, 619-294-0473. (Balboa Park)

San Diego History Center • Administration Operations • 3035 Health Street, 619-234-5000, www.sandiegohistory.org

San Diego History Center’s 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 multi-media presentation on railroad loading, 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, 619-696-0199. (Balboa Park)
HOW TO SEND US YOUR LISTINGS: Contributions must be received by 5 p.m. Friday the week prior to publication for consideration. Do not phone. Send a complete description of the event, including the date, time, cost, the precise address where it is to be held (including neighborhood), a contact phone number, and a phone number (including area code) for public information to READER CLASSICAL MUSIC, 68 Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186-8580. Or fax to 619-681-2401. You may also submit information online at SDReader.com by clicking on the events section.

CLASSICAL

“Baroque Bonanza” Enjoy “lush sounds of an illustrious era” when Camerata presents celebratory concert of Baroque period, playing selections by Telemann, J.S. Bach, Vivaldi, others, master of genre. Ensemble includes Beth Ross Buckley (flute), Mary Barranger (harpischord), Susan Barrett (oboe), Erin Berrelien (cello), David Buckley (violin). 619-231-3792. $15-$25. Saint Paul’s Cathedral (2278 Sixth Avenue), 7:30 p.m., Friday, March 27; 6 p.m., Sunday, March 29. [L.A. ROCK]

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EVEry SUNDAY
Apr 19 - Jun 28
6pm - 10pm
FREE!

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Bands judged on
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Southern California’s Best Cover Band!

1st place $20,000
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The DreamCatcher
VIEJAS
Must be 21 or older to enter.
The fifth incarnation of Java Joe’s, a music venue known as a launching pad for the careers of Jason Mraz, Jewel, and Steve Poltz, will open downtown in early April. Located in a former day spa at 726 Ninth Avenue, the 60-seat room is a joint venture between general partners, namesake Joe Flammini and sound engineer Jon Edwards. The pair met when Edwards relocated to San Diego from Detroit in 1994 and Flammini hired him as a sound man.

The venue will be open seven days a week with a no-cover policy, except for special events. Unlike the last two versions of Java Joe’s, this location will be alcohol-free, focus on acoustic music, and be open to all ages. Flammini plans to keep the staff small. “Part of the appeal was the size of the place,” he said. “Being involved with friends, we could work most of the hours ourselves to keep down employee costs.” Edwards’s wife, promoter Cathryn Beeks, will be involved in booking the venue.

The first Java Joe’s, located in Poway, opened in 1992. It only seated 50 patrons, and Flammini’s enterprise soon outgrew the room. In 1994 he relocated to Ocean Beach’s Newport Avenue, increasing capacity to 149. In 2000 he moved around the O.B. corner to Bacon Street, adding liquor and a dinner menu. Though the new venue was only two blocks away from its previous location, it never recaptured the former’s glory and closed in 2002. The following year, Java Joe’s moved to the Rolando area, taking over the former location of Kelly’s Pub. This also proved short-lived, with Flammini closing the 142-capacity venue in 2005.

Edwards notes that the idea of not using the Java Joe’s name was briefly considered: “In the beginning, that was brought up, but we decided to use his name for the notoriety and the history it has within the music community.”

Though many established restaurants and music venues are experiencing tough times, Flammini is confident that, this time, Java Joe’s has found a permanent home. “God, I hope so,” he laughs. “The problem with the previous venues is that I tried to expand into too many different areas. This room takes me right back to where I started, a small little coffeehouse with acoustic music.”

Sad Times The members of the Black Heart Procession were in the middle of recording their sixth full-length when representatives from their label, respected indie innovator Touch and Go Records, told them that after 27 years of releasing some of underground rock’s most influential artists (including a decade’s worth of Black Heart material), they were closing down the label’s distribution wing and scaling back operations.

In a February 19 press release, Corey Rusk, the president for the Chicago-based label (which has issued releases for bands such as Calexico, Girls Against Boys, TV on the Radio, and Pinback), blamed the reorganization on economic hardship. A few weeks later, on March 9, Pall Jenkins, guitarist-vocalist for the Black Heart Procession and Three Mile Pilot — also on Touch and Go’s roster — posted a blog entry on the band’s MySpace page informing fans of the news.

“I was absolutely crushed,” reads the online bulletin, “anyone want or know anyone who wants to release the new Black Heart record — just let us know — we need a good home company.”

The change in the music industry might serve a bigger purpose, added Jenkins. “Times are strange in music, as far as business and labels and the industry, but creatively it feels like a great time to really make something that has its own identity.”

The Smell of Heavy Metal Nightclubs in San Marcos offering live music have had an uneven history. The Longshot closed in September 2006, mainly over ABC violations. The Boulevard, opened in 2004, also had its liquor license suspended for a time and then closed last year.

The Jumping Turtle now focuses on heavy-metal shows, while the Cow Shed Bar and Grill, across the street from the Turtle, has been hosting occasional hip-hop and country events. “The shows have gotten much easier to promote [and have had] a much bigger turnout,” says Joe Troutman, who books the Jumping Turtle. “The police have been supportive, as long as we’re following the rules. As far as the most difficult aspect, well, I guess we’re getting a little overwhelmed with shows. This month, I’m doing 13 national touring packages. It does make me a little nervous to fill the...”

(Continued on page 76)
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San Diego Reader
March 26, 2009

THURSDAY, MARCH 26
A SCRIBE AMIDST
THE LIONS
ENDOXI
RUNHONEY
THE NEW LEAD
DETECTIVES

FRIDAY, MARCH 27
SF SCRAMBLE
MIKE PINTO
PROJECT OUT
OF BOUNDS

SATURDAY, MARCH 28
MISHKO
LESS THAN JARE
THE EXTRADIBLES

SUNDAY, MARCH 29
BIOHAZARD
featuring all original members

MUSICAL
ONE INCH PUNCH
SUNDAY GIRL

MONDAY, MARCH 30
THURSDAY, APRIL 2

FRIDAY, APRIL 3
ORIGINIA presents
TRISTON PALMA
MEETS MICHAE PALMER
CIALLI
MATERIAL
ROOTS

SATURDAY, APRIL 4
THURSDAY, APRIL 9

FRIDAY, APRIL 10
DEAD MAN’S
PARTY
(Olana Bongo
Tribute)

SATURDAY, APRIL 11
THURSDAY, APRIL 16

FRIDAY, APRIL 17
SASHAMON
"CHIT CHIT"
"SAWA"
"TRASH"
"SMASH"
"HIGH"

SATURDAY, APRIL 18
THURSDAY, APRIL 22

FRIDAY, APRIL 24
ANDRE
NICKATINA
XXI-SUB
SUBSTANCE ABUSE

SATURDAY, APRIL 25
THURSDAY, APRIL 29

THURSDAY, APRIL 23
C-MONEY & PLAYERS INC.
PALLI ROOTS • SAND SECTION

FRIDAY, APRIL 24
SEAN HUNT
DIPLO

SATURDAY, APRIL 26
CASHI OUT
(Johnny Cash
Tribute)

HARD FALL HEARTS
LOS SINDICATE

5/1: LITTLE JOHN • WAYNE SMITH • 5/2: KATCHAFIRE
5/6: TAINTED LOVE • 5/7: GROUCH & ELIGH
5/22: 40 OUNSES TO FREEDOM • 5/23: SOJA • 5/24: ATOMIC PUNKS

Organica presents
TRISTON PALMA
MEETS MICHAE PALMER
CIALLI
MATERIAL
ROOTS

THURSDAY, MARCH 26
FRIDAY, MARCH 27
SATURDAY, MARCH 28

THURSDAY, APRIL 2
FRIDAY, APRIL 3
SATURDAY, APRIL 4
THURSDAY, APRIL 9
FRIDAY, APRIL 10
SATURDAY, APRIL 11
THURSDAY, APRIL 16
FRIDAY, APRIL 17
SATURDAY, APRIL 18
THURSDAY, APRIL 22
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THURSDAY, APRIL 22
FRIDAY, APRIL 23
SATURDAY, APRIL 25
THURSDAY, APRIL 29
San Diego
Reader
March 26, 2009

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Thursday, March 26
Magdoline

Friday & Saturday, March 27 & 28 • 9 pm

Classic Rock
5 Miles High

Sunday, March 29
Live DJ - Reggae

Monday, March 30
Karaoke

Tuesday, March 31
KMMNWLTH

Wednesday, April 1
Fuzz Huzzi

Santee
8528 Magnolia Avenue • 619-596-8350
(Corner of Prospect & Magnolia)

Thursday, March 26
Dust-n-Bones • OU812

Friday & Saturday, March 27 & 28 • 9 pm

Classic Rock
Mad For Mary

Sunday, March 29
Fuzz Huzzi

Tuesday, March 31
Squirrely Arts

Wednesday, April 1
Thirty Round Clip

UPCOMING EVENTS
3/27 SOFifty Entertainment Presents HIP-HOP N’ R&B
3/28 Blue Agave Presents GRUPO NICE & OSCAR D’LEON
4/4 SUGA-FREE
4/14 BLACK CHERRY MUSIC
4/10 CITY BOXING EVENT
5/1 LBC SUBLIME
5/4 WALE
5/8 KIX (80s Heavy Metal Band)
5/16 GREAT WHITE
6/13 Darryl Carter (50th Birthday Party Comedy Show & Roast)

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Friday & Saturday, March 27 & 28 • 9 pm

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ADLER'S APPETITE

ADLER'S APPETITE features an ALL-STAR line-up of Steven Adler (Guns 'N' Roses, VH1's Celebrity Rehab and Sober House), Chip Z'Nuff (Enuff Z'Nuff), Alex Grossi (Quiet Riot/Bang Tango/Beautiful Creatures), Sheldon Tarsha (Tarsha), and Michael Thomas (Beautiful Creatures/Bang Tango).

WITH SPECIAL GUESTS

ENUFF Z'NUFF

Donnie Vie – Guitar and Vocals • Chip Z'Nuff – Bass and Vocals
Jake E. Lee – Guitar • Vinnie Castaldo – Drums

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Blurt continued from page 70

County, and L.A. County. They appreciate the 20 to 30 minutes they save from making the drive to San Diego. I think only about 30 percent of our patrons are actually from the North County Inland area.

Being a metal club also comes with disadvantages. “Watain, from Sweden, is a black-metal band that carries several decaying cow and goat heads, which they keep with their gear. They’re really big on having a nauseating smell. Through that, a Honda Element equipped with a trailer, an electric water kettle, and a hundred packs of Cup O’Noodles. Last night, we played in Las Vegas at the Double Down Saloon, blogged guitarist Jayme Ralph on MySpace. “Interesting, to say the least; the city and the people seem a bit surreal.”

The next night in Albuquerque, “Someone in Writer inadvertently dry humped a cactus,” according to guitarist David Hastings MacAdam. “No booze, no bands after midnight in Albuquerque on Sundays. This, ironically, in a state that has no motorcycle helmet law.”

In Las Cruces, “We pulled up to New Mexico State’s radio station, KRUX, and did a guerilla in-studio performance/interview,” says MacAdam. “Today’s drive was only 45 minutes to El Paso, and we didn’t even have to stop for an Andy [Ralph] pee break, a new record, which usually is prompted by a lot of screaming and clamping.”

Drew Andrews and Spectral Cities shared their road to SXSW story. “I dig Albuquerque,” posts Andrews at salbuleolin.com, “full of weird seedy bars, young kids littering the main drag all night, trolling for adventures. Last time I was there, the nightlife turned into an actual gunfight mini-riot, cops securing the streets. There was no incident that took place inside the club. There was no fight in the club that proceeded outside. As far as we know, there was nothing going on. That’s why it was a shock to everyone. There wasn’t a big crowd at all. It was just a small crowd. It wasn’t a busy night and then that happened,”

According to a police report issued the day after the shooting, the two victims were outside Brick by Brick when they got into an altercation with two other men. “Words were exchanged and one suspect opened fired with a handgun, shooting both victims. The suspects then fled the scene, possibly in a Cadillac Escalade;” the report reads.

While the report, which is issued to local media outlets, implies the shooting happened outside the club, the shooting location is listed as 1310 Elevation Road, which is about a half mile away from Brick by Brick.

The show, organized by BKL/Fam First Entertainment and Faultline Entertainment, featured live performances by The Illary, Doughnation, Notch P, Chaos, the Community Serva, and A-Mess, along with a rap contest with the winner going home with $150.

Phone and email messages left with Faultline Entertainment were unreturned. “The bad publicity has already crushed us. There’s really not much else I can say about [the incident]. I know as much as you know, as much as the news has told me,” Paul says.

Jay Allen Sanford

Road Reports Around 20 San Diego bands performed as part of the annual South By Southwest festival in and around Austin, Texas.

Writer band members pigged their way to SXSW in a Honda Element equipped with a trailer, an electric water kettle, and a hundred packs of Cup O’Noodles.

Spectral Cities shared their story. “Last night was Diego-tastic in Flagstaff, AZ. Long Live Logos, Crash Encore, Transfer, and us. We played [and] stayed at the Hotel Monte Vista. The after-party was a wild mix. I vaguely remember a noise complaint around 4 a.m. and a hotel manager yelling at me, thinking I was the tour manager. I offered him a beer and quickly stumbled away to my room. That’s how we do.”

— Jay Allen Sanford

Two Down on Elevation Road Brick by Brick’s Max Paul says there was no confrontation during a hip-hop show at the club that led to the shooting of two men about a half mile away from the club Friday, March 13.

“There was no incident that took place inside the club. There was no fight in the club that proceeded outside. As far as we know, there was nothing going on. That’s why it was a shock to everyone. There wasn’t a big crowd at all. It was just a small crowd. It wasn’t a busy night and then that happened,”

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Jay Allen Sanford
Early Sundays
**Big Band Salsa**
Salsa or Cha-Cha dance class starts at 6:45 pm with Valerie. Band starts at 8 pm. Complimentary light Caribbean buffet until 7:30 pm (included with cover). Mojitos & Sangrias specials. Plus 2 DJs.
March 29:
*Gene Perry y su Afro Rumba*

New Tuesdays
**Tropical Tuesdays**
A night dedicated to Merengue & Bachata. Bachata & Merengue dance lessons by Valerie at 6:45 pm. Dominican DJ Israel & live bands at 10 pm. $4 Mojitos & Cuba Libre all night!
March 31:
*Banda del Swing*

Dance lessons every Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday by Valerie!

myspace.com/cafesevillasalsa

**San Diego Reader**
March 26, 2009
77
Thursday 26

Post-rock stones Pelican snip at Cash in tonight with sonically similar Wolves in the Throne Room (Olympia) and the Tomba (Brooklyn). Pelican is an L.A.-based quartet originally out of Chicago that has welded the Windy City's penchant for experimental instruments to L.A.'s metal mien. Pelican recently signed to Southern Lords Records (SunO))), Boris, Om, so you get the aesthetic), which will release the group's new EP this summer. In the mean, suggest you sip last year's Hydra Head fave City of Churches. This one's gonna be LOUD, y'all, so plug 'em up.... Uptown: Tucson punk minimalist Nobunny hops into Ken Club with like-minded locals the Glossin'Es. Nobunny's got shkit — fuzzy mask and ears, carrot mic, tends to shtick — fuzzy mask and ears, carrot mic, tends to...

Saturday 28

Earthmen and Strangers pay a visit to Ken Club. Our favorite Tempe Zones should be crowing the state line steady this year after their FDH debut drops. No telling when, right now Ryan Rousseau and co.'s punk'd indie pop also made 'em faves to tour with Reatard and the Black Lips bunch of late. And got to Roussseau's art show Sunday out at Tower Bar, check out the new tower. Looks sweh... Sunnyside sets the stage at the Ken.... Ruby Room'll rock it Dirty Sweet Saturday night. The local barroom rockers took a spin through SXSW last week. Check the Space takes from... of Monarchs and Beggars for a taste. Astra and the Howls up first... Cello-rocker Melora Creager brings her Brooklyn trio Raspudina to Cash in behind Oh Penillos World. They'll play an early show with Ruby Threat before Cash in brings back the Man in Black. The Rumbler's open the late show... L.A. indie kids Western States Motel check in at Bar Pink. If you liked and miss Kingsbury Manx, you'll appreciate the Motel's joint. Give new EP Painted Birds Flying in the Orange Sun a spin. Drowning Men cough up an early set... Biowerevies: Ch stagles Bumbklait, Death Crisis, Abject, and Amongst Wolves... while No One and the Nobodies, Mississippi Man, Old Palominos, and Mothers Sons spill it at Soda Bar.

Sunday 29

Calgary quartet The Women had a helluva year behind their Pitchfork-approved eponymous debut. From the mix, critics gleaned VU, Zombies, and, my favorite, "sunny Beach Boys pop dragged into a dark alley and gleefully mutilated." It's a recommendable record. Indie artist, and the guy who engineered the record for the Women, Chad VanGaalen, is on the bill. He's out to tout his new single off his Self Airplane. French anti-folk duo Herman Dune headlines this quirky Cash in bill... The Robin Hood Band and the Tighten Ups bring rock-n-rules stumps to Bar Pink Sunday night... J.J. Cale and Pietra Brown sold out Belly Up, but if you're up that way, collegiate noise rockers the Lanterns light up Café Ché with Junius and the Hundred Days.
For more information on upcoming events visit sdreader.com

Modus

Upcoming Event

Sponsored by

East Village Tavern & Bowl
930 Market St., San Diego
Saturday, March 28

7-9 pm U4RIK vodka drink specials.

Catch up on the latest March Madness, drink some U4RIK, and try out your bowling skills at the one and only East Village tavern...

It's Saturday night done right!

For more information on upcoming events visit sdreader.com

Music & Event Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, 26th</td>
<td>Irish Night w/Skelpin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, 27th</td>
<td>Benefit</td>
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<td>Saturday, 28th</td>
<td>Joe Wood</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, 29th</td>
<td>Old Timey Session</td>
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<td>Monday, 30th</td>
<td>The Tail Draggers</td>
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<td>Tuesday, 31st</td>
<td>Debllos</td>
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<td>Wednesday, 1st</td>
<td>Joe Wood</td>
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<td>Thursday, 2nd</td>
<td>Skelpin</td>
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<td>Friday, 3rd</td>
<td>Stone Senses</td>
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<td>Saturday, 4th</td>
<td>Rip Carson</td>
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<td>Sunday, 5th</td>
<td>DJ Kid Jagger</td>
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<td>Monday, 6th</td>
<td>The Tail Draggers</td>
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<td>Tuesday, 7th</td>
<td>Rich the Stitch (The Room)</td>
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<td>Wednesday, 8th</td>
<td>Joe Wood</td>
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<td>Joe Wood</td>
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<td>Duane Peters (Skateboard Legend)</td>
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<td>Saturday, 18th</td>
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850 Tamarkan Ave, Carlsbad, CA 92008 ☎ (760) 434-2666 ☏ www.hensleypub.com
One Rapper's Reality

“I look at celebrities as equals; they’re just on a larger playing field.”

“I call my genre of music ‘reality rap,’” says hip-hop impresario Kayo. “It describes the things that I went through. It's reality because I used to write the songs to myself — to motivate myself, to overcome my worst situations. That’s why I say in songs like ‘True Story’: ‘I’m tired of walking, I wanna ride in a Caddy.’ I wrote that in 2005. Well, I drive a ‘Lac now, so the self-motivation worked, didn’t it?”

He’s been using the name Kayo since 1998, his freshman year in high school. “I knew by then that I wanted to do everything there is to do in the [music] business. It was originally K.O., like knockout, because I was knocking out rhymes — knocking out my opponents and people who tried to keep me down — and because to score a knockout is to win the fight.”

Kayo started his record label On Fyre Entertainment in 2003 and founded his production company, BeatsByKayo, in 2005. His first EP, Konfessions of a Kriminal, was self-produced and self-marketed, as was his 2008 album One Hundred Percent Hustle. Kayo has recently been performing around town with fellow hip-hop artists Young Mass and Play B in a trio known as the Three Rappers.

WHAT'S IN YOUR MUSIC PLAYER?
2. Young Jeezy, The Inspiration. “I play it before I hop out and go hustle every night.”
3. Cherry Chuck Gang mix. “Gotta support the homies and the South-east S.D. movement.”
4. Young Jeezy, The Recession. “He’s keeping it 100 percent on this CD and making music for the times.”
5. Mitchy Slick, Urban Survival Syndrome. “Hands down, one of my favorite CDs of all time. Yeah dat!”
6. An R&B mix for when I let a female take a ride in the Cadillac.

MUST-HAVE DVDS?
1. Bad Boys one and two. “How can you not love Will Smith and Martin Lawrence together, telling jokes and blowin’ shit up!”
3. Urban Survival Syndrome. “Hands down, one of my favorite CDs of all time. Yeah dat!”
4. One Hundred Percent Hustle.

MOST VISITED WEBSITE?
“siccness.net. It’s an online community for urban underground hip-hop.”

BRUSHES WITH FAME?
“Too many. I don’t get starstruck. I look at celebrities as equals; they’re just on a bigger playing field, but they did everything I’m doing now to get there. I tried to sell my CD to OG Bobby Johnson on Hollywood Boulevard once, though.”

THREE FAVORITE HANGOUTS?
1. “The beach, because of the sound, the smell, and the peace.”
2. “Downtown, because it’s always so busy.”
3. “Fam Mart, because I hustle there, and I always meet someone interesting and get to catch up with old friends. So if you think I’m Hollywood and don’t wanna kick it, come holla at me there. The old one. I grind there whenever I’m in town.”

KANYE OR 50 CENT?
“I value 50 Cent’s business mind. I read his book From Pieces to Weight, which earned him a higher level of respect from me. I like Kanye, though. He should write a book. That might put him in first place.”

DRINK OF CHOICE?
“My daughter’s mother got me hooked on cranberry juice. So when I’m clubbing it’s cran and vodka or cran and Patrón, depending on what I plan on doing that night.”

WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITH THE POWER OF INVISIBILITY?
“Get rich.”

WHAT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO DO WITHOUT?
“God. Because you can’t do anything without Him, and if you keep it real with Him, He’ll bless you.”

UM, WE GUESSED THAT.
“Okay, then. How about…money is a bigger motivation for me than sex. I could care less how pretty or good a female is. I got goals to accomplish. If she wants me, she’s gotta be helpin’ out.”

MUSIC
JAY ALLEN SANFORD

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5/14 Jonathan Coulton w/Paul and Storm
5/21 MS3 – New Date! - 5/28 tickets will be honored.
6/18 No Knife w/The Focus Group & The John Foohills Band
7/18 Three Mile Pilot – on sale Thursday!

UPCOMING SHOWS:
4/20 Luke Li
4/21 UB40
4/22 Don Carlos
4/23 Hot Tuna – electric
4/24 Lee Zipolin
4/25 Shant
4/26 Alpha Blondy
4/27 Railroad Earth
4/30 Rufus Wainwright w/ Lucy Wainwright-Roche
5/6 Scallop
5/7 The Maytals
5/8 The Replacements
5/9 The Sadies
5/10 Son House
5/11 Mumford & Sons
5/12 John Hiatt
5/13 pedal steel band
5/14 Dave Mathews Band
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JUST ADDED!

FRIDAYS SWINGIN’ HAPPY HOURS
3/27 The Brokers
4/3 The Fabulous Pelicans

4/9 To Freedom
4/10 The Anna Troy Band
4/11 Dar Williams
4/12 9th Annual Seedless 4/20 Party
4/13 The John Foothills Band
4/14 John Brown’s Body
4/15 Easy All-Stars Lonely Hearts World Tour 2009
4/16 The Abyssinians
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The Alley: 421 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad, 760-434-1173.
Thursday, Fridays, Saturdays — The Love Rangers. Dance music.
Anthology: 1337 India Street, Little Italy, 619-395-1000.
Thursday, 7:30 p.m. — Trevor Davis. With Carney and Aaron Bowen. Indie. $12.
Friday, 7:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. — The Steely Damned. A tribute to Steely Dan. $20-$25.
Saturday, 7:30 p.m. — The Anthology House Band. Performs Motown hits. $18.
Saturday, 9:30 p.m. — Wild Child. A tribute to the Doors. $20.
Sunday, 7:30 p.m. — Pasquale Espinoso. Pop/operetta. $30.
Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. and Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. — Brandon Maralis. Traditional jazz. $29-$35.

Sunday, 3:30 p.m. — Super Vibe. With the Secret Sumaris. Surfrock.

Bar Pink: 3829 30th Street, North Park, 619-564-7194.
Saturday, 10 p.m. — The Western States Motel. With the Drowning Men. Alternative. Free. Ages 21 and up.
Sunday, 10 p.m. — The Robin Horsfield Band. Blues/soul/jazz.

Belly Up Tavern: 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach, 858-481-8140.
Thursday, 8 p.m. — Justin Noonke. Blues/soul/pop. 815-$17.
Friday, 9 p.m. — Elijah Emanuel & the Revelations. With Social Green, Get Your Dub On, and Rockers TV. Roots reggae/rock.

SUNDAY

Belly Up Tavern: 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach, 858-481-8140.
Sunday, 10 p.m. — The Road. With The Secret Sumaris. Surfrock.

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San Diego Reader March 26, 2009

2008 awards best sushi—Citybeat magazine best sushi—Channel 10 best first date spot—Citysearch award of excellence—Zagat

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San Diego Reader March 26, 2009

BY WILLIAM CRAN

The New Yorker recently ran a brief profile of Lily Allen, mostly covering the same old ground (daughter of semifamous parents grows up to be singer-songwriter specializing in blunt but effective tales of everyday sexual misadventure/gains fame through online oversharing, and a hit record/is now surrounded by the flashbulbs of paparazzi everywhere she goes). At the end of the article, Allen is onstage in New York the night her second album, It’s Not Me, It’s You, is released, and the audience is singing along with her new songs. She expresses surprise that they already know the words and suggests that they have been illegally downloading the album. She’s then quoted as saying, “That’s okay, I don’t make any money from recordings anyway.”

Allen’s comment was not unusual — after all, most musicians make their money from touring and merchandising, if they make any money at all. But when you remember that a few weeks ago Allen told the New York Times that she didn’t think music was her true calling, you have to wonder what’s going on.

Allen has made a career of not really caring. In her first hit, “Smile,” she smirks when an ex is in pain. In her latest hit, “The Fear,” she sings ironically about a starlet’s quest for luxury and fame, and if Allen herself is indif-
ferent to them. A big part of Allen’s appeal is that her songwriting and singing are conversational; she seems to be just telling an amusing story to a friend. But at some level, a songwriter has to take her songwriting seriously, or else why should her listeners care?

It can be hard to tell if Allen does. Seriously, or else why should her listeners care?
Japanese restaurant

Friday, March 27, 2009

Happy Hour w/Chandra
$3 Shooter Mania 4-9 pm

Sundays w/Josh & Chandra - Live Music • Reggae Featuring

Campechana • Roots Vision Through The Roots • Rootscali

Live Music • Alt Rock

Off Track Mod Amish Perfect Blue Unknown Motive Raggedy Annes

Happy Hour w/Chandra
$3 Shooter Mania 4-9 pm

SUN. MAR. 29

LIVE MUSIC • ALT ROCK

Dead As Dillinger
Apollo Down

CD Release Party

Co Pilot Lumina

Happy Hour w/Alain
$5 Dom. Pitchers 4-9 pm

SAT. MAR. 28

LIVE MUSIC • Hard Rock

Aghori Dive Bomber

Dig Jelly

Aedose Without Logic

Special Guest

Happy Hour w/Chandra
$4 Long Islands 4-9 pm

TUE. MAR. 31

Happy Hour with Big Daddy

No Cover

$4 Guinness Pints

$5 Irish Car Bombs 4-9 pm

CLOSING

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MARCH SPECIAL

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$10 Bands

$10 Artists

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SATURDAY MARCH 28th

10 Bands

60 Artists

100% OF PROCEEDS FROM DREAM STREET LIVE WILL BE DONATED TO THE FOUNTAIN OF HOPE!

100% OF PROCEEDS FROM DREAM STREET LIVE WILL BE DONATED TO THE FOUNTAIN OF HOPE!

THURS. MAR. 26

LIVE MUSIC • ALT ROCK

FEATURING

Off Track Mod Amish Perfect Blue Unknown Motive Raggedy Annes

Happy Hour w/Chandra
$3 Shooter Mania 4-9 pm

SUN. MAR. 29

LIVE MUSIC • REGGAE FEATURING

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Main Tap Tavern @ 516 East Main Street, El Cajon, 619-435-5200.

Mangia Italiano on Third: 248 Third Avenue, Chula Vista, 619-439-6646.

Friday, 7 p.m. — Caballero’s Latin Jazz Jam. Hosted by Bill Caballero. Jazz.

The Marquee @ 835 25th Street, Golden Hill.

Friday, 8 p.m. — Kenny Eng. With Anna Troy, Lindsay White, and Vanja James. Acoustic/alternative/rock.

McCabe’s Beach Club: 1140 South Trenton Street, Oceanside, 760-439-8000.

Friday, 4:30 p.m. — The California Rangers. Country. Free.

Saturday, 5 p.m. — Fleetwood Max. A Fleetwood Mac tribute. Free.

McP’s Irish Pub and Grill: 1107 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-5200.

Friday, 9 p.m. — Mystic Jazz. Jazz/funk/R&B.

Saturday, 9 p.m. — Boudertown Blues. Blues.

Mesa College: 7025 Mesa College Drive, Kearny Mesa.

Wednesday, 1 p.m. — Masayo and Robert. Jazz/world.

Molly Malone’s: 1270 Main Street, Ramona, 760-789-9000.

Friday, 9 p.m. — Flashback. Rock. Saturday, 9 p.m. — Metal Brigade. With Priest Heavy. Metal/rock.

Nancy’s Pub: 4260 University Avenue, City Heights, 619-280-8314.

Sunday, 5:30 p.m. — The Steerin’ Hoot Blues Band. Free. Ages 21 and up.

Nature’s Express: 2949 Fifth Avenue, Banker’s Hill, 619-350-1818.

Saturday, 1 p.m. — Joe Rathburn. Folk.

North Bar Sports and Spirits: 200 West El Street, Balboa Park, 619-497-8228.

Thursday, 6 p.m. — Mike Gardner. Rock. Free.

North Park: University Avenue (between 30th and 32nd Streets), North Park.

Saturday, 1 p.m. — San Diego IndieFest. Featuring Giusa Bella, Maria Hidalgo, Austin Jennings, MLH. Citizen Band, Eben Brooks, and many more. Rock/funk/jazz.


Friday and Saturday — Emergence Music Festival. Featuring Fat Man’s Misery, the Chaste, the RNBs, Mayhem and Miracles, Nicole Torres, Rag Doll City, Red Karma, and Intramuros. Blues/rock. Sunday — Bobby Fant. With Everex. Pop/psychadelic.

Monday, 6 p.m. — Mystery Train. Pro-invitational blues jam.

Wednesday, 8 p.m. — The Bill Cardinale Show. With Christian James. Country/swing/punk.

Old Town State Historic Park: 4062 Wallace Street, Old Town.

Saturday, 2 p.m. — San Diego City Guard Band. Marches/covers standards.

Wednesday, 2 p.m. — The City Guard Band. Performances will be held in the plaza; selections range from Sousa marches to concert pieces. Free.

Old Town Temecula Community Theater: 42051 Main Street, Temecula, 92591-4560.

Friday, 7:30 p.m. — Battle of the Bands. Featuring the Shake Ups. So Hot Right Now, and more. Pop/rock. $15.

Ojai/Thousand Oaks: 850 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-215-0656.

Tuesday — Jazz jam session. With Gilbert Castellanos and DJ Sachamoo. Free.

Osetra Watergrill: 904 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-299-1800.

Thursday, 8 p.m. — Live Jazz. In the El Lounge. Free.

Wednesday, 8 p.m. — Los Reyes del Ritmo. Flamenco and Latin music in the El Lounge.

Pacific Beach Bar & Grill: 860 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-277-2778.

Friday, 8 p.m. — The Even Keel. Album release party with DJ Collagey and MC Jada. Hip-hop/rap.

Pal Joey’s: 4347 Waring Road, Allied Gardens, 619-286-7873.

Saturday, Saturday — Night Shift. Rock.

Pasquale on Prospect: 1250 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-456-0722.

Saturday, 6 p.m. — Stage 4. Jazz/rhythm and blues.

Sunday’s II: 428 F Street, Downtown, 619-233-3077.

Thursday, 9 p.m. — Blue Four. Blues/rock.

Friday, 9 p.m. — 145th Street Dixieland Blues Band. Blues/funk.

Saturday, 9 p.m. — Shari Puerto and the Rhythm Addicts. Blues/rock.

Saturday, 9 p.m. — The Buenaventura Band. Blues/rock.

Monday, 9 p.m. — Shelle Blue. Rhythm and blues.

Tuesday, 9 p.m. — Bill Mager Blues Band. Blues/soul/rock.

Wednesday, 9 p.m. — Missy Anderson. Blues/soul/funk.


Pierpont’s: 15580 Paseo Castilla, Rancho Bernardo, 858-675-8500.


Saturday, 9 p.m. — Pasha Events. With the Mood Swings. Covers/jazz/rock.

Saturday, 9 p.m. — Fresh Air. folks. Free.

San Carlos United Methodist Church: 6554 Camino Ramon, San Carlos, 760-722-1911.

Saturday, 9 p.m. — Punish Rope. Country/punk/bluegrass.

Santa Ysabel Resort & Casino: 25755 Highway 79, Santa Ysabel, 760-757-8099.

Saturday, 9 p.m. — Paradigm. Covers/jazz/rock.

Note

BY DAVE GOOD

Branford Marsalis is a year older than his trumpet playing brother Wynton, who critics first noticed during his tenure with Art Blakey. Later, Wynton toured with Sting, won Grammy awards, and upheld the hip factor of network television as music director of the Tonight Show band. But after Wynton locked up the gig as art director of jazz at Lincoln Center and his fame escalated into the stratosphere, I began to think of Branford as the undervalued Marsalis. He is a strong-willed funk and jazz tenor sax stylist, I wondered if it was a trumpet thing. Everybody adored Louis Armstrong and remembers Miles Davis, but it was John Coltrane who reinvented jazz with his saxophone.

Branford even turned the sax into a sex toy. Not so with straight-ahead jazz saxists like Marsalis, who remains an intellectual exercise in instrumental rhetoric, his style has been likened to Ornette. You hear big thinking in Marsalis’s performance, not the beseaching quest for pop stardom so often heard in the bedroom tones of the smooth-jazz sax dudes. Like the rest of the traditionalists before him, Branford takes a solo from the depths to the roof and beyond, and always within the context of his group.

Branford has kept the same ensemble for a decade. His group’s latest, Metamorphosis, alternates with the dramatic lighting bursts of a Leonard Bernstein Broadway score and a deeper, colder current that envelops and pulls a listener down into Marsalis’s space, a place that I surmise is decorated in greens and blues. It’s okay to make Marsalis/Collins comparisons; Marsalis was nominated for a Grammy award for his tenor-sax work on “A Love Supreme” from the Coltrane-tribute DVD A Love Supreme (Live in Amsterdam), it’s as if it’s ’665 all over again. In interviews, Marsalis even invokes the Holy Grail of modern jazz when he says that he’s looking for the next new thing. The next new thing... it’s what Miles, Ornette — all those guys — lived for.

BRANFORD MARSALIS: Anthology, Tuesday, March 31, and Wednesday, April 1, 7:30 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. 619-595-0300. $29 and $35.

As if it’s 1965 all over again. In interviews, Marsalis even invokes the Holy Grail of modern jazz when he says that he’s looking for the next new thing. The next new thing... it’s what Miles, Ornette — all those guys — lived for.

BRANFORD MARSALIS: Anthology, Tuesday, March 31, and Wednesday, April 1, 7:30 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. 619-595-0300. $29 and $35.
Seaport Village: 849 West Harbor Drive, Downtown.

Sunday, 1 p.m. — The Cat-illacs. Rock. Free.

Sherwood Auditorium at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego: 700 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-454-3541.

Saturday, 7 p.m. — Hapa. Folk/Hawaiian/indie. $37-$42.

The Sky Box Sports Grill: 4865 Clairemont Drive, Clairemont, 858-274-7269.

Friday, 9 p.m. — Drive By Jones. Bluegrass/funk/rock. $5.

Soda Bar: 3615 El Cajon Boulevard, City Heights, 619-255-7224.


Friday, 9 p.m. — Kill Me Tomorrow. With Rero and Roo Too, Homosexuals, and Anazasis.


Friday, 6:30 p.m. — Alesana. With Drop Dead Gorgeous, Fear Before, I Set My Friends on Fire, and Fall From Grace. Emo/rock. $12.

Saturday, 7 p.m. — Sonny. With Endless Hallway, Dan Sera, White Apple Tree, and guests. Alternative/rock. $10.

South Park Bar & Grill: 1946 Fern Street, South Park, 619-696-0096.

Thursday, 9:30 p.m. — Open jazz jam.

Friday, 7 p.m. — The John Kennedy Trio. Jazz.

Sundays, 6 p.m. — Original Music Modern Jazz Series. Every Sunday, with Doug Walker, Tim Nunnink, Nick Tosco, and Nathan Hubbard.

Stage Saloon: 362 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-992-7862.

Fridays — Trainwreck.

Tiki House: 1132 Garnett Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-273-9734.

Thursday, 9:30 p.m. — John January & the Mag. Alternative/rock.

Friday, 9 p.m. — John Miller Meld. Alternative/toast. $3.

Saturday, 9:30 p.m. — Agape. Jazz/Latin/rock.

Tio Leo’s — Linda Vista: 5002 Napa Street, Linda Vista, 619-542-1462.

Friday — The Road Dogs. Blues.

The Turquoise, Cafe-Bar Europa: 1870 Turquoise Street, Pacific Beach, 858-488-4200.

Mondays, 7 p.m. — Zap! Dingle. Blues/soul/jazz.

Tuesdays, 7 p.m. — La Reyes. Flamenco. Free.

The Upstart Crow Bookshop and Coffee House: 833 West Harbor Drive, Downtown, 619-232-4855.

Saturday, 7:30 p.m. — Nadja Nara. Folk/rock.

Valley View Casino: 16300 Vennit Pass Road, Valley Center, 866-843-9946.

Saturday, 9 p.m. — Siren’s Crush. Cover/punk.

Viejas Casino DreamCatcher Show Room: 5000 Willows Road, Alpine, 619-445-5400.


San Diego Reader March 26, 2009
hometown CDs
BY OLLE

Album: Oceanside Boulevard (2008)
Artist: Avitia
Label: Above Ground Records
Songs: 1) The Idea 2) Long Gone 3) Mars 5000 4) Fortunate Sun 5) Faded Love
Band: Tony Avitia (vocals, guitar), Alex Bigelow (vocals), Brandon Turner (vocals, guitar), Warren Henderson (bass), Scruff McGruff (drums)
Website: reverbation.com/avitia

This album suffers from schizophrenia; it doesn't know its own personal identity. From one song to the next, you couldn't tell it was the same band playing. "The Idea" drives with heavy rhythm in a power-rock fashion. On "Long Gone," the band pretends to be a sub-lime cover band that plays its own songs. "Mars 5000" is a hip-hop track complete with scratch deejaying and Avitia rapping.

Their cover of "Fortunate Son" (originally by Creedence Clearwater Revival) symbolizes the entire collection. The band plays competently, even enthusiastically. It's a pleasure to hear. They've taken something that exists, changed it enough to sign their name to it, but it's wholly unoriginal. While "Fortunate Son" is the only cover on the album, that's pretty much how the band plays: solidly but lacking life and ingenuity.

Each song represents an academic sample of its (varied) genre, and like many things studied and perfected, it's turgid.

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

San Diego Reader March 36, 2009
The Coyote Bar & Grill: 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad, 760-729-4085.
April 2 — The King Fish Turner Band.
April 3 — Gumboyaya.
April 4 — Friends & Enablers, The Zedeco Blues Patrol.
April 5 — Reggie Smith & Pressed for Time, The Blues Pharaohs.
April 12 — The Robin Henkel Band.

May 16 — Nine Inch Nails.
May 22 — No Doubt.
June 20 — The Blackhearts.
July 10 — Rise Against.
July 28 — The Fray.
August 14 — The Robin Henkel Band.

Del Mar Fairgrounds: 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar, 858-755-1161.
June 12 — Heroes of Woodstock.
June 14 — Los Tucanes de Tijuana.
June 16 — The Blackhearts.
July 2 — The Blackhearts.

Dizzy’s: 200 Harbor Drive, Downtown, 858-270-7467.
April 2 — Richard Thompson.
April 3 — Shades of Django.
April 11 — The Gilbert Castelanos New Latin Jazz Quartet.
April 17 — Brian Levy.
April 18 — Kendra Shank.
April 22 — First Fridays Music Club.
April 24 — Paul Seford.
April 26 — Jerrysung Lee Trio.
May 31 — Joni Mitchell Tribute.

E Street Café: 128 E Street, Encinitas, 760-230-2038.
April 18 — Fly to Blue.

Encinitas Library: 540 Cornish Drive, Encinitas.
April 5 — UCSD Music Live.

Epazote: 1555 Camino del Mar, Del Mar, 858-259-9966.
April 4 — Willovealot Trio.

Escondido Joe’s Coffee House: 119 E Grand Avenue, Escondido, 760-466-2184.
April 17 — T.K. Plummer.

Fannie’s Nightclub: 9143 Campo Road, Spring Valley, 619-698-2204.
May 8, June 5 — Leo Rising.

Gallagher’s Pub & Grill: 5046 Newport Avenue, Ocean Beach, 619-222-5300.
April 3 — Hugh Gaskins & the G String Daddies.
July 4 — Dazed and Confused.

The Gillispie School: 7380 Girard Avenue, La Jolla, 858-459-3773.
April 4 — Missy Higgins.

The Comedy Store: 916 Pearl Street, La Jolla, 858-454-9176.
April 4 — Steve Simeone
April 5 — Bret Ernst
April 6 — Jason Lucas
April 7 — Ahmed
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San Diego Reader March 26, 2009 89
Dj

how to submit a dj listing:
call 619-235-3000 x405, night or day by 5 pm, Friday; the work week to publication. To send weekly or monthly schedules, fax to 619-231-0489 or mail to Reader Music Scene, P.O. Box 6803, San Diego, CA 92113. You may also submit information online; get directions, maps, event alerts, RSS feeds, club coupons, and more at sandiegoreader.com.

Bacchus House: Saturday, 9 p.m. Club 50s. With DJs Bryan Pollard, Sidney, Stem, and more. $8-$12. 8054 University Avenue, North Park. 619-289-2032.


Basic Kitchen and Bar: Tuesdays, 7 p.m.: Basic Tuesdays. Featuring art, fashion, and music. Free. 410 K Street, Downtown. 619-531-4869.


The Brew House at Eastlake: Saturdays Brew DJ Dance. Showroom Place, Suite 102, Chula Vista. 619-656-2739.


Confidential Fridays, 10 p.m.: DJ Henry Diaz. With Tone Capone and Omas. Electronic/ lounge. 901 Fourth Avenue, Downtown. 619-696-8888.

The Coyote Bar & Grill: Thursdays, 10:30 p.m.: DJ Earl Henry. Fridays, 10:30 p.m., Saturdays, 10:30 p.m.: DJ Steve Hardy. 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad. 760-729-4895.


El Cajon Grand: Fridays, 8:30 p.m.: DJ Nilo. Spins classic rock and other hits. Saturdays, 8:30 p.m.: DJ Chuck. Spins classic rock and other hits. 3315 West Main Street, El Cajon. 619-444-0949.


The Filling Station: Fridays and Saturdays, 9 p.m.: DJ Dance Party. 9522 Miramar Road, Mirna Mesa. 619-374-9772.

Jack’s La Jolla — Ocean Room: Thursdays and Saturdays, 8 p.m.: Will Smith Bar. DJs and dancing. 7863 Girard Avenue, La Jolla. 858-486-8111.

Jade Theater: Friday, 9 p.m.: DJs with DJ Body Build. MC. Tommy T, Unleaded Supreme, DJ Mac, and DJ Kiks. 510 7th C Street, Downtown. 619-814-5123.


Pierview Pub/Pub’s Whiskey Dive Bar: Mondays, 6:30 p.m.: Metal Mondays. Metal all night long. 301 Pier View Way, Oceanside. 760-757-2857.


Sapphire Mediterranean Cuisine & Lounge: Saturdays, 9 p.m.: DJ K.R. Spins hip-hop and reggaeton. $3-400 Bonita Road, Bonita. 619-470-8000.


Spin Nightclub: Friday: Victor Dinamico and Cowboy Mike. Trance/techno. 2028 Hancock Street, Midway District. 619-294-5910.

Static Lounges: Friday, 9 p.m.: Into the Wild Party. Wear your “wild” animal print outfits. Top 40/hip-hop. 815-520. Ages 18 and up. 634 Broadway, Downtown. 619-544-1609.


Xavier’s Bar & Grill: Thursdays, 9 p.m.: Almost Famous Thursdays. Saturday, 9 p.m.: 90s Night. Sunday, 9 a.m.: Special Screening Saturdays. 790 Fifth Avenue, Downtown. 619-233-0050.

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April 10 — The Farm...
I got a call about crashing a wedding in Spring Valley a few weeks ago. I had a lot going on that day, but when I found out it was for a guy named Sam, whose party I had crashed years ago, I made sure I made it to the reception.

I was thinking how convenient it was that I wouldn’t have to go to the ceremony in La Jolla or find a wedding gift. But on my drive there, I remembered that Sam had insisted on me taking a watermelon as I left his party. And a few times after that, if he called me, he’d say, “It’s the guy that gave you the watermelon.”

So, I got a gift bag and filled it with a bottle of watermelon-flavored vodka, a few ceramic watermelons, and lots of watermelon candies.

The reception was at Sam’s house, and the living room was packed with family and friends. Sam’s brother was talking in front of a video camera about how happy he was for Sam. I started heckling him. I remembered that he sings opera professionally and is trying to make it in stand-up comedy. I didn’t think he was going to be at the wedding video would be inappropriate. He laughed, pointed the camera at me, and made me say something. I told a few wedding-related jokes that probably worked.

I asked about his comedy, and he told me about a few of the routines he was working on. One was funny. The other I didn’t get but thought it would be rude to say so. He told me he was giving up on his opera career. For some reason, the name of an opera singer popped into my mind. She had done an album with Freddie Mercury of Queen. I asked, “What do you think of Montserrat Caballé?” He laughed and said, “We all call her ‘Monster Fat.’” I replied, “Uh, aren’t most opera singers fat?” He said, “I think so. I think when you’re heavier, it closes the throat and gives you more pressure and sometimes sounds better.”

As Sam and I were talking in the backyard, I noticed some Latinos having problems by the sliding glass door. I asked what was going on and Sam laughed. He said, “Oh, those are the caterers. They’re going to make street tacos, but they can’t fit that thing through those doors. They might have to set up and cook them in the front yard.”

After about 15 minutes, they got all their equipment into the backyard, and there was a long line for tacos. I ate a couple, talked with a few other guests, and then split. Just outside the front door, I heard Sam saying to a couple, “Oh, man, you’re going to leave now? You’re going to eat and run?” I was glad he didn’t see me sneak away.

I went to an event in La Mesa. There was an hour, and after a few glasses of wine, I was craving some sweets.

I saw a party going on at the nearby VFW hall, and I told myself if it was still going on when I left, I’d crash it.

I heard a band playing and saw people in the parking lot, so I headed in.

There was lasagna and other food on one counter, but I was in search of desserts. I saw a table with two huge cakes — one was a wedding cake. I asked the woman cutting the cake who the party was for. She said, “My sister Jennifer. It’s her 25th wedding anniversary.”

She handed me a piece of cake, and as I started devouring it, she asked who I was. I told her and asked if she could point out her sister.

With cake in hand, I approached Jennifer and told her I write about parties. She screamed, “You’re the Crasher! No way! Really? You’re the Crasher from the Reuter?” I told her I was, and she quickly started showing me around. I felt guilty that she was talking to me as many of the guests were leaving.

The band went into the Beatles’ “Something,” and I noticed the name on the bass drum read “Alice and the Coopers.” I was told this was the same band that had played at their wedding.

I asked some people how the couple met, and people were giving me all kinds of crazy stories. One guy said that Lloyd (the husband) lived with them, and they were just praying to get him out of their house.

Another person told me they used to hang out at a liquor store after work.

I looked at a bunch of wedding photos that had been set out. One couple looked miserable. I asked Jennifer who they were, and she introduced me to them.

The guy was now bald. I said, “You and that woman don’t look very happy in that photo.” He smiled and said, “Yeah, we were probably fighting about something. Who knows?” I asked how long their relationship lasted, and he said, “We’re still together. We’ve been married 34 years now.”

One of Jennifer’s sisters told me she was a bridesmaid at the wedding. She said, “I told my sister that she should take me and my other sister, and with her wedding photo, put our current husbands’ faces over our first husbands’ that are in the shot.”

I noticed a number of people smoking in the photos, something you wouldn’t see at a wedding.
When the band went into a Stevie Ray Vaughan song, it became difficult to hear conversations. One woman was telling me that a bunch of the guests had grown up together and gone to Santana High. I mentioned the kid that shot up the school a few years back, and one of the women knew many of the people involved. She talked about how the lockdown happened when the gunfire started.

She told me an interesting story about the incident, but by then the band was playing “You Really Got Me” (the Van Halen version) and it had become even harder to hear. The few babies I saw didn’t seem to mind the loud music.

I looked over near the bar, and a guy was playing air guitar. Mix alcohol with Eddie Van Halen and there’s usually some air guitar. I had a buzz from the wine at the reception, but I tried to write something somewhat witty in their guest book.

Before I left, I said bye to Jennifer and told her, “I really just crashed this party because I wanted a piece of cake. I’m glad it was so much fun, even though you guys were winding down.” She said, “Oh, you like cake. I’m going to give you some cake.” I told her that wasn’t necessary, as I had already eaten two pieces.

A few teenagers approached me and began asking me questions. I found out that each of the three sisters had three kids. After talking to some of them briefly, I turned around to head out. Jennifer was standing there with lots of cake wrapped up for me to take home.

Crash your party? Call 619-235-3000 x21 and leave an invitation for Josh Board.

For more stories by this author, go to sdreader.com.
Ota, Too

It’s just beautiful — elegant and spare. Blue lights illuminate the lower half of Hane’s windows all around — useful, since I’m not sure the restaurant is otherwise identified at the door. Inside, the streetside walls are a lovely dark carnation-rose color, while behind the two sushi bars they’re white. The floor is shiny dark hardwood. The bars are black marble, the chairs and tables are black, and all around the periphery plushy banquettes in subtly patterned floral fabric (your rich aunt’s sofa) are illuminated by small, silvery, hanging light fixtures. Behind the bar closest to the door, the inevitable flat-panel TV is muted. (Why do sushi bars need TVs?) But there are large floral arrangements to look at, including on the counters behind the sushi chefs.

Would you believe that this is a branch of the legendary Sushi Ota, the no-frills P.B. strip-mall high temple of sushidom?

There are two other sushi bars within a block, Mukashi at the south end and Azuki a block and a half farther south, across Fifth Avenue. I’ve heard from a reliable source that Yukita Ota, being a gentleman, paid courtesy calls on those restaurants to gently warn them of the competition they’d be facing once Hane opened (of course he knows that he’s the biggest cheese), and perhaps to apologize, or something. But, yes, it’s here at last — Ota’s come to town!

Ota-san himself is still in P.B. some nights, but the food at the new location is nearly identical, if vastly more accessible to gaijin, due to the difference in the new restaurant’s construction and even personnel. Face it, Sushi Ota is something of an ordeal: cramped, ugly, crowded, noisy, hard to find (Vogue’s Jeffrey Steingarten got totally lost looking for it a few years ago), with not a lot of English spoken — and it’s so hard to get a reservation for the bar that even Samurai Jim’s martial arts sensei, who knows Ota personally, had to settle for table service when we ate there last year. To eat at Ota’s own station, you must reserve a couple of months ahead. Vacationing sushi cultists from Japan book their bar-seats before they’ve bought their plane tickets.

And now that the word is out, expect a crush here, too. Saint Steve and I were able to slip in spontaneously for an early-evening Wednesday sushi-orgy and sat right down at the bar. But ten days later, when I phoned on a Saturday to ask about “hours open,” the joint was audibly jam-packed and jumpin’.

Once seated, we quickly discovered that all the chefs at Hane (which is pronounced hah-NAY) speak English reasonably well (and the one gaijin at the counter, TL, speaks Japanese fluently). There’s a lot of joking camaraderie among them that extends to the customers. Ota is hard, Hane is easy.

At the bar, you can watch artists creating edible, evanescent art. (You look, admire, then send it right down your digestive system.) Clearly these chefs have undergone the lengthy, strenuous Japanese sushi apprenticeship. (The only comparably rigorous process in the world is the French chef-apprenticeship system.) The fish aren’t displayed under the counter here but are kept chilled and individually wrapped. Watch the chefs’ discipline, their knife skills, their meticulous cleanliness (rewrapping the fish and then swabbing off the surface between species). And the fish are the best — crisp slices of slim Japanese cucumber and ame-ebi (sweet raw shrimp), any other species you love, omakase sashimi platter.

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

Go to SanDiegoReader.com to find hundreds of past reviews.

Dining Review

Hane

★★★★½ (Excellent to Exceptional)

2760 Fifth Avenue (corner of Olive), Banker’s Hill, 619-260-1411.

HOURS: Tuesday–Sunday, 5:00–10:00 p.m.

PRICES: From a few bucks for simple nigiri up to $25 for large, creative “party rolls.” Figure about $50 per person (including beer and lower-priced sake), plus tip and tax, for simple sushi and sashimi, more if you want fancy rolls, lobster, or top-shelf sake.


Pick Hits: Uni, fatty toro, sweet shrimp, any other species you love, omakase sashimi platter.

Need to Know: New branch of legendary Sushi Ota, much more comfortable but smaller. Reserve, or go as early in the evening and early in the week as possible. Worth eating at the sushi bar to interact with chefs and to watch their exquisite technique and cleanliness. Sushi-bar seats at perfect height (no physical or acrophobia issues); wheelchair-accessible tables. Loud when busy — probably constantly, from now on.

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

Go to SanDiegoReader.com to find hundreds of past reviews.

Ota, Too


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and skeleton are arranged (as at Ota) into a boatlike shape with the skeleton as the sail. When you’re done, the chefs remove the mackerel boat and shrimp heads and cook them. Shrimp heads can be fried or grilled; we tried grilled and decided fried works better — grilling leaves a harder texture, with fewer edible parts. The deep-fried mackerel head and bones are crisp and delicious as potato chips. Steve bit into the skeleton. “Bacon!” he exclaimed doggily, teasing, “Fish bacon!”

We also tried the regular sushi sampler. Couples be warned: the plate offers only one of each item, except for a few tiny nigeri (one pair filled with tuna in the center, the other with Japanese mountain potato, yamaimo), so you just have to negotiate who gets what bite of uni, salmon roe, mirugai, hamachi, eel, snapper, squid, mackerel, and more. All pristine, with classic Ota-style rice, which is utterly neutral, less sweet than at other purveyors.

There were a couple of minor disappointments. “Honeymoon Oyster” (uni, oyster, masago/caviar, and quail egg) is supposed to be plugged down all at once, but here the pair were twice the normal size (I should complain?) and, more problematically, nested in craggy oyster shells that looked as if they’d cut your lips. Eating them piece-by-piece with chopsticks isn’t quite the same. Then, too, I remember an excellent version at Ota of one of my favorite dishes, shwan mushi, a delicate egg custard studded with goodies, including gingko nuts (part of the standard recipe). No gingko nuts in this version (just numerous types of mushrooms), and the custard was thicker, less trembly than I remembered — all in all, the difference between a very nice dish and a thrill. The menu also includes a number of Japanese and fusion appetizers and a few entrees, which I’ll try another time — perhaps.

The sake list isn’t as long (or as top-end scary) as at Ota, but I was very pleased with a dry nigeri “fizzy water” I hadn’t tried before. It seemed better suited to sashimi than the sweeter Takara (from Emeryville), the sushi-bar standard. This one costs a bit more ($15), but either the bottle was larger than Takara’s or the drier brew drank more slowly — one bottle (unshared but for a single sip) easily made it through the meal. Unfortunately, I didn’t write down its name, and Ota doesn’t offer a website to recheck this stuff, but it’s the only $15 nigeri on the list.

Well, the secret’s out now. Hane is Ota Two, or Ota, too. Better make a res from now on. And if you don’t and it’s too crowded — well, Azuki (across the street, south a block and a half) isn’t as awesome, but it’s decent and fun — more fusion-y, more party-rolling — and you’ll have a good time there as well, even if it isn’t Ota.

Bargain Bite: Happy hour at Puerto La Boca
I like to make fun of the term “happy hour,” but at the end of a mad, bad, frustrating day, I hit happy hour at Puerto La Boca with Saint Steve, and we both actually get much happier. Fulfilling food, good, serious wine and beer, fabulous value.

Bottom line: good house wine, $3 a glass; call beer, $3.50; and 30 percent off all appetizers (normally $3–$12) from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. weekdays in the bar. For under $30 (including two drinks each) plus tip, two of us grazed and tippied until we could do so no more, and if that isn’t happiness, I’ll eat my hat and call it uni.

Happy hour is in the bar only, but you can sit at a table there, as we did, knowing we’d be filling the table with food. Steve ordered a Sierra Nevada, I went with the house white — Bodegas Orfila chardonnay from Buenos Aires (not our local Orfila), a classy but unpretentious choice, which delighted me more with every sip. Fresh, crisp, non-oaky, balanced between dry and fruity, it’s a terrific food wine.

Puerto La Boca is Argentine, a culinary nation that puts much of its creative inspiration into the “teatime” tapas served as appetizers here. “Teatime” in Argentina is 5:00 p.m.; dinnertime is 11:00 p.m. — and fat effing chance you’ll find a restaurant open any earlier. So, we’re not talking the queen’s dainty cucumber sandwiches but rich, interesting dishes to stave off starvation after the workday. If you’re not Argentine, you’ll probably call it “dinner.”

The table-goodies include warm baguette slices, cold, spiced butter flecked with chives and some sort of red pepper (don’t ask, it was too cold to taste), plus pit-ted black Greek-style olives and a ramekin of super chimichurri — Argentina’s na-
Dine, Drink & Dance Like the Greek Gods

Live Lobster & Rack of Lamb Dinner for Two $39.95 (Reg. $59.95)

With the purchase of 2 drinks: Served with soup or salad, potatoes, fresh vegetables and pickle bread. Valid every day. With ad. Expires 6/4/09.

LIVE GREEK MUSIC & DANCING THURS.-SAT.

Greek Village Taverna

Open Mon.-Thurs. 11:30-2:30, 5-10
Fri. & Sat. 11:30-10

6030 Paseo Del Norte • Carlsbad • 760-603-9-OPA (672)

50% off beer, wine by the glass & wells

Outdoor fireplace, patio dining & separate smoking section available!

Dinner, Drink & Dance Like the Greek Gods

$30 Prix Fixe Gourmet Dinner includes a Glass of Wine

Appetizer: Baby green salad with gorgonzola, red onion, walnuts and rice wine dressing • Choice of soup • Sautéed New Zealand mussels

Entrée: Pesto grilled halibut with risotto and asparagus • Grilled New York steak au poivre with fries • Herb-roasted chicken filled with prosciutto, squash, fontina over polenta and broccoli rabe

Dessert: Classic crème brûlée • Banana tarte Tatin with dolce de leche ice cream • Caramelized strawberries and figs over vanilla ice cream

Sun., Tues., Wed. & Thurs. 5-7:30
Fri. & Sat. 5-10

30% off with this ad.

Happy hour special: $16.85
All-U-Can-Eat!

Includes: 12 different entrées — Beef, Chicken, Seafood & Vegetarian • Korean Pancake • Side Dishes • Ice Cream & Traditional Juice

Happy Hour: 11 am-6:30 pm & 8 pm-12:30 am Monday-Friday

Lunch special: Buy 2, Get 1 Free!

March Madness

Killian’s Irish Red 25 oz. $3.75, 2.50 pints, $5 pitchers with any pizza order

In the spirit of March Madness, Bella Italia & Games is offering special pricing on Killian’s Irish Red. Whether you’re cheering on your favorite team or just enjoying the tournament, this is a deal you can’t afford to pass up.

March Madness is a term used to describe the excitement and enthusiasm surrounding the NCAA Men’s Basketball Tournament. The phrase was first coined in 1985 during the tournament and has since become synonymous with the college basketball playoffs.

Shabu Shabu House

4646 Convoy Street
Open Mon.-Thurs. 11:30-2:30, 5-10
Fri. & Sat. 11:30-10

3-ITEM COMBO $2 OFF with this ad.

Cook the vegetables in the hot pot
Swish-swish the meat in the pot
Dip meat & veggies in two sauces

Stay slim! Eat more Shabu Shabu!

Have fun and cook your meat and vegetables in a Japanese Hot Pot!

DINNER FOR TWO

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L "I'm going to walk the dog,” meaning, “off to the pub.”"

a Dolce Vita,” reads the sign above the counter where I’m sitting. Well, my visit in no way, dolce right now. Whose is! But this place I had to try. Even though I knew I was in chi-chi territory coming in. After all, the shop next door has a sale on sunglasses... for dogs. Seriously. This is at the bottom end of Fifth, the Convention Center end, where eateries line up to capture conventioneers like bears at a salmon run.

But, as they say, there's one born every day. Or in my case, reborn every day, 'cause eat-at a salmon run.

capture conventioneers like bears

and sliced olives, or prosciutto-wrapped mozzarella, going for $5.95 each, as long as you buy a glass of wine. Except the wines cost anywhere from $5 to $14 per glass.

Getting desperate here. I turn to the back page. “Happy Hour,” it reads, “2:00-6:00 p.m. daily.” Okay, the food’s not all u-can-eat buffet-style, but I appreciate the gesture. Four items: nachos, $4.50; cheese quesadilla, $4.50; buffalo wings, $4.50; and a cheese plate, $6.95. Then — and this might be the clincher — is the happy-hour beers, on tap for $3 each, are really good ones. Arrogant Bastard’s a great San Diego beer, if you like armies of hops marauding around your mouth, and so is Ballast Point’s Yellowtail Pale Ale, and also their Calico Amber. They have Newcastle Brown Ale, a goodly northern English taste that natives call “the dog” (as in “I'm going to walk the dog,” meaning “I'm off to the pub”), plus a couple of others I’m sure do the job. Blue Moon from Colorado, a white Belgian ale, and, okay, Coors Light. Point is, they're trying to give you an interesting bang for your three bucks.

The server, Lance, comes up, “something to drink? Eat, maybe?”

Well, seeing as it's happy hour, I go for the nachos and a glass of that Arrogant Bastard. (“Fuzzy yellow beer is for wussies,” it says on its label.) I have to say, not only is the dark ale hoppin’, but the nachos are rockin’. That is, they come on a classy square white china plate, loaded with chips, cheese, sliced green jalapeños, tomatoes, and daisy chains of sliced black olives.

Yum. I sit on my stool at the marble counter, holding my Bastard, and munching, glugging, checking out the maroon floor, orange chairs, peachy wall colors, and dark, glinting wine bottles stacked in diamond-shaped shelves. It’s nice. Specially since I’ve only paid out $6 for the whole experience.

Around me, conventioners talk deci-

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**Restaurants**

The Reader’s Guide to Restaurants is recommended listings written by our reviewers (Ed Halifax, Barbara David, Ambrose Martin, Shari McCollough, Max Nash, Eleanor Widmer, Naomi Wise). Each issue contains only a fraction of almost 900 reviews. A complete searchable list is available at SanDiegoReader.com. Price estimates are based on the latest information available for a mid-range entrée. Inexpensive: below $10; moderate: $10 to $19; expensive: $20 to $32; very expensive: more than $30. Please call restaurants in advance for reservations.

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**Beaches**

Adobo the Restaurant 9780 North Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla, 858-530-1000. Adobe offers California-Mediterranean cuisine with seasonal dishes with locally farmed vegetables — try the fine, vanilla-tomato polenta and hosts dinners; in Old Town, 112 West Washington St. • 619-298-7738 • medicafe.com

**Baja**

From the United States use the prefix 011-52 when calling Mexico.

La Casa del Molcajepe Aquad Seres, #543, Tijuana, 686-662-9704. Colonia Libertad is where Tijuanan’s love for mole is said to have begun, around 1919. America Amador dreamed of bringing the flavor of her native state of Puebla to Tijuana. That meant one thing: mole poblano, Mexico’s major sauce statement. She opened this flower-filled restaurant and then a second and third. And all because Tijuanans love mole poblano. It is a combination of maybe 20 different spices, chiles, nuts, and chocolate. The menu is a cornucopia of mole poblano dishes. And all because of Mrs. Amador. You can try several variations. Whether you're going under your mole? Thigh or breast of chicken? Pork? Perhaps chicken? For your reference, La Casa del Molcajepe offers a wide variety of mole poblano dishes.

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The mission Cafe and Coffee House 3793 Mission Boulevard, Mission Beach, 858-488-9900. Gretz and Latinas breakfasted served in funky sur-roundings. Outstanding are cinnamon French toast, blackberry-blueberry pancakes, and roast beef with rosemary potatoes and egg. Chino-Latino lunch items. All dishes plus fabulous bread, sauces, muffins available for take-out. Open daily 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Inexpensive.

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**Kono’s** 740 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-488-3073. Kono’s is known among locals, too, for generous portions. Check out their PBS: Pancakes, Bacon and Scrambled Eggs. Open 6:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. with eggs, bacon, cheese, and tomato on a toasted English muffin. Or the CB Burger (chicken breast, green chili, and pica sauce). Best time for foggy mornings. Chow down on their patio on the pier while you enjoy a bird’s-eye view of surfers appearing out of the mist below. Breakfast and lunch daily. Inexpensive. — E.B.

La Jolla Rancheria 7404 La Jolla Boulevard, La Jolla, 858-488-5076. Most of the year this modest eatery serves a standard border-Mexican menu (antojitos, a few typical entrées) running toward the mild side but with a wider, more interesting assortment of foods than most of its ilk. (Hey, it’s La Jolla!) But when local spiny lobsters are in season (typically from late October to about February), here’s one place that gets them down on their patio on the pier while you enjoy a bird’s-eye view of surfers appearing out of the mist below. Breakfast and lunch daily. Inexpensive. — E.B.
Happy Face Restaurant

La Petite Café

Ranchero and

La Petite Café

p.m. daily. Inexpensive. — E.B.

It’s standard

Aztec calendars, trees, and amazing quiet.

Revolución among Olmec sculptures,

in a side eddy here from the storm of

#720-Q, Tijuana, 664-688-2171. You’re

special. Three meals, all-day breakfast

generous five-item-plus-coffee breakfast

low. Vegetarian upon request. Check the

but cooked well and priced amazingly

in a red sauce, and of course carne asada,

stew, pork chops in green sauce, red enchi-

Spanish chicken with rice and beans,

side seat watching

This is a deal. Evenings you have a ring-

rice, chips, salsa, coffee, and a house salad.

arrive to serve you juice and endless cups

plunk down at a table where a waiter will

Expect to tip if you want something from

(area). Tijuana. The place is set in front of

the gorgeous architecture and meet other

buffet offers a great excuse to check out

hotel’s all-you-can-eat Sunday brunch

south end of Boulevard Benito Juárez,

(only 100 yards away). There are good,
generous Mexican dishes here. Breakfast

daily; brunch Sunday. Somewhat expensive for the area. Visa and MasterCard accepted. — N.W.

Vegetarian upon request. Casual dress. Secure parking in

hotel lot for a small extra charge. Three

quest. Casual dress. Secure parking in

Central

Aladdin’s Mediterranean Restaurant — Hillcrest 1220 Cleveland Avenue,

Hillcrest, 619-574-1111. These cafés offer a bright, clean atmosphere for

breakfast and dinner; closed Monday. Moderate.

Anthony’s Fishette 100 North Har-

ter Lane, University City, 858-450-3355. May be Asian San

Green Potato, a bandstand-size gazebo with a big open

area), Tijuana. The place is set in front of

of decent coffee. Vegetarian upon re-

Café Japengo

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Slipper lobster tails, shrimp, grilled chicken and came asada.

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San Diego Reader March 26, 2009
Chopaholic Authentic Afghan Cuisine 750 Sixth Avenue, Downtown, 619-236-2246. Original Afghan dishes, such as traditional nosh dishes, and uniquely delicious appetizers such as leek ravioli (tamago), sea urchin roe (inedible fresh), ponzu sauce, and anon noted rice dishes, and uniquely delicious appetizers such as leek ravioli (tamago), sea urchin roe (inedible fresh), ponzu sauce, and anon noted rice dishes, and uniquely delicious appetizers such as leek ravioli (tamago), sea urchin roe (inedible fresh), ponzu sauce, and anon noted rice dishes, and uniquely delicious appetizers such as leek ravioli (tamago), sea urchin roe (inedible fresh), ponzu sauce, and anon noted rice dishes, and uniquely delicious appetizers such as leek ravioli (tamago), sea urchin roe (inedible fresh), ponzu sauce, and anon noted rice dishes, and uniquely delicious appetizers such as leek ravioli (tamago), sea urchin roe (inedible fresh), ponzu sauce, and anon noted rice dishes, and uniquely delicious appetizers such as leek ravioli (tamago), sea urchin roe (inedible fresh), ponzu sauce, and anon noted rice dishes, and uniquely delicious appetizers such as leek ravioli (tamago), sea urchin roe (inedible fresh), ponzu sauce, and anon noted rice dishes, and uniquely delicious appetizers such as leek ravioli (tamago), sea urchin roe (inedible fresh), ponzu sauce, and anon noted rice dishes, and uniquely delicious appetizers such as leek ravioli (tamago), sea urchin roe (inedible fresh), ponzu sauce, and anon noted rice dishes, and uniquely delicious appetizers such as leek ravioli (tamago), sea urchin roe (inedible fresh), ponzu sauce, and anon noted rice dishes, and uniquely delicious appetizers such as leek ravioli (tamago), sea urchin roe (inedible fresh), ponzu soup (also known as nabeyaki udon), and white garlic cream sauce. For dessert, try the flourless chocolate cake -- a delicious half-pound of flourless chocolate cake. If you're feeling adventurous, you can substitute the flourless chocolate cake with the baked Brie and honey-roasted macadamia crust, few entrées rise to match the baked Brie and honey-roasted macadamia crust, few entrées rise to match the baked Brie and honey-roasted macadamia crust, few entrées rise to match the baked Brie and honey-roasted macadamia crust, few entrées rise to match the baked Brie and honey-roasted macadamia crust, few entrées rise to match the baked Brie and honey-roasted macadamia crust, few entrées rise to match the baked Brie and honey-roasted macadamia crust, few entrées rise to match the baked Brie and honey-roasted macadamia crust, few entrées rise to match the baked Brie and honey-roasted macadamia crust, few entrées rise to match the baked Brie and honey-roasted macadamia crust, few entrées rise to match the baked Brie and honey-roasted macadamia crust, few entrées rise to match the baked Brie and honey-roasted macadamia crust, few entrées rise to match the 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climbing boots on. This place sits on the shoulder of the 15 Freeway hill, a rock and roll peep-out from under the historic hostels with an umbrella-strewn front terrace that’s great for people watching. Its halal menu shows from the excellent coffee and the menu. Many items come straight from the streets of Milan, such as the beef filet croissant with prosciutto ham, smoked mozzarella cheese, and frico or salat; or the Brixton Panini (with prosciutto, goat cheese, olive, pickle; or broccoli/caramelized beef); or the Sicilian salad (spina, tuna, breaded eggs, car- cass, mozzarella). Other dishes include their homemade eggplant parmesan and lasagna. Open daily. Inexpensive to moderate.

— J.B.

Tio’s Crazy Burger 6201 Third Street, North Park, 619-295-6464. Cheap eats can be great eats when made by people who care — like charming owner “Winkie” and European-trained chef Lothar. The place looks a dive, but inside is fun. Creatives sell items to local artists. No reservations, takeout, or delivery accepted. Open daily. Lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to moderate. — N.W.

Urban Solace 3823 30th Street, North Park, 619-295-6464. Your solace at this happening neighborhood eatery is pleasing American comfort food with a hint Southern fried. Among the dishes are house-made biscuits, mortar and pestle sweet potato fries, or a big burger made of Brandt Natural Beef “cooked your way” (and that can vary — reasonably safe with this well-seared beef). Sunday brunches, with a live bluegrass band, offer a flavorsome breakfast. Butter pecan French toast, and creamy, smooth grits. But some severs are neither from Marcel Venom but Utopia, apparently, and at busy times (always) they need a strict traffic cue to remind them to exceed your order and bring your food and beverage to Earth. No reservations, call accepted already. Wine and a fine beer list (no local beer, despite brunch menu and mention of wines). Moderate. — N.W.

Vagabond 3210 30th Street, North Park, 619-459-1035. Seasonal world food filtered through a Gallic sensibility, plus worldwide wines and tropical cocktails. Menu changes often, but don’t miss the classic classics, from the deep-fried Peruvian say ce de carne moste. The tasty Spicy red curry paneer,惩戒ized with exotic sauce of the owner’s global travels, is a perfectly standing room only; so dinner reservations are a must for any night. Evening crowd of hip North Park locals; lunch crowded needed for success. Lunch and dinner daily. Moderate. — N.W.

Vincenzo Ristorante Italiano 1072 India Street, Little Italy, 619-702-6181. The specialty at this tourist favorite is Sicilian stuffed. The cooking is compe- tent, but the restaurant’sinhomogeneous set- tings for ordinary quality (as does the produce provider). The meat loaf is a better job, providing excellent value with the chef gels expertly, and the Italian sauces (from Pete’s Meats, up the block) are the zestiest in town. The restaurant’s hand-surfaced interior is so noisy you’ll hear every conversation but your own; reserve for the sidewalk patio for a quieter evening. Open lunch weekdays, dinner nightly. Moderate. — N.W.

NORTH INLAND

Chez Nous Gourmet Deli-Café 9921 Carroll Canyon Road, Suite 7, in La Mesa, 619-656-6746. The Scripps Ranch social gathering place, in a discreet center of gray timber shops and offices, was started by a couple — originally transplants from San Diego city schools — who took early retirement. They do sandwiches, but what sandwiches! Their roast beef with horseradish sauce or Dijon, or their spicy chicken melt, or the leg of lamb they roast each day to make a juicy lamb sandwich with pickle and merseyni all ordinary. They also do roasted egg- plant on a roll, and a Special 3$’d stacked with interesting berries, fruit, chicken, and nuts. Open daily 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. (10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday; closed Sunday). Inexpensive.

Golden Roost Egg Plant House 116 West Mission Avenue, Escondido, 760-747-4528. This little-bird landscape house is vast but cute, its brick walk and open beams frame food with mushrooms. Their homemade “Texas” beans and the jalapeno seafood. The cooking is compen- satory, and a little cell phone with endless Fernet Branca (Widett’s house champagnes, though). Whatever the mood, stay here — burger, steak,选用 essay — can be ordered to be shared. It is more visually striking from the upstairs “Top of the House” which features pub grub and fish in a lightskatehouse-like setting. On Sundays, local families flock in for the moderately priced à la carte lunch buffet, from 5:30 p.m. in winter and until 10 p.m. in summer. “Early bird” cut-price dinner. Moderate to very expensive.

Kilm’s Restaurant 745 First Street #201, Escondido, 760-942-4816. This Vietnamese and Chinese dishes are off- ered in a calm atmosphere with quick, pleasant service. The menu, including many Vietnamese house specialties, 28 seafood dishes, and a whopping 45 vegetarian/vegan dishes, many made with anat (mock poultry). The seafood isn’t necessarily fresh catch — some shellfish is evidently obtained frozen, scallops are phosphate-preserved, and the reasonably priced abalone dishes involves slightly cheaper, substituted dried abalone from Asia. On the other hand, portions are enormous, and the cooking is careful and tasty, although some flavors have evidently been adapted to American palates and ingredients. Open Tuesday through Sunday, continuous service, lunch and dinner, closed Mon- day. Moderate. — N.W.

La Casa Del Sol 19320 Lake Drive, Carlsbad, 760-729-0903. This place on Sunday brunch. Inexpensive.

Paradigm 760-744-7599. You walk in through a Black Forest entrance and find a huge, dark brick restaurant with a dining area and a bar area. Inside the interior is carved into several rooms with cathedral ceilings, ant cellos, silver art objects. This is classy.

Pasha Mediterranean Cafe & Grill 2000 Carlsbad Boulevard, Carlsbad, 760-729-0150. Reopened, this restaurant is a branch of an upscale Mediterranean cafe in Oceanside. The place looks like a dive, but in- the moderately priced à la carte lunch buffet, the main dish features steaks, and some- time moderate to very expensive.

Cindy is two pieces of French toast with bacon. The food, though, although in my opinion, with a standard menu of Cal-Mex specialties. From the gnocchi to the pot roast, the food is great. Moderate. — N.W.

A Mexican food lover’s choice is this restaurant at his previous restaurant— can’t miss the margarita at his previous restaurant. Here they open beams festooned with knickknacks over great, generous breakfasts. Omelets in summer. “Early bird” cut-price dinner. Moderate to very expensive.

La Jolla • (858) 550-0861

Lunch Daily 11:30 am-2 pm

Dinner Daily 5-9 pm

Appetizers:

Nori Sushi: Albacore, Amaebi Avocado, Camel, Crab, Eel, Ika Jor, Hamachi, Ika, Saba, Salmon, Scallop, Shrimp, Smoked Salmon, Squid, Tuna, Uni, Red Snapper

Cut Rolls: California, Cucumber, Pepper, Rainbow, Crab, Soft Shell Crab, Spicy Tuna, Tempura Shrimp, Vegetable, Yammy, Firecracker, Seafood Dynamite, Shrimp

Hand Rolls: Eel, Salmon Skin, Scallop, Crab, Spicy Tuna, Shrimp, Tempura Shrimp, California

Spices Thai Café — Del Mar 3163 30th Street, North Park, 619-287-7217. Open daily lunch and dinner.

The place looks like a dive, but inside is fun. Creatives sell items to local artists. No reservations, takeout, or delivery accepted. Open daily. Lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to moderate.

— J.B.

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— J.B.

858-565-7949

Open Monday-Saturday 10 a.m.-9 p.m., Sunday 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

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FREE Pasha Meza Platter

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Buy One, Get One Free yogurt!

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Free

Lunch Daily 11:30 am-2 pm

Dinner Daily 5-9 pm

Appetizers:

Nori Sushi: Albacore, Amaebi Avocado, Camel, Crab, Eel, Ika Jor, Hamachi, Ika, Saba, Salmon, Scallop, Shrimp, Smoked Salmon, Squid, Tuna, Uni, Red Snapper

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Hand Rolls: Eel, Salmon Skin, Scallop, Crab, Spicy Tuna, Shrimp, Tempura Shrimp, California

All-You-Can-Eat Sushi Bar $23.95 per person

Japanese entrées are standard fare, with Nobu Japanese Restaurant a different sort of grazing, you can set-sic non-fusion Japanese sushi and namesake, and what he creates is clas-sic. No, this isn’t the chawan thing extra — e.g., not just free their compositions look as beautiful as the visual side of the art isn’t neglected: the friendly chefs take care to make the art isn’t neglected: the friendly chefs take care to make is made from never-frozen seafood, and massaki, and what he creates is clas-sic. Nobu Japanese Restaurant a different sort of grazing, you can set-sic non-fusion Japanese sushi and namesake, and what he creates is clas-sic non-fusion Japanese sushi and namesake, and what he creates is clas-sic. Even the veggie sandwich squishes with the art isn’t neglected: the friendly chefs take care to make the visual side of the art isn’t neglected: the friendly chefs take care to make is made from never-frozen seafood, and massaki, and what he creates is clas-sic non-fusion Japanese sushi and namesake, and what he creates is clas-sic. Even the veggie sandwich squishes with the art isn’t neglected: the friendly chefs take care to make the art isn’t neglected: the friendly chefs take care to make is made from never-frozen seafood, and massaki, and what he creates is clas-sic non-fusion Japanese sushi and namesake, and what he creates is clas-sic. Even the veggie sandwich squishes with the art isn’t neglected: the friendly chefs take care to make the art isn’t neglected: the friendly chefs take care to make is made from never-frozen seafood, and massaki, and what he creates is clas-sic non-fusion Japanese sushi and namesake, and what he creates is clas-sic non-fusion Japanese sushi and namesake, and what he creates is clas-sic.
Daily Humiliations

“To survive the day is triumph enough for the walking wounded among the great many of us.”

T he times they have a-change-ed. Working, Studs Terkel’s remarkable collection of interviews, was published in 1974. Subtitled “People Talk About What They Do All Day and How They Feel About What They Do,” the book’s an oral report on the American worker. In particular, Terkel says in the introduction, it’s about “daily humiliations. To survive the day is triumph enough for the walking wounded among the great many of us.” In the book, workers give vent to dreams and dehumanization. When Stephen Schwartz/Nina Faso’s musical based on the book premiered in 1978, however, people who could afford Broadway tickets didn’t want to hear about people who couldn’t, those who felt “caged” or machine-like. The show closed in less than a month.

Schwartz is currently remaking the original at the Old Globe Theatre. He’s added new material, but what was once the white- and blue-colored blues comes off as a soft-sell, occasionally TV-effects, and the director has encouraged his subjects to be endearing. The original interviews had an audience of one, and Terkel encouraged his subjects to be forthright. The Rep had a one-on-one feel as well. The remake Working cast is backed by a white elephant of a set, infused with fussy Brechtian V-effects, and the director has encouraged his subjects to be endearing.

The original interviews had an audience of one, and Terkel encouraged his subjects to be

told she’s “just” a waitress, “Don’t you think you deserve to be served by me?!” Working ran for six months and preserved the Rep through a long, dark night of lost CITTA-grant funding.

The original interviews had an audience of one, and Terkel encouraged his subjects to be
San Diego A Pops Performance by Ragamala Music and Dance

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Theater Listings

Thesaurus listings and commentary are by Jeff Smith. Information is accurate according to material given us, but it is always wise to phone the theater for any last-minute changes and to inquire about ticket availability. Many theaters offer discounts to students, senior citizens, and the military.

Acts of Faith
Grace Paley said writers have two ears: “that literary ear, and it’s a good old ear,” and the one that “hears the language of home, of your street, and your own people.” A master of short fiction, Paley relied on the latter in stories with recurring characters, narrated by a woman named Faith, who explored her roots, immediate surroundings, and persistent questions that intruded like party crashers. Paley never wrote a novel, but the often-fragmented stories come together in “Faith in a Tree”: she climbs one for a broader perspective on the “man’s world.” Paley swore she isn’t Faith (who is a “compositer,” though Faith’s activism and feminism reflect Paley’s). Kathleen B. Jones’s Faith’s activism and feminism (who is a “composite,” though Paley’s version). Despite the differences, both characters are driven by the same desire to make sense of the world. “Faith in a Tree” is a powerful, moving, and beautifully written exploration of faith and its role in shaping our lives.

All This and Moonlight
Scripps Ranch Theatre presents Charles R. Johnson’s romantic comedy about “love, complete with quips and tears.” The play is set in the mid-1970s. The scenes capture the essence of the time, as well as the characters themselves. The play is about the story of a young man who is trying to make a living as a teacher. He is taught by a wise old man who has lived through many difficult times. The play is filled with humor and pathos, and it is a reminder of the importance of love and faith in our lives.

The History Boys
Youth Theatre San Diego presents Alan Bennett’s award-winning play about the history of the educational system in England. The play explores the relationship between the students and the teachers, and how the history of education has shaped the characters’ lives. The play is set in a school in the mid-1970s, and it captures the essence of the time, as well as the characters themselves. The play is filled with humor and pathos, and it is a reminder of the importance of love and faith in our lives.

An entertaining, sublime dance exhibition.”
—TIME OUT NEW YORK
Theatre directory

A Midsummer Night's Dream
OnStage Playhouse presents Shakespeare's romantic comedy about "star-crossed, cross-cursed, and uncrossed" lovers. Daniel Zito directed.

DAYS, 7 P.M. THROUGH APRIL 26.
WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623.

Old Globe Theatre presents Shakespeare's romantic comedy about the villain...well, see for yourself. Directed.

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Old Globe Theatre presents Shakespeare's romantic comedy about the villain...well, see for yourself. Directed.

uncrossed" lovers. Daniel Zisko

A Midsummer Night's Dream
OnStage Playhouse presents Shakespeare's romantic comedy about "star-crossed, cross-cursed, and uncrossed" lovers. Daniel Zito directed.

DAYS, 7 P.M. THROUGH APRIL 26.
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Better Than the Rest

Saura is characteristically uninformative as to the names and identities of the performers.

From where I sat, the San Diego Latino Film Festival peaked early. (Probably the whole year did.) The first film I saw, on opening night, was my most anticipated film, Carlos Saura’s Fados. It turns out I under-anticipated it. My immediate response at the outset was something along the lines of here we go again. A spacious and spare studio, translucent partitions, process screens, backdrops, mirrors, colored lights, silhouettes, the full arsenal of stage tricks. What he did for the art of flamenco and tango in films called Flamenco and Tango, he was now going to do for that soulful Portuguese folk song, dating back to the first quarter of the 19th Century, the fado. And good enough. Let’s go. But long before the end of it my response had evolved into something very, very, very, very, very rare for me at a new movie, something evoked by neither Flamenco nor Tango, something as plain and simple as I’ve got to get the DVD.

The seed had been planted as early as the first vocal number, after a couple of introductory instrumentals by a percussion ensemble and then a string duet. A catchy upbeat tune, it was, by a svelte and elegant chanteuse with skull-clinging short white hair, exercising a magnetic attraction on a bright-eyed male dance partner. As soon as the song ended, I wanted to replay it. Quintessential DVD response. The singer would come out for an encore much later on, and I would learn in the closing credits that this mixed-race Mozambican goes by the single name of Mariza. I would have to learn elsewhere that she is one of the key keepers of the fado flame, inherited from the late, great Amália Rodrigues, who in Fados can be seen fleetingly, spectrally, in black-and-white archive footage. Saura is characteristically uninformative as to the names and identities, let alone reputations, of the performers. These, a little research will show, come from, besides Mozambique, as far afield as Cape Verde (the single-named Lura), Brazil (Chico Buarque, Toni Garrido, Caetano Veloso), and Mexico (Lila Downs, whose triumphant song of romantic rivalry, acted out by three sinuous dancers, I likewise wanted to replay immediately). Plainly, this is not pure, or puristic, fado, but cross-pollinated fado, even including a hip-hop interpretation, which might guiltlessly be skipped over on DVD. The title, take note, is plural, where Flamenco and Tango were not. Speaking as one whose expertise in the field is limited to once having been taken to a fado bar in Lisbon and once having been given a fado album, I can attest that the degree of musical purity in the film does not matter. It is what it is. The music is music.

The greater emphasis on song than on dance perhaps converts it, in a sense, into the most traditional movie music.
festival programmers filed it as a documentary, but I don’t know. Is The Hollywood Revue of 1929 a documentary? Fudos documents nothing other than itself. It is not a concert film. It does not take you through rehearsals. It offers nary a glimpse behind the scenes. It interviews no one. It supplies no narration and only the briefest printed text at the start and the tersest chapter headings throughout. It is arguably a kind of musical variety show, without a wisp of backstage plot, each separate number specially designed for the screen and organized around a unifying theme, to define fado, stretch the definition, chart the development, trace the influence, scoop out parallels, pay tribute, and, in the grand and glorious finale, relocate it in the urban bar where it flourished, put it fruitfully into the mouth of the next generation (namely the single-named Carmimbo, adorably still wearing braces on her teeth). ‘Variety’ also would be very much the word for the endlessly inventive presentation, the mixing-and-matching of the above-mentioned tricks, always with Saura’s selective eye, steady hand, solid footing. Whether he chooses at any instant to focus on faces, fingers, feet, or full bodies, his choices inspire absolute faith. Forget pure fado; this is pure cinema, luminous, molded, cohesive, flowing, rhythmic, mesmeric. I thought I’d died and gone to heaven.

Next night, Carlos Reygadas’s Silent Light was not so easy to warm up to. As a matter of fact, the domestic drama of marital infidelity set in the strict, German-speaking Mennonite community of Chihuahua, Mexico, exudes an almost Scandinavian chill, specifically a Dreyer-esque severity and self-discipline (to say nothing of his Lutheran rectitude and sense of personal responsibility), characterized by, among other things, front-and-centered compositions, long takes, a clock-ticking tempo. The pace is not merely measured; it is glacially slow, with each scene lasting from minutes to more than twenty hours and twenty minutes of heavy-hanging time. The outward stoicism of the farm folk, though, seems to conceal a well of passion: the father of the family, left behind at the breakfast table, crumples into insuppressible sobs, his choices inspire absolute faith. Forget pure fado; this is pure cinema, luminous, molded, cohesive, flowing, rhythmic, mesmeric. I thought I’d died and gone to heaven.

As It Is in Heaven — A world-class Swedish symphony conductor (Michael Nyqvist, a big, strong Richard Burton-y pocked face) moves back to his native village with a bad heart, whips the church choir into competitive shape, upssets the local bluesmen, seduces against women, wins the heart of the bukking Ibsen, draws out the village idiot, leads the group to Austria for a “Let the People Sing” contest. Careys, overly dramatic, histrionic, and probably cross-pleasing. With Frida Hallgren, Helen Sjöholm, Inga Olsson, and Lennart Hjörn. directed by Kay Pollak. 2004. ★ (GASLAMP 15)

Che: Part One — First half of Steven Soderbergh’s four-hour-and-a-half-hour worship service in honor of Che Guevara, conducted in Spanish with English subtitles, really two distinct movies. This first, in wide screen and in roomy frames, operates a time shuttle between vivid color re-enactments of the overthrow of Batista in the late Fifties and grainy black-and-white faux-news coverage of Guevara’s visit to New York in the mid-Sixties for interviews with the press and speeches at the United Nations. Nothing is sustained (the shuttle runs
**Confessions of a Shopaholic** — The addiction nightmare played as comedy, very frothy and formulaic and materialistic com-edy: a dozen maxed-out credit cards of an aspiring fashion writer, and ravenous copu-son, in Manhattan ("They said I was a valued customer. Now send me the mail!")...The errant Isle Fisher dives into the role of the car-traveller one shot at a time, and she hits a small jackpot out on the dance floor with a Spanish fan in hand. Hugh Grant...It is not so much a "friendl" story, but an "oddities" story, manages first and last, and the decency of the movie is replete with proficiencies of pro-duction, (the period is lavishly detailed, the brief tugboat brief with an amnesia, etc.), and it serves as a vir-tual showcase for the art of making up and art of digital touch-up, digital airbrush, dig-ital prestidigitation, whatever went into the various-ized effects on Brad Pitt and Ginnifer Goodwin. The seamless surgery by which Blanchett. The seamless surgery by which another filmmaker from putting Brad Pitt's head, in service of vanity, on Michael Prittt's body! Cate Blanchett on Gillie Bündchen! With Taraji P. Henson, Jason London, Jared Harris, Tilda Swinton, Julia Ormond. 
**TOWN SQUARE**

**CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON** — From the prize-winning stage play by Helen Han-Ford's fitting, the movie is at some pains to onto bodies of different sizes is used, in this instance. But it raises unsettling possibilities for the revolutionary next leap in screen body double. What's to prevent another filmmaker from putting Brad Pitt's

**DOWNTOWN**

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As It Is in Heaven (Not Rated; The Class (PG-13); Crossing Over (R); The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (PG); Doubt (PG-13); Good (Not Rated; Gran Torino (PG-13); The Haunting in Connecticut (PG-13)); I Love You, Man (R); Knowing (PG-13); Monsters vs. Aliens (PG-13); Race to Witch Mountain (PG-13); Taken (PG-13); Twelve Rounds (PG-13); Watchmen (PG)

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**STATE UNIVERSITY**

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Gomorrah (Not Rated; Gran Torino (PG)); I Love You, Man (R); Knowing (PG-13); Monsters vs. Aliens (PG-13); Race to Witch Mountain (PG-13); Taken (PG-13); Twelve Rounds (PG-13); Watchmen (PG)

**MISSION VALLEY**

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 watched. It exceeds not far in embracing the school's first black student, a vulnerable tar-get, the headbringer and humorsless old nun ("Penmanship is dying, all across this coun-try..."") whose hardline vigilance zeroes in on the priest, and the innocent and idealistic man of young and pretentious who reads the best of the everywhere. The clash of per-sonalities, strictly limited by the play's title

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and tactical guideline, illustrates nothing so much as the players. Meryl Streep, over-acting astoundingly, is not only a holy terror as a muse but a Greek, broody-trapping every scene with unforgettable little diversions, inventions, strategies, embellishments. Paul Giamatti and Amy Adams, no douches themselves, appear to enjoy their one scene alone together in the courtyard, no one to steal it from them, no one to show them up or slap them down. With Viola Davis and Joseph Foster. 2008.

** | (CARMEL MOUNTAIN) | GASPALM 15, 7/3/27; MISSION VALLEY 7

Duplicity — Entertaining enough game of industrial espionage, kicked off, behind the credits, with a slapstick soundless do-mo fight on the Tarzan between the unalike Paul Giamatti and Tom Wilkinson. The repu-tation double-down in time proves to be more exasperating than clever, but writer-director Tony Gilroy, going light after Michael Clayton, hasn’t abandoned his con-science. And he has written some breezy di-s-SAIDAL: JOBilee of CONTEMPORARY ART LA JOLLA 3, 27, 1/6, 3 p.m.

Gomorrah — Worm’s-eye view of the Neopolitan underworld: obscure relation-ship of the Empires and the Salaparuta, broad expanses of banality. The unfamiliar actors and the virtual camera create a plausible impression that it’s all really happening, whether or not you can make much sense of it. Based on the nonfiction best-seller by Roberto Saviano, directed by Matteo Garrone. 2008.

** | (KN) |

Good — Adaptation of C.P. Taylor’s play about the founding of Nazism, with Vigo Mortensen and Jason Isaacs, directed by Vic-ente Amarista. (GASPALM 10)

Gran Torino — Clint Eastwood, director, serves Clint Eastwood, actor, a nice fat one, a softballed lobbed right down the middle of the plate and effortlessly behind the fence: a sort of Grumpy Old Man version of Dirty Harry, a sloucher and a growler (look-ing and sounding uncannily like a dog in defense of a T-bone), a new widower who has seen his Detroit neighborhood taken over by Hmong immigrants (“HUM mong,” in his two-syllable pronunciation), a hard-ass retiree defined by a pair of prized possessions, the M-1 rifle that提振s his service in the Korean War and the ’72 Gran Torino that commemorates his life’s work on the Ford assembly line. The character’s blatant bigotry toward his Asian neighbors, whereby he runs through every applicable epithet in a thesaurus of slurs (past “fishhead” and “gook” all the way to “uppeder”) is somewhat problematic. Eastwood’s enduring presence in the role automatically takes the edge off the racism in a way that just wouldn’t happen if the role were occupied by, say, Gene Hackman, Rip Torn. And taking the edge off the racism is not altogether a good idea, regard-less how many laughs you get out of it. What ultimately redeems him and his film is not the conventional, formulaic, soft-hearted and simple-minded warming of re-lations in a present day democracy, the teenagers next door, and not the tighter focus of wrath on the Asian street gang that’s terrorizing the neighborhood, and not even the expediently plotted climactic act of karmic restoration (which in honesty had slim chance to work out as planned). No, none of that. What redeems him and his film, lending it, for all its entertainment value, a sense of gravity and personal con-viction, is simply its place in line in his on-going penance for the offhanded violence, the incalculable casualties, of his earlier career: its place behind. Unforgiven, A Perfect World, Mystic River, etc. Once was not enough. It was not just lip-service, like an obligatory number of Hail Mary’s after a long-por-tioned trip to confession. It was, if so it would appear, a genuine confession, a sort of mini-atonement. This stands as the further proof of it, and further refinement of it. With Bee Vang, Ahney Her, Christopher Carley. 2009. 7/30; (FARM PROMENADE 24) SANTÉ DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14

I Love You, Man — Buddy comedy with Paul Rudd and Jason Segel, directed by John Hamburg. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASGALP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VIEJO 20; STRIP RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6; TOWN SQUARE 14)

The Haunting in Connecticut — Occu-pational horror with Virginia Madsen, Misan, Justin Bartha, Kyle Gallner, and Elias Koteas, directed by Peter Cornwell. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASGALP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VIEJO 20; STRIP RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 16; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SAN MAR COS 18; SANTÉ DRIVE IN; SOUTH BAY DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

** | (GASPALM 15) |

Knowing — A schoolgirl’s seduced submis-sion time capsule fifty years ago which has to have predicted every major calamity up to the present and beyond. A couple of authentically nightmarish dreams and a cou-plery creepy moments with a group of silent stalkers known as the Whisper People provide small compensation for the drugged-out overworked climax (the slow movement of Beethoven’s Seventh once again gets dragged out, too) and the linger-ing plot questions. With Nicolas Cage, Chandler Canterbury, Rose Byrne, and Lara Robinson; directed by Alex Proyas. 2009.

** | (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASGALP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VIEJO 20; OCEANIDE 15; STRIP RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 16; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SAN MAR COS 18; SANTÉ DRIVE IN; SOUTH BAY DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Monsters vs. Aliens — Computer-animated sci-fi comedy with the voices of Reese Witherspoon, Seth Rogan, Hugh Laurie, Kiefer Sutherland. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSS MONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VIEJO 20; STRIP RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SANTÉ DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; FROM 3/27)

Paul Blart: Mall Cop — A hypervigilant overweight eight-time-rape victim from the Jersey State Troopers, trying to make the most of a job as a security guard, can’t handle a spe-cifying old duffer in a wheelchair or a bellissimo fat lady at Victoria’s Secret, yet he resists the challenge of a highly trained team of professional armed robbers. Die Hard for the common schlub (Kevin James, highly trained in his own way), with a hot chick as...
2009.

The Secrets — The academically advanced daughter of a fundamentalist rabbi, posturing for an arranged marriage in order to study the Talmud at a seminary for advanced daughter of a fundamentalist rabbi, is evidently on board for the logic of destiny, the bringing together of these people in this place for this purpose, to carve out a life path that diverges from the path that had been charted, a twirly, tumbling one in a paced straightforwardly. To say it a different way, the logic of it can pass as an object lesson in the art of fiction. This is how the trick is supposed to be done, one thing leading inexorably to another with step-by-step credibility, cumulative implication, climactic impact. It fascinates and illuminates. Directed by Avi Nesher. 2007.

Smogdog Millionaire — Feverish daydreams, partly amusing, partly annoying, around an unspoken Bombay teenaged boy who, hoping to reconnect with his childhood sweetheart, climbs toward the top prize on the Indian Who Wants to Be A Millionaire? It breaks down into three time zones, shuffled together in a jumble: the game show itself, the torture and third degree of the contestant by police who, convince him he's cheating, and the flashbacks to the life experiences that explain how he could answer the questions. Much squall and brutality, but filmed by Danny Boyle with a heedless, almost uncaring, exultation and exhibitionism. Dev Patel, Freida Pinto, Irfan Khan. 2008.

Sunshine Cleaning — Thin slice of American grief, the main ingredients of which are two Albuquerque sisters partnered in the business of “Crime Scene Cleaning.” (A pre-credits dognap-suicide demonstrates the need.) Amy Adams, a single mom in an affluent suburb with her old boyfriend as a rival counter on the way to eating every little rice and fall of feeling, while Emily Blunt, as her irresponsible sister, maintains a shivery tenor, not exactly steadier but at any rate not as wide-ranging. And Alan Arkin, as their crackpot entrepreneur, is evidently on board for the logic of destiny, the bringing together of these people in this place for this purpose, to carve out a life path that diverges from the path that had been charted, a twirly, tumbling one in a paced straightforwardly. To say it a different way, the logic of it can pass as an object lesson in the art of fiction. This is how the trick is supposed to be done, one thing leading inexorably to another with step-by-step credibility, cumulative implication, climactic impact. It fascinates and illuminates. Directed by Avi Nesher. 2007.

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In the past 12 months the Reader has added features to encourage its readers to contribute or modify content:

Typo Patrol – Sharp readers catch the Reader staff's typographical errors and make $10 per error identified. We publish the results weekly. Over $6000 was paid out to Typo Patrol sharpies in 2008. See this week's results, page 136.

My Neighborhood – Started out as an occasional contest, it is now a monthly competition to foster heartfelt writing about where we live. First place earns $500, second $250, third $100. Essays end up on website neighborhood pages and the winners are published in the paper Reader. Over $7000 was paid in 2008. Submit your story at SDReader.com.

Movie User Reviews – The Reader's movie reviewer, Duncan Shepherd, has been the most reviled man in San Diego. Now the public joins him every week on the website — commenting on current reviews and the 7000 movie capsule reviews. The best three are awarded prizes and printed in the Reader every week. Submit your comments at SDReader.com.

Restaurant User Reviews – The Reader's reviewers Naomi Wise and Ed Bedford are joined by the public complaining and praising. The best three are awarded prizes and printed in the Reader. Submit your comments at SDReader.com.

High School Football and Basketball Blogs – Anthony Gentile, the author of “Red Zone” (high school football) and “Fast Break” (basketball), has attracted fervent co-bloggers, including a food-fight between Cathedral Catholic and Oceanside High fans. Submit your comments at SDReader.com.

Pop Quiz – Readers of the Reader are tested on each week's stories. First five correct entrants get $25 or a Reader T-shirt. See this week's questions and results, page 138.

Reader Puzzle – Hundreds of puzzle solvers send in their results with personal messages. Ten of the solvers earn Reader T-shirts each week. The puzzle is a particular hit in Santee. See this week's puzzle and results, page 120.

Neighborhood News Stringers – Since the end of December, 2008, the Reader has offered to pay stringers for 100- to 250-word news stories. Submit your story at SDReader.com.

Story Comments – A regular feature of the Reader website, some threads reach 100+ comments. Deletions are made only for gross obscenity and libel. Submit your comments at SDReader.com.

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San Diego March 26, 2009 115

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BIOGRAPHICAL INDEX. "Who is Who in America 2009" is a collective biography of distinguished and influential men and women in the United States and of foreign national figures. Selected by the editors of Who’s Who in America, for the inclusion of a biography in Who’s Who in America, an individual must meet the requirements of price policy in a publication issued to more than one state. The student should meet the requirements of price policy in a publication issued to more than one state. The student should be able to afford the cost of the book as an aid to further his education. The student should be able to afford the cost of the book as an aid to further his education. The student should be able to afford the cost of the book as an aid to further his education. The student should be able to afford the cost of the book as an aid to further his education.
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THE READER PUZZLE:

RULES OF THE GAME
1) Each week we’re printing a list of EVERYONE who submits the correct answers to the previous week’s puzzle. See this week’s contenders below.
2) When you successfully complete a puzzle, we’ll also print a brief (10 words or less) message that you’ve written. This is optional, but it’s a great way to express yourself. You may submit a new message weekly.
3) We’re keeping track of how many puzzles you successfully complete. But your information will only be printed when you successfully complete a puzzle AND get it to us by 7:00 a.m., Monday.
4) Entries must be faxed to 619-231-0489 or mailed to Reader Puzzle, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92138-5803, or delivered through our mail slot at 703 India Street in Little Italy, or scanned and e-mailed to: puzzles@sdreader.com. Submissions must be attached to e-mail in PDF format, 600 by 800 pixels, maximum file size of 1MB. Submissions that don’t fit the format will not be considered or counted.
5) 10 Reader T-shirts are awarded weekly to contenders chosen randomly! And now for the really small print: All answers must be legible and entered in the spaces provided.
6) Late entries will not be considered.
7) One entry per person per week or per household.
8) Employees of the Reader and their immediate families are not eligible.

Across
1. Massachusetts governor
2. Carefree song syllables
3. Comic routine
4. Ex of the Donald
5. Gaza group
6. Musician Brian
7. Nose-in-the-air type
8. Flash drive filler
9. Psychedelic drug
10. Musician Brian

Down
1. Market fluctuations
2. ‘Almighty’ role for Steve Carell
3. Toronto’s prov.
4. To date
5. Hagwarks supplies
6. Marilyn Monroe
7. Nobel prize
8. ‘Kemo sabe’ speaker
10. Soothing music

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK’S PUZZLE:

We cannot accept your entry without the following:
Name: ________________________________
Address: _____________________________________________________________
Neighborhood/City: ____________________________________________________
State: __________________________ Zip Code: ______________________________
Circle T-shirt size: M   L   XL
Personal Message: ______________________________________________________

We reserve the right to reject offensive text.

THIS WEEK’S CONTENDERS:

See Your Ranking Online! Now you can go online to check your ranking and communicate with each other! Simply visit: www.SDReader.com/puzzle. The new ranking is posted each Wednesday. To use the ‘comments’ feature, you must be a registered site member.

Jim Oedel, Vista, 11. “unvanquished”
Robert Ott, Mira Mesa, 11. “I’ll never call you”
Gil Patricia, San Diego, 11. "Happy Birthday, Thalidomide!"
John Pertle, Santee, 11. “Come on, John!" (Saturday Night Live: Blues Brothers)
Robert Phillips, Downtown, 11. "Thank you for the memories, Rolf!"
Don Rieck, Carmel Valley, 11. "Thank you for the memories, Rolf!"
Mark Wilda, Spring Valley, 11. "How is your broccoli soup?" (The Big Apple)
Ann Winder, Hillcrest, 11. "I’m a registered member of the club!"
Lucy Alderson, Chula Vista, 10. "Congratulations!" (San Diego Reader puzzle)

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WEDDING PHOTOGRAPHY


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I went to see my brother in London. Something happened involving the tickets to a plane. There was a delay and the attendant told us to let us in for free. It was right after the show had started at the museum. She could’ve charged us full price or just refused to let us in since it had started. We thought that was very nice.

TRAVELING IN ATLANTA, we had gone to see a show. We got there late, after rushing to catch a plane. There was a delay and the attendant told us to let us in for free. It was right after the show had started at the museum. She could’ve charged us full price or just refused to let us in since it had started. We thought that was very nice.

TRAVELING IN ATLANTA, we had gone to see a show. We got there late, after rushing to catch a plane. There was a delay and the attendant told us to let us in for free. It was right after the show had started at the museum. She could’ve charged us full price or just refused to let us in since it had started. We thought that was very nice.
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Lead Story
Though India is recognized as a world leader in promoting the health benefits of urine, its dominance will be assured by the end of the year when a cow-urine-based soft drink comes to market. Om Prakash, chief of the Cow Protection Department of the RSS organization (India's largest Hindu nationalist group), try to time a release of London reporter in February, promised, "It won't smell like urine and will be tasty, too," noting that medicinal herbs would be added and toxins removed. In addition to improved health, he said, India needs a domestic (and especially Hindu) beverage to compete with the foreign influence of Coca-Cola and Pepsi.

Government in Action
After 50 years’ separation following their adoption by separate families, identical twins Rosalba Glatsey of Australia and Dorothy Loader of Malaysia were reunited in September 2009 after a years-long search by Glatsey, who applied to bring Loader under the country’s family migration policy. However, in January, the Department of Immigration and Citizenship ruled that, under the law, Loader is not related to Glatsey (in that the adoption

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