

SAN DIEGO WEEKLY

VOLUME 35 / NUMBER 36
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Reader

Bares Rule

(STORY BEGINS ON PAGE 24)

O.B. Record Label Swaps Services for Massage and Yoga – See Blurt



NEWS & FEATURES

Bares Rule
Black's Beach exposed. By Geoff Bouvier.....**24**

City Lights
Pay no attention to the man behind the curtain;
and City Lights shorts.....**6**
Jim Bates looks back.....**7**

Letters.....**14**

The Sporting Box
Time to play "If I Were Steve Foley's Attorney".....**15**

Sheep and Goats
No shoes and hurried prayer in Scripps Ranch.....**16**

Best Buys
An amusing little lemonade with a perky finish.....**18**

Crasher
Jailed for a good cause.....**20**

Diary of a Diva
Fashion's name is Juicy.....**22**

Three iPods, Twenty Video Games
What to buy with found money?.....**40**

Unforgettable
When God can't conquer with sweetness. By Jeff Smith.....**44**

The Ethical Outlaw
Scrappers, tweekers, smugglers, bombs. By Michael
DiGregorio.....**51**

Set a Needle on My Heart
The stereo finds a victim. By John Brizzolara.....**64**

La Semana en Español
A week's worth of stories in Spanish.....**158**

Puzzle.....**187**

Name This Place.....**188**

Off the Cuff.....**194**

Picture Story.....**202**

News of the Weird.....**203**

Back When
Pot-head Charger fans felt the heat.....**205**

Ask Saffron
Don't party hearty at my wedding.....**207**

Blog World
Vile! Inappropriate! Eeek!.....**209**

It's a Crime
Mistaken identity, mistaken kidnapping.....**211**

Remote Control King
Better a Charger than a Brown.....**213**

T.G.I.F.
Feel our future in September.....**215**

CALENDAR

Local Events.....**81**

Roam-O-Rama
Maple Canyon: sea floor to urban ravine.....**88**

Reading
Alice Goldfarb Marquis: *Art Czar*.....**92**

Classical Music Guide.....**95**

Art Museum and Gallery Guide.....**95**

Theater Review and Guide
Michael Frayn's amazing *Copenhagen*, at
Cygnet Theatre.....**96**

Pop Music
Blurt.....**102**
Sweat and hair products in your eyes.....**106**

Restaurant Reviews and Guide
Oh, the flavors you will find.....**136**
The roar of the omelet, the smell of the crowd.....**138**
The proper pairing is magic.....**139**

Movie Review and Guide
Hollywoodland looks into the death of George Reeves.....**150**



**Will Supernova's Hairstyles
Pass the Test of Time?
See Page 213**

ADVERTISING

Classified Ads

Antiques & Collectibles.....211
Appliances.....212
Automotive: Cars.....214
Automotive: Trucks/Vans/SUVs.....214
Automotive: Classic/Custom Cars.....215
Automotive: RVs.....215
Automotive: Parts.....215
Automotive: Services.....215
Bicycles.....210
Business Opportunities.....185
Career Training.....184
Classes/Lessons.....185
Computers.....210
Counseling/Support.....188
Electronics.....212
Employment Services.....183
Furniture.....212
Garage Sales.....212
Health & Fitness.....187
Help Wanted.....160
Massage.....186
Matches.....189
Miscellaneous For Sale.....212
Motorcycles.....214
Music, Equipment/Instruments.....192
Music, Musicians Avail/Wanted.....192
Music, Services.....193
Notices.....188
Parent Resources.....187
Personals.....189
Pet Central.....195
Photo.....210
Real Estate, Condos.....208
Real Estate, Houses.....207
Real Estate, Miscellaneous.....210
Rentals, Commercial.....195
Rentals, Apartments/Condos.....196
Rentals, Houses.....195
Roommates.....193
Roommate Services.....195
Services Directory.....190
Sports.....210
Stage Notes.....188
Tickets.....210
Travel & Getaways.....189
Wanted/Trade.....211
Wedding/Party Guide.....188

Display Ads

Apartment Rentals.....196
Automotive.....200
Career Training.....174
Getaways.....82
Great Escapes.....82
Health and Beauty.....54
Help Wanted.....160
Instruction.....184
Music.....192
Real Estate.....195
Research Studies.....43
Services.....185
Wedding Guide.....90

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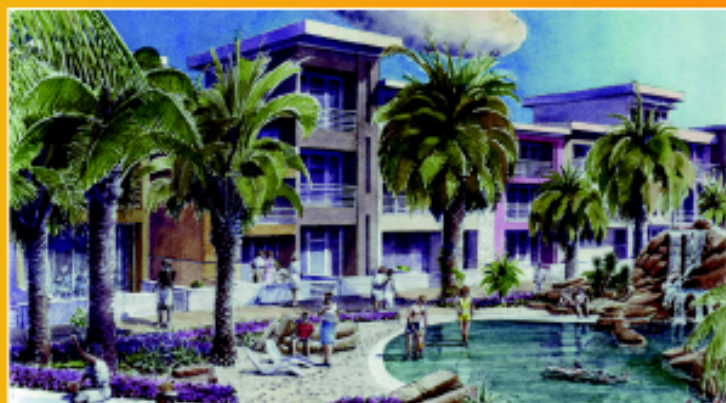
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A NEW INTERPRETATION OF LIVING

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Car talk with Donna The campaign committee of San Diego city councilwoman **Donna Frye**, who was easily reelected this June 6, ended the first half of the year with \$8240 in the bank. On June 13, exactly a week after her victory, she picked up maximum campaign contributions from the likes of **Mike Baker**, vice president of Bob Baker's



Donna Frye

Auto Group; **Joe Gardon**, with Midway Jeep Chrysler; **Dave Grundstrom**, a car dealer with Marvin K. Brown Auto Center; **John Hine Jr.**, with John Hine Pontiac; and **Ed Witt**, president of Witt Lincoln Mercury. One of Frye's close chums and biggest fund-raisers is lobbyist **Janay Kruger**, whose clients include Baker, Midway Jeep, and the Mission Valley Auto Circle, along with the San Diego Police Officers Association, Atlas Hotels, and the Olson Company.

... Even some of those not facing reelection this year reported activity in their campaign accounts. City councilman **Brian Maienschein**, who can't run for reelection due to term limits, transferred \$18,822 of his cash into a Charles Schwab & Co. investment account. On June 30, the Maienschein campaign kitty, worth a total of \$223,892 at the end of the July 31 reporting period, collected \$17,257 in capital gains from Schwab. Under state law, the money may eventually be used by Maienschein to run for higher office, such as the assembly or senate or used for "office holder expenses," given away to charities. **Jim Madaffer**, another term-out councilmember, ended the first half of this year with \$32,002 in the bank. Expenditures included \$206 for a "staff retreat" and about \$800 for cell phone service from Verizon Wireless.



Brian Maienschein

Justice delayed The repeatedly postponed sentencing of **William Robert Bradley**, the Metabolife millionaire and onetime business partner of San Diego mayor **Jerry Sanders** in a failed high-tech licensing venture, has been put off once again. This time, according to a court filing made last month by Bradley's attorney and federal prosecutors, more time is needed for defense lawyers to look over new evidence prosecutors have introduced regarding Bradley's alleged crimes. The once high-flying Bradley, brought down in the crash of the diet pill empire he helped create, copped a plea to income tax evasion charges back in October of last year. After several false starts, sentencing is now set for September 21. ... Meanwhile, another high-profile white-collar criminal defendant with links to San Diego city hall has also had his sentencing delayed. **Michael Galardi**, the Cheetahs strip-club owner who turned state's



Jerry Sanders

evidence after the feds nailed him in the city council influence-peddling scandal, is to be sentenced this November 20 instead of September 25, as previously set. The reason, according to an August 16 stipulation between Galardi's attorneys and the government, is that Galardi is helping prosecutors in the upcoming September 18 trial in Las Vegas of **Lance Malone**, the former Galardi lobbyist who was found guilty of fraud, extortion, and conspiracy in the city council case here and is accused of doing much the same things with Nevada officials. "Additional time is necessary for the defendant to continue to cooperate, and then for the Government, following the defendant's cooperation, to be able to fully apprise the Court as to the extent of the defendant's cooperation."

Over a pork barrel Ex-congressman **Randy "Duke" Cunningham** was packed off to prison for accepting bribes from Defense Department lobbyists, but the scandal hasn't crimped the campaign fund-raising style of his onetime close GOP colleague **Duncan Hunter**, chairman of the House Armed Services Committee. According to its latest financial disclosure, the Hunter campaign picked up thousands of dollars from individuals who represent companies doing business with the Pentagon. A prominent example is **Craig Hartzell** of Morgantown, West Virginia, who gave his latest \$1000 to the Hunter campaign on June 29 of this year. Hartzell runs Azimuth, Inc., which his hometown newspaper, the *Morgantown Dominion Post*, describes as making top-secret electronics for Navy patrol boats. The firm also builds robotic devices to defuse roadside explosives in Iraq.

Hartzell doesn't limit his largesse to Republicans. In May, *Roll Call*, the daily newspaper that covers Capitol Hill, reported that Azimuth, which this year received a \$20 million contract from the Department of Homeland Security, was on a list of West Virginia companies that had paid for a 2004 trip to Spain for West Virginia Democratic congressman **Alan Mollohan**, his wife, and two aides. Mollohan had already been under fire on a variety of fronts, including his funneling of \$250 million in federal money to a group of five nonprofit organizations he had set up, purportedly to enhance economic development in his district. One of Mollohan's most notorious connections is to MZM, Inc., the defense outfit run by **Mitchell Wade**, who pled guilty to bribing Cunningham. MZM gave Mollohan's campaign a total of \$23,000, which he contributed to the Salvation Army after the scandal broke.

Michael Galardi



Duncan Hunter

— *Matt Potter*

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

Don't Connect The Dots

By Don Bauder

'Mother, this town is so corrupt/ May I probe why it rots?"/ "Yes, my darling daughter/ But don't connect the dots."

The City of San Diego has paid more than \$30 million to consultants like Navigant, Vinson and Elkins, and Kroll, and they

if the practice continued, it could lose \$266 million in government grants and loans. The delays in implementing equi-



From San Diego Union-Tribune, August 17, 2006

all followed instructions: smudge the facts, skirt the trail, hide the bodies so we can keep the establishment's lackeys in their government posts. In short:

Don't connect the dots.

But the consultants couldn't erase all the clues. I have had the opportunity to view some things these firms ignored — probably deliberately. It's clear San Diego's corruption is not confined to city hall. It's deeply embedded in the business community, mainstream media, and the courts. To wit:

The Kroll report added some detail to what was already known: between 1995 and 2004, the City had been subsidizing large industrial wastewater customers. Residential ratepayers were overcharged to accommodate business. Then-mayor Dick Murphy said he didn't want to harm industry by establishing honest rates. In pulling this \$120 million scam on consumers, the City was defying state and federal laws, and knew it. The state told the City that

table sewer rates "resulted directly from pressure on the Council by industrial users," particularly Kelco (ISP Alginates), said Kroll. "The City Council intentionally delayed implementing a compliant rate structure out of concern for Kelco."

But let's connect some dots

"...notwithstanding Councilmember Frye's repeated efforts to bring the matters to the public's attention."

From Kroll report

that Kroll ignored. Current council president Scott Peters served on one committee that handled sewer and water issues and was named to former mayor Dick Murphy's Clean Water Task Force. So whom did Kelco hire to make its case? The law firm of Opper and Varco, that's who. Until Peters got elected in 2000, the firm had been named Peters and Varco. Both Peters and the firm claim that

he had no direct or indirect financial interest in Opper and Varco at the time of the Kelco lobbying. "The matter should be investigated," says City Attorney Mike Aguirre.

On February 9, 2004, lawyer Linda C. Beresford of Opper and Varco sent a nine-page memo to Kelco, asserting that the City's rate structure was not out of compliance with the Clean Water Act or state requirements, no matter what anybody said. Kelco should continue trying to press its case with the State Water Resources Control Board, the key agency in the matter, she said. Right around that time, the City was forced to admit that it had not been telling potential bond investors about its huge pension deficit. At that point, Councilmember Donna Frye experienced an epiphany: had the City, she wondered, warned possible bond buyers that it might have to pay back \$266 million in grants and loans? It had not. This put city hall under the gun. So despite pressure from industry, the council in mid-2004 voted unanimously to raise industrial rates and lower residential rates.

But the corporate-welfare-obsessed council still wanted to help Kelco pay its new, higher sewage bills. In a no-bid contract, it hired a consultant to see if Kelco could solve the problem through sewage engineering. Then it inked a mutual confidentiality agreement with Kelco so no one would know what was afoot.

That approach didn't work, so the City tried financial engineering: it considered, in effect, making Kelco a \$36 million loan, forgiving half of it, and

then permitting the company to repay the rest over 25 years. To make up for the loss of revenue, the City would delay construction of a South Bay plant and an environmental lab. Mercifully, an outside lawyer pointed

continued on page 8

Contact Don Bauder at 619-546-8529 or don.bauder@mac.com

Airport Answers and The \$800 Ashtray

By Joe Deegan

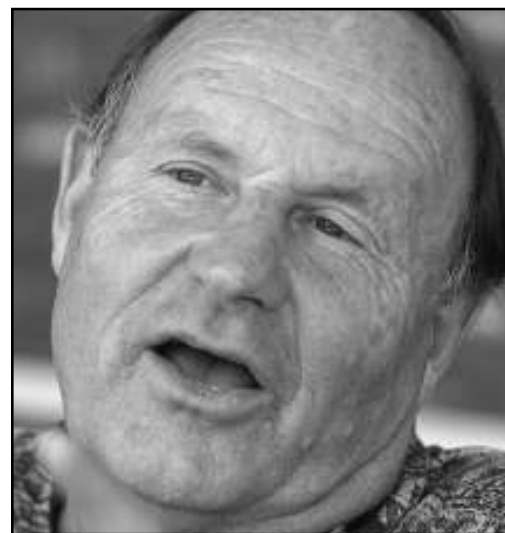
Former congressman Jim Bates is telling me the story about the first vote he cast as an elected official. “It made me an enemy

for life,” he says. The previous fall, in 1970, both Bates and Maureen O’Connor (he was 29 and she was 25) had won seats on the San Diego City Council, the first time in elected office for each of them. Pete Wilson, who already had served five years in the California State Assembly, joined them on the council as a first-term mayor.

The city council vote, remembers Bates, was on a proposal to dig into a hill and build a 20-story building at the corner of Friars Road and Ulric Street in Mission Valley. The proposal had come from John Mabee, owner of the 30-store Big Bear market chain and future owner of celebrated thoroughbred Best Pal.

“I thought the project would create a parking nightmare and terrible traffic congestion,” Bates continues, “and it just didn’t seem right. But it passed eight to one. I was the only one to vote against it, and I said [to the council], ‘This is the first time I’ve been here, and I don’t know how everything works. But during the campaign, all I heard was how money was influencing [politics]. I don’t know if

that’s the case here, but I don’t understand this vote; it doesn’t make sense to me. So, just for the record, I’d like to disclose how much money I



received from John Mabee. Will anyone else disclose how much they received?”

“I said, ‘Two hundred dollars he gave me.’ Maureen O’Connor, \$5000 — there were no contribution limits in those days — everyone else in the thousands, Pete Wilson, \$25,000, some enormous figure. And

Wilson said, ‘The money didn’t influence the vote at all, but you know, you raise some interesting points about the traffic. I think we need to look at this a little closer.’ So the council reconsidered and voted again. The motion failed eight to one. It was a front-page story, my first vote as a city councilman. And John Mabee always hated me.” (Mabee died in 2002.)

Bates has a habit of straying from the subject, and my interest on this day is the 1990 work he did in the U.S. House of Representatives on finding

beyond a bitter defeat by Randy “Duke” Cunningham that ended Bates’s four-term stint in the House. Bates, a Democrat, served San Diego’s then 44th Congressional District.

That summer, Bates had been making a case that the long-sought new location for San Diego’s airport should be the Naval Air Station at Miramar. He managed, on July 31, 1990, to get language in a Defense Department authorization bill that required the Navy to produce a feasibility study on Miramar’s becoming both a civil-



ian and military airport.

An August 2 press release from Bates’s office that can be read in the SDSU collection recounted what happened next. “In a stunning defeat, Congressman Duncan Hunter lost an effort on August 1 to derail a study initiated by Congressman Jim Bates that would examine the merits of a shared-use, military/civilian airport at Miramar.... Mr. Hunter offered an amendment to the Bates language that would have allowed the Navy to escape the mandate for the airport study by requiring that the [San Diego] County planning commission originate the request for the study.”

The press release then noted that the Hunter measure failed in the House Armed Services Committee by a 26-to-25 margin. It closed by quoting Bates: “I know the Navy is reluctant to cooperate with the county on this concept of shared use, but the requirement for a study is a must when Congress, not the county, asks for it.”

The *San Diego Evening Tribune* must have bitten on the release, because it ran an August 3 story titled “Hunter Tried to Kill Miramar-Airport

Study,’ Bates says.” The article, saved in the SDSU collection, reported that Bates was characterizing Hunter’s amendment as a pro-Cunningham tactic (denied by Hunter) for the upcoming election.

In light of current airport developments, I had called Bates to get his perspective on the episode. While in the House, Bates sponsored, among other bills, a stratospheric ozone protection amendment to the Clean Air Act. It was signed into law in 1990. Al Gore was the bill’s Senate sponsor. But Bates got

Democrats were in control of the Congress. And the chairman of Armed Services then was Les Aspin [later to become President Clinton’s first secretary of defense], and I was one of his critical lieutenants who helped him, in the seniority system, jump over a number of people. It was simply access and influence that I was able to do it.

“But I left office before the report ever came out. Did the language even stay in the bill? I know Hunter would have liked to get it out. Maybe it did



Jim Bates

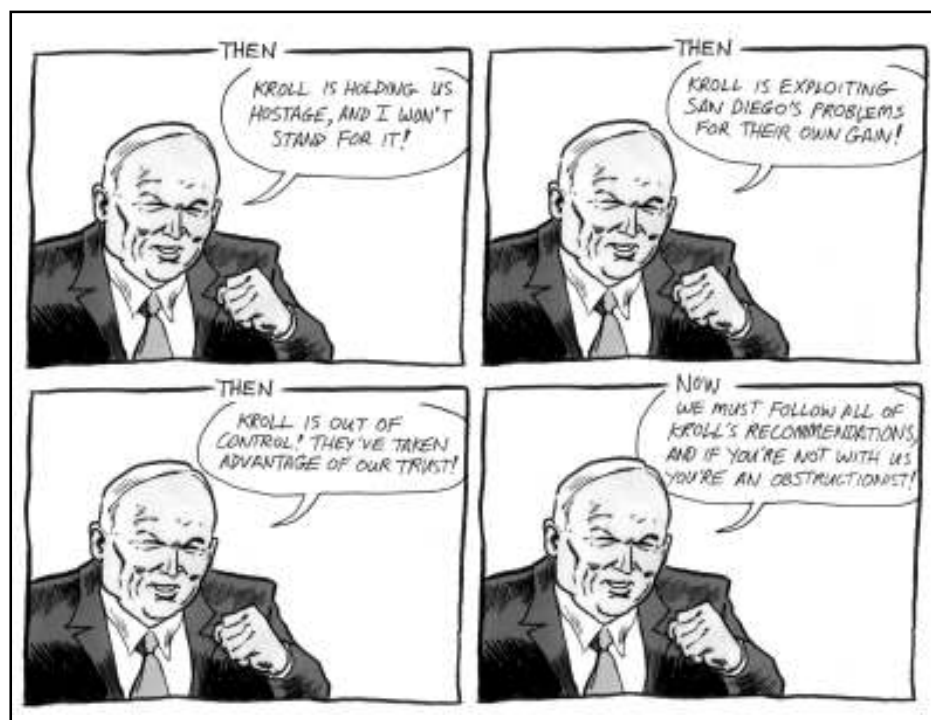
and [the military] just let it go and never said anything. They do that a lot. I don’t know if you noticed in my papers, but earlier I did work on waste, fraud, and abuse of the military, particularly at Miramar. So I dealt with them a great deal on reports and other stuff, and they’d never answer anything straight.”

By 1990, another proposal to move San Diego’s airport was on the table. City councilmen Ron Roberts and Bob Filner, the previous year, had encouraged the city to study a “binational” airport on Otay Mesa. It was to involve Brown Field and Tijuana’s Rodríguez Field. San Diego County congressmen Bill Lowery and Ron Packard supported the idea.

In late summer 1989, Bates held hearings in the South Bay to get community input on an Otay binational airport. A year later he was speaking against it. On August 17, 1990, he flew to Mexico City to meet with the Mexican secretary of communication and transportation. Upon his return, his office in Washington put out a press release announcing that the Mexican government had no

continued on page 8

Neal Obermeyer



Don't connect

continued from page 6

out that such a caper would continue to punish residential ratepayers — just what council had voted to prohibit.

Don't connect the dots.

And the media? The Kroll report notes that Frye “made efforts to have this [the corrupt sewage-billing practices] brought to the public’s attention.” It uses similar language in another place and in still another says Frye objected to “shrouding the City’s lack of compliance in secrecy.”

But in an editorial about the Kroll report on August 17, the *Union-Tribune* said that Frye did not take “action to inform the public about the illegality.” Then it ran her picture with the caption, “Donna Frye voted against illegal sewage rates but kept the public in the dark.”

It appears to have been a deliberate lie, similar to the ongoing smears of Aguirre. The newspaper wants to keep a corrupt establishment and City government in the saddle.

Don't connect the dots. Erase

them.

Then there are the ballpark bonds of 2002. The Kroll report concluded that Murphy’s Blue Ribbon Committee report on city finances — containing warning signs of the pension deficit — was held up from fall of 2001 until after the ballpark bonds went to market in February 2002. This means the City knew the devastating pension information should have been included in bond prospectuses. It was deliberately withheld — from the ballpark bonds and subsequent bonds. That’s a crime.

But Kroll neglected to give the big picture. In 1998, the citizenry had voted to subsidize a ballpark on the promise that it would be self-financing. Padres majority owner John Moores vowed to make sure that new hotels and retailers would throw off enough taxes to cover the interest on the bonds. The ballot proposition had a key provision: the mix of buildings could be “fine-tuned,” but if the mix was changed significantly, the public would vote again.

Then in late 2001, the city council relieved Moores of

building 66 percent of the office buildings he’d promised and 33 percent of the retail establishments. He would not have to build 850 promised hotel rooms. Shelving the Campbell Shipyard Hotel would result in \$7.4 million of lost hotel tax revenue. Hardly fine-tuning. The council said it was okay to replace these tax-generating structures with condos, apartments, and lofts. Whatever taxes such residences throw off are always eaten up by infrastructure and services costs. The city would lose a bundle in tax revenue, argued retired law professor Robert Simmons, who went to court.

The establishment went into action. The *Union-Tribune* denounced Simmons. The Padres sued former councilmember Bruce Henderson, who was thinking of joining the Simmons suit; the *U-T* editorial board was told about the Padres suit three days before it was filed. The paper editorially applauded the filing, once again calling all opponents “obstructionists.” (“Obstructionist” is a word that the *U-T* and civic lapdogs such as former city attorney Casey Gwinn apply to anyone trying

to thwart corruption or stupidity, such as the Chargers’ 60,000-seat guarantee.)

The City told the judge it had to have a decision in its favor in 30 days, or Major League Baseball would leave San Diego. The court complied by giving Simmons only two weeks to prepare for trial. Normally, trial dates are set four to eight months after a case is filed. Simmons backed out. A second lawyer was not given even a day to argue his case. Not surprisingly, that case fell flat. On February 8, 2002, a third person filed a case, right before deadline. The file stamp was canceled and the papers sent back to the plaintiff without explanation. The appeals court later ordered superior court to reinstate the case, but by then it was too late. The City wound up paying 7.66 percent interest on the bonds and losing \$15 million to \$20 million a year or more on the ballpark.

The *U-T* editorials, the suit against Henderson, the threat that the Padres would leave, the court’s denial of Simmons’s rights, the canceling of that stamp — it all sounds like a coordinated campaign, or per-

haps conspiracy. Was this all chalked out in a strategy session that included the media and judiciary? Sorry, this is San Diego:

We don't connect the dots. ■

Airport answers

continued from page 7

interest in cooperating with the United States on a binational airport.

“You went to Mexico City,” I say, “to see if there was any support in the Mexican government for the binational airport.”

“To make sure there was no support,” Bates replies with a laugh. “Sometimes whoever gets to someone first [prevails].”

“Did you think there might have been some support for it?”

“No, they didn’t want it. There was some cheap talk, like, ‘Well, let’s discuss it.’ But there was no serious effort, nor would there be, because it doesn’t make sense. I think Rodríguez Field will grow, though.”

“The binational airport would have been much more difficult than Miramar dual use. For one thing, you’ve got

the Otay Mountain. For another, you have an international border. Something else that is often overlooked is the location. In real estate, they say ‘location, location, location.’ Well, the south doesn’t serve [the rest of the county].

“It’s almost as bad as Filner’s folly — I call it Filner’s folly — and that’s the \$800,000 that he earmarked in the dead of night. I think it’s disgraceful to study a bullet train and an airport at Imperial County; it’s just absurd. But that was part of his campaign strategy to win the vote in Imperial County against Vargas [in this spring’s primaries]. And Vargas, to his discredit, supported it too, because the people over there wanted it. Of course, I don’t subscribe to voting what people want. I think you’re elected to use your judgment, and you vote your conscience. If everybody in the country is for slavery, that’s too bad; it’s wrong, and I’m going against it. And I think the same thing is true with the airport plan. Imperial County is a terrible location for San Diego’s airport. You want to be in the cen-

continued on page 10

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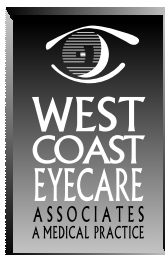
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Airport answers

continued from page 8

tor of where you’re drawing from.”

Along the same lines, Bates believes that if the airport is built too far south, many people in North County would fly out of Orange County’s John Wayne Airport. And if it turns up much farther north than Miramar, people in South Bay would use Rodríguez Field.

“So I don’t think the airport study, the consultants, did a particularly good job; they did an adequate job. But to study those far-removed locations is absurd.

“And here’s a point I want to make. I requested that the Navy do a study. What’s happened since then? The Navy isn’t there. But the Navy said they could never give up Miramar. That’s what they said, over and over and over. It would threaten national security. And that’s the same mantra the Marines are reciting now. I was a Marine, and they’re part of the Navy, but I think quite distinct from the Navy.

“But the [contention] is going to be [made] now by the Marines, of course, that Miramar is vital to national defense and the war on terror. And it’s not. When you get these facts out — that the Navy said they’d never give Miramar up, but they did — that bursts that bubble a little.”

I ask about the noise factor at Miramar.

“If the runways are aligned right — we may tweak them a little from what they are now — then there’s not much noise impact,” says Bates. “See, part of the noise impact by the Marines now is because they don’t use the flight patterns and stick to the corridor. They go over the homes to save gas. But that creates noise and bad relations.”

“Could they be making excessive noise now on purpose, to make a point?”

“I think they do. I contend — can’t prove it; they can’t prove otherwise — that they deliberately create noise in order to keep the residents riled that joint [civilian/military] use would be even worse.

“Everyone used to run scared of North Park because that was a big block of votes in the city, when the city was smaller. And now everyone runs scared of Scripps Ranch, because that’s a block of wealthy contribu-

tors and influential people in the city.

“And here’s the other thing. The airport could have been put at East Elliott, Camp Elliott. There’s no noise impact. But [San Diego County Regional Airport Authority’s] Thella Bowens had the consultants turn the runway so there would be noise. So that knocked it out. But all that stuff is so manipulated. Pardee [Homes, out of Los Angeles] wants to build homes at East Elliott. They’ve been buying up the land. And nobody ever brings that out. No reporters ever bring it out. I don’t know why?”

Bates thinks it is the Marines who should be removed from central San Diego, not the civilian airport. “In fact,” he says, “Imperial County would be ideal for the Marines and the helicopters and the jet fighters, because they’d be close enough to the coast but far enough away that they wouldn’t be impacting the urban area. Because the danger of a fighter flight-training crash is greater than a crash from a commercial airline. That’s just statistically the case. But nobody ever brings those facts out. Now, if Filner had any savvy, he would work to move Miramar to Imperial County.”

In the papers at SDSU, I found a 1990 *Congressional Quarterly* profile of Bates that characterized him, in part, as having soured on the military after the Vietnam War. Bates seems to dismiss the idea but then goes on to say that “we spend way too much money on the military. I know that’s [controversial here], because San Diego is a military town. But see, in America, image is more important than substance. So you put a lot of money in the defense budget and you think you’re defending the country, you’re stronger. But you’ve got to be smarter. It’s like going into Iraq. We created more terrorism, not less, by doing that. I think the whole Iraq War was another attempt to build up the defense budget, because after the Cold War, the budget started going down, down, down.

“I was attacked by the media relentlessly most of my career. Is that article you refer to,” he asks me, “the one where they said I wasn’t living up to my potential and was hard on staff?”

“Yes,” I say, “but I read the article’s main complaint to be that you were erratic and unpredictable.”

“I’m a maverick, an independent,” Bates replies. “I don’t really go for the party stuff. You have these backbenchers, members that have been there for a long time, and you’re not playing ball with them, so it’s the same old story: kill the messenger if you don’t like the message.”

I ask Bates if he thinks the *Congressional Quarterly* reporter was writing from a particular bias.

“No, the writer talked to somebody like Vic Fazio,” he says, “or one of the other old Democrats who couldn’t get me to go along. See, the reporters don’t know anything. They go to one of the older members and say, ‘What do you think of Jim Bates?’ ‘Oh, he’s unpredictable.’ Because that’s their experience. I was unpredictable in that I wouldn’t go along with the party line. They couldn’t count on me to go along, in lockstep, with what I thought were abuses of power. That’s because they were wrong,” says Bates, laughing. “I think I was ahead of my time. And I was glad the Democrats lost in ’94.”

I am anxious to hear Bates’s current thoughts about the 1985 military procurement scandal he was instrumental in exposing. The SDSU collection of his papers shows that, following whistleblower reports, he sent dozens of letters seeking a full-scale investigation to high-level Pentagon officials, including then secretary of the Navy John Lehman and secretary of defense Caspar Weinberger. To Jack Brooks, chairman of the House Committee on Government Operations, Bates wrote on June 18, 1985, about “procurement problems originating from Naval Air Station Miramar.” In the letter, he mentioned ashtray overpricing and other problems involving the Navy’s purchase of trash cans and decorative trees. He attached a three-page typed statement written by whistleblower Verna Millard.

“In the late 1970s,” wrote a retiring Millard, who says she began working at Miramar in 1972, “I noticed items furnished by the Grumman [Aerospace Corporation] began to escalate at a rapid rate. Items such as gaskets, connectors, small metal fasteners... were being purchased at prices far above their obvious value. When I saw the ashtrays at \$659 each, I questioned the price as far as I was allowed to go through

continued on page 12

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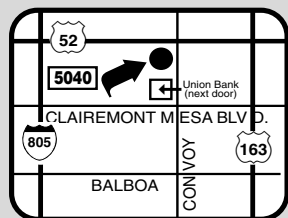


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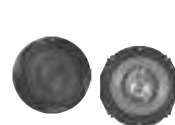
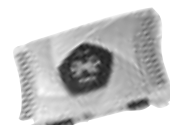
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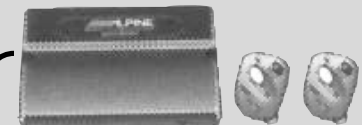
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CITY LIGHTS

Airport answers

continued from page 10

the civilian chain of command. I did this same thing with the socket wrenches and many, many other items. Apparently nothing was done. After you continually bring these matters to the attention of your supervisors, and nothing is done, you eventually cease to come forward."

Among the Bates papers, a folder labeled "Verna Millard" contains nothing but requisition forms itemizing various purchases. One form shows a purchase of two socket wrenches for \$404.23 each. Two other forms show different ashtray prices, one for \$659 and another for \$900.

Either his memory is inaccurate or there was a third ashtray price, for Bates tells me he remembers "that \$800 ashtray. But it was everything, really. Let's say the G6-32 washer. Oh, my gosh, what is that? Well, it's a little washer that goes on the G36 bolt, and they were getting \$50 for one that you could get at the hardware store for ten cents. And there was a coffee-maker that was, like, \$12,000. And the reason was that it was specially designed.

"Part of the problem was the specs. See, everybody's feeding off the [whole process]. The specs, they'd be written by someone [who would] make it a unique bolt. Instead of making it the standard size, they'd add one-nineteenth of an inch. So it had no appreciable [variation], but it was a little different. Because it was a little different, they had to do just a little different die and cast. They couldn't run it in with the billions they were doing for the dime stores. That kind of thing. But that was all by design.

"So once we got into it, it was never-ending. It was like quicksand. You'd say, 'Well, these bolts, what about the springs?' And what they were paying was 600 percent increases, in some instances. I said, 'Why?' And they wouldn't answer. So I'd go public with it.

"Machiavelli said when you're ahead, contain. When you're behind, which I was, expand. You have to expand the arena. Expand the balance of power by bringing in new participants, the public. And the media, they liked it, because it was something to write about.

"And you know why I got into the spare parts and the lit-

CITY LIGHTS

tle stuff? I couldn't understand the big contracts. They were too big for me — multimillion-dollar contracts — so I just had a hunch, or a whistleblower would bring me something. And once I got started, I was relentless. I just kept going, and everybody else was saying, 'Hey, you're committing suicide. This is a military town.' But it was wrong. What they were paying for things like plastic plants was absurd. Something you could get at a dime store for five bucks.

"Grumman was at Miramar. It was like General Motors and planned obsolescence; it became a way of life. You want to make some money, get a government contract for spare parts, charge whatever you want, nobody says anything, nobody does anything. It became a little piggy trough. It was a culture of waste.

"And nobody would do what I did. But even though the public was listening, people were against me. 'Yeah, you did the right thing. Of course, we're not for waste, but why are you so antimilitary?'"

I ask Bates what caused him to lose the 1990 election that ended his political career. He did run once more in 1992, but in the primaries, he came in third behind Bob Filner, who has remained in office since his win that fall.

"When you're controversial," Bates tells me, "you get a race. And, among other things, I created a lot of controversy in 1986 when I was one of the early supporters of a Palestinian state. So they were gunning for me. And Hunter raised all the money for Cunningham and got Cunningham to beat me.

"You can't beat somebody with nobody, but they had a somebody, because Cunningham was a war hero [with Top Gun fame]. And then all these other factors came into the picture, an anti-incumbent year, sexual harassment, a bloody primary, being held in session for the budget till right before the election and not being able to campaign or be on top of things, my political consultant not using the right TV spot; there were just too many things for me to remain, plus I was burned out after 20 years of elective office."

Bates is sensitive about the 1988 sexual-harassment charges, which didn't affect him politically until the 1990 elections. "Yes," he admits, "I notice a

CITY LIGHTS

pretty woman and I'm naturally flirtatious. All I did was to say, 'I'd like to be with you on a desert island.' And the press ran cartoons of me grabbing a woman's butt. Of course, Cunningham used it to smear me, though I don't believe that was the decisive issue.

"A funny thing did happen three weeks before the election. There was a guy named Ed Rollins, a consultant for the Republicans that year, and he came to me with a poll that showed I was in trouble. He said, 'I'm coming to you before Hunter or the committee gets the poll — or Cunningham — and I'll give you a week to pull out of it.' He did that because he respected me. In the primary, Cunningham had made some slurs about Arab-Americans, and I didn't use that against him in the general election, and Rollins thought that was good. And he kind of liked me. I remember walking back with him from the House. I thought it was neat that the opposition would come and [give me a heads-up].

"So I did my own poll, and it showed I was facing an anti-incumbent year and that this anti-incumbent factor was the thing that was hurting me. So we made a TV spot to counter that and dropped a different one of me coming down the House steps, which is so 'incumbent.' But my political consultant didn't switch the spots. I'll never understand that."

I ask Bates how he took losing.

"I was a big baby," he says. "Everybody loses in life. It's not the end of the world, and it shouldn't take you ten years to get over it. But it did. I slunk away to Idaho, because I got a bad deal. Well, life isn't personal and it isn't fair. And you take it for what it is and go on."

"Did you go into a depression?"

"Well, close. It was more a physical thing. It was like someone took a razor blade and cut your back open, and that raw pain was there, always. But, come on, Juan Vargas lost to Filner. He took it like a man, and he's moving on and doing something else. And you know, other people don't see it the way you do, like you're the only one who ever ran and lost.

"Things are finally better. I took it way too hard." Nevertheless, says Bates, "The worst thing I ever did in my political career was losing to Duke Cunningham." ■

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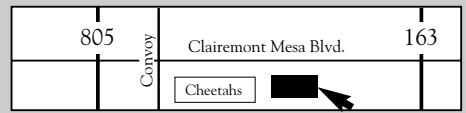
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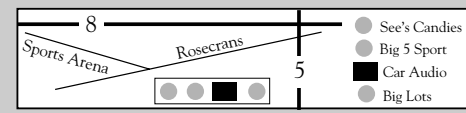
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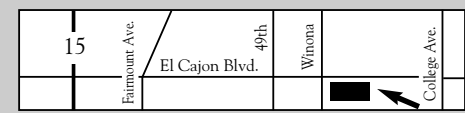
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Possums Acting Strangely

I just wanted to inform the public that though very unlikely, it is possible for a possum to get rabies ("Nocturnal, Misunderstood," Cover Story, August 31). Your article is great, and I enjoyed reading it. I just wanted to be sure the public is aware that if a possum acting strangely is contacted, please seek medical care right away and inform animal control immediately. It's unlikely but still best to beware of any mammal acting strangely.

Dr. Jamie Williams

Scientifically Certified Stupid

Concerning the cover story about possums in the August 31 *Reader* ("Nocturnal, Misunderstood"). I would disagree with something in the story. I don't think they are that clever or cunning. Here's some anecdotal evidence for their stupidity. I have a lot of live rattraps out in my yard to keep down the rat population around the house. And the reason they are live traps is so if I catch a bird accidentally I can let it loose without hurting it. And occasionally I will catch a possum. If I just let the possum loose, it will be right back into the rattrap the next day. If I catch a possum and toss it over the back fence, it will be right back into the rattrap in a couple of days. But if I take the possum and carry it a couple of blocks away and then turn it loose, it usually will never come back again, as far as I can tell. So I don't think they're that smart; usually you catch a possum, you take it a few blocks away, turn it loose, it will not be back again.

Name Withheld

Clarification

In last week's "Blurt" ("A Lil Bit Miffed"), rapper Celio Skilz stated that South Psycho Cide and Deep Rooted deserved San Diego Music Award nominations in the hip-hop categories; both were nominated in the "Best Hip-Hop" category, and Deep Rooted was nominated in the "Best Hip-Hop Album" category. Lil Rob, who the article says was ignored, received a nomination in the "Song of the Year" category, which includes songs outside the hip-hop genre.

Moving On To The Bar

Regarding the recent story Don Bauder wrote about the El Cortez ("Cortez Hill Condo Owners Rebel," "City Lights," August 31), none of what he said surprised me. My organization rented the Don Room (no pun intended) for a special event last year. I was absolutely disgusted with the contract ambiguity, price-gouging tactics, and vendors I was forced to deal with due to the El Cortez's exclusive-vendor contracts.

Let's start with chair rentals. Our contract stated that if we wanted to rent chairs and tables, we had to rent them through Tavolo Chaise, their exclusive chair vendor. However, we were coordinating a cocktail party reception and did not need eight-foot-round dinner tables. Instead, we wanted to rent cocktail tables and belly bars. Since Tavolo Chaise could not supply these, we were told we could use an outside vendor. We assumed we could also use an outside vendor to rent chairs since the El Cortez chairs did not match the color theme of our event, and nowhere in our contract did it say we could not. In performing a site visit, we were informed by the El Cortez's rabid event manager that we had to rent chairs through El Cortez — at \$8 a chair, an absolutely outrageous price. Our outside rental company was renting us chairs for \$2.55 a chair. We were told that due to the restored dance floor, only the El Cortez chairs could be used, as anything else would scratch it. Our caterer subsequently told us that if an event required in excess of 200 chairs, rental chairs

could indeed be rented. The event manager finally agreed to let us rent the chairs at the lower rate, but only after I pointed out the contract ambiguity, the fact that our event was only a week away, and that we were a small nonprofit and could not afford to go over our already strained event budget.

Moving on to the bar, where again we were required to use their bar service, at \$800 for the evening. The bar service only provided one bartender, and while I think a bar back was there, we never saw this person. We had 150 people attend the event, served only beer and wine, but had lines winding around the ballroom because he couldn't keep pace of the crowd. I was expecting better service at \$800 a pop. Needless to say, our guests were not impressed. When confronted about this situation, we received a response saying the situation would be followed up on and then never heard anything again even after following up a second time.

Next stop, catering, yet again another exclusive vendor and very, very pricey. The caterer stated he could prepare both food and flowers and, gosh, we were so impressed with his onsite office. We had an initial meeting, performed a site visit where the caterer took extensive set-up notes and finalized the menu. We called our headcount in well in advance as instructed. We confirmed that we wanted dramatic floral arrangements. We confirmed our staff's arrival time. We showed up 45 minutes before the event, and the ballroom was in chaos. The catering team was setting up past the time our guests began arriving. The catering company owner left an hour later stating he was ill. Poor timing since he wasn't there to watch his staff smoking in the outside food prep tent in clear view of the guests with the nearest washroom facilities inside the venue. Or see the food run out before the second wave of guests arrived. Or check the temperature of the food, which was lukewarm. Or to hear countless guests stating as they left how they had to go somewhere else to get something

continued on page 80

In And Out Of Cars

Flash! *Chargers linebacker shot in front of his house by off-duty cop.* I'm sure you know what this means. That's right, it's time to play "If I Were Steve Foley's Attorney."

The story so far, as told by a San Diego County Sheriff's Department press release and then rewritten by everybody else without using the words "San Diego County Sheriff's Department press release" in their stories...follows are selected quotes from the original document.

"At about 3:26 a.m. this morning (September 3), an off-duty Coronado Police Officer reported that he was following a suspected drunk driver in the vicinity of northbound Highway 163 and Highway 52. The suspect vehicle was described as weaving in lanes, traveling at speeds of between 30 and 90 miles per hour and nearly colliding with several other vehicles on the highway.

"...suspect vehicle stopped for a red signal light, the officer pulled his car next to him, and after identifying himself as a police officer, ordered the driver to pull the car over. The driver acknowledged the officer, then drove away. After a short distance the suspect stopped again. The driver got out of his car and approached the officer, who had stopped behind him. The officer verbally identified himself and pulled out his handgun. He told the suspect several times to stop.

"However, he continued to walk toward the officer, while making the statement, 'That's a BB gun.' The suspect then walked back to his car. A female passenger got out of the vehicle and yelled an unintelligible comment to the officer. The suspect and his female passenger then drove away..."

As Steve Foley's lawyer, I require clarification on the following points. First, what is a Coronado off-duty cop doing at 3:00 a.m. driving north on 163. Maybe he was just off-shift and decided to visit his mother in Riverside. Maybe he works in Coronado and lives in Santee. Still, I want to know. And when, by the way, did the cop finish his shift and what did he do from that moment until 3:26 a.m.?

Second, what is it with everybody stopping and starting and getting in and out of their cars? First contact, the cop pulls up next to Foley at a stoplight, says he's a cop, orders Foley to pull over. Press release says Foley,

"...acknowledged the officer, then drove away." A question comes to mind, "What would you do at 3:30 in the morning if a man in civilian clothes, driving a civilian car, orders you to pull over?" And while we're at it, what, exactly, does "acknowledged the officer" mean?

Does it mean (a) "Hi, big guy"? Or, does it mean (b) "I understand you are a police officer and therefore I shall flee this crime scene"?

Then, Foley stops again, gets out, walks toward the now-parked cop. Cop says he's a cop, pulls out his gun, tells Foley to stop. Foley continues to walk toward the cop, says, "That's a BB gun," and walks back to his car. A woman gets out of his car and screams at the cop. Then, Foley and his companion drive away.

What is wrong with the picture other than everything? As Foley's attorney, I want to know what is the cop doing while two people are getting in and out of a car, walking around at their leisure, dissing him, getting back in their car and driving away. Sounds like the cop is sitting alone in his automobile holding his gun.

And, as Foley's attorney, I want to know, where are all the other cops? When did the off-duty cop call for backup? Did he call for backup? If not, why not?

Press release says, "The suspect then stopped his vehicle ...in Poway, with the officer behind them. The suspect got out of his car and again approached the officer's car...the officer got out of his car."

In and out of cars again.

"He saw the suspect approaching him on foot...with his female companion driving the car next to him. As the suspect approached, the officer again identified himself as a police officer and that his gun was real. The officer fired a warning shot into some bushes.

"The female rapidly accelerated the car directly at the officer. In response, the officer fired two shots at the car.... The male suspect reached into his pants with his right hand as he approached the officer. The officer then fired at the suspect. The suspect acknowledged that he had been shot, but continued toward the officer, who then fired again at him..."

Assuming Foley is guilty of drunk driving, and I certainly do, although I should point out that as of Tuesday afternoon he has not been charged with any crime, still, this story reeks of lies and omissions. More to come.

The Vegas Line

NFL Week 1 (Home Team in Caps)			
Favorite	Spread	Over/Under	Underdog
PITTSBURGH	1	<u>Thursday</u> 34	Miami
		<u>Sunday</u>	
Denver	3	46	ST. LOUIS
TENNESSEE	2	36	N.Y. Jets
NEW ENGLAND	9	41	Buffalo
TAMPA BAY	3	34	Baltimore
KANSAS CITY	3	46	CINCINNATI
Seattle	6	45	DETROIT
CAROLINA	6	40	Atlanta
Philadelphia	4	37	HOUSTON
CLEVELAND	3	36	New Orleans
JACKSONVILLE	2	36	Dallas
Chicago	3	34	GREEN BAY
ARIZONA	7	42	San Francisco
Indianapolis	3	48	N.Y. GIANTS
		<u>Monday</u>	
WASHINGTON	4	35	Minnesota
San Diego	3	43	OAKLAND

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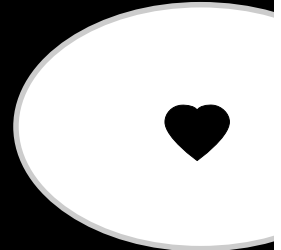
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SHEEP AND GOATS

PLACES OF WORSHIP REVIEWED

Denomination: Baptist General Conference
Address: 10635-B Scripps Ranch Boulevard, Scripps Ranch, 858-578-4673
Founded locally: 1982
Senior pastor: Kevin Clark
Congregation size: 80
Staff size: 2
Sunday school enrollment: about 25 adults, 18 children
Annual budget: n/a
Weekly giving: n/a
Singles program: no
Dress: mostly casual, lots of jeans and khakis, but few T-shirts.
Diversity: mostly Caucasian
Sunday worship: 10 a.m.
Length of reviewed service: 1 hour
Website: www.scrippsmesabiblechurch.org

In the teen section of Scripps Mesa Bible Church's library/snack room, Douglas Coupland's novel *Generation X* gets face-out treatment. Someone has taken a highlighter to certain passages. One such: "I wonder that all things seem to be from hell these days...dates, jobs, parties, weather. Could the situation be that we no longer believe in that particular place? Or maybe we were all promised heaven in our lifetimes, and what we ended up with can't help but suffer in comparison."

The oblong box that serves as the worship space—two tones of gray on the walls, gray industrial carpeting, a small cherrywood stage, and a white baby-grand piano off to the side—was not full on Sunday, but a fair number of those who did attend had youth on their side. The band's young bass player, barefoot and in shorts, offered a young man's hurried prayer: "...that we may find blessing and that we all enjoy ourselves and learn something new and just feel connected with You in a way that we normally can't during the week..." (The music itself skewed a little older, full of mellow harmonies and driven by the muffled chords of the piano.)

Pastor Clark announced a meeting of the women's ministry at his house: "a chance for women to let your voices be heard. What is the direction of the women's ministry?... How do we reach out to other women in this area and within our own church?" He invited men to an upcoming men's summit. And he offered prayer for "Matt and Carie Olson and their four kids," as they performed missionary work in Africa.

Next week, said Clark, the church would be beginning a six-week series on evangelism. "Evangelism is probably one of the dirty words of our culture.... People do not want to be evangelized. They think it's pushy, intolerant, and insensitive—and a lot of times, they're right." He questioned the formulaic, cold-call approach of starting up a "conversation leading to spiritual things," then answering objec-

tions and finishing with "a prayer to invite Jesus Christ to be their personal Lord and savior."

"What if this model of evangelization is too narrow? What if there are several styles? What if Scripture gave examples of those styles? What if God wired every one of us uniquely...so we could reach different people in different ways without compromising the truth of Scripture? We're going to be talking about finding a place of commonality between us and them."

Pastor Clark had been at the church for two months and was ready to "issue a challenge...I love you guys already, but I didn't just come here to take care of you guys.... I came here because I think God wants to use you guys and me to reach other people, to show them who Jesus Christ is." Clark said that 30,000 people lived in Scripps Ranch and that an online search had yielded only ten churches. "That's a lot of people that God has called us to reach.... I'm not planning to retool us into some megachurch.... I would love to see us grow to a size where we could start birthing other churches. I am totally convinced that churches are most effective when they are big enough to meet the essential spiritual needs of the people...and small enough that it takes everybody in the church to meet those needs.... I don't think we're there yet."

He read from the Book of Joshua. The Israelites were preparing to enter the Promised Land, but the Reubenites and Gadites had begged to remain, "because their needs were being met on the side of the river they were already on. I'm convinced that the most dangerous place we can be as a church is the place where our needs are being met. There's no challenge.... You say, 'I don't want to cross over to that place where I can have a deeper walk with God, where things are more uncertain.'"

But, "Moses calls the Reubenites and Gadites a brood of sinners. He hears them saying...they're unwilling to see past their own needs to the needs of the larger community.... I think it's really easy to approach church through selfish motives." But the Reubenites and Gadites offered to arm themselves and go ahead of the Israelites. They said, "We will not return to our homes until every Israelite has his inheritance." They "went across the river for a season. This is one of those seasons.... I want to encourage you to be praying and thinking about what God has called you to be a part of in this congregation."

What happens when we die?
"I believe," says Clark, "that if you do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and savior, then the Bible is very clear: you will spend eternity separated from God. But if you do, then you'll spend eternity with Him."

— Matthew Lickona



KEVIN CLARK

**Scripps Mesa Bible Church
Scripps Ranch**

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Sermon	
content.....	★★★
delivery	★★★
Liturgy	★ ^{1/2}
Music	
congregational	★★
band	★★ ^{1/2}
Snacks	★★
Architecture	★ ^{1/2}
Friendliness	★★
Poor to satisfactory.....	(none)
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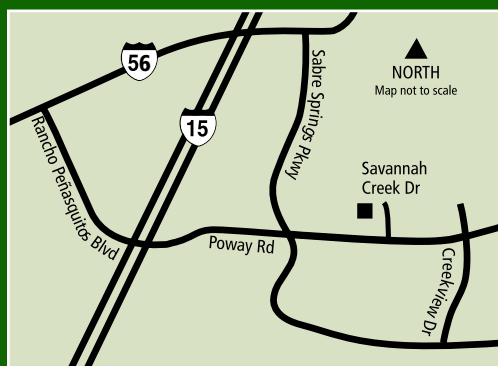
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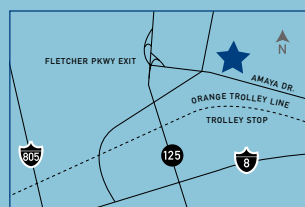
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—EVE KELLY

"Kids today..." That's the tagline for my great-aunt Gladys. She's 75 and full of energetic complaint. Not a visit goes by when she doesn't train her sights on "kids today." "Are too lazy; watch too much TV; dress like slob; dress like harlots; don't show respect" — you get the idea. So imagine my surprise when I caught myself murmuring "kids today" last Saturday, as I drove away from a local lemonade stand. In my hand was a halfheartedly filled cup, and what was inside was watery, too sweet, and clearly prepackaged. And it had run me \$.75. When I was a kid with a lemonade stand, I made sure I squeezed some lemons and made real lemonade. The customer wasn't just paying for my time behind the counter; the customer was paying for honest materials and honest labor — lemons and sugar, water and ice, slicing, squeezing, mixing, chilling.

"It wouldn't be so bad if the stuff at least tasted good," I complained to Patrick. "What's a kid to do?" he replied. "Not everyone has a lemon tree in their back yard." That set me off on a jag. I spent the rest of the day scooping up powdered lemonade mixes. Surely modern science had advanced to the point of giving the world powdered lemonade that tasted something like the real thing?

We wound up with three categories: sugar-free, sugar-in, and sugar-needed (to which you add your own). We started with the sugar-free, afraid we wouldn't be able to taste them otherwise. Candidate one, Vons Lemonade Lite (\$3.05 for 3.2 oz.; makes 12 quarts), veered toward the Lite end of things. "There's no acid," grumbled Patrick. "Maybe a little zing up front, but no acid in the middle or back of the palate. None of that lemon tartness you want in a cool, refreshing drink. Up front, it tastes like a lemon drop, but then it fades away." Wyler's Light Lemonade (\$4.29 at Vons for 3.13 oz.; makes 12 quarts) had a yellowy, cloudy look to it that hinted at more body. "It does have more middle-palate tartness," agreed Patrick. "But it's too sweet, and still doesn't have real acid." Crystal Light (\$3.00 at Vons for 2.1 oz.; makes 8 quarts) proved the clear winner in the category. "You can actually smell lemon in this one," I marveled. "And it's got a little of that puckering effect that real lemonade has," added Patrick. "I like my lemonade to hurt, and this does the trick."

Round two: both the Vons Lemonade drink mix (\$3.29 for 20 oz.; makes 8 quarts) and the Country Time Lemonade (\$4.46 at Vons for 19 oz.; makes 8 quarts) featured sugar and fructose in their ingredient lists — though Country Time's label boasted that it contained 40 percent less sugar than the leading soda. Both had a decent acidic bite, but neither tasted much like lemons. The

"I like my lemonade to hurt, and this does the trick."

Country Time fared a shade better in the density department. Patrick was saddened — his memory of Country Time had been tarnished. But he was cheered by our next entry: À La Source Organic Lemonade mix (\$5.39 at Whole Foods for 20 oz.; makes 5 quarts) came the closest to mimicking the real deal. "It's granular, as opposed to powdered," noticed Patrick. "And it's sweetened with cane juice." Besides delivering the most lemon flavor and more pucker, À La Source offered an integrated sweetness and a real sort of body. It wasn't quite bits of pulp, but it wasn't just water, either. "Maybe it's the 'cloud' in the ingredients," guessed Patrick. "Organic corn starch, gum arabic..." Worked for me, even if it did take more mixing to get the granules to dissolve.

However much Patrick admired the granules in the À La Source, he was horrified to see a full cup of sugar granules disappear into the greenish murk of the Kool Aid Lemonade mix (\$.20 at Ralph's per .23 oz.; makes 1 quart). "But look at how small this packet is," I replied. "Maybe it's the same amount of sugar as the other people; theirs is just already added." But all that sugar

didn't keep the Kool Aid from coming across as flat and watery. We got better results from the same preparation with the Drink Aid Lemonade mix (\$.20 at Ralph's for .33 oz.; makes 1 quart). More body, more pucker. "This is better than the sugar-in stuff

from Vons, and the Country Time," said Patrick. In fact, it finished a close third, behind the Crystal Light, which offered more body and lemon flavor, but also a slight aftertaste.

After the tasting, Patrick and I puzzled over the various listings of "natural" and "artificial" flavors in our various powders. I called Mariano Gascon, president of the Society of Flavor Chemists, to find out a little more. "For artificial flavors," said Gascon, "it is only substantive that they are not obtained from natural products. It is not the case that natural is good and artificial is bad. They are the exact same compounds as those found in nature; they're just not obtained from a natural source. In the case of natural lemon flavor, they take the essential oil out of the lemon peel and make an extract. The oil is intense, and they add chemicals to change the flavor profile — the oil tastes like a lemon peel instead of lemon juice. The added chemicals are the same ones that are in lemon juice. Then they turn the whole thing into a powder by making an emulsion with starches and removing the water."

Gascon continued, "In general, it is less expensive to use artificial flavoring. But in the case of lemons and oranges, we have tons of them, so it might be cheaper to get the flavor from a natural source." To some extent, "it depends on the crop and the weather," and there's the rub. "When you use an artificial flavor, you always have the same flavor. When people buy a product, they want it to always taste the same. They feel comfortable about it."

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Crasher

LOCK UP

by Josh Board

an employee of Island Prime Steakhouse on Harbor Island Drive called to tell me about an event there, a fundraiser for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. The event was called "Lock Up," and it would begin at 10 a.m., when volunteer police officers would pick people up at their places of business and bring them to a makeshift jail in the restaurant. "Prisoners" were given striped shirts, mug shots were taken, and they were told to get on their cell phones to ask friends to bail them out by donating to the MDA.

I wondered what these people being "arrested" said to their bosses as they were dragged from work.

I listened as they made their calls. Some were nervous as they made pitches to friends and clients. Others were funny, confident speakers. One guy said, "Well, if I don't raise the money, I guess they'll let me out on probation. But if I get just \$200, that covers a clinical diagnostic exam. We need \$600 for the MDA summer camp." The guy wrote down a Visa number, rang a bell, and everyone applauded.

I spoke with Emily, one of the MDA representatives, and she told me that it's \$65 to fund just one minute of scientific research and \$100 for a



support-group session. (No wonder Jerry Lewis keeps doing his telethon year after year.)

They asked me to make calls, but I bug my friends and family enough for Make-a-Wish donations. I couldn't hit them up for another charity.

As I listened to one guy struggle with his calls, I wondered if he'd walk away from this experience with sympathy for the telemarketers he hangs

"Listen, I've been arrested, but I'm innocent, I swear."

up on. I asked him that later, and he said, "No, I'll still hang up on them. They harass you during dinner, and it's usually to buy crap. This is for a good cause."

I felt guilty eavesdropping on the phone calls. I heard one guy say, "Listen, I've been arrested, but I'm innocent, I



Top: KUSI interviewing a child with muscular dystrophy; Bottom left: Kids preparing for a hula dance; Bottom right: Actress Tiffany and MDA employee Rachel Carlile.

swear."

I watched as a blonde KUSI reporter knelt down to interview a kid in his wheelchair. I wondered if the people talking on their phones were going to ruin her sound bites with this

sage?" I said, "Uh, from you?" The guy smiled and cracked his knuckles. I declined. Emily said, "This is the luxury version of jail. People are offered chair massages."

There was one guy wandering around who I made small talk with. He said, "That's great that they use these volunteer officers for this. I think they should use female cops as well." When I asked why, he went into a long rant about how women shouldn't be police officers and how the police force lowered the strength tests for women to get in because they couldn't pass those tests. He then said, "If two big rednecks are fighting in a bar, and a short female cop walks in, do

boy.

She told him after the interview that he did great. He gave her a big smile and went back to his table.

A guy was walking around giving people massages as they made their calls. The lady walking around with him asked, "Josh, would you like a mas-

you really think she'll be able to get control of the situation?" I replied, "Well, a gun and a badge usually gets attention."

This guy was getting angry, so I stepped outside. I saw people putting make-up on young girls. The girls looked to be around 8 years old. I followed them inside, and they prepared to do a hula dance. They were beaming with excitement about their upcoming dance. When they made it into the other room, I couldn't see anything, as there were too many parents surrounding the area. I overheard one parent say, "The exotic dancers were wonderful."

I watched as one lady had her mug shot taken. She said, "Oh, good, I'll put this up in my office." I said, "If only Mel Gibson would've had that positive attitude." She held up a sign that said "Innocent."

When one guy was being photographed in jail, his cell phone went off. One of the cops said, "A cell phone in jail?" Out of nowhere came the grumpy guy that complained about female cops. "I hate everyone with their cell phones. You can't enjoy a quiet moment at the beach without hearing one. At restaurants, people feel the need to shout into them. And,

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instead of a normal ring like phones used to have when I was a kid, it's some goofy song I don't even know." I said, "Are you familiar with 'My Humps'?" He said, "I'm not. Did you get humps from having muscular dystrophy?" I said, "No. It's a song by the Black Eyed Peas." He

yelled, "What does that have to do with anything?" I told him it's a popular cell phone ring and then got away from him. I felt as if I was avoiding the bully in a real jail who I was afraid might shank me in the back with a handmade knife.

A few women sat down at my table as I ate. MDA

employee Rachel Carile talked about the organization. It was tough to look professional and attentive as I scarfed down my food. I noticed she had a tattoo, and I asked her what her parents thought of it. She said she was the youngest in her family and that they weren't thrilled. She called

her friend Tiffany over. Tiffany told me that she was an actress and a singer. She talked about her recent divorce and all the improvements she made to her home. I laughed as she told me about her skill with a circular saw.

Tiffany hasn't been in anything I've seen, but her

sister is the actress that replaced Gillian Anderson on *X-Files* and played the character Pudge in the '80s film *Shag*. Tiffany said, "We were eating in Beverly Hills, and these two women came up with southern accents and were saying 'It's Pudge!' My sister isn't too fond of being called

Pudge."

What woman would be? ■

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by Barbarella

Juicy Jane

He goes by the brand, yet imagines he goes by the flavor.

— Mark Twain

You got a weird message from your sister," said David.

"Which one?" I asked.

David looked at me as if I'd inquired after my own shoe size. "I said it was *weird*, didn't I?"

"Well, why didn't you just *say* it was Jane?" I huffed, kicking off the heels I'd been standing in for the last five hours. "What'd she say?"

"Something about 'getting the Juicy,'" he answered.

"Leave it to Jane to get the Juicy," I said over my shoulder as I headed for the stairs. When I'd finished brushing my teeth and David had not yet arrived in the bedroom, I assumed he was still standing downstairs in the dark, trying to decide whether or not he wanted to ask.

Earlier in the day, I

had accompanied Jane on a gift-certificate-induced trip to Mac (make-up, not computers). After our faces were painted and our egos plumped by our shimmering male helper, we retired to the Nordstrom Café with our bootie for a victory lunch.

We had inhaled our cups of tomato basil soup and were waiting for our turkey sandwich to arrive when Jane leaned forward, adopted a serious tone, and asked, "Do you think it's dumb of me to buy a Juicy Couture diaper bag?"

"That's a teenage-girl brand, right? Don't tell me it has the logo written all over it, I fucking hate that," I said.

"It does," conceded Jane. I rolled my eyes and she rushed through her well-rehearsed justification:

"I found it on eBay, and it's only \$200. The ones in the store are, like, \$500. If I have to carry around a diaper bag for two years, I want it to be a stylish one, and this one is fun — Heather said it was more Britney Spears than Julia Roberts, but I think it's really Madonna."

"Look," I said, mentally kicking myself for allowing David's lecturing precursor to invade my vocabulary, "if it's a better bag, and it's the bag you want, and it's something you're going to use for the next few years, I think it's a good buy. But if you're *only* buying it because it's branded, and because you want to be branded right along with it, then I must protest this purchase."

"I like the Juicy," Jane said in a pouty little voice.

"Then get it," I said, because I knew it was the only thing she wanted to hear.

The following morning, David got up the nerve to ask. I was hesitant to explain it to him; David has always made his stance on trends and branding caustically clear — while at the Hillcrest farmers' market last weekend, he gestured at a woman's ass, where the word "GUESS" was emblazoned in white on pink fabric. Interpreting the brand name as a demand, David surmised, "Stupid?"

"It's sheer marketing genius that these companies can get people to pay a premium in order to advertise for them," he'll say whenever we go to the mall. Women

drenched in "LV" patterns with giant "CC"s on their big sunglasses and silver "Tiffany & Co." dog tags dangling from their wrists and necks never fail to make David burp a bit of vomit. It was apparent I would have to give some background on my sister if I was to help him better digest Jane's Juicy choice and minimize what might otherwise be a potentially dangerous bout of eye rolling.

"You have to understand, Jane is a fashionista," I began. "She worked at Nordstrom for years. It's important to her to have style, and for other people who know about style to recognize that she knows what she's doing fashion-wise." I was beginning to confuse myself and I could see my inability to articulate the circumstances reflected on David's face. Figuring a quick rip of the band-aid would be better than this slow, excruciating peel, I blurted, "Jane got a diaper bag doused in its designer's name." David flinched.

I went over to Jane's, leaving David to ponder the power of advertising. Knocked up for the second time to selflessly bear a sibling for her daughter, Bella, my sister has been suffering from textbook morning sickness (or, more accurately, "morning-noon-and-night" sickness).

Jane was sprawled on the couch when I arrived. She complained about how tired and ill she felt, but when I questioned her about the bag, she perked up and shot to

Knocked up for the second time to selflessly bear a sibling for her daughter, Bella, my sister has been suffering from textbook morning sickness.



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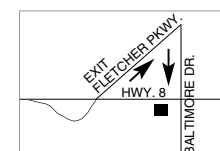
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her feet.

"You wanna see a picture of it?"

"Yeah, maybe later," I said. Deflated, Jane returned to her post on the couch. I sat next to her and asked, "Why is the brand name so important to you?"

"I don't know, it makes me feel like a celebrity," Jane explained. "In my own little suburban world, I can be cool and chic."

"But you don't wear brand names on any of your clothing," I pointed out.

"Clothes are all about design and fit. I buy what looks best on me. It's bags I'm concerned with, even my Canal Street bags," Jane said, referring to the five designer knock-offs she acquired in New York's Chinatown a few years ago.

"Anyway," Jane added in an accusatory tone, "Aren't your sunglasses Prada? Isn't your purse Michael Kors? And I know that's a Tiffany's ring."

"Yeah, but I didn't buy any of these *because* they were brand names — I bought them because I liked the way they looked. And I don't like the way anything looks covered in logos. I'd have to take off this ring and get a magnifying glass for you to see Elsa Peretti's signature."

"Well, because I *know* about fashion and style, I recognize your stuff for what it is. Just as other people in the know recog-

nize my fashion ability and taste," Jane said.

"Right, but I don't care if people recognize my fashion ability," I countered.

We were cut off by a series of high-pitched shrieks, the powerful piercing quality of which was impressive, considering their source — the 30-pound creature that is the miniature, golden-haired version of my sister. I cringed in pain and distraction from my niece's energetic solo.

"You know," I suggested, lighting upon the best idea I've had in years, "I bet you could petition Juicy Couture to design one of those collars like they have for dogs that bark too much. Not something that would hurt the child, it would just spray a little foul-smelling mist — it's citronella for dogs, so maybe it would have to be broccoli for kids, but anyway, I bet that would be really effective at keeping them quiet."

"Nice, Aunt Barb," Jane said wryly.

"Just an idea," I said. Then, in an attempt to make peace for my unwelcome (albeit brilliant) suggestion, I said, "How about you show me that Juicy picture?"

Delighted, Jane made for her computer. I snatched a giggling Bella into my arms and followed my sister to add yet another item to the long list of things I never thought I would do — ogle a diaper bag. ■

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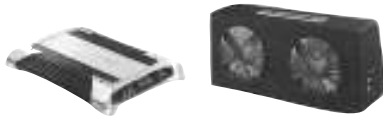
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Bares Rule

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The name alone rings like something out of *Pirates of the Caribbean*: Black's Beach. The first time you see it, you're either 300 feet above it or miles away. It's that scenic. From above, the ocean stretches into blue haze, and from the shores of La Jolla Cove or the Children's Pool, the cliffs of Black's furl like a reddish banner in the distance.

The treacherous scramble down those cliffs turns slow and strenuous coming back up. Or you can park a mile away and walk, walk, walk, squinting over hot sand.

One commodity afforded by the inaccessibility of Black's Beach is privacy. You have to *earn* your way down.

Standard procedure for the Bares when they catch a gawker getting overly inappropriate is to approach him and serve him with a flyer.

As a result, almost everything about the place is more carefree, more natural, and more uninhibited than anywhere else in San Diego.

Including, of course, the people.

Folks call Lloyd Johnson, 44, "the mayor" of Black's Beach. The reference is only slightly tongue-in-cheek. In 2000, Johnson set up a website, began publishing a periodic newsletter, and started policing Black's and keeping the sand clean with a few of his friends, "the Black's

Beach Bares." They hoisted a flag to represent their crowd, and they went about claiming an area of the beach and organizing activities for other like-minded beachgoers. And on any given summer Sunday, among the hundred or so Bares and friends who might be tanning, barbecuing, horseshoeing, volleyballing, or chatting on Black's, you'll detect very few stitches of clothing covering any parts of them.

"We tend to regard the clothed with suspi-

cion," Johnson said. "But it isn't really discrimination."

As Johnson talked to me, I was sporting baggy beach shorts. And — although I tried not to linger on this very fact — Johnson's johnson hung there in full view.

I asked the man to advise me on how to better look at nudity.

"You look, you see, you move on," Johnson said, sounding like some postmodern naturalist Julius Caesar. "And when you're done looking someone up and down,

the mystery's all gone. There's no need to go over it again. Then you can look each other in the eye and talk to each other."

* * *

Though commonly referred to as the most renowned nude beach in the United States, Black's Beach has many other claims to fame.

Of the more licit activities enjoyed at Black's, the one that offers at least as much spectator enjoyment as naturism is hang gliding.

The Torrey Pines Gliderport has graced the cliff-tops at Black's since 1928.

Bill Armstrong, who has instructed gliders for the past 15 years, told me matter-of-factly that the gliderport is widely considered "the Kitty Hawk of the West Coast."

"There's a lot of history here," Armstrong said. "It's a national landmark."

But wasn't he promoting a dangerous sport?

"No, not at all," Armstrong said. He sounded as if he were

floating somewhere above me, almost wholly disinterested. "It's as safe as driving a car." And then he added, "Actually, it's probably safer. It's three-dimensional up there, whereas a car is only two-dimensional. It's pretty easy to stay out of trouble."

In fact, I found that no fatalities had been reported at the gliderport in recent memory, and no serious injuries or accidents had occurred in at least the past 20 years.

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"Beautiful, complacent, free, very nice," Armstrong said. "It's not an extreme sport. It's a natural, biological sense, the sense of flight. And even after you land you feel completely different than you've ever felt before. It's something you can't feel any other way, knowing what it's like to fly. You can't get that feeling in an airplane or any other mechanical device."

* * *

"Free."

"A natural, biological sense."

Curious, but nudists

speaking of nudism in much the same way, it seems, as gliding instructors speak of gliding.

"It feels righteous."

"It just feels better. More natural."

And nudists say other things about their, um, "sport" as well:

"The sun hits you places you never knew you had."

"You totally forget you're naked. Other than the fact that it's much freer and you don't feel constricted in your clothes."

"It becomes a routine. You get used to it. And then you feel less comfortable when you

go back to wearing clothes."

Aside from "the mayor," two other individuals are mentioned on the website for the Black's Beach Bares. With Johnson, call them the senior cabinet members of the naturist contingent at Black's.

Dave Cole, 43, is an area representative for the Naturist Education Foundation and represents the West Coast as one of six people on the Membership Advisory Committee of the Naturist Society. And Claudia Kellersch, 41, who was born in Germany, in Bavaria, and grew up

there, is a Naturist Action Committee and also Naturist Education Foundation representative for the Bares.

Kellersch, Johnson, and Cole all display something vaguely nymphlike, elfin, and gently mischievous about their demeanors and facial expressions, which I found curious, since even good-natured mischievousness usually indicates that a person has something to hide. Maybe these naturists cloak their nudism often enough in everyday society that they still seem sprightly when they can't hide anything at all.

"We usually refer to the Black's Beach Bares as 'a group of friends dedicated to preserving the beach's clothing-optional status by educating visitors of the boundaries of the clothing-optional section as well as about proper nude-beach behavior,'" Cole said. "We're a loose-knit group of beachgoers who have adopted this beach as our own. We want it to be a clean, safe, and fun beach for everybody to enjoy."

"We call this nude recreation," Kellersch told me. "Free body culture. The German word is *Freikörperkultur*. This

is how it's known throughout Europe. At European beaches, you'll see the abbreviation F.K.K. And then you know there's a nude beach."

I asked Kellersch how F.K.K. in Europe differed from nude recreation here in the States.

"In Europe, nude recreation is more of a family affair," Kellersch said. "The whole families go, the people are much younger than here, and you see all ages — young kids, high school students, college students, everybody. Because it's a very inexpensive, easy way to have a sports

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experience, get a suntan, and just hang out.”

* * *

The first time I ever went to a nude beach, ten years ago in Antibes, in the south of France, I (fully clothed) walked over to an “interesting” spot (near hordes of topless women) and stood there and gaped through sunglasses. “If only in America,” I thought.

After a minute, one particularly picturesque young lady popped up off her blanket and started up the strand toward me. She was swaying, striding and smiling, unhurried, and carrying something in one of her hands.

As she approached me, stuff got suddenly deliberate, like everything decelerating into slow motion. With every advancing step, this exposed young beauty

convinced me: she was walking all this way just to chat. With yours truly!

At the last moment, I looked her full in the face. We both smiled. She was an arm’s length away from me now. I could smell her suntan lotion. And she reached up slowly and extended her hand...just past me? I shifted my weight.

And then, like that, she spun around — no words exchanged — and sauntered slowly back the length of the beach.

She’d been throwing away a candy wrapper; I was standing in front of a garbage can.

* * *

In Europe, it’s always possible to spot plenty of flesh. Besides the clothing-optional beaches and crazy nightclubs, there’s ample nudity all over TV. By the end of a week or two over there, I don’t

care much about butts and boobies anymore: they’re everywhere. It ain’t no big thing. And it occurs to me that it just seems so much healthier that way. The less we leave to the imagination,

was cold or because the sun was too intense? Or did it have something to do with sexism and the subjugation of women, where men in patriarchal societies decided that they had to cover their

because I was naked; and I hid myself.”

And ever since, we’ve witnessed our own natural-born state as something private and naughty and needing to be veiled. We tried to “improve” Michelangelo’s *David*, for art’s sakes!

Nowadays, in our culture, most nudity is either private or specifically intended for consumption. But the nudity of a nudist isn’t like those other nudities; although public, it isn’t intended for gazing enjoyment, nor for sex.

Nudists would have us believe that they’re nude because they enjoy being nude, and that’s it. They don’t want to show off, and they don’t want to be looked at.

But that doesn’t mean other people don’t try to feast their eyes.

Nudists call these ogling opportunists

“gawkers.”

(For the record, journalists aren’t gawkers, though our behaviors are similar. In fact, our behaviors are identical: we lurk and sniff around, watching things closely while our minds churn a mile a minute. We maintain our distance. Our presence makes people uncomfortable, to the point that many folks act differently whenever we’re around.

But it’s the intention, and the intention alone, that condemns the gawker and saves the journalist. The gawker gawks solely for his own selfish enjoyment. The journalist gawks so he can tell everyone else about it.)

Dave Cole coached me on how to recognize a gawker.

“It’s pretty easy to spot body language,”

“They found a guy way beyond the clothing-optional border, way up north, and they cited him.”

the less the imagination needs to lash out and create its own lurid details.

But where did our nudity taboo come from? Did we just get used to wearing clothes for practical reasons, because it


females to keep the eyes of other men from seeing too much?

(Remember, the first thing God said to Adam after Eve ate the apple was, “Where were you?”

And Adam answered, “I was afraid,

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Cole half-joked. "Especially when someone's body is fully exposed."

He paused for effect. "But okay. One common thing is somebody's walking down the beach with no clothes on, but he's carrying all of his clothes under his arm. So he's not set up anywhere. And then he'll focus on someone, usually a woman, and he's focused on her so much that he starts stumbling over people, trying to find a place to sit down near her. And then he'll just sit and stare. Won't do anything, won't say a word to her, but just stare. And a lot of times he'll sit at a woman's feet. And he'll face the water, with his back to her, and then, eventually, he'll decide, 'Well, it's time to roll over,' and then he lies on his stomach, and he's got the perfect view."

Standard procedure for the Bares when they catch a gawker getting overly inappropriate is to approach him and serve him with a flyer. This long piece of paper thoroughly outlines the penalties for illegal beach conduct and suggests a better beach etiquette. At one point, Johnson bounded up off his towel — mumbling angrily — reached into a bag for one of these informational flyers, and marched with purpose over to some nearby reclining fellow.

Returning to his towel, Johnson looked me in the eye and proclaimed, "There's your story right there."

He went on, "That guy was playing with himself. We've decided it's best not to say anything to people like that. We empower each other to confront lewd people, but we don't want to get into fights. Instead, we let them know that we've seen what they're doing and that they won't get away with it. We're not going to just ignore them and let them have their fun. We give them the

paper, and we walk away."

Kellersch let me in on another defense against gawkers.

"Sometimes, we put up a vision block between the woman and the gawker," Kellersch

said. "And these are just pieces of canvas. They're on little bamboo sticks. Also, we invite women, when we see single women on the beach, to come and sit with our group, because there's safety in numbers.

There's lots of couples, families with small children, and we're just a larger group where they can feel safe."

The Black's Beach Bares have amusing names for many of the gawkers they've picked

out repeatedly over the years. Linus (always with his towel over his shoulder), Poco (a small Hispanic fellow), Humpy (needs no explanation), Sniffer (sniffing for ladies), Señor Libro (with his book upside-down,

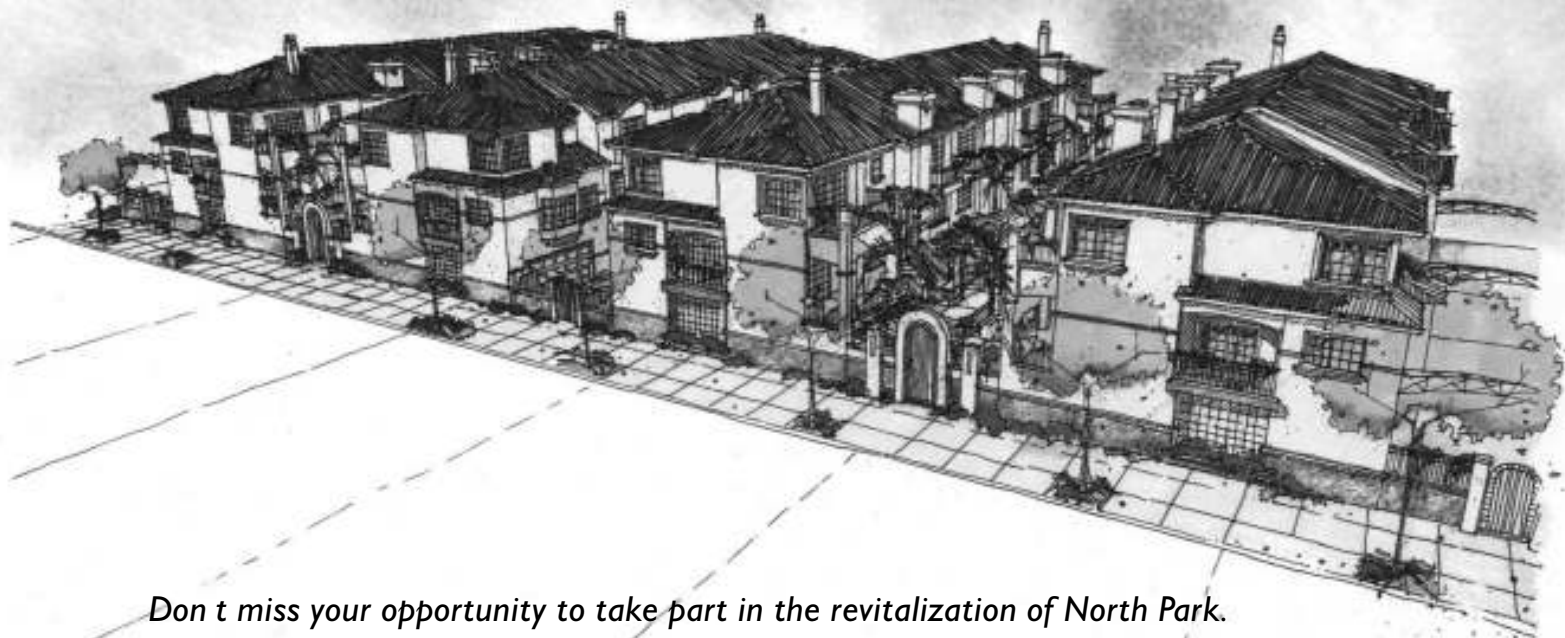
never turning the pages), Gawk-a-mole, Robo-man, Swisher, and so on.

Johnson stressed to me that just because masturbation might go on at a nude beach, this perversion shouldn't implicate all naturists. "A

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few months ago," Johnson said, "I read where they caught a guy jacking off in a library. They arrested the guy. They didn't close the library."

* * *

A partial list of summer reading, summer eating, and summer drinking at Black's Beach:

— *Me Talk Pretty One Day*, David Sedaris

— *Chosen Prey*, John Sandford

— *Trading Up*, Candace

Bushnell

— *People* magazine

— *New York Times* Sunday crossword puzzle

— Fuji apples

— Peanuts

— Almonds

— Green grapes

— Apricots

— Roast beef sandwich

— Peaches

— Miller Genuine Draft

— Keystone Light

— Ice tea

— Water

* * *
"Black's Beach is a small section of Torrey Pines State Beach," Cole told me. I'd asked him if he could relate anything about the place's vaunted history.

"There was a gentleman who lived up in the La Jolla Farms area whose name was William Black. He owned all the land up there in what's now the La Jolla Farms area. And everybody referred to the area

below it as Black's Beach. That's how it got the name."

What about the story that the beach got its name because of its blackish sand?

"That's a myth," Cole said. "It might have something to do with it, with how the name stuck in people's minds. But from what I've been able to find out, this is the beach that was under the property of William Black. Although it's never been officially designated Black's Beach. The part that goes north is Torrey

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Pines State Beach. And to the south is Torrey Pines City Beach. Black's Beach is just a local nickname."

Next I asked Cole about the beach's history as a nudist paradise.

"In the '70s, for three years, it was actually on the books, legal, to be nude at Black's Beach," Cole began. "And then the law was rescinded because there was no beach access, there was one road, and beachgoers were parking in people's yards and urinating on private property, all kinds of problems, and this was a rich neighborhood above the beach, full of people with influence in city council. And they got the law rescinded."

Cole went on, "But we operate now under what's called the Cahill Policy. Russell Cahill was a state parks director in the '70s, and there was a landmark case where a guy was arrested for sunbathing nude. And Cahill decided that rather than enforce this benign problem, he brought this policy that's still in existence today. Basically it says that any state park land that's been traditionally used for clothing-optional activities can continue to be used as such unless somebody makes a complaint."

But even that's a gray area.

Cole said, "If somebody comes here, and they're offended by the nudity, they can go to the Torrey Pines park rangers and file a complaint, and then the rangers could come down to the beach and ask everybody to get dressed for the rest of that day. And then things go back to normal. It's happened before, actually. It happened this year. They found a guy way beyond the clothing-optional border, way up north, and they cited him and then came down the beach, and from what we understand, they found three

or four people on the beach who were nude — it was cold — and they told everybody to get dressed, and they did."

Public indecency carries fines that begin around \$156 and go all the way up to \$483, and,

presumably, jail time for multiple or serious offenses.

"We've been trying to get the park rangers to define the border of the clothing-optional beach for us," Cole said.

"Because how can you

cite somebody for being on the wrong side of the border if you can't determine what the border is? But if they recognize a border, then they'd also be saying that nudity is okay on a part of the beach, and nobody in the

city government or the state wants to go that far. As it stands, the nudity's not legal, but it's tolerated on the state-beach section. So we put up boundaries ourselves, the Bares, so that people know where to go and

where not to go. If nudity offends them, then all they have to do is stay outside the boundary."

* * *

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around a bend in the cliffs and down the strand a half mile or so, you're sure to catch that old familiar San Diego sight of surfers paddling and angling into waves.

The website surflife.com calls Black's

Beach "the best beach-break in the country" and rates the surf an 8 out of 10. Other surf centers rate Black's as highly, or even higher.

Nick Carbonne, 32, has been on longboards and shortboards in San

Diego since 1992. "I learned to surf in Pacific Beach," he said. "But we used to hit Black's Beach a lot when I was a kid. There wasn't a crowd element, and it usually was pretty big."

Now Carbonne

avoids Black's for the same reasons that he used to like to go there. "It's out of the way, and it's kind of a hassle," he said. "And now that I've gotten older, I've gotten into riding longer boards, and I'm not into

getting barreled and hammered out there as much as when I was a kid. Paddling back out past the waves is really tough at Black's because there's no channel and you just have to battle."

But sometimes, Car-

bonne still likes to drag out the shortboard and test his surfing mettle.

"The waves at Black's can get really hollow on big days. You know, you can get in the tube. I mean, the place can hold size. With the right conditions, Black's is unbelievable."

Sergeant John Vipond is the head city lifeguard at Black's. His mobile unit — no permanent guard structure graces this beach — is set up in front of the best, and only official, surf spot. Vipond gazed out to sea and told me that 500 surfers a day might ride the swells in the summer months. "Plus," he said, "there might be another 5000 people coming down the cliffs to enjoy the beach," and he gestured to his right, to the north. "We've got the most water with the fewest guards in San Diego. But that's the job. It's a big responsibility."

Betsy Malloy at About.com estimates that almost 50 topless beaches exist in California today, "where nudity or topless sunbathing is allowed or tolerated," but not one of them boasts even half as many regular visitors as Black's. Black's is, in fact, the largest and most popular nude beach in the United States. It's also, in all probability, one of the oldest. World-renowned oceanographer Walter Munk reports that when he arrived at Scripps Institution of Oceanography in 1939, the locals called the place Bare Ass Beach.

Vipond told me that six guards patrol the beach in high summer, and only two guards make the rounds in winter. Besides the mobile trailer with first-aid facilities at the south end of the beach, their equipment includes a tent, fold-up chairs, an ATV, a jet ski, and a jeep. There's also a lifeguard with binoculars and a walkie-talkie in an elevated chair

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- 62 CHILD SUPPORT - HOW MUCH?
- 63 CHOOSING A PARALEGAL
- 64 MILITARY FAMILY ISSUES
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- 73 EXECUTIVE TERMINATION
- 74 WHISTLEBLOWER-RETRIBUTION
- 75 FRAUD AGAINST THE U.S.
GOVERNMENT (FALSE CLAIMS ACT)
- 76 LEGAL FEES

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at the top of the bluffs, precisely one long 300-foot freefall from interceding in any trouble.

One of the unusual aspects of being a lifeguard at Black's is the possibility of having to help in cliff rescues. "People have fallen and gotten stuck up in the bluffs," Vipond said, squinting through sunglasses up at the wall of rock behind us. "And we're trained to go up and get them."

But the lifeguards aren't in it alone. Since two-thirds of Black's Beach is state property — and in a state reserve — the majority of the beach is under the jurisdiction of the park rangers.

Jody Kummer, the supervising park ranger in Torrey Pines State Reserve, told me that four full-time rangers patrol the park.

"But we don't watch Black's as much as we do the rest of the park," Kummer said. "Simply because the other portion of the park is a lot more used. We get about 80 percent more visitation north of Flat Rock than we do south of it on Black's Beach."

Kummer told me that Torrey Pines State Reserve averages 1.6 million guests per year.

"On a weekend summer day," Kummer said, "we'll get thousands of visitors on the beach. But dealing with problems in the water is mostly the responsibility of the lifeguards. If there's a problem on Black's, it's about six miles from the office here in the park just to get to the beach, and then it's another one or two miles up the sand just to get to where we have to get to. So it's a long process. That's why we don't overly patrol, because then when my staff gets there, they're gone for over two hours. It pulls the resources out of the park where the majority of park visitors are."

I asked Kummer how her rangers dealt with the nudism on Black's.

"The department has a policy," she said, "that unless we get a complaint regarding the naturists and their lack of

clothing, then we won't dedicate any resources to controlling that. We're empowered to enforce any problems, but if no one reports anything, then we concentrate on other matters."

* * *

But where is Black's Beach, exactly?

Consistent with its mythic status, no one seems to know.

"The north end of Black's is easiest to define," Sergeant Vipond

said. "Bathtub Rock, or what the park rangers call Flat Rock, juts out all the way into the waterline, and that's pretty much the north end of Black's Beach. Then you come down, down, all the way past the main

route down to the beach, which we call Citizen's Trail. The nude boundary line is about 100 yards south of Citizen's Trail, and that's where the state beach ends too."

But Black's Beach continues onto city

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beach property, south. And there are two portions of the beach that are on private property, owned by the UC regents. "We'll call the UCSD police sometimes when we have problems down at this end of the

beach," Vipond said.

So you've got state property, then city property, then private property, then city property again — which runs almost a mile from the line of Black Gold Road down through Sumner

Canyon and past Dyke Rock — and then private property again.

Most folks say the southern boundary of Black's is all the way down at Scripps Pier. The nudity's tolerated on the state beach, and the

surfing takes place over 1000 yards south, about a quarter mile north of the pier, on city territory near Dyke Rock.

"It's an undefined area," said Vipond. And then he laughed. "Black's Beach is more or less

whatever you want it to be."

* * *

I read once where the poet Kenneth Koch said that nudity was aesthetic and nakedness was lascivious.

True?

"Often, 'naked' implies vulnerability," Johnson said. "Like, if you've been stripped. But if nudity isn't imposed — if you choose to be nude yourself — of course, then it's totally different. That's the key."

* * *

Bathing suits, with their bright colors and selective placements, are almost a kind of taunting advertising.

"Na-na," a swimsuit mockingly says, drawing attention to precisely what it's supposed to make disappear.

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The naked body projects far less emphasis. From a distance, naked people look almost exactly alike. And even close up, the differences are a matter of an inch or two here, a degree of curvature there, a flap, a fold, and that's it. Bathing suits blare what the bare body barely whispers.

Johnson explained to me, "Women used to wear baggy suits to cover their figures, and now men wear baggy suits to cover their penises. But suits are so inconvenient. I watch women come out of the water, and they're constantly adjusting."

And Kellersch added what I thought was a hilarious opinion. "Look at these funny, long swimsuits that men wear now. They're, like, a meter long, and they're baggy, and they hang down, and when they're wet they look terrible. And, you know, if European men don't go nude, at least they wear Speedos and they look spiffy."

Spiffy? In a Speedo? I wanted to raise objections. Instead, I zeroed in on the one body-image issue that persists for men. I asked Kellersch to talk about penises. Men are, in fact, overly self-

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conscious about their penises, even when they're not self-conscious enough about their flabby abs and copious body hair. When a man takes off his bathing suit: boom! There it is, the whole nine yards. (Or the whole two yards, as it

beach," she said. "I don't really notice little differences."

Alrighty then. I asked Dave Cole. Could he be frank about "franks and beans"?

"We'll joke about each other," Cole said, "once we know each

ever died of embarrassment." (Ironic, I thought, that one of the synonyms for embarrassment is the word "mortification," which comes from the same root as the word "death.") But Cole seemed right. "You invite your friend, who you've never seen naked, to come to the beach with you, and he comes, or she comes, and then you both feel awkward for a few moments, and then it passes. It doesn't matter what anyone's body looks like. You still get embarrassed, and the feeling of embarrassment still goes away. No big deal."

As for me, I decided not to test this theory. I hung out with the Bares a few times, yes, but I never really "hung out" with the Bares, if you take my meaning.

"You kept your shorts on," one nude nudist said to me after I'd been conducting interviews on the beach

"You kept your shorts on," one nude nudist said to me after I'd been conducting interviews on the beach all day.

were.) Anyway, the point is, it's all on display. No more mystery.

So what case could Kellersch, as a woman, erect around this touchy subject?

"People of all sizes are together on the nude

other well enough. You know, someone will come out of the water, and we'll say, 'Well, looks like the water's pretty cold.' Or something like that."

Then Cole went on, "But the thing is, no one

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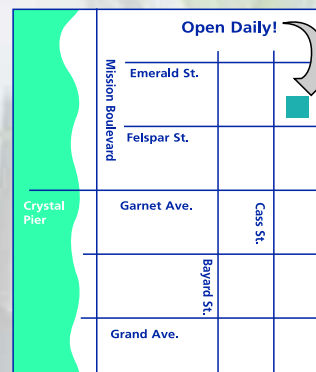
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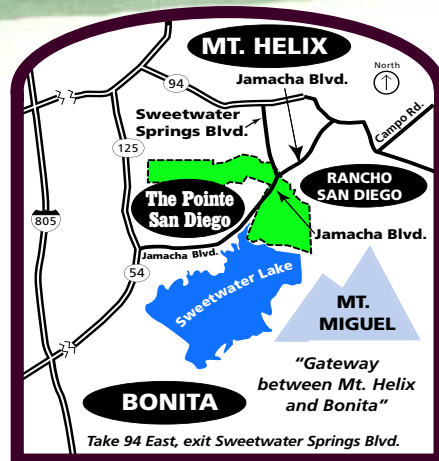
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all day.

"For artistic distance," I stammered, in answer. "To maintain my objectivity as a journalist."

* * *

Allow me an analogy — between firearms, on the one hand, and on the other hand, a state of total undress.

We've learned that guns don't kill people, people kill people. (But common sense also tells us that guns make killing easier.)

And we know that nudity isn't necessarily sexuality.

But it does remove one of the major barriers. Right?

Johnson said, "Most people only do two things nude: sex and bathing. So I can understand the association of nudism with sex, although that's a misconception. Nudists do almost everything nude. In fact, I do more things

nude than I do clothed."

Kellersch added, "Simple nudity is harmless. It's our natural state. People who mistake nudity for sexuality need to be educated. We can't mix nudity with sexuality on the beach. It's illegal and it's immoral. If I see a man who doesn't understand the things he can't do on a nude beach, then I walk up to him and give him a copy of our nude beach etiquette. If a man has an erection, then we suggest that he either turn over or he go in the ocean until it goes away."

Now then — to alter a famous phrase of Tolstoy's: flaccid, dangly monties are all the same, but every full one's full in its own way.

* * *

Most days in summer, a few times a day, a sight-seeing helicopter buzzes the sand above Black's. One high point of the excursion, I'm sure, for

most tourists, is the moment when, hearing the chopper approach, dozens of the Black's Beach Bares sprint down to the shoreline, turn around, bend over, and stick their burnished bums into the air. For his part, the helicopter pilot always playfully beeps back at the long line of tanned moons.

* * *

Claudia Kellersch was introduced to Black's as a student at San Diego State in the late '80s. Her husband is also a naturist, and they met through another local nudist group called the Camping Bares.

I asked Kellersch if she and her husband visited nudist colonies as well.

"We don't call them colonies anymore," she said. "That was maybe in the '60s. We call them naturist family parks or naturist resorts. I'm a member at De Anza



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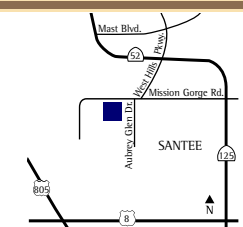
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Springs. It's an alternative when the weather at the beach isn't that great, because it's in the high desert. It's even nice there in January."

Is it different at the resort than at the beach?

"We go hiking and rock climbing nude at De Anza, which is really fun," she said. "The people at De Anza tend to be older than at the beach. Many of them are retired, and they use naturism as an easy way to simplify their lives. They spend less money and have a lot less possessions. Just think about all the clothes they don't need."

Technically, the nudists at most parks and resorts are nudists, but not necessarily naturists, while those at Black's Beach are both. It's like this: all naturists are nudists, but not every nudist is a naturist, because naturists enjoy being nude *in nature*. Nudists, in general, practice nudity in any setting, natural or not.

And then there's the poor naturalist. The words sound similar, but naturalism has nothing to do with naturism; naturalists simply study and enjoy nature, regardless of what anyone is or isn't wearing.

So let's divert our eyes from the naturists for a moment to observe how any naturalist could have a field day at Black's Beach. The sandstone cliffs above Black's are too unstable for rock climbing, but their softness has allowed the wind and rain to shape them into sinuous designs. Between the caves and curves and brilliant reddish color, the cliffs at Black's are reason enough to explore this unique beach.

And perhaps it's the large offshore reef or the protection of the cliffs, but I've routinely seen more strange and beauti-

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ful birds and sea beasts at Black's than anywhere else in town. Sand dollars, stingrays, terns, sandpipers, pelicans, gulls, dolphins, seals, squid, jellyfish, starfish, squirrels, chipmunks, and even, in among the cliffs, the occasional lizard or snake. And above the cliffs, of course, the rarest pine tree in the United States — the Torrey pine — lives and thrives.

As you might expect, Black's also offers terrific fishing. Martin Donnelly was out surf-casting one morning, *au naturel*, and pulling in some good-sized spot-fin croakers. One fish was about four or five pounds. "You can get corvina here year-round," Donnelly told me. "Ocean perch too. You catch 'em on the incoming tide." I asked him what he was going to do with his impressive stringer of fish. "I'll filet them and sauté the meat in butter, lemon, garlic, salt and pepper, and maybe some chardonnay," he said. "But I hardly cook it very much. It's so fresh. Really you could eat it raw."

And did Donnelly always fish nude? "Whenever I can," he said. "Why not?"

* * *

Let's be honest.

You go to a regular, "clothed" beach in San Diego, and you see hundreds of young, athletic, beautiful, toned, taut bodies in bathing suits. But then you go to Black's Beach, and you see older, saggier, flabbier, more wrinkly bodies in the buff.

What gives?

How come the ones who should be proudest of their bodies are the most self-conscious, and those who should maybe be the most self-conscious are parading around perfectly carefree?

"Well, that's the American media," Kellersch said, presumably

exempting Europe from my observation.

"Because they really try to create this body image that nobody can actually achieve. Because Americans are made to believe that they have to have an ideal body and live up to

models who are air-brushed on the cover of magazines. But that's an illusion. Nobody actually looks like that. And it's totally impossible. The female models are malnourished and unhealthy, really. And the

men are huge and full of muscles. And all of that puts an incredible pressure on people to conform to some kind of impossible beauty ideal. It makes women think things like, 'Oh, no, before anyone sees me

naked, I have to lose at least ten pounds.' You know. It's not good to have this kind of body consciousness."

So nudists are cool with their bodies, no matter how frumpy — or so magazines have

taught us — those honest bodies look; and the rest of us want to look better, no matter how universally pleasant the magazines have made our figures seem.

Hmm. ■

— Geoff Bouvier

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Found: \$1000

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If I found ten \$100 bills lying on the ground, I would look around to see if anyone else was looking at me and then I'd pick up the money and put it in my pocket. At first I would feel ecstatic and think of how rich I had just become. Unfortunately, after several blissful minutes, reality would smack me upside the head. I would realize that \$1000 seems like a lot of money, but it could only pay for a 40th of a year's tuition at an Ivy League school or fill up a Hummer's gas tank a few times.

Once this information sank in, my conscience would go to work and make me feel guilty. I would realize that the money does not belong to me and that I have no right to play the "finders keepers" game; the money belongs to someone else and I'd better give it back or else...

Yep, I would have to come up with some way to give that money back to its owner. I would probably make posters that read, "If you dropped your money along Blank Street, call this number." When people would call to claim it, I would ask how much they lost and the denominations it was in; they'd have to tell me they lost ten \$100 bills and then I'd return it. If nobody claimed the money after a month, I would give the money to the local animal shelter.

Wait a second! Who am I kidding? If I really found \$1000, I'd probably grab my best friend and go shopping!

— Emma Seemann,
Carlsbad H.S. graduate

Finding \$1000 on the ground is not like finding a lost dog or watch. One cannot put up "found" posters because unless the money has an artistic masterpiece or other design drawn on it (which, actually, would be illegal), it would be impossible to ascertain to whom it belonged. So, if I happened to be the one to find this bundle of joy lying on the ground, there would be nothing I could do except keep it.

Of course, I would probably tell my parents and all of my friends about this incredible find. They would understand my unwillingness to share the bills. The smartest thing to do would be to deposit the money in my bank account.

Knowing it would be safely stashed away, I could begin to decide how to spend it.

Those who know me would predict that I would use it on a shopping spree. This is indeed a possible option. I would also be tempted to be a good Samaritan and donate it to charity. However, I could always do that later on in my life when I am successful and have an extra thousand to spare. At this point, though, my \$1000 would probably be best spent on a plane ticket. I harbor a slight obsession with travel (preferably, but not limited to, exotic locations). Unfortunately, most of this travel has taken place in my imagination — up until now.

With \$1000 in my pocket, I could pretty much travel anywhere: Europe, Africa, or South America (my personal fantasy). Of course, I would have to overcome the problem of where to stay, but such details are trivial. If possible, I would choose a friend with whom I could split the \$1000 so we could travel together, which would not only be safer, but more fun.

— Jennie Matusova,
La Jolla H.S.

Because I work at a bank, the sight of ten \$100 bills is not too uncommon for me. If I saw such an amount lying in the street, I think it would take me a moment to adjust and to process the thought: "Oh, my gosh, I just found a \$1000!"

My response to the discovery after my initial reaction would probably vary depending on where I was when I found the money. If I were on a residential street, the obvious thing to do would be to go to the nearby houses and inquire whether the money belonged to anyone who lived there. If that failed to turn up an owner, I would consult with my mom, who seems to know exactly what to do in every situation. On the other hand, if

there were no houses nearby on the street where I found the money, my only option would be to question anyone nearby.

Ultimately, if there were no way to find out who had lost the money, I think I would be inclined to use some of it for myself. I would put some toward college and toward the upkeep of my car. Then, I would give some of the money to people I'm close to. The remainder of the money I would divide among a couple of different charities that deal with issues that are important to me. Finally, I would give a substantial portion to my church. Disbursing the money wouldn't take very long, but the part that I kept wouldn't be spent quickly.

— Michele Diaz,
Poway H.S. graduate

I found \$1000 while walking to my car from work. After shoving it in my purse, I did the only logical thing I could think of: I went to the nearest police station and turned it in. I didn't tell anyone other than the officer about my find because no one was around when I found the money, and I knew that the only response I would receive



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from my friends and family would be disappointment.

I knew that turning it in was the right thing to do, but until I received that call from the officer who told me that it was my cash to pick up at the station, I had doubted my decision.

At first I was overwhelmed by the amount of green I had found; \$1000 is so much and so little by today's standards. It's, like, 3 iPods or my college books or 20 video games or 10 of my paychecks. I wasn't sure what to spend it on, but I knew one thing: I wasn't going to tell anyone about it until I had decided how I wanted to spend it. So I placed the money in my savings account, safely out of my hands, and began to think of how to spend it.

I researched some stocks and bonds first and decided to invest in copper, since it had become one of today's hottest commodities. That took care of \$300. I donated another \$100 to the Invisible Children movement. After making my donation, I filled my parents in on my find. Then I gave \$200 to my mom for the down payment on my braces.

They suggested that I keep the rest of the money in my savings account for future emergency expenditures, and I heeded their advice. I was not the most interesting spender, but after being used to biweekly paychecks and spending those on shopping, this \$1000 was an investment in my future.

— Amy Culley,
Our Lady of Peace H.S.

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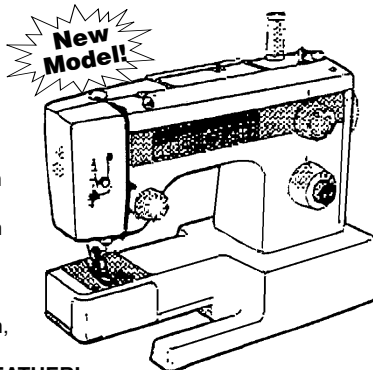
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I always want to do the right thing — karma is swift, you know — but I need a vacation. One thousand dollars couldn't cover a car or my future college tuition, but I could spend it in an instant on a plane ticket.

London, New York,

Greenland — it wouldn't matter. The only rule would be that I'd go by myself...not because I want to escape my family or desert my friends, but because there's more freedom in traveling alone. I would pick where to eat, what attractions to visit,

and my own wake-up calls (an important requirement for this sleep-deprived student).

Three years ago, I signed up for a Girl Scout camp in Orange County. I didn't have any friends there, and I hadn't spoken to a soul attending until I

got onto the camp bus; I wanted to live without the safety net of family and friends. I enjoyed nine days of archery, canoeing, and anonymity. I've written my name on a thousand school papers, filled in hundreds of standardized testing bubbles, and raised my hand for

dozens of roll calls. I'd like to be in a place where no one demands my name.

The settlers at Jamestown wanted new lives in the new world, and the pioneers who crossed our country were seeking new beginnings. In modern life, that independent feeling

hits me when I break my routine and take the risk of being anonymous. For \$1000, I could chomp on some airline peanuts, stare at the clouds, and be more than an I.D. number.

— Madeline McCurry-Schmidt,
Valhalla H.S. ■

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**steals more than your mood;
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SUBVERTING SALVATION: NATIVE RESISTANCE TO EARLY SPANISH COLONIZATION

COURTING THE QUECHANS, PRELUDE TO A MASSACRE

(Part Five of Six)

According to Quechan legend, the creator's son Kumastamxo traced a line across the desert with the tip of his spear. He sent the tribe on this "special path" from Avikwame Mountain, near Needles, to the Colorado River to find their home. Called *Quechan*—"another way of going down"—the exodus also gave the Yuman-speaking peoples their name.

They chose a natural crossing, where the river narrows between massive granite mounds. They also established villages to the north, at the junction of the Colorado and Gila Rivers, and to the south and east. When Lieutenant-Colonel Juan Bautista de Anza forged an overland route from Sonora to California in 1774, he made careful note of the strategic ford. "If the peoples who dwell along this great river are

attached to us, we will effect its passage. . . . If not, it will be almost impossible."

Tall, dark-skinned — "great swimmers," wrote Father Pedro Font — Quechans preferred walking to riding horses and would travel 100 miles on foot to attack an enemy. They had few material possessions and believed that success in the "black dizziness" of war enhanced spiritual power. Women often fought side by side with men. After a battle, they bathed and induced vomiting for eight days to combat "enemy sickness."

Quechan men went naked. Women wore scant clothing. Young women stretched their ears with large white shells; at maturity, they switched to blue. The men pierced each ear with three to five holes for earrings. They also pierced their noses with quills of feathers or a sprig of palm.

The *kwoxots*, leaders representing "the will of the people," hung special stones from their noses. Captain Pablo, revered shaman from a village near Algodones, wore an ivory-colored stone; Olleyquotequebe — "the wheezing one," also known as Salvador Palma — turquoise. During Anza's first expedition, Palma lived on a small, poor island near the mouth of the Gila and the Yuma Crossing. He had six

children, several wives, and *nixoras* (slaves). When Anza's second expedition came to the crossing in 1775–76, Palma had become *kwoxot* of Axa Qwedexor, an 800-person village two miles northeast of today's Fort Yuma.

In his 50s when Anza arrived, Palma took his last name from a *mayordomo* of Caborca, a small Sonoran village. Palma got his first name from Sebastian Taraval, a Cochimi scout who deserted from San Gabriel Mission. Palma acquired power from "right dreaming" and success in battle, but also through his alliance with Anza. The bearded man from the south promised horses, iron for weaponry, a constant supply of food, fabrics, shoes, glass beads, tobacco, a new God.

On February 7, 1774, Anza gave Palma a red ribbon with a silver medallion of Charles III. In "the name of the King of Spain, who is the owner of everything," Anza declared Palma governor of the region. Although the Quechans could revoke a *kwoxot's* status at any time, Palma became convinced the Spanish alliance would make him *salvador* — "savior" — of his people.

On May 12, 1776, returning from the second expedition, Anza stopped at the Yuma Crossing. He and Fathers Font and Eixarch interviewed Palma at his dome-shaped brush hut near the river. The Quechans, Font quotes Palma, "would be very happy if Spaniards and Fathers would come live with them." To secure his position, Palma demanded an audience with the king.

Anza had concerns. The king was too



Juan Bautista de Anza

far away. And a trip to the viceroy in Mexico City would take at least a year. Would Palma's people continue peaceful relations with their enemies? Would they remain pro-Spanish?

Oh yes, Palma replied. To prove it, he named elders to lead in his absence. To one he gave a quiver of arrows "that he might defend the country and rule on the river."

Anza, who thought the Quechans "harmless and poor spirited" in war, noted that the quiver had "five bad arrows," as poor as their long, "badly tempered," willow bows.

On May 15, the Anza Expedition — along with Palma, his brother Ygnacio; Pedro, a son of Pablo the shaman; and another youth (possibly Joseph Antonio, chief of the Kohuanas) — left the Yuma

QUOTATIONS

1. Tony and Pete Savala: "When the priests came, maybe they did believe they were bringing God to the people. But we already had our own religion. We knew God."

2. Mark Santiago: "Since their arrival, the Spaniards had disrupted the tribe's cultural patterns; by

allowing the white men to settle among them, the Quechans had assisted in their own subjugation."

3. Jack D. Forbes: "This project on the Colorado was one of the most poorly executed colonizing attempts imaginable."

RESEARCH STUDIES



BIPOLAR DISORDER DEPRESSION SCHIZOPHRENIA

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

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Clinical Research Center at (858) 694-8350.

Clinical
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Crossing and headed to the City of Mexico.

In 1769, Father Junípero Serra and the "Sacred Expedition" had arrived at San Diego unannounced. Kumeyaay natives' first impression was of weakness: they watched swollen, blistered men die on the bay shore, possibly from scurvy. The invaders had "power" — their roaring firesticks and giant rafts showed that. But it must have been on the wane. In the next six years, the Kumeyaay attacked the mission three times, burning it down in 1775.

The Yuma Crossing was so crucial for the overland route, the Spanish leaders took a different tack: when Palma arrived in Mexico City, he was honored as a head of state.

The size of the city overwhelmed him. Bare, snow-capped peaks surrounded a sprawling green valley thick with gardens and orchards. Paved streets looked as wide as the Colorado. Multicolored houses had shining windowpanes, as if the sun came from within. And so many carriages — and church spires, reaching for their God — and people, in multicolored clothes: the soldiers with long hair, often braided; the wealthy, white wigs. Most impressive: so many fountains. Water flowed in the high altitude as freely as the wind.

Before they arrived, Anza gave the Quechans new suits. Over a blue military uniform, trimmed with gold, and a scarlet vest, Palma wore a long, Sonora-style cape. He carried his cane of authority across his chest like a rifle.

On October 26, Palma met with Viceroy Antonio Bucareli in the viceregal palace, a sprawling wedding cake of towers and flapping pennants. In a letter to a friend, Bucareli was confident that the palace alone would show Palma "power and magnificence" beyond his wildest imaginings (the viceroy made sure that the "people of the night," who got drunk on the gallows at the nearby *plaza mayor*, took time off from their revelry).

Bucareli invited Palma to a formal reception to celebrate the king's birthday and their accord. Amid a "brilliant concourse" of dignitaries at the palace, the viceroy gave Palma a new cane of authority.

A week later, Anza

brought Bucareli the "Petition of Salvador Palma, Captain of the Yuma tribe, requesting that missions be established in his territory." The petition, most likely written by Anza (who made it imperative that he command the region), assured Bucareli that

Palma was supreme ruler of his people. Palma renounced the "horror" of witchcraft and polygamy, adding that he alone could guarantee Spanish colonization of the Yuma Crossing.

Almost as an afterthought, he said, "The only

self interest that might induce me would be acquisition of Spanish arms." With this weaponry, he promised to protect the overland route. In a grand ceremony at the Cathedral of Mexico, Palma had himself baptized as "Don Salvador." Anza stood as

godfather.

Fourteen months later, Palma returned to the river with a trunk full of shirts, hats, military coats, and glittering trinkets. A million times these riches, Palma boasted to the Quechans, would be theirs when

Spaniards lived among them. He envisioned himself all in silk, riding a gilded carriage through his new city on "the beach of the Colorado."

While Palma was in Mexico, Father Francisco Garces traveled throughout the Southwest on a black

RESEARCH STUDIES

There is hope...

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If you are at least 18 years old, you can be considered to participate in a clinical research trial on insomnia.

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If you have Carpal Tunnel Syndrome (CTS), you know that the pain can be frustrating — it can affect your ability to work and your quality of sleep.

Now, local doctors are conducting a medical research study to evaluate the pain-relieving capabilities of an investigational patch that's placed directly on the wrists of CTS patients.

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- Have daily moderate to severe pain resulting from CTS

Qualified study participants will receive a study-related medical evaluation and investigational study patch at no cost. Financial compensation for time and travel may be provided.

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

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horse, sometimes with guides and interpreters, sometimes alone. The missionary-pathfinder met with so many tribes and forged so many peace treaties, wrote Father Font, "he seems like an Indian himself."

Garces spoke several dialects and knew common sign language. He loved to squat cross-legged at native campfires for hours "with great serenity and deliberation." He even "spit constantly," a friar complained, "like the Indians." Garces was a contemporary of Daniel Boone, and historian Herbert Bolton called him "Daniel Boone in Franciscan garb."

Though he was in his mid-30s, natives called Garces the "Old Man," a sign of reverence. For all his travels, however, he couldn't swim. Whenever he had to cross the Colorado, he would lie flat, face up. Quechans sang as

they transported him above the waves "like a dead man."

Garces knew the region from the Pacific Coast to the Grand Canyon firsthand. He knew, when he wrote the viceroy in 1776, "that if the matter of missions on the Gila and Colorado is allowed to cool—all will be lost." He added, "All these nations are numerous, powerful, and"—contrary to Anza's impression—"very warlike. If we have to secure this river properly, it must be done with an adequate force."

Garces recommended two missions near the crossing, both on the west bank, to shield them from the Apaches. At least 10 married soldiers and their wives (so the men wouldn't molest native women, as had happened so often on the coast) would guard each mission.

Bucareli and Anza advocated swift action. But in the

years that followed, both lost influence. Anza became governor of New Mexico, and the Spanish government renamed the territory—the "internal provinces"—and gave it a new commandant, Teodoro de Croix, who had no knowledge of the region

that his life might be in danger, Palma rode south to Altar, in Sonora, in 1777, 1778, and 1779, each time demanding that the Spanish colony, and the promised gifts, come at once.

In 1779, aware that "bad consequences" could result

"THE TIME AND PLACE WERE NOT WELL CHOSEN FOR SUCH AN EXPERIMENT," WRITES HERBERT HOWE BANCROFT.

and clashed with Bucareli.

Authority among the Quechans was fluid. (If a leader made a grave mistake, writes Jack Forbes, "it meant his power had deserted him and it was time for another to decide things.") Aware that his control was fading, and

from Palma's inflated expectations, Croix sent Fathers Garces and Juan Diaz, along with 12 soldiers and 2000 pesos for gifts, to the Yuma Crossing. In a sweltering August, the party's water, supplies, and royal funds became so reduced, it split

up at desolate Sonoitac, the half-way point of their journey. Ten soldiers remained behind.

When the Spanish finally returned to the Yuma Crossing, instead of endless mule-trains packed with riches and weapons, the natives saw the "Old Man" on his familiar black horse, two soldiers, and an interpreter—all near starvation.

Garces noted that the Quechans and neighboring tribes had become "unsociable." Palma's promises, "a scheme of the devil," had raised impossible expectations.

He sent an urgent message to Sonoitac: "Bring beads and flannel immediately." He also wrote to Croix in November: Palma had "*ningun domino*"—no power—over the 3000 Quechans. Only a small village recognized him; the rest could rebel at any time. Garces demanded that

Croix should come see firsthand Palma's "chimerical" hold on his people.

When the ten soldiers and Father Diaz arrived, they didn't have enough trinkets to buy their own food. During that winter, Palma's status declined. So did Garces's, whose special powers—he obviously had been a "right dreamer" to natives—became doubtful. Someone slashed his black horse.

Croix never came to the river. But in March, 1780, he devised a "*nuevo modo de conquistar*"—a new form of colonization. Instead of a mission or presidio, he advocated a "military town" that combined both with a pueblo: ten settlers, ten soldiers, six laborers, and their families would each have a house and a field. Friars would be pastors and missionaries, but without the authority of those on the Pacific Coast.

RESEARCH STUDIES

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Numerous critics attacked the scheme: the church; Spanish law, which claimed Croix went beyond his jurisdiction; and experts certain that military towns wouldn't build on vacant land, as Croix advised, but would steal the most fertile property.

Anza objected. So did Garces. In several letters he warned that the situation was "worse than ever." But Croix stuck to his plan, among other reasons, because it was the least expensive: presidios cost 18,998 pesos annually; a military town, 4704 pesos.

"The time and place were not well chosen for such an experiment," writes Herbert Howe Bancroft. "In a criminally stupid blunder, [Croix] exposed over 50 families to sure destruction."

Croix wanted two military towns on the Colorado. In March, 1780, he ordered recruitment of 12 laborers

and their families for two years. He also named ensign Santiago Yslas commandant, even though the 35-year-old, former soldier of fortune, had no administrative experience.

On December 27, 1780, Yslas, 21 soldiers, 12 laborers, 20 settlers and their families — 160 in all, 107 of them women and children — arrived at the Yuma Crossing. Although they brought large herds of cattle, horses, mules, and sheep, they lacked basic supplies, especially seeds and oxen to haul lumber for houses and to till the fields.

Yslas wrote Croix that the had natives welcomed them with open arms. Garces disagreed: "Already irritated by so many delays and evil influences," they were becoming "every day more restless and could not be controlled except by superior force."

The Spanish founded

two towns west of the river: La Purisima Concepción, on a cottonwood-studded hill overlooking the Yuma Crossing, in December, 1780; and San Pedro y San Pablo de Bicuñer, about 11 miles upstream, in January, 1781.

FORTY SOLDIERS AND THEIR FAMILIES, A HOST OF SETTLERS, AND ALMOST A THOUSAND HEAD OF CATTLE AND HORSES APPROACHED THE YUMA CROSSING.

"Some Indians saluted us with shouts," wrote Yslas, "each one crying hurrah for the King, our Lord" and throwing fistfuls of dirt in the air.

Quechan habits revolted the settlers. The natives slept

sitting up, so as not to muss their turban-like, silver-tinted hairdos. "Sexual looseness" prevailed, especially among the young (and males "always have their hands on their disgraceful parts"). Natives were given to constant "passings

of wind," and would defecate standing, sitting, or even — as did Palma during a conference with Yslas — in mid-conversation.

"They go about just as they were born," complained

a priest, "the most immodest people I have ever seen."

Settlers were no less offensive. Instead of promised gifts, they made natives work for their clothing. The newcomers also let untended livestock graze on Quechan fields and destroy crops. They grabbed fertile bottomlands. To build Bicuñer, they evicted a village that had been at the site since the legendary Kumastamxo drew the line across the desert.

On January 17, Yslas requested two cannons and ten pairs of *grullas* — irons — from Croix. Yslas had already set up, and often used, a whipping post at La Concepción.

Surprised by the request, Croix advocated moderation and "much sweetness." Using this policy, Croix assured Yslas, "the necessity of arms and prisons will be avoided."

Palma's brother Ygnacio — the nation's most

respected warrior — and Pablo had a flare-up with a soldier. Yslas ordered them thrown in the stocks. "This was one of the most regrettable incidents," wrote Father Juan Arricivata. Yslas should have known that "a savage could not understand military discipline, and that Ygnacio would depart with more irritation than correction." Plus, the insult would anger all his "turbulent" followers.

Since livestock had decimated wheat fields, screwbean, and mesquite groves, settlers had to buy grain from the Quechans. Those that didn't refuse demanded sky-high prices.

In late May, wanting to regain favor with his people, Palma moved his family out of La Concepción and back to a village. Ygnacio, now a *kwoxot*, advocated revolt.

Desperate for food, Yslas had to send a detachment

RESEARCH STUDIES

DO YOU HAVE Type 2 Diabetes?

A research study with a pharmaceutical company evaluating the effects of an investigational drug for Type 2 Diabetes is being conducted.

Eligible participants must:

- Have Type 2 Diabetes • Be between 18 and 80 years of age
- Currently be taking a stable dose of Metformin (≥1500mg) alone for your Diabetes

If eligible, you may receive at no cost study-related items:

- Physical examinations • Laboratory tests • Electrocardiogram
- Office visits • Dietary and Diabetes consultation • Study medication

To learn more about the diabetes research study, please call:
Dr. Quinonez at: 619.291.2845

endeavor

International Drug-free Wellness Research



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If you are interested in helping to evaluate the effect of drug-free chiropractic care on overall health and wellness, you may be eligible to participate in a global research project conducted by RCS, Inc. — Research & Clinical Science.™

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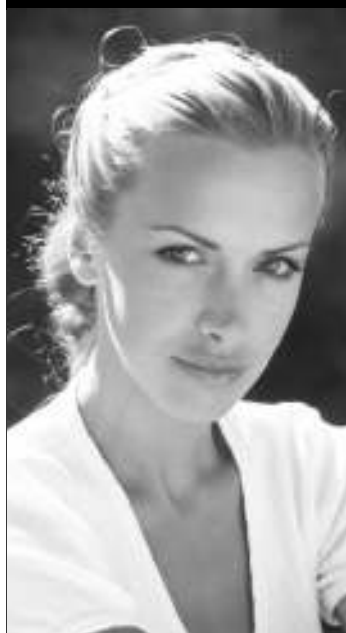
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DEPRESSION



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- Fatigue/loss of interest
- Persistent sadness/hopelessness

The UCSD Psychopharmacology Research Initiatives, Center of Excellence, is conducting research study on major depression. The research study involves the use of an investigational drug compared to placebo.

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

Participants will be compensated for their time and travel.

For more information and to find out how you can participate, call:

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(1-866-827-7423)



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You may qualify for this study if you:

- Are age 18 or older
- Have type 2 diabetes controlled with 2 oral medications with or without insulin
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Restless nights?

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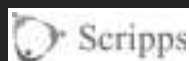
Do you suffer from the urge to move your legs along with creeping, crawling, tingling sensations that tend to get worse towards evening? Do these symptoms tend to occur at least 3 times a week? Are you 18 years or older?

If so, you may qualify for the Rise and Shine clinical study researching a new investigational treatment for Restless Legs Syndrome (RLS). There is no cost to you for participating and you will be compensated for your time and travel. Please call today. Instead of restless nights, you've got a chance to rise and shine.



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Are You Diabetic and Suffer from Pain in Your Legs or Feet?

A 14-week research study is being conducted to evaluate the effectiveness of a twice-a-day investigational medication in reducing the pain associated with diabetic neuropathy (pain in your lower legs or feet caused by diabetes).

To qualify you must:

- Be at least 18 years old
- Have Type 1 or 2 diabetes and be taking anti-diabetes medication
- Have pain in your lower legs or feet due to painful diabetic neuropathy that has lasted for at least 3 months
- Meet all other inclusion requirements

Qualified participants will receive, at no cost:

- Study-related exam and neurological assessment of diabetic neuropathy
- Study-related laboratory tests
- Study-related electrocardiogram (ECG)
- Study-medication or placebo and follow-up for 14 weeks

Compensation for travel will be provided.

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858-622-7212

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- Meeting new people?
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- Interacting with those you are attracted to?
- Dealing with authority figures?
- Eating or writing in front of others?

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

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

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

across the Colorado desert to Mission San Gabriel. Rumors spread: the Spanish went for reinforcements, not supplies.

In the first week of June, enormous dust clouds arose from the south. Forty soldiers and their families, a host of settlers, and almost a thousand head of cattle and horses, approached the Yuma Crossing—but not from the west, as expected. Then a second detachment appeared on the western horizon. One hundred Spanish soldiers converged on the river tribes. The rumors were true: this wasn't colonization. This was invasion.

Next time: Blood in the River: The Yuma Massacre of 1781. ■

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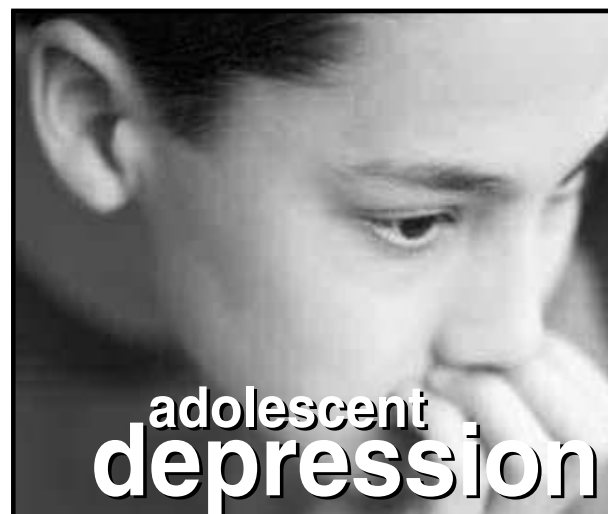
If so, and you are **between the ages of 18 and 80**, you may qualify for a medical research study to evaluate the safety and effectiveness of an investigational drug for high cholesterol. Benefits of being in the study include: study medication, study-related physician visits, lab work and reimbursement for study travel.

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ACCELOVANCE



adolescent depression

Does this sound like your 12-17 year old child?

- doing poorly in school
- crankiness
- sadness or anger
- loss of interest in normal activities or friends

It may be more serious than you think.

He or she may qualify to participate in a research study for adolescent depression.

Children who qualify will receive study-related examinations, lab tests, and medication at no cost from a doctor who specializes in adolescent depression. Health insurance is not needed to participate.

For more information, please call:
PCSD~Feighner Research
1-877-FOR-INFO (367-4636)

THE ETHICAL OUTLAW

You might think a man who makes his living illegally scavenging bomb and missile parts from the U.S. Navy's Chocolate Mountains Bombing & Gunnery range is an unsavory character. But in this lean and conflicted quarter, he's the good guy.

If the Chocolate Mountains were a spine laid sideways, Jacob Ray Taylor — or J.R. to those who know him — would be found down in the lumbar.

For nearly 60 miles the mountains arc in a lazy southeasterly direction: beginning about 120 miles east of San Diego, to just this side of the Mexican frontier. They are as remote and gloriously unsettled as California gets, a rolling savannah of spiny scrub trees, badlands, lava fields, and the Chocolate Mountain Aerial Gunnery Range, a 456,000-acre set aside for the U.S. Navy, Marines, National Guard, visiting NATO wings, and various helicopter detachments.



They are why Taylor's directions to his spread, relayed by cell phone in an Arkansas twang that sways between nicotine-ashy and sing-songy, include a jarring caveat: "If you see the

'Danger: Bombing Range' signs, you've gone too far."

He and his wife, Lorelei, own 10 acres spilling over with trailers, shotgun shacks, seven dogs, 45 chickens and roosters, even more cats,

and a cache of spent military ordnance and bomb fins. Patton's Third Army trained north and east of the Chocولات in the early 1940s. To the west B-29s dropped mock-ups of "Little Boy" and "Fat

Man," the atomic bombs destined for Hiroshima and Nagasaki, over the cognac-colored Salton Sea. The rotor wash from military choppers on more recent missions over the Chocolates

RESEARCH STUDIES

BEST SEATS

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Healthy Volunteers

Accelovance is seeking healthy volunteers to participate in upcoming medical research studies to evaluate new vaccines. **To participate/qualify, you must: be in general good health and greater than 19 years of age.**

Participants may receive study-related medical evaluations and study vaccination at no cost. Compensation for time and travel may be provided.

If interested, call:

619.291.2845

has been known to bend antennae on the Taylor's property.

Perhaps there's some good reason that J.R. settled here, 20 miles from most people's idea of a road, and nearly twice as far to potable

water. To begin with, he's an ex-soldier. A proud "Mud Marine" who served three tours in Vietnam, one in Lebanon, then a stint with a "covert" unit in Colombia, during, he says, "the first drug war there." After leav-

ing what he calls the "black" world, he found work with Red Adair, an oil-field firefighter who came to wield John Wayne-like star power for a time. "That owed to my knowledge of explosives," Taylor explains.

But eventually the bantamweight Taylor returned to making a living from war. Or, rather from the rehearsals for it; scrounging the range for reclaimable bomb and missile metals — primarily aluminum and brass — then

selling them to a local yard for as much as \$500 a ton.

If the work didn't quite fit most people's definition of legal, it wasn't exactly immoral, either. Scrappers like Taylor who roamed the Chocolates in days gone by

respected a code: they steered clear when the range was "hot," namely when maneuvers were being conducted, and maintained a quietly amiable "don't ask/don't tell" relationship with the military authorities.

"I got along with them," Taylor claims. "But then again, they didn't see me and I didn't see them."

* * *

Now the range Taylor long defied is being overrun by what he considers a reckless new wave: hell-blazing tweakers, human traffickers, and drug runners, among others. Taylor complains that pirates shake down or kidnap human-cargo loads from range runners and coyotes. That vanloads of illegal immigrants are too often dumped left to wander a theater of war, sometimes to die.

And then, the most troubling of the lot: seekers of ordnance packed with plastic explosives; the malleable and undetectable stuff of IED, shoe and backpack bombs. Figuring out how to secure the matériel from a live bomb or missile isn't exactly rocket science. And a healthy portion of what rains down on the Chocolates remains live. (The U.S. Department of Defense estimates that 5 percent to 20 percent of bombs dropped during training dud, or fail to detonate.)

Though the bombing range slowly slouches toward anarchy, Taylor, with make-my-day bravado vows that it "won't happen on my watch. No sir." As W. is the illegitimate sheriff on the world stage to some, Taylor is the hegemonic if extralegal force in the Chocolate Mountains. "You have to play by the rules," he says.

* * *

Behind the wheel of one of his five primer-gray Volkswagen Bugs, Taylor guns it up a 180-meter hogback of loose gray shale. At the summit the wind begins to gust. As if on cue so does Taylor's rhetoric. He relates what he told one of the ne'er-dowells: "You aren't going to see me. You're going to hear one crack at your motor, and it's going to fly past your feet."

Until the early '80s, J.R. and Lorelei lived in Niland, California. Nestled between the Chocolates' west and the southeast shore of the Salton

RESEARCH STUDIES

Bipolar Disorder Clinical Research Study

Now Enrolling

If you have been treated for bipolar disorder and:

- Are at least 18 years of age
- Experienced a manic or mixed episode within the last 3 months

You may be eligible to participate in a clinical research study of an investigational medication for bipolar disorder.

Study participants may receive, at no cost, study-related: medical care, research medication, laboratory work and evaluations.

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Sea, Niland is a low-slung town of 1500 residents. Despite the state's highest per capita rate of poverty, 33.1 percent unemployment, and equally stratospheric incidence of methamphetamine addiction, Niland retains a refreshingly warm vibe. On training days in the austere mountains, its maybe three-kilometer-long grid of humble stucco trailers in various degrees of decay and expansive dry-land vegetable fields heaves with aftershocks.

And most days are training days. The attack groups vary: from jets and attack helicopters based at the Yuma Marine Corps Air Station; to warplanes and helicopter gunships launched from aircraft carriers in the Pacific. Each day, come sun-up, the desert air turns anxious, punctuated by nonstop sorties, rocket and missile salvos, as well as fusillades of cluster-type munitions.

With the lightning comes the thunder. Each type of ordnance wields its own unique percussion. For instance, the audio signature of cluster bombs begins with a deep, rumbling thud, not unlike a sonic boom. A

series of sharp thunderclaps, maybe a half-dozen, immediately follows. The sound travels upwind from somewhere deep in the Chocolates' broad midsection.



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If you qualify, you'll receive study-related doctor visits and study medication at no cost. Financial compensation may also be provided.

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BIPOLAR DISORDER and ALCOHOLISM STUDY



Signs and Symptoms:

- Do you have mood swings or difficulty concentrating?
- Feeling trapped in either a manic "up" episode or a depressive "down" episode?
- Do you find yourself drinking to cope with your mood swings?

If you or someone you know is experiencing any of these symptoms, you may be suffering from Bipolar Disorder (also known as Manic Depression) and Alcoholism.

Affiliated Research Institute is conducting a research study for people with Bipolar Disorder and Alcoholism. If you qualify, you may be eligible to participate in a study testing the effectiveness of an experimental medication for the treatment of Alcoholism at no cost to you.

If you would like additional information regarding this study and are between the ages of 21 and 60, please contact:



(619) 688-6565

See our website: www.ari-inc.com



ANXIETY STUDY

Signs and Symptoms:

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

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

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



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

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See our website: www.ari-inc.com

Combined Inpatient/Outpatient

Bipolar Disorder/Manic Depression Research Study

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



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

(619) 688-6565

See our website: www.ari-inc.com



Social Anxiety Disorder?

- Do You Fear Meeting New People?
- Do You Fear Social Events?
- Are You Worried About Being at the Center of Attention?
- Are You Worried About Being Around People?

Affiliated Research Institute is evaluating an investigational medication for Social Anxiety Disorder. Affiliated Research Institute has 25 years of experience in managing clinical studies. To qualify for this research study, you need to be at least 18 years of age. If you qualify, you will receive study-related medical care at no cost. You may be compensated for time and travel as well.



For more information about how the study works please contact:

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None of that compelled the Taylor’s to quit Niland. More often than not war arrives at their backdoor. Lorelei often relates an episode that saw a squad of Marines on a nighttime live fire exercise drop from helicopters to ambush their compound. “We just wanted to get away from everything and everybody,” says J.R. “I could see Niland’s future: the ding lings, the druggies, the sleaze. No thank you.”

Since relocating to the opposite side of the Chocolates they’ve collected a burgeoning fleet of beefed-up four-wheel-drive vehicles. J.R. proudly shows off the most recent addition, a late

’90s Chevy Suburban that was abandoned by a “wet runner.” While Lorelei prefers to ramble aboard a Quad-Runner ATV, J.R.’s daily drivers are VW Bugs whose design — or perhaps, deconstruction — fall somewhere between low-budget Mad Max and Somali technical.

Besides the conspicuously missing tops and wind-

nance. To scrappers they are gravy. Nothing matches bomb fins for their volume of high-grade aluminum. After bomb fins, spent large caliber rounds are Taylor’s number two moneymaker. Brass, aluminum and stainless steel ammunition is shot into surplus tanks and other ersatz targets. With their turrets knocked sideways, or blown

The Chocolates have exhibited the more violent characteristics borne of a modern if overheated underground economy.

shields, each has a steel basin in lieu of a rear seat or trunk. About the size of a large chest, the welded basins allow for quick and easy loading. “I’ve had as many as 18 sets of tail fins in one,” says Taylor, a self-rolled cigarette dangling from his lower lip.

Called wind-correcting tail kits by the Armed Forces, the fins improve delivery accuracy of airdropped ord-

off entirely, and the tracked treads splayed and seemingly expired behind them, these Viet Nam-era tanks and APCs (armored personnel carriers) recall the fate of Saddam’s retreating army on Kuwait’s Highway of Death.

* * *

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there's long been a robust market for salvaged bomb and missile metals. Reflexively, for a generation or more, scrapers have scoured the Chocolates as if they were a post-apocalypse goldfield.

Officials with the Yuma Marine Corps Air Station, which oversees the range, won't comment on any illegal activity that might take place on the range or on military efforts to combat it.

That kind of security vacuum made the unmanned, unfenced military range all the more inviting for outlaws. It began with the first metal scavengers and the occasional drug-lab setup. Of late though, the Chocolates have exhibited the more violent characteristics borne of a modern if overheated underground economy.

Taylor's seen it all. By

"I was the only one I ever knew who ran the range at night, save for Christmas. The key was I liked the night."

They have no public comment about Taylor, either. A spokesman would say only: "The range is secured by military police." But the Yuma station is something of an absentee landlord. It lies to the east in Arizona, 20 minutes by Harrier jump jet but more than two hours driving in a Humvee.

virtue of both his low-observable profile and his penchant for alighting into the range between midnight and three a.m., a purposeful scrapping shift, so as not "to get in the way."

"I was the only one I ever knew who ran the range at night, save for Christmas. The key was I liked the night."

And while others leaned toward big rigs, such as burly pickup trucks pulling trailers, Taylor preferred a smaller footprint. The nimbleness afforded by chopped V-dubs.

As for his operating principle, in Taylor's scrapping heyday it was more gut than strategic. "I have no rhyme or reason in how I do this. If it hits me, I just go." He never took to spirits or drugs. That, coupled with steady nerves, might help explain his longevity. Betraying a gallows sense of humor, Taylor likes to say, "I still got all ten fingers and ten toes."

The dangers have always been full spectrum and unpredictable. Another scraper shot Taylor. He's suffered numerous shrapnel wounds and burns from an exploding fuel-air bomb (a new and improved version of napalm). All that Taylor writes off "as part of the territory." But he didn't take unnecessary risks, attentive to Rule No. 1: "Never interrupt a military exercise to scrap."

Conversely, the newcomers don't know from rules. They're as likely to

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scrap, or smuggle, when it's hot as not. "You can't pay me to go in there," Taylor says, only to ask incredulously: "Would you go into a minefield?"

What sane person would? Taylor calls the whole lot of them powerfully stupid. Worse, their kind of profile has raised the attention of military police, U.S. Border Patrol agents, and the rest of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

* * *

A fistful of remote passes seams the Chocolates. Lion's Head, at about the midway point in the standoffish range, is named for an unusual rock formation that faces southwest, While Surveyor's carries tribute to an old hard-rock miner and shepherd. Physically, they span sinewy trails marked by treacherously soft sand to dirt roads broad enough to accommodate heavy military trucks and self-propelled Howitzers. At the same time, those who traffic predominantly in illegal immigrants from Mexico and Central America use

all.

As a way to reduce the fees they pay to smugglers, some immigrants carry marijuana and methamphetamine in backpacks when crossing the range. Larger loads, meth in the 250-300-pound range, or pot weighing five to seven times that figure, move through the Chocolates in other conveyances, predominantly

nearly every day, protecting his rough 'n tumble homestead. To that end, he claims to have run off more than a few brazen "coyotes and wet runners." At the same time, J.R. passes on the makes and descriptions of out-of-place vehicles to federal agents.

"Those wet and drug runners, they don't have much for brains," Taylor says, straining to be heard over

"Those wet and drug runners, they don't have much for brains," Taylor says.

late-model four-wheel-drive Chevrolet wagons and built-up Dodge Power Ram pickups.

No matter what they're transporting or pilfering, the amateurs aren't welcome. At least not by Taylor: the ethical outlaw. "They've changed the whole program," he says, and not for the good.

So J.R. rambles over and around the military range

the exhaust of the VW. "Every once in a while you get an idiot who doesn't know any better and wanders over this way." Abandoned vehicles litter most of the passes through the range. For the more enterprising range runner or coyote these stretches offer something akin to a pick-a-part salvage yard.

He points out a bullet-riddled Chevy truck. Already

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half reclaimed by the desert, the late model green pickup is mired in a sandy wash, absent its tires and wheels. "They're mine," Taylor grins. Taylor describes the alleged gunplay as necessary, an act of self-defense. He doesn't exactly backpedal from rumors that he dropped a meth cook or two, or more. "They used this range to cook drugs. I turned it over. Put five men in the ground. I had one come up from the bottom of a bomb crater with a rifle. He went away."

Is he serious? Well, rumors of his diplomacy by other means are central to the J.R. mystique. "Some peo-

ple see the law as black and white, right and wrong," he says. "Some people see it as black-white with a gray stripe down the middle. That's where I drive. That's the world I navigate."

* * *

On a glorious fall day Taylor guides the VW through expanses of sandy flats that climb into gravelly volcanic hills. Showy flowers bloom on diminutive fishhook, claret cup and beavertail cactus. Thrashers and shrikes, as well as a rare Phainopepla flit from tall, sinewy ocotillo stalks to thickets of mesquite. Crossing the jeep

trail and wider sandy washes are roadrunners, jackrabbits, and prairie falcons.

Just when it seems the bombing range is magically shape shifting into a wilderness preserve, the VW rolls by an intact bomb. Taylor doesn't stop. He gives the seven-and-a-half-foot-long, 500-pound MK-82 the same regard others would a Styrofoam beverage cooler blown to the side of a highway. "I hardly get out of second gear," he says, barreling up and down gullies and over a greater variety of cacti and blooming annuals every few miles than any Wal-Mart garden section.

In this watchdog business, "You have to have the patience of Job."

His self-declared war in the Chocolates has earned Taylor a few enemies — though not, perhaps, among the authorities. At least one U.S. Border Patrol intelligence officer refuses to condemn Taylor's extralegal version of ghost recon when it comes to drug runners and people smugglers. Hank works undercover. His small tactical team often deploys on the range's periphery, conducting nighttime down-range surveillance on traffickers and smugglers. For that reason he asks not to be

named. "Well, if they want to roll through his area, that's the price they're going to pay."

As for all the talk, including Taylor's, about his sending some range crossers to the ground the undercover agent does a Texas two-step around the answer. "How is someone, a surviving family member, going to reach out to authorities if their son was involved in smuggling? Those people are basically invisible."

* * *

Downey Holcomb, for one, isn't impressed with J.R. Taylor. He gruffs that Tay-

lor "thinks he owns all of that out there," looking toward the range from the confines of a tumbledown Airstreams trailer he shares with girlfriend Jesse. "I told him, 'You don't own this sucker.'"

Taylor the hardliner shoots back that it's the likes of Holcomb who are the problem. Holcomb's attraction to the Chocolates does seem to verge on fatal. The powerfully empty range, the constant death dance, like methamphetamine and white label Kentucky mash, are in his blood.

"When I hear the jets or the cluster bombs, I know

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it's time to get up and go to work," says the 50ish Holcomb, whose face is as furrowed as the mesquite trees common to the low desert. The convulsions that rock Niland act like a factory whistle, more often than not drawing him to what's known as Cluster Heaven, arguably the most lethal impact area on the range.

A few years ago, Holcomb recalls, he was riding shotgun when a former partner lost a leg to an unexploded cluster submuni-

tion. The BLU-97 blew up under their truck. He tells the tale of another fellow whom a cluster-bomb unit eviscerated. "All they found of him was his lower leg and a boot up in a tree."

During a pursuit two winters back involving U.S. Marine range patrolmen, the soft-spoken Holcomb says his load of water-heater-sized cluster-bomb bellies shifted violently. Before he could react roughly 3,000-pounds' worth of raw-edged metal came careening

through the cab. Declares Randy Boirum, a former scrapping partner and long-time friend: "He was lucky not to be decapitated."

On one rather hectic day on the range, in 115-degree heat, Boirum and Holcomb decide to make an audacious bootleg for what they simply call, "Cluster." But there's a black flag flying over this run. Their transportation is a borrowed two-wheel-drive pickup. The latter was winched off the range by Big Daddy, a

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retired scrapper who helps himself to vehicles abandoned on the range.

The loaner's windshield is spider webbed; the radiator hisses; and the ignition have been punched out in a manner similar to hotwiring a stolen car. Tearing toward Iris Wash, a maybe three-mile-wide cleave in the Chocolates' up-sloping north end, the route follows a series of barely there trails. On the approach to Cluster Heaven, Holcomb notes that the RAF (British Royal Air Force) has just dropped; which is good in one sense, because it's "always the British whose cluster bombs fall everywhere but on target." At the same time, there's the danger of potential encounters with wayward cluster munitions.

Binoculars bring the impact area into sharp relief. Hundreds of silver casks, reduced by the Chocolates' scale, evoke tiny inlays set against a horizontal swath of deep copper and diffuse crimson. Far more threatening than the blanching sun catching the cluster bombs is the specter of two Apache attack helicopters. Roughly a kilometer distant and 200 feet overhead, they circle like hammer-head sharks. The pickup is quickly stashed beneath a smoke tree. The two scrapers then pull a black canvas tarp over the windshield and roof to defeat the sun's reflection. The glint would betray their presence.

They locate negligible shade beside a creosote bush. About 20 yards away looms a ghostly column of shot-up Vietnam-era tanks, their turrets blown akimbo. Shards of twisted bomb fins and shrapnel lie half buried in every direction. Harrier jump jets flying in pairs are busy tearing the sky asunder. The impact of their ordnance drops are bouncing dust and pebbles a few inches into the air as if sent aloft by a giant bass speaker. Amazingly, though, while the near atmosphere verges on terrifying, Holcomb's long-limbed partner, Randy Boirum, dozes off. His week-long meth jag has clearly spun out.

Eventually the Apaches disengage and fly off. Though after another few kilometers advance, Holcomb lands the pickup in a sand trap. The

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white Ford overheats. Cluster Heaven remains elusive. The wisdom of crossing the proving ground in punishing heat, in an underpowered two-wheel drive no less has collapsed under its questionable weight.

With a swig from a plain-wrap bottle of whiskey Holcomb looks across the broad, 2700-foot-high Chocolates. His blank expression and flat body language shows the exasperation of someone who has routinely crossed and wrung a livelihood out of a literal death valley for half his years.

"Every walk of life has passed through that range," he says in a humble tone. "All those poor bastards want is a better life, really and truly." Yet it's hard to tell who's worse off: Holcomb, who can barely afford gas for the loaner, pushed to gamble day-in/day out with life and limb; or the immigrants who he admits put their lives in his hands.

Holcomb relates having lost an opportunity — being vehicle challenged a week earlier — to take two

Mexican nationals all the way to Los Angeles. "The price was \$1000 each. But that passed me by." That admission could be driving today's half-baked endeavor.

A long-time resident of Niland who knows both men, Mike Aleksick, says, "Downey Holcomb is radioactive." The Marine

gal immigrants) his way.

With a disdainful snarl Taylor says of Holcomb: "He's not worth the bullet." Holcomb's retort: "I've been doing this long enough. When it's my time to go, it's my time to go."

Aleksick, Niland's fire chief of 35 years, explains that in the Chocolates, amidst

**"He's not worth the bullet."
Holcomb's retort: "I've been
doing this long enough. When it's
my time to go, it's my time to go."**

patrol pursuit on the range, coupled with a high-speed chase across the Chocolates in the summer of '05 and the most recent in a string of arrests for methamphetamine possession and transportation has made Holcomb too hot to touch.

He'll try for Cluster another day. Maybe his Mexican *padrones* will show compassion and throw another load of *pollos* (slang for ille-

the conflicted boundaries of a frontline weapons range turned smugglers' den, no matter which side of the law you claim to be on, it's all the same: a mystery.

"When you choose to live out in the middle of nowhere, who knows you? Or what you did before you found your way out there? And who's going to know what you're up to?" ■

— Michael DiGregorio

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— Noel Coward,
Private Lives (Act I)



The place should be a welfare hotel with a stuttering indigo neon sign outside the window. There should be a bottle of cheap bourbon on the nightstand and a .38 lying on the once-gaudy, now-faded bedspread. This isn't. There isn't. It's my apartment in Kensington, and while there is no gun, bourbon, neon, or even a bedspread, the place is filled with diabolical instruments of torture — chief among them, the stereo.

Staring past the ashtray filled with Winston butts, seeing how the apartment distorts into a sepia parody of itself through the water glass of Martell cognac — like a slow, artsy shot from some Italian movie, lending my anomie, at least for the moment, a certain historical quality — I think, *Anybody can quit smoking, but it takes a real man to turn on the goddamned radio.*

I'm not that tough. I pace from phone (front runner for the most painfully silent item in here)

to the refrigerator full of beer and limes and mustard and, I think, some eggs. I reflect on the blank white expanse broken only by the little Mickey and Minnie Mouse magnets that, up until an hour ago, held pictures of us happy on the beach in Mexico. Now the pictures are at the bottom of a Hefty trash bag with the shattered glass of cognac I threw at the framed 5x7 of us, smiling at someone else's wedding. I sift the broken glass off the photo and pin it up on the refrigerator, a little buckled and boozily odoriferous, but okay. The shadow of the warped picture makes that dent I put in the reefer door look like a shotgun wound in a polar bear. A little blood from my knuckles, where I ground them into the punch hole (thinking of her with her ankles around the guy's neck screaming, "Percy! Oh Percy!") lends the hole an extra shade of mortal finality. *How can you fuck somebody named Percy? How can you scream a name like that with any real passion?*

That's not his name, of course. It probably doesn't even sound like his real name, but it does to me, you know? It's one of those names to *me*. Like Hargrave, Torquil, Sidney, Purvis...Percy.

No offense, Mr. Sledge. You knew whereof you sang: "When a man loves a woman/Deep down in his soul/She can bring him such misery." (Maybe it was your name, man.) Anyway, it's not her doing it, is it? You do it to yourself.

Okay, avoid the refrigerator. Forget the phone. I've already pulled it out of the wall and plugged it back in, pulled it out, plugged it in...pull...plug. On hands and knees, making noises I didn't know were in my register to make.

For a moment, a long moment, I wished I still did drugs.

Well, there's the guitar leaning against the corner, under my poster of Robert "King of the Delta Blues" Johnson and T.E. Lawrence of Arabia Lawrence.

How about picking out a few jaunty Beatles tunes? "It's Only Love" comes to mind, *Why do I feel the way I do?* and as it does, here come those gagging sounds out of my throat again. Nah, nah. Stop. Right now. Where's the cognac?

I toast Robert Johnson. "Well, it's hard to tell, it's hard to tell," I quote him, "When all your love's in vain." But I'm not going to play guitar.

Come on, man. Turn on the radio. Turn it to the mellow yuppie jazz station, no lyrics, just wall-paper saxophone.

Turning the dial. Some oldies station. For-eigner. "I Want to Know What Love Is." Just great. Yeah, I wanted to know, and those English guys had a whole choir backing up their curiosity. I found out what it was. I should send them a Polaroid: Hey, guys, here's what it is: me, grinning rapturously, upending a bottle of Drano into a hot water bottle, a hose trailing from the thing. Now, now. "Be

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not cynical about love, it is as perennial as the grass" — something like that.

I find one of those Valium stations, but it's no help either. Patsy Cline is singing "Crazy for trying/Crazy for crying/Crazy for loving you...."

* * *

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— Jay McInerney, *Bright Lights, Big City*

I must love being miserable. For years I've listened to almost nothing but the blues. Once my high school English teacher, senior year, back in Chicago read one of my papers — it was about some blues guitarist I made up — read it to the class and said, "You're a romantic!" He might as well have said, "Why, you're a homo, son!" for the effect it had on my inner-city, all-boy, Catholic-school classmates. I heard about it for the rest of the year. A guy named Pinkowski with no neck and an undefeated wrestling sea-

son behind him stuffed dead flowers in my locker. I vowed never to be romantic.

It was a good vow, but for the wrong reason. Both Pinkowski and I were laboring under the delusion that romanticism was effeminate. In fact, there is nothing feminine about it at all. It is men who are romantic. This has borne itself out repeatedly in my experience. I have never been given flowers by anyone except Pinkowski.

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My record collection is a mine-field of potential pain: stacks of Ray Charles, Robert Johnson, Otis Redding, Elmore James, Muddy Waters, Freddy King, Bobby "Blue" Bland. And, in recent years, a creeping insinuation of country and western music. I was telling myself I was getting at the core of rock and roll, the music of rebellion. Blues is the soundtrack to otherwise inef-fable pain, and C&W, the music of resignation. It's all about as romantic as you can get, when you think about it. It now seems that for two decades I had been stocking my musical library with songs to blow one's brains out by. Why has this music pleased me so much for so long?

Entering the shadows, shuf-fling past the blues: Ray Charles singing "Drown in My Own

Tears" and "Fool to Cry." Best to stay away from those. I pick up Aretha Franklin's wrenching, gospely lament, "Ain't No Way." Bad medicine again. A slow chord progression with a gathering horn line underscores the sink-ing, horrific apprehension of impossibility.

"Well, I love you...in my own way," she had said. *What way is that?* I have an urge to go out and buy a bright red wig, a rubber nose, and a seltzer bottle.

Okay, this looks harmless. Don the-guy-from-the-Eagles Henley's new album, *The End of the Innocence*. It won a Grammy: how good could it be? A musi-cian/critic I admire called Don Henley's stuff boring. I could use some boring. I put it on. Mistake.

A song called "The Last Worthless Evening" takes me

apart.

I know you're still afraid To rush into anything But there're just so many summers And just so many springs. And this is the last worth-less evening That you'll have to spend....

Get this out of my face. This is not boring. This is lyrical root canal. Poor bastard. Says more about his worthless evenings than hers, probably, but the song is a paragon of emotional accu-racy in a natural, mounting chord pattern that seems to have always been there, just waiting for some-one to write it and sing it. It is nearly perfect, beautiful, I think...and I cannot listen to it. It articulates an unwelcome sen-

timent, a kind of "damnable hope" as Graham Greene put it, that I can't afford to entertain.

Henley has been lumped into that category of single male artists like Sting, Phil Collins, Springsteen, and Robbie Robert-son by younger rockers who find these long-in-the-tooth singers fatuous, self-important, and pre-tentious. Yet Springsteen and Robertson have moved me in ways I don't always understand. Maybe I'm to understand that I'm old. Okay. If I had a Mojo Nixon record, I'd put it on, and I'm certain it would be a lot safer than this.

While the guitar tones on the Henley record are sometimes folksy, West Coast jangly — not unlike the Eagles — I fear a dia-betes-inducing overdose of sin-cerity, but the lyrics speak to

me...the way a cobra speaks to a mongoose.

What are these voices out-side love's open door Make us throw off our contentment And beg for something more? I'm learning to live with-out you now But I miss you sometimes The more I know, the less I understand All the things I thought I knew I'm learning again...

It reminds me of my marriage. A girl with a heart-shaped face who had read everything. She was a romantic back then. Time and I put an end to that. We were kids. Our song was "Wild Horses"

by the Stones: "Wild wild horses/Couldn't drag me away..." But it took something less than wild horses; it took 14 years and a caramel-voiced woman I will call Faye.

Faye was/is a woman with belladonna eyes and a helmet of antique gold hair. A romantic notion, yes? It was in a poem I wrote to her once — possibly while channeling Rod McKuen. She had/has laugh lines that bracketed a pair of amber wells she looked out from, and I lost myself between them for three years. She was good and kind and sad and we made each other crazy. She had more passion than anyone I had known, and I am convinced/resigned/hopeful I won't see anything like it again.

It has been two years since Faye and I broke up (depending

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on which breakup/fight I might refer to). Two years since my emotions disengaged, something wiser than my dick saying good-bye. She liked Jimmy Buffet, John Denver, and a Neil Diamond song, "Play Me." I had always found songwriters such as the above to have an appeal beyond my comprehension, but because she liked them, I listened and got gooey over a few things, too. Learned them on guitar. Be not cynical about love, for Lo, it has power to make you play and enjoy bad music.

I miss her still. I remain appalled at my own insanity with her. Neither of us deserved this ruin and hatred. Who deserves anything? We were amoral children, fingerpainting with our bodies and our emotions.

Henley is singing, "I think

it's about forgiveness... even if you don't love me anymore."

I have to take the record off. I have an urge to put it in the kitchen drawer along with the sharp knives.

Another few fingers of cognac and my mood elevates a notch. Hey, in for a penny... I put on Elvis's "Heartbreak Hotel." Oddly, it doesn't do anything for me except give me occasion to admire the musicians. A good bluesy rock song. Bass and guitar, the piano all sound great, Elvis is singing the best he ever sang, but emotionally it's a cartoon. Doesn't touch me anywhere except the ears. I play it again. Nothing. Thank God I'm not completely out of my mind. Some inner sentinel of musical sensibility remains.

All right. I don't think I'm

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feeling much rain now. I reach back for the stuff that made me happy, exhilarated. Hendrix, Springsteen, the Stones, anybody. Hendrix dicks with me on "Little Wing" (the hallucinating maniac guitar sorcerer turned sublime, vulnerable poet), the Stones' "Out of Time" resonates with dead-on irony.

The woman, I'll call her Kass, who has recently told me she can no longer see me, had a refrain: "The timing is just wrong." The Stones singing, "You're obsolete, my baby/My poor old-fashioned baby" is not something I can take philosophically just now. The Beatles are of no fucking assistance whatsoever: "I once had a girl, or should I say, she once had me?... Gather round, all you clowns/Let me hear you say/Hey you've got to hide your love away."

Kass touched me with a certain girlishness in an imposing frame. Then there were the details of her humanity: I once saw her close the distance between herself and her girlfriend's infant son, who was being presented for the first time. Her eyes enlarged, her heels clacked on the parquet floor, and she extended one arm to touch the baby. Her other hand

went unconsciously to her right lapel where a gold and jade brooch was fixed. She removed it, put it in a pocket, and asked if she could hold the boy. I'm certain, if you had asked her, that she was not aware of removing jewelry as she walked into that dinner party.

Listening to Peter Gabriel sing, "In your eyes... the light, the heat... I am complete..." I think of Kass's face. The muscles she used to smile or become thoughtful would alternately fall into a chiseled beauty or expand into a chipmunk pouching of her cheeks. Vulnerability in a woman her height and with such presence made me willing to risk much. She needed protection from something, somehow — if nothing else, a world where people were unconscious about children. It took many moons to know — I was wrong. Whatever her needs, I was not among them. Ain't no way.

* * *

Maybe I should stick with Elvis, but there is something about the idea of sitting here as the sun goes down, drunk, listening to Elvis records that reminds me too much of a friend's definition of clinical depression: "Sitting in a

dark room drinking flat beer and listening to Joni Mitchell." I'm close. Too close to that same Sargasso Sea of self-indulgent catatonia.

Hank Williams's steely, honky-tonk "Cold Cold Heart" and cowboy-blue "I'm So Lonesome I Could Cry" turn cardiac trauma to good ol' boy fun. I like the tunes, but I might as well shout "Yahoo" at the walls. I try it. A neighbor bangs on the wall. "Fuck you!"

"No..." I correct him. "FUCK YOU, MAN!"

Kass left me with that *anybody get the number of that truck?* feeling tonight. She worked across the mall from the bookstore where I was working. She asked once to have coffee; I said, "Sure, sure," and forgot about her suggestion until one day she was standing on a ladder, hanging some items in her shop window. She smiled. I scrawled in black marker on the back of a cardboard sign that read SELF HELP, "When?" We talked; she was not happy. This seemed an outrage to me. She was not happy? A woman like that should most definitely be: happy, gratified, at home in the world.

Of course, I gave her per-

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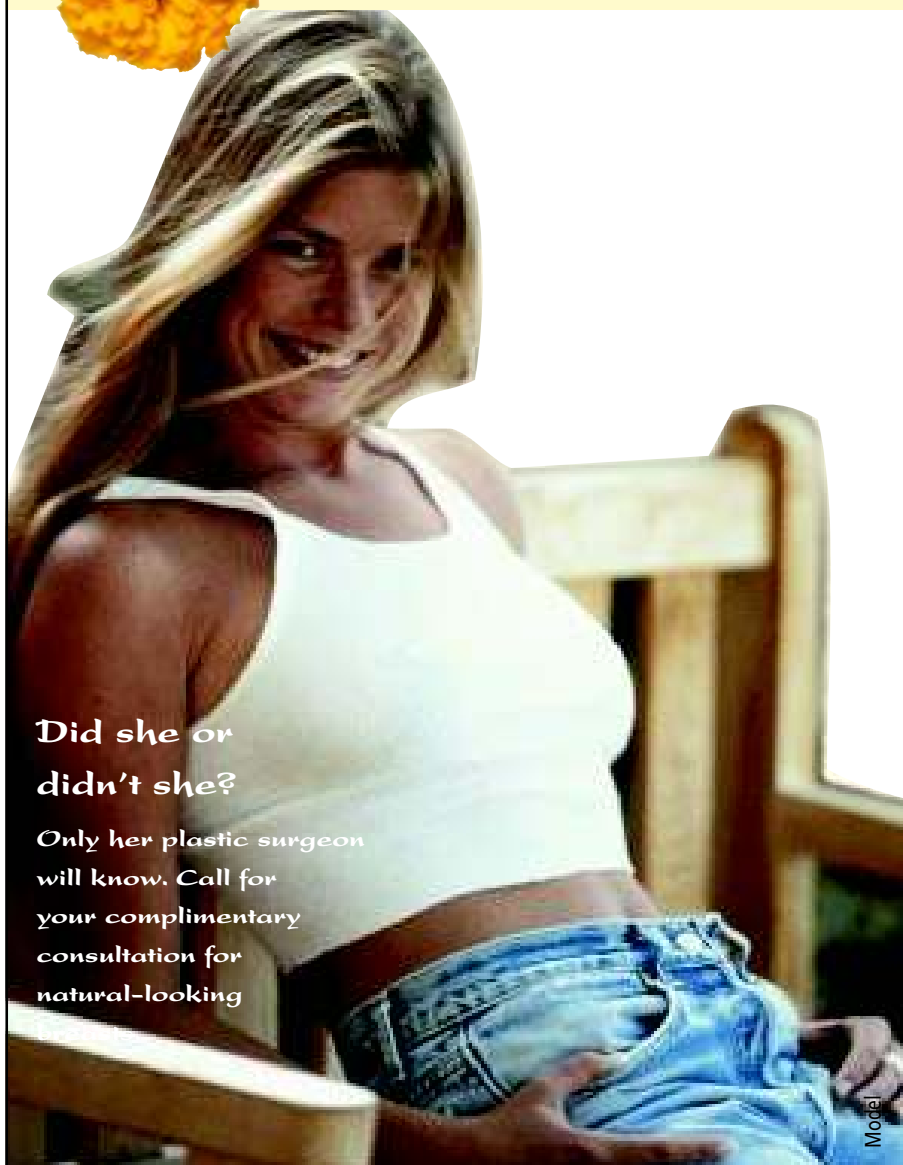
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mission to use me. Told her I wasn't asking anything, I just wanted to see her, get to know her, be close to her, friends and lovers. I was lying to both of us. In fact, I wanted everything with her. It scared her. Scared me, too, but all my life I made a point of doing what scared me precisely because I saw fear as a beacon of what was necessary to confront. That no one seemed to share this banzai compulsion with me has left me puzzled, drunk, and with a marvelous sense of masochistic superiority I don't quite get, clock, dig, know, measure, realize. Oh, and it has left me alone, too. Now what record goes with lonely, banzai, masochistic puzzlement?

They are all dropping from my hands, records and tapes. Numbness in my wrists and fingers. I can smell Kass. Her fragrance, not her perfume, but her. Memories coming through the open window. It's the neighbor's jacaranda in overripe blossom mimicking the smell of intimacy. When I try to stand, I spill the cognac in my lap. Shit. I get up, shut the window, take off my pants, plug the phone in, maybe pull it out, whatever — and jam Springsteen's *Tunnel of Love* album into the tape deck.

Sitting on the floor in my underwear, a T-shirt that says JUST DO IT, I listen to Springsteen's "Brilliant Disguise." The carpet is sticky with patches of TV dinners past. My pubic hairs are damp with cognac. I can't smell her/the jacaranda anymore.

Poor, poor Bruce. When I first heard this record I thought, damn, I give him and the little woman six months. What is her name? The actress. She seemed a little on the white-bread side for the Jersey homeboy, "The Boss." It didn't take six months apparently. Not for them.

If you were to cook down the vinyl on all of Roy Orbison's lonely tunes and mainline them into an artery in your neck, it would not kill you as surely as listening to the second side of *Tunnel of Love* in the throes of heartbreak.

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...I want to know if it's you

I don't trust 'cause I damn sure don't trust myself...

(Upbeat. You wanna dance. Click guitar chords, clean snare, thrumming bass, relentless wall o' sound. It's all okay, part of life's rich soundtrack.)

Tonight our bed is cold
I'm lost in the darkness of our love
God have mercy on the man
Who doubts what he's sure of.

This sends me off. I drown out the next few songs with my imitation of a harpooned male sea lion. After a while I hear Springsteen singing "Valentine's Day" — making a terrible kind of sense:

They say if you die in your dreams, you really die in your bed
But honey, last night I dreamed my eyes rolled straight back in my head
And God's light came shinin' on through
I woke up in the darkness scared and breathin' born anew
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My love for you is so overpowering
I'm afraid that I will disappear.
— Paul Simon, "Slip Sliding Away"

The album plays. I'll drink to that.

I do. Then I drink to my old high school girlfriend and the Turtles, who got her to come across with some heavy petting one night to the tune of "Happy Together." I made our garage band learn it, certain that this would be a sure-fire way to score a homer with her. It wasn't. It was just as well though; I would probably be in the heating and air-conditioning business with five kids in Elk Grove, Illinois, now. This suddenly strikes me as a fate preferable to sitting on my shabby floor, weeping, with a naked lap full of liquor. So I drink to life affirmation, to children and fresh-baked bread and the Marx Brothers and clean sheets and doing this over and over again to myself. Over and over, like a movie with the same plot, only I play a different role each time, but it's the same movie and it starts up again and again and ends the same way...and. The room is spinning. Springsteen is singing:

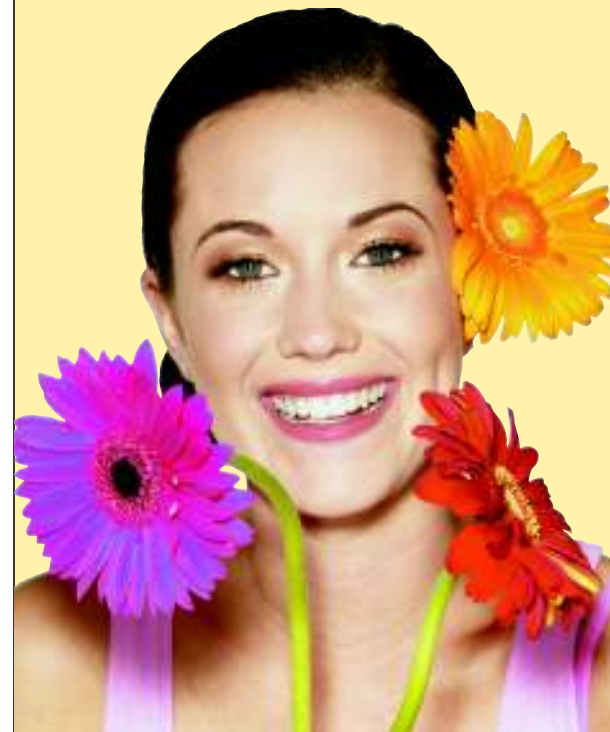
Last night I dreamed I held you in my arms
The music was never-ending
We danced as the evening sky faded to black
One step up and two steps back.

Christ. I'm now singing/weeping into a sweaty gym bag. My ex-wife, then Faye, then Kass, blur into one projection of anima that has nothing to do with each

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of them as individual women but everything to do with me. What it must be, I'm suddenly certain, is something I read in one of the books about how we're trying to restage that first moment of abandonment by our mothers as infants. What we're doing, it is clear now, is trying to reenact, replay that sensed rejection and orchestrate it differently as adults. Dominate the scenario with will, reason, armed with experience, logic. We want to embrace Mom again on one level; and on another, reptilian level, we want to rip her liver out and feed it to her for leaving us in that goddamned basket for 45 minutes while she had her nails done.

I'm laughing my ass off now, tossing the gym bag around the floor. Life is rich, but the

cognac is gone. Sad. I cry for an appropriate amount of time over this. I read or heard that crying massages abdominal muscles where tension is stored. Maybe some chiropractor told me this, or a psychic named Galacta, I can't remember. But the idea was that it was the only way those stomach muscles can soothe themselves. Tough guys who don't cry die of stomach cancer. Sensitive men die of something else, like wrapping their lips around pistols or colon cancer because they cannot let go of what they imagine to be vital. Rectal polyps and high-caliber obliteration are the last whole thoughts....

* * *

12:30 a.m. I wake up on the living room floor. Springsteen croon-

ing, "When you're alone, you're alone.... When you're alone, you're alone.... When you're alone, you're alone." The record isn't stuck; that's exactly what he's singing. "When you're alone you ain't nothin' but alone...."

I'm hung over and realize the folly of drinking because you are unhappy. It makes everything much worse later. In the mirror, I look like Eddy Munster. I step in the shower but not before putting on Miles Davis's "Bitches Brew": a thunder of congas, reverberating guitars, deranged Chinese xylophone, and stuttering, muted wailing on trumpet — a bull elephant being skinned alive. Miles sounds unhappy too, but unhappy on Mars. It ain't me, babe.

I have to get out of here. Clothes and books everywhere, pictures of dead men. The answering machine gazes at me with one red, unfaltering eye that says, "No, she did not call, my friend, she will not call. Forget it. You will not call either, right? Right. Come on, pal. No secrets between you and me. You'll call. Not tonight and maybe not tomorrow morning, but you will, won't you? You are God's own fool, Big Buddy?" Every electronic device in this room is far more animate than the books and dust balls and piles of laundry, far more animate in their silence and paralysis than the plants screaming for water, far more animate than I am.

* * *

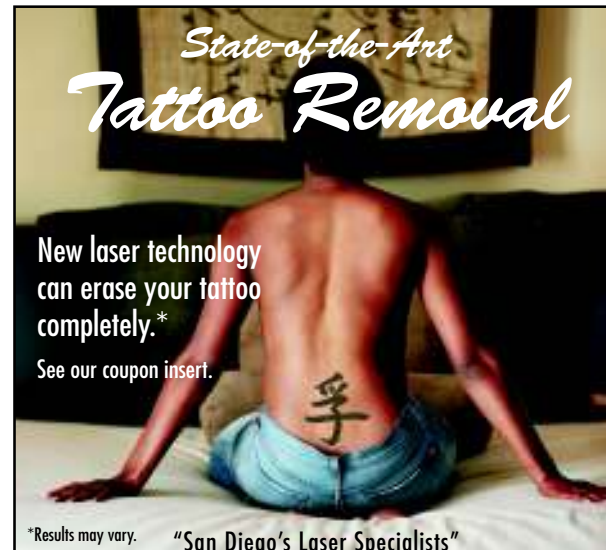
The streets should be windblown, cold, lacquered with neon-stained puddles but are, in fact, pleasantly dull under a clear evening sky. Rows of five-year-old Z-cars testify to the income level and taste of my neighbors. A few

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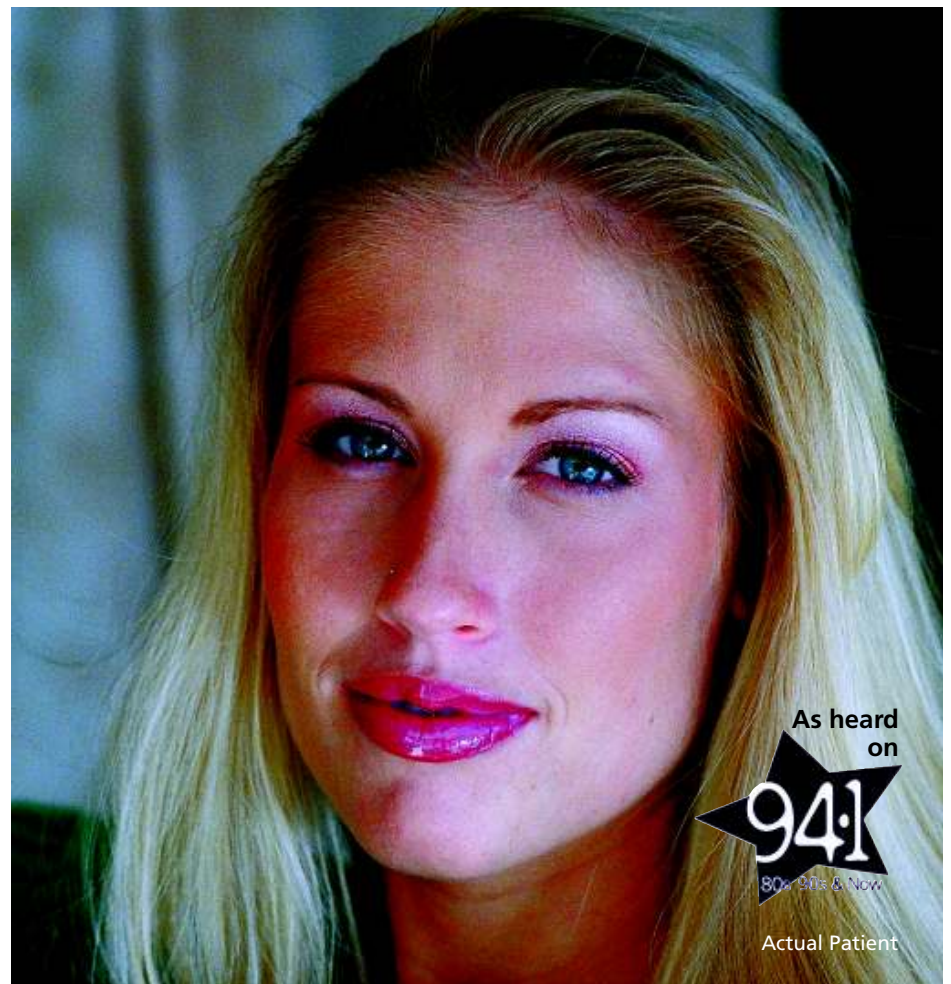


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apartment windows shimmer with purple-blue-phosphor-dot illumination from late-night TV shows. I hit, say, the Elbow Room on Adams Avenue. Old timers. Get a Coors and light a Winston, turning to some guy next to me who looks like he's been in three wars, his nose in a CC and 7 with the stir straw bent so he doesn't poke his eye out. His wife next to him. I can tell they're married because no two strangers could so skillfully abuse each other with nothing but body language. Her name is Jo. Thick glasses, silver gray wig askew. "Have a seat, young man."

Her husband mumbles, "Garfumphug gafar..."

She grunts, "Mister Money Bags. Mister You-Know-Everything-I—" She jerks her head, and her wig tilts another inch toward its center of gravity near her right ear. "That's him. What's your name, young man?"

"Carl Perkins," I tell her.

"Charles, will you take a dollar and play some songs? Play Tommy Dorsey, 'I'll Be Seeing You' then play 'Begin the Beguine' and then play..." She trails off and drinks from her highball.

"Then play whatever the hell you want, what do I care?" She dis-

misses me with a downturned, liver-spotted hand, her face in her drink, like I just hustled her for the money.

I walk to the jukebox at the end of the bar. I get a size-up from a blowzy matron with huge eyelashes and a mouth like a wound. Put the dollar in. I play the two songs and pick out Otis Redding's "I've Been Loving You Too Long," Aretha Franklin's "Chain of Fools," and the Righteous Brothers' "You've Lost That Lovin' Feeling." Nietzsche-like, I figure if this doesn't kill me, it'll make me stronger.

Dorsey comes on, and Jo and her husband start swaying. The husband atonally humming and then mumbling the wrong words; "Ah de apple tree...don' zit under de apple tree...in abbblozum time..."

"I'll be seeing you in all the old familiar places..." Jo warbles along with the record. Somebody down the bar is laughing hysterically, the way people laugh in emergency rooms before they're sedated.

Jo's eyes are teary behind her glasses as she sways and croons thinly, "I'll be looking at the moon, but I'll be seeing youoooo..."

Her husband's shoulders are rising and falling, but he's cackling drunkenly, still singing his own confabulated number. His smile shows he's not wearing his false teeth, maybe that's why he's mumbling. "Ah de abble tree...blozzums inna goddamn breeze..."

Aretha, Otis, and Bill Medley have got nothing on these people. I don't wait for my songs, don't finish my beer. I zip up my jacket at the door, though it's about 75 degrees outside.

* * *

Crump. Bash. "Unngh." Thump. Bump. Thud. "Oh God!"

The neighbors are fucking next door. Across the alley, a couple is fighting; her screaming, "Go ahead. Go ahead! I don't care!" No sleep. I smoke and meditate. Staring at the ceiling. I think, Okay, smoking is the meditation. Being unable to meditate is the meditation. Sleeplessness, pornographic images of her and him. (She take him in her mouth? God. Can he find her sex under that hood of flesh the way I found it?) Homicidal airing of brains on a bedroom wall. BLAM! click. Ka-Blam! These things form the meditation.

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Whatever, man. It's totally valid, okay? That is the meditation, see? I try not to judge myself for these thoughts, these cigarettes, these questions (How many other lies were there?), but instead I try to love myself for all of it because I read that just this morning or yesterday. Recently, anyway. I caress my own biceps, my jaw's clenched. *Om...* At some point I start dreaming I'm getting a vasectomy from a rabbi yielding an electric hedge clipper.

* * *

Might as well get used to you hangin' around/ Good morning heartache, sit down.

— Billie Holiday, "Good Morning Heartache"

The afternoon is spent trying to work. Get a life. I keep picking up the phone. I just want to ask, "Why? Okay? Just — WHY?" but there is no good answer to that question.

"I don't know what I want," she would say. Or, "It's not you, it's me." But it is me...and it isn't. Whatever it is she does want, it certainly is not me, and that's a hard one to get down: "It ain't me you're lookin' for, babe..." Why was I so sure that it was? Arrogance?

Incomprehensible, that someone would have such a surfeit of affection in their lives that they wouldn't need yours...well, mine, I mean. I have been the object of unwanted attentions, unsolicited pledges of love and

fidelity — that is, I have been the dumper rather than the dumpee, and it is nearly as uncomfortable as wet socks: an annoyance, with a measure of guilt, sometimes, if it's your own fault that you stepped in something you shouldn't have. But it is nearly impossible to view this with any equanimity when you're on the other end of it. When the penny drops, it drops hard. Short of ugly scenes, there is no remedy but to leave it to life's karmic tapestry.

You got to reap just what you sow,

That old saying is true, Like you mistreat someone Someone's gonna mistreat you.

— Bobby "Blue" Bland, "Farther up the Road"

After the battle with the phone (I won, but only for the moment), I start falling asleep staring at it; willing it to ring, hoping to God that it doesn't because I may blow it entirely. That edge might start rising into my voice, shouting into the receiver all the reasons why this is killing me, as if by enumerating enough incidents of tenderness, by dragging enough evidence, moments, whispered words, and poignant gestures into the equation I might be conceded some credibility in my fuddlement. Or, on the other hand, as if by reciting a long enough list of wrongs (hers, mine) real or imagined — yes, I was jealous, for godsakes, I'm sorry! — I could,

by their sheer mass, by virtue of a shared madness, make something right.

A week goes by, a strobing of welcome distractions punctuated by confrontations with the silent House of Horrors that my apartment has become. A drive out to the desert; an exhausting swim off Sunset Cliffs at night; a marathon of four movies, four separate theaters in one afternoon/evening (crying at a sappy moment in *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*); some Chinese food with a friend who is usually as fucked up as I am over his lady love (his current happiness seems a betrayal somehow); and sleeping 11 hours a night for three nights in a row.

That I am through a crucial period occurs to me: a window of possibility to heal a little or make everything worse. Those several days in which you either call or you don't, she does or doesn't. The tender area around that point of no return that announces itself in a single moment where you glimpse the truth: that maybe in spite of yourself, you will be all right.

After an eon of somnambulist grief, that moment comes when I put on an album I hadn't heard in three years. Robbie Robertson's 1987 solo record where he is joined by U2 for a song called "Sweet Fire of Love." The drums echo off the walls of the L-shaped Huffman apartments, creating a sound vortex for the defiant guitars resonating an anthem to remembered ecstasy. It sends a kind of shock wave, a primal convulsion through my calves, thighs, and chest. I throw my arms out to the side — a turkey buzzard, Zorba — and start spinning, stomping my feet, swaying. I'm a warrior beating a tattoo on my carpet, reenacting a battle where braves fell — or calling down rain from a yawning blue sky. I'm dancing. Robertson sings:

Didn't we cross new waters?
Didn't we mix new blood?
Didn't we build brand new bridges?
Didn't we hold back the flood?...
Didn't we bear the cross?
Didn't we bring down the hammer?
Didn't we beat on the drum?...
Didn't we fear the storm?
Didn't we move the earth?
Didn't we shoot for the sky?
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And didn't we call upon the spirits?
And didn't we fall together?
And didn't we die for love? ■

— John Brizzolara

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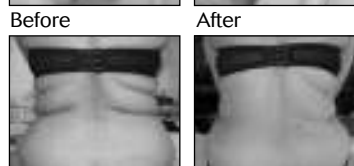
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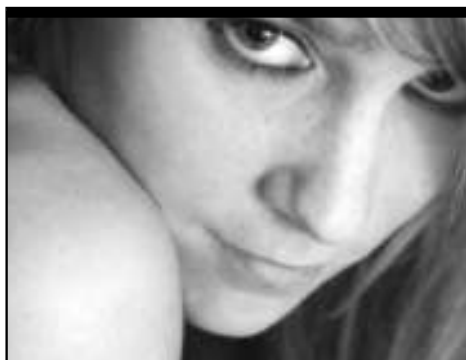
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LETTERS

continued from page 14

to eat. This was a fund-raising event for our organization and an essential reputation builder. I don't think anything got built that night but the El Cortez's bank account. Oh, by the way, when the caterer was confronted, he denied it all. Odd since *he wasn't there!*

I could go on, but why bore you with what you already know? The El Cortez is run by greedy creeps. I will never use that venue again, and I discourage anyone else from doing so either.

Name Withheld
 by Request

MC Evil

KCR bashing is not acceptable ("Blurt," August 31). Jefferson Jay was in the wrong, and it is not right that the *Reader* give this guy an article. The *Reader* should focus more on how good KCR is and its importance to SDSU. We are the students playing what we want.

I have been a DJ for over a year, and it's been a great experience. I just hope the next time KCR makes the *Reader*, it can be a bigger article and more about what we do. Not about the evil ex-disc jockey's vengeance against the station.

Daniel Goldberg
 a.k.a. DJ Dan
 KCR

Minor Nuisance

This comment is about a story you ran in the most recent *Reader* called "Rocking the Sign," by Dave Good (Pop Music, August 31). The reason I'm commenting is, we have a store at the corner of Oceanside Boulevard and Coast Highway. The story about Jeff is fairly accurate. The guy is bipolar; the guy's got a lot of other problems. He's sticking out his tongue, flipping people off. We had to chase him off our property, and we're still trying to keep him off our property. My comment is this: if Dave Good wants to do a story and celebrate somebody who's doing something a little different, maybe he ought to be fairly accurate and promote the guy the way he should be promoted, more or less a public nuisance.

Mike Wally
 Oceanside

**If Only You Knew
 How Much You Don't Know**

Re "The Kids Are All Right" by Abe Opincar (Cover Story, July 20).

I enjoyed learning about pygmy goats and some of their Southern Californian keepers. Opincar's writing is generally superb; his reporting generally more than adequate. However, I lost an initial impression that the article conveyed a lot of information. By way of the method of similarity and contrast, Opincar mentioned dairy (full-size) goats, Nubian goats, dogs, horses, cats, guinea pigs, chickens, ducks, rabbits, rats, turtles, pigs, cows, jackrabbits, crows, llamas, and coyotes. Similarly, comparisons within species were bucks, does, wethers (castrated males), and juvenile pygmy goats; roosters (chicken species); shih tzus (dog species); and juvenile, Asian, grieving (surviving parents of a car crash fatality), and seriously ill people. For this method to work well, readers need to know significantly more previously about these comparison entities than about the relative novelty — pygmy goats. Opincar's writing may be a little deceptive here because readers may not fully appreciate how *little* they know, even about dogs and cats.

To elaborate my point, consider a remark by one of the local experts, where Opincar reports she advocates bottle-feeding infant pygmy goats because then "you [become] their momma." Opincar lets this slide — its general gist is clear, after all — despite this being a classic fallacy of anthropomorphism. I should clarify: What exactly is the relation like between a mother pygmy goat and her infant? Opincar presents no information, unfortunately. Let's imagine the suggested method flipped around, and we have a baby human suckle a pygmy goat — would the goat become its "momma"? And what kind of a momma would a goat be to a baby? Going further, what does it mean for a person to "have a momma" who is not his or her birth mother? Indeed, what does it mean for a person to have a

momma who *is* the birth mother?

I submit that there is almost no saying, aside from listing the range of possibilities and the average tendency under various circumstances. But do readers of the *Reader* typically know about such things? Or is it instead likely that readers merely know, reasonably well, their individual experience and those of a few relatives and friends?

I have read in the newspaper, not infrequently, of mothers abandoning, or even killing, their offspring! This has to mark an end of the range of possibilities, not considering beatings, malign neglect, sexual abuse, and so on. At the other end, what exactly constitutes an exceptionally good momma? Finally, what is average/typical? My sense is that precious few people know with any marked precision. At any rate, readers were not told what difference it makes to bottle-feed, if any. My point is to utilize just this one tiny part of the article to raise readers' awareness of how little actually was conveyed about the topic. The problem is, this is true despite the article's ostensible excellence. In fact, I don't believe I learned much of deep significance. It would have been useful, for instance, for Opincar to explore the psychology of people who compulsively accumulate pets, such as his source, Sue McCullough, with her collection of 49 pygmy goats. What is to become of them? Are these "kids" really all right? For my own exercises, in the method of similarity and contrast, I might point out women who recklessly over-reproduce (pygmy goats do resemble infant goats) or men who make millions publishing a weekly reader only to then squander the grossly excessive wealth in an attempt to take from women their Constitutional right to privacy in making reproductive choice to abort! See what I mean?

David Case
 Golden Hill

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The Real Roots Of Hip-Hop

B-boys Face Off in Mira Mesa

Old-school characters wore Pro-Keds or Adidas, big metal belt buckles that had your name on it, and their clothes were more fitted," says hip-hop enthusiast Mike "Logik" Matcke. "Back then they used to have to iron their laces to get 'em real fat. Commercially, hip-hop is just regarding the music. For people into the roots, hip-hop is more about community."

Matcke is coproducer of "Beyond the Schoolyard," a two-day event inspired by the hip-hop community parties in the Bronx during the late '60s and early '70s. The "B-Boy Battle" on Saturday night is the main event, when hip-hop crews will break dance against each other for the \$1000 grand prize.

LOCAL EVENTS

"The original crews were gangs," says Matcke. "Instead of fighting in clubs they would dance because they didn't want to get kicked out of the discos. The losers would have to leave." Winners were determined based on the volume and enthusiasm of the crowd's cheers.

"In a b-boy [breakdancing] competition, if someone goes down there and they pop and they lock, they're not in it — it's not a popping or funk-style competition," explains Matcke. "Popping is that stuff that is kind of robotic and your body jerks to the beat; it was created on the West Coast. Locking is that dance that Rerun does from *Good Times* — it involves a lot of rolling of the wrists and you're kind of just standing there." Popping and locking are popular moves in the dance style known as "boogaloo," a spin-off of break dancing.

The origins of break dancing, and there-

fore hip-hop culture in general, are attributed to two guys from the Bronx, DJ Kool Herc and Afrika Bambaataa. Herc is credited with coining the term "b-boy" in 1969 (the *b* stands for "break"). Bambaataa founded the Zulu Nation, a hip-hop awareness organization that has grown into something resembling a religion, with 15 "beliefs" that read like a remix of the ten commandments phrased as independent mission statements. The second Zulu Nation belief states, "We believe in the Holy Bible and the Glorious Qur'an and in the scriptures of all the Prophets of God," and the tenth proclaims, "We believe that life, creation, everything is based on mathematics."

"Back in New York, Kool Herc and Afrika Bambaataa used to throw these events in their apartment building, big community parties that everyone would come to and there'd be DJs, rap, and dance," says Matcke's partner, Timothy Hernandez. Matcke elaborates, "DJ Kool Herc and Afrika Bambaataa would go into thrift stores and buy rare albums no one had heard, and all they would look for is that break, when all the drummers and percussion would go crazy. They would look for that beat and play it over and over."

According to Matcke, the most sampled artist in hip-hop is James Brown, particularly his songs "Good Foot," and "Sex Machine." "Songs considered to be b-boy anthems are 'Apache' [by the Incredible Bongo Band], 'The Mexican' by Babe Ruth, and 'It's Just Begun' [by the Jimmy Castor Bunch], the one that was used in *Flashdance*."

The primary facets of hip-hop culture are "graffiti art, emceeing or rapping, b-boy-ing, and DJ-ing," says Hernandez. As with



fashion and art, much of today's slang is derived from hip-hop music. Some examples are "crib," someone's home; "fly," someone or something that is attractive; "true dat," a form of agreement; "grill," teeth; and "wack," a person or situation that is "messed up."

"In the '90s, house kids used to wear those giant fat pants, giant XXL shirts, and they'd dance without any shoes on," remembers Matcke. "That's kind of like what we call the 'sell-out period.' It wasn't breakin' no more, it was housing, and the music they danced to was techno and house, which wasn't what the original dancers danced to." B-boy purists like Matcke and his mentors are now "trying to get back the '70s, to the core of dance — doing a regular dance and going down to the floor and doing little steps kind of like jazz steps, like Sammy Davis Jr."

One local crew called the Mohawks continues to compete in b-boy competitions even though, as Matcke says, "Some people consider [what they do] not breaking because they do new-generation type, freak-show stuff. As opposed to just dancing and

staying within the structure of the dance, they might do a dance and then do a flip using just their head, or dance and then all of a sudden they're balancing on one hand, doing a handstand, which isn't really breaking or dancing, it's just balancing. The Mohawks dress like they're punk, with makeup and nose rings. I like the kids, but that's not what we represent. They haven't won yet, but they keep trying hard."

— Barbarella

"Beyond the Schoolyard"
Friday, September 8: Art Show
Voz Alta Project Gallery
1544 Broadway
East Village

8 p.m. to midnight
Cost: \$5

Saturday, September 9: B-Boy Battle
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Calendar LOCAL EVENTS

Events that are underlined occur after September 14.

HOW TO SEND US YOUR LISTING: Contributions must be received by 5 p.m. Friday the week prior to publication for consideration. Do not phone. Send a complete description of the event, including the date, time, cost, the precise address where it is to be held (including neighborhood), a contact phone number, and a phone number (including area code) for public information to **READER EVENTS**, Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186-5803. Or fax to 619-881-2401. You may also submit information online at SanDiegoReader.com by clicking on the events section.

BAJA

"La Generación del Cordero" — Carlos Beltrán and Pedro Serrano lecture from anthology on British poetry, Thursday, September 7. Program begins at 7 p.m. in reading room at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, in Zona Río). 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

"Gala Operística" presented Friday, September 8, 8 p.m., at Centro Cultural Tijuana (Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street, in Zona Río). Tickets: \$20, \$30 U.S. 011-52-664-687-9636. (TIJUANA)

Rock Concert by Tokadiscos, Friday, September 8, 9 p.m., at El Foro, Jai Alai Palace (on Avenida Revolución). \$5 U.S. 619-734-2333. (TIJUANA)

Lunada Norteña plays Mexican country music, Saturday, September 9, 3 p.m., at Rosarito Beach fairgrounds. \$5 U.S. 011-52-661-612-6082. (ROSARITO BEACH)

Tijuana Fair continues through Sunday, September 17. On main stage, see Maribel Guardia on Sunday, September 10, 8 p.m., and Los Amantes de Lola on Wednesday, September 13, 8 p.m. Admission: \$5 U.S.

In Palenque, Alejandra Guzmán performs on Saturday, September 9 (\$25-\$60); Arrolladora Banda Limón on Wednesday, September 13 (\$25, \$40, \$50). Concerts begin at 11 p.m. 011-52-664-633-4000. (TIJUANA)

Bersuit Vergarabat in Concert, Saturday, September 9, 8 p.m., at Box Underground (in old jai alai frontón on Avenida Revolución). Tickets: \$15 in advance, \$20 at door. 619-734-2333. (TIJUANA)

Colectivo Nortec in concert at Club Maya, Saturday, September 9, 8 p.m. 011-52-661-100-2255. (ROSARITO BEACH)

The Monumental Bullring by the Sea hosts bullfighting on Sunday, September 10, 4 p.m. 011-52-664-686-1510. (PLAYAS DE TIJUANA)

OUTDOORS

Catch the Full Moon Rising tonight, Thursday, September 7, from the boat-launching area on Shelter Island. You'll witness (weather permitting) a beautiful spectacle: As the sun sets behind Point Loma, the west-facing facets of several mirrored buildings downtown will reflect a rosy or golden glow straight back toward Shelter Island. Afterward, some 25 minutes into the twilight period, the moon will pop up directly behind the skyline. This full-moon alignment occurs around this time of the year (near the autumnal equinox) and also near vernal equinox, which is in late March. If the moon happens to appear a little larger than usual, it's no accident: The full-moon phase this month coincides with lunar perigee — the moon's closest approach to Earth.

The Chaparral, the tangled assortment of low-growing, drought-resistant, native shrubs covering most of San Diego County's lower mountain slopes, has managed to retain a modicum of greenish color over the summer. Unlike many of the scrubby, summer-deciduous native plants near the coast, chaparral plants tend to hang on to their leaves year round. This month, the coppery, sun-burned remnants of last spring's flower clusters are still clinging to the tips of buckwheat and chamise plants, and a few wildflowers may have popped up here and there in response to recent thunderstorm activity over the mountains. To enjoy the beauty of the chaparral landscape, explore the hillsides above Lake Morena and along Lyons Valley, Japatul, and Boulder Creek roads in East County. Or head inland from Escondido toward Ramona or Valley Center.

Thunderstorms have visited parts of eastern San Diego County over the past several weeks. This weather pattern, more or less typical for late summer, may continue through mid-September. In the desert the extra rainfall has con-

tributed to the greening of certain kinds of vegetation. On the desert floor, for example, the spidery ocotillo can grow an instant crop of green leaves after a storm, only to drop them two to three weeks later if no further rain arrives. The distribution of green-leaved ocotillos tells not only where rain has recently fallen; it also indicates where the runoff has collected and remained for enough time to be absorbed by the ocotillo's root system.

Trail Repair Work in Paso Pícalo at Cuyamaca Rancho State Park slated for Saturday, September 9, 8 a.m. Bring work shoes, gloves, hat, water, snack. Group gathers behind Stone House (park headquarters). Free. Registration: 858-278-3280. (CUYAMACA RANCHO STATE PARK)

Visit Historical Grinding Rocks Site and see San Diego River during guided nature walk, Saturday, September 9, 8:30 a.m., beginning in Kumeyaay Lake Campground of Mission Trails Regional Park (Two Father Junípero Serra Trail). Free. 619-668-3281. (SAN CARLOS)



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Cabrillo Dubbed It San Miguel, and tiki-style hotels were rampant in 1950s — explore Point Loma during Urban Safari walking tour led by Patty Fares, Saturday, September 9, 10 a.m. \$10. Reservations: 619-944-9255. (POINT LOMA)

An Expert Birder from San Diego Field Ornithologists leads bird walk on easy trail winding along Tecolote Creek on Saturday, September 9, starting at 9 a.m. at Tecolote Nature Center (5180 Tecolote Road). Free. Bring binoculars and drinking water. 858-581-9944. (CLAIREMONT)

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

Tend California Native Plants, remove invasive interlopers, pick up litter with Friends of Famosa Slough around treatment ponds of urban wetland, Saturday, September 9, 9 a.m.–noon. Meet at corner of West Point Loma Boulevard and Famosa Boulevard with work clothes; bring work gloves and tools if you have them. 619-224-4591. Free. (POINT LOMA)

Get Out! Guided nature walks in Mission Trails Regional Park, Saturday, Sunday, Wednesday, September 9, 10, and 13, 9:30–11 a.m., in Mission Trails Regional Park (One Father Junipero Serra Trail). Free. 619-668-3281. (SAN CARLOS)

Gaslamp Folklore and Legends Walking Tours offered Saturdays, 10 a.m.–noon, by tour guide Gino Lizardi, who reveals romantic past and characters of the area. \$10. Reservations: 619-239-7515. (GASLAMP QUARTER)

Palm Walk, Offshoot Tours offers its monthly hour-long guided stroll exploring structure, growth habits, landscape value of palm trees, Saturday, September 9, 10 a.m., at visitors' center. Free. 619-235-1121. (BALBOA PARK)

Little Italy Revisited, walk from Balboa Theater (at Fourth Avenue and E Street) up to Little Italy with Walkabout perambulators, Saturday, September 9, 10:45 a.m. Check out the old and the new, bring money for (optional) lunch at Italian restaurant. 619-231-7463. (LITTLE ITALY)

Asian Pacific Historic District Tours offered on second Saturday of each month, including September 9. Tours start at 11 a.m. at Chinese Historical Museum (404 Third Avenue). \$2. Required reservations: 619-338-9888. (DOWNTOWN)

Beach Cleanup at Belmont Park in Mission Bay, Sunday, September 10, 8 a.m. Registration starts at 7:30 a.m. at 3146 Mission Boulevard. 800-237-BLUE. (MISSION BAY)

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

start Thursday, September 7, at Firehouse YMCA Community Center (7877 Herschel Avenue). Beginning class: 8–9 p.m.; all-age swing dance 9 p.m.–midnight. Fee: \$60 for six-week series, includes admission to dance. 858-395-6060. (LA JOLLA)

Three World Premieres with commissioned scores by Polish composer Aleksander Kosciow promised when Joe Alter Dance Group performs September 8–10

in Smith Recital Hall at San Diego State University. Curtain rises at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, 3 p.m. on Sunday. \$10. 619-594-1696. (SDSU)

The Circulators Square Dance Club has beginners' classes starting Friday, September 8, 6:30 p.m., in Recital Hall (2130 Pan-American Plaza). Classes are open to adults and children over ten (accompanied by an adult). \$3. 858-586-1548. Open enrollment

continues through September 22. (BALBOA PARK)

Beginner-Friendly Vintage Dance for all ages, Friday, September 8, in room 207 of Casa del Prado. Tango lesson at 7:30 p.m. followed by open dancing. Partners not required. Free. 619-583-9956. (BALBOA PARK)

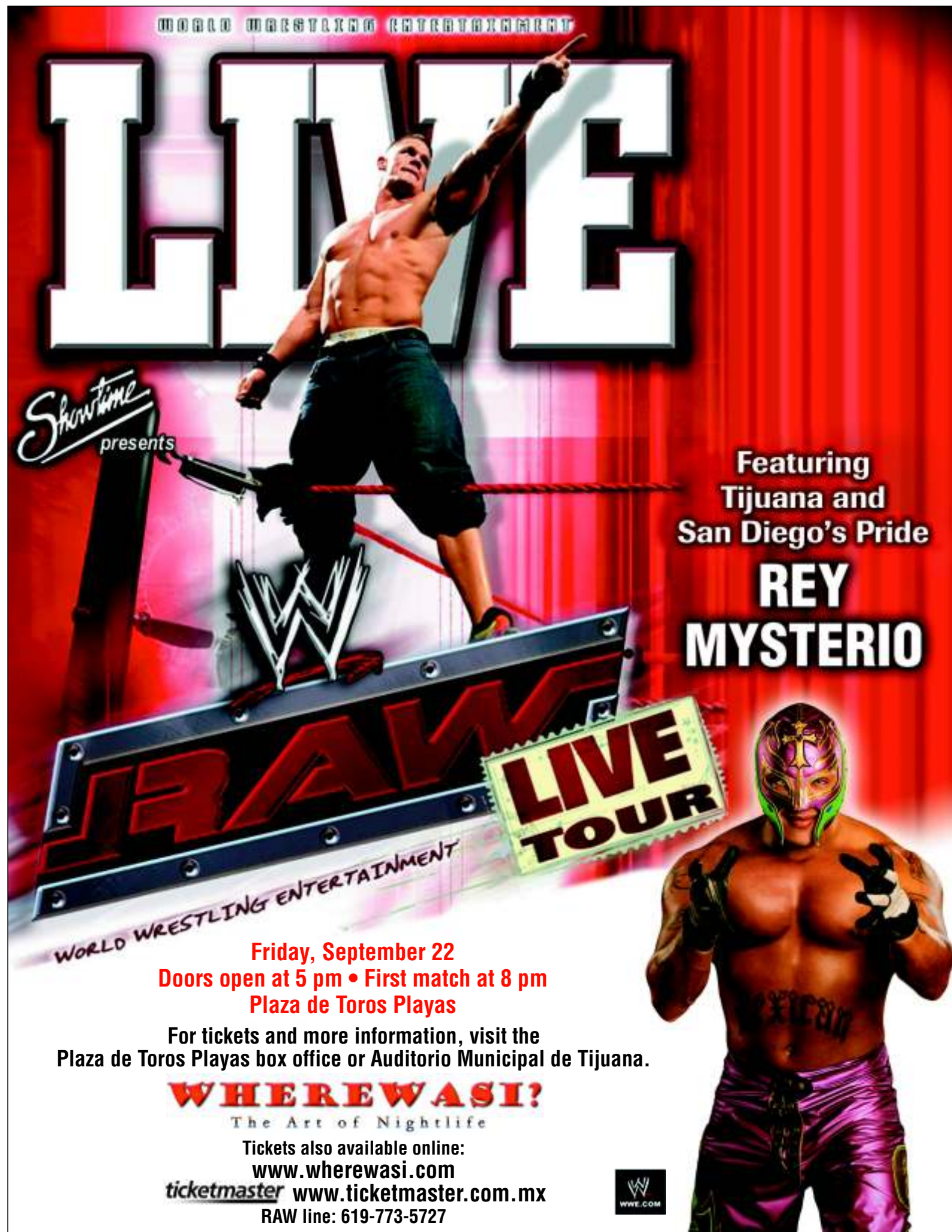
Scottish Country Dancing lessons begin Friday, September 8, 7:30 p.m., in Casa del Prado room

203. Free on 8th; \$5 per class thereafter. 858-453-8286. (BALBOA PARK)

"Emerge III," showcase of emerging contemporary dance choreographers is Saturday, September 9, 8 p.m., in David and Dorothea Garfield Theatre at Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center (4126 Executive Drive). Program boasts several premieres and repertory works from choreographers including Michael Mizerany, Alicia Peterson,

Rebecca Bryant, Daniel Marshall, Ryan Orion Beck, Jillian Chu. \$15 general. 858-362-1348. (LA JOLLA)

T-Lou and His Zydeco Band perform for Cajun/zydeco dance hosted by Bon Temps Social Club on Saturday, September 9, at War Memorial Building (3325 Zoo Drive, at Park Boulevard). Dance lesson at 6:20; dancing from 7–10:30 p.m. \$14. 858-496-6655. (BALBOA PARK)



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San Diego Reader September 7, 2006 83

DANCE

Learn the Lindy Hop! New beginning swing dance lessons hosted by CafeSavoy Productions

Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

Ranting Banshee makes music, Steve Barlow calls for contradance, Saturday, September 9, 8 p.m., at Trinity United Methodist Church (3030 Thorn Street). Beginners' dance workshop: 7:30 p.m. \$7. Wear soft-soled shoes. 619-283-8550. (NORTH PARK)

Latin and Ballroom Dancing on Saturday, September 9, 7:30 p.m., at Pattie Wells Dancetime Center (1255 West Morena Boulevard). Dancing for singles and couples of all ages. Nightclub two-step dance lesson at 8 p.m. \$7; first time free. 619-275-3533. (BAY PARK)

Hustle San Diego Club meets on second Saturday of every month, including September 9, for beginners' instruction (8:30 p.m.) and dance afterwards at Dance North County (535 Encinitas Boulevard, suite 100). \$7. 760-803-9982. (ENCINITAS)

English Country Dancing takes place every Sunday, 6-9 p.m., at Jean Hart Academy of Dance (Oak Knoll Plaza, 12227 Poway Road). Karin Norlin, Terri Akin, and Janet Arnold share calling duties on September 10. \$6. 858-676-9731. (POWAY)

Modern Square Dancing Classes begin Mondays, September 11 and 18, 6:30 p.m., at Joslyn Senior Center (210 Park Avenue). Children eight and older welcome when accompanied by parent. First two lessons free, then pay \$2 per lesson. 760-728-0355. (ESCONDIDO)

Learn to Dance when Jim and Margie of 2toGroove Dance lead classes in variety of dance styles, Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays, at Dance North County (535 Encinitas Boulevard, suite 100). \$12 per class. Details: 619-291-3775. (ENCINITAS)

FILM

"Shimmer," surf video premiere presented by Roxy, Thursday, September 7, 7 p.m., at La Paloma Theatre (471 South Coast Highway 101). Free. Roxy pro team on hand to sign autographs. 760-753-1103. (ENCINITAS)

Cinema Under the Stars, the "spunky Aussie romp" *Muriel's Wedding* stars Toni Collette and Rachel Griffiths. Flick screens Thursday-Saturday, September 7-9, 8:30 p.m., at Tops (4040 Goldfinch Street). \$12. 619-295-4221. (MISSION HILLS)

Imperial Beach International Film Festival and Art Walk, September 8-10, at Portwood Pier

OUT & ABOUT

BEAVIS AND BUTT-HEAD

creator Mike Judge "does MiraCosta College," Friday, September 8.

(SEE IN PERSON)



Plaza. Festival commences with screening of independent short films, Friday, 7-10 p.m. (\$5).

Saturday's events run 9 a.m.-11 p.m., with film seminars, documentaries by Mike McCoy and Oscar Romo, who will be on hand to answer questions (\$5). "Cinema Under the Stars" on Saturday night promises free screening of *The Wizard of Oz* on large screen adjacent to beach.

Art Walk offered on Saturday and Sunday. Details: 619-423-2692. (IMPERIAL BEACH)

The Mexican Film *The Crime of Padre Amaro* (2001) kicks off In-

ternational Film Series at MiraCosta College on Friday, September 8. See film at 1 p.m. in room 204 at MiraCosta's San Elijo campus (3333 Manchester Avenue). Film also screens at 7 p.m. in room 3601 on campus at One Barnard Drive. 760-795-6612. Free. In Spanish with English subtitles. (CARDIFF, OCEANSIDE)

Cinema Society of Carlsbad season gets underway with screening of South African film *Tsotsi* on Saturday, September 9, 2 p.m. Film won best foreign language film at 2006 Academy Awards. Cinema chat begins at 1:30 p.m.

with Ann Zivotsky in Schulman Auditorium at Carlsbad City Library (1775 Dove Lane). Free. 760-602-2026. (LA COSTA)

"Secret Cinema Salon," Sunday, September 10, 7 p.m., at Media Arts Center San Diego (921 25th Street). Rare and notable films from past, present, future of world cinema screened, then discussed. Donation: \$5. 619-230-1938 x123. (GOLDEN HILL)

Up for an "Adrenaline-Charged Micro-Thriller"? See Ian Gamazon's *Cavite* when it screens for Film Forum, Monday, September 11, 6:30 p.m., at San

Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Free. 619-236-5800. In Tagalog, Spanish, and English, with English subtitles. (DOWNTOWN)

"The End of Suburbia: Oil Depletion and the Collapse of the American Dream" screens for Ocean Beach Grassroots Organization and San Diego Activist on Monday, September 11, 7:30 p.m., at Voltaire Street Space (4862 Voltaire Street). Free. 619-801-0770. (OCEAN BEACH)

"An American in Paris" screens Monday, September 11, 7:45 p.m., at Old Globe Theatre. Musical stars Gene Kelly, Nina Foch, Leslie Caron, with 20-minute ballet sequence choreographed by Kelly. 619-23-GLOBE. Free. (BALBOA PARK)

Ramona Diaz's Documentary Imelda screens Thursday, September 14, 7 p.m., at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (700 Prospect Street). Film offers "probing look at Imelda Marcos" from wife of president of Philippines to exile in Hawaii. \$7. 858-454-3541. (LA JOLLA)

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, currently screening in the IMAX theater: *Deep Sea* and *Greece: Secrets of the Past*. "Fridays at the Fleet" features *Chronos* (6 p.m.), *To the Limit* (7 p.m.), *Greece: Secrets of the Past* (8 p.m.), *Deep Sea* (9 p.m.) on September 8. Ticket

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1233. (BALBOA PARK)

LECTURES

"Iran Awakening: Human Rights, Women, and Islam" is topic when 2003 Nobel Peace Laureate, Iranian lawyer, and human rights activist Shirin Ebadi speaks on Thursday, September 7, 7 p.m., in Jenny Craig Pavilion at University of San Diego (5998 Alcalá Park). Free event expected to "sell out, so pick up tickets early." 619-260-7550. (LINDA VISTA)

New Airport in Miramar? Expect "lively and complex" discussion of issue led by San Diego County Airport Authority, Thursday, September 7, 7 p.m., in auditorium at Clairemont High School (4150 Ute). The USMC will be on hand to present their view, Taxpayers for Responsible Planning representatives will list concerns. Free. 858-831-9555. (CLAIREMONT)

"Life and Language of the Bard," Lemon Grove Historical Society's History Alive series commences with lecture and performance by Michael Auer and Marvin Spira, Thursday, September 7, 1:30 p.m., at H. Lee House Cultural Center (3205 Olive). \$2. 619-460-4353. (LEMON GROVE)

Former Chula Vista Homicide Detective and current author of more than 125 true-crime stories, Tom Basinski speaks for Sisters in Crime, Thursday, September 7, 7 p.m. at Joyce Beers Community Center (1230 Vermont Street). \$3. 760-735-9313.

Basinski discusses his true-crime thriller *No Good Deed*, Tuesday, September 12, 7 p.m., at Chula Vista Library (365 F Street). Free. 619-691-5289. (HILLCREST, CHULA VISTA)

Acrylic Figurative Painting demonstration by Mollie Kellogg, Thursday, September 7, 7:30 p.m., at La Mesa City Hall (8130 Allison Avenue). Free. 619-464-7167. (LA MESA)

Separating Hard Facts from Sci-Fi! Author Laura S. Woodmansee plans lecture, discussion and signing of her book *Sex in Space* when Mars Society meets Friday, September 8, 6:30 p.m., at San Diego Air and Space Museum (2001 Pan American Plaza). Can a child be conceived and born off the Earth? Free. Required reservations: 619-723-3456. (BALBOA PARK)

Composting and Vermicomposting Workshop planned by master composters, Saturday, September 9, 7:50-10 a.m., in Otto Center at San Diego Zoo. Learn to improve soil, compost use. Free. Required reservations: 760-436-7986 x216. (BALBOA PARK)

Refresher and Beginning Genealogy course taught by Margaret Read for North San Diego County Genealogical Society, Saturday, September 9, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., at Cole Library (1250 Carlsbad Village Drive). Free. 760-757-0528. (CARLSBAD)

Earthworm Composting Gardening Class, Saturday, September 9, 10 a.m., at Coastal Sage Gardening (3685 Voltaire Street). \$10 fee includes earthworms "to start your own family." Registration: 619-223-5229. (POINT LOMA)

"Easy Bulbs for California-Friendly Gardens" explored by Mary McBride, Saturday, Septem-

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Calendar LOCAL EVENTS

ber 9, 10 a.m., in Cuyamaca College's Water Conservation Garden (12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West). Learn to use bulbs with perennials, as borders, planting for year-round color. McBride — owner of Mary's Secret Garden — will bring bulbs, plants to sell. \$8. Reservations: 619-660-0614. (EL CAJON)

Get the Skinny on Credit Reports after seminar on Saturday, September 9, 10 a.m., at USE Credit Union (8697 La Mesa Boulevard). Why is report important? Free. 619-740-0101. (LA MESA)

"Intro to Editing Documentaries with Final Cut Pro," — workshop offered on Saturday, September 9, 10 a.m.–2 p.m., at Media Arts Center San Diego (921 25th Street). Instructor Joaquin Ortiz divulges techniques in editing video, visualizing story, managing tape and media, more. \$55. Reservations: 619-230-1938 x102. (GOLDEN HILL)

"Choosing the Highway on Which We Will Travel," Reverend Jerald Stinson addresses Americans United for Separation of Church and State, Saturday, September 9, 3 p.m., at Scottish Rite Center (1895 Camino del Rio

South). Free. 619-850-1559. (MISSION VALLEY)

Aspects of Watch and Clock Collecting examined when National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors gathers, Saturday, September 9, at Scottish Rite Masonic Temple (1895 Camino del Rio South). Meetings include show and tell. Start at 6:30 p.m., meeting at 7:30 p.m. Free. 619-224-4820. (MISSION VALLEY)

"Relax Into Stillness Within," Western Buddhist nun Gen Kelsang Tubpa lectures Saturday, September 9, 7 p.m., at Congregational Church of La Jolla (1216 Cave Street). Free. 619-692-3676. (LA JOLLA)

Around the World by Bike! Scott Stoll began his journey five days before 9/11/01; he'll recount his bicycling adventures for Hostelling International annual meeting and party, Sunday, September 10, 2 p.m., at Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice at University of San Diego (5998 Alcalá Park). Free. 619-338-9981. (LINDA VISTA)

"Of Pets and Potlucks," economics professor May Akabogu-Collins speaks when Humanist Fellowship meets, Sunday, September 10, 2 p.m., at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). 619-670-4159, 619-544-0640. (DOWNTOWN)

OUT & ABOUT

JOPLIN IS SERVED!

"Americana" by pianist Peter Gach, Sunday, September 10, Palomar College.

(SEE CLASSICAL MUSIC)



Joplin Is Served! Explore musical legacy of ragtime piano master Scott Joplin during concert and lecture by pianist Peter Gach, Sunday, September 10, 2 p.m., in Howard Brubeck Theatre at Palomar College (1140 West Mission Road). Listen for Joplin classics and discussion of their influence on modern American music; pieces by Gershwin, Ives, Madelyn Byrne, Bill Bradbury, Roger Przytulski. \$12 general. 760-744-1150 x2453. (SAN MARCOS)

"Wit and Wisdom: The Making of the Edward Binney 3rd Collection" explored by curatorial assistant Tiffany Lee for Insight Gallery talks on Sunday, September 10, 3 p.m.; and Thursday, September 14, 6 p.m., at San Diego Museum of Art. Included in regular admission. 619-696-1966. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diegans for 9/11 Truth plan five-year anniversary commemorative event on Sunday, September 10, 6:30 p.m., at Joyce Beers Community Center (1230

Vermont Street). Guest speakers include Monica Mercedes Perez Jimenez, Jesús Nieto, John Leonard; panel discussion, music, video. Requested donation: \$5. 619-222-2120. (HILLCREST)

Developing Livable Cities is topic for discussion hosted by League of Women Voters, Monday, September 11, 11:30 a.m., at Buena Vista Nature Center (2202 South Coast Highway). Local and national information on offer. Free. 760-643-0177. (OCEANSIDE)

"Digital in Nature: A Costa Rican Photo Adventure" illuminated by "Digital in Nature Photo Safaris" founder Terry Peterson for 12 O'Clock Scholar program, Monday, September 11, at San Diego Museum of Man. \$6. 619-239-2001. (BALBOA PARK)

"Secrets of the Chaparral" divulged by Rick Halsey when San Diego Horticultural Society gathers on Monday, September 11, 6 p.m., in Surfside Race Place at Del Mar Fairgrounds. He'll reveal "many myths and surprising mysteries and why it represents such a vital link to nature for all Californians." Talk followed by plant forum. Free. 760-295-7089. (DEL MAR)

"Pharmaceutical Treasures from Marine Pond Scum?" Discoveries of New Drugs from the Sea" discussed by Bill Gerwick for "Perspectives on Ocean Science" series, Monday, September 11, 6:30 p.m., at Birch Aquarium at Scripps (2300 Expedition Way). \$8. Reservations: 858-534-5771. (LA JOLLA)

"Where My Ancestors Lived" divulged when Fred Spong presents case study for North San Diego County Genealogical Society, Tuesday, September 12. Group gathers at 10 a.m., in Carlsbad City Council Chambers (1200 Carlsbad Village Drive). Free. 858-509-4937. (CARLSBAD)

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"Luann" Comic Creator Greg Evans plans studio demonstration of his cartoon art, Tuesday, September 12, 12:15 p.m., at California Center for the Arts, Escondido (340 North Escondido Boulevard). Free. 760-839-4120. (ESCONDIDO)

City Directories discussed by Judy Michaels when Computer-Oriented Group of North San Diego County Genealogical Society meets, Tuesday, September 12, 1 p.m., in Carlsbad City Council Chambers (1200 Carlsbad Village Drive). 760-744-7530. Free. (CARLSBAD)

Media Conversion Solutions for converting audio cassettes and vinyl to CD and other media offered by Ivan D. Randall of ADS Technologies, Tuesday, September 12, 1 p.m., at Salvation Army (3935 Lake Boulevard). Free. 760-944-1464. (OCEANSIDE)

Ring of Fire wine series concludes with "Japanese Wine and Sake" on Tuesday, September 12, 7 p.m., at JRDN Restaurant at Tower 23 Hotel (723 Felspar). \$25. Reservations: 858-270-5736. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Interrobang, word indicates "an interdisciplinary event highlighting the exclamation and explanation of design" — Interrobang lecture series continues with talk by April Phillips on Tuesday, September 12, 7 p.m., at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (700 Prospect Street). \$18. 619-232-0109. (LA JOLLA)

Intro to Independence! Learn "how to cover an event, write a story, produce photographs and audio with video," post to San Diego Independent Media Center website, and participate in the center during introduction slated for Wednesday, September 13. Program begins at 7 p.m. at Voz Alta (1544 Broadway). Free. 619-378-0946. (EAST VILLAGE)

"Scottish Census: Film, Fiche, and Internet" explored by Jackie Webster for Scottish Interest Group of British Isles Genealogical Research Association, Wednesday, September 13, 10:30 a.m., at San Diego Family History Center (4195 Camino del Rio South). Free. 619-465-7326. (MISSION VALLEY)

OUT & ABOUT

STAR SEARCH QUEEN

Linda Eder, Civic Theatre, Saturday, September 9.

(SEE IN PERSON)



Luisño History and Culture Series concludes with look at field of ethnobotany — study of uses of native plants by indigenous Americans — Wednesday, September 13, 7 p.m., at Agua Hedionda Lagoon Discovery Center (1580 Cannon Road). Free. 760-804-1969. (CARLSBAD)

"Planet of Slums: The New Global Uprising" is subject when author Mike Davis (*City of Quartz, Ecology of Fear*, others) speaks for Matters of Controversy series, Wednesday, September 13, 7 p.m., at First Unitarian Universalist Church (4190 Front Street). 858-459-4650. (HILLCREST)

Computational Neuroscience Pioneer Terrence J. Sejnowski signs and discusses *Liars, Lovers, and Heroes: Explorations in Neuroeconomics*, Thursday, September 14, 7 p.m., at Book Works (Flower Hill Promenade, 2670 Via de la Valle). What brain mechanisms underlie our personal choices? 858-755-3735. Free. (DEL MAR)

"Hurricane Katrina Helicopter Rescues" examined by Lieutenant Commander Connie Avery, who flies Navy's Seahawk helicopter, Thursday, September 14, 7:30 p.m., at San Diego Air and Space Museum. Avery saved more than 60 people from flood waters of New Orleans last year; she'll discuss contemporary helicopter res-

cue and firsthand experiences from Katrina relief operations. \$15. Registration: 619-234-8291 x19. (BALBOA PARK)

"The Photographs of Edward Curtis in Three Acts: Visual Representation, Empire, and the Postcolonial" opens with sixth annual Wangenheim Room lecture, Sunday, September 17, 5:30 p.m., at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). UCSD ethnic studies associate professor Ross H. Frank will speak. \$25 fee includes lecture, appetizers, live music. Reservations: 619-291-8800 or 619-236-5807. (DOWNTOWN)

IN PERSON

"Cabaret Chez Chase," singer/pianist Ann Chase performs mix of turn-of-the-century and modern songs in cabaret style for Concert Hour series, Thursday, September 7. Ballet Folklórico Teirra Caliente presents song and dance from Jalisco and Veracruz regions on Thursday, September 14. Curtain rises at 12:30 p.m. in Palomar College Performance Lab (room D-10 at 1140 West Mission Road). Free. 760-744-1150 x2316. (SAN MARCOS)

"Primal Twang: The Legacy of the Guitar," this "theatrical/multimedia journey" through guitar's

3500-year-history by Dan Cray runs September 7–10 at Stephen and Mary Birch North Park Theatre (2895 University Avenue).

Cray and Primal Twang Band perform each night, joined by Beppe Gambetta, Andrew York, Strunz & Farah, Mason Williams, and Eric Johnson on Thursday, September 7. On Friday, September 8, see Williams, York, Strunz, Farah, and Johnson. Doc Watson and Richard Watson take stage with previous night's group on Saturday, September 9. It's Strunz & Farah on Sunday, September 10, along with Watsons, Williams, and Johnson.

Concerts begin at 7 p.m. Thursday–Saturday, 2 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets: \$29.75–\$49.75. 619-239-8836. (NORTH PARK)

"Poets Respond to the Andy Warhol Exhibit," San Diego Museum of Art hosts spoken-word series in conjunction with "Andy Warhol's Dream America" exhibit. Poets Bob Perelman and Rae Armantrout perform Thursday, September 7, 6 p.m. Included in museum admission. 619-232-7931. (BALBOA PARK)

Kensington Trio plans First Thursday Concert on September 7, 7 p.m., in Escondido Library's Turrentine Room (239 South Kalmia Street). Free. 760-839-4329. (ESCONDIDO)

New Folk Bard John Gorka in concert hosted by AcousticMusic-SanDiego, Thursday, September 7. Bearfoot takes stage on Sunday, September 10. Concerts begin at 7:30 p.m. at Normal Heights United Methodist Church (4650 Mansfield Street). Tickets: \$15,

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ROAM-O-RAMA

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\$20. 619-303-8176. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

"The Republican War on Science" delved by author Chris Mooney in his new book. Mooney visits Warwick's Bookstore (7812 Girard Avenue) to discuss and sign his work on Thursday, September 7, 7:30 p.m. Free. 858-454-0347 (LA JOLLA)

Beavis and Butt-Head Creator "Mike Judge Does MiraCosta College," Friday, September 8, 7:30 p.m., in gym at MiraCosta College (One Barnard Drive). Writer, animator, director, producer Judge will discuss his work and show clips from *Beavis and Butt-head*, *Office Space*, *King of the Hill*, his new film *Idiocracy*. \$10. Reservations: 760-795-6815. (OCEANSIDE)

Filipina Singer Nora Aunor and comedian Bernardo Bernardo perform Friday, September 8, 8 p.m., at Sycuan Casino Showcase Theatre (5469 Casino Way). \$45. 619-659-3380. (DEHESA)

City Works Release Party, Friday, September 8, 7 p.m., at Ice Gallery (3417 30th Street, at Upas). Participants: Cheryl Klein (*The Commuters*) and Steve Kowitz (*Gods of Rapture*). Free. 619-702-6335. (NORTH PARK)

"Laugh for Love," comedy show starring Christian comedian Chonda Pierce, Friday, September 8, 7 p.m., in Brown Chapel at Point Loma Nazarene College (3900 Lomaland Drive). \$22 tickets benefit San Diego Rescue Mission. 619-819-1853. (POINT LOMA)

Progressive Singer/Songwriter David Rovics — whose songs include "Who Would Jesus Bomb?" and "Good Kurds, Bad Kurds" — performs Friday, September 8, 7 p.m., at Sherman Heights Community Center (2258 Island Avenue). \$10. 619-528-8383. (SHERMAN HEIGHTS)

The Backyard concert series continues with performance by Paige Aufhammer on Friday, September 8, 7 p.m., in amphitheater at

San Diego's picturesque "canyons" — the narrow ravines slashing into the city's elevated plateaus ("mesas") that overlook the bay and the ocean — number in the dozens. The so-called mesas are actually marine terraces, the remnants of flat topography lying just offshore during intervals of higher sea level that have occurred in the last million years or so. Erosion by flowing water has eaten away at these now-elevated terraces, creating the narrow, steep-sided drainage channels referred to as the urban canyons of San Diego.

Our urban canyons are increasingly recognized as valuable natural resources for plant and wildlife habitat preservation and for public recreation. Several have already been declared as public open-space "parks."

One such canyon lies barely outside the boundary of downtown San



First Avenue Bridge

Diego, just north of Little Italy. Maple Canyon can most conveniently be entered at the eastern dead end of Maple Street, north of Laurel Street and just east of Reynard Way. Please note that there are multiple, aligned but discontinuous segments of Maple Street stretching eastward for several miles. This particular Maple Street segment ends two blocks east of Reynard Way at a sign indicating Maple Street Open Space Park.

Make your way up the wide, smooth path, noting the mix of native sage-scrub/chaparral vegetation and the non-native eucalyptus trees and palm trees. A particularly invasive bamboo-like giant cane, which has been the target of eradication efforts all over the city.

At about 100 yards into the canyon, notice the steep slope to the right. At the top lies an obscure historical marker commemorating the early (1909) aviation feats of Waldo Waterman, who sailed off this perch on a homemade contraption and glided into the canyon bottom without breaking his neck. The plaque, at the corner of Albatross and Maple, is better suited for a drive-by visit than a side trip on foot.

Proceed farther up the canyon floor, passing under the graceful, 104-foot-high First Avenue bridge, erected under the Improvement Act of 1911. After a total of about one-half mile, you reach the wooden supporting

beams of the equally historic Quince Street foot-bridge. A steep path on the left connects to Third Avenue and houses above, but the easy way back is to simply retrace your steps.

MAPLE CANYON

Stroll through Maple Canyon in Banker's Hill, and escape from the city while in the city.

Distance from downtown San Diego: 1 mile

Length: 1 mile round-trip

Difficulty: Easy



Community Reformed Church (777 West Felicita Avenue). Art by local artists on display. Free. 760-746-1322. (ESCONDIDO)

Renowned Sitar Virtuoso Kartik Seshadri performs opening concert for fall World Music Series on Saturday, September 9, 7:30 p.m., in Star Theatre (402 North Coast Highway). Seshadri will be accompanied by tabla

player Arup Chattopadhyay. \$15. 760-435-5560. (OCEANSIDE)

Queen of Star Search! Linda Eder, whose big break came on "Star Search" television show in 1988, plans concert from her CD *By Myself: The Songs of Judy Garland in New York City*, Saturday, September 9, 8 p.m., at San Diego Civic Theatre (Third Avenue and B Street). Eder will also perform selections from Broadway hits,

melodic standards. Tickets: \$17-\$53, available through Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS). (DOWNTOWN)

Author Diana Marie Weitzel signs and discusses *Fall Into Freedom: An Affair Inspires One Woman's Search for Truth*, Saturday, September 9, 11 a.m., at Rainy's Mystic Books (801 Grand Avenue). Free. 760-744-9818. (SAN MARCOS)

Sketch on the Rocks, improv sketch comedy show by Comedy Under Construction and doo-wop sounds by the Royals, Saturday, September 9, 8 p.m., in community room at Clairemont Town Square (4731 Clairemont Drive). \$10. 858-550-8088. (CLAIREMONT)

Moscow Male Jewish Choir performs wide range of Jewish vocal music, from Russian folk songs to Jewish liturgical music, classi-

cal, and modern Israeli compositions in concert on Saturday, September 9, 8:30 p.m., at Chabad Educational Center (10785 Pomerado Road). Tickets to "A High Holiday Musical Celebration" are \$22.50 general. Recommended reservations: 858-547-0076 x1215. (SCRIPPS RANCH)

The Heretic's Ball presented by Don Victor promises "social, political, and religious heresy...that combines improvisation, performance art, music," more, Saturday, September 9, 9 p.m., at Rebecca's Coffeehouse (3015 Juniper Street). Donation. 619-691-9661. (SOUTH PARK)

Author Harry Hunsicker signs, discusses *Next Time You Die*, Sunday, September 10, 11 a.m., Borders Books and Music (11160 Rancho Carmel Drive). Free. 858-618-1814. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN)

Jazz 88 Ocean Beach Jazz Festival is Sunday, September 10, noon-7 p.m., at foot of Newport Boulevard. Performers include Jazz 88 All-Stars, Sweet Baby 'ai, Charles McPherson Quintet, the Cheathams and Sweet Baby Blues Band, Clark Terry with Red Holloway Quartet. For those 21 and older. \$50 at gate. 619-224-4906. (OCEAN BEACH)

Trails & Rails Folk Group plays benefit concert for San Diego River Park Foundation and Eagle Creek Preserve, Sunday, September 10, 6 p.m., at Rancho Santa Maria de los Peñasquitos Adobe (on Canyonside Park Drive in Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve). Potluck dinner. Tickets: \$30 in advance, \$35 at door. Reservations: 619-297-7380. (RANCHO PENASQUITOS)

San Diego Poetry Slam, Monday, September 11, 8:30 p.m., at Voz Alta (1544 Broadway). Perform, judge, or just observe. Spectators: \$2, competitors: \$5. 619-230-1869. (EAST VILLAGE)

Author John Wukovits discusses, signs *One Square Mile of Death*, Tuesday, September 12, 7 p.m., at Borders Books and Music (1072 Camino del Rio North). 619-295-2201. Free. (MISSION VALLEY)

Acclaimed Author Amy Wilentz visits Warwick's Bookstore to discuss and sign her new book, *I Feel Earthquakes More Often Than They*

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Linda Eder Sept. 9
James Gang Sept. 9
Matisyahu Sept. 12
Bonnie Raitt Sept. 13
Dwight Yoakam Sept. 14
Paulina Rubio Sept. 15
Toby Keith Sept. 17
Gnarls Barkley Sept. 19
Massive Attack Sept. 20
Ani DiFranco Sept. 22
Pepe Aguilar Sept. 23
John Mayer/Sheryl Crow Sept. 26
Tom Petty Sept. 27
Guster Sept. 28
Yeah Yeah Yeahs Sept. 28
Carlos Mencia Sept. 29
Unwritten Law Sept. 30
Paul Simon Oct. 3

Mariah Carey Oct. 4
Live Oct. 6
Gov't Mule Oct. 7
India.Arie Oct. 21
Howard Confidential Oct. 21
Bob Dylan Oct. 22
David Sedaris Oct. 27
Jose Luis Perales Oct. 29
HIM Oct. 30
Aerosmith/Mötley Crüe Nov. 9
The Fray Nov. 11
James Blunt Nov. 14
All-American Rejects Dec. 1
Andre Rieu Dec. 7
Panic! At The Disco Dec. 9

Disney Live! Mickey's Magic Show
Sept. 15, 16, 17
Disney On Ice Oct. 11-15
"Blue Man Group" Nov. 4
Lakers vs. Suns Oct. 22

Chargers vs. Titans
September 17

Guns N' Roses
October 5

Brooks & Dunn
October 14

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Happen: Coming to California in the Age of Schwarzenegger, Tuesday, September 12, 7:30 p.m. Wilentz is also author of *The Rainy Season: Haiti Since Duvalier* and *Martyrs' Crossing*. Warwick's, 7812 Girard Avenue. Free. 858-454-0347. (LA JOLLA)

"Gay Marriage: For Better or for Worse?" Author William Eskridge visits Borders Books and Music (1072 Camino del Rio North) to sign and discuss his work, Thursday, September 14, 7 p.m. Free. 619-295-2201. (MISSION VALLEY)

Television, Film, Broadway Star Adrienne Barbeau talks about her book *There Are Worse Things I Could Do*, Thursday, September 14, 7 p.m., at Claire de Lune Coffeehouse (2906 University Avenue). Free. 619-459-3247. (NORTH PARK)

Need a "Faith Lift"? Author Richard Capen signs and discusses *Empowered by Faith*, Thursday, September 14, 7:30 p.m., at Warwick's Bookstore (7812 Girard Avenue). Free. 858-454-0347 (LA JOLLA)

Reina Gruperá, Ana Barbara plans concert, Thursday, Septem-

ber 14, 8 p.m., at Sycuan Casino Showcase Theatre (5469 Casino Way). \$30. 619-659-3380. (DEHESA)

San Diego Comedy Crew performs Thursday, September 14, 8 p.m., at the Comedy Store (916 Pearl Street). Two-drink minimum. 21 and older. 858-454-9176. (LA JOLLA)

The 36th Annual Julian Bluegrass Festival and Banjo Fiddle Contest is September 16 and 17 at Frank Lane Park (2645 Farmers Road). Performances by 7th Day Buskers, Susie Glaze and Hilonesome Band, Donner Mountain Bluegrass Band, Pacific Ocean Bluegrass Band, Rails and Trails, others; workshops by Robin Henkel, Susie Glaze, Frankie Nagle, Walt Richards, many others; concerts, jam sessions.

Both days feature food and music-related vendors' booths. Festival opens at 9 a.m. both days, closes at 6 p.m. on Saturday, 4 p.m. on Sunday. Bring blankets, chairs. \$15. 760-765-3937. (JULIAN)

The Punisher Tour, comedian Carlos Mencia brings his social

commentary to stage at Civic Theatre (at Third Avenue and B Street) on Friday, September 29, with shows at 7 and 10 p.m. Tickets: \$40, available through Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS). (DOWNTOWN)

Pulitzer Prize-Winning *New York Times* columnist Maureen Dowd discusses her new book, *Are Men Necessary? When Sexes Collide*, Saturday, September 30, 5 p.m., at D.G. Wills Books (7461 Girard Avenue). Free. 858-456-1800. (LA JOLLA)

SPORTS

Boys of (Late) Summer, San Diego Padres meet up with Giants in San Francisco, September 8-10, at 7:15 p.m. on Friday, 1:05 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Road trip continues with games against Cincinnati Reds September 12-14, at 4:10 p.m. on Tuesday and Wednesday, 9:35 a.m. on Thursday. Tickets for future games: 877-374-2784. (EAST VILLAGE)

"Annihilation in San Diego," mixed martial arts entertainment

by Total Combat, Saturday, September 9, 7:30 p.m., at iPayOne Center. Tickets start at \$35, available through Ticketmaster (619-220-TIXS). (SPORTS ARENA)

Showpark County V Horse Show, Saturday and Sunday, September 9 and 10, at Del Mar Horsepark (14550 El Camino Real). 858-794-1171. (DEL MAR)

Food Allergy Walk Saturday, September 9, near Sixth Avenue and Laurel Street. Registration at 8 a.m., walk at 9 a.m. 619-379-0054. (BALBOA PARK)

Girls Just Wanna Have Fun, all-women, full-contact football played by So Cal Scorpions against Las Vegas Showgirlz on Saturday, September 9, 5 p.m., in Edward's Stadium (next to La Jolla High School, 750 Nautilus Street). \$8. 877-717-8464. (LA JOLLA)

The Granddaddy of Rough-Water Swims, 76th annual La Jolla Rough-Water Swim, Sunday, September 10, starting and finishing at La Jolla Cove. Junior, amateur, masters, and Gatorman divisions, with starts from 9 a.m.-

1:35 p.m. 858-456-2100. No race-day registration. (LA JOLLA)

Experience Fallbrook Hills during 75-mile ride hosted by San Diego Bicycle Touring Society on Sunday, September 10. Join riders at 8:45 a.m. in upper parking lot at Moonlight Beach (at foot of Encinitas Boulevard). 619-561-3846. (ENCINITAS, FALLBROOK)

Rancho Valencia Cup Finals at San Diego Polo Club, Sunday, September 10. Preliminary matches begin at 1:30 p.m., feature match at 3 p.m. General admission is \$5, as is parking. The club meets at 14555 El Camino Real. 858-481-9217. (RANCHO SANTA FE)

Freedom Walk 2006 hosted by Operation Homefront, Monday, September 11, 9 a.m., beginning and ending near Veterans Museum. 866-424-5210. (BALBOA PARK)

SPECIAL

"Repurpose" a T-Shirt during Tijuana-themed Thursday Night Thing, September 7,

7 p.m., at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (1001 Kettner Boulevard). Bring shirt, see fashion show highlighting work by Tijuana designers, enjoy live music by Tijuana bands. Donation: \$3. 619-234-1001. (DOWNTOWN)

Explore Scripps Pier by the Light of a Full Moon when the pier, normally closed to public, is open for exploration on Friday, September 8, 7-9:30 p.m. Participants learn of structure's history, take water samples, collect plankton, observe ocean conditions, and study nocturnal habits of marine life. Fee: \$20 for adults, \$17 for those 9-13. Required reservations: 858-534-7336. (LA JOLLA)

"I Propose! Stuart Collection Proposals" on exhibit Saturday, September 9-Wednesday, October 25, in exhibit cases of UCSD Arts Libraries (lower level of west wing of Geisel Library). Mounted in commemoration of collection's 25th anniversary, the small-scale models and renderings demon-

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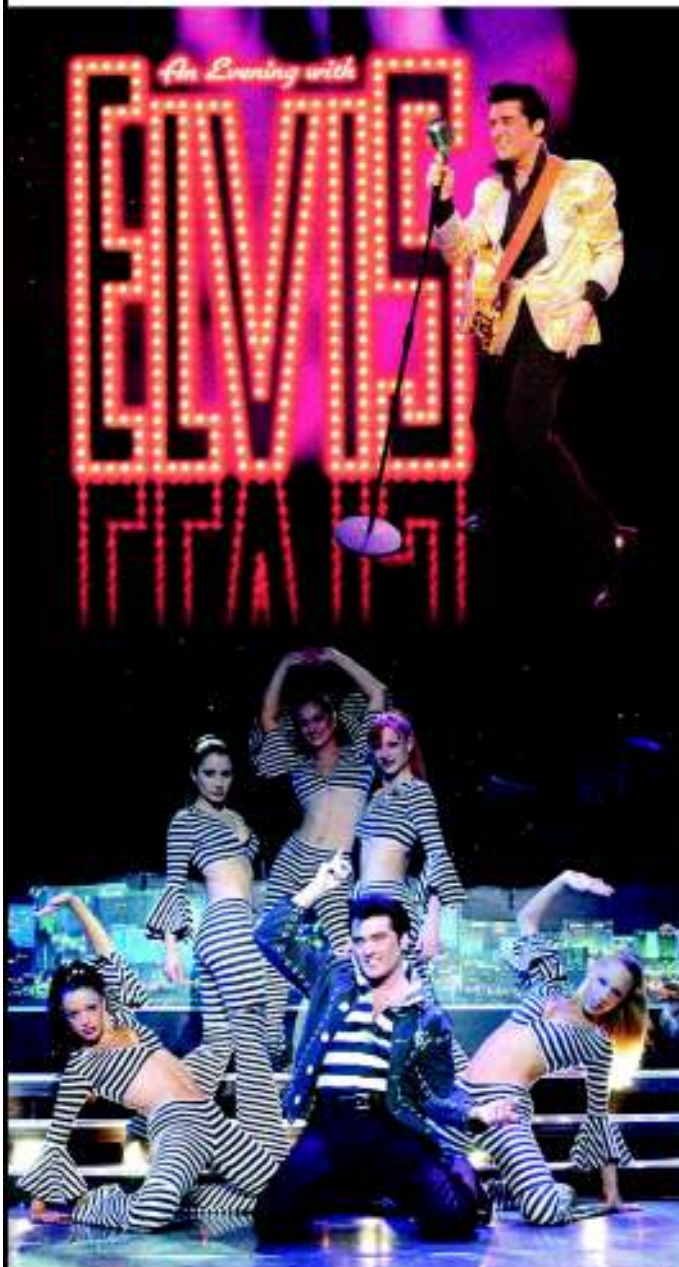
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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

strate that sometimes the “end product” resembles the proposal, sometimes not. Free viewing. 858-534-8074. (LA JOLLA)

Warbirds West Air Museum hosts formation flying clinic September 9 and 10 at Gillespie Field (1942 Joe Crosson Drive). Up to 20 post-World War II military training aircraft and their pilots will be on hand; all aircraft will be staged on ramp in front of Gillespie Field terminal building. Free.

“Blackbird” test pilot Bob Gilliland presents account of being first man to fly “the world’s fastest airplane, the SR-71,” at dinner on Saturday, 5 p.m. (\$30). Reservations, information: 858-414-6258. (EL CAJON)

Go, Dog, Go! Tenth annual Wienerschnitzel Wiener Nationals are Saturday, September 9, 8:30 a.m.–noon, in southwest corner of parking lot (near section J-5) at Qualcomm Stadium. Field of 300 dogs compete for eight spots in these qualifying rounds. Free for

spectators; \$5 per dog. 619-283-5808. (MISSION VALLEY)

Korean Festival to preserve Korean culture and foster good will between U.S. and Korea — is September 9 and 10 at Engineer Road and Convoy Street. Multicultural dance and entertainment, Korean handcrafts, “world’s longest rice roll (*gimbap*),” kimchi tasting and cooking. Admission is free. Festival opens at 9 a.m. both days, closes at 10 p.m. on Saturday, 6 p.m. on Sunday. 858-569-1171. (KEARNY MESA)

Grape Day Festival is Saturday, September 9, with grape stomping, live entertainment, crafts, art show, children’s games, food, 9:30 a.m.–5 p.m. at Grape Day Park (321 North Broadway). Grape Day Parade on Grand Avenue from Escondido Boulevard to Juniper, 9:30 a.m. Free. 760-743-8207. (ESCONDIDO)

Grecian Formula for Fun, 28th annual Greek festival at Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church (3459 Manchester Avenue) is Saturday and Sunday, September 9 and 10. Greek music and dancing, cuisine, children’s games, bazaar, deli, import booth. Admission: \$2; children under 12 free. Festival opens at 10 a.m. both days, closes at 10 p.m. on Saturday,

OUT & ABOUT

AROUND THE WORLD

by bike! Scott Stoll for Hostelling International, Sunday, September 10.

(SEE LECTURES)



day, 9 p.m. on Sunday. 760-942-0920. (CARDIFF)

Seventh Annual Serra Mesa Community Fair, Saturday, September 9, 10 a.m.–6 p.m., at Sandrock Road and Greyling Drive. Entertainment, rides, food, vendors. Free. 858-565-2473. (SERRA MESA)

Southern California Plumeria Society Show and sale, Saturday

and Sunday, September 9 and 10, 10 a.m.–4 p.m., in room 101 of Casa del Prado. Advice, displays, plants for sale. Admission: free. 760-451-1472 or 619-443-4795. (BALBOA PARK)

“Just for the Halibut,” chef Bernard Guillas demonstrates recipes with halibut, Saturday, September 9, noon, at Macy’s School of Cooking (in Mission Valley shopping center, 1555

Camino de la Reina). Fee: six non-perishable food items for San Diego Food Bank or \$6. 888-424-3663. (MISSION VALLEY)

“Strokes of Elegance” — exhibition of paintings by Ping-Guang Zhou opens with reception, Saturday, September 9, 2 p.m., at Chinese Historical Society and Museum (404 Third Avenue). Artist has adapted ancient Chinese painting concepts to his own style,

combining highly decorative *gongbi* technique with modern artistic feeling to produce a unique style of painting. \$2 for adults. 619-338-9888. (DOWNTOWN)

Visit Pepper Park for concert by Makai (5 p.m.), multicultural entertainment, business expo, children’s activities, food vendors, more, on Saturday, September 9, 2–7 p.m. Find park at Bay Marina Drive and Tidelands Avenue. Free. 619-477-9339. (NATIONAL CITY)

Arte Gras! Art demonstrations, children’s crafts, music, food, wine tasting, family fun — all are promised on Saturday, September 9, 5–8:30 p.m., at Shiva Artistic Collections (115 West Grand Avenue). 760-745-7835. (ESCONDIDO)

Psychic Fair and Metaphysical Conference, Saturday and Sunday, September 9 and 10, noon–6 p.m., at Alexandra’s Book-Store (3545 Midway Drive, suite G). Tarot, palmistry, numerology, other psychic arts featured. \$20 per reading. 619-298-3422. (SPORTS ARENA)

Beach’n 101 Cruise is Sunday, September 10, 9 a.m.–2 p.m. Participants cruise along Highway 101 between Oceanside and La Jolla and may drive on the dirt of the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club. Day-of-event registration starts at

Wedding Guide

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Call 619-233-9797 and press the 4-digit extension (in bold type) of the topic or advertiser that interests you.

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Bridal Attire.....	5102
Bridal Shows.....	5120
Caterers.....	5104
Ceremony Sites.....	5106
Clergy.....	5112
Consultants.....	5118
Dance Lessons.....	5117
Decorations.....	5113
Disc Jockeys.....	5110
Florists.....	5101
Formal Wear.....	5103
Gift Registries.....	5116
Health & Beauty.....	5119
Honeymoon.....	5115
Invitations.....	5114
Jewelers.....	5100
Limos & Valet.....	5111
Musicians.....	5109
Photographers.....	5108
Reception Sites.....	5107

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Wednesday, September 13
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"Rejoice in God's Promises" is theme for third annual digital art competition at St. Mark's United Methodist Church (3502 Clairemont Drive), September 10-October 15. 858-273-1480. (CLAIREMONT)

The House of Puerto Rico presents ethnic music and dance for lawn program at International Cottages, Sunday, September 10, 2 p.m. Free. 619-234-0739. (BALBOA PARK)

Commemorate 9/11 with Girls Scouts, San Diego-Imperial Council on Monday, September 11, 8:45 a.m., at flagpole at Balboa Program Center (1231 Upas Street). Music by Navy Band Southwest, flag ceremony, remarks, reminiscences. Free. 619-610-0704. (BALBOA PARK)

Heart of P.B. Restaurant Walk, self-guided tour of 20 restaurants is Tuesday, September 12, 5-9 p.m. \$15. 858-273-3303. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Best of Show, Cajon Classic Cruise, the weekly classic car show featuring "more than 500 classic, custom, and hot-rod cars," is Wednesday, September 13, 5-8 p.m. on Main Street. Free. 619-401-8858. (EL CAJON)

Taste of Downtown, cuisines of world on offer during self-guided walking tour, Wednesday, September 13, 5-9 p.m. Participants may use shuttle busses or walk to 50 participating eateries ranging from Gaslamp Quarter to Little Italy. \$25. 619-233-5008. (DOWNTOWN)

Drawing Demonstrations by artists of Southern California Cartoonists Society when group meets on Wednesday, September 13, 6:30 p.m., on patio at Veoh Networks (Sorrento Ridge Corporate Center, 7220 Trade Street, suite 115). Bring your portfolio, favorite pen, pencil, and paper; dinner plus "a donut for a friend." \$10. 619-921-1936. (SORRENTO VALLEY)

How Is Foreign Policy Determined? Present your theory for discussion on Wednesday, September 13, 7 p.m., at Claire de Lune Coffeehouse (2906 University Avenue). Free. 619-421-1879. (NORTH PARK)

Rods and Woodies 2006, cruise night series concludes on Thursday, September 14, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Secret Samurai makes music (at 682 South Coast Highway 101); San Diego Woodies host event. Ogle classic cars between D Street and Lumberyard on Highway 101. Free. 619-943-1950. (ENCINITAS)

"Italia Mia — Real Photos by Real People" continues through Saturday, September 16, at Italian Community Center (1669 Columbia Street). Exhibit boasts 75 photographs by 37 people representing "their most ideal Italian fantasy." Viewing, 1-4 p.m. on Saturdays, is free. 619-237-0601. (LITTLE ITALY)

FOR KIDS

Learn How Plants Grow during Botany for Kids class, Thursday, September 7, 2:30 p.m., at Coastal Sage (3685 Voltaire Street). \$20.

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Reading

Art Czar: The Rise and Fall of Clement Greenberg



Alice Goldfarb Marquis

by Alice Goldfarb Marquis
MFA Publications, 2006, \$35,
321 pages

FROM THE DUST JACKET:
Clement Greenberg dominated the American art scene and is still considered the most influential American art critic of the last century. He almost single-handedly established Jackson Pollock and the abstract expressionists and set the standard for art criticism.

WHAT THE CRITICS SAY:

"A complex, highly nuanced portrait of America's most controversial art critic. A masterful biography of Greenberg (1909–1994)... a rare combination of meticulous scholarship and crisp, vivid prose." — *The Brooklyn Rail*

"Formidable." — Bookforum

"Bracing...a biography that reads more like a novel, one that will no doubt excite and unnerve many readers...a benchmark...the life and legacy of Clement Greenberg." — *Wall Street Journal*

"Fascinating." — John Russell, *New Criterion*

"A rich, incisive, and even-handed portrait of this groundbreaking arbiter of aesthetics." — *Art & Antiques*

"Marquis writes engagingly, making a reasonable case for Greenberg's enduring importance." — *Wilson Quarterly*

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:
Dr. Alice Goldfarb Marquis is an award-winning journalist and historian. Her previous books include *Marcel Duchamp*, *Alfred H. Barr*, *Hopes and Ashes*, *The Art Biz*, and *Art Lessons*, recipient of a San Diego Book Award for best nonfiction.

A CONVERSATION WITH THE AUTHOR:

I almost want to ask Alice Goldfarb Marquis, how did a nice person like you choose such a bristly, irascible, antisocial, hidebound, pugnacious sexist like Clement Greenberg for the subject of a crit-

ical biography? But I suspect I know. He was also intriguing, mischievous, and wrote like an angel, albeit fallen.

What I say is: "Clement Greenberg, you point out, was very attracted to women — liberated women, sexually experienced women — and had an affair with Jean Connelly, the wife of Cyril. And had an affair with Mary McCarthy [author of *The Group*]. After they'd broken up, McCarthy told someone that he was mad at her for his not having fallen in love with her."

"It was strictly like a tennis match between those two," says Dr. Marquis.

"They stayed friends for a long time."

"They did, they did," she says, almost wistfully.

"With slightly younger, weaker — intellectually weaker — women, and with less experienced women, he actually gets physically abusive."

"He just couldn't express his rage verbally," says Alice Marquis. "I think he saw women in one way: as being weaker. When he couldn't control them, he would see them as a menace of some kind."

"He doesn't slap Mary McCarthy," I point out. "He realizes there's something else there. He might get slapped back. But for all of his immense socializing — going out all the time to posh dinners in Manhattan and political drinking sessions — he was really a loner. I mean, his idea of a good time was to have dinner by himself and go to a movie."

"Which he did frequently," she says.

"You describe an incident where he almost comes to blows with critic Lionel Trilling at a party. He actually punches a romantic rival at another event. For an unathletic bald guy, he was certainly into fisticuffs," I say. "He's quite imposing. I mean,

he's very physical and often gets into actual fights in somebody's living room, like a Norman Mailer, two-fisted artiste."

Dr. Marquis considers for a moment before speaking: "He always had to be on top. And that's one reason that he didn't have really close friendships with anybody."

"He even stayed mad at his parents," I interject, "for always throwing away his artwork when he was a child."

"Yes," says Dr. Marquis. "At the Getty Museum in L.A. there are quite a few drawings and sketches of Greenberg's. I was surprised that his own [adult] work was all little portraits, little snapshots of structures, of people. It was all representational."

"But to begin at the beginning... You're a visiting scholar at the University of California at San Diego. Where is home?" I ask author Alice Goldfarb Marquis.

"Well, I live right across the

"Greenberg...wasn't that good at verbal dueling, but he was very caustic and strong-willed on paper."

Registration: 619-223-5229. (POINT LOMA)

"Bitsy's School Adventure" presented by comic ventriloquist Lynn Trimble through Sunday, September 10, in Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theater. Big Joe Productions performs *Animals, Animals, Animals*, September 13–17. Showtimes: 10 and 11:30 a.m. Wednesday–Friday, 11 a.m., 1 and 2:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Find theater near Aerospace Museum. Admission: \$3 for children, \$4 seniors, \$5 general. 619-544-9203. (BALBOA PARK)

Want to Be an Archaeologist? Explore the possibilities during family day activities, Saturday,

September 9, 10 a.m.–2 p.m., at San Diego Archaeological Center (16666 San Pasqual Valley Road). Newly constructed dig boxes will be used, in which visitors discover a variety of artifacts; center will provide sample of Project Archaeology Program. Free. 760-291-0370. (ESCONDIDO)

All Aboard! The Chula Vista Live Steam Club provides train rides, 12:30–2:30 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, September 9 and 10, at Rohr Park (4548 Sweetwater Road). Donation: 50 cents. Children under 48" must be accompanied by an adult. 619-421-5227. (BONITA)

Make Simple Paper Kites and fly them in the park during family science day at San Diego Air and Space Museum on Saturday, September 9, at 12:30, 1:30, and 2:30 p.m. (sessions last 45 minutes). Included in paid admission. Reservations: 619-234-8291 x19. (BALBOA PARK)

Princess Tea Party, Saturday, September 9, 2 p.m., at Westgate Hotel (1055 Second Avenue). Afternoon tea with live harp music, "princess activities." For those 12 and younger. \$35. Reservations: 877-427-7701. (DOWNTOWN)

"Arts for Life! Family Arts Connection" sponsored by Young Audiences of San Diego is

slated for Thursday, September 14, 6:30 p.m., at Salvation Army Kroc Community Center Performing Arts Theatre (6845 University Avenue). Music by Arbol Azul; Mexican *Amate* paper image creation with visual artist Thia Nevius (7 p.m.). Free. 619-282-7599 x114. (ROLANDO)

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 gen-

eral development of America. The collection is made up of equipment used in lumbering, mining, oil drilling, and construction industries. Blacksmith and wheelwright shop, country kitchen and parlor, steam-operated saw mill, and 1/3-scale train. Find the museum at 2040 North Santa Fe Avenue. 760-941-1791. (VISTA)

Bonita Museum and Cultural Center, "Cows, Chickens, and Sheep, Oh My!" Exhibit includes dairies in Sweetwater Valley, chicken hatchery in National City, Frank Pekarek's milk bottle collection, and spinning and weaving items, on view through Saturday, November 11.

The museum highlights the history of the Sweetwater Valley from the mid-1800s, with historical photographs; artifacts, tools, and farming implements; the district's 1953 fire engine; and bound copies back to the 1930s of the *Chula Vista Star News*. Find the museum at 4355 Bonita Road; 619-267-5141. (BONITA)

Campo Railroad Museum, showcasing more than 130 years of American railroad history and technology through static and operating exhibits, the museum includes cabooses, steam and diesel locomotives, track motorcars, 1880s "Jim Crow" segregated passenger cars. Interpretive 1.5-hour train rides

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DID THE "MIRACULOUS NOVENA" SAVE THE MT. SOLEDAD CROSS? PAGE 20.

SAN DIEGO NewsNotes

SAN DIEGO'S LAY CATHOLIC NEWSPAPER VOLUME 16, NUMBER 8 ■ SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2006

Help Pass Prop 85
What Others Are Doing and What You Can Do

As of August 1, the Field Poll showed the yes and no sides of Proposition 85 at a statistical tie (45 to 46 percent). Proposition 85, the Parents' Right to Know and Child Protection ini-

2. A motivated base. Twice as many volunteer signatures were gathered this spring — at churches and through the mail — and this in a time span of three months instead of five months. The Proposition 85 campaign woke a base of supporters who had been dormant for years.



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street from the campus.”

“Oh, so you’re visiting from across the street.”

Dr. Marquis laughs. “Yes. I was raised in New York City. My husband and I came West. We had a lot of luck and success running newspapers in California. As a result, eventually I was in a position to do whatever I wanted.”

“Which was?”

“To become an historian,” she says. “I finished my Ph.D. in 1978. I didn’t want to teach undergraduates in some obscure college and started writing books instead. *Art Czar* is my seventh.”

“And UCSD has been very supportive?”

“Yes,” says Dr. Marquis. She sounds amused. “Although they can’t quite figure out what I’m doing, because when I started there, I was told that my sentences were too short. My paragraphs, too.”

“And here I’m about to bless you for not writing in academic style. You did such a splendid job with *Art Czar*. It’s so wry and witty, and amazingly balanced, given the difficulty of Clement Greenberg’s obstreper-

ous personality. Were you published by many publishers, a few publishers?”

“Oh, always different ones. Some merged into other publishing houses, or an editor came along who didn’t like what I wrote, so I’d have to find another house. But now I have the ideal publisher, which is the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. The director of publications edits my work and I’m grateful.”

“Yeah, editing is *passé*,” I add. “Editors concentrate just on acquisition. So for your seventh subject you chose Clement Greenberg, the leading art critic of the 1930s and ‘40s, who worked as an editor himself on the culture beat for left-wing periodicals. Like Greenberg, do you find yourself re-editing already published work? Just going over and over it, never feeling it’s finished?”

“That was something I was absolutely stunned to see, in examining his papers at the Getty — that he actually would read and edit writing that was already in print, published, done.”

“Clement Greenberg came of age in a radical period,” I

prompt.

“Yes, he was raised in New York, the son of well-off Jewish immigrants. At the time, the city was a political hotbed.”

Dr. Marquis falls silent, and I nudge her again: “So this out-of-work boulevardier takes the subway into Manhattan and says that he likes being among the crowds of gentiles; he finds it’s liberating. And in the ‘30s, of course, there are lots of folks playing at revolution in New York. Everyone has a stipend or has private means and yet is advocating revolution. ‘Proletarians by proxy,’ you call them.”

“Yes,” says Dr. Marquis.

“But,” I go on, “he seems not so philosophically drawn to the Left as he is looking for drink and women, really. He is only half-joking when he says, ‘I want fame and then I’ll have money.’ The political debate at the time was vicious. You had to keep up or be annihilated by the invective. A lot of that creeps into Greenberg’s writing.”

Dr. Marquis agrees: “He went to Syracuse and didn’t have the training of those who attended

the City College of New York, where the campus echoed with shouting matches between people of opposing views. It really sharpened debating skills. The same sort of clashes took place in people’s parlors. All through the 1930s, Greenberg hardly had a job and occupied his time reading and monitoring the venomous arguments.”

“Greenberg, you say, wasn’t that good at verbal dueling, but he was very caustic and strong-willed on paper. He was trying to make his way among these Manhattan adversaries, and there were some formidable achievers among them, like Irving Howe and Lionel Trilling, Harold Rosenberg and Hannah Arendt. It was a very radical setting then. As you point out, there were even two elected city councilmen who were Communists.”

“Yeah, there was much more fervor and idealism then,” Dr. Marquis explains. “People are more cynical now and don’t really believe any particular system is going to save the world. Anyway, Greenberg adopted Trotskyite positions in his early

“Greenberg was very much influenced by what Leon Trotsky had written about art: that the proletariat would take over producing it.”

writing, and took up the avant-garde and kitsch as a kind of political tract. Trotsky was the only one of the red revolutionaries to write about art and artists’ roles in the coming age.”

“Clement Greenberg’s main claim to fame,” I say, “is that he championed artist Jackson Pollock and abstract art? Pollock, who, critic Harold Rosenberg is quoted saying, saw the canvas as ‘an arena in which to act, rather than as a space in which to reproduce...’ You compare Jackson Pollock’s and Clement Greenberg’s personalities in a most interesting way, suggesting that they’re very similar, despite their dissimilar backgrounds.”

“Pollock had a bad temper,” says Dr. Marquis, “like Greenberg, and drank a lot. Greenberg, over his last 30 years, was an alcoholic. Both men felt worthless except in their work. Both were fundamentally sad and had trouble expressing themselves verbally, sometimes resorting to violent behavior with their women and with males who threatened them. Both he and Pollock often implied there were sinister forces aligned against them.” Dr. Marquis pauses for a moment. “Greenberg was very much influenced by what Leon Trotsky had written about art: that the proletariat would take over producing it. But there had to

(continued on page 94)

offered each weekend (11 a.m., 2:30 p.m.) over portion of the San Diego and Arizona Eastern Railway. Find the depot on Highway 94 at Forrest Gate Road. 619-465-7776. (CAMPO)

Chula Vista Heritage Museum the museum features glimpses of Chula Vista’s past; exhibits feature lemon packing crate labels, photographs of downtown Chula Vista, doors and adobe blocks from the original *Star* newspaper building, and relics from the Otay Watch Company. Find the museum at 360 Third Avenue. 619-420-6916. (CHULA VISTA)

Creation Museum, a museum contrasting the evolution and creation world views is found at 10946 Woodside Avenue North. For more information, call 619-448-0900 x231. (SANTÉE)

Gemological Institute of America Museum, permanent exhibits include displays depicting science and art of gemstones and history, lore and cultural significance of jewelry. Find the GIA at 5345 Armada Drive. Required

reservations: 800-421-7250 x4116. (CARLSBAD)

George White and Anna Gunn Marston House, historic home sits on five acres of landscaped grounds with a formal English Romantic garden. Built for civic leader and department store founder George Marston and his family by San Diego architects William Hebbard and Irving Gill, the Marston house design is in keeping with the early 20th-Century American Arts and Crafts period, emphasizing simplicity, function, and natural materials. The museum is located at 3525 Seventh Avenue; 619-298-3142. (HILLCREST)

Heritage Museum, an interpretive wall, replicas of the early post office and general store, and a school room are part of this museum. A mural painted by Michael Strong depicts six periods of Poway’s past. Find the museum in Old Poway Park, at 14134 Midland Road; 858-679-8587. (POWAY)

House of Pacific Relations, International Cottages are open every Sunday, noon-4 p.m., presenting history and traditions of 30 ethnic groups. On fourth Tuesday of each month, *Children Around the World* videos screened in Hall of Nations, select cottages open. 619-538-4069. (BALBOA PARK)

J.A. Cooley Museum, an eclectic collection of items — including displays on phonographs, clocks, electric trains, and 20 other types of collections — is featured at the museum. The current featured attraction is an “Industrial Product Collection,” with examples of the historical progression of auto technology from 1886-1915, “some classics and a concept car.” Find the museum at 4233 Park Boulevard; 619-296-3112. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

Leo Carrillo Ranch Historic Park, old adobe buildings were once vacation retreat and working rancho of actor Leo Carrillo. Tours

on Saturdays (11 a.m., 1 p.m.) and Sundays (noon, 2 p.m.). Find Rancho de los Quiotes at 6200 Flying LC Lane. 760-476-1042. (CARLSBAD)

Marine Corps Recruit Depot Museum, housed in a historic building, the museum features five permanent galleries with artifacts, uniforms, vehicles, weapons, and photographs depicting Marine Corps history. The museum is located in Building 26 at MCRD, just inside Gate 4, off Pacific Highway. 619-524-6038. (DOWNTOWN)

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, “NASA Accomplishments: In Space and on Earth” chronicles scientific accomplishments and technological spin-offs

resulting from NASA missions. How have these discoveries entered our everyday lives?

Ongoing exhibitions include “More Than Meets the Eye” (through May), “Aging for All Ages,” “Origins in Space: Spin-Offs in Science and Technology,” “San Diego Science Showcase,” “Kid City” (for preschoolers), “The Best of Symmetry and Signals,” and “TryScience!” “Comet Impact” is theme for motion simulator ride. “Night on Dream Mountain” is the current planetarium show. Films are shown daily in the IMAX theater. 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Archaeological Center, the museum is dedicated to “curation of archaeological projects and sharing them with the public.” Find center at 16666 San Pasqual Valley Road; 760-291-0370. (ESCONDIDO)

San Diego Automotive Museum, more than 80 automobiles and motorcycles from horseless carriages to future prototypes are included in the museum’s permanent collection. Find the museum near the Starlight Bowl. 619-231-2886. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Hall of Champions, ongoing exhibits include “Bird Watching — Tony Hawk in Flight,” “Surfing in San Diego,”

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Andy Warhol’s *Dream America*: Screenprints from the Collection of the Jordan Schnitzer Family Foundation are organized by the Yellowstone Art Museum, Billings, Montana, and the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, University of Oregon, Eugene. Local presentation is made possible by RBC Dain Rauscher and the generous support of the SDMA Artist Guild and Billary Whitkop Show Pittman LLP.

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Reading

(continued from page 93)



be a transition when intellectuals tutored the new artists. Greenberg saw himself as a tutor to Pollock.

"And to many other artists," I add, "whom he would visit and critique."

"Exactly," she says. "Pollock in particular. Greenberg did not have much contact with real proletarians, other than Pollock. Who was uncouth, foul-mouthed, drank, acted out violently. It was, Greenberg felt, his job to mentor the painter. At the same time, a lot of Americans had money for the first time and were interested

in art. Clement Greenberg was their guide, which is why his influence was so strong."

"But," I point out, "for all the publicity Greenberg garnered Pollock's work, it still wasn't sold very often or for very much."

"Not back then, no," she agrees. "The Museum of Modern Art generally resisted adding American artists and modern artists to its collection. The museum stayed with the Europeans. Through the '30s, every summer its director went to Paris to find the new art. Soon after WWII, he went and it wasn't there."

"But MoMA still didn't turn to the American artists," I say.

"It took a while, but the director did appreciate Pollock and bought a canvas around 1940. It wasn't one of his abstract drip paintings, however."

I say, "Almost the best thing Pollock does for his work is to kill himself in that 1956 car accident."

Dr. Marquis's reply is measured: "The art market is such that, when an artist dies, the work becomes much more valuable."

I elaborate on her comment: "Since there's a limited number of pieces thereafter. In fact, Greenberg convinced a number of artists

and artists' widows to destroy work, hundreds of pieces."

Dr. Marquis says, "Morris Louis destroyed all his early work. And when he died, Greenberg was advisor to the estate. There were a lot of unstretched paintings. Greenberg picked out which ones to stretch and show."

"Pollock's prices skyrocketed," I say.

"Partly it was his death. And partly it was newfound prosperity and more people getting interested in acquiring art. The art scene just exploded."

"You write that there was a museum opening every three or four days in North America."

"There was a tremendous surge. By the time the pop artists came along — Jasper Johns and Rauschenberg — there was a much larger pool of people interested in art. It reached a frenzy. When Lichtenstein and other pop artists have their first shows, they are sold out before they open. Buyers knock on gallery doors to get in and buy before the public is let in."

"Greenberg denounced pop art," I interject.

"Oh, absolutely," Dr. Marquis exclaims. "He hated the pop

artists."

"Do you like pop art?"

"Very much, and my next book is about pop. But the latest rage...? I do find it difficult, going to a gallery and seeing a pile of old sofas, and finding that this is considered a really exciting work of art."

"Part of the impetus for the notoriety of modern art, you write, ironically came from the State Department and the CIA. They take up modern art as a sterling example of Western freedom, as opposed to dogmatic communist insistence on realism. Greenberg goes on overseas tours with art exhibitions funded by the government to promote this American freedom. Legislators, who loathed modern art, suddenly tout it."

Dr. Marquis laughs. "Yes, an amazing turnabout. It was so interesting to discover that connection between the Cold War and modern art. There was just nothing said about how this had occurred. It had happened spontaneously, it seemed. I was an art major in those days, and everybody was painting abstract expressionist pictures in art classes, including me. Little did we realize."

"Almost the best thing Pollock does for his work is to kill himself in that 1956 car accident."

"Do you think that a lot of great work is overlooked?"

"Yes. Judgment is influenced by the time we live in. You grow up in a certain period, you start looking at art at a certain age..."

"And you become socialized? Overexposed?"

"Yeah, For instance, I think it's very hard to do paintings at this point and have them recognized. You see all around you advertisements and visual stimuli. We are subjected to so many visual stimuli every day, whether in a newspaper or leafing through a magazine, by signs, or looking at graffiti scratched onto a subway window. There are so many images bombarding us."

Her reply prompts a story from me: "Years ago, in New York, there were two plainclothes policemen assigned to the subways to crack down on the graffiti artists. The paper did a piece

about the cops, but they also interviewed the teenage artists. And these kids would sit in the elevated subway stations in the mornings, watching for their night's work to roll by, criticizing rivals. The kids exhibited all of the sort of migraine anguish and neuroses of artists. All the same self-doubt. The cops allegedly discouraged the kids by holding them upside down over the third rail, with a flashlight stuck in their mouths, threatening to drop them if they didn't stop 'tagging' subway cars and walls."

"You know," she says, "there are tunnels under the freeways in San Diego where graffiti artists have done their thing. And, of course, some of them were taken up by galleries and had shows. Did the kids stop doing their graffiti?"

"No. They kept right on."

— Juris Jurjevic

exhibits of baseball card art, fencing, local rugby history. The museum — dedicated to promoting, recognizing, and preserving athletic achievement — is located at

2131 Pan American Plaza. 619-234-2544. (BALBOA PARK)

Museum of San Diego History
"Rompi! Children Discover Balboa Park" focuses on why Balboa Park

exists, examines the 1915-16 and 1935-36 Expositions, and includes exhibits, attractions, and "marvels that were found in the monumental buildings created to showcase the West." Historic film footage allows visitors to tour the Ford Building as it existed in 1935 and see displays and machinery that were there. The museum is located in the Casa de Balboa building; 619-232-6203. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Maritime Museum, "Taming the Pacific Swell: The Evolution of Surfing" continues through January, tracing history of modern surfing from its Hawaiian beginnings to billion-dollar industry it is today. Changes in surfboard design used to illustrate evolution of the sport.

The museum features permanent exhibits documenting the history of San Diego's waterfront and the building of the West Coast by

sea, the old San Diego-Coronado ferryboats, the tuna fishing industry, and the military. The museum fleet consists of the 1863 bark *Star of India*, the 1898 San Francisco ferryboat *Berkeley*, and the 1904 Scottish steam yacht *Medea*. The H.M.S. *Surprise*, used in film *Master and Commander*, is permanently on exhibit; see artifacts, costumes, props used in making of the flick. Also open for touring: a B-39 Soviet attack submarine, among the largest conventionally powered submarines ever built. This Project 641/Foxtrot class diesel-electric submarine was designed to track U.S. and NATO warships throughout the Earth's oceans. There are also nautical exhibits, ship carpenters, model building, ships in bottles, woodcarvers, and a complete research library.

The museum is located at 1306

North Harbor Drive, along the Embarcadero at corner of North Harbor Drive and Ash Street; 619-234-9153. (DOWNTOWN)

San Diego Museum of Man, "Body Ornamentation: Artistic Representations of Self," continuing through Tuesday, March 27, examines this enduring art form. Exhibit focuses on many different types of body art in variety of cultures around the world, as well as underlying reasons behind the ornamentation. See examples of body painting, tattooing, scarification, piercing; documentary videos, photo murals.

"Reflections" showcases rare and significant objects representing 90 years of the museum's collection history; some of the objects have never been displayed for public. Items include a *Seri* woodcarving of a whale; bronze sculpture by Alan Houser; more. Through Sat-

urday, March 24.

"Passage to Panama: Past to Present" continues through Thursday, January 25. Exhibit documents culture of Embera, Wounaan, and Ngöbe with ethnographic materials, cultural items, photographs.

Permanent anthropology exhibit "Footsteps through Time: Four Million Years of Human Evolution" features "more than a hundred touchable replicas of early humans, primates, and futuristic cyborgs (part human, part machine)." 619-239-2001. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Tug Boat Museum, a 100-foot retired Korean War-era tug boat built in 1951 is open for tours at museum. Boat is docked along Harbor Drive, between Grape Street and Broadway. 619-200-7417. (DOWNTOWN)

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CLASSICAL LISTINGS

Events that are underlined occur after September 14.

HOW TO SEND US YOUR LISTING: Contributions must be received by 5 p.m. Friday the week prior to publication for consideration. Do not phone. Send a complete description of the event, including the date, time, cost, the precise address where it is to be held (including neighborhood), a contact phone number (including area code), and a phone number for public information to **READER CLASSICAL MUSIC**, Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186-5803. Or fax to 619-881-2401. You may also submit information online at SanDiegoReader.com by clicking on the events section.

Moscow Male Jewish Choir performs wide range of Jewish vocal music, from Russian folk songs to Jewish liturgical music, classical, and modern Israeli compositions in concert on Saturday, September 9, 8:30 p.m., at Chabad Educational Center (10785 Pomerado Road). Tickets to "A High Holiday Musical Celebration" are \$22.50 general. Recommended reservations: 858-547-0076 x1215. (SCRIPPS RANCH)

Joplin Is Served! Explore musical legacy of ragtime piano master Scott Joplin during concert and lecture by pianist Peter Gach, Sunday, September 10, 2 p.m., in Howard Brubeck Theatre at Palomar College (1140 West Mission Road). Listen for Joplin classics and discussion of their influence on modern American music; pieces by Gershwin, Ives, Madelyn Byrne, Bill Bradbury, Roger Przytulski. \$12 general. 760-744-1150 x2453. (SAN MARCOS)

Selections by Mozart, Debussy, Shostakovich, Beethoven, and Mendelssohn are on tap when Hyperion Quartet performs Sunday, September 10, 2:30 p.m., at San Diego Public Library (820 E Street). Free. 619-236-5810. (DOWNTOWN)

King's Men of San Carlos United Methodist Church perform sacred, spiritual, gospel, secular music in concert, Sunday, September 10, 4 p.m., at North Coast United Methodist Church (1502 Kelly Street). Donation. Optional dinner follows (\$6.50 general). 760-439-4099. (OCEANSIDE)

The Art of Organ Playing illuminated when Arthur D. Griffin Jr. performs Sunday, September 10, 4 p.m., at Christ United Presbyterian Church (3025 Fir Street). Program includes traditional, sacred, classical music, works by black composers. Donations accepted. 619-239-2346. (SOUTH PARK)

Former Civic Organist Jared Jacobsen plans concert in Spreckels Organ Pavilion, Sunday, September 10, 2 p.m. Free. 619-702-8138. (BALBOA PARK)

Classical Guitarist Greg Shirer plays pieces by Bach, Sor, Tarrega, Albéniz, Joplin, Dyens, and Celestino Romero on Wednesday, September 13, 7 p.m., at Carmel

Valley Library (3919 Townsgate Drive). Free. 858-552-1668. (CARMEL VALLEY)

Explore "The Romantic Piano" with Jacquelyne Silver, Thursday, September 14, 1 p.m., at College Avenue Senior Center (inside Beth Jacob Synagogue, 4855 College Avenue). Nonmembers' tickets: \$5. 619-583-3300. (COLLEGE AREA)

Tango to the Rescue! Classical guitarist Fred Benedetti and flutist Beth Ross Buckley showcase pieces by Astor Piazzolla, David Chesky's "Flute Concerto," and Louis Bonfa's "Manha de Carnival" for Fall 2006 First Unitarian Universalist Concert Series. Concert begins at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, September 16, at First Unitarian Universalist Church (4190 Front Street). \$12. 619-298-4580. (HILLCREST)

ART LISTINGS

Events that are underlined occur after September 14.

HOW TO SEND US YOUR LISTING: Contributions must be received by 5 p.m. Friday the week prior to publication for consideration. Do not phone. Send a complete description of the event, including the date, time, cost, the precise address where it is to be held (including neighborhood), a contact phone number, and a phone number (including area code) for public information to **READER ART**, Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186-5803. Or fax to 619-881-2401. You may also submit information online at SanDiegoReader.com by clicking on the events section.

GALLERIES

"Fake Foosan and Wabi-sabi Haiku," sculpture and photographs from three bodies of work created since 1998 by Bob Matheny are on view through Friday, October 27, in Simayspace at Art Academy of San Diego (840 G Street). Exhibit — reflecting "influence from two visits to

Japan" — opens with reception for Matheny, Friday, September 8, 6 p.m. 619-231-3900. (DOWNTOWN)

"Mary Magdalene and Friends: A Survey Exhibition" opens with reception for artist Lisa Venditelli at David Zapf Gallery (2400 Kettner Boulevard) on Friday, September 8, 8 p.m. 619-232-5004. (LITTLE ITALY)

"Woman in the Woods," new series of paintings by Barbara Weldon is showcased through Sunday, October 22, at Tasende Gallery (820 Prospect Street). Also on view: the opera-inspired "Diva" series. Meet Weldon during reception, Friday, September 8, 6 p.m. RSVP: 858-454-3691. (LA JOLLA)

"Perception/Reality," paintings by Jorge Moedano and sculpture by Robert Verhees and Walter Redondo go on exhibit with reception for artists, Friday, September 8, 6 p.m., at Gallery 680 (680 West Beech Street). Through Thursday, October 12. 619-233-3769. (LITTLE ITALY)

"Colore e Luce Danzante" and "Rite of Passage" by Mia Del-Casino open with reception on Saturday, September 9, 6 p.m., at Sharp Gallery (3807 Ray Street). Through Thursday, October 12. 619-546-9546. (NORTH PARK)

"Widow Makers," recent photographic work by Holt Webb "focuses on how different continuums are witnessed and coded." Exhibition opens with reception for Webb on Saturday, September 9, 6 p.m., at 4 Walls (3813 Ray Street). Through Wednesday, October 11. 619-501-0879. (NORTH PARK)

"Green Scene 2006," this "green" gallery featuring more than 30 eco-friendly pieces by local artists, architects, and designers is offered Saturday, September 9, 6 p.m., at Zagrodnik + Thomas Architects work space (3956 30th Street). Exhibit showcases artwork, projects, and products related to sustainable or green design. 619-528-1199. (NORTH PARK)

"Le Nude," eight local artists contribute nude paintings to exhibit with reception on Saturday, September 9, 6 p.m., at 504 Gallery (3041 University Avenue). 619-491-0598. Organizers say

parental discretion is advised. (NORTH PARK)

Ray at Night, over 20 art venues showcase local art on second Saturday of each month, including September 9, 6–10 p.m., centered at Ray Street and University Avenue. Live music, food. 619-546-9546. Free. (NORTH PARK)

The Oldest Living Chimpanzee is said to be Cheeta, star of 12 Tarzan movies in 1930s and 1940s; the 74-year-old is a resident of Palm Springs. Dozens of the chimp's paintings on canvas go on view with reception on Saturday, September 9, 6 p.m., at John Stewart Studios (3805 Ray Street). "The Art of Cheeta...A One-Chimp Show" continues through Saturday, October 7. 619-574-1135. (NORTH PARK)

"This and That," exhibition of site-specific installations by Joseph Bennett and assemblage paintings by John Thomas begins with reception on Saturday, September 9, 6 p.m., at Studio 3060 (3060 University Avenue). Closes Sunday, September 24. 619-871-6801. (NORTH PARK)

"Recycled: Third Time's a Charm," artwork incorporating found objects and "environmentally friendly media" showcased through Sunday, September 24, at Limbo Gallery (1432 University Avenue). Show opens with reception for nine participating artists on Saturday, September 9, 7 p.m. 619-295-5393. (HILLCREST)

ART MUSEUMS

California Center for the Arts Museum, "Friends of Niki: Works from the Private Collection of Niki de Saint Phalle" includes work by her friends Keith Haring, Larry Rivers, and Sam Francis.

Work of newspaper cartoonists is focus of exhibit "Luann & Friends: Comic Families." Cartoonists such as Greg Evans (*Luann*), Cathy Guisewite (*Cathy*), Charles Schulz (*Peanuts*), Dean Young (*Blondie*), and Marcus Hamilton (*Dennis the Menace*), who "tap into familiar family settings, outrageous situations, and impossible slapstick scenarios" are featured.

"Passage Ways: Life's Journey. Work from Sophie's Gallery" showcases suitcases that have been creatively transformed by the developmentally disabled students of St. Madeleine Sophie's Center.

All exhibits close on Sunday, October 1. The museum is located at 340 North Escondido Boulevard; 760-839-4120. (ESCONDIDO)

Mingei International Museum, "Sam Maloof — Dean of American Furniture Makers" showcases work by this self-taught designer craftsman who makes his living working with his hands. The Maloof rocker, his signature object, is part of the White House collection of American furniture, the first work included by a living artist. Closes Sunday, October 15.

Concurrently, enjoy retrospective exhibition of pottery by Martha Longenecker, a designer

craftsperson, educator, founder, and director of Mingei International Museum. San Diego State University hired Longenecker to develop its ceramics program in 1955.

Explore "¡Carnaval!" in exhibit on view through Sunday, September 17. Carnival celebrations in Europe and the Americas showcased with mannequins dressed in carnival costumes, videos of celebrations.

"Symbols of Identity — Jewelry from Five Continents" may be seen through Sunday, October 15. Exhibit is composed of adornments from North and South America, Africa, Asia, and Europe, with traditional work and contemporary designs included.

The Mingei is located on square with San Diego Museum of Art. 619-239-0003. (BALBOA PARK)

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Featuring more than 80 works in a variety of media by the renowned Chilean-born Surrealist Matta and the pioneering urban conceptualist Gordon Matta-Clark, this groundbreaking exhibition is the first to fully explore the father and son artists side-by-side to reveal the lasting impact each had on the development of 20th-century art.

This exhibition is organized by the San Diego Museum of Art and is made possible by the generous support of the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts, and the LEF Foundation.

IMAGE: Roberto Matta, *Asigne (detail)*, oil on canvas, 1943. Collector of Thomas R. Morahan, Chicago.

SAN DIEGO MUSEUM OF ART

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Flickering Possibilities

We cannot see... "two contradictory pictures of reality."

When famed theoretical physicists Niels Bohr and Werner Heisenberg strolled through Denmark's Elsinore Castle, they admired the massive gray stone walls and tall battlements. Then, Bohr recalled, they had a "Heisenbergian" experience. "Hamlet lived here," Bohr told his favorite student. From that moment on, they no longer imagined medieval pageantry or torchlit halls. They noticed all the dark corners and became reminded of "the darkness inside the human soul."

The idea of Hamlet transformed the castle. The "real" one became intertwined with their subjectivity. David C. Cassidy, Heisenberg's biographer, explains: "In a sense, we create reality ourselves by becoming a part of it through the disturbance of our measuring instruments." Heisenberg's and Bohr's theories changed physics forever. They even became uncertain about whose should be the framework for quantum mechanics.

During World War II, Heisenberg headed Germany's nuclear reactor program. In 1941 he gave a lecture in a propaganda institute in German-occupied Copenhagen. During that time (either August or September, neither is certain which), he met with Bohr, his Jewish-born friend of 20 years. To avoid Gestapo-bugged rooms, they went for a walk down tree-lined Faelled

Park, behind Bohr's institute. They talked, briefly, about nuclear fission. Bohr became so distressed he fled home and refused to speak to Heisenberg.

Few conversations in the 20th Century have been subject to more speculation. Did these former colleagues talk about the morality of atomic warfare — or how to build the bomb? Or, as some speculated, did

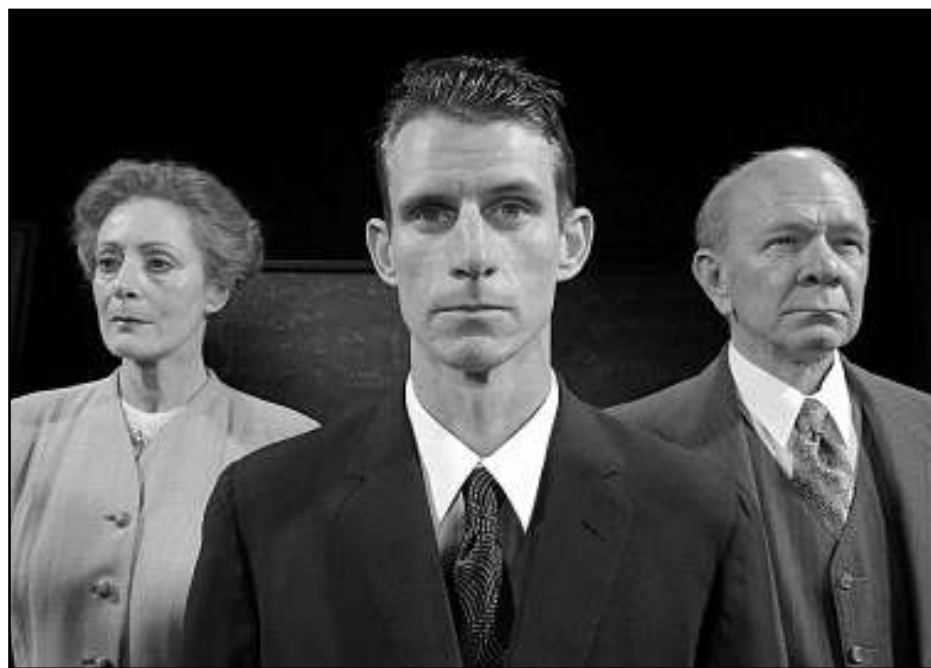
Heisenberg ask Bohr to help build one for the Third Reich?

Michael Frayn's absorbing *Copenhagen* recreates that talk. Heisenberg, Bohr, and Bohr's wife Margrethe meet in a realm outside of time. They are "dead and gone," and now "no one can be betrayed" (while it probes the mysterious conversation, *Copenhagen* answers an even greater mystery: it turns out there's some sort of life after death). In a series of spirals, or dances where partners never quite touch, the trio moves back in time, again and again, trying to nail down the "truth."

Heisenberg loves pure math; Bohr likes significant meanings. They cast Margrethe as a sort of Every-audience who requires plain explanations. But she may be the smartest of the three. Her urgent insistence drives the play and fractures elegant formulations, mathematical and human. What begins as a clear-cut, good-versus-evil framework (wonderful Bohr's a fatherly pope;

REVIEW

JEFF SMITH



Rosina Reynolds, Joshua Everett Johnson, Jim Chovick in *Copenhagen*

Copenhagen, by Michael Frayn

Cygnat Theatre, 6663 El Cajon Boulevard, College Area

Directed by George Ye; cast: Jim Chovick, Joshua Everett Johnson, Rosina Reynolds; scenic design, Sean Murray; costumes, Jeanne Reith; lighting, Eric Lotze; sound, George Ye

Playing through September 24; Thursday through Saturday at 8:00 p.m. Sunday at 7:00 p.m. Matinee Sunday at 2:00 p.m. 619-337-1525 x3.

Heisenberg's a slick-haired scumbag) begins to warp. Sides change, then change back. As we learn more about the event, and we learn a ton, we feel closer to and farther from what actually happened.

The amazing thing about *Copenhagen*: Frayn built it on the mathematical constructs he describes. Heisenberg's "Uncertainty Principle" states that any attempt to measure the position

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Five Cups of Coffee

of an electron “disturbs” its velocity; therefore, its “present position and velocity are not known with absolute certainty.” As they go back in time Bohr, Margrethe, and Heisenberg — the play’s “measurers” — disturb the event with their subjectivity. Times three.

Frayn complicates things even more. To simplify: Bohr’s principle of “Complementarity” says we cannot see two viewpoints — “two contradictory pictures of reality” — at the same time. An electron, for example, is a wave and a particle. Focus on one and the other disappears. In theatrical terms, Walter Lippmann said, “You can’t be in the play and see it too.”

Each character functions in this manner. The political Heisenberg’s a swine in post-Nazi denial. Look at the human Heisenberg, who may have tried to stop the bomb, and he’s a different person. Now try to see both at once.

I don’t know how he does it, but for Cygnet Theatre’s *Copenhagen*, Joshua Everett Johnson turns Heisenberg into a maze of flickering possibilities. The physicist isn’t mercurial, or just taffy-loose. Johnson makes each possibility feel definite, at least when it surfaces. He’s truly contrite, meant well all along. Then he’s sly and manipulative (he wants something, but what?). His heart bleeds. Here he’s a particle, there a wave.

Combine him with Jim Chovick’s kindly/crusty Bohr, and their relationship does similar back-flips: one second they’re father and son, the next, wartime enemies divided for eternity by the Holocaust. Or are they constant, and we’re just projecting our own subjectivity onto them?

The playwright had little information about Margrethe, other than that she was “cooler” than Bohr toward Heisenberg. Frayn makes her like the nucleus of an atom. Electrons whirl around her, which John-

son and Chovick do, literally, at one point. Along with a fierce devotion to Bohr — including desperate attempts to keep his image untarnished — Rosina Reynolds gives Margrethe pressure-cooker intensity. She’s seconds from going atomic.

Copenhagen is a deep and deeply cerebral drama. But another amazing thing: it doesn’t feel “thinky.” We get the equivalent of lectures on physics. But the mystery’s always more important than the math, and that it means so much to the three people is most crucial of all. They really need to know.

“But why?” Margrethe opens the play with a simple question. And the story seems to have two hands: on the one (Bohr), on the other (Heisenberg). Surely they can work out some consensus, get to the bottom of things. But as Frayn points out, “This story has more other hands than a Hindu god.” ■

THEATER LISTINGS

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

Attorney for the Damned: Clarence Darrow

6th@Penn presents Joe Nesnow in David W. Rintels’s drama about the “distinguished defender of the underdog.”
6TH@PENN THEATRE, 3704 SIXTH AVENUE, HILLCREST, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 9; SATURDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-688-9210.

Copenhagen

Reviewed this issue.
CYGNET THEATRE, 6663 EL CAJON BOULEVARD, COLLEGE AREA, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 24; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-337-1525, X3.

Five Cups of Coffee

The Lamb’s Players production of this world premiere is a tease. Director Robert Smyth and some top local actors work with such polish and devotion you’d almost swear that the fluff you’re watching will evolve into something substantial. Not so. Gillette Elvgren’s script, about stories related to a gourmet coffee bar, is a flabby mishmash. It wants to be a mystical comedy but ends up just a mediocre, preachy sitcom. Though they shouldn’t, Hal and Rita fall in love, then out, then back in, *ad infinitum*, which enables the playwright to inject pseudo-intellectual claptrap about time, life, and the Wonder of It All, laced with mugs of esoteric coffees. A versatile cast and designers have the chops (Linda Libby as a controlling mother from Hell; Jeffrey Jones as the narrator; David Cochran Heath, K.B. Mercer, Doren Elias, all dressed in Jeanne Reith’s splashy, fun costumes) but nothing to chew on. Take this same cast and designers, turn Mike Buckley’s serviceable set inside-out, and let them do William Saroyan’s “cosmic vaudeville show” — the genre to which Elvgren’s fizzle aspires — *The Time of Your Life!*
LAMB’S PLAYERS THEATRE, 1142 ORANGE AVENUE, CORONADO, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 17; TUESDAY THROUGH THURSDAY AT 7:30 P.M. FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AT 4:00 P.M. AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-437-0600.

Forbidden Broadway: Special Victims Unit

Due to popular demand, the Theatre in Old Town reprises Gerard Alessandrini’s musical Bronx cheer to Broadway: some of the sharpest, funniest theater criticism around! The framing device — the show’s a Special Victims Unit for Broadway clunkers — doesn’t last two minutes before it disappears. But no matter. Alessandrini’s latest attempt to “turn the Great White Way gray”’s a winner, thanks to his ever-present wit and some amazing performances (especially by Valerie Fagan, co-author of *Six Women with Brain Death*, especially when she slanders Sarah Brightman). Along with lambasting *Spamalot* and *Wicked*, the show reprises old favorites: no *Forbidden Broadway* would be complete without some *Les Miz* and *Lion King* trashing (as when an animal sings, under the weight of Julie Taymor’s gigantic headgear, “Can You Feel the Pain Tonight?”) and Alessandrini’s spoof of *Chicago* and how to dance the Fosse style (“bowler hats,” “spread your fingers so”) is a hoot. As are every last one of Alvin Colt’s cartoony costumes, often changed backstage in split seconds. Amid near-constant laughs, the revue makes serious points about contemporary Broadway’s disturbing penchant for “puppet” and “jukebox” theater (à la *Jersey Boys*) and its general dumbing down of late. All true, yet never put so memorably. (Note: the production has made cast changes.)

Critic’s pick.

THE THEATRE IN OLD TOWN, 4040 TWIGGS STREET, OPEN-ENDED RUN; TUESDAY THROUGH THURSDAY AT 7:30 P.M. FRIDAY AT 8:00 P.M., SATURDAY AT 5:00 P.M. AND 8:00 P.M. MATINEE WEDNESDAY AT 3:00 P.M. AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-688-2494.

4:48 Psychosis

According to Sarah Kane’s drama, 4:48 a.m.’s the time when “an afflicted mind is said to assume clarity.” It’s the minute when the speaker(s) will see clearly enough to commit suicide. Everything in the grim one-act (first produced in 2000, after Kane took her life in a hospital) leads to that moment.

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Two beings, part of the same woman — body and soul? — rip at each other and the world, represented by an orderly/doctor/therapist. They go through a process reminiscent of Kübler-Ross's "seven stages of dying" and in the end choose not to be. On paper, *4:48* isn't a play: it's a long prose poem with no stage directions. And the writing often settles for shopworn abstractions to make its points ("the pariahs of reason," "state of desperate absurdity," "corrosive despair"), and at times catapults over the top ("behold the eunuch of castrated thoughts"). In part because the playwright's tormented specter hovers behind it, but also because of its unflinching insistence on a *via negativa* — the speakers refuse to ingratiate themselves to the audience — *4:48* has an undeniable power, though often between the lines. As does Stone Soup's production. One could wish the actors modulated their voices much more, since just about every word gets emphasized. The story's told best in Ericka Aisha Moore's choreography. Bodies rolling over each other like waves, or inching backwards toward a collision — these and other moments of stark theatricality take the script beyond Kane's sometimes stumbling language and create images of how it feels to need to take your life.

Worth a try.

TENTH AVENUE THEATRE, 930 TENTH

AVENUE, DOWNTOWN, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 17; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 760-434-9363.

Fritz Blitz of New Plays by California Playwrights

For the last 13 years, the Fritz Theatre has presented world-premiere works by California authors. This year's festival offers eight plays, with a different program each week. Top local directors (including Robert May, D. Kandis Paule, and Duane Daniels) stage the scripts, chosen from over 100 entrants and that run the gamut of genres, from comedy to drama to experimental pieces that otherwise might never find a hearing. The rightfully acclaimed Blitz has become a cauldron for the creative process. It also showcases local actors and designers and, quite possibly, future voices of the American theater.

LYCEUM THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 17; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 3:00 P.M. FOR A LIST OF SPECIFIC PLAYS, DAYS, AND TIMES CALL 619-544-1000.

Gaytino!

Diversionsary Theatre hosts Dan Duerrero's solo show about being Mexican American and gay. DIVERSIONARY THEATRE, 4545 PARK BOULEVARD, UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, THROUGH OCTOBER 1; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. (AND MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, AT 7:30 P.M.). 619-220-0097.



Guys and Dolls

Guys and Dolls

Patio Playhouse stages the popular musical based on the short stories of Damon Runyon. Richard Brouil directed. KIT CARSON AMPHITHEATRE, 3333 BEAR VALLEY PARKWAY, ESCONDIDO, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 16; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 760-746-6669.

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HOLIDAY INN ON THE BAY, 1355 NORTH HARBOR DRIVE, SAN DIEGO. OPEN-ENDED RUN. FOR DAYS AND TIMES CALL 800-944-5639.

Leading Ladies

North Coast Repertory Theatre presents Ken Ludwig's comedy about down-on-their-luck Shakespearean actors and an unclaimed fortune. John Seibert directed. NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987 LOMAS SANTA FE DRIVE, SOLANA BEACH, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, THROUGH OCTOBER 8; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. SUNDAY AT 7:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 858-481-1055.

Lincolnesque

John Strand built his play around then-versus-now nostalgia. Francis was a genius campaign strategist, so sane that Washington politics "devoured" him. The only way to emancipate himself from the carnivorous beltway world was to withdraw into his idol, Abraham Lincoln. Using Lincoln's words, channeled through Cyrano-like Francis, his brother Leo helps a mediocre candidate win an election. Lincoln's words gleam. But the rest of the play, trying not to offend, minces through a minefield of potential irkers and lacks bite and drama. It's a mild, cerebral evening that concludes with a scene that might serve the play better if it came first. The play has the makings but needs work. Production values at the Cassius Carter, however, are top flight: charcoal black suits on a white marble stage (when everything we see is anything but black and white); capable performances by T. Ryder Smith as Francis/Lincoln (drifting from one to the other and sometimes including both), Magaly Colimon as the relentless Carla, James Sutorius doubling as a homeless man and a soul-sucking D.C. mover-shaker, and Leo Marks as the younger brother — each fills in needed details for essentially one-dimensional roles. Marks is particularly effective as struggling Leo, a Salieri to Francis's Mozart. Leo's in so far over his head his stutter sounds like gasps for air. And his frustrations and ineptitudes are some of

the only genuine notes, other than Lincoln's sonorous phrases, struck all evening.

CASSIUS CARTER CENTRE STAGE, SIMON EDISON CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, BALBOA PARK, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 10; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-239-2255.

Little Eyolf

Tonic Productions, a new company, presents Henrik Ibsen's rarely performed drama about the Allmers, all-but-estranged marrieds, and the arrival of the Rat Wife, who specializes in removal of irritants. Dustin Condren directed. 6TH@PENN THEATRE, 3704 SIXTH AVENUE, HILLCREST, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 10; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-688-9210.

A Midsummer Night's Dream

You could subtitle Darko Tresnjak's staging of Shakespeare's comedy, "Dude, you would not believe how I spent my summer vacation!" Four teens graduate from an academy (late 19th/early 20th Century). To escape repressive Athens they hie to the woods, with suitcases, tennis rackets, and a teddy bear, and things fall apart. The production has Tresnjak's hallmarks: reverence for the text and irreverence for individual moments (there's an infectious sense of play here; the cast's obviously encouraged to invent freely). Imbued with

rah-rah idealism, at first, and later with teenage angst, the lovers — Eve Danzeisen, David Villalobos, Owiso Odfera, and Julie Jesneck — are both distinct individuals and a sharp ensemble. The mechanicals, however, aren't "rude" enough (especially Jonathan Peck's stylish, studied Bottom the Weaver), and young Michael Drummond lacks the chops, and the menace, for Puck. York Kennedy's bold-day/mystical-night lighting, Christopher R. Walker's music, and especially Michael Urie's dual roles as Francis Flute and Thisbe are big plusses. In a play full of Ovidian metamorphoses, Urie does one of the best: as Flute is about to play the suffering Thisbe, something touches him, and the character takes over so completely you wonder who was more real, Flute or the role that transformed him. Which was "airy nothing," and which "something of great constancy"?

Worth a try.

LOWELL DAVIES FESTIVAL THEATRE, SIMON EDISON CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, BALBOA PARK, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 29. (NOTE: A *MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM* RUNS IN REPERTORY WITH *OTHELLO* AND *TITUS ANDRONICUS*; FOR DAYS AND TIMES OF EACH, CALL 619-239-2255.)

National Comedy Theatre

Improvisational comedy, making up funny stuff on the spot, is difficult enough. Years ago, however, Keith Johnstone thought it'd be more exciting if done competitively. He got the idea from pro wrestling ("where Terrible Turks mangled defrocked priests, while mums and dads yelled insults and grannies waved their handbags"). National Comedy Theatre, an offshoot of Johnstone's TheatreSports (artistic director Gary Kramer says the two compare like "rugby and American football"), resembles an athletic event more than an improv. Teams wear uniforms and compete on ActroTurf. The night I caught the show, three San Diego comedians played a challenge match against players from the San Jose franchise. Using suggestions from the audience, they played "Emotional Sympathy," "Shakespeare," "Blind Line," and "Freeze Tag," with judges awarding points to the best scenes. Klunkers and groaners got booed; quick wit rewarded (one of the most refreshing parts of the contest: people acknowledge failure, abundantly, then forget it). It made for a lively, often quite funny, evening. And Gary Kramer is one talented comedian.

Worth a try.

MARQUIS THEATER, 3717 INDIA STREET, MISSION HILLS, OPEN-ENDED RUN; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 7:30 P.M. AND 9:45 P.M. 619-295-4999.

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Nothing Sacred

South Coast Repertory Theatre presents George F. Walker's "serious comedy" about Bazarov, a young rebel who effects a reconciliation and tries to "overrun sacredly held principles of the establishment." Martin Benson directed. SEGERSTROM STAGE, SOUTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 655 TOWN CENTER DRIVE, COSTA MESA, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, THROUGH OCTOBER 8; SUNDAY AND TUESDAY AT 7:30 P.M., WEDNESDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2:30 P.M. 714-708-5555.

On Golden Pond

OnStage Playhouse presents Ernest Thompson's drama about a family's summer home in Maine. Bruce Wilde directed. ONSTAGE PLAYHOUSE, 291 THIRD AVENUE, CHULA VISTA, THROUGH OCTOBER 7; THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY AT 8:00 P.M. MATINEE SUNDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 619-422-7787.

Othello

"Have you prayed tonight, Desdemona?" — one of Shakespeare's most chilling lines, in the Jesse Berger-directed production's best scene. When she realizes Othello wants to murder her, Julie Jesneck's Desdemona battles for life and seems to become even more innocent, more loving. Jonathan Peck's sonorous Othello matches this urgency. The clash of the guiltless bride and stone-hearted warrior is at once primal, infuriating beyond belief — because this should *not* be happening — and deeply moving. The only irksome performance in an otherwise smartly staged *Othello*: Karl Kenzler runs Iago all over the map, from frat-brother/prankster to Halloween goblin. Kenzler's too facile in a role that requires some

effort at dismantling the Moor, some surprise that his schemes are working. Dressed in Elizabethan garb, including white circular collars, the supporting cast does quality work (especially Michael A. Newcomer's two-faced Cassius, and Cileste Ciulla's Emilia, Iago's wife who, the angrier she gets, the more she becomes the play's *raisonneur*). York Kennedy's lighting sculpts scenes and Christopher R. Walker creates moods with half-heard, long-held notes.

Worth a try.

LOWELL DAVIES FESTIVAL THEATRE, SIMON EDISON CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, BALBOA PARK, THROUGH OCTOBER 1. (NOTE: *OTHELLO* RUNS IN REPERTORY WITH *A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM* AND *TITUS ANDRONICUS*; FOR DAYS AND TIMES, CALL 619-239-2255.)

Readings of August Wilson's Plays: Seven Guitars

The San Diego Black Ensemble and Cygnet Theatre could do for the late August Wilson what "Grassroots Greeks" did for ancient Greek drama in San Diego. The companies present a series of staged readings of one of the American theater's rarely performed, but most important playwrights. Twice winner of the Pulitzer Prize (for *Fences* in 1987 and *The Piano Lesson* in 1990), Wilson wrote a cycle of dramas that probe the African-American experience through the decades of the 20th Century (he concentrated, he said, on the "largest idea that confronted blacks in each decade"). The readings will also be staged at the Performance Annex in City Heights and other locations. The series will culminate in a week-long staged reading festival of all the plays at Cygnet in June 2007.

Next offering: Rhys Green directs *Seven Guitars*.

Worth a try.

CYGNET THEATRE, 6663 EL CAJON BOULEVARD, COLLEGE AREA, THROUGH MAY 8; *SEVEN GUITARS*: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23, AND SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24, AT 7:30 P.M. HORACE MANN MIDDLE SCHOOL, 4345 54TH STREET, CITY HEIGHTS, MONDAY, OCTOBER 30, AT 7:30 P.M. FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF READINGS AND LOCATIONS, CALL 619-337-1525, X3.

Romeo and Juliet

For its Tenth Annual Free Shakespeare Festival, the Coronado Playhouse presents the Bard's tragedy of star-crossed lovers. Keith A. Anderson directed. CORONADO PLAYHOUSE PAVILION, 1335 FIRST STREET, CORONADO, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 24; THURSDAY THROUGH SUNDAY AT 8:00 P.M. 619-435-4856.

San Diego Theatresports: The FunHouse

A cross between improvisational comedy and *Family Feud*. Improv, making up a funny scene as you go along, is tough enough. Add competitive scene making, with the audience awarding points to the winning team. Purists might balk at the odiousness of comparisons used in this format, but the "game show" — on Fridays — is a hoot. The 90-minute evening offers different bits. The show I caught had "Team Sports" — two pairs of players competed, taking suggestions from the audience; and "Gorilla Theatre" — five directors invented scenes, using the other four as actors. The winner got a banana, the loser a "forfeit" (other formats include "Micetro" and "Improv Survivors"). Some attempts went nowhere (I repeat: improv is tough; I did it in my, as hindsight reveals,



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Hershey Felder; George Gershwin Alone Photo by Mark Green

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Mothballed? "We called every sub shop in Jersey and we couldn't find him," says guitarist Mike Santos about his effort to locate drummer Scott

followed by big contracts for locals Rust (Atlantic) and Rocket From the Crypt (Interscope).

Santos, who turns 40 on Monday, writes songs and handles vocals as well as guitar duties for the Coolest Band in the World. (The band released its second CD, *Air Conditioned*, in May.)

STP vocalist Scott Weiland ripped off moves from Charlie Ware. Yet, toward the end, Santos and Ware grew apart.

"We had our Yoko... Charlie's ex-wife wanted his full attention, so his focus changed. It was a campaign dealing with her day after day. When we first started, it was basically five guys in a van. Then we got a level of success that enabled us to tour in a step above poverty. Charlie embraced the luxury. She embedded herself into the touring unit. Basically, it parsed Charlie from the rest of the unit."

Ware now works as a San Diego lifeguard. Former bassist Rob Brown works for

World appears September 23 at the Double Down Saloon in Las Vegas. The *Loudspeaker* concert will be held September 30 at Viejas Bayside.

— Ken Leighton

Will Record for Massage "Since it's O.B., bartering with people seems pretty natural," says O.B. Cooperative Records owner Jose Maldonado, whose recording studio and record label are based in his soundproofed Brighton Avenue garage. "A lot of the equipment and instruments came our way from donations and trades. A professor at San Diego State donated a piano, some of the recording equipment was left by various bands that came through, and we have a bass guitar donated by P.O.D."

"I've swapped services for guitars, amplifiers, for a massage, for yoga classes...once I got a GT freestyle bike," says Maldonado, who currently drums for Aquatribe. "I recorded and played drums for a whole album [in exchange] for one microphone...it was a very good microphone, and now the guy pays cash for work all the time. Someone offered to

clean my house once but I declined; that was a little too close to home."

The O.B.C.R. label is or



MALDONADO'S LABEL IS PURE O.B.

will be on albums by locals such as Vegetation, Plump, Superunloader, Wise Monkey Orchestra, and Psydecar.

— Jay Allen Sanford

Fresh Meat Carnifex vocalist Scott Lewis says America's leading death-metal band has become stale.

"Cannibal Corpse is part of the old regime. The whole satanic image with corpse paint and long hair and gauntlets like Slayer is not what you need anymore. Old death metal all sounds the same. We want to have a fun, sing-along version of grind-core...death metal that can groove."

Carnifex is one of Fallbrook's biggest-drawing

bands.

"Once Fallbrook kids get ahead of a band, they become serious, loyal fans," says Lewis. "We have a tight-knit support group of 60 to 100 kids that will show up to every one of our shows. They will drive all the way to Soma or up to Fullerton... We go against the direction of everything, especially in California. Everything's getting more liberal. People are losing their gender definition. Tree-hugging liberal Birkenstock-wearing hippie parents are letting their [male] kids go out to shows dressed up like girls."



LEWIS BRINGS GROOVE TO DEATH METAL

Although Lewis says Carnifex is not a political band, they wrote and perform "Blood for Tyrants," a song in

blurt the inside track

Clark. Their former band, Lucy's Fur Coat, was asked to regroup for a concert to recognize the 20th anniversary of 91X's *Loudspeaker* program. Lucy's Fur Coat became one of the first local bands from the early-'90s scene to get a national recording contract.

"I had Charlie [Ware, lead singer], I had the songs, we had Sony," says Santos. "I thought we were gonna blow up." The band's "Treasure Hands" was an alt-rock radio hit. Their signing to Relativity/Sony was soon

Santos co-founded LFC in 1991 with guitarist Tony Sanfilippo (who now has a motorcycle-parts business); Santos left the band five years later.

"They wanted to go on tour to Arizona," says Santos. "But I didn't want to go. At the time, I had a job, a wife, and a baby."

Santos says, "Charlie was brilliant" and points out that



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Napster. Santos oversees mergers and acquisitions for a local staffing company.

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support of the war effort.

"Because people have a dislike of one person [George Bush], it seems that it was a pretty poor attitude to discredit our military and their families," says Lewis.

Carnifex has self-booked both of their upcoming winter tours (one in the Northwest, the other in the Southwest). What about playing in San Diego?

"We don't have a problem with Soma," says Lewis, "but it seems like bands with no talent get to play [Soma's] main stage. It's all about who you know. It makes it difficult for bands that are actually going out and getting their own shows."

Carnifex appears September 23 at the Jumping Turtle in San Marcos.

— Ken Leighton

No Props for Tourism

"San Diego isn't all swimsuits, sunburns, and palm trees," according to hip-hop website *BallerStatus.net*. "It's also Dickies suits, burners [handguns], and pounds of trees [marijuana]. That's the 'Daygo' the City doesn't want you to hear about, that gets swept under the rug, and that's exactly what Mitchy Slick is rapping about."

According to Slick, "San Diego look[s] real pretty, on the outside. But where I'm from, San Diego is really on some Blood and Crip sh—. It's really got this sh— going on. I don't glorify it; I put it to the forefront because we really get done bad in San Diego. I want you to be aware of what's going on because I know my

folks down there are struggling. We don't have a lot of opportunities being Black people. [The city is] dominated by business and the tourism type of sh—, and you don't hear a lot of sh— going down in San Diego 'cause they don't want it to distract the money flow down there. But we're nowhere near that."



SLICK POINTS OUT S.D.'S UGLY SIDE

Mitchy Slick's upcoming album *Urban Survival Syndrome* is due September 12. "I did this shit all by myself," he says. "I'm talking about every aspect, from picking the producers to sequencing the album."

— Jay Allen Sanford

Joe Who? "A guy saw me play on KUSI [TV] and called me up and asked to play Java Jo'z," says local singer-guitarist Josh Damigo. "I thought they went out of business." Java Joe's, the Ocean Beach coffeehouse credited with giving Jewel and Jason Mraz career-breaking exposure, closed in 2002. For the past year, some San Diego musicians have driven up I-15 to play Temecula's Java Jo'z.

"When I talk to people from San Diego, they always ask if there is any affiliation," says Java Jo'z owner Johnny Luevano. His business is a



DAMIGO: NOT SO HOT ON COFFEEHOUSE

But is it worth the drive for the artists? Damigo isn't so sure.

"If you want the dead-honest truth, unless you have the promotion to back you up,

franchise; the parent company is San Antonio-based Medina, Inc. Luevano says there are 23 Java Jo'z up and running with another 160 set to open this year. Eventually, the Java Jo'z name will be phased out.

"We found we couldn't franchise 'java' anything," says Luevano. "There already is Java Juice, Java the Hut, and Hot Java. There are too many 'javas.'" He says all the Java Jo'z will be renamed Cuppy's.

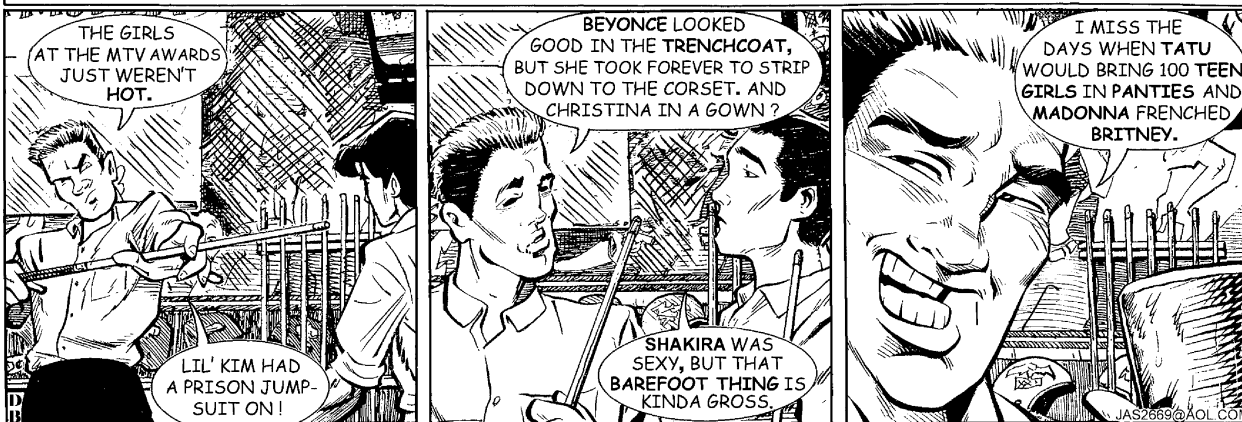
Local solo artists such as Storror, Terry Matsuoka, Jamie Robb, and Jordan Reimer and bands such as the Breaks and Nomis have made the trek to Temecula.

"I find I get most of my quality talent from San Diego," says Luevano.

PHOTOGRAPH BY RYAN LOYKO

OVERHEARD IN SAN DIEGO: PLAYERS SPORTS BAR

JAY ALLEN SANFORD



WWW.MYSPACE.COM/JAYALLENANFORD

it's more of a community event than a show.... I wasn't paid. There were about 14 people there. The difficulty is the promotion.... If you're just invited to go up and play, I wouldn't go." As far as acoustic venues go, "It wasn't a Lestat's [coffeehouse], for sure. I would say it's more [similar to] Cosmos [Coffee Café in La Mesa]."

Java Jo'z charges \$5 admission every night except for open-mike Wednesdays.

— Ken Leighton

New Way to Fly On September 11, 2001, local country singer Ronny Corbin was a pilot for United Airlines.

"The morning started with the 90-mile drive from my then-San Marcos home to LAX. My captain and I had been reassigned to leave around 7:00 a.m. for a nonstop to Boston. [Two of the hijacked planes were out of Boston, one bound for L.A.]. We had an onboard computer problem that was being resolved, causing a delay. For some reason, I felt the need to turn on my cell phone while we waited. Immediately, to my surprise, it rang — a call from an old friend and former intern pilot. She was noticeably rattled and wanted to know my whereabouts. I told her and asked why. She

told me that an airplane had struck the World Trade Center...."

Corbin says after he heard reports of "multiple hijackings in effect...we immediately deplaned our passengers and had the jet pushed out onto the ramp where it would be secure. As time progressed, we had little to go on but what we could get from local ops on radio.... Flights were on the ground, and within a short



CORBIN: HAPPY TO BE GROUNDED

time the skies were empty. Very eerie. Most of [my family] knew I was headed to the East Coast early, and I knew they would be worried....

"By early evening I had made it back home.... My older daughter said, 'Dad, do your best and remember if the bad guys come after you, just

go out fighting.' Her younger sister said, 'Daddy, you can play your guitar and sing people songs and do other jobs....'

"I haven't flown professionally since December 2002. I injured my back while lifting our 50-pound flight bags and was furloughed from UAL in January 2003. While battling the medical issue, I just went back to what I've always believed in, music. A little of me giving up [piloting] was because of 9/11. It was once a great life, but now most pilots work twice as many days for half the money."

Corbin released his debut CD, *New Way to Fly*, a few years ago. He plays solo shows and with his band Pirate Radio. What does he say about the state of the local country scene?

"KSON and US 95.7 have laid some claim to promoting local music. All I can say is that's totally bullshit! KSON had the road show, and for a while it worked. Now they claim Hill Country as their band! What? Steve Hill...plays only cover tunes."

— Josh Board

PHOTOGRAPH FROM RONNYCORBIN.COM

CONTRIBUTORS
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Waiting for the Next Big Thing

"I can't even fathom the long run of music."

All my favorite bands keep putting out albums that I can barely listen to," says Russell Logan, singer for San Diego band Sliver. "It feels like a sad market where one-hit wonders exist because of the Internet and bands that should have barely been one-hit wonders get three hits off a CD because it's shoved down our throats. I'm wondering if there will be an epic band again, one that survives for a long time, like some bands used to."

"I expected current music to keep going to crap until we actually find the Next Big Thing," says Mark Miller, the guitarist. "The same way everyone keeps waiting around for the next Nirvana. I can't even fathom the long run of music. I can't imagine what things will be like 50 years from now. Maybe it'll be like *Demolition Man*, where censorship has limited us to only listening to radio jingles."

Sliver's other members include Jon Shimmin on drums and Theresa Miller on bass.

TRICKIEST PROBLEM PLAYING LIVE?

Jon "This has to be the most popular among musicians: not being able to hear what you want to hear during a live performance. That and not being able to read the set list with tons of sweat and hair products in your eyes."

Russell "Making sure everyone gets heard. I'm fairly dynamic when I sing, so a lot of the soft parts get drowned out. The other problem is making sure that I'm not just singing but performing."

Theresa "Avoiding wardrobe malfunctions."

YOUR AXE?

Jon "I play a Yamaha Rock Tour Custom set. It has what they call square drums — they're as long

as they are in diameter and have a sweet tone when all miked up. I purchased this set in around 1992, and it has seen many, many shows...Zildjian, Sabian, Wuhan cymbals, DW double pedals."

Mark "Gibson Les Paul Standards. The Gibson Les Paul signature model is among the most recognized solid-body electric-guitar designs. It was developed in the early 1950s and has become one of the most enduring and popular musical instrument models in the world. Its design has been left virtually untouched for nearly 50 years."

Theresa "Tobias Growler four-string bass. Mike Tobias began making custom guitars and basses in his music store in Orlando, Florida, in 1977."

LISTS

MICHAEL HEMMINGSON

WHAT'S IN YOUR CD PLAYER RIGHT NOW?

Jon "I've had a hard time prying the new Tool CD out of my CD player. I think it's a permanent fit! Also been listening to this kick-ass progressive stuff, Planet X."

Russell "30 Seconds to Mars, *A Beautiful Lie*. I got into them on their last album and picked this one up the other day while buying *Requiem for a Dream*. There's a couple songs on it that I really dig, but every song on the CD follows the same pattern and formula, so it's getting a little annoying."

Mark "*How to Speak Chinese in 30 Days*. With all of the outsourcing of jobs I figure we will all have to move there, so I am getting a head start."

EARLIEST MEMORY?

Russell "I remember walking with my sister and her being mad at some kid. She said she was going to give him a piece of her mind. She's eight years older than I am. I was holding some plastic play knife and responded, 'I'm going to give



Sliver

him a piece of my knife.' I couldn't have been older than three or four."

Mark "My mother untangling me from my sheets in the crib. I had these really cool airplanes above my crib, and I would always get tangled up in the sheets trying to grab them."

RECURRING DREAMS?

Theresa "Someone is chasing me, trying to hurt me. It usually gets pretty scary before I am able to wake myself up."

Russell "I used to have a recurring dream that I was hiding in the ventilation ducts of a gazebo. I know gazebos don't have ventilation ducts, but

I was looking out through an air-conditioning vent, so where else could I have been? The gazebo was on a clearing on a hill in the middle of a forest. There were three witches there, and they were going to kill this kid named Eric. He was some kid that lived in that apartment complex that I left when I was around four."

Mark "I hear a dog whimpering somewhere in an abandoned house...I run to the dog and realize it is my childhood pet. It knows who I am and asks me why I didn't save it from my parents, who had it put to 'sleep.' It tells me of the pain it is in and begs me to help. All I can do is cradle it in my arms and cry." ■

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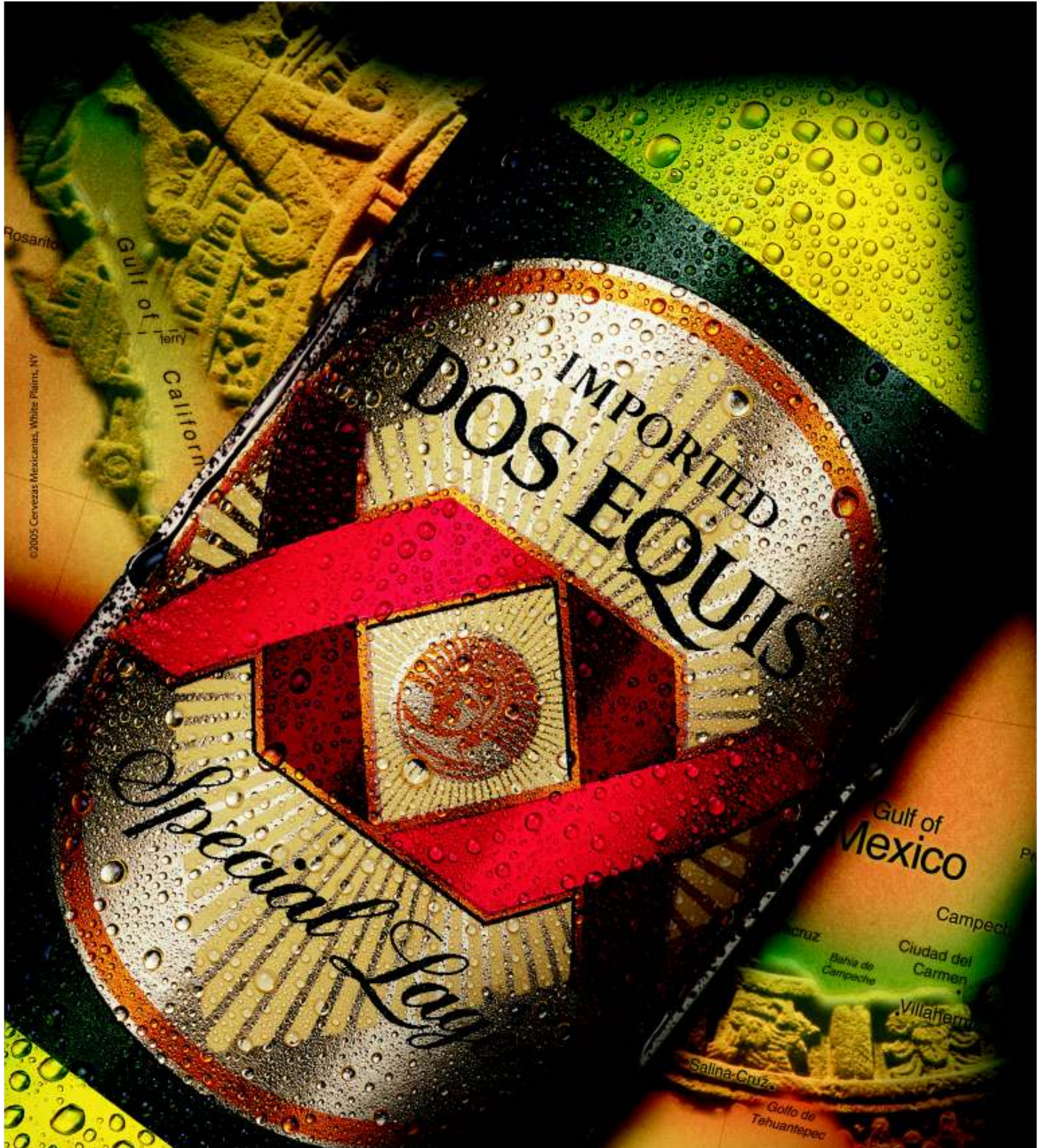
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Calendar CONCERTS

THIS WEEK'S CONCERTS

THURSDAY

Jesse Cook: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, September 7, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

FRIDAY

Los Lobos: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Friday, September 8, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

SATURDAY

The James Gang Rides Again: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Saturday, September 9, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Linda Eder: San Diego Civic Theatre, Saturday, September 9, Third Avenue and B Street, 619-570-1100.

Ryan Adams: House of Blues, Saturday, September 9, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Megadeth, Lamb of God, and Opeth: Cox Arena, Saturday, September 9, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-594-0429.

SUNDAY

The Wailers: House of Blues, Sunday, September 10, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Ricardo Arjona: Coors Amphitheatre, Sunday, September 10, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600.

Southside Johnny & the Asbury Jukes and the Fabulous Thunderbirds: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, September 10, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

TUESDAY

Southern Culture on the Skids: The Casbah, Tuesday, September 12, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego. 619-232-4355.

Matisyahu: Viejas Concerts at Bayside, Tuesday, September 12, Embarcadero Park South, 619-445-5400.

WEDNESDAY

Bonnie Raitt and Keb' Mo': Viejas Concerts at Bayside, Wednesday, September 13, Embarcadero Park South, 619-445-5400.

Al Stewart: Humphrey's Backstage Lounge, Wednesday, September 13, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, San Diego. 619-224-3577.

UPCOMING CONCERTS

SEPTEMBER

Dwight Yoakam: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Thursday, September 14, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Tower of Power: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Friday, September 15, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

The Mother Hips: Belly Up Tavern, Friday, September 15, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

The Black Keys: House of Blues, Friday, September 15, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Paulina Rubio: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Friday, September

15, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Toby Keith: Coors Amphitheatre, Sunday, September 17, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600.

"San Diego Music Awards": Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Monday, September 18, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Gnarls Barkley: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Tuesday, September 19, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Massive Attack: Open Air Theatre, Wednesday, September 20, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-594-6947.

Tab Benoit: Humphrey's Backstage Lounge, Wednesday, September 20, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, San Diego. 619-224-3577.

Brian Culbertson and Keiko Matsui: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, September 21, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

The Psychedelic Furs: House of Blues, Thursday, September 21, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Ani DiFranco: Copley Symphony Hall, Friday, September 22, 1245 Seventh Avenue, downtown. 619-235-0804.

"Freestyle Party on the Bay": Viejas Concerts at Bayside, Friday, September 22, Embarcadero Park South, 619-445-5400.

Rosie Flores: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, September 22, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Kelis: House of Blues, Saturday, September 23, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Pepe Aguilar: Viejas Concerts at Bayside, Saturday, September 23, Embarcadero Park South, 619-445-5400.

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"Festival Del Mar" with **George Thorogood & the Destroyers, Dr. John, moe.**, and more: Saturday, September 23, and Sunday, September 24, Del Mar Fairgrounds, Del Mar.

The Temptations: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, September 24, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

"Nashville Star Tour": House of Blues, Sunday, September 24, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

John Mayer and Sheryl Crow: Viejas Concerts at Bayside, Tuesday, September 26, Embarcadero Park South, 619-445-5400.

Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers: Coors Amphitheatre, Wednesday, September 27, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600.

Sonic Youth: House of Blues, Wednesday, September 27, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Guster: Open Air Theatre, Thursday, September 28, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-594-6947.

Venice: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Thursday, September 28, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Snow Patrol: House of Blues, Thursday, September 28, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Herman's Hermits: Sycuan Casino Showcase Theatre, Thursday, September

28, 5469 Casino Way, Dehesa. 619-659-3380.

The Yeah Yeah Yeahs: RIMAC Arena, Thursday, September 28, UCSD campus, La Jolla. 858-534-8497.

Ellis Paul: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, September 29, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Wolfmother: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Friday, September 29, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

Unwritten Law, Switchfoot, P.O.D., and more: Viejas Concerts at Bayside, Saturday, September 30,

Embarcadero Park South, downtown. 619-445-5400.

Yerba Buena: 4th & B, Saturday, September 30, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

OCTOBER

Del tha Funkee Homosapien: House of Blues, Sunday, October 1, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Good Charlotte: Soma, Monday, October 2, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-7662.

Beres Hammond: 4th & B, Monday, October 2, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

Emmylou Harris: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Tuesday, October 3, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Paul Simon: Viejas Concerts at Bayside, Tuesday, October 3, Embarcadero Park South, 619-445-5400.

Celtic Frost: House of Blues, Wednesday, October 4, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Queensrÿche: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Wednesday, October 4, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Mariah Carey: ipayOne Center, Wednesday, October 4, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

Buju Banton: 4th & B, Wednesday, October 4, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

Guns N' Roses: ipayOne Center, Thursday, October 5, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

The Young Dubliners: Belly Up Tavern, Friday, October 6, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Bobby Caldwell: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Friday, October 6, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Live: Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park, Friday, October 6, 5005 Willows Road, Alpine. 619-445-5400.

The 5th Dimension: Sycuan Casino Showcase Theatre, Friday, October 6, 5469 Casino Way, Dehesa. 619-659-3380.

James Lee Stanley and Peter Turk: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, October 6, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Marc Broussard: 'Canes, Friday, October 6, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780.

Gov't Mule: Open Air Theatre, Saturday, October 7, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-594-6947.

Madeleine Peyroux: 4th & B, Saturday, October 7, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

Country Joe McDonald: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Saturday, October 7, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

The Cherry Poppin' Daddies: Belly Up Tavern, Saturday, October 7, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Cecilio & Kapono: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Sunday, October 8, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Rancid: House of Blues, Sunday, October 8, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Kasabian: House of Blues, Tuesday, October 10, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

The Larry Carlton Blues Project: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Thursday, October 12, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Marcia Ball: Belly Up Tavern, Thursday, October 12, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Brooks & Dunn: Coors Amphitheatre, Saturday, October 14, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600.

Thrice: Soma, Saturday, October 14, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-7662.

Rancid: House of Blues, Sunday, October 15, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Rancid: House of Blues, Monday, October 16, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Covenant: 'Canes, Tuesday, October 17, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780.

Joan Baez: Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, Wednesday, October 18, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island.

Method Man: 4th & B, Wednesday, October 18, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

Placebo: House of Blues, Wednesday, October 18, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Galactic: House of Blues, Thursday, October 19, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

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Veruca Salt: 'Canes, Thursday, October 19, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780.

Marta Topferova: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, October 20, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Dashboard Confessional: Cox Arena, Saturday, October 21, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-594-0429.

Secret Machines: Soma, Saturday, October 21, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-7662.

Bob Dylan: Cox Arena, Sunday, October 22, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-594-0429.

Beenie Man: 4th & B, Tuesday, October 24, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

Susan Werner: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Thursday, October 26, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Roberta Flack: Sycuan Casino Showcase Theatre, Thursday, October 26, 5469 Casino Way, Dehesa. 619-659-3380.

Tricky: House of Blues, Sunday, October 29, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

HIM: Open Air Theatre, Monday, October 30, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-594-6947.

Rise Against: Soma, Tuesday, October 31, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego. 619-226-7662.

NOVEMBER

James Hunter: 'Canes, Wednesday, November 1, 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780.

The Blue Man Group: Cox Arena, Saturday, November 4, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-594-0429.

Adrian Belew: Belly Up Tavern, Tuesday, November 7, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

Aerosmith and Mötley Crüe: Coors Amphitheatre, Thursday, November 9, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista. 619-671-3600.

The Fray: Open Air Theatre, Saturday, November 11, SDSU campus, College Area. 619-594-6947.

The Beautiful South: House of Blues, Saturday, November 11, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Pink Martini: 4th & B, Sunday, November 12, 345 B Street, San Diego. 619-231-4343.

James Blunt: ipayOne Center, Tuesday, November 14, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

The Slits: The Casbah, Thursday, November 16, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego. 619-232-4355.

The Damned: House of Blues, Friday, November 17, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Frank Black: House of Blues, Saturday, November 18, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

The Lemonheads: Belly Up Tavern, Sunday, November 19, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-8140.

She Wants Revenge and Pretty Girls Make Graves: House of Blues, Tuesday, November 21, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

Black Label Society: House of Blues, Tuesday, November 28, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-299-2583.

DECEMBER

Geoff Muldaur: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Saturday, December 2, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Andre Rieu: ipayOne Center, Thursday, December 7, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, 619-224-4171.

Tom Russell: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Sunday, December 10, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Rosie Flores: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, December 15, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Glen Yarbrough: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Saturday, December 23, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

El Vez: The Casbah, Saturday, December 23, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego. 619-232-4355.

JANUARY

Al Kooper: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Friday, January 12, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Eliza Gilkyson: AcousticMusicSanDiego, Thursday, January 18, 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights. 619-303-8176.

Calendar CLUBS

DJ EVENTS

If you would like to include your DJ event, e-mail sellis@nethere.com or fax information to 619-881-2401 by 5:00 p.m., Friday, the week prior to publication. The listings are free.

Ascension: Second Friday of the month, Robin Roth and Tom King spin the best in dark underground dance music. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. The Kava Lounge, 2812 Kettner Boulevard, Middletown. 619-543-0933.

Borders Collapse v7: Fourth Saturday of the month, Tijuana electronic artists and electroclash/minimal techno with Mono Mono, Wero, and DJ Sonico. No cover. Kadan, 4696 30th Street, North Park. 619-640-2500.

BrokenBeat Night: First Saturday of the month, live electronic, machine funk, and breaks. No cover. Kadan, 4696 30th Street, North Park. 619-640-2500.

Club de Sade: Third Saturday of the month, gothic, industrial, and EBM with DJs Darkman and Creep. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. San Diego Sports Club, 1271 University Avenue, Hillcrest. 619-299-7372.

Club '80s: Thursdays, nuwave, new romantic, and punk synthpop with DJs Bryan Pollard, Sickboy, and Atari. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. Shooterz,

3815 30th Street, North Park. 619-574-0744.

Club Fashion Whore: Second and fourth Saturday of the month, electroclash, Brit pop, and indie dance punk with DJs Nate Soixante, Saul Q, Barry Weaver, and more. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. San Diego Sports Club, 1271 University Avenue, Hillcrest. 619-299-7372.

Club Pussy Galore: Wednesdays, Robin Roth and other female DJs spin indie rock, electro pop, and '80s. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.; 21 and up. No cover. San Diego Sports Club, 1271

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 Lester • Lou & Virginia Curtiss •
 Mario Escovedo • Matt Curreri &
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 Nathan James & Ben Hernandez •
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Calendar CLUBS

BEACHES

(continued)

Sunday, *the Blues Brokers*. Tuesday, DJ Marc Thrasher. Wednesday, call club for information.

La Valencia Hotel, 1132 Prospect Street, La Jolla. 858-454-0771. Thursday, 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m., Barry Levich, jazz. Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Wednesday, Rick Ross, jazz.

The Lodge at Torrey Pines, 11480 N. Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla. 619-453-4420. The Grill: Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Wednesday, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., Dan Papaila, solo jazz guitar. Also, Friday and Saturday,

6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Mike Nelson, solo jazz guitar.

Moondoggies, 832 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-483-6550. Friday, *the Disco Pimps*.

Pacific Beach Bar and Grill, 860 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-272-7278. Call club for information.

Pasquale on Prospect, 1250 Prospect Street, La Jolla. 858-456-0722. Thursday and Saturday, Latin jazz. Friday, traditional jazz trio.

Portugalia, 4839 Newport Avenue, Ocean Beach. 619-222-7678. Saturday, 10:30 p.m., *When I Rise*, *Soul of the River*, Ten Ring, reggae/rock.

Tiki House, 1152 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-273-9734. Thursday, 9 p.m., acoustic/folk music. Friday, *Superunloader*, rock. Saturday, *the Professor* and *Secret Samurai*, rock.

Sunday, open mike. Tuesday, Mick Overman, acoustic. Wednesday, *Rock Dirty Raw*.

Top of the Cove, 1216 Prospect Avenue, La Jolla. 858-454-7779. Friday and Saturday, 7:30 p.m., Kristi Rickert, piano.

Winstons, 1921 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach. 619-222-6822. Live music nightly. Thursday, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., open mike, 8:30 p.m., *the Spots*, *Sweet Tooth*, and *the North Star Session*, rock. Friday, *Vegetation*, reggae. Saturday, *Garaj Mahal*, reggae. Monday, *the Electric Waste Band*, classic rock. Tuesday, *the Spoonfed Tribe*. Wednesday, *the C.H.I. Club*.

Downtown

Belo, 919 Fourth Street, Gaslamp. 619-231-9200. Call club for information.

Blarney Stone Pub, 502 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-8519.

Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Wednesday, Steve Brewer, acoustic.

Borders Books and Music (Gaslamp), 668 Sixth Avenue, San Diego. 619-702-4200. Friday, 8 p.m., Patty Hall, folk/blues. Saturday, 8 p.m., Aaron Bowen, folk.

The Casbah, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, midtown. 619-232-HELL. Music is rock/alternative unless otherwise noted. Thursday, *the Cold War Kids*, *Dr. Dog*, and *Elvis Perkins*. Saturday, *Supernova*, *the Creepy Creeps*, *the Heartaches*, and *Midlife Chrysler*. Sunday, *the Archons*, *the Long & Short of It*, *Rome Plow*, and *Sirhan Sirhan*. Monday, *the Long Winters* and *the Soft Lightes*. Tuesday, *Southern Culture on the Skids* and *the Payback*. Wednesday, *the Advantage*, *OsamaBinSars* and *the Sleeping People*.

Croce's Jazz Bar, 802 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-233-4355. All music is jazz unless otherwise

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San Diego MEMBER

noted. Thursday, *the David Patrone Quartet*. Friday, *Yavez*. Saturday, *Primo*. Sunday, *the Archtones*. Monday, *Dave Scott*. Tuesday, *the Shep Meyers Quartet*. Wednesday, *Fuzzy & the Bluesmen*.

Dakota Grill and Spirits, 901 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-234-5554. Thursday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., also, Friday and Saturday, 6 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Jimmy Lavello*, pop piano.

Deco's, 731 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-696-DECO. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, call club for information.

Dick's Last Resort, 345 Fourth Avenue, downtown. 619-231-9100. Music is rock and roll. Thursday and Friday, *Private Domain*. Saturday, *Blue Rockit*, blues/rock. Sunday, *the Disco Pimps*. Tuesday, *the 86'd*. Wednesday, *the Ghost of Sada*.

Dizzy's, 344 Seventh Avenue, downtown. 858-270-7467. Thursday, 8 p.m., *Mike Keneally*, rock/jazz. Friday, 8:30 p.m., *Orquesta Binacional de Mambo*, Latin. Saturday, 8:30 p.m., *Gilbert Castellanos & His Quintet*, Latin jazz. Sunday, 8 p.m., *the Jacob Fred Jazz Odyssey*. Wednesday, 8 p.m., *Randy Napoleon & His Quartet*, jazz.

4th & B, 345 B Street, downtown. 619-231-4343. Call club for information.

Galileo, 101 J Street, San Diego. 619-702-7101. Saturday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Willowalot*, smooth jazz/R&B.

Heat, 762 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-398-9340. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, Latin/hip-hop/dance.

Henry's Pub, 618 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-238-2389. Thursday, *the Brat Pack*. Friday, *Good Times*. Saturday, call club for information. Tuesday, *the Stiletos*, rockabilly. Wednesday, *Lady Dottie & the Diamonds*, blues.

House of Blues, 1055 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-299-2583. Friday, *West of Memphis*, blues. Saturday, *Ryan Adams & the Cardinals*, *Neal Casal and Lady Dottie & the Diamonds*, blues. Sunday, *the Wailers*, reggae. Sunday, *Sugarcult*, *the Spill Canal*, *Halifax*, *Maxeen*, and *So They Say*. Wednesday, *Butch Walker & the Let's Go Out Tonites*, *Damone*, and *the Adored*.

Jimmy Love's, 672 Fifth Avenue (corner of Fifth and G), downtown. 619-595-0123. Thursday and Sunday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Masterpiece*, jazz/R&B. Friday and Saturday, 9:45 p.m., live disco/dance/pop. Monday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Insight*, jazz. Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Mystique*, jazz/R&B. Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., *the Soul Revue*, jazz/dance/Top 40.

The Laurel Restaurant and Bar, 505 Laurel Street (corner of Fifth and Laurel), downtown. 619-239-2222. Friday, DJ event, Brazilian/house music.

Martini Ranch, 528 F Street, downtown. 619-235-6100. Call club for information.

On Broadway, 615 Broadway Avenue, downtown. 619-231-0011. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, call club for information.

Onyx, 852 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-235-6699. Friday, house/hip-hop. Saturday, hip-hop/house/'80s music.

Patrick's II, 428 F Street, downtown. 619-233-3077. Music is blues/soul unless otherwise noted. Thursday, *Michele Lundeen & Blues Streak*. Friday, *the Buick Wilson Band*. Saturday, *the Blues Gypsies*. Sunday and Monday, *Ronnie Lane & the Texas Twisters*. Tuesday, *Len Rainey & the Midnight Players*. Wednesday, *Shelle Blue*.

Princess Pub and Grille, 1665 India Street, Little Italy/downtown. 619-702-3021. Saturday, *J.D. Bouchard*, piano.

Rock Bottom, 401 G Street, Gaslamp. 619-231-7000. Friday and Saturday, live pop/rock/disco/dance.

The Shout House, 655 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp. 619-231-6700. Call club for information.

The Westgate Hotel, 1055 Second Avenue, downtown. 619-238-1818. The Plaza Bar: All music is piano. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 8 p.m. to midnight, *Fran Loskota* and *Karen Giorgio*,

jazz/blues/pop. Sunday and Monday, 7 p.m. to midnight, *Julio de la Huerta*. Tuesday and Wednesday, 7 p.m. to midnight, *Faith Page*.

Whiskey Girl, 600 Fifth Avenue, downtown. 619-236-1616. Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Monday, *DJ Marc Thrasher with Da Groove* on Thursday, and *DJ Danimal* on Saturday. Sunday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, *DJ Famous Dave* with *Nitro Express*, Southern rock/country/blues, on Tuesday, and *the Stepping Feet*, Dave Matthews tribute band, on Wednesday.

Worldbeat Center, 2100 Park Boulevard, Balboa Park. 619-230-1190. Thursday, 8 p.m., *Mike Dread* and *Kush & the Blood Fiyah Angels*, reggae.

San Diego

AcousticMusicSanDiego, 4650 Mansfield Street, San Diego. 619-303-8176. Music is acoustic/folk. Thursday, *John Gorka* and *Amelia K. Spicer*. Sunday, *Bearfoot*.

The Aero Club, 3365 India Street, San Diego. 619-297-7211. Tuesday, 7 p.m., *the San Diego Blues Trio*.

The Airconditioned Lounge, 4673 30th Street, San Diego. 619-501-9831. Thursday, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m., DJ event, deep house music.

Albie's Beef Inn, 1201 Hotel Circle South, San Diego. 619-291-1103. Piano bar, call club for information.

The Alibi, 1403 University Avenue, San Diego. 619-295-0881. Call club for information.

The Bahia Belle Cruise, the Bahia Hotel, 998 West Mission Bay Drive, Mission Bay. 858-539-7779. Departs

6:30 p.m. Friday, *B Natural*, Top 40. Saturday, *Nude Blues*, classic rock.

The Beauty Bar, 4746 El Cajon Boulevard, San Diego. 619-516-4746. Saturday, 9 p.m., *Glass Candy* and *the Chromatics*, electro dance/alternative.

Blarney Stone Pub, 5617 Balboa Avenue, Clairemont. 858-279-2033. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, *Tony Cummins*. Monday, *Pat & Joe* and *Allison Gill*, folk. Tuesday, Irish jam session. Wednesday, call club for information.

Borders Books and Music (Mission Valley), 1072 Camino

del Rio North, Mission Valley. 619-295-2201. Friday, 8 p.m., *Lee Coulter*, acoustic folk.

Brick by Brick, 1130 Buena Vista Avenue, Bay Park. 619-275-LIVE. Music is rock/metal/alternative unless otherwise noted. Thursday, *Blowfly*, comedy, *Bob Log II*, and *the Grand Ole Party*. Friday, *Snog*. Saturday, 7 p.m., *the Acoustic Alliance*.

Claire de Lune, 2905 University Avenue, North Park. 619-688-9845. Friday and Saturday, live music, call club for information.

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CONCERTS

Calendar CLUBS

SAN DIEGO

(continued)

Coffee House on Broadway, 2991 Broadway, Golden Hills. 619-557-0156. Friday and Saturday, call club for information.

Crudo, 1953 India Street, San Diego. 619-565-0834. Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, hip-hop/dance.

Dino's Nite Club, 3829 30th Street, San Diego. 619-291-3466. Thursday, 5 p.m. to 10 p.m., *DJ Daeman & Tricia*, house, 10 p.m., *DJ Matty Mac*, '80s/hip-hop. Friday, 9 p.m., *Gimme Gimme Gimme* with *DJs Atari, Bryan Pollard, and Morgan Young*, '70s/'80s/punk/nu wave. Saturday, 10 p.m., *DJ Artistic* and live bands, hip-hop/R&B. Sunday, 7 p.m., *DJs Sachomo and Illfonix*, hip-hop/soul. Tuesday, 10 p.m., *DJ Carlos Culture*, reggae/dancehall. Wednesday, 8 p.m., *Girls Night Out* by She Promotions.

Egyptian Tea Room, 4644 College Avenue, San Diego. 619-265-7287. Call club for information.

Epicentre, 8450 Mira Mesa Boulevard, Mira Mesa. 858-271-4000. Friday, *a Dying Dream, the Fifth Regiment, Burning the Masses, the Night Fell Silent, Message in Blood, and Carol Ann*, heavy rock/metal/punk.

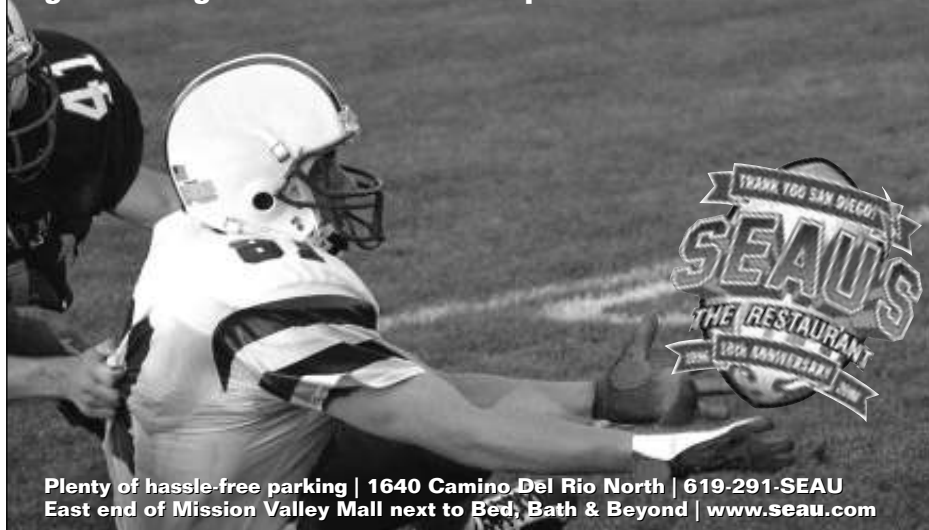
Etta's Place, 6179 University Avenue (at College and University). 619-582-6730. Call club for information.

The Gordon Biersch Brewery, 5010 Mission Center Road, San Diego. 619-688-1120. Friday, *Blue Rockit*, blues/rock.

Harney Sushi, 3964 Harney Street, San Diego. 619-395-3272. Thursday, *Tribe of Kings*, reggae. Friday and

FOOTBALL

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Thursday, September 7
9:30 pm-1 am • Latin Guitar Jazz

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Friday, Sept. 8
9:30 pm-1 am
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Quinazo

Saturday, September 9
7-8:30 pm

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Monday, September 11
7-11 pm • Blues

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Tuesday, September 12
9 pm-12 am • Blues

**Duke
Robillard**



Wednesday,
September 13
8-10:30 pm
Classic Rock

An acoustic evening with
Al Stewart

UPCOMING SHOWS

Monday, Sept. 18
Guitar Virtuoso
Johnny A

Wednesday, Sept. 20
New Orleans Blues
Tab Benoit

Thursday, Oct. 5
Jazz Vocalist
Patricia Barber

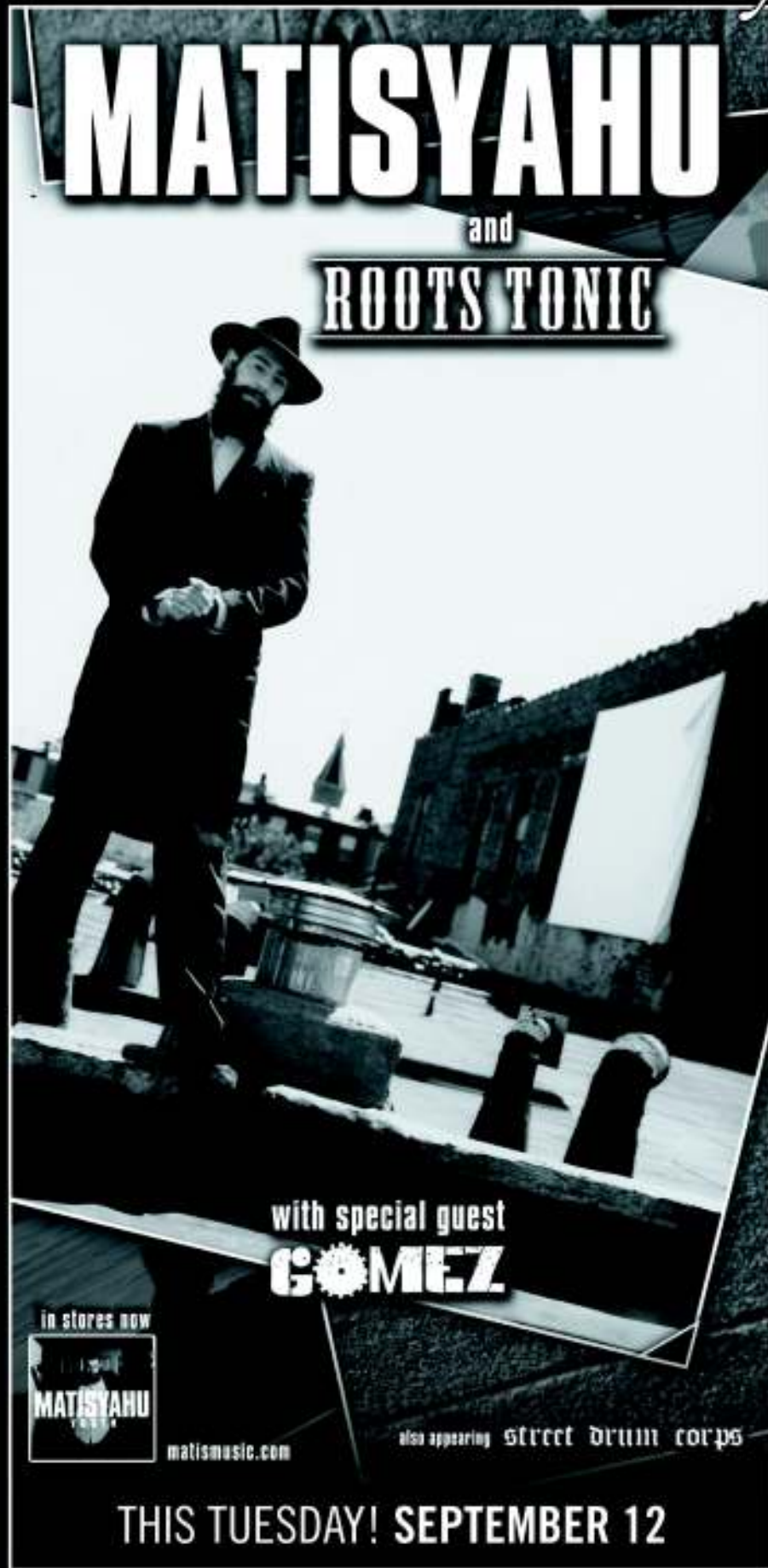
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Calendar CLUBS

SAN DIEGO

(continued)

Saturday, DJ events, hip-hop/disco/funk/old skool. Sunday, call club for information. Tuesday, *Bento Beatbox*.

Hot Monkey Love Cafe, 5960 El Cajon Boulevard, San Diego. 619-582-5908. Call club for information.

Humphrey's, Half Moon Inn, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 619-224-3577. Backstage Lounge: Thursday, 9:30 p.m., *Jose Molina Serrano*, jazz. Friday, 9:30 p.m. to 1 a.m., *Quinazo*, soul/rock/reggae. Saturday, 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., *Novamenico*, flamenco; 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., *Metro*, '80s dance. Sunday, 8 p.m. to midnight, *Hank Easton*. Monday, *Chet Cannon*, blues jam. Tuesday, 9 p.m. to midnight, *Duke Robillard*, blues. Wednesday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Al Stewart*, classic rock.

The Inn Suites, 2223 El Cajon Boulevard, San Diego. 619-296-2101. Wednesday, 8 p.m. to 10 p.m., workshop/concert with *the San Diego Concert Jazz Band*.

The Kensington Club, 4079 Adams Avenue, Kensington. 619-284-2848. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, live metal/rock/alternative.

Kitima Thai Restaurant, 406 University Avenue, Hillcrest. 619-298-2929. Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Wednesday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., *the Jim Gala Jazz Trio*.

Lestat's Coffee House, 3343 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-282-0437. Music is acoustic/folk. Thursday, *Pete Thurston*. Friday, *Marc Danzeisen* and *Appleseed*. Saturday, *the Dukies of Haggard* and *Big Toe*, rock. Sunday, *J. Turtle*, *Kyle Phelan*, and *Terence Brian*. Monday, open mike. Wednesday, *Giovanna Olvera* and *Robert Hemmi*.

Martini's Bar and Grill, 3940 Fourth Avenue, San Diego. 619-293-0232. Saturday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Vintage Vegas*, jazz.

Mission Valley Resort, 875 Hotel Circle South, Mission Valley. 619-596-9777. The Oasis: Friday, 8 p.m. to midnight, *DJ D-2*, hustle/West Coast swing.

O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub, 1310 Morena Boulevard, Bay Park. 619-276-5637. Friday, 9 p.m., *Alfred Howard & the K23 Orchestra* and *the Development of Souls*, funk/jazz/rock. Saturday, 9 p.m., *the Grams*, rock. Sunday, call club for information. Monday, 7:30 p.m., *Mystery Train*, blues. Tuesday, 9 p.m., *Temperature Delete* and *One & Heroe*, rock/pop/punk. Wednesday, 9 p.m., *Mash-Up*, *Sanguine*, and *Without a Warning*, rock/hip-hop.

The Ould Sod, 3373 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-284-6594. Friday, *Gene Warren*, Irish folk. Tuesday, traditional Irish jam session.

Padre Gold, 7245 Linda Vista Road, San Diego. 858-277-8681. Monday, 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *the Jazz Project Big Band*.

Pal Joey's, 5147 Waring Road, Allied Gardens. 619-286-7873. Friday and Saturday, 9 p.m., *Night Shift*, classic rock.

Red Fox Steakhouse, 2228 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park. 619-297-1313. Thursday through Sunday, and Wednesday, *Eddie Rossi* and *Joe Soprano*, piano. Monday and Tuesday, *the David Shaw Duo*.

Rosie O'Grady's, 3402 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights. 619-284-7666. Friday and Saturday, live rock.

Santa Maria de los Peñasquitos Adobe, 12020 Black Canyon Road, San Diego. 619-297-7380. Sunday, 6 p.m., *Trails & Rails*, acoustic.

Scolari's Office, 3936 30th Street, San Diego. 619-296-3546. Live rock, call club for information.

NOTE

BY DAVE GOOD

Southern Culture on the Skids will satisfy your craving for '50s truck-driving rockabilly and surf rock the way few others can. They're a trio from North Carolina that includes a chick bass player, a stand-up drummer, and guitar. They parody greasers and trailer-park culture in the way of the Beat Farmers, back when Country Dick Montana made topics like those into punk country hits. Throw in mariachi horns and fried chicken (either eaten onstage or tossed into the audience), and you get the picture. SCOTS are not a purist rockabilly band — they just sound like one, and it strikes a chord of recognition.

In the late '50s and early '60s, my parents' record collection was a catalog of the sounds that would fuel the rockabilly/surf

rock revival to come some thirty years later. I heard *The Ventures Play Telstar* so many times I think it fused with my genes. Electric guitar became the magnetic north for my generation, raised with the definitive twang of a Fender Stratocaster in the background. That would have to include SCOTS founder **Rick Miller**, whose childhood was split between the Southern U.S. and Southern California. His guitar links those two worlds with on-fire playing that was die-cast in the musical wealth created by rural America or out on the West Coast during the pre-British Invasion years.

Rockabilly revivalists' hybridized sound appeals to a generation of fans who were born too late for the real thing. It's when they try to live the life that they become caricatures of the '50s; from their funny shoes to Les Baxter albums displayed prominently among their predictable thrift-store retro decor. Do SCOTS



SOUTHERN CULTURE ON THE SKIDS

go there? Yep, but it's always about the party, never the attitude.

(To hear a sample of **Southern Culture on the Skids**, call 619-233-9797, wait for the prompt, then punch in ext. 4266.)

SOUTHERN CULTURE ON THE SKIDS, The Casbah, Tuesday, September 12, 8:30 p.m. 619-232-4355. \$18.

Second Wind, 8515 Navajo Road, San Carlos. 619-465-1730. Friday and Saturday, *Serious Guise*, classic rock.

Sham Rocks Shack, 7059 El Cajon Boulevard (half block east of 70th Street), College Area. 619-463-2263. Friday and Saturday, DJ events, hip-hop/R&B/rap.

Sogno Di Vino, 1607 India Street, San Diego. 619-531-8887. Tuesday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Mike Nelson*, solo jazz guitar.

bold:Static Lounge, 634 Broadway, San Diego. 858-534-2311. Sunday, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m., *DJ J-Smoove*, hip-hop/R&B/house.

Tio Leo's Lounge, 5302 Napa Street (at Morena Boulevard), Bay Park. 619-542-1462. Thursday, Friday,

and Saturday, call club for information. Monday, tango. Tuesday, zydeco blues. Wednesday, 7 p.m., *the High Society Jazz Band*.

Tower Bar, 4757 University Avenue, San Diego. 619-284-0158. Thursday, *Action Andy*, *the Sleepwalkers*, and *the Hornets*, rock. Friday, *the Sultry Savage Burlesque*, *the Top Drawer*, and *Mikey Ratt*, rock. Monday, *Lady Dottie & the Diamonds*, blues.

Tutto Mare, 4365 Executive Drive, La Jolla (Golden Triangle area). 858-597-1188. Wednesday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Jaime Valle*, *Coral MacFarland*, *Bob Magnusson*, and *Allan Phillips*, jazz.

Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company, 4590 Park Boulevard, University Heights. 619-296-0616. Music is acoustic/folk unless otherwise noted. Friday, 8 p.m., *Amy Ayres*, *Carlos Olmeda*, and *the Citizen Band*. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Joy Brooks*. Sunday, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., *the Celtic Ensemble*. Wednesday, open mike hosted by *Tim Mudd*.

Vesuvio Gourmet Restaurant, 3025 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park. 619-282-7040. Thursday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., *the B-3 Four* featuring *David Mosby*, jazz.

Whistle Stop Bar, 2236 Fern Street, San Diego. 619-284-6784. Friday, 9 p.m., *Sara Petite & the Sugar Daddies* and *John Meeks One*, Americana/alternative country.

The Zombie Lounge, 3519 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park. 619-284-DEAD. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Vintage Honey*, indie rock.

North County

The Alley, 421 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad. 760-434-1173. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, *the Love Rangers*, Top 40/pop.

The Backyard, 777 West Felicita Avenue, Escondido. 760-746-7322. Friday, 7 p.m., *Paige Aufhammer*, folk.

Beach Grass Cafe, 159 South Highway 101, Solana Beach. 858-509-0632. Tuesday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Sambajazz*, Brazilian jazz.

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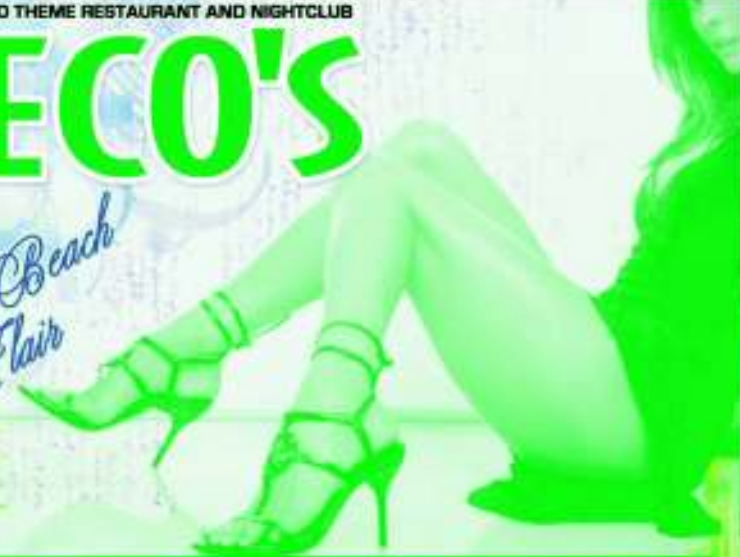
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Calendar CLUBS

NORTH COUNTY

(continued)

Belly Up Tavern, 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. 858-481-9022. Thursday, 9 p.m., *Camp Lo, the Icons, Deep Rooted*, and *Celio Skilz*, hip-hop. Friday, 9 p.m., *Mikey Dread and the Stone Senses*, reggae. Saturday, 9 p.m., *Goldfish and Funkutation*, funk. Sunday, 8 p.m., *Primo*, Latin jazz/salsa. Tuesday, 9 p.m., *Greg Laswell, Get Back Loretta*, and *bill*. Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., *Atomic Groove*, pop/dance.

The Blvd., 925 West San Marcos Boulevard, San Marcos. 760-510-0004. Thursday, *Club Karma*, hip-hop/Top 40. Friday, *LTJ Bukem, MC Reflex, Fixation*, and *Probable Cause*. Saturday, *Voodoo Saturdays*, Sunday, live reggae. Tuesday, country.

Boar Cross'n, 390 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad. 760-729-2989. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, call club for information.

The Book Works/Pannikin Cafe, Flower Hill Mall, I-5 at Via de la Valle, Del Mar. 858-755-3735. Friday, 8 p.m., *Billy Watson*, blues.

Borders Books and Music (Carlsbad), 1905 Calle Barcelona, Carlsbad. 760-479-0242. Friday, 8 p.m., *Cali*, folk. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Kova*, rock/jazz/fusion.

Borders Books and Music (Carmel Mountain), 11160 Rancho Carmel Drive, Carmel Mountain. 858-618-1814. Friday, 8 p.m., *Winterhawk*, acoustic. Saturday, 8 p.m., *Johnson, Bosley, Morin*, acoustic.

Carvers, 11940 Bernardo Plaza Drive, Rancho Bernardo. 858-566-2400. Friday and Saturday, *the Elevators*, blues.

Cheers, 2475 Main Street, Ramona. 760-789-0270. Friday and Saturday, live classic rock/country. Sunday,

4 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Tuesday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Mike Gardner*, acoustic rock/folk.

Coyote Bar and Grill, 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad. 760-729-4695. Thursday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *the New Breed Band*, jazz/pop; 10 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., DJ event. Friday, 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., *Fish & the Seaweeds*, classic rock; 10:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., DJ event. Saturday, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., *Billy Watson*, blues; 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., *the Jerry McCann Band*, reggae/R&B; 10:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., DJ event. Sunday, 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., *the Steamers*; 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., *the Chris Klich Jazz Quintet*. Wednesday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Red Lane*, rock/blues.

Del Dios Bar and Grill, 20154 Lake Drive, Escondido. 760-489-4800. Friday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., *the Railheads*, rock/blues/folk.

Fallbrook Golf Club, 2757 Gird Road, Fallbrook. 760-728-8334. Hukilau Restaurant: Friday, 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., *Desi*, Hawaiian slack-key guitar. Sunday, 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., *Rebel Music*, reggae.

Game Time Tavern, 12735 Poway Road, Poway. 858-748-0015. Friday, 9:30 p.m., *Stevi Lynn & Triple Threat*, classic rock. Saturday, live classic rock.

Hennessey's Tavern (Carlsbad), 2777 Roosevelt Street, Carlsbad. 760-729-6951. Thursday and Friday, DJ events. Saturday, *Sandjacket*, alternative. Sunday, *Vick Moraga*.

The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe, 5951 Linea del Cielo, Rancho Santa Fe. 858-756-1131. Thursday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., *Jerry Melnick*, jazz/variety piano.

Ivey Ranch, 110 Rancho Del Oro Road, Oceanside. 760-722-4839. Saturday, 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., *Cowboy Jack*, country.

The Jumping Turtle, 1660 Capalina Road, San Marcos. 760-471-7778. Music is rock/metal/alternative unless otherwise noted. Thursday, *the Vibrators, the Sex Girls, the Teenage Corpses*, and *the Power Chords*. Friday,

Fractured Halo, Opus Dei, and Staring at Strange. Saturday, *Terra Incognita, IU, and Broken View*. Sunday, 7:30 p.m., *Carol Ann, This Is the Hospital, Darkhorse, and Clifton*, punk rock. Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., *Motus, the Legions*, and *Sight Unseen*.

Longshot Saloon, 643 Grand Avenue, San Marcos. 760-744-8576. Thursday, hip-hop. Friday and Saturday, live bands. Wednesday, R&B.

The Metaphor Coffeehouse, 258 East Second Avenue, Escondido. 760-489-8890. Friday, *Josiah & Uplift*, reggae. Saturday, *Pieces of Peace*. Monday, *Big 'n' Easy*, jazz.

Molly Malone's, 1270 Main Street, Ramona. 760-789-9050. Friday, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., *Lizard Fish*, alternative rock. Saturday, 9 p.m., *the Dead Serial Killers*, metal rock.

North Bar Sports and Spirits, 200 West El Norte Parkway, Escondido. 760-480-8228. Thursday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., *Mike Gardner*, acoustic rock/folk.

Ocean House, 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad. 760-729-4131. Friday and Saturday, live rock/blues. Sunday, salsa. Tuesday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., *the Credit Union*, swing. Wednesday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., blues jam.

Pala Mesa Resort, 2001 Old Highway 395, Fallbrook. 760-728-5881. Wednesday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Cowboy Jack*, country.

Pounders, 125 West Grand Avenue, Escondido. 760-739-1288. Friday, call club for information. Saturday, 9 p.m., *Custard Pie*, classic rock.

Rancho Bernardo Inn, 17550 Bernardo Oaks Drive, Rancho Bernardo. 858-675-8500. El Bizcocho Restaurant: Friday, 5:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., and Saturday, 6 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Jerry Melnick and Tom Bishop*, jazz/variety.

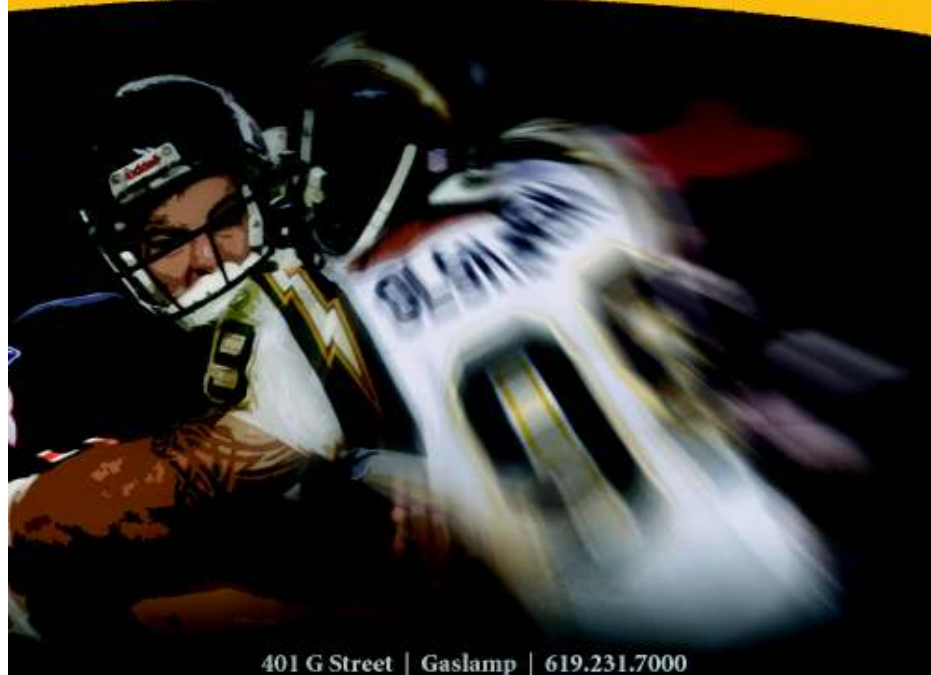
Surf N'Saddle, 123 West Plaza Street (Lomas Santa Fe and Highway 101), Solana Beach. 858-755-9474. Friday, *the Big Sound*, rock. Saturday, *Forrest*, rock. Wednesday, open mike.



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Calendar CLUBS

NORTH COUNTY

(continued)

Tom Giblin's Irish Pub and Restaurant, 640 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad. 760-729-7234. Live traditional Irish music.

Woody's Sports Bar, 2329 South Centre City Parkway, Escondido. 760-735-8599. Friday and Saturday, *Shady Grey*, classic rock.

South Bay/Coronado

The Butcher Shop, 556 Broadway, Chula Vista. 619-420-9440. Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Wednesday, 8 p.m., *Ray Correa*, standards/pop/Latin.

Cafe LaMaze, 1441 Highland Avenue, National City. 619-474-3222. Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m. to midnight, *Sandy Chappel* and *Sammy Canonizado*, jazz/blues. Sunday, 8:30 p.m., *Burnett Anderson*, *Robert Sebastian*, and *Scott Wallingford*, jazz. Wednesday, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m., DJ event.

Hotel del Coronado, 1550 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435-6611. Babcock and Story: Thursday through 4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., *Tony Lasley*, Latin jazz. Friday, 8:30 p.m., *Barbara Jamerson* and *Joe Tarantino*, jazz. Saturday, 8:30 p.m., *Stellita & Dave Lindgren*. Tuesday and Wednesday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., *Jim Gibson*.

Palm Court: Thursday through Sunday, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., *Ray Briz*. Also, Sunday, noon to 4 p.m., *Joey West*.

Crown Room: Sunday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., *John Cain*. Sun Deck: Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 2 p.m. to 6 p.m., *Ron's Garage*, classic rock.

Island Sports and Spirits, 104 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435-3456. Friday, *Leo Rising*, rock. Saturday, *Ron's Garage*, classic rock.

McP's Irish Pub and Grill, 1107 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435-5280. Thursday, *the Fall Guys*, rock. Friday, *the Offbeats*, rock. Saturday, *the Stiletos*, rockabilly. Tuesday, *4-Way Street*, acoustic. Wednesday, *the Taylor Harvey Band*, acoustic rock.

East County

Borders Books and Music (El Cajon), 159 Parkway Plaza, El Cajon. 619-593-5119. Friday, 7 p.m., *Greg Campbell*, folk. Saturday, *Johnna Damigo*, folk.

Dirk's Niteclub, 7662 Broadway, Lemon Grove. 619-469-6344. Friday and Saturday, *Phat Daddy*, classic rock.

Don's Cocktail Lounge, 13321 Business Highway 8, El Cajon. 619-443-2444. Friday and Saturday, *Zone 4*, classic rock.

Downtown Cafe, 182 East Main Street, El Cajon. 619-440-5687. Friday, 8 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., *Joey & the Sting Rays*, classic rock/country rock.

Fannie's Nightclub, 9143 Campo Road, Spring Valley. 619-698-2204. Friday, *Rock Street*. Saturday, *Forgotten Space*, rock. Sunday, *Ad Rox*, rock.

The German-American Societies, 1017 South Mollison Avenue, El Cajon. 858-273-7283. Friday, 7:30 p.m., *the Ray Barrie 12-Piece Big Band* featuring *Jo Dark*.

Renegade Inn, 14335 Old Highway 80 (half mile east from Lake Jennings turnoff), Flynn Springs. 619-561-8105. Friday and Saturday, *the Honky Tonk Kings*, country.

Second Wind, 8528 Magnolia Avenue, Santee. 619-596-8350. Friday and Saturday, *Nemesis*, classic rock.

Sixty 7 Bar and Grill, 10109 Maine Avenue, Lakeside. 619-561-6767. Friday, 9 p.m., *DJ Girth*, old skool/hip-hop. Saturday, 9 p.m., *Just Like Jenna*, alternative.

Tommy's Italian Restaurant, 1190 North Second Street, El Cajon. 619-440-2676. Friday, 6 p.m. to

10 p.m., *the Wize Guyz*, swing/standards.

Viejas Casino, 5000 Willows Road, Alpine (off Interstate 8). 619-445-5400. Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, live music, call club for information.

Wagon Wheel, 8861 Magnolia Avenue, Santee. 619-448-8550. Country music, call club for information.

Calendar BANDS

ALTERNATIVE

Abiku: Dreamstreet

The Adored: House of Blues

The Advantage: The Casbah

Apollo Sunshine: House of Blues

The Archons: The Casbah

The Atoms: Ché Café

The Bologna Ponies: Ché Café

Briegade: Dreamstreet

Broken View: The Jumping Turtle

Burning the Masses: Epicentre

The Chariots of Fire: Ché Café

The Chromatics: The Beauty Bar

Da Bears: Ché Café

The d.frost: 'Canes

A Dying Dream: Epicentre

Effusive Folk: Dreamstreet

The Fifth Regiment: Epicentre

Fishbone: 'Canes

Fixation: The Blvd. (San Marcos)

Fractured Halo: The Jumping Turtle

Get Back Loretta: Belly Up Tavern

Glass Candy: The Beauty Bar

Halifax: House of Blues

In Every Breath: 'Canes

IU: The Jumping Turtle

Have a swinging good time.



Join us for live entertainment and dancing throughout September.

VIETNAMESE NIGHT

September 7
8pm

LIQUID BLUE

September 8
9pm

WINGS OF VICTORY

September 10
4pm

NITRO EXPRESS

September 14
8pm

INSIDE OUT

September 15
9pm

DIVA SOUL

September 16
9pm

SWING SHIFT

September 17
4pm

VIETNAMESE NIGHT

September 21
8pm

REAGANOMICS

September 22 & 23
9pm

SWINGTIME

September 24
4pm

Country Nights

EMERALD RIVER

September 28
8pm

MAKAI

September 29
9pm

80'Z ALL STARS

September 30
9pm



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Friday, September 8
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Saturday, September 9
Rickie Parish & The Blues Gypsies
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Sunday, Sept. 10
Ronnie Lane & The Twisters

Tuesday, Sept. 12
Len Rainey & The Midnight Players

Monday, Sept. 11
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Wednesday, Sept. 13
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Calendar BANDS

ALTERNATIVE

(continued)

Just Like Jenna: Sixty 7 Bar and Grill

Kavana: 'Canes

Kittykat Lollipop: Dreamstreet

Loachfillit: Ché Café

The Material: Dreamstreet

Maxeen: House of Blues

Message in Blood: Epicentre

The Night Fell Silent: Epicentre

Occasional Detroit: Ché Café

One Theory: 'Canes, Dreamstreet

Opus Dei: The Jumping Turtle

OsamaBinSars: The Casbah

The Oscillating Innards: Ché Café

Sara Petite & the Sugar Daddies: Whistle Stop Bar

The Powdered Wigs: Ché Café

The Power Chords: Ché Café, The Jumping Turtle

Probable Cause: The Blvd. (San Marcos)

Qu'est-ce Que C'est: Ché Café

Replicock: Ché Café

Rome Plow: The Casbah

Sandjacket: Hennessey's Tavern (Carlsbad)

The Sex Girls: The Jumping Turtle

Sirhan Sirhan: The Casbah

The Sleeping People: The Casbah

Sleepless Me: 710 Beach Club

So They Say: House of Blues

The Soft Lightes: The Casbah

The Spill Canvas: House of Blues

Staring at Strange: The Jumping Turtle

The Stepping Feet: 710 Beach Club, Whiskey Girl

Sultry Savage Burlesque: Tower Bar

The Teenage Corpses: The Jumping Turtle

Terra Incognito: The Jumping Turtle

The Top Drawer: Tower Bar

The Travel Agents: The Kraken

The Trusted: 'Canes

The Vibrators: The Jumping Turtle

Vintage Honey: The Zombie Lounge

Butch Walker & the Let's Go Out Tonites: House of Blues

ROCK

Action Andy: Tower Bar

Ad Rox: Fannie's Nightclub

The Big Sound: Surf N'Saddle

Big Toe: Lestat's Coffee House

Bob Log III: Brick By Brick

The Brat Pack: Henry's Pub

Carol Ann: The Jumping Turtle, Epicentre

The C.H.I. Club: Winstons

The Citizen Band: Twiggs Tea and Coffee Company

Clifton: The Jumping Turtle



>hometown CDs

BY OLLIE

Album: *Whisper of a Newborn Ghost* (2006)

Artist: Alfred Howard and the K23 Orchestra

Label: self-released

Where available/price: Access Records (P.B.), the Cow (O.B.), Lou's (Encinitas), and M-Theory (North Park, Mission Hills) for \$11.99. Online at CDBaby.com for \$10.99

Songs: 1) Big in El Portal 2) Whoop Tee Dee 3) Ace 4) Brake Light Eyes 5) Drifting Nexus 6) Pulse 7) Connected 8) Omar 9) Dovetail

Band: Alfred Howard (vocals, tambourine), Steve Craft (drums, percussion), Travis W. Dauderf (guitars, vocals), Matt LaBarber (bass), Josh Rice (piano, organ, percussion)

Additional info: The K23 Orchestra plays the Belly Up Tavern in Solana Beach on September 22.

Website: www.alhowardk23.com

Alfred Howard and the K23 Orchestra is a talented band that sets hip-hop, funk, and rock 'n roll to raps. The music is

mostly standard rhythm and guitar with an old organ reminiscent of the Doors or, if you've heard 'em, local beach-party band d*frost.

Different elements are thrown into each song. Track seven, "Connected," features a female singer with a pretty voice. Viola, violin, and cello are included in "Drifting Nexus." "Whoop Tee Dee" ends with a good, long, Beat-style poem unaccompanied by music.

Instead of whiny, literal, anti-everything lyrics that plague most political rock albums, Alfred Howard keeps it abstract and focused on struggle and the pleasures of nature. From "Ace": "Belabored by a battle with invisible fist / My bruises washed away by oceanic bliss / Massaged by the warmth that sunbeams have kissed."

My favorite song on the album is the first because they've either done away with the organ or routed it through so many effects that it sounds like a funky Rage



Alfred Howard and the K23 Orchestra

Against the Machine-like guitar line. It sounds different from the rest of the album. It's also one of the shortest songs. The most bloated of tracks, "Connected," weighs in at just under ten and a half minutes.

TO GET YOUR LOCAL CD REVIEWED, PLEASE MAIL

IT TO: Music Editor, Hometown CDs, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803

The Cold War Kids: The Casbah

Custard Pie: Pounder's

Darkhorse: The Jumping Turtle

The Dead Serial Killers: Molly Malone's

Dear Monroe: Dreamstreet

The Development of Souls: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

Dr. Dog: The Casbah

The Dukes of Haggard: Lestat's Coffee House

The 86'd: Dick's Last Resort

The Electric Waste Band: Winstons

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TUE	DJ Carlos Culture Reggae/Dancehall No cover 10 pm - close.
WED	Girls' Night Out by SHE Promotions Hip-Hop/House. No cover 8 pm - close.
THU	Happy/Hour/Remixed Daeman & Tricia 5-10 pm DJ Matty Mac '80s/Hip-Hop/Top 40 No cover 10 pm - close.
FRI	Gimmie, Gimmie, Gimmie DJ Atari DJ Bryan Pollard DJ Morgan Young '70s/'80s/Punk/Goth/Nu Wave \$4 cover 9 pm - close.
SAT	Live Comedy 8-10 pm Makato & Deeizm Drum & Bass 10 pm-close
SUN	DJ Sachamo ILLFONIX Hip-Hop/House/Soul. No cover 7 pm - close.

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 FONO	 BUSHWALLA
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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30	THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5
 Tainted Love (80's Tribute)	 BETTY
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6	SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7
 marc broussard	 Diego Roots
 SARAH BAREILLES • JONAH SMITH	 The EXPENDABLES
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14	THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19
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 - Forrest:** Surf N' Saddle
 - The Ghost of Sada:** Dick's Last Resort
 - The Grams:** O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub
 - The Grand Ole Party:** Brick By Brick
 - The Taylor Harvey Band:** McP's Irish Pub and Grill
 - The Hornets:** Tower Bar
 - Joey & the Sting Rays:** Downtown Cafe
 - Mike Keneally:** Dizzy's
 - Red Lane:** Coyote Bar and Grill
 - The Legions:** The Jumping Turtle
 - Leo Rising:** Island Sports and Spirits
 - Lizard Fish:** Molly Malone's
 - The Long & Short of It:** The Casbah
 - The Long Winters:** The Casbah
 - Mash-Up:** O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub
 - Meld:** Dreamstreet
 - Mother Mae I:** Dreamstreet
 - Motus:** The Jumping Turtle
 - Nemesis:** Second Wind (Santee)
 - Night Shift:** Pal Joey's
 - The North Star Session:** Winstons
 - Nude Blues:** Bahia Belle Cruise
 - The Offbeats:** McP's Irish Pub and Grill
 - One & Heroe:** O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub
 - The Payback:** The Casbah
 - Elvis Perkins:** The Casbah
 - Phat Daddy:** Dirk's Niteclub
 - Pink Floyd:** 710 Beach Club
 - Private Domain:** Dick's Last Resort
 - The Professor:** Tiki House
 - The Railheads:** Del Dios Bar and Grill
 - Mikey Ratt:** Tower Bar
 - Rock Dirty Raw:** Tiki House
 - Rock Street:** Fannie's Nightclub
 - Ron's Garage:** Hotel del Coronado, Island Sports and Spirits
 - Sanguine:** O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub
 - Secret Samurai:** Tiki House
 - Serious Guise:** Second Wind (San Carlos)
 - Shady Grey:** Woody's Sports Bar
 - Sight Unseen:** The Jumping Turtle
 - Six-Foot Deathtrap:** Dreamstreet
 - The Sleepwalkers:** Tower Bar
 - Snog:** Brick By Brick
 - Soul Ablaze:** Dreamstreet
 - Southern Culture on the Skids:** The Casbah
 - The Spots:** Winstons
 - Stevi Lynn & Triple Threat:** Game Time Tavern
 - The Stiletto:** Henry's Pub, McP's Irish Pub and Grill
 - Sugarcult:** House of Blues
 - Supernova:** The Casbah
 - Superunloader:** Tiki House
 - Sweet Tooth:** Winstons
 - Temperature Delete:** O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub
 - This is the Hospital:** The Jumping Turtle
 - Unset:** Dreamstreet
 - Without a Warning:** O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub
 - Zone 4:** Don's Cocktail Lounge
-
- POP / TOP 40**
- Atomic Groove:** Belly Up Tavern
 - B Natural:** Bahia Belle Cruise
 - The Disco Pimps:** Moondoggies, Dick's Last Resort
 - Funktuation:** Belly Up Tavern
 - Goldfish:** Belly Up Tavern



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Calendar BANDS

POP / TOP 40

(continued)

- The Good Times:** Henry's Pub
Jimmy Lavello: Dakota Grill and Spirits
The Love Rangers: The Alley
Metro: Humphrey's
The New Breed Band: Coyote Bar and Grill

JAZZ / BIG BAND

- Robin Adler:** Ki's Coffee On Top
Burnett Anderson: Cafe LaMaze
The B-3 Four: Vesuvio Gourmet Restaurant
The Ray Barrie Big Band: The German-American Societies
Big 'n' Easy: The Metaphor Coffeehouse
Tom Bishop: Rancho Bernardo Inn
David Blackburn: Ki's Coffee On Top
Ray Briz: Hotel del Coronado
Sammy Canonizado: Cafe LaMaze
Gilbert Castellanos & His Quintet: Dizzy's
Sandy Chappel: Cafe LaMaze
The Credit Union: Ocean House
Jo Dark: The German-American Societies
Julio de la Huerta: The Westgate Hotel
The Nate Donnis Trio: Dreamstreet
The Jim Gala Jazz Trio: Kitima Thai Restaurant
Karen Giorgio: The Westgate Hotel
The High Society Jazz Band: Tio Leo's Lounge
Alfred Howard & the K23 Orchestra: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub
Insight: Jimmy Love's
The Fred Jacob Jazz Odyssey: Dizzy's
Barbara Jamerson: Hotel del Coronado
The Jazz Project Big Band: Padre Gold
The Chris Klich Jazz Quintet: Coyote Bar and Grill
Tony Lasley: Hotel del Coronado
Barry Levich: La Valencia Hotel
Stellita and Dave Lindgren: Hotel del Coronado
Fran Loskota: The Westgate Hotel
- Coral MacFarland:** Tutto Mare
Bob Magnusson: Tutto Mare
Masterpiece: Jimmy Love's
Jerry Melnick: The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe, Rancho Bernardo Inn
The Shep Meyers Quartet: Croce's Jazz Bar
Jose Molina Serrano: Humphrey's
David Mosby: Vesuvio Gourmet Restaurant
Randy Napoleon & His Quartet: Dizzy's
Mike Nelson: Sogno Di Vino, the Lodge at Torrey Pines
Novamenco: Humphrey's
Faith Page: The Westgate Hotel
Dan Papaila: The Lodge at Torrey Pines
The David Patrone Quartet: Croce's Jazz Bar
Allan Phillips: Tutto Mare
Primo: Croce's Jazz Bar, Belly Up Tavern
Rick Ross: La Valencia Hotel
Sambajazz: Beach Grass Cafe
The San Diego Concert Jazz Band: The Inn Suites
Dave Scott: Croce's Jazz Bar
Robert Sebastini: Cafe LaMaze
The Soul Revue: Jimmy Love's
Soul Seduction: Jack's La Jolla
Jaime Valle: Tutto Mare
Vintage Vegas: Martini's Bar and Grill
Scott Wallingford: Cafe LaMaze
Willovealot: Galileo 101
The Wize Guyz: Tommy's Italian Restaurant
Yavez: Croce's Jazz Bar



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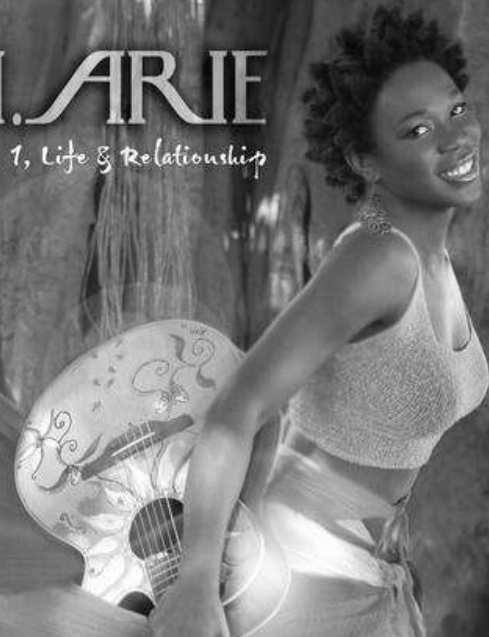


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Wednesday, September 13
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Soul Ablaze • Meld
The Nate Donniss Trio

SATURDAY 9/9
Monsters of Unsigned Rock
Abiku
Kitty Kat Lollipop
The Material • Briegade
Effusive Folk

WEDNESDAY 9/13
Band Minus Label presents
Metal Lounge
Six Foot Death Trap
Unset • Mother Mae I
One Theory
Dear Monroe

THURSDAY 9/14
Dream Street Live presents
The G Lounge
Live Music — Hip-Hop
Without A Warning
Gee Money
Sicko Camp • Da Scoop

FRIDAY 9/15
BarFly presents
Live Music • \$5 Cover Fridays
Black Cotton
Loaded On Arrival
Jeshno
Grape St. Blues

SATURDAY 9/16
Jaegermeister
& Dirtbag Clothing present
Accident Experiment
(featuring Marcos Curiel, formerly of P.O.D.)
Deliverance Machine
(with former members of Acid Nine)
Silverside
Decompression
Dufreign

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PHOENIX

LA ROCCA
Tues 9/19 • 8:00 PM

ANDREW BIRD

CASS McCOMBS
Wed 9/20 • 8:00 PM

DIRTY SWEET

SOCIETY
JUAN PESO
Thur 9/21 • 8:30 PM

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FESTIVAL DEL MAR KICKOFF PARTY!

COMMON SENSE
K23 ORCHESTRA
Fri 9/22 • 9:00 PM

FESTIVAL DEL MAR AFTER-PARTY!

DIRTY DOZEN BRASS BAND
THE WOOD BROTHERS
& BREAKESTRA
Sat 9/23 • 9:00 PM

ROGUE WAVE

JASON COLLETT
FOREIGN BORN
Tues 9/26 • 9:00 PM

ROCK THE WALK WITH THE FLOCK

PROCEEDS BENEFIT AIDS WALK
FEATURING
FLOCK OF SEAGULLS & WHEN IN ROME
Wed 9/27 • 8:30 PM

TWO NIGHTS!

PERFORMING GRATEFUL DEAD SHOWS IN THEIR ENTIRETY
9/28 & 9/29 • 9:00 PM

B-SIDE PLAYERS

W/GUEST
Sat 9/30 • 9:00 PM

NEW ACOUSTIC GENERATION

MICHAEL TIERNAN TRIO
CATHRYN BEEKS ORDEAL
SIMEON FLICK
KIM DIVINE • LEE COULTER
Wed 10/4 • 8:00 PM

JUST ADDED! 10/31 Halloween Party w/80s Heat & Flock of 80's Costume Contest with Cash Prizes!
11/12 Ben Taylor & Sonya Kitchell w/David Saw • 12/28 Particle

UPCOMING SHOWS:

- 10/5 Pato Banton's Birthday Bash!
- 10/6 Young Dubliners
- 10/7 Cherry Poppin' Daddies w/Skanic
- 10/8 James McMurtry
- 10/9 Jack the Original — All proceeds will go to breast cancer research & awareness
- 10/10 Mofro w/The Beautiful Girls
- 10/11 Citizen Cope
- 10/12 Marcia Ball
- 10/13 Los Straitjackets w/Pontani Sisters
- 10/14 Elijah Emanuel & The Revelations
- 10/15 Edie Brickell & The New Bohemians
- 10/18 Ladytron w/CSS

- 10/19 Frank Marino & Mahogany Rush
- 10/20 The Subdudes
- 10/21 Ras Michael & The Sons of Negus
- 10/22 Peter Popping's Guitar Extravaganza — Special Day Show! 1:30 pm
Easy Star All-Stars 9:00 pm
- 10/23 Bonnie Prince Billy
- 10/24 Oz For Life — An Evening in the Rainforest
- 10/25 Shawn Colvin & Brandi Carlile
- 10/26 Bob Schneider & His Band
- 10/27 English Beat
- 10/28 Atomic Punks

- 11/3 John Brown's Body w/Go Jimmy Go
- 11/4 Tommy Castro
- 11/5 Jackie Greene
- 11/7 Adrian Belew
- 11/15 An Evening with Idan Raichel
- 11/16 An Evening with Groundation
- 11/17 The Skatalites & The Aggrolites
- 11/19 The Lemonheads — Reunited!
- 11/25 Joe Bonamassa
- 11/27 Wall of Voodoo w/Stan Ridgway
- 12/14 Venice
- 1/13 Dead Man's Party
- 3/8 Leo Kottke & David Lindley

SWINGIN' HAPPY HOURS @ 5:30:
9/8 CANDYE KANE
9/22 LOS CHICHARRONES GUAPOS
SALSA SUNDAY: 9/10, 9/24

FEATURED SHOW
Belly Up presents "Artists on the Edge."
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**Calendar
BANDS**

REGGAE / SKA

(continued)

- Garaj Mahal:** Winstons
- Justin James & the Sons of Beaches:** 710 Beach Club
- Josiah & Uplift:** The Metaphor Coffeehouse
- Kush & the Blood Fiyah Angels:** World Beat Center
- The Jerry McCann Band:** Coyote Bar and Grill
- Quinzo:** Humphrey's
- Rebel Music:** Fallbrook Golf Club
- Soul of the River:** Portugalia
- The Spoonfed Tribe:** Winstons
- The Stone Senses:** Belly Up Tavern
- The Technicians:** 710 Beach Club
- Tribal Seeds:** Canes
- Vegetation:** Winstons
- The Wailers:** House of Blues
- When I Rise:** Portugalia, 710 Beach Club

COUNTRY

- Bluegrass Social:** E Street Cafe
- Cowboy Jack:** Pala Mesa Resort, Ivey Ranch
- The Honky Tonk Kings:** Renegade Inn
- Nitro Express:** Whiskey Girl

ACOUSTIC / FOLK

- The Acoustic Alliance:** Brick By Brick
- Appleseed:** Lestat's Coffee House
- Paige Aufhammer:** The Backyard
- Amy Ayres:** Twigg's Tea and Coffee Company
- bill:** Belly Up Tavern
- J.D. Boucharde:** Princess Pub and Grille
- Aaron Bowen:** Borders Books and Music (Gaslamp)
- Steve Brewer:** Blarney Stone Pub
- Terence Brian:** Lestat's Coffee House
- Joy Brooks:** Twigg's Tea and Coffee Company
- Cali:** Borders Books and Music (Carlsbad)
- Greg Campbell:** Borders Books and Music (El Cajon)
- The Celtic Ensemble:** Twigg's Tea and Coffee Company
- Lee Coulter:** Borders Books and Music (Mission Valley)
- Tony Cummins:** Blarney Stone Pub
- Johnua Damigo:** Borders Books and Music (El Cajon)
- Marc Danzeisen:** Lestat's Coffee House
- Hank Easton:** Humphrey's
- 4-Way Street:** McP's Irish Pub and Grill
- Justin Froese:** E Street Cafe
- Mike Gardner:** Cheers, North Bar Sports and Spirits
- Allison Gill:** Blarney Stone Pub
- John Gorka:** AcousticMusicSanDiego
- Patty Hall:** Borders Books and Music (Gaslamp)
- Peter Hall:** E Street Cafe
- Robert Hemmi:** Lestat's Coffee House
- John Meeks One:** Whistle Stop Bar
- Johnson, Bosley, Morin:** Borders Books and Music (Carmel Mountain)
- Kova:** Borders Books and Music (Carlsbad)
- Greg Laswell:** Belly Up Tavern
- Victor Martin:** Beaumont's
- Vick Moraga:** Hennessey's Tavern (Carlsbad)
- Tim Mudd:** Twigg's Tea and Coffee Company
- Carlos Olmeda:** Twigg's Tea and Coffee Company

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<p>Friday September 8 BULLETPROOF PRESENTS LTJ BUKEM MC CONRAD QUEST & MC REFLEX FIXATION PROBABLE CAUSE 25 DJ's 3 ROOMS</p>	<p>Monday September 11 CHARGERS VS RAIDERS NFL Monday Night \$1 Tacos \$1 Mini-Burgers \$1 House Margaritas 4-8pm Live DJ & MC During the Game</p>
<p>Thursday September 14 Dollar Thursdays \$1 Entrance \$1 Wells w/ Valid College ID \$1 Tacos \$1 Dogs \$1 Mini Cheese Burgers</p>	<p>Friday September 15 Big Left From La Coca Nostra w/ Special Celebrity Guest and Flashlight Down</p>
<p>Saturday September 16 SENSE BOARDWEAR PRESENTS REGGAE HIP HOP PARTY CHAPTER II FADED CHRONICAL HIGH TIDE SHOW STARTS @ 8PM</p>	<p>Friday September 22 <i>The Infamous Britney B</i> Presents FLATLINE SIX FOOT TRAP NEEDLEMOUTH DRIVEN A.D.</p>
<p>Friday September 29 FireTribe Presents INFERNO DIESELBOY DOC MARTIN VICTOR DINAIRE MC Dino MC XYZ Jaywood DA James Jon E Thin Baquai Matty B Phon and many more.... 3 Rooms 3 Genres</p>	<p>Friday October 6 Born Dirty Industries 2nd Annual Desert Season Kickoff Party Songre Once of Self Level Zero</p>
<p>Friday September 29 FireTribe Presents INFERNO DIESELBOY DOC MARTIN VICTOR DINAIRE MC Dino MC XYZ Jaywood DA James Jon E Thin Baquai Matty B Phon and many more.... 3 Rooms 3 Genres</p>	<p>Saturday October 7 6th ANNUAL KARMA BROS & ALL DA HOS DRESS THE THEME Jim's B-Day Bash!!</p>

\$1 House Margaritas & \$1 Tacos 4-8pm
NFL MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL
10ft. Screen & 25 TV's
KARAOKE & TOP 40 DJ Back Bar 8pm-2am

TUESDAY COUNTRY NIGHT
Line Dancing and Lessons 6-10pm
2 for 1 Appetizers & \$1 Wells 4-8pm

\$2 U-CALL-IT'S WEDNESDAYS
8pm-close
\$1 Domestic Drafts & \$0.50 Wings 4-8pm

Thursday College Night
Dollar Thursdays
\$1 Wells, \$1 Entrance
All Night w/ Valid College ID
80's, House, Top 40, Old School
Pool tables, Patio Bar, Juke Box

VOODOO SATURDAYS
Klub Karmas Gaslamp Alternative
VIP Booths & Bottle Service

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Fri. 9/8 6-9 PM
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OCEAN BEACH COMEDY
TONIGHT! (reggae)
VEGETATION

Sat. 9/9 (4-7) MEMORIAL FOR KATHY OF THE RAVENS
TONIGHT! (National Touring Act)

GARAJ MAHAL

Sun. 9/10 **NFL FOOTBALL**
TONIGHT! Free Cover Karaoke OB Style

O.B.OKE
HOSTED BY JOSÉ SINATRA
\$2 drinks after 8 PM

Mon. 9/11 6-8 PM
DRUNK POETS SOCIETY
Hosted by the lovely Oia

MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL
REDSKINS VS VIKINGS
Celebrating the music of the Grateful Dead for over 14 years!

ELECTRIC WASTE BAND

Tues. 9/12 (5-9 pm)
"Think & Drink" Trivia
TONIGHT!
PLUMP
OB POWER TRIO

Wed. 9/13 5-8 PM
Winstons Art Show
TONIGHT!
THE CHI CLUB
Packway Handle Band ROCK/TRUNK/JAZZ

UPCOMING:
9/14- 40 Watt Hype
9/15- Agua Dulce
9/16- Psydecar
9/26- Ranking Joe

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70 Beach Club
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THUR. 9/7 THIRSTY THURSDAY
DANCE PARTY Spinning 80's, 90's top 40- ALL NIGHT!
DRINK SPECIALS, NO COVER!

FRI. 9/8 NATIONAL TOURING BAND
DAVE MATTHEWS TRIBUTE BAND

SAT. 9/9 Come check out one of San Diego's best tribute bands...
PINK FLOYD
(Pink Floyd tribute)

SUN. 9/10 HUSKY BOY ALLSTARS
Spinning Old School, Funk, Hip Hop and more
EVERY SUNDAY! NO COVER \$2 Drinks all night

MON. 9/11 MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL!
VIKINGS VS REDSKINS - 4PM
CHARGERS VS RAIDERS
Drink Specials! **7PM**

TUES. 9/12 KARAOKE
EVERY TUESDAY JOIN US FOR KARAOKE- PB STYLE!
Hosted by: Corey from Water 2 Wine Productions.
NO COVER!

WED. 9/13 REGGAE NIGHT!
Justin James and Sons of the Beaches
WHEN I RISE THE TECHNICIANS

THURS. 9/14 THIRSTY THURSDAY
DANCE PARTY Spinning 80's, 90's, Top 40- ALL NIGHT!
DRINK SPECIALS, NO COVER!

UPCOMING:
9/15- Stone Senses & Split Finger
9/16- BUCK O' NINE
9/23- SEMI 9/29- Elijah Emmanuel

FOOTBALL: We play every game we can get!
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Calendar BANDS

ACOUSTIC / FOLK

(continued)

Giovanna Olvera: Lestat's Coffee House

Mick Overman: Tiki House

Pat & Joe: Blarney Stone Pub

Kyle Phelan: Lestat's Coffee House

Riververb: Ché Café

Allison Scull: Beaumont's

Amelia K. Spicer: AcousticMusicSanDiego

Studio 848: E Street Cafe

Scott Sullivan: E Street Cafe

Pete Thurston: Lestat's Coffee House

Trails & Rails: Santa Maria de los Peñasquitos Adobe

J. Turtle: Lestat's Coffee House

Vladimir: E Street Cafe

Gene Warren: The Ould Sod

Winterhawk: Borders Books and Music (Carmel Mountain)

BLUES / SOUL

Ryan Adams & the Cardinals: House of Blues

Blue Heat: The Kraken

Blue Rockit: The Gordon Biersch Brewery, Dick's Last Resort

The Blues Brokers: The Kraken

The Blues Gypsies: Patrick's II

Blues from a Gun: Dreamstreet

Chet Cannon: Humphrey's

Neal Casal: House of Blues

The Elevators: Carvers

Fuzzy & the Bluesmen: Croce's Jazz Bar

The Icons: Belly Up Tavern

Lady Dottie & the Diamonds: Tower Bar, Henry's Pub, House of Blues

Ronnie Lane & the Texas Twisters: Patrick's II

Michele Lundeen & Blues Streak: Patrick's II

Mystery Train: O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub

Sean Perry: Harney Sushi

Len Rainey & the Midnight Players: Patrick's II

Duke Robillard: Humphrey's

The San Diego Blues Trio: The Aero Club

Shelle Blue: Patrick's II

Al Stewart: Humphrey's

Billy Watson: The Book Works/Pannikin Cafe, Coyote Bar and Grill

West of Memphis: House of Blues

The Buick Wilson Band: Patrick's II

EVERYTHING ELSE

The Benevento-Russo Duo: House of Blues

Blowfly: Brick By Brick

John Cain: Hotel del Coronado

Camp Lo: Belly Up Tavern

Celio Skilz: Belly Up Tavern

Ray Correa: The Butcher Shop

Damone: House of Blues

Deep Rooted: Belly Up Tavern

Desi: Fallbrook Golf Club

Jim Gibson: Hotel del Coronado

Ja Kidz: Dreamstreet

Limelite: Dreamstreet

Mpire Da Regiment: Dreamstreet

Orquesta Binacional de Mambo: Dizzy's

Pieces of Peace: The Metaphor Coffeehouse

Kristi Rickert: Top of the Cove

Eddie Rossi: Red Fox Steakhouse

The David Shaw Duo: Red Fox Steakhouse

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JUMP JONES
Friday • September 8
PARADISE
Saturday • September 9
LOS FABULOCOS
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TANGO DANCING
Tuesdays @ 6:30 pm
ZYDECO TUESDAYS
Wednesdays • 7 pm
HIGH SOCIETY JAZZ BAND

UPCOMING:
9/14: **THE MARK JACKSON BAND KETCHIKAN**
9/15: **THE JOEY SHOW**
9/16: **ALAN IGLESIAS & CROSSFIRE**
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FATIGO
WITH GUESTS
Saturday • September 9
ROCKANDY
Wednesday • September 13
ROBIN HENKEL BAND
Thursday • September 14
BONEHEAD
Saturday • September 16
ELECTRIC SOUL
Wednesday • September 20
STARS ON THE WATER
Thursday • September 21
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Baron Browne - Bass (Jean-Luc Ponty/Billy Cobham)
Steve Smith - Drums (Vital Information/Journey)

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THIS WEEK

FRIDAY 9-8

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STARING AT STRANGE
CORE 10
OPUS DAI
FRACTURED HALO

SATURDAY 9-9

☞ presents
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SUNDAY 9-10

All ages until 10 pm
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UPCOMING SHOWS (See our website for more info):

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☞ presents
CHANNEL 3
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UNION 13
HELLFIRE TRIGGER
SPITTING ON COPS

SATURDAY 9-16

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 Rock en Español
 Mexican Independence Day
 Celebration show featuring
CASTILLO

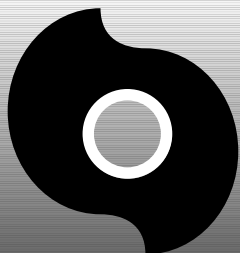
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SAT

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SUN

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9/12 **GUARARE**

9/13 **SALSA CALIENTE**



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 BY THE BAY

TONIGHT!



Jesse Cook

with special guest **Sophie Milman**
 Thursday, September 7

FRIDAY!



Los Lobos

with special guest
Ivan Neville's Dumpstaphunk
 Friday, September 8

SUNDAY!



**Southside Johnny
 & The Asbury Jukes/**

The Fabulous Thunderbirds
 Sunday, September 10



Steve Tyrell

Thursday, September 14



Tower of Power

Friday, September 15

september

Jesse Cook

with special guest **Sophie Milman**
 Thursday, September 7 • 7:30

Los Lobos

with special guests
Ivan Neville's Dumpstaphunk
 Friday, September 8 • 7:00

**Southside Johnny &
 The Asbury Jukes/
 The Fabulous
 Thunderbirds**
 Sunday, September 10 • 7:00

Steve Tyrell

Thursday, September 14 • 7:30

Tower of Power

Friday, September 15 • 8:00

George Carlin

with special guest **Vance Gilbert**
 Saturday, September 16 • 6:30 & 9:00

Brian Culbertson

featuring **Eric Darius/**

Keiko Matsui

Thursday, September 21 • 7:00

september

Temptations

with special guest **Candye Kane**
 Sunday, September 24 • 7:30

october

Emmylou Harris

Tuesday, October 3 • 7:30

Queensryche

Wednesday, October 4 • 7:30

Bobby Caldwell

Friday, October 6 • 8:00

Cecilio & Kapono

Sunday, October 8 • 7:30

Larry Carlton Blues

Project

featuring

Robben Ford

with very special guest

Dave Mason

Thursday, October 12 • 7:00

Joan Baez

with special guest **Rhythm Village**
 Wednesday, October 18 • 7:30

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CANCELLED

September 29: Na Leo
 October 15: Frank Black
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Thoroughly Modern Blanca

Oh, lucky are the residents of Solana Beach! They've got sand, they've got money, and now they've got an eatery to equal those of San Francisco, New York, and Chicago. The opening of the sleek and sophisticated Blanca marks the arrival of our first 21st-century restaurant.

San Diego's "fine dining" scene has improved immensely: You can now find many versions of the "seasonal, local, and naturally raised" ingredient-driven cuisine that Alice Waters pioneered at Chez Panisse in 1971. But wholesome and delicious are only a start. In the years since, top chefs in the serious "foodie cities" have concentrated on highlighting their perfect ingredients so radiantly and originally that diners must rouse to rapt attention. Here, we've always had a few bold, mainly French-born chefs working in that direction (the Marine Room's Bernard Guillas springs to mind), but for the most part, this town has barely begun to play catch-up.

The owners of Blanca deliberately set out to update San Diego's culinary scene, and they nabbed the right guy to do it. Chef Wade Hageman spent eight years working for renowned San Francisco chef Michael Mina, and he's imported a similarly complex, labor-intensive style of cooking that appeals as much to the mind as to the mouth.

Blanca's menu follows the conventional structure of appetizers (divided between cold and hot preparations), seafood, and land creatures, with each item's pedigree and primary garnishes fully listed. But you'll be fooled anyway, because all that written detail doesn't begin to describe the flavors you'll encounter — those behind-the-scenes flavor-enhancers (marinades, brines, rubs, soaks, infusions) that come into play before the final cooking and serving. When each dish carries so much nuance, you almost hate to swallow the last bite.

Among his other feats of culinary legerdemain, Hageman has imported a major Mina stratagem — that of showcasing an individual ingredient by presenting it in several different incarnations within the same dish, much as a classical music composition may offer variations on a theme. The same animal, vegetable, or fruit emerges with different textures and even flavors when it's subjected to varying treatments.

One of my favorite appetizers, for instance, is Kurobuta pork belly "en sous vide." Pork belly is



PHOTOGRAPH BY JOE KLEIN

uncured, unsmoked bacon (a prized foodstuff in China, where its lush fattiness is relished). Here the chef brines it, then simmers it for 12 hours at 170 degrees "en sous vide" — a high-tech version of "boil in the bag." The food (with or without seasonings) is sealed into a leak-proof Cryovac plastic bag and placed in a cooker that can be controlled to within a degree of the desired heat. Once the pork is fully cooked, Hageman slices it into portions and sears them — giving your mouth soft, rich belly matched with crisp, smoky belly that resembles bacon. Real bacon comes into play when he surrounds the pork with "Manila clam chowder" — not a soup but a sauce. The New England staple is lightened to a thin, savory cream that includes small rectangles of Nueske applewood-smoked bacon, diced potatoes, and a few tiny clams garnished with shreds of baby fennel. You can't gobble these goodies with an absent mind. The combination announces, "Attention must be paid!"

Another appetizer structured on the many guises of a single ingredient pretends to center on

New York State foie gras but explores the possibilities of the exotic "donut peaches" used as a garnish. In season from July through September, donut peaches are an Asian heirloom variety. Round and flat with a sunken center, they're intensely sweet and taste faintly of almonds. Hageman serves pan-seared foie gras "Monte Cristo" style, plated atop brioche coated with donut peach and ginger compote, with accompaniments of raw peach chutney, plus raw julienne and rings made from slightly tart, less-ripe fruit — four different versions of one fruit. Unfortunately, to my palate, he adds a needless throng of poached blackberries, so sweet I wanted to banish them to dessert. (Must foie gras always be paired in America with something this sugary? I really wanted a more acidic note here.)

Other dishes succeed through imaginative flavor pairings. My three companions and I fell in love with the sheer sensuousness of a summer corn soup. It reverses the equation of the foie gras' savory-robbed-in-sweet. The chef reins in corn's natural sweetness with surprising savory

REVIEW

NAOMI WISE

Blanca
 ★★★★★ ½ (Excellent to Extraordinary)
 Beachwalk Plaza, 437 South Highway 101, Solana Beach, 858-792-0072, www.dineblanca.com

HOURS: Sunday–Thursday, 5:30–9:30 p.m.; weekends until 10:30 p.m. Bar 4:30 till about 11:00 p.m.

PRICES: Appetizers and starters: \$11–\$20; Osetra caviar service, \$80; entrées, \$27–\$75; desserts, \$10–\$20.

CUISINE AND BEVERAGES: Inventive, elaborate California coastal cuisine highlighting top-quality ingredients in fresh combinations. International wine list emphasizing California and France at wide price range includes upper-moderate choices and choices by the glass, plus some rare French bottlings and Napa boutique wines priced for plutocrats. Full bar.

PICK HITS: Summer corn soup; Kurobuta pork belly "En Sous Vide"; day boat diver scallops; Colorado spring lamb "Two Ways."

NEED TO KNOW: Dinner reservations needed for any night, preferably a few days in advance. Mall is marked by a California Pizza Kitchen in front; Blanca is to the right. Free parking is often crowded at dinnertime; paid valet parking in front of restaurant. Sound level lively but painless. No dress code, but most patrons wear "going out to dinner" duds.

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

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garnishes. The waiter brings a serving bowl holding two lobster-shiitake cakes, looking like a pair of rocks in an empty tidepool. He pours thick, golden liquid from a gravy boat, so the "rocks" now rise from a sunset bay. The epicurean dumplings, with both delicate and earthy flavors, lend focus to the creamy soup. For a final contrast, a few drops of slightly spicy piment d'espelette oil (a smoky-flavored Basque chile) add piquancy.

From the list of cold appetizers, our order of flash-grilled Japanese hamachi carpaccio brought

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large, near-transparent, pounded slices of yellowtail (the whole loin is flash-grilled, then sliced — only a thin edge is cooked). The fish is marinated in shallots, Szechwan peppercorns, cilantro stems, lime zest, and more for 24 hours. Splashed with lime-infused olive oil, the dish was salty but zesty. We were delighted by a fresh-tasting watermelon ponzu dip, more salsa than liquid, with minced onion, lime juice, soy, and rice-wine vinegar, along with the reduced watermelon juice — steeped with Kaffir lime leaves, lemon grass, cilantro, and other ingredients.

Where many chefs spend all their creativity on the appetizers but veg out on the main dishes, Hageman's entrées are as complex as his starters. We were astounded by the perfection of his "Day Boat Diver Scallops." (Not all diver scallops are iced, packed, and air-shipped the day they're caught.) The cold-water Maine scallops were the best that I've tasted in years — sweet and satiny, almost melting on the tongue. They were plated over bouncy miniature potato pancakes, topped with paper-thin, buttery slices of zucchini and slivers of gray summer truffles, which by their nature don't have much "truffle" aroma or taste. But the silky beurre blanc sauce was studded with chips of virile black winter truffles (probably canned, but who cares?) unleashing a musky, flavor-enhancing umami-power on their companions.

"Untraditional Gumbo" is one of the restaurant's most

popular dishes, perhaps as much for its title as its content — although Maine lobster never hurts. More of a shellfish medley in broth than anything you'd find at Dooky Chase's, the dish was born of a negotiation between the chef and his bosses. Mother-son restaurateurs Debbie Hugonin and Seth Baas are originally from Houston, a short drive from the "Cajun Triangle" of southwestern Louisiana. Perhaps they were homesick when they asked Wade to include a gumbo on the menu. "I'm not making any stew," he muttered, and came up with this loose (and roux-less) play on shrimp gumbo — not your down-home ingredients but deluxe cousins. First comes a bowlful of shelled Maine lobster tail, jumbo gulf prawns, and diver scallops, supplemented by a few tender lengths of baby okra deep-fried in rice flour (the token rice element of this gumbo), steamed mild greens, and a rim of tomatoes concassé (mashed tomatoes). Then the server pours in a light sauce based on shellfish broth (cooked with gumbo vegetables such as celery and red peppers). There is a touch of organic gumbo filé butter emulsified into the sauce — but none of my tablemates and I could taste the filé.

Colorado Spring Lamb "Two Ways" tastes fabulous both ways. Way Number One: Baby rib chops arrived perfectly grilled with well-browned exteriors and deep-rose centers, coated with a mixture of whole-grain mustard, minced parsley, and bread crumbs (a classic French treatment for rack of lamb). Way Number Two: a navarin printanière pot pie/lamb stew — an oval casserole topped with a flawless baked puff-pastry crust, buttery and frangible. Breaking through it, we found

a remarkably delicate, greaseless stew of mild-flavored lamb shoulder and vegetables in a clean-flavored, meaty lamb broth. Mediating between the two was a pile of wilted mustard greens, their central veins removed to ensure tenderness. This is not Mom's lamb stew, it's not even Julia Child's navarin — unless Julia had access to this pampered, corn-fed baby sheep. The grass-fed New Zealand lamb served in most restaurants tastes gamier, which is great for grilled or roasted cuts from high on the sheep. But with strong-tasting flesh like the front shoulder, the milder flavor of corn-fed animals is a major plus. Taking time to trim off the fat before cooking is a double-plus.

One dish flopped with all of us. Admittedly, business was slamming on a midweek night, but that's routine here. Whatever the reason, our free-range Jidori chicken didn't fly. It's an airline cut (breast plus first joint of the wing) and arrived with skin well crisped, flavored with lavender fleur de sel (a complex-tasting sea salt from France), but the meat was so dry on this reputedly ultra-moist premium bird that each of us took only a bite or two. The wing proved as arid as the breast, the center no moister than the surface.

The wine list is exceptional. It was put together by consultant George Riffle (previously of Laurel), who must have amazing connections in the wine world, since he managed to collect some first-growth Bordeaux of the proper age for drinking and similar joys from Burgundy, the Rhone, etc., as well as equally prized Napa bottlings, any of which I'd need a second mortgage to pay for. There are also plenty of fine choices in the \$40-\$50 range and even a hand-

ful of pleasing lightweights at "peoples' prices."

The restaurant's decor is as modern and polished as the food, with couches in a sleek lounge by the door and an intimate dining room with plenty of booth seating, done in white, black, and shades of brown, with billowing fabrics and pendant balloon lamps for textural interest. World music plays softly over the sound system, to an always-crowded room full of dressy, prosperous-looking diners, mainly from the immediate area. The waitpeople are plentiful, dressed in navy-blue quasi-military uniforms with high necks and buttons down the front — rather Kafkaesque garb. Now and then, when one passed behind me, I felt a frisson of anxiety, as if I were about to get busted for breaking a law I'd never heard of.

Blanca does have its own dessert chef, but sorry to say, not one of us could proceed past the entrées. It's not just the amount of food — it's the intensity. If Blanca's prices are higher than average, you're not paying to line the owner's pocket but to assure that what you put in your mouth is the best San Diego has to offer. You're buying flavor, labor, and art.

ABOUT BLANCA

Owner Seth Baas is a trained chef himself and a world traveler. "My parents owned restaurants, so I was born into the business — but nothing of this quality, more like fast-food franchises. I always wanted to be in the restaurant business. I went to college for accounting, and then I went to the California Culinary Academy and did my externship at Pamplemousse Grill.... I'm really a kitchen guy by trade, but I'm not good enough to cook at Blanca. I

wanted to open a restaurant that has no weak points — decor, service, food."

A professional headhunter pointed to Wade Hageman. "So we tried his food, and he's a very comforting cook and at the same time cutting edge. I think that's right for San Diego. The city doesn't have the culinary culture yet, it's not old enough.... There's no modern, sophisticated fine dining yet, but people here are becoming more traveled, more educated, and they can appreciate what we're bringing."

Chef Wade Hageman was born a Zonie. "I always loved cooking," he says. "I was working in a little Italian restaurant while I was in high school. I went to college with the idea of being an accountant, but I couldn't see myself in a suit and tie, so I decided to check into culinary school. I went to Scottsdale Culinary Institute. Then I moved to Las Vegas, before the big boom in restaurants hit there, and I worked under Mark Miller at Coyote Café. Then I got the opportunity to work under Wolfgang Puck at Spago. When Michael Mina's Aqua was about to open at the Bellagio, I met with Mike and he offered me a position... and I worked for him at his various restaurants for eight years. I left when I got an opportunity to run the dining room called the Palace Arms in the Brown Palace Hotel... generally considered the nicest dining room in Denver.

"But I didn't care for Denver all that much. Blanca's owners, Seth and Debbie, flew up to Denver, and I made a tasting menu for them. They flew me to San Diego, showed me the restaurant, and we talked more about what they wanted to do, and it was really exciting.

"The menu is constantly changing. We rotate dishes in and out seasonally, as things become available. I want to use whatever's the best that week. Some of our produce comes from the little micro-farms around here, like Connelly Farms in Ramona. Newport Meats, because of their buying power, can get me the specialty meats, like the Berkshire and Kurobuta pork, the Snake River Kobe beef, the milk-fed veal from small farms in Wisconsin and Minnesota."

I asked him what he thought of the controversy over foie gras, which appears on the menu more than once. "I think it's very unfortunate. It's absolutely worse to be injecting cows and caged-up chickens with hormones — we do so much more inhumane things to animals. People don't think about what they're buying from the supermarket. Unlike commercial meats and poultry, the ducks and geese are not mistreated, just overfattened."

Does cooking his style of food in a beach town mini-mall present any special challenges? "The people have the money here, for sure, and people want the fine dining experience," he answered, "but I'm not sure that all of them are exactly used to what that is. My food is very modern, the presentation is modern. People don't always know what they're eating, but they seem to love it. When I come out and talk to them, they're very appreciative. And I'm very appreciative for the chance to do this kind of cuisine in San Diego and how warm and receptive people have been. We haven't done much advertising, but we're busy every night, and it's all word of mouth from people who've eaten here." ■



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On the Cusp of Dinner and Breakfast

"The guy's a magician. He needs a job."

It's 2:30 a.m. I swear, it's so tombstone quiet here in Coronado you can hear a penny drop. I know 'cause I just dropped one. Searching my pockets to see if I have enough for a coffee at the Night and Day, the only place open on the whole island. Probably the last light before Japan, if you're looking west. The last greasy spoon for 5000 miles. The café at the edge of the universe!

I'm walking the streets 'cause Hank is still outside Danny's Bar on Orange Avenue, yapping to some Navy guy. Said he'd catch up.

The "Night and Day" sign says they've been here since 1929. A couple of sailors sit outside on the garden bench, smoking. I open the door. Bam! End of silence. AC/DC's belting out "Hell's Bells." Raucous laughs come from other Danny's alumni. This is gonna be fun. 'Specially since I've discovered a spare Jackson in my pocket.

I've been here before, but not for years. It's still a tiny place, a counter, a dozen stools, and a narrow ledge for folks to put coffees on when it's standing room only. Plus the other essential, a jukebox. Three plays for a buck.

"Yeah, I always get drunk before work, so I can stay on my drunk till I get off," says this gal.

Whoa. She's leaving with her two friends as a

bunch of surfer dudes and dudettes comes in. Arizona heat refugees, to judge from their conversation. One guy, Andy, makes straight for the jukebox. He asks everybody, "Come on, what groups? Gimme a song to hit."

People start noticing: as Andy walks he keeps bringing out this glowing red light. He puts it in his ear. It comes out of his left pocket. He puts it in his mouth. It comes out of the jukebox. "The guy's a magician," says his friend Jimmy. "He needs a job." Andy

says, "No, I'm an actor. And I need some happy music."

In the end he hits Bob Marley. "No Woman, No Cry." The women in his tribe — they've all been at some bar, for sure — sing out like they are the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. "Everything is gonna be all right!"

Me, I'm starved. I check the one-page menu. It's loaded with cholesterol, of course, and strewn with wit. "If you like my work, you can do one of two things: throw money, or applaud. I've heard enough applause."

First decision I have to make is dinner, or breakfast. We're on the cusp here. Night hasn't too long to live. A sailor with early duty recommends his breakfast, a "nine-ounce, seven-buck beauty with sautéed onions, and cheese if you

want, plus bacon or chili," for a dollar more. Mmm. I think he's talking burgers here. "Better decide about the chili," says Lee the cook. "I have one lot left."

I scan the Night and Day Graveyard Menu the simplest dishes are the eggs with hash browns and toast. One egg is \$5.50; two, \$6.25; three eggs, \$6.75. A breakfast croissant with ham, bacon, or sausage is \$8.75. So we're definitely talking Coronado prices here. The best value might be the New York steak and two eggs for \$10.95. Or pork chops and two eggs for \$8.95.

Lee says the most popular items by far are the Denver omelet (\$8.75) and 6 oz. cheeseburger (\$6.50). I'm also tempted by a pancake special: one pancake, two strips of bacon, two eggs, fried or scrambled, \$5.49.

Lee has a big star tattoo on his left elbow and a skull on his right. "I'll take the chili burger," I say. Then I think about the bacon cheeseburger, same eight-buck price. Then I notice a cardboard sign stuck to the massive black metal hood over the cooker. "Porker omelette (4 eggs), with ham, bacon, sausage." The sign says \$9.95, but the menu says \$10.95. "Sign's old," says Lee.

"I'll take that," I say. There are three orders ahead of me, and only Lee to handle them. The poor guy says the summer has been hell. "My

griddle is 500 degrees. Just standing here beside it you're in 150 degrees Fahrenheit." He's constantly wiping sweat from his eyes with his shoulder and taking a slurp from a big can of Rock Star caffeinated energy drink.

But I'm in no hurry, 'specially since the Arizona gals are doing just fine on the musical front. They get through "No Woman, No Cry" and "My Best Friend's Girl." But when they see my gi-normous omelet, loaded with lumpy things, and home fries, they break into applause.

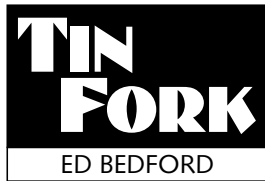
"I want that," says the other surfer dude, Jimmy.

It wasn't cheap, but it is delicious. Great chunks of sausage, generous curls of bacon, pyramids of ham cubes. Like everybody else here, I squirt a wad of ketchup over the omelet and chow in. Pity the coffee's a little watery, 'cause everything else is perfect.

It must be heading for 4:00 a.m. Lee hauls himself out into the cool night air for a smoke on Orange. I follow him out. Need the exercise. That omelet was something else.

"This is the dead time," says Lee. "Another hour, it'll be early-shift guys and retired admirals who can't sleep coming in." Hank's coming up. "Have I missed anything?" he asks.

"No," I say. "You're just in time. Step inside. The show's about to start, all over again." ■



The Place: *Night and Day Café, 847 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-9776*

Type of Food: *American*

Prices: *One egg with hash browns and toast, \$5.50; with three eggs, \$6.75; breakfast croissant with ham, bacon, or sausage, \$8.75; New York steak and two eggs, \$10.95; pork chops, two eggs, \$8.95. Denver omelet, \$8.75; 3 oz. hamburger, \$5.00; 9 oz., \$7.00; 6 oz. cheeseburger, \$6.50; bacon cheeseburger, \$5.75 (3 oz.), \$7.00 (6 oz.), \$8 (9 oz.); patty melts from \$5.50; 1 pancake, 2 strips of bacon, two eggs, \$5.49; "porker" omelet (four eggs with ham, bacon, sausage), \$10.95*

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Success Is in the Tinkering

"People just went ballistic over that combination."

This is why we're different," says Chris Gluck as he emerges from the kitchen of Wine Vault and Bistro. Gluck is carrying a ramekin, which contains a deep-orange mush. "We've started doing some spirits tastings," he says. "Our first dinner was a flight of six old single-malt Scotches, T-bones, and cigars — we opened up the patio for smokers." Round two will be martinis. "We've been developing some specialty martini recipes." He holds out the ramekin. "This is eight gallons of freshly squeezed orange juice reduced down to two gallons and simmered with fresh ginger. This is going to be the base of the orange martinis. You can't get that pure orange essence any other way — this is the real deal. We're going to mix it with Grand Marnier and orange Stoli." Bottles litter the bar — vanilla, cream, limoncello, vodka. Gluck experiments with the proportions for the Key lime pie martini, upping the citrus to get an acidic bite that cuts through the cream.

Just to be clear — Gluck is saying that what makes Wine Vault and Bistro different is not that it serves Scotch and martinis. It's the ingredients, the tinkering, the attention to detail. "Even though we're typically open only three days a week, our cooking staff is here five days a week. Those other

two days, we're doing recipe experimentation. On a day that we're closed, it's very common to see us sitting at the bar with 12 different bottles of wine open and half a dozen plates of food. We're sampling, tasting, and mixing. The menu is constantly changing. Our chef is a graduate of the culinary school here in San Diego — very energetic, very creative. I'll say, 'Okay, I want a dish that's going to go with this particular wine, and this is what I think it needs to be. You create something for me.'" From there, "It's a process of trial and error. Sometimes, it'll take us a day or

two to perfect one recipe." The thing that makes a recipe perfect is that bit about its going with a particular wine. The pairing of this wine and that food is why the place exists. "It's all about that light bulb that goes on when you taste French Roquefort with Sauternes. You're saying, 'Oh, my gosh — I didn't know...'" It's just amazing what happens when you taste a wine by itself and then you taste it with a food that pairs well with it and then taste it again. It just completely changes the flavor."

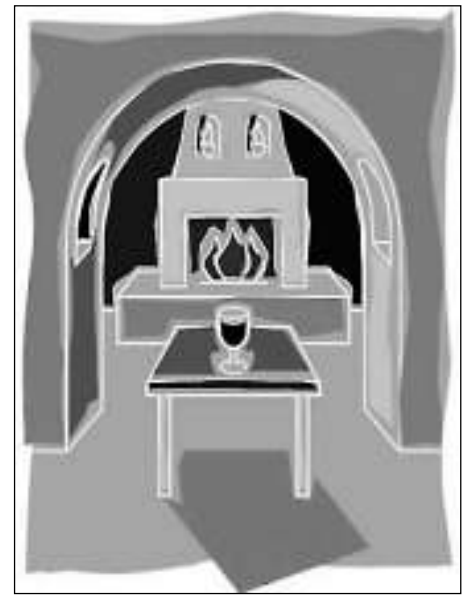
To prepare for a wine-pairing dinner with winemaker Nils Venge, "We sat at the bar with the rep from Venge and just opened up bottles, and I ran back into the kitchen and pulled things

out. We tried the Sangiovese. Then we tried some rosemary olive oil — just dipped some bread into it — and tasted the Sangiovese again. It was just stunning how different it was. We did a rosemary-olive oil roasted game hen with the wine at the dinner, and people went nuts over it. Then for dessert — they don't make a dessert wine, so we thought we'd try a Syrah with some cheese. We couldn't get the pairing to work until we tried some baked Brie with a dollop of fresh pesto and a sprinkling of freshly ground black pepper. The light bulb went on — when it's good, it's good. People just went ballistic over that combination, and now I have those things in my little repertoire. Over the years, that pairing database grows."

Everyone has a database, says Gluck. "A lot of it is palate memory. Everybody knows that a glazed donut and a cup of black coffee is a fantastic food pairing, because you have the sweetness of the sugary donut and the bitterness of the strong black coffee. The two balance each other out. You know that because at some point in your life, you've had a cup of coffee and a donut. You also know that a glass of lemonade and a donut is a horrible combination, because at some point, you probably had a donut and a glass of lemonade — or grapefruit juice or orange juice." Expertise is, to some extent, a matter of gaining experience and paying attention.

"We find lots of combos that don't work. In fact, there have been some tastings — where it's more of an educational-type thing — where we showcase those. One of the classics is chocolate and Champagne as a match made in heaven. It's probably the world's worst food-pairing combination, and we've done tastings where we showed why and then moved on and paired Champagne with sushi or something like that. We explained, 'This is why this works and that doesn't.'"

Gluck and his wife Mary (who is also co-



owner) had hosted wine-and-food dinners before opening their own place, and their reputation served them well. "Our first day," recalls Gluck, "we had a dinner with Nicholas Feuillatte Champagne. Their rep knew us from before. They were so blown away by our menu that they flew in bottles of their '96 Reserve Brut and their '97 Reserve Rosé. We served them side by side with the '97 regular Brut and the '99 Rosé. It was a real honor, because the wines, basically, weren't available." Other winemakers followed — Chris Ringland from Australia, Giuseppe Mazzocolin from Italy's Felsina, Michael Keenan from Napa. The winery behind a particularly allocated Pinot Noir managed to send eight cases down for a tasting.

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San Diego Reader September 7, 2006 139

Those are the big-ticket events, but an ordinary Thursday might see something like a flight of four Australian reds that scored 95–98 points on the Parker scale — \$22. (Thursdays and Fridays generally feature a bistro menu.) An ordinary Saturday wine-pairing dinner runs \$45 (plus tax and tip) for five courses and eight to ten wines. “We start with a good product in terms of the wine, but having said that, a good wine does not equal an expensive wine.” However thrilling the names and scores, “We really pride ourselves in exposing people to what a wine is supposed to taste like. We go to great pains to drop our red wines to cellar temperature. We’ll have customers dining with us who want to buy a bottle off the shelf, and I’ll say, ‘That’s fine, but let me put it in an ice bath for three minutes, to take the temperature from 68 to 58.’ The wine just tastes so much better that way.” ■

RESTAURANT LISTINGS

The Reader’s Guide to Restaurants are recommended listings written by our reviewers (Ed Bedford, Barbara David, Ambrose Martin, Shari McCullough, Max Nash, Eleanor Widmer, Naomi Wise). Each issue contains only a fraction of over 500 reviews. A complete searchable list is available online at SanDiegoReader.com.

*Price estimates are based on the latest information available for a mid-range entrée. **Inexpensive:** below \$10; **moderate:** \$10 to \$19; **expensive:** \$20 to \$24; **very expensive:** more than \$25. Please call restaurants in advance for reservations.*

NORTH COASTAL

A Little Moore Coffee Shop 1030 North Highway 101, Leucadia, 760-753-8228. How did this place slip by unnoticed for so long? Inside, with its low ceiling and snaky counter, it could be out of an Early California movie. The specials are named after recent local characters: “The Billy” is an omelet with ham, avocado, and cheese, plus home fries or hash browns (or cottage cheese or rice). “The Cindy” is two French toast with two eggs and spuds. A plate of grilled veggies and chicken or beef on a mountain of rice is “The Pablo.” It’s standard but generous fare, a formula that’s kept the place humming since at least the 1950s. Breakfast

and lunch, seven days. Inexpensive. — E.B. (1/06)

Azafran 1001 South Coast Highway 101 (at West Street), Oceanside, 760-435-0005. This place just feels Cuban, with its echoey inside, bongos, washed orange walls, and giant Cuban jazz mural. We’re talking Caribbean-style food, not hot by Mexican standards. Most delicious intro: traditional Cuban pressed sandwiches, hot-pressed to mix the juices of, say, smoked ham, roast pork, cheese, mustard, pickles (“Cubano #2”), or roast pork (*lechón*) with a *mojo* (garlicky-citrus) sauce that makes it juicy. The bread, baked right here, is new in itself — crunchy and sometimes sweet (ask for *medianoche*). You get a lot, but don’t leave without trying a plantain dish or the cheese flan. Or a cup of Cuban coffee. Lunch and dinner. Closed Monday. Inexpensive. — E.B. (3/04)

Beach House 2530 South Coast Highway 101 (at Lomas Santa Fe), Cardiff-by-the-Sea, 760-753-1321. This beautiful restaurant, with its breezy seafront patio, is a branch of an upscale beach mini-chain (others are in Dana Point and Laguna Beach). Its main menu features steaks, seafood, and some “Continental” warhorses (lobster thermidor, etc.) that are best avoided. The view is even more spectacular from the upstairs “Top of the House” which features pub grub and fish in a light-house-like setting. On Sundays, local families flock in for the moderately priced à la carte champagne brunch featuring the standard dishes of the genre plus some less-successful fancied-up ones, with endless Freixenet champagne (Wyclef is its house champagne, though). Whatever the meal, stay simple here — burgers, steak, unfussy

eggs — and enjoy the atmosphere. Reserve for a view table or outdoor seating at Sunday brunch. Full bar but few wines. \$2 valet parking. Restrooms accessible by elevator, may be tight fit for wider wheelchairs. Daily brunch/lunch and dinner. “Top of the House” serves until 9:30 p.m. in winter and until 11 p.m. in summer. “Early bird” cut-price dinners daily. Brunch moderate, dinner moderate to very expensive. — N.W. (7/03)

Charlie’s by the Sea 2565 South Coast Highway 101, Cardiff-by-the-Sea (a long block south of the stoplight), 760-942-1300. This seaside spot offers a blissful patio right on the breakwater and a terrific, authentic Boston-style clam chowder to match the view — it’s light, creamy, and loaded with clams, unpeeled red potato chunks, and bits of honey-cured bacon. The kitchen’s good with simple dishes, including fresh raw oysters and the lively “Bayou Burger” with Cajun seasonings and well-made spicy fries. The dinner menu includes more ambitious items, but the weekly main event here is Sunday brunch, with a menu of standard brunch dishes at affordable prices, featuring endless refills of champagne. (Hint: *Veuve Clicquot* it’s not.) Huge wine list, full bar. Free valet parking. Brunch reservations advisable. Monday through Saturday, lunch and dinner; Sunday, brunch and dinner. Moderate to expensive. — N.W. (9/03)

Kim’s Restaurant 745 First Street, Lumberyard Shopping Center #103, Encinitas, 760-942-4816. Both Vietnamese and Chinese dishes are offered in a calm atmosphere with quick, pleasant service. The menu lists 265 items, including many Vietnamese house specialties, 28 seafood dishes, and a whopping 45 vegetarian/vegan dishes, many

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made with *seitan* (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 involve slightly chewy, rehydrated 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 Monday. Moderate. — N.W. (10/01)

Le Bambou Del Mar Village, 2634 Del Mar Heights Road (turn north on Mango), Del Mar Heights, 858-259-8138. No mere “pho joint,” this lovely restaurant serves the sophisticated Vietnamese cuisine of pre-war Saigon — and the owners’ daughters serve it in the flower-bedecked dining room with grace, intelligence, and evident pleasure in teaching westerners about the cuisine. Appetizers (most of them designed for rolling with fresh herbs in lettuce leaves and eating

with your hands) are varied and of superb quality. Few restaurants here do the royal delicacy of “ground shrimp on sugar cane” so well. Most of the house specialty entrées are equally accomplished. Lacqué duck, sautéed shrimps or scallops in tamarind sauce, and “Star of the Sea” curry are outstanding. The gently priced wine list abounds in the fruity whites that go so well with this cuisine, while beer-quaffers can enjoy Vietnam’s own “33” brand. Lunch Tuesday through Friday, dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Low moderate. — N.W. (6/05)

Meritage 897 South Coast Highway 101, Lumberyard Shopping Center, Encinitas, 760-634-3350. Chef-owner Susan Sbicca creates pristine California Cuisine here, highlighting fresh (and usually organic) local produce. A few pick hits are direct imports from her Sbicca down the coast — the irresistible lobster-shrimp bisque is pure Del Mar deluxe. But some simpler dishes cleverly complete themselves as you eat them. It’s a fun way to eat, engaging the mind along with the palate. The setting is family-friendly (only well-mannered kids come here) with a handsome, airy dining room and charming patio. Wide-ranging wine list, plenty by the glass and even some half-bottles. No corkage on Tuesday; Monday and Wednesday all bottles half price. Reservations advisable. Lunch and dinner daily, bar menu ongoing. Moderate to slightly expensive. — N.W. (7/03)

Nobu Japanese Restaurant 315 South Coast Highway 101 (near Dahlia Drive), Solana Beach, 858-755-7787. No, this isn’t the famous fusion-food Nobu of NY, LA, and branches located wherever the money is. Our Nobu has been in the sushi business ten years

Restaurant Coupons and Menus

SanDiegoReader.com

Restaurants listed without coupon offers have only menus online. Restaurants with • have multiple locations. See online menu or coupon for all locations.

Pacific Beach, Mission Beach & Ocean Beach

Atoll at the Catamaran Hotel
Broken Yolk **\$2 off breakfast or lunch**
Canes **Free wing basket**
Chateau Orleans **50% off**
Costa Brava **Free tapa for lunch**
Daily Squeeze-Gingernize House **Free juice**
French Gourmet **Free dessert**
Great Moon Buffet **10% off total bill**
Gringo’s **\$2 off Sunday Brunch**
Lahaina Beach House **Free breakfast**
Newbreak **Free breakfast or lunch**
Pacific Beach Bar & Grill **2 for 1 entrée**
Sam’s by the Sea
Saska’s **Free sushi or 25% off bill**
TJ Oyster Bar **2 for 1 tacos/tostadas**

East County & State College

Alpine Inn **Sunday prime rib \$18.95**
Cereal Port Cafe **Free energy drink**
Fix Me A Plate Cafe
Greek Town Buffet **50% off dinner buffet**
Habana Cuban **1/2 price appetizer**
Lucky Star Buffet **50% off dinner**

North County

The Beach Club **50% off entrée**
Big Jim’s Old South Bar-B-Q **50% off entrée**
The Blvd **Free Happy Hour appetizer**
Del Mar Rendevous **20% off**
Greek Village **Free saganaki**
Jamroc 101 **Free island sampler**
Ki’s Restaurant **Free appetizer or dessert**
Mikko Japanese **50% off sushi**
Noodles & Company •
Poway Sushi Lounge **Free sushi roll**
Wild Note Cafe
Zibibbo **Free tiramisu**

South Bay & Coronado

Chick-Fil-A **10% off catering**
Lai Thai **50% off entrée**

Uptown & North Park

A La Française
B Fried Rice
El Indio **50% off entrée**
Hob Nob Hill **\$2 off entrée**
House of India **Free dinner**
India Princess **50% off dinner***
Lips **50% off dinner**
Rannoosh **Free entrée**
Rudford’s **\$2 off entrée**
Tioli’s Crazy Burger **Free burger or salad**

Midway, Old Town & Mission Valley

The Amigo Spot **15% off bill**
Bali Thai **Free entrée**
Bennigan’s **Free appetizer or dessert**
Chiba Japanese **\$2 off lunch or dinner**
Forever Fondue **2 for 1 entrée**
Old Town Mexican Cafe
Paradise Yogurt **50 cents off a smoothie**
Pizza Bella **Free wine dinner**
Shanghai Chinese **\$1 off Mongolian BBQ**
Tio Leo’s **Dinner combos \$8.99 each***
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Ashoka the Great **50% off lunch or dinner**
Bangkok West Thai Cafe **Free Thai iced tea**
Filling Station **Free appetizer**
La China
Mucho Gusto **15% off check**
Philadelphia Sandwich Co. **Free sandwich**
Thai Cafe **\$1 off buffet**

La Jolla

Cafe Milano **Free Comedy Store tickets**
Clay’s La Jolla
Ginza-Sushi **Sushi dinner for 2 \$15.95***
La Jolla Brew House **Free lunch or dinner entrée**
Marrakesh **50% off lunch**
Regents Pizzeria **Free large salad**
The Shores **10% off dinner**
Su Casa **25% off entire check***

Downtown & Point Loma

Alambres **Free soup**
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Dublin Square **15% off or free lunch**
Embers Grille **50% off entrée**
The Field **Free early-bird dinner**
Hard Rock Café •
Hornblower Cruises
House of Blues **20% off restaurant receipt**
Humphrey’s
La Cantina **Prime rib, crab, wine \$19.95**
Lotus Thai Cuisine **Free entrée**
McCormick & Schmick’s Seafood Restaurant
Mister Tiki Mai Thai Lounge
Olé Madrid **2 for 1 lunch or brunch entrée**
Puerto La Boca **Free Argentine dessert**
RA Sushi
Rei do Gado
Rock Bottom
Saigon on Fifth **20% off**
Samba Grill **Free all-you-can-eat Brazilian feast**
Sevilla
The Shout House
St. Tropez Bakery-Bistro **10% off***
Star of India **50% off entrée***
Thai Time II **Free fried spring rolls**
Visions **25% off sushi**
Whiskey Girl
Xavier’s **Free appetizer**

longer than his namesake, and what he creates is classic nonfusion Japanese sushi and sashimi, with well-seasoned rice, freshly toasted seaweed wrappings, and fresh, fresh seafood. If you're in the mood for a different sort of grazing, you can settle at a table or booth to nibble on a score of appetizers, including a fine monkfish paté and enchanting *chawan mushi* (egg custard) soup served super hot in the cup it was baked in. The Japanese entrées are standard fare, with plenty for vegetarians. It's all comfortable, casual, and kid-friendly, with gracious sushi chefs. Nobu himself usually works the bar Wednesday through Sunday nights. Lunch and dinner daily, with a break between the meals; open weekends until 11 p.m. Large free lot behind restaurant (via Sierra Street, a block west). Mostly moderate; some delicacies expensive. — N.W. (5/05)

Oceanside Cafe 1938 South Coast Highway, Oceanside, 760-722-7337. This little place is as "mom and pop" as they get. "Hi honey. You going to have the usual?" That's Shannon. They do lunch, with good burgers, but breakfast's what a lot of folks come for. "Dieter's Downfall," a three-egg omelet stuffed with ham, bacon, sausage, tomato, Jack, and Cheddar, is wicked. Two other things to try: the "Sausage of the Week" is made next door at the Red and White Market (anything from bockwurst to French apple-chicken sausage). And the dieter's real downfall comes with their carrot cake or double chocolate cake — rich, moist, and fresh out of their oven every morning. Breakfast and lunch. Inexpensive. — E.B. (5/03)

101 Cafe 631 South Coast Highway 101, Oceanside, 760-722-5220. This is the oldest li'l eating establishment in Oceanside. Cooks have been flipping burgers here since 1928. The café is named after Route 101, the Pacific Highway. Old-timers remember when everyone from truck drivers to movie stars would stop for a bite before heading on to San Diego and Tijuana. Try the ABC (avocado, bacon, and cheese) Omelet, the 101 Original Cheeseburger with its "secret sauce," chicken fried steaks with eggs and, of course, the Great Depression dish: biscuits with gravy and home fries. Open daily, three meals until midnight. Inexpensive. — E.B. (3/01)

Samurai Japanese Restaurant Loma Santa Fe Plaza, Garden Section, 979 Loma Santa Fe Drive (one block east of I-5), Solana Beach, 858-481-0032. Set in a suburban mall, Samurai is rumored to have the longest sushi bar in California — 50 feet, stretching around 2 walls — with up to 12 chefs. The pure Japanese sushi is made from never-frozen seafood, and the visual side of the art isn't neglected: The friendly chefs take care to make their compositions look as beautiful as they taste. There's also a spirit of "something extra" — e.g., not just free *edamame* to nibble, but the *ama ebi* often includes a delicious miso soup made with extra shrimp heads. Additional dining choices include standard Japanese fare in the pretty dining room, *kaiseke* (prix fixe) dinners in the Tatami Room (for groups of four to fourteen, advance reservations required), or grilled items in the Teppan Room (two people minimum, reservations required). Open weekdays for lunch; dinner served nightly. For sushi, best to arrive early or lateish, as it gets crowded at prime time. Mostly moderate; *kaiseke* and some *teppan* items expensive. — N.W. (5/05)

Sbicca American Bistro 215 15th Street, Del Mar, 858-481-1001. Though characterized as an "American Bistro," Chef Susan Sbicca ("speeka") also reveals Asian and Mexican influences in her creative menu. Set in a one-time private home a block from the Del Mar coast, this lively restaurant boasts five dining rooms, including one downstairs with a fireplace and a "wine room" upstairs for private parties. In fair weather, the outdoor rooftop patio is the best seat in the house. The menu changes seasonally, though a few perennial favorites remain. The rich, deeply flavored lobster-shrimp bisque with overtones of sweet butter pastry is worth a return visit. A thick maple-roasted pork prime rib with vanilla-scented sweet potatoes and bourbon chantilly sauce is a house favorite, although not quite as exquisite as the soup. Monday nights feature \$4 mar-

tinis; on Tuesdays and Thursdays, all bottles of wine from the fine California-centric wine list are 50% off. No corkage fee on Wednesday. Crowded during racing season. Lunch and dinner daily. Expensive. — B.D. (5/05)

Swami's Cafe 1163 South Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-944-0612. No coincidence it's near the famous surf break and the Self-Realization Fellowship compound. You gotta love the very Encinitas vegetarian-spiritual-surfer origins. You eat surrounded by gurgling fountains, wind chimes, wheat grass racks, a rainbow-colored wind sock, and the manager's 1969 surfer

van. There are plenty of standard dishes, like eggs Benedict or black bean burrito, but the big emphasis is health. Try the protein veggie wrap, with avocado, feta cheese, tofu, and mole, or the Indian curry with tofu. Open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily. Inexpensive. — E.B. (3/04)

NORTH INLAND

Bernard'O Restaurant 12457 Rancho Bernardo Road, Rancho Bernardo Village Shopping Center, 858-487-7171. Ambiance excels here at

one of the prettiest restaurants in the county. High ceilings, tall arched windows, rose-cream walls, fireplaces, and charming Gallic paintings make for an eye-ful, and on many nights a harpist plays show tunes. The cuisine mingles French classics (for example, mussels with *frites*,) with daily specials offering seasonal Cal-Mediterranean cooking. These dishes seem a little less adventurous than in days of yore, but this is still a place for a gracious meal in a superb surrounding. Lunch Wednesday through Friday, dinner nightly. Expensive. — N.W. (6/04)

Cabana Cove Harrah's Rincon Casino, Valley Center, 877-777-2457. This fun eatery brings Pacific Beach to Valley Center with its cheerful (make that gorgeous) surfer decor and a menu of classy surfer grub. With glass walls looking out on the mountains and on two curvy swimming pools, this is the only restaurant in the casino to offer views of the outer world. The eclectic menu, from "surfing spots around the world," includes wonderful, smoky pork as both a taco and an entrée, plus pristine seafood choices. Full bar, creative cocktails. Breakfast Monday

through Friday; lunch and dinner daily. Moderate. — N.W. (4/05)

The French Market Grille 15717 Bernardo Heights Parkway, San Diego, 858-485-8055. Ambience is served in generous portions at this romantic establishment with elegant indoor dining or a charming garden setting. The wine list has over 50 selections, including several available by the glass, and the varied menu offers Gallic dishes of duck, lamb, fish, veal, frog legs, and more. Most dishes are served with the usual French cuisine sauces, but if you're dieting, they'll gladly omit sauce. Ingredients and execution of the

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entrées can be inconsistent (e.g., some nights the fish is overcooked or the meat is tough, other nights they're fine) but the crab-cake appetizer is always outstanding. Save room for dessert, especially the excellent crême brûlée. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Moderate. — *S.M. (11/03)*

Hernandez' Hide-Away 19320 Lake Drive (off Del Dios Highway), Escondido, 760-746-1444. The founder of Hernandez' claims he invented the margarita at his previous restaurant in Bird Rock. True or not, the margaritas (rocks, not slush-ee) are terrific, on a par with Baja's best. The food, though, is detuned for gringos, with a standard menu of Cal-Mex specialties. Even the guacamole is underseasoned, but if you like this sort of thing, a pleasant "enchilada pie" is as good as any Midwestern mom's. The huge bargain-priced brunch on Saturday and Sunday brings in the crowds; reservations urged for weekends to save a long wait. The exterior patio sports a big, funny mural, and the interior is carved into several rooms (helps keep the noise down) camped up with cute "Old West" cantina decor. Weekend brunch; lunch and dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Inexpensive to moderate. — *N.W. (7/04)*

Jimbo's, Naturally! 12853 El Camino Real, Carmel Valley, 858-793-7755 (also in Escondido and Carlsbad). Jimbo — and there is a real Jimbo — started out selling healthy eating with the famous OB Co-op. Now he has these organic palaces of his own. Inside the Carmel Valley branch, it's high ceilings and lots of color — yellow, purple, white — with all the ducts and pipes exposed like in a giant submarine. The deli bulges with cheese, hams, burritos, wraps, and an elaborate salad bar. At the juice counter they grind carrots and wheat grass and organic coffee. A "hot case" counter offers all kinds of rice, tabbouleh-type preparations.

Best deals are usually the daily specials. Try Seitan stew (a high-protein, low-fat meat substitute) or Shelton's Jerk Turkey in Fig Sauce, served with organic mashed potatoes, gravy, and steamed vegetables. — *E.B. (10/04)*

Mille Fleurs 6009 Paseo Delicias, Rancho Santa Fe, 858-756-3085. One of the area's top destination restaurants, Bertrand Hug's beautiful room with beautiful food draws "the beautiful people" — Hollywood honchos, high-end high school graduation parties, and a steady influx of rarefied Rancho Santa Fe residents flaunting huge twinkling rocks. The daily-changing menu sports first-rate modern French cuisine (with a few German touches) by long-time chef Martin Woelsle. Order at will — everything's flawless. The menu's most exciting on weeknights, when crowds are sparser and the kitchen has time to stretch. The wine list is fabulous but exorbitant even at the bottom. Lunch weekdays, dinner nightly. Reservations recommended. Very, very expensive. — *N.W. (5/01)*

Onami Japanese Restaurant 240 East Via Rancho Parkway, North County Fair, Escondido, 760-738-7522. This Japanese buffet offers everything from miso soup and sukiyaki to a host of salads, including several variations of *sunomono* (cucumber salad). Then there are teriyakis, sashimis, and a plethora of sushi rolls. Among the winners are the California roll with *masago*, tempura shrimp roll, guacamole roll, and Philadelphia roll. Skip the dry egg rolls and head for the corn crab cakes, teriyaki chicken, tempura shrimp, and veggies. Desserts offer fresh fruits, bite-size cake options, and go-back-for-seconds green tea ice cream. The food is fresh, the presentation artful, and the staff friendly and efficient. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Expensive. — *S.M. (8/04)*

Wine Sellar and Brasserie 9550 Waples Street #115, Mira Mesa, 858-450-9557. The French-continent food is a delight to the palate. Lunch on Saturday served by itself or in conjunction with the wine tasting. Call for directions and specific hours. — *E.W.*

LA JOLLA

Cliff Hanger Cafe Torrey Pines Pines Gliderport, 2800 Torrey Pines Scenic Drive, La Jolla, 858-452-9858. "You should never leave the ground on an empty stomach," says the sign near the cliff, which is where this café hangs. What is like to be at the Café at the End of the World? You sit, munch, and watch men becoming birdmen, jumping off the cliff beside you. The view of the Pacific Ocean is spectacular. But, hey, grub's good too. Try the Launch (a breakfast burrito with scrambled eggs, bacon, cheese, onions, bell peppers, and salsa) or the Mile High omelet (bacon, cheese, and bell peppers). Also great and grilled right there: generous half-pound hamburgers. Open daily for breakfast and lunch. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (1/06)*

Roy's 8670 Genesee Avenue, Costa Verde Center (across from UTC), La Jolla, 858-455-1616. Our own noisy outpost of top Hawaii chef Roy Yamaguchi's ever-expanding chain has elements of both "top chef" and "chain" about it. Decoding Roy's Rules of Ordering can make the difference between a mediocre dinner and a very happy meal: 1. Steer clear of combination platters — the same dishes come off much better when ordered separately; 2. You can get any element of a combo by asking for it; 3. Don't waste your palate (or money) on weak umbrella drinks when the wine list is brilliant. The menu changes daily, but some frequent tasty choices are pot stickers, *lumpia* "Kahana," or chocolate soufflé. Special dietary requests accommodated, including vegetarian meals. Reserve, and hope for a table far from the raucous bar. Open nightly. Very expensive. — *N.W. (4/01)*

Sky Room Top floor of La Valencia Hotel, 1132 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-454-0771. The stunning ocean view offers three essentials for a memorable evening: privacy, intimacy, and the ability to talk without the interruption of noise. The food is a feast to the eyes as well as the palate. Best bets: abalone and scallop steak appetizer, the

daily soup, diver scallops, and lobster. Dinner only, with two seatings on weekends. Very expensive. — *E.W. (10/99)*

MISSION VALLEY & THE MESAS

Andres' Patio Restaurant 1235 Morena Boulevard, Bay Park, 619-275-4114. This is a cozy cultural surprise on hard-to-define Morena Boulevard. The food is flavorful (and not spicy-hot like Mexican and South American dishes). A good introduction to it is *ropa vieja* ("old clothes"): shredded beef sautéed with mushrooms, green pepper, and tomatoes with ever-present rice and black beans. And the Cuban sandwich (roast pork, baked ham, and cheese) shows off the Cuban handling of pork. Other interesting dishes include *alcapuria* (pork and green plantain) and luscious, messy *yuca con mojo* (yuca root with garlic oil). Open for lunch and dinner Monday through Saturday. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B. (8/01)*

Bale French Sandwich Shop 4879 University Avenue (at 49th Street), City Heights, 619-283-4352. Ann Nguyen started this back in 1980, and her prices haven't changed — they're incredibly low. But the taste of her sandwiches is up there in French-Vietnamese heaven. The Vietnamese are special at this: they do French better than the French — with some spicy Asian touches. The BBQ Pork French sandwich delivers the immediate taste of cilantro, garlicky mayonnaise, sweet barbecue sauce, carrots, onions, cucumber, and lashings of sliced pork, with the occasional heat of a green jalapeño. But above all, it's that crunch of bread — fresh, feathery, and very French — that makes this hard to beat. Add dessert of homemade banana shrimp cake and — *voilà!* Open daily, breakfast through early dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (10/02)*

Emerald Chinese Seafood Restaurant Pacific Gateway Plaza, 3709 Convoy Street (at Aero Drive), 1st

floor, Kearny Mesa, 858-565-6888. Arguably the best Chinese restaurant in the county, here's where local Asians (of all nations) go for both casual family dinners and special feasts of Hong Kong specialties. When you dig in, you'll know why. Menu (trilingual in Chinese, Vietnamese, and English) emphasizes seafood and gourmet delicacies of the South China coast, plus lunchtime dim sum carts daily. The staff is bilingual and crisply helpful, and the specialties are well worth exploring. Reservations accepted for all meals, including weekend dim sum brunches. Few dishes include MSG; diners can request none in made-to-order dishes. Live fish tanks, full bar, serviceable wine list. Mainly moderate, with moderate splurges like live fish and Peking duck easily balanced by inexpensive down-home dishes (unless you insist on shark fin or bird's nest). Open daily from lunch until midnight or later. — *N.W. (9/02)*

Korea House 4620 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-560-0080. Korea House offers floor seating or a table if you want to barbecue your own food. The menu offers fine "down-home" Korean food, such as traditional *mandoo* (beef dumplings, *gaejang backban*, or raw crab, and *yookhwe*, a steak tartare worth risking. Make a meal from enormous appetizers like *gul bosam* (raw oysters, pork, and cabbage leaves). Open daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — *M.N. (9/98)*

Nijiya Market 3860 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-268-3821. If you're not willing to sacrifice quality for convenience when eating fast food, try this Japanese market in Kearny Mesa. Nijiya Market offers prepared box lunches, or *bento*, that are pretty to look at, appetizing, and a real bargain. I suggest, however, passing by Nijiya's steam trays and heat lamps and going straight to the coolers, where you'll find delicious chicken cutlets, fresh sushi, and chilled noodles, as well as dessert delicacies like sweet bread roll filled with sweet bean paste. Inexpensive. — *M.N. (8/99)*

Pampas Argentine Grill 8690 Aero Drive (at Montgomery Field), Kearny Mesa, 858-278-5971. The Argentine

specialties feature grilled grass-fed beef, including a somewhat Americanized version of the *gauchos' great parillada mixta* (mixed grill), with a great chorizo but minus any exotic organs. The naturally raised meats are lower fat and lower cholesterol than feed-lot beef but are salted heavily in the kitchen unless you request otherwise. Specify rare or medium-rare, unless you really like brown cardboard. Lighter fare includes free-range chicken and fresh, well-treated seafood. Beef empanadas are a tasty, authentic starter. Potatoes (fries and mashed) are splendid, salads are exuberant. The full bar features Chilean and Argentine beverages with many affordable South American wines by the glass. Park in lot at restaurant's front door, not the back-door lot. Lunch (mainly sandwiches) on weekdays. Dinner nightly. Entertainment (harp) Friday through Sunday. Closed Monday. Moderate. — *N.W. (4/02)*

Seau's Mission Valley Center mall, 1640 Camino del Rio North (next to Robinsons-May), Mission Valley, 619-291-7328. Footballer Junior Seau contributes more to San Diego than just sacks. His extravagant multiveneue sports pub is major league fun — a real-life reincarnation of some 1960s McLuhanite media art show, with 70 video screens (ranging from large-normal to giant HDTV) running sportscasts and a professional DJ on high, periodically spinning cool sounds over muted talking heads. The menu offers mainstream "something for everyone" choices, including pizza, hefty but so-so burgers, some elementary sushi, all-American entrées, and Seau's family recipe of Samoan teriyaki "plate lunch." Above all, there's pub grub. The chicken wings are pretty good, and you can get all three sauces (Buffalo, BBQ, and Asian) on one order. Perfect hangout for mismatched couples with one sports fan and one fashionista (the latter can head for Nordstrom and Saks discount outlets nearby). On game days, patrons are allowed just one game in the dining room (\$15 minimum), but you can linger from wake-up to closing on the patio or in the bar. Open daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — *N.W. (1/03)*



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THE BEACHES

Baleen Paradise Point Resort, 1404 Vacation Road (off Ingraham Street), Mission Bay, 858-490-6364. Take a quick trip to chic Miami at the local branch of Florida's famed new resort restaurant. Whimsical tropical decor features a monkey motif (carved in the chandeliers, peeking from the paintings) and mambos play on the speakers. But the unlisted prices for chilled shellfish may make a monkey of you unless you ask before you buy. The menu features high-quality seafood and land creatures in refined renditions, including gorgeous lobster bisque, salmon with a clever hummus crust, herbed sea bass, and a hunk of free-range veal. Servers are charmers. The wine list is long and rather steep at the bottom end with better values farther up the range. Reservations recommended. Very expensive. — N.W. (12/00)

The Bar-B-Que House 5025 Newport Street, Ocean Beach, 619-222-4311. OB's piling in, and for good reason: the chicken and ribs are smoked on an oakwood fire, then char-broiled. Beef, pork, and ham spend eight to ten hours in the smoker. Of course, they have pork ribs. A good-value combo is the Southern-Style sandwich — beef, pork, ham, or chicken with coleslaw inside, along with a sauce that's just right: sweet, tangy, spicy. Most original idea? A BBQ burrito with meat, baked beans, coleslaw, and sauce wrapped in a flour tortilla. Expanded menu includes gyros. Open seven days, breakfast through dinner; till 10 p.m. weeknights; 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Inexpensive. — E.B. (3/04)

Kono's 704 Garnet Avenue (on the boardwalk), Pacific Beach, 858-483-1669. This inside-outside café is your prototypical California surfer hangout. It's cream and green with maroon canvas window canopies, red-painted make-believe shutters, and three surfboards sprouting through the roof. On weekends, lines of tourists come looking for their California fix. But Kono's is known among locals, too, for generous breakfasts. Check out their PBS: Pancakes, Bacon and Scrambled eggs. Or the breakfast sandwich with eggs, bacon, cheese, and tomato on a toasted English muffin. Or the CB Burger (chicken breast, green chili, and pica sauce). Best time: foggy mornings. Chow down on their patio on the pier while you enjoy a birds-eye view of surfers appearing out of the mists below. Breakfast and lunch daily. Inexpensive. — E.B. (10/00)

Mardi Gras Cafe 3185 Midway Drive (near Rosecrans and East Street, in mini-mall with a 7-11, across the street from Godfather Pizza), Loma Portal, 619-223-5501. The Creole cooking at this café/grocery, to eat in, take out, or have catered for your next party, is sound and tasty, if deliberately underseasoned (just add salt and hot sauce to taste). You can also buy the real and rare ingredients from the freezer, deli case, and grocery shelves, including Cajun *tasso* (spiced ham), *boudin blanc* (rice sausage) and crawfish sausage. Daily brunch through early dinner. No alcohol, everything available for takeout. Inexpensive. — N.W. (2/01)

MZM Seacoast Bistro 875 Seacoast Drive, Imperial Beach, 619-424-5800. If you can make it past the bland exterior, you'll discover a well-disguised classy joint inside. A harbinger of a new I.B.? Interior is all peach-colored walls, trendy blue scone wall lights, tweedy booths, and photos of owners Marek and Zofia Migdalski with people like President Bush, Lloyd Bentsen, Sam Donaldson, and Joan Kroc. Migdalski is a recognized private chef who has decided to put I.B. on the gastronomic map. Breakfast, available Saturday and Sunday, tends to be simple but sophisticated, like frittata with Polish sausage, prime rib steak and eggs, or scrambled eggs with smoked salmon. Burgers at lunch are often lamb sirloin. Dinner can be anything, including filet mignon or flatiron steak. Reservations recommended. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B. (6/04)

Sapporo Japanese Restaurant 5049 Newport Avenue (by the pier), Ocean Beach, 619-222-6686. It's small,

but Sapporo has big deals, particularly the lunch specials that usually give you a miso soup, salad, and a combo such as chicken teriyaki and California rolls and white rice — all presented like a piece of performance art. Other specials include *yaki soba* (stir-fried sautéed chicken, vegetables, and noodles) and *champon* noodle soup (*udon* noodles, scallops, shrimp, vegetables), and the value-packed Chicken Bowl — a big plate of sliced chicken, broccoli, other vegetables, and a swag of rice. Dinner daily, lunch daily except Monday. Inexpensive. — E.B. (9/01)

CENTRAL SAN DIEGO

Antique Row Cafe 3002 Adams Avenue (at 30th Street), Normal Heights, 619-282-9750. (Also in Lemon Grove.) Antique-land's favorite eatery is a serious exhibit in its own right, especially if you're into sports memorabilia. Look for signed photos of Mickey Mantle, Ted Williams, and Joe DiMaggio (all googly-eyed with Marilyn) on the walls. The word for the food: generous. All-day breakfast dishes include "The Works" omelet, stuffed with bacon, sausage, ham, bell peppers, onions, tomatoes, and cheese bulging over a big oval plate along with skins-on breakfast potatoes. "Philly Steak Heaven" (you choose: steak, ham, or turkey) is one of the more popular lunchtime dishes. Open daily, 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. Inexpensive. — E.B. (10/01)

Asia Cafe 4710 Market Street (at 47th Street), Chollas View, 619-527-1917. May be Asian San Diego's best-kept secret. You have to look behind the smog shop at this all-Laotian shopping center to find it. The menu's Southeast Asian, but the owner — and most of the conversation around you — is Lao. Lao dishes include the famous *larb-kai* (chicken salad with hot peppers, lemon grass, and sticky rice). Good regional alternatives: *bamee* (egg noodle) roasted pork soup, Crying Tiger (ground beef salad with vegetables), and *lard nar* (seafood, beef, or pork with sloppy wide noodles and vegetables). Closed Tuesday. Inexpensive. — E.B. (10/01)

Magnolias Market Creek Square, 342 Euclid (off Market), Lincoln Park, 619-262-6005. If you're looking for an

authentic Louisiana-style feast, this is the best place in town. Bessie Johnson (of the once-famed Bessie's Garret) is back in business, and mouths are rejoicing. At her handsome, spacious restaurant, you'll find generous hospitality, huge portions, and a long, delicious menu of Cajun, Creole, and soul food specialties. The fried chicken is beyond compare, the jambalaya well-nigh perfect, and the BBQ shrimp, crawfish bisque, and étouffée are splendid. Great side dishes include candied sweet potatoes and cornbread dressing. No takeout (except leftovers). Full bar. Lunch and dinner six days; closed Mondays. Low moderate. — N.W. (2/05)

Mama's Bakery and Lebanese Deli 4237 Alabama Street, North Park, 619-688-0717. You'll remember this lovely little place for two reasons. One, the atmosphere: It's a tiny kitchen attached to an old red-and-green wooden house, with tables and green umbrellas on the sloping sidewalk and also inside a shelter of bougainvillea, green canvas, metal mesh, and white brick. Two, their *sajji*. It's a round Lebanese oven of ancient design which cooks the delicious flat bread (also called *sajji*) that goes with pretty much everything, including baba ghanoush ("sweet daddy" eggplant dip) and *fool madamas* (fava and garbanzo bean stew). Gotta-haves include beef *shawerma* wrap or falafel wrap and a meat pie unlike any you've had before. A lovely bonus: fresh Lebanese baklava and a little pot of thick, sweet, black Arabic coffee. Open 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday to Friday, weekends until 4 p.m. Inexpensive. — E.B. (12/05)

Pizzeria Luigi 1137 25th St (at C Street), Golden Hill, 619-233-3309. They claim to make real New York pizza in this tiny storefront and they're not lying. One of the owners is from Brooklyn and his origins are written all over the pies. The sauce tastes right and the crusts are thin enough that you can fold a slice into a "V" to eat on the run, New Yorker style. But it's better to take home a whole pie with your choice of toppings (or a stromboli or calzone) and enjoy it at leisure. Inexpensive. — N.W. (7/04)

Sang Dao 4212 National Avenue, Logan Heights, 619-263-0914. Laos has an exotic Shangri-La thing about it, yet the large family that runs this eatery will tell you Lao food is quite plain and

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simple: vegetables, freshwater fish, chicken, pork, occasional beef, sticky rice, and noodles. But taste their delicious spicy catfish and you're right back at exotic. Thai basil, garlic, and most of all, the gingery *galanga*, a.k.a. "Laos root," help make it unfishy. Other must-tries: BBQ beef, *som yum* (papaya salad), and especially the spicy salad with minced meat called *larb* — closest thing to the national dish. The surroundings here may be homey, but not the excellent cuisine. "Sang Dao"? It means "Star Light." Lunch and dinner six days; closed Monday. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (3/04)*

Uncle Joe's Pizzeria 4591 El Cajon Boulevard, Talmadge, 619-584-2535. The owner's a retired Navy medic, one of the first women to serve in the Middle East combat zone. She's named sandwiches for career stops, like "The Recruit Training Center, Orlando, Florida" (chicken breast, bacon, avocado, provolone cheese, spinach, tomato, and onion) or "North Island Dental Clinic" (turkey, ham, bacon). But try a main dish like eggplant Parmesan or chicken with sautéed mushrooms. Or a massive chunk of lasagna, plus bread and salad. Coffee? You get a huge French-style press-the-coffee-down affair. Your big decision: eat out on the flower-strewn boulevard patio or inside among black leather easy-chairs and a giant screen? Open for lunch and dinner daily, until 2 a.m. Thursday through Sunday. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (6/06)*

EAST COUNTY & COLLEGE AREA

Brothers Family Restaurant 5150 Waring Road (at Orcutt Avenue), Allied Gardens, 619-287-0880. Yes, it looks boring on the outside. Brick, reflective glass. But go in and you're surrounded by brothers: John and Bobby Kennedy, Hugh Grant and his brother Jamie, the Wright Brothers, the Blues Brothers, the Brothers Rico. They're there because this place used to be run by three brothers. Good old-fashioned cholesterol city rules here with no apologies, and the locals appreciate it. It's like a *Cheers* for eating. All the staples are served: country-fried steak and eggs, pork chops with eggs, Grandma Jennie's pancakes with ham, bacon, and sausage — even hefty beef or tuna or turkey sandwiches with soup. Open seven days for breakfast and lunch, with early dinner Wednesday to Friday. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (11/04)*

Charley's Famous Hamburgers and Kebobs 8312 Broadway (at Sweetwater Road), Lemon Grove, 619-460-2690. When you spot an old red-and-white gas station that looks like a café, don't hesitate. That's Charley's. The palm and ficus trees have replaced the gas pumps and a fountain now gurgles where the air hoses used to be. The menu is a long list of hamburgers, as well as hot dogs, sandwiches, and kebobs. Mostly take-out, but you can dine out at their picnic tables under bougainvillea. Open daily, three meals. — *E.B. (12/01)*

Couleur Cafe 7820 Broadway, Lemon Grove, 619-697-0036. Couleur has gone "raw." The Living Room-comfy café, with couches and classy

swirly cane chairs, always had interesting big sandwiches, but now raw is the rage. Walnut burgers, "seafood" cucumber salads, hazelnut-and-raisin breakfast cereal with bananas, macadamia, and Brazil nut milk — all are part of the new diet of live-enzyme food. If you're not ready, four traditional sandwiches are still there (BLT, tuna, salmon, and chicken). Open 12 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday (to 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday). Inexpensive. — *E.B. (12/04)*

D.Z. Akin's 6930 Alvarado Road, Alvarado Plaza, College Area, 619-265-0218. Surely the best Jewish delicatessen in San Diego. Soups are wonderful, and so are the 110 sandwiches, especially the corned beef. The *knishes* and chopped liver easily rival Mother's. Excellent breakfasts and outstanding, fully stocked bakery. Open daily, breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.W.*

4.0 Deli Aztec Shopping Center, 5844 Montezuma Road, 619-281-4040. This low-ceilinged, dark student sandwich hangout gets the frat house crowd, luring them in with draft beers and big Buds that go for a song. Pitchers too, if you buy sandwiches with them, and the sandwiches are no dull lunch-counter fare. Try the Montezuma, a toasted sub with grilled chicken cutlets, chorizo, Monterey Jack, and a "kick-butt southwestern dressing." Or Grilled Rivas, named after a much-loved Colombian who worked here: grilled turkey, Monterey Jack, grilled onions, and peppers. Check specials like the Buffalo Bleu, with grilled roast beef, bacon, red onions, bleu cheese, and Tabasco. The owners had a full-scale deli in New York, so this range is no surprise. Open daily, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (3/04)*

Grossmont Student Center Cafeteria Grossmont College, 8800 Grossmont College Drive, El Cajon, 619-644-7000. This is no UCSD, with its dozen food franchises and Persian and Somali food tents on campus. Grossmont's single cafeteria (open to the public) is big, echoey, and sticks to standard-issue food like crumb-coated chicken katsu, cheeseburgers, burritos, and really, really cheap pizzas. Breakfast? How about a sausage and tater tot burrito? Health fans do have a plentiful salad bar. It's quite an experience, sharing lunch with local and foreign students, looking over the rolling hills to El Cajon — like being at an international finishing school in, well, Switzerland. Open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday to Thursday; till 2 p.m. Friday. Closed weekends. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (6/06)*

FAR EAST

Kountry Kitchen 826 Main Street, Ramona, 760-789-3200. Thank goodness the Kountry Kitchen's still around. They still open at 5 a.m. for the farmers and anyone else who's up then. The Italian Sausage Breakfast is truly delicious: a fat pale-brown sausage with a rich, sharp, livery flavor, along with eggs and hash browns. Up there, too, is the Cowpoke Country Special, a buttermilk short stack with eggs and sausages or bacon. Open daily, breakfast through early dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B. (5/02)*

La Casa Del Zorro Borrego Springs Drive (five miles south of Palm Canyon Drive at Yaqui Pass Road), Borrego Springs, 760-767-5323. La Casa Del Zorro is Borrego Springs' most renowned and ambitious restaurant, set in a deluxe resort five miles south of

town. (Drive through the parking lots until you reach the fenced swimming pool; the restaurant's small, dimly marked door is just to the left.) The California Cuisine menu offers elaborate seafood appetizers (out here in the desert) and entrées with fine, subtle sauces, fresh veggies from nearer the coast, and rather mild-flavored, exquisitely tender meats, evidently chosen to be gentle to the dentures of the duffers. Desserts are few and very sweet. Full bar; great (but pricey) wine list. Reserve for weekend evenings. Open daily. Very expensive. — *N.W. (4/03)*

The Olde Homestead Fudge Factory The Center, 590 Palm Canyon Drive (north side of the street), Borrego Springs, 760-767-7782. The Fudge Factory's greatest dish is not what it's named for, and some of its pick hits aren't fudge, either. Of the 24 flavors of housemade fudge, barely a half dozen are available on any given day. The chocolate walnut is especially delicious, but the real masterpiece when in season is the "date shake" — a cold quaff that's ambrosial on a hot afternoon. Then, too, this is one of the few spots in town with an espresso machine. Open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., closed Monday. Inexpensive. — *N.W. (4/03)*

UPTOWN & OLD TOWN

Adams Avenue Grill 2201 Adams Avenue, University Heights, 619-298-8440. The frequently changing menu tries to embrace several disparate styles, and can't quite get its arms around any of them. The dishes are often ambitious; a few soar, but many falter due to flaws in conception,

execution, or both. Largely ho-hum wine list needs selections with enough sweetness to stand up to items featuring Asian spice — where are the Rieslings? Still, the place seems full of happiness and friendliness: yellow and orange walls, plenty of smiles amid the bustle. Soups receive lavish attention, and sometimes live up to their billings. As to treats, the generous, marvelous lavender-infused crème brûlée makes this a dessert destination — pause to sniff a spoonful before slipping it between your lips. Lunch and dinner daily, breakfast weekends. Inexpensive to moderate. — *A.M. (4/01)*

Arrividerci Italian Restaurant 3845 Fourth Street, Hillcrest, 619-299-6282. However you picture an idealized Italian restaurant — sprawling café on the strada or little cozy corner as in *Moonstruck* — somehow Arrividerci is it. The straight-from-Rome look of the crowded sidewalk deck and yellow-and white-awning helps. The menu is a big yet familiar regional potpourri. Reliable standards include *vitello bel monte* (veal in a brandy cream sauce with tomatoes); "straw and hay" (*paglio e fieno al pesto*), pale yellow-and-green pasta with string beans and pine nuts in a delicious pesto sauce; baby rack of lamb with rosemary; or shellfish pasta dishes like *linguine mediterraneo*, with clams, mussels, and big garlicky shrimp. Part of the fun is bumping chairs. Think dining car on a narrow-gauge railroad — you're that close to the next table. Lunch and dinner daily. Moderate. — *E.B. (7/04)*

Berta's Latin American Restaurant 3928 Twiggs Street (at Congress, diagonal to Rockin' Baja Lobster), Old Town, 619-295-2343. Sampling the whole range of little-known cuisines from Guatemala down to Patagonia, Berta's lengthy menu reads

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like a culinary "pick hits" list of each country's best flavors, typically rendered with expertise and verve. Some outstanding dishes include sweet-savory Chilean *pastel de choclo* (a casserole of beef, chicken, and corn pudding) from Berta's homeland, spicy ceviche and subtle *seco de cordero* (citrus-flavored lamb stew) from Peru, earthy Guatemalan *chilemal* (cilantro-laden pork stew), aromatic beef curry from Trinidad, and a sensuous *vatapa* (seafood in coconut sauce) from Brazil's African-influenced Bahia coast. Vegetarians will find many meat-and-fowl-free options. Lunch and dinner. Moderate. — N.W. (4/01)

Bread and Cie 350 University Avenue (at Fourth), Hillcrest, 619-683-9322. At least twenty breads emerge daily from this bakery's 10,000-pound French stone hearth oven. Most are dense, crusty, and delicious French or Italian peasant breads, including the outstanding anise-fig and black olive loaves that are served in many top local restaurants. Scones, brownies, muffins, banana bread, and cookies are the sweet side of the house. Focaccia pizza and sandwiches (many with thick-sliced bread and rather thin fillings) are available to take out or eat on the spot — inside the café or on the sidewalk patio. Open daily, breakfast through early dinner. Inexpensive. — N.W. (6/02)

California Cuisine 1027 University (between Tenth Avenue and Vermont), Hillcrest, 619-543-0790. Tod Atcheson is now the chef of this long-lived neighborhood restaurant. Following house tradition, the menu is printed daily and the dishes are chosen according to the harvest and catch of the moment. Still, you can usually count on finding a relatively authentic Caesar salad, a huge and exuberantly garnished bourbon-brined Neiman Ranch pork chop, and irresistible grilled Asian barbecued jumbo shrimp. A summertime special of fresh corn and mussel bisque shouldn't be missed if it's on the menu. There's some day-to-day inconsistency, but a preponderance of deliciousness. Save room for pastry chef Lauren Huffman's outstanding, adventurous desserts. Comfortable atmosphere, but interior gets loud when busy. A heated garden patio surrounding a fountain offers romantic al fresco feasting. Dinner nightly. Moderate to expensive. — N.W. (9/04)

Chilango's Mexico City Grill 142 University Avenue (near Third Avenue), Hillcrest, 619-294-8646. This bright, cheerful café offers authentic cooking from Central Mexico. You know it's real because there are no "combo plates" on the dinner menu. Instead, enjoy rarely found dishes cooked with creative twists — for instance, the delectable *chiles en nogada* features poblano chiles with an exuberantly fruity ground-sirloin stuffing topped with a walnut-cream gravy scattered with strawberries. The "Yucatan salad" with mole-sauced pork is refreshing, and pork with *chile pasilla* sauce is dark, deep, and delicious. Lunches include various tortilla wraps with a choice of six regional sauces. Mexican and European beers, tasty margaritas made from agave "wine." Short but carefully chosen, affordable international wine list includes bottlings from Baja. Patio seating. Lunch Monday through Saturday; dinner nightly. Lunches inexpensive, dinners moderate, entrées half-price on Monday. — N.W. (9/05)

Crest Cafe 425 Robinson Avenue (at Fifth Avenue), Hillcrest, 619-295-2510. "Hearty Homemade Comfort Food" is the boast, and this small retro-deco café backs it up. Cecelia and her dad, Luis Moreno, took over this place back in 1985. Some staff have been here since the start. Loyal customers get their photos and names on an honor roll that fills one wall. Lots of lazy ceiling fans, long, hanging blue lights, and art. "Matisse in Morocco," Salvador Dali, Frida Kahlo. Consider momsy dishes like Sloppy Joes, honey-glazed pork chops, or the healthy Vegetable Steam Basket. And don't turn down their 11 different kinds of burgers, including the Fresh Salmon Burger, the OuiOui Burger ("aged bleu cheese crumbled under melted jack cheese") or the wicked, spicy Butter Burger (half a pound of lean ground beef stuffed with garlic, tarragon, basil, parsley butter, topped with cheese, garlic-paprika-cayenne-cumin mayo and more butter). Best of

all, late hours: open 7 a.m. to midnight, seven days. Dinner at 11 is no problem. How rare is that in San Diego? Inexpensive. — E.B. (5/02)

Indian Princess 3925 Fourth Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-291-5011. You walk in through a gold-and-red entrance. Inside it's all cream cloth-covered tables, vases with fresh flowers, teak chairs that look like giant cellos, silver art objects. This is classy. The deal here is to catch the daily lunch buffet, 20 items of interesting and fresh-tasting Northern Indian dishes like tandoori chicken or chicken *tikki masala*, *navratan korma* (veggies with nuts in cream sauce), or *keema muttar* (minced lamb curry with spices and peas). All for an unprincipled sum. Dinner is more expensive. Don't miss the wonderful tamarind chutney. Seven days, lunch from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., dinner 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Inexpensive (buffet); moderate to expensive (à la carte dinners). — E.B. (1/06)

Kazumi Sushi 3975 Fifth Avenue (at Washington), Suite 120, Hillcrest, 619-682-4054. A simple neighborhood sushi bar offering imaginative rolls, each one so distinctively seasoned that there's no need to mar the pretty fish-scapes with wasabi dip. The fish is super-fresh and includes salmon that Kazumi-san cold-smokes himself. For a family-style dinner, "The Ultimate Boat" (serving two or more) is an encyclopedia of Japanese specialties, a huge platter of sushi, *gyoza*, assorted appetizers, yakitori, teriyaki, and terrific tempura. Need comfort food? The tempura also graces the top of a satisfying bowl of *nabeyaki udon* (noodle soup) with an onion-sweet broth. With just a small staff of family members in the kitchen and house, expect a wait for food at busy times. Lunch Tuesday through Friday, dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Inexpensive to moderate. — N.W. (10/00)

Kung Food Express Cafe 2949 Fifth Avenue (at Quince), uptown, 619-298-7302. These guys really try to be green. They have a "100-percent plant-based menu," use solar-heated water, give their food waste to farmers to compost, and even try to use biodegradable cutlery, plates, and

bowls. They have a "live" food section (meaning raw, so enzymes survive), plus vegan and vegetarian items. One great-looking lunch offering is the collard wrap, a big green collard leaf wrapped around a mix of cashews, agave, agave nectar, alfalfa, cilantro, mango, red cabbage, and avocado. Also good are the dishes using steamed quinoa — the Incas' mother grain — plus curried veggies, and beans with Soyriso. Nice courtyard with native grasses, climbing vines, white umbrellas. Open 11 a.m. till 11 p.m., daily. Inexpensive. — E.B. (6/06)

Khyber Pass 523 University Avenue (at Fifth Avenue), Hillcrest, 619-294-7579. The room's very modern, but Afghan cuisine is full of history, carrying echoes of both Persian and Indian foods, with even a hint of Greek (Alexander the Great conquered the region). Dinners feature kebabs, tandooris, curries, and some unique regional specialties. Flavors are exotic but oddly comfortable to the cosmopolitan palate. Among the don't-miss items are the outstanding *ashak* (spring onion ravioli) and *mantu* (ground-meat ravioli) — both with lively yogurt sauces — and *zamordad chalow*, a spicy lamb-and-spinach stew. Save room for the sexy desserts. Can be noisy inside; small sidewalk patio. Private dining room upstairs bookable for parties. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Moderate. — N.W. (9/02)

The Mission 2801 University Avenue, North Park, 619-220-8992 (also in Mission Beach and East Village). "Urban assault food for a revolutionary people," say the wait staff's black T-shirts. But the food here is less revolutionary than halfway between health-nut and greasy spoon. Still, their "conscientious cuisine" is generous, good-looking, and intelligent, if a little middle-class timid. Breakfasts are big here. The delicious chicken-apple sausage and eggs comes on a foot-wide plate loaded with unskinned rosemary potatoes, scrambled eggs, and scrumptious baked-on-the-spot rosemary bread. Pancakes and French cinnamon toast are popular staples, as is the Zen Breakfast (scrambled egg whites, braised tofu, brown rice, with veggies).



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The roast beef hash can be chewy. Check out the "Chino-Latino" dishes (lunch only) like the mild-but-still-delicious ginger sesame tofu with brown rice and peanut sauce, which comes with a plethora of jicama-type veggies. The interior has arty, post-industrial, coffee house feel. Open daily, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (4/05)

Ortega's, A Mexican Bistro 141 University Avenue (at Third Avenue), Hillcrest, 619-692-4200. Owned by a member of the Ortega family, the Puerto Nuevo lobster pioneers, this is the Baja restaurant group's first north-of-the-border venture. You'll find Baja-style cuisine featuring seafood and grilled foods, with a focus on local spiny lobster. Unlike the typical Ortega's, the lobster isn't deep-fried before grilling — an improvement in tenderness and flavor. Of course, the crustacean's best in season (October to February). Fish ceviche makes a good starter course. Other choices include small tacos, steaks, kebabs, et al., plus the standard Puerto Nuevo side dishes — stewed (not refried) beans, and an oddly bland guacamole fixed tableside. Full bar; fun margaritas including almond and pomegranate variations. Reservations recommended for weekends. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Mainly moderate (lobsters and Kobe skirt steak expensive). — *N.W.* (8/05)

Phil's BBQ 4030 Goldfinch Street, Mission Hills, 619-688-0559. Check the lines around Phil's any lunchtime. Although Phil grills his BBQ (rather than

slow-smoking it), he must be doing something right. He is: That sweet, rich rib sauce he invented is one thing. The fall-off-the-bone pork and beef is another. The sweet baked beans a third. Plus, the restaurant is a rabbit-warren that grew, but it's kid-friendly, has open wash-basins for your greasy mitts, and has paper towel rolls at every table. Ribs can be expensive, but a quarter-rib (four bones) will fill you fine. A great second-best is the BBQ sandwich with char-grilled pork shoulder. Remember: you'll get pork unless you specify beef. Open for lunch and dinner; closed Monday. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.* (3/06)

Picasso Spanish Restaurant 3923 Fourth Avenue (near University Avenue), Hillcrest, 619-294-3061. Interesting Spanish tapas and entrées are served in a small, modern, art-filled room that draws a casual neighborhood crowd. The regional style is Basque, from Northern Spain, but these aren't the tiny *pinxos* of that area — in fact, these bites are larger than usual, sized generously for two eaters. Some top tapas include chicken-stuffed *empanadillas*, baby eels in garlic sauce, stuffed greenlip mussels, and an outstanding paella (available as both a tapa and entrée). A bargain-price bottomless pitcher of the house's workmanly sangria (made with Livingston Cellars Burgundy) is the patrons' favorite beverage. Moderate. — *N.W.* (6/01)

Pomegranate Russian-Georgian Restaurant 2302 El Cajon Boulevard (northeast corner of Louisiana), University Heights, 619-297-4007. Pomegranate's address is serendipitous, since the food of Deep-South Georgia is the Louisiana cuisine of the Slavic world — alive with fresh herbs, garlic, touches of hot pepper. This rus-

tic-looking restaurant is animated with antic humor (check the multilingual graffiti on the walls) and offers unique, flavor-bomb dishes. Don't miss the world-beating beefy, herb-jungle borscht (beet soup, but it's way more than that), the Lobio bean dip, and Olivier salad. The chef slow-smokes his moist barbecued beef and pork and cold-smokes whole trout, a treat as a group appetizer or summer entrée. On weekends, there's sublimely smoky *shashlik* (a.k.a. shish kebab). The printed menu is only a hint as to what's really cooking, and regular patrons get the best off-menu choices. So become a regular. Street parking is dire. Reservations advised for weekend dinners. Dinner nightly, service until 11 p.m. on weekends. Moderate. — *N.W.* (1/04)

Soltan Banoo Persian Eatery & Tearoom 4646 Park Boulevard (at Adams Avenue), University Heights, 619-298-2801. It's colorful, small, and intimate. This two-room café pulsates with multicolored cloths, midnight blue cushions, Aladdin-shaped pitchers and samovars. What you're eating is basically Persian health food — most Persian fare is healthy food anyway. Try the pomegranate soup, made of spinach with lentils, beans, wheat, and pomegranate juice, or the strawberry tabbouleh salad. Lamb is often a part of dishes. *Ghoumeh sabzi* is a lamb stew. *Koufteh-Berenji* is a ball of basmati rice with lamb, eggs, onions, and plums. The selection of teas includes Caspian, decaffeinated peach, and a few others. Lunch and dinner Monday through Saturday, closed Sunday. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (10/02)

Whole Foods Market 711 University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-294-2800. For vegetarians on the go, Whole Foods' prepared food sec-

tion will feed you better — and faster — than any vegetarian restaurant in town. Outstanding selections include the green chili and cheese polenta, the Emerald Mushrooms salad, and especially the *farofa* salad — it's like American stuffing, but it's cous-cous stuffed with almonds, fat raisins, thin strips of scrambled egg, and bits of carrot and bell pepper. Whole Foods' vegetarian meals will tempt any meat-eater with their delicious originality. La Jolla branch at 8825 Villa La Jolla Drive, 858-642-6700. Inexpensive to moderate. — *M.N.* (4/99)

DOWNTOWN

Acqua Al 2 322 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-230-0382. Despite its monicker, this isn't a seafood trattoria, but a near-fishless branch of a restaurant in Florence that won success by eschewing the standard Florentine menu while maintaining Tuscan purity of style. Chef-owner Martin Gonzales trained there and serves as charming host of the local outpost. Best bets are the vegetarian pasta and rice dishes made with aromatic porcini mushrooms. The tasting of five pastas may sound tempting, but they're chef's choice — and he tends to choose the dull ones. "Tastings" of salads, cheeses, and desserts are also offered. Mains are mainly rather plain. Lunch weekdays, dinner daily. Moderate (pasta) to expensive. — *N.W.* (11/00)

Anthony's Fishette 1360 North Harbor Drive (at Ash), downtown, 619-232-2175. At the baby brother of Anthony's Grotto and Star of the Sea, the good news is you pay a fraction of the price, and you get to sit outside over the water. The chowder — New England or Fisherman — is fresh, thick, tasty. A meal. Their old fashioned fish 'n' chips or Baja squid steak sandwich are great fillers too. Also good: "hand battered treasures," like catfish strips, swordfish, oysters, crab claws, and clam nuggets. In winter, breakfasts are served on weekends; in summer, all week. Open for lunch and dinner seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B.* (2/06)

Bay Cafe 1050 North Harbor Drive, downtown, 619-595-1083. If you're hungry at the city ferry landing, you can eat in the bare-bones interior or take your tray upstairs to a handsome

bayview terrace (with no wheelchair access). After a chilly crossing, try the enjoyable New England-style clam chowder, which is milky, clean, and not over-thickened, with tender clams and tiny diced potatoes. The menu features breakfast dishes, burgers, sandwiches (all served with generic fries), variations on fish and chips including prawns, plus some entrée salads. The burgers are genuinely "have it your way" — for a few extra cents each, the kitchen will add extra ingredients (Jack or Cheddar, mushrooms, grilled onions, bacon, jalapeño). Breakfast, lunch and early dinner, daily. Inexpensive. — *N.W.* (8/01)

The Blarney Stone 510 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-233-8519. This handsome establishment, made of dark wood from the Emerald Isle, includes a large, good-looking separate dining room that opens when the dining public forms a critical mass, or around 8 p.m. Like most local Irish pubs, the menu is mainly American and gringo-Mex snack foods, including an "Irish quesadilla" (corned beef and cheese on a flour tortilla). The three wannabe Celtic dishes are an indifferent corned beef and cabbage, "steak Kildare" (a tough, mushroom-smothered rib eye), and "fish and chips Liffey," which aren't noticeably different from, say, fish and chips "Thames" or "Afton" or even "Missouri." Lunch daily; dinner Thursday through Saturday. Inexpensive to low moderate. — *N.W.* (4/01)

Buon Appetito 1609 India Street, Little Italy, 619-238-9880. At the chic, art-filled fourth branch of a chain that started with Hillcrest's Arriverdici, the bill of fare combines the pick hits of the mother-ship and of Encinitas cousin-restaurant I Trulli. The menu calls the cuisine "Nouvelle Italian," blending traditional and trendy Mediterranean ingredients. Seasonal specials change monthly. Most appetizers and pastas are fine (entrées often less so), but the kitchen can be hasty, turning out hard-centered risotto or burnt seafood. Winners include antipasto, quail with lentils, and wine-braised rabbit in the style of the Italian Alps. Desserts are mainly weighty. Wine list is an affordable treat, highlighting mysterious Italian grape varieties from small-scale bottlers; the adept staff can help you choose one to match your order. Euro-pop plays loudly inside; noise-sensitive may prefer patio tables. Lunch and dinner daily (with break between); open

until 11 p.m. on weekends. Moderate to expensive. — *N.W.* (5/04)

Buster's Beach House and Longboard Bar 807 West Harbor Drive, East Plaza, Seaport Village, 619-233-4300. There really is a Buster, a surfer who traveled the world working in restaurants. Baja, Oahu, Fiji, Naples, Ocho Rios, Phuket — you name it, there's a dish from each of those waters, and every one of them ethnically incorrect. The menu's actually an international anthology of surfer-bar grub — and like Waimea Bay's waves, it has huge ups and downs. Skip the greasy "Short Board" pupu platter and risky daily fish special and go for the well-seasoned crab cakes, fish tacos, spicy "paella" (more like jambalaya), or pizza. The surfy, fun decor and breezy patio easily compensate for some of the spacier service in town; a full bar offers a great beer list and decent umbrella drinks. To snag a patio table, reserve it and make sure they write it down. Three hours validated parking, kid-friendly, plenty for vegetarians. Open three meals daily. Prices cover the waterfront. — *N.W.* (7/03)

Chopahn Authentic Afghan Cuisine 750 Sixth Avenue (near F Street), Gaslamp, 619-236-9236. Authentic Afghan cuisine resembles Indian and Persian food but is singularly itself: the spicing is exotic but the flavors are clear and unconfused. It emphasizes grilled-to-order marinated meats (especially lamb), stews, and well-seasoned rice dishes, and uniquely delicious appetizers such as leek ravioli (*aushak*), leek or meat turnovers (*bulaneh*) and battered vegetables (*pakawra*). The grilled salmon is excellent, and don't miss the side dish of sweet pumpkin topped with yogurt and meat sauce (*kadu*). Plenty for vegetarians, too. Interesting, affordable wine list; Mexican and domestic beers. Small patio. Lunch weekdays, dinner nightly. Moderate. — *N.W.* (8/05)

City Pizzeria 1125 Sixth Avenue (between B and C), downtown, 619-531-0955. There's a cultural war going on here. "City" has a New York attitude — just listen to the guys in the kitchen grabbing dough, flailing it around, yakking, joking. But the dough has been a West Coast family's secret for 75 years. Try the "Ranch Chicken" pie with garlic chicken, basil, and ranch dressing, or the BBQ Chicken with pineapple, red onion, BBQ sauce, and

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mozzarella. (Of course, no self-respecting New York pizzeria would ever consider serving such moonbeamish left coast toppings — not even if they were in New Jersey.) If those don't tempt you, there are eleven other "specialty pies" every day. Open daily till 10 p.m., 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Inexpensive. — E.B. (12/04)

Croce's Restaurant and Jazz Bar 802 Fifth Avenue, downtown, 619-233-4355. "Live music is complimentary with purchase of a dinner entrée" at this restaurant and bar run by Ingrid Croce in honor of her late husband, Jim. Appetizers that mix flavors — like the baked Brie and honey-roasted garlic served with mixed greens and a Grand Marnier berry compote — are delicious. But despite creative dishes, like New Zealand sea bass with a pomegranate-macadamia crust, few entrées rise above the level of average Gaslamp fare. Simple is best here — the rich and creamy shrimp *carbonara* fettuccine with Italian pancetta, Kalamata olives, and basil in a white garlic cream sauce. For dessert, try the flourless chocolate cake with roasted walnuts and pecans served with Tahitian vanilla bean gelato and Verona chocolate sauce. The menu is seasonal. Sit by the window for great people-watching or retire to the bar if you prefer live jazz. Open nightly for dining and music (breakfast and lunch Saturday and Sunday). Expensive. — B.D. (10/05)

Dakota Grill and Spirits 901 Fifth Avenue (at E Street), Gaslamp, 619-234-5554. The name may hint at cowboy cooking, but look for simple mid-American comfort food at one of the many local eateries under the Cohn Restaurant Group aegis. A typical entrée includes a hunk of red (or "the other white") meat cooked on a wood-fired grill, smeared with a precooked sauce that, for better or worse, first meets its mate on the plate. Meat-avoiders will find fish and poultry dishes, too. Tasty taters but dull veggies come with most entrées. Desserts run to fruity favorites like cobbler, crisps, and upside-down cake. Treats from the wide-ranging beverage list include three-glass wine flights in four styles of wine, and a pleasant house brew, Dakota Pale Ale, that suits the food. The two-floor restaurant offers big plush booths, tall windowed walls, and a piano player gliding from rinky-dink 1950's pop to Fats Waller stylings and Ellingtonian riffs. Valet parking. Full bar. Lunch weekdays; dinner nightly. High moderate to expensive. — N.W. (9/04)

El Carrito 2154 Logan Avenue, Barrio Logan, 619-702-4806. It's called "El Carrito" — "The Streetcar" — for a reason. This gem was one of San Diego's fleet of trolleys that trundled around the city for 60 years from 1889. When the city opted to tarmac over the rails in 1948, a local family rescued this car and turned it into an eatery. Today it is little changed. The menu is old-fashioned Mexican, with breakfasts like ranchero-style eggs, rice, and beans; *bistek a la plancha con huevos* (grilled steak with fried eggs, rice, and frijoles); good pork chops; and the Big Three: *caldo de rez* (beef soup), *pozole* (meat and hominy), and *menudo*, the famous tripe soup hangover reliever. Three meals, seven days. Inexpensive. — E.B. (6/04)

Kansas City Barbecue 610 West Market Street (at Harbor Drive), downtown, 619-231-9680. Scrumptious smells waft across the tracks at the Seaport Village trolley stop — barbecued pork and beef. And yeah, this is the joint where Tom Cruise and Kelly McGillis did their "sleazy bar scene" in *Top Gun*. And it is kinda sleazy, especially in the shadowy horseshoe bar, with memorabilia like hanging bras, Czech license plates, and stickers ("Grow Your Own Dope: Plant A Man"). The beef and pork ribs (or rib tips or chicken breast) are worth it. They're cooked over an oak-fueled fire. Nice long happy hour (3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., at bar only) has great food/grub deals. Open daily, lunch until late, serving until 1 a.m. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B. (3/01)

LG's Prime Steakhouse 789 Sixth Avenue (at F Street), downtown, 619-239-7899. The atmosphere at this chain steakhouse is a little less "old boys' club" than most of its kind — it's quiet and luxurious, but not especially formal. All the beef is aged on the premises, and the star cut is the superb dry-aged "Jewel in the Crown" Porterhouse, with much beefier flavor than wet-aged meat. Meats are heavily salted unless you request otherwise; sauces taste a little pre-fab. The Caesar salad is made at the table to your tastes. "Escargots alfredo" is fun as an indulgent starter. Everything's à la carte, with good creamed spinach among the sides. Great, if pricey, wine list, but the top reds are barely over retail prices. Full bar. Valet parking at Fifth and Market. Reservations recommended. Open for dinner 365 days a year. Very expensive. — N.W. (8/05)

Max New York Steakhouse and Seafood 827 Fifth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-235-8500. As steakhouses go, Max is a good value, offering huge portions

of fine, gently raised near-organic meat, cooked to order and offered at relatively gentle prices. You don't even have to pay extra for your veggies. For beef, there's full-flavored naturally raised Angus from Idaho or butter-tender Kobe-style Wagyu beef from New Zealand. Or you can choose a giant rack of lamb, so tender it should be called "Certified Agnus." Sauces tend to be pedestrian; request them on the side. The classic steakhouse appetizers are done with some smart twists. Superb international wine list at below-average markups, including plenty by the glass. Full bar. Valet parking, or inexpensive lot via alley two doors north. Open nightly, until midnight on week-ends. Upper moderate to very expensive. — N.W. (3/04)

McCormick & Schmick's Omni Hotel, 675 L Street (at Sixth Avenue), downtown, 619-645-6545. This ever-expanding chain from the Pacific Northwest may be the Starbucks of fish. Most of the dishes are still the corporate specialties, pleasing rather than exciting. The daily changing menu features about 30 varieties of fresh seafood, delivered daily in over 50 preparations, plus a handful of poultry and meat dishes. The long, interesting, mainly reasonable wine list is printed on back of the daily menu. Restaurant is often busy at lunch and packed for early dinners during Petco home-game nights, so reserve when the team's in town. A heated terrace is mainly used during lunch and game nights. Full bar. Open daily, three meals to 11 p.m. Lunch moderate; dinner moderate to expensive — N.W. (10/05)

Mediterranean Cafe and Lounge 1352 Fifth Avenue (between A and Ash), downtown, 619-515-2233 or 619-325-1900. Don't come early. You'll be all alone. Turn up around midnight, and you'll see just how social the Lebanese can be. Meals are spread over a couple of hours with lots of conversation, probably finishing with a baklava, Turkish coffee, and a *sheesha* — water pipe (much cheaper by the hour here than down in the Gaslamp; best flavor: rose). They have the whole panoply of Middle Eastern and Greek food, but the best deals are probably the single lamb skewer on a roll of pita bread with hummus, tomato, lettuce, and pickles, or the meat pie on pita. Open 6 a.m. to 3 p.m., seven days. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B. (2/06)

Patty's Fruitland 1789 National Avenue (at Beardley), Barrio Logan, 619-239-3085. Patty used to sell fresh fruit drinks outside a church in Guajayto. In 1994 she came to America and married Jose. "Why can't we sell

fruit drinks in America?" she wondered. Now they've opened a place where you can get combos like the *pico de gallo* (rooster's beak) with lots of fresh-sliced fruit and raw veggies (jicama, cucumber), all dusted with cayenne pepper. They've expanded to nonfruit (roast beef and other sandwiches, shrimp tostadas, hot dogs), but the fruit and juices define the place. The most tempting: fruit salad with cottage cheese, granola, and honey. Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Inexpensive. — E.B. (3/04)

Pokez Mexican Restaurant and Vegetarian Cuisine 947 E Street (at Tenth Avenue), downtown, 619-702-7160. Rafael — his buddies call him Rafa — started this cool student/artist hangout years ago when he was 18. Lunchtime business people come here. Evenings, seems like it's all Rafa's friends: people from downtown, Golden Hill, City College. The food is mostly Mexican vegetarian (though he's got meaty things like chicken or steak ranchero or sautéed chicken fajitas). Tip well: the servers volunteer and share the take from the gravy pot. Monday to Friday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; week-ends 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. — E.B. (12/01)

RA Sushi 474 Broadway (at Fifth), downtown, 619-321-0021. Big and splashy, this Arizona-based chain restaurant tries to create a high-energy party atmosphere with loudish music and louder "Oriental" decor. Its grazing menu features sushi, sashimi, and hosts of Asian-oid appetizers, plus a few substantial noodle dishes and entrées. The food's a mixture of the dire and the delicious — old, pulpy *edamame* versus magnificent miso soup, delicate dilled salmon and desiccated *katsu*. The sushi rice is well seasoned, but the products are inconsistent from hour to hour and roll to roll, depending on how long ago the seafood was defrosted and how recently the rice was cooked. You take your chances, but it's fun anyway. Numerous Asian beers and sakes, affordable wines, full bar specializing in fancy cocktails. Those with fading eyesight may need a penlight to read the menu. Daily, lunch through dinner, to 11 p.m. Bar open to 2 a.m. Moderate. — N.W. (5/04)

Rainwater's on Kettner 1202 Kettner Boulevard (at B Street), Little Italy, 619-233-5757. You could order the fish, the chicken, or even the lamb, but odds are you're here because you want steak, prepared by people who respect your enthusiasm and offer prime beef in multiple cuts. And you're here because Rainwater's is venerable and local. You can dine old-style and enjoy it — warm



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fried pork rind) in a red sauce, and of course *carne asada*, but cooked well and priced amazingly low. Check the generous five-item-plus-coffee breakfast special. Three meals, all-day breakfast and lunches, seven days. Inexpensive. — E.B. (8/03)

Lonchería La Poca Lucha Municipal Market, Avenida Niños Héroe #105, Tijuana. Venturing to the far end of Tijuana's *Mercado Municipal* is like entering a scene from *The Sorcerer's Apprentice*. Shafts of sun penetrate the dark of an incredible kitchen of great black iron stoves and giant steaming pots, and hoods gathering into black pipes that snake up and out through the roof. But what a welcome! As you walk through the *mercado*, ladies bounce up, enticing you away to their eateries. Hang in there till you reach *Lonchería La Poca Lucha*, "The Small Struggle Lunch Place." Ask for *carne de puerco* (pork), *chiles rellenos*, *bistec ranchero*, or *higado al gusto* (liver), all around \$3. *Pescado frito* (fried fish), *milanesa con papas* (veal with fries), *pollo frito* (fried chicken), and *carne asada* are slightly more. Price includes soup, steaming hot corn tortillas, and a soda. Open seven days, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Inexpensive. — E.B. (11/00)

Mariscos el Locochón Popotla fishing village, five minutes south of Rosarito Beach (non-toll road), dirt road next to Fox studios. There are smarter places to eat, like Puerto Nuevo. Even in Popotla, most other eateries look more like, well, eateries. The thing about Pedro García Barcelo and El Locochón is that they are what they are. His fishermen friends hand him fish straight off the boats, he sells them on a table in the sand, and if you so desire, he'll toss one into a pan of oil on a wood fire, fry a couple of corn tortillas, add cilantro, tomatoes, radishes, fried *cebollitas* (green onions), and presto! He'll hand you your fresh fish taco ever. Work out a price with him. He's there every day till dusk. Inexpensive. — E.B. (3/04)

Salón Azteca Rosarito Beach Hotel, south end of Boulevard Benito Juárez, Rosarito, 661-612-1111. This fabled old hotel's all-you-can-eat Sunday brunch buffet offers a great excuse to check out the gorgeous architecture and meet other travelers in town. To reach the buffet, go to the left behind the registration desk to the Salon Azteca, walk in, grab a plate, and start dishing up your breakfast from the long line of cafeteria-like bins filled with *gringo*, *gringo-Mex*, real Mexican (*menudo*), and international specialties. Expect to tip if you want something from the omelet or carving station. Next, plunk down at a table where a waiter will arrive to serve you juice and endless cups of decent coffee. Casual dress. Secure parking in hotel lot for a small extra charge. Three meals daily; brunch Sunday. Somewhat expensive for the area; Visa and MasterCard accepted. — N.W. (4/03)

Saverio's Restaurant Mediterraneo Boulevard Sánchez Taboada #3151 (at Escuadrón 201 Street), Zona Río, Tijuana, 686-6442. When Javier Plascencia Huerta wanted to open an Italian restaurant, he went all the way. He built a complete Tuscan villa right next to venerable Hacienda *Cien Años*. "But then," says Plascencia, "I got interested in what Baja California has to offer." The result: an Italian *palazzo* offering an interesting and changing fusion of Mediterranean-Baja food with dishes like roasted baby octopus, local oysters cooked on the mesquite grill, mesquite-grilled quail from Ensenada's valley of Guadalupe, mussels cultivated in Baja farms, and a delicious rack of lamb raised in the local San Vicente valley. The restaurant even grows its own herbs. Dish presentation is pure art. One of the tastiest: roast duck breast in a guava sauce with a little burrito of candied leg meat. Lunch and dinner daily. Moderate. — E.B. (8/04)

MULTIPLE LOCATIONS

Chipotle 734 University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-209-3688; 11 other locations in San Diego County. Hard to believe: This chain that McDonald's acquired cleaves firmly to the original vision of the chef who founded it: naturally raised tender meats in authentic marinades made on-premises — it's quality all the way, and way better than most local "Berto's" (which often use cheap meat marinated by their meat-jobbers). The fresh-grilled *carne asada* is splendid, the *carnitas* outstanding. And it's "have it your way" with a wealth of choices as to what you get — burritos, tacos, bowls, fajitas — and what goes into it. You can eat indoors or outside (or take-out), drink margaritas, beer, or soft drinks, and park for free (if a slot's open). Open 10:45 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily. Rock-bottom prices. — N.W. (10/05)

Karl Strauss Brewery Restaurant 1157 Columbia Street, downtown, 619-234-2739. One-time Pabst brewmeister Karl Strauss heads his own brewery and a bunch of brewery restaurants bearing his name, so you can't help but be a little wary of an over-slick operation. But at least at downtown's ivy-covered brickly drink and eatery, the food's honest, tasty, and sleek, not slick. And Karl's beers are still interesting. Go for honest-but-beautiful dishes like his "Hump Day" meatloaf (Wednesday only), which comes looking like a Magic Mountain. Beer influence is everywhere. Filet mignon has an Amber Lager glaze. Ribs boast a Red Trolley Ale barbecue sauce. It can get pricey; try to hit happy hour. Lunch and dinner daily. Moderate. Other branches at 9675 Scranton Road, Sorrento Mesa, 858-587-2739; 5801 Armada Drive, Carlsbad, 760-431-2739; 1044 Wall Street, La Jolla, 858-551-2739. — E.B. (11/03)

The Living Room Coffeehouse 5900 El Cajon Boulevard (at 59th Street), College Area, 619-286-8434. With deep-draft couches, Persian car-

pets, pictures on the wall, chunky wooden tables, and a tree-shaded patio, this Swiss-owned café is a student hangout with a lively notice board, a rental computer, and good cheap breakfast food in huge quantities. Try "The Works" omelet, with bacon, ham, onions, tomatoes, pepper, cheese on top, potatoes, fruit, and bread. Open daily, three meals, until late at night. Inexpensive. Additional locations (different management) in Hillcrest, Point Loma, and La Jolla. — E.B. (10/00)

P. F. Chang's China Bistro 4540 La Jolla Village Drive (near Executive Way, opposite UTC), 858-458-9007; 7077 Friars Road, Fashion Valley, 619-260-8484. Okay, you're looking at the haunches of a giant horse right outside your corner window. And there don't seem to be any actual Chinese people among the wait staff. But this busy-busy mall-Chinese chain (130-plus restaurants) has a certain cool. You have to grudgingly like it. Those reproduction Chin Dynasty horses are really something, as are the bits of the Great Wall and the terracotta soldiers scattered inside. The food? The spicy

ground chicken and eggplant was too salty for our taste, the "Sichuan from the Sea" shrimp too sweet, and the Cantonese roasted duck not that exciting. Yet there are jewels, like the Shanghai Street Dumplings, whose gingery chicken and sweet sauce flavors matched beautifully. And — not that it's all Chinese — the massive "Great Wall of Chocolate" dessert will knock you over. Lunch and dinner. Moderate. — E.B. (1/06)

Star Of India 1820 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-483-1372; also 3860 Valley Centre Drive, Del Mar, 858-792-1111; and 423 F Street, Gaslamp, 619-234-8000. It's the lunch buffet that can lead you by the nose into Indian (and here, specifically *Punjabi*) food. Pick among specialties like vegetable *pakora* — a bunch of veggies dipped in chickpea batter and fried, or a nice mess of eggplant with potatoes, chicken curry *masala*, and maybe the first cooked spinach you ever loved, *palak paneer*. At the PB location, you sit under a sky-blue cupola. Open daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B. (11/01)

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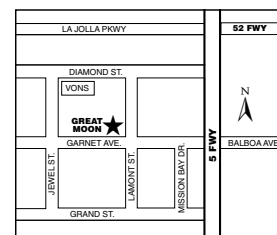
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Superman Departs

The parallel plotlines take a long time to shed any light on each other.

Always on the lookout for a compliment to pay, I have been meaning for some time to pay one to Focus Features for the design of their logo. Simple, elegant, sans-serif capital letters, eye-chart-style, with only the “o” out of focus. Succinct, clever, relevant to the medium, not to mention helpful to the projectionist. And a refreshing alternative to the more and more elaborate logos of the now numberless film production companies, revealing themselves only by degrees, unfolding over a span of time, taking computer-generated journeys down a desert highway, across a bay, through a jungle, seeking to tell a story, create a mood, deliver an “experience,” typically more than one logo at the start of every movie, so that you often are unsure of when the actual movie is beginning. The old roaring lion of MGM, the scanning searchlights of Fox, the beaming Lady Liberty torch of Columbia, and the rotating globe (or earlier, the orbiting plane) of Universal are about all the “development” I care to put up with before a movie gets going. Even the rock-solid Paramount mountain now settles into

REVIEW
DUNCAN SHEPHERD

position on an axis, first tumbling through space like a meteor, then encircled by a chorus line of stars, one by one. Things, in my recollection, began to get out of hand with the galloping Pegasus of TriStar Pictures and got thoroughly out of hand with the Huck Finn fishing line dropped from a crescent moon into a pool of thought (since elaborated further, with balloons and whatnot) at the top of a DreamWorks production. Now everyone has to get in on the act, and the outset of a movie starts to look like a competitive animation festival that can only end in a new category at the Academy Awards.

The latest offering of Focus Features is *Hollywoodland*, and my opportunities to pay compliments grow scarce after the opening logo. The speculative investigation into the death of Superman — i.e., the man who played him on television, George Reeves — by gunshot on June 16, 1959, divides itself into the present-tense, but in no other sense tense, nosing-around of a shady private eye (Adrien Brody) and a past-tense review of the third-tier career of the



Hollywoodland

deceased actor (Ben Affleck, a stiff even prior to death, several degrees colder and less supple than the real Reeves). An on-the-set vignette of Fifties grade-Z special effects is amusing in an *Ed Wood* sort of way; and the digital insertion of Affleck alongside Burt Lancaster in footage from *From Here to Eternity*, although not quite an exact

match, is amusing in a different sort of way, a *Dead Men Don't Wear Plaid* way. And the vintage clothes and cars are nice. However, the parallel plotlines take a long time to shed any light on each other, and never very much light even by the end; and the present-tense one, padded out with the case of an extraneous jealous husband, doesn't

hold up its end of things, is more of a rude interrupter, despite the anecdotal interest of the impact of the reported suicide on the detective's young son. (I myself, at right around the same age, happened to be in Hollywood on a family vacation when the news broke — I got it from a curbside L.A. Times vending machine — and

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while I can testify to the initial shock, I cannot testify to the post-traumatic stress disorder.) None of the three possible scenarios restaged for the cameras alters the essential facts of the matter: *Rashomon* this is not. Suicide, for an actor imprisoned in a single role, made sense at the time. Suicide still makes sense. The further speculation never seems more than idle. First-time filmmaker Allen Coulter (a TV veteran, albeit "quality" TV, *The Sopranos*, *Six Feet Under*, *Sex and the City*, etc.) keeps trying and trying to make it more of a story. And failing, failing.

Queens is a gay romp, not to say a merry romp or a lively romp or a spirited romp, simply a homosexual romp, a strained and flat and unfunny romp, about the run-up to the first legal same-sex wedding in Spain, a public spectacle involving twenty couples, of whom we focus on three and their hovering mothers. Director Manuel Gómez Pereira assumes, or counts on, the unearned friendliness of the spectator — as, for example, when Marisa Paredes, playing a film star, gives her blessing to a dinner guest's postprandial marijuana, "Please, I've worked with Almodóvar" (as indeed she has), or when a casual fan on the street misidentifies her as Carmen Maura, another Almodóvar alumna, also a member of the present cast. Perhaps Pereira assumes, or counts on, a bit of rub-off friendliness from friends of Almodóvar. Production and photography, it might be worth noting, exhibit a level of professionalism well above the standard of the American gay cinema; and it might then be troubling to ponder what those different levels imply about mainstream acceptance versus marginalization. *Brokeback Mountain* may have scaled a peak, but did not necessarily clear it out of the path.

Half Nelson has to do with a do-gooding, dedicated, young, white, liberal history teacher and girls' basketball coach at an inner-city middle school, a voluntary role model who develops a special friendship with a fatherless black girl and a rivalry for her affections with a neighborhood dope peddler. Oh, and his usefulness as a role model, friend, or rival is somewhat compromised by his own crack addiction. That's a recipe for complication, if not quite complexity, and the film — the first fictional feature by Ryan Fleck, an expansion of his twenty-minute short, *Gowanus*, *Brooklyn* — feels fairly authentic at any second (no credit to the obligatory grainy, wavy photography), but it generates no flow, no pace, no momentum. And the authenticity is compromised a bit, too, by the self-regarding, actorish work of Ryan Gosling.

Factotum, a word slightly misdefined on screen as "a man who performs many jobs," in the sense of a man who cannot hold a job, instead of the proper sense of a man who performs many duties, is a respectable addition to Bukowskiana, if respectability can be a criterion for the life and work of the pickled writer, Charles Bukowski. A mangily bearded Matt Dillon, in the part of the author's semi-autobiographical stand-in, Henry Chinaski, gives a full-bodied performance, and a literally full-bodied one, his head tilted backwards as if sighting down his nose, his feet shuffling along as if tugged by a rope. Phlegmatic, undemonstrative, unexhibitionistic, he wisely resists the temptation to romanticize or mythologize. (Lili Taylor makes a suitable mate as his main squeeze, brave enough to model lingerie in a body

you would never see on the cover of *Maxim*.) And the deadpan detachment of Norwegian filmmaker Bent Hamer, of the droll *Kitchen Stories*, seems a good strategy in the face of a hell-bent boozier, granting us sufficient distance to see the humor. There is, at the same time, entirely too much first-person narration (curiously recited in a stride-and-glide Jack Nicholson cadence), which is another way of saying there's not much external activity. The episodic narrative goes nowhere fast. Meaning that wherever it goes, it does not go there fast. It goes everywhere slow.

The Wicker Man, as needless a remake as *The Omen*, is not as big a time-waster for the viewer (an hour and three-quarters) as for the writer and director, Neil LaBute, known for less generic stuff like *In the Company of Men* and *Your Friends and Neighbors*. He has weeded out some of the silliness of the 1973 British original, but that bit of gardening is offset by his transplanting of the action to a Goddess-worshipping, organic-farming colony on a private island in Puget Sound, where a California motorcycle cop (Nicolas Cage, not altogether serious about the assignment) has come on a personal invitation from his former fiancée to search for her missing child. Further, the pruning of the protagonist's Christian faith and the grafting-on of a fresh mental trauma and some cheap-thrill dreams are no help at all. If the film serves no other purpose, it at least allows the filmmaker's suspected undercurrent of misogyny to erupt unambiguously and unapologetically into a geyser. The ad

campaign — "A psychological thriller. A mind blowing conclusion" — leaves no possibility, even if you missed the original, that the ending is going to sneak up on you. Unless, that is, the campaign strategists thought your mind might be blown by the unannounced guest appearance of James Franco in a redundant epilogue, or by the closing dedication of the film to the late punk rocker, Johnny Ramone. Whoa.

The first announcement of the seventh annual San Diego Asian Film Festival, to be held October 12 through 19 at the UltraStar Mission Valley 7 in Hazard Center, divulges that on its program this year will be Hou Hsiao-hsien's *Three Times*, which, if you'll remember my grumble from early in the summer, Landmark could find no room for on their ten local screens. (For the complete festival program, keep an eye on www.sdaff.org.) Of course by then the film should already be out on DVD — September 26 — but I am willing to hold off for the chance to see it on a big screen. ■

MOVIE LISTINGS

All reviews are by Duncan Shepherd. Priorities are indicated by one to five stars and antipathies by the black spot. Unrated movies are for now unreviewed. Thousands of past reviews sorted alphabetically, by year of release and by rating, are available online at SanDiegoReader.com.

Accepted — A seven-time college reject (Justin Long) creates his own fictitious college — South Harmon Institute of Tech-

nology, or SHIT for short — to appease his parents and to accommodate fellow rejects. "A bad idea from the get-go," counsels a close friend — a movie review within the movie. A couple of appealing young actresses, Maria Thayer from *Strangers with Candy* and Blake Lively from *The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants*, are held down in a class of dunces. Jonah Hill, Adam Hersham, Columbus Short; directed by Steve Pink. 2006.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ENCINITAS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18)

All about My Mother — Pedro Almodóvar's paean to womanhood, in particular motherhood and actresshood, is dedicated to three of the kind: Bette Davis, specifically for *All about Eve*; Gena Rowlands, for *Opening Night*; and Romy Schneider, for *The Important Thing Is to Love*. The title, quite plainly, derives from the Davis film, a Spanish-dubbed clip of which is included; and the traffic fatality outside the stage door, whereby our heroine (Cecilia Roth) loses her eighteen-year-old son, is lifted directly from the Rowlands film. (Schneider, apart from her role as a degraded screen star in *The Important Thing*, lost a child for real, shortly before she died of heart failure at age forty-three.) The first half-hour has a strong and a steady pull, straight through the heroine's arrival in Barcelona from Madrid to track down the boy's father, who has no idea he ever had a son, much less has one *no more*. Thereafter the complica-

tions and coincidences mount up to staggering proportions. The grieving mother's best lead to the father, who is now a transvestite prostitute, is a social-working Catholic nun (Penelope Cruz) who turns out to be pregnant and HIV-positive; and the source of both the fetus and the virus turns out to be the selfsame transvestite prostitute. While waiting for this man to surface, the mother lands a job as personal assistant to the lesbian stage actress (Marisa Paredes) whose autograph the dead boy had been chasing the night he was run down by a car, and whose touring production of *A Streetcar Named Desire* just happens to have wended its way opportunely to Barcelona. One night, when the actress's coke-head lover and co-star — Stella Kowalski to her Blanche Du Bois — fails to appear by curtain time, the mother goes on in her place, to great acclaim. (She had first met the boy's father, it so happens, in an amateur production of *Streetcar*, Stella to his Stanley.) There is more in the same vein. Almodóvar treats all of it with a straight face, but at the same time a strained face. The application of old-fashioned chest-heaving soap operatics to new-fangled kinky subject matter has an air of blustery rhetoric about it. It never quite worked for R.W. Fassbinder. It works even less for Almodóvar, who quadruples the kinks. 1999.

★ (KEN, THROUGH 9/7)

The Ant Bully — Preachy computer cartoon, holding up the communal spirit of an ant colony against the every-man-for-himself ethos of humankind. As in *Honey, I Shrunk the Kids* (but by another method: the potion-in-the-ear method of *Hamlet*), a human being gets to see the world from an ant's-eye view. Notwithstanding some

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clever touches, the normal ugliness of computer animation (creatures out of *Aliens*, *Starship Troopers*, *Screamers*, and elsewhere) has been mated to exceptional tastelessness: the taffy tongue of a marauding frog and the gaseous bog of his stomach; the scaly scalp and greasy nose hairs of a cigar-chomping pest exterminator. The exterminator, a Satanic villain advertising himself as Beals-a-Bug and swarming with flies, spices the preachiness with a pinch of fire-and-brimstone. Voices by Nicolas Cage, Julia Roberts, Paul Giamatti, Meryl Streep; written and directed by John A. Davis. 2006.

★ (PALM PROMENADE 24)

Bad Education — An Almodóvar *paella* of priestly pederasty, transvestitism, female impersonation, film, stage, assorted spices and savories. (Gael García Bernal in the persona of cabaret artiste Zahara looks strikingly like a blond Julia Roberts.) The presentation is polished and colorful as always; the onion-y layers of reality — of fiction within fiction — appear muddled and murky. What his fans will nonetheless be certain to find a satisfying dish will be judged by others to be show-offy and self-indulgent. A tasty bit on which everyone might agree: the predatory priest and boy soprano in a guitar-and-vocal duet of "Moon River" *en español*. A true crossover number. Fele Martínez, Javier Cámara, Daniel Giménez-Cacho. 2004.

★ (KEN, 9/12 THROUGH 14)

Barnyard — Formulaic computer cartoon rounds up a group of pop-acculturated, smart-mouth, bipedal farm animals who all look like kitsch knickknacks from a souvenir shop, a menagerie of cream pitchers, salt shakers, piggybanks, paperweights, and toothpick holders; rubber, plastic, ceramic; felt-covered, feathered, frosted. The focal figure is a bovine party animal who is expected to follow in his father's hoofprints after the latter has been torn to bits by coyotes and mourned for half a day. Father and son each appear to have a plumber's helper affixed to their abdomens (males with udders?) and more closely resemble gorillas than cows. Director Steve Oedeker brings some experience, if not exactly expertise, from live-action films, *Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls* and *Nothing to Lose* most notably. Or rather, most notoriously. With the voices of Kevin James, Sam Elliott, Courteney Cox, Danny Glover. 2006.

● (CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ENCINITAS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18)

Beerfest — And also, as night follows day, Belchfest: an underground Olympics of drinking games held annually in Munich under the cover of Oktoberfest. From the Broken Lizard comedy troupe (Jay Chandrasekhar, director as well as troupier), this is lowest-common-denominator stuff — notwithstanding the esoteric allusions to *Das Boot* — and its sense of humor is only marginally more sophisticated than the standard TV beer commercial in which that beverage is pictured as lifeblood, precious as heroin, dearer than loved ones, center of the universe. Still, it's a tolerable sports spoof, stray though it may in quest of laughs: phallic sausages in the hands of granny, laboratory frog masturbation, nickel-and-dime male prostitution, whatever. The German accents (more than most accents, even) are reliably amusing, and if no actual laughs escape your throat, the possibility of one is kept tantalizingly open to the end. Paul Soter, Erik Stolhanske, Kevin Heffernan, Steve Lemme, Cloris Leachman, Jurgen Prochnow. 2006.

★ (ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24;



Beerfest

PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Boynnton Beach Club — It is difficult to locate the director of *Smithereens* and *Desperately Seeking Susan* in this multicharacter romantic comedy (original title: *The Boynnton Beach Bereavement Club*) that targets an audience of seniors and is accordingly toothless and bland. Rather than "targets," perhaps we should say "patronizes." Susan Seidelman, the director in question, is only in her early fifties (the marginal character of a Goth granddaughter forms a tenuous link to the past), but after the 1980s she fell below the radar into made-

for-TV movies and direct-to-video. Desperately seeking Susan, indeed! Her most poignant moments here, quite independent of any plot machinations around elder singles in a Florida retirement community, come from the intercut stills of each of the actors in their salad days, testifying both to the natural ravages of time and to the elective disfigurements some people undergo to combat those ravages. Since some of the chosen clothes and hairdos are plainly intended as satirical, it's possible that some of the obvious surgeries are intended that way too. Dyan Cannon, Brenda Vaccaro, Sally Kellerman (no boob job for her — see?), Renée Taylor, Len Cariou, a well-preserved Joseph Bologna, and Michael Nouri, the pup of the group, are among the specimens on exhibit. 2006.

★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

Cavite — Microbudget suspense film of a Filipino-American brought back to his homeland for his father's funeral and dragged through hell to retrieve his kidnapped mother and sister from Islamic terrorists. The thrift affords small comfort to

the paying spectator who has to peer through the haze of the video image and get bounced around by the hand-held jiggles and push-button zooms. There is plenty of squalor and "Fuck that shit," but overt violence is limited by the limited wherewithal. Written and directed by Neill Dela Llana and Ian Gamazon, the latter of whom also plays the main (and virtually only) role. 2006.

● (SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY, 9/11, 6:30 P.M.)

The Covenant — Renny Harlin's supernatural thriller with Steven Strait, Sebastian Stan, Toby Hemingway, Chace Crawford, and Taylor Kitsch.

(CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ENCINITAS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; SOUTH BAY DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 9/8)

Crank — Underworld action film with Jason Statham and Amy Smart, written and directed by Mark Neveldine and Brian Taylor.

(CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; CINERAMA 6; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ENCINITAS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GALAXY 6; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Crossover — Detroit streetball plus Sunday sermon. The scale of operations — the volume of wagers, the population of cheerleaders — is preposterous to begin with, and the climactic grudge match is nonsensical. With Anthony Mackie, Wesley Jonathan, Wayne Brady, Kristen Wilson, Alecia Fears; written and directed by Preston A. Whitmore II. 2006.

● (CHULA VISTA 10; CINERAMA 6; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; RANCHO DEL REY 16; SAN MARCOS 18; SOUTH BAY DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

The Descent — Grueling and gruesome British-made horror film about six women

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MOVIES

by a group named A Whisper in the Noise.) The messianic tendency has become more and more pronounced in the filmmaker's oeuvre, ever since the outsized success of *The Sixth Sense* gave him leave, gave him license. But it has never before achieved such a height of public embarrassment. For entertainment purposes, that's not altogether a bad thing. There's a horrible sort of fascination in the spectacle, balanced by a quite pleasurable fascination in the photography of Christopher Doyle (Wong Kar-wai's right hand), the camera hovering around the faces at odd angles and with odd framings. If you're going to make a right bloody fool of yourself, you might as well make yourself a good-looking fool. With Paul Giamatti, Bryce Dallas Howard, Bob Balaban, Sarita Choudhury. 2006.
★ (GASLAMP 15)

Law of Desire — Homosexual love triangle orchestrated by Pedro Almodóvar, a-bubble with campy passions, and tricked out with some plot complications more tantalizing than finally satisfying. Eusebio Poncela, Antonio Banderas, Carmen Maura. 1987.
★★ (KEN, 9/8 THROUGH 11)

Little Miss Sunshine — The feature debut of music-video veterans Jonathan Dayton and his wife Valerie Faris was put together on the "quirky" assembly line, a product of the thriving "quirky" industry. Dad (Greg Kinnear) is a would-be self-help guru, "would-be," that is, if anyone were buying his Nine-Step Refuse-to-Lose System. Sample pearl, in casual conversation: "Sarcasm is the refuge of losers." Mom (Toni Collette) is not such an arrant embarrassment, is not really much of anything, except that she has taken responsibility for and custody of her homosexual brother (Steve Carell), a failed suicide and the self-professed, as opposed to acknowledged, "pre-eminent Proust scholar in the United States." Dad's dad (Alan Arkin), who resides in the same household, is a scurrilous cokehead. And the kids are a Nietzsche-reading teenage boy (Paul Dano) who has held fast to a vow of silence for nine months, though he is not averse to



The Wicker Man

communication via notepad ("I hate everyone"), and an owlshly bespectacled younger sister (Abigail Breslin) in competition for the crown of Little Miss Sunshine in Redondo Beach. Since the family lives in Albuquerque, a road movie ensues, with all members of the family packed into a yellow-and-white VW bus. You wait with dread for the moment that will cause the boy to break his silence, and even greater dread for the first public performance of the girl's "talent" as nurtured in secret by Granddad; and the dread in each case

proves fully justified. Quirkiness does not preclude sappiness. There are ample compensations, however. Little Miss Breslin is a good crier, and her competitors in the beauty pageant are a frightening collection of JonBenét Ramsey plastic dolls, and the bus itself emerges as the best character, requiring a collective push after the clutch goes out en route, and emitting a rude-sounding, unpredictable bleat after the horn gets stuck. 2006.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; ESCONDIDO 16; FLOWER HILL 4; GALAXY 6; GROSSMONT CEN-

TER; HILLREST CINEMAS; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKET-PLACE 13; OCEANSIDE 16; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Live Flesh — Almodóvar, heavily armed with his standard pots of garish color, but otherwise rather toned down. The tone, in fact, is quite uncertain: not quite light, not quite serious either, a bit salacious, a bit melodramatic, totally uncommanding. The filmmaker takes little from the original Ruth Rendell novel: the wheelchair and the title, though not even the meaning of the title. He takes nearly as much from his illustrious compatriot, Luis Buñuel: selected clips from *The Criminal Life of Archibaldo de la Cruz* on TV; one of the female leads of *That Obscure Object of Desire* (Angela Molina); the grandson of the male lead of *Nazarin* and *Viridiana* (Liberto Rabal, grandson of Francisco Rabal). He takes scarcely an atom, however, of either's genius. One bolt of inspiration: Francesca

Neri savoring the lingering smells of her extramarital lover before turning on the shower to wash them away. With Javier Bardem. 1997.

★ (KEN, 9/12 THROUGH 14)

Lower City — Tropical love triangle (Lázaro Ramos, Wagner Moura, Alice Braga) from first-time Brazilian filmmaker Sérgio Machado.
(MISSION VALLEY 7, 9/8 THROUGH 14)

Material Girls — A reasonable facsimile of a screwball comedy, certifiable as harmless beyond the target audience of tween girls, to do with two pampered heiresses — real-life sisters Hilary and Haylie Duff, equally charming, energetic, pretty, and, to the naked eye, wholesome — who must toughen up when their cosmetics empire trembles from scandal. ("Our sales," announces the malaprop-prone CEO, "have plummeted precipitantly.") Martha Coolidge, a slumming director of some sensibility, takes equal pleasure, equally merciful, in the sisters' initial ditziness and newfound fortitude — a soft-sell feminist, as temperate in approval as in reproof. Brent Spiner, Lukas Haas, Marcus Coloma, Maria Conchita Alonso, Anjelica Huston. 2006.

★★ (DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8)

Monster House — Computer-animated kiddie horror show lowers its sights to an illusion of Claymation. The human figures are awfully stiff, but the space around them is wonderfully plastic and elastic (the fall of an autumn leaf, first thing in the movie, and the action moves right along until it runs into the overwrought, long-drawn-out finale. With the voices of Mitchel Musso, Sam Lerner, Spencer Locke, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Steve Buscemi; directed by Gil Kenan. 2006.

★ (CHULA VISTA 10; HORTON PLAZA 14)

Muriel's Wedding — The directorial debut of P.J. Hogan, previously encountered as a producer on his wife's directorial debut, *Proof*. (Jocelyn Moorhouse herewith returns the favor, functioning as a producer on her husband's debut.) But at that time he was going by the name of Paul Hogan, making for an unfortunate confusion with his same-named countryman, better known to the world at large as "Crocodile" Dundee. With this, P.J. Hogan has come a long way toward securing an identity all his own. Much of that identity resides in his discerning eye for color, for décor, for detail. The image is very brightly lit and crisply focussed (by cameraman Mark McGrath), establishing a kind of equal-opportunity field of vision, totally democratic, open, spacious. All around it, in the diverse but sparsely scattered forms of wallpaper, curtains, colored lights, a lampshade, an article of clothing, etc., Hogan sets off little firecracker detonations of vivacious color, or noisy dynamite blasts of color, or nox-

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ious nuclear clouds of color (gaseous blue, slimy green), creating an effect not unlike the random hit-and-run lyricism of Miró. No less discerning is Hogan's eye for faces and bodies, for assorted physical types. And in his lead actress, Toni Collette, he has one of those chameleonic types who can look completely different at different times, all the way from morosely homely to luminously comely, with intermediate stops at points like blankly innocent and raptly inquisitive and regressively infantile. The protagonist's personal odyssey gives her a rich variety of opportunity: from Porpoise Spit ("Jewel of the North Coast") to Sydney ("City of Brides") and back again; from Muriel to Mariel and, again, back; from a dysfunctional family of underachievers and couch potatoes to open insurrection ("You're terrible, Muriel," her sluglike sister keeps saying) and ultimate independence; from someone who thinks that marriage is the answer to everything to someone who thinks up new questions entirely. Over the course of all this, she becomes a walking billboard for the benefits of Attitude Adjustment. With Rachel Griffiths, Jeanie Drynan, Bill Hunter. 1994. ★★★★★ (CINEMA UNDER THE STARS, 9/7 THROUGH 9, 8:30 P.M.)

The Oh in Ohio — The feature debut of ad director Billy Kent is an "indie" sex comedy as crassly commercial as possible with Parker Posey and Paul Rudd in the lead roles instead of, say, Jennifer Aniston and Ben Stiller. The couple in their public lives are, respectively, a Cleveland P.R. flack ("What was once the Mistake by the Lake is now the Roar by the Shore") and a high-school biology teacher, and in their private lives a sexually dysfunctional wife, meaning she has never achieved orgasm, and a dejected, borderline-despondent husband. The fun is really supposed to begin when the bony wife becomes "addicted" to her new vibrator and the fleshy husband finds solace with a precocious, preternaturally confident teenager. Really, though, the fun never does begin. Liza Minnelli, a walking joke if not a funny one, has a slurry cameo as the head of an adult-ed masturbation class: "Liberate you labia! Value your vulva! Claim your clitoris!" Danny DeVito, in such company, comes off as not just offbeat casting as a romantic prospect (for Posey, not Minnelli), but also comes off as halfway human. With Mischa Barton, Keith David, Miranda Bailey. 2006.

● (HILLCREST CINEMAS, THROUGH 9/7; HILLCREST CINEMAS, FROM 9/8)

Peaceful Warrior — Athletic inspirationalism by way of the Buddhist school of thought, a dizzily loopy path. The slo-mo nightmare of a world-class gymnast — drops of perspiration detonating at the volume of thunder, his right leg shattering like crystal on his dismount from the rings — comes more or less true, and he entrusts his rehabilitation to the aphoristic grease monkey (a furry Nick Nolte) at the Texaco quickie mart: "This is a service station. We offer service. There's no higher purpose." The story, from a novel by self-help author and former athlete Dan Millman, is purportedly "inspired by true events," and at the very least the quadrennial Olympic qualifying tournament could be said to be a true event. The rest is apt to cause difficulty swallowing. With Scott Mechlowicz and Amy Smart; directed by Victor Salva. 2006. ★ (LA PALOMA)

Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest — Sequel to *PC: The Curse of the Black Pearl*. And more than just a sequel: Part II of an afterthought trilogy. (It was not a matter of *thought*, exactly, as much as a matter of calculation.) Johnny Depp's heavily eyeshadowed, thick-tongued pirate got to be something of a tired act before the end of the first one. And a two-and-a-half-hour kiddie film goes against all traditional wisdom and common sense. And the tonnage of costumes, makeup, lighting effects, set decorations, CGI, etc., does not make it go any faster. And lastly, the up-in-the-air, to-be-continued ending is as big a cheat, as enormous an imposition, as that of *The Empire Strikes Back* or *Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers*, the time-filling middle sections of their respective trilogies. Objectively viewed, the film

looks like nothing so much as an ornate collection plate, the size of Australia, to be passed around the Disney congregation. The gathered pile could then be counted on to finance the manufacture of a new plate the size of Antarctica. With Orlando Bloom, Keira Knightley, Stellan Skarsgard, and Bill Nighy; directed by Gore Verbinski. 2006.

● (FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Queens — Reviewed this issue. With Verónica Forqué, Carmen Maura, Marisa Paredes, Mercedes Sampietro, and Betiana Blum; directed by Manuel Gómez Pereira. ● (HILLCREST CINEMAS, FROM 9/8)

The Quiet — A sleazy, unsavory, but indeed quiet domestic melodrama, tracing the female-bonding experience of an In Crowd high-school "virgin" (Elisha Cuthbert) and the deaf-mute orphaned outcast (Camilla Belle) who comes to live under the same roof, and who, on the sly, performs concert-caliber Beethoven on the piano and turns out unsurprisingly to be neither deaf nor mute. Before the bond can form, the popular one must first be prided loose from the malign influence of a bitchy, bosomy, slutty fellow cheerleader — obviously an important symbol to director Jamie Babbit, whose first feature was the lesbian pep fest, *But I'm a Cheerleader*, and here again no guarantee of heterosexuality, pending the closeness of the new bond. The very dim view of the Average American Family — an incestuous father (Martin Donovan), a sedated, zombified mother (Eddie Falco), and a spookily ill-lit, half-furnished suburban home — adds an undertone of axe-grinding. Or, you might say, cheerleading. The players really put themselves into it, and almost, sometimes, part-way, pull us in with them. 2006.

★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; PALM PROMENADE 24)

A Scanner Darkly — Druggie paranoia in the near future, when the drug du jour is Substance D (for Death) and the only cure is the torturous New-Path rehab center. Richard Linklater's adaptation of a Philip K. Dick novel avails itself of the roscopce animation technique of his *Waking Life*, live-action photography covered over in a paint-by-numbers style. The undulating drawing doesn't disguise the bad performances (Keanu Reeves, Robert Downey, Jr., and Woody Harrelson, all perfectly recognizable under the paint), but it creates some noteworthy effects: the full-body "scramble suit" that conceals the wearer's identity behind a continuously shape-shifting mask; a couple of hallucinatory monsters; Winona Ryder's long-awaited first "nude" scene. 2006.

★ (GASLAMP 15)

Scoop — A companion piece to Woody Allen's *Match Point* only insofar as it prolongs his revitalizing sojourn in England. The half-year interval between their releases is nothing out of the ordinary for the chop-chop Woodman. Nor is the repeat appearance of Scarlett Johansson in the female lead any more remarkable than repeat appearances in the past by Diane Keaton or Mia Farrow. And the mood, in sharp contrast to the immediate predecessor, has turned decidedly light and playful, which is to say that when (inevitably) the filmmaker contemplates death, it's in childish terms of a literal barge on the River Styx, manned by a scythe-wielding Grim Reaper. The strictly functional comedy-thriller plotline is more on the order of *Manhattan Murder Mystery*, albeit with an element of the supernatural. There is no earthly reason, outside of the bold harmonies between the whiny older man and the throaty young woman, why the Allen character should be dragged along by the Johansson on this Nancy Drew adventure ("Excitement in my life is dinner without heartburn after it"), and the steady manufacture of amusing lines runs out of steam toward the finish, and the plot premise will not stand up to scrutiny from the vantage point of the denouement. But none of that detracts from the generous supply of chuckles and cackles strewn along the way, still less does it detract from the

SEEN ON DVD

ERIN MCKOWN

Actress playing B-dog, *Memories of Best Friends*

I recently watched *Shoppgirl*, written by and starring Steve Martin. More and more I find myself thinking that Martin is a genius! The poignancy of the story is surpassed only by the subtlety of his performance as an emotionally unavailable lover. The little things he does with his face and eyes break my heart. The story isn't a tearjerker, though. It's more a twisted romantic comedy and a brutally honest take on life.

Jennifer Connelly and Sir Ben Kingsley headline *House of Sand and Fog*, which messes with your head a bit. It's not your run-of-the-mill Hollywood drama where heroes and villains are clear-cut; it's more true to life. You find yourself sympathizing with the person who just five minutes before you had no empathy for. Be aware, however; this movie is hard, cold, tough, and will make you cry.

SHOPGIRL (USA) 2005, Buena Vista
List price: \$29.99

HOUSE OF SAND AND FOG (USA) 2003, Dreamworks
List price: \$14.99

calm and assured camera that Allen brings to the proceedings (in the right place at the right time for the right duration), and still less does it detract from his mastery and durability, at age seventy, as a comic leading man, defying every precept of polish and precision, creating a persona dependent upon verbal groping and fumbling and sputtering and stumbling, mining a private vein we might label as Lifelike Stylization. With Hugh Jackman and Ian McShane. 2006.

★★★★ (GASLAMP 15; MISSION VALLEY 7; POWAY 10)

Snakes on a Plane — All pitch and no movie. The thing would more fully be labelled Computer-Generated Snakes on a Tangible Set of a Plane, such that the snakes seldom look to be actually aboard the plane but rather cut-and-pasted on top of it. In any case there are too many of them (whether digital or bona fide reptile) and too many passengers, Honolulu to L.A., for director David R. Ellis to keep track of, Samuel L. Jackson excepted as an FBI escort of a top-priority witness. The action, once it gets rolling, careens into chaos. As a warm-up, one snake slithers down from the disabled smoke detector in one of the lavatories while a pair of young lovers are enrolling in the Mile-High Club and bites the woman on the nipple. Another in an adjacent lavatory pops up from the toilet bowl while a man is relieving himself and

FORREST AYLSWORTH

Director, *Memories of Best Friends*,
www.deeboneproductions.com

In *The Warrior*, a man who butchers villagers for his local lord suffers a crisis of faith and makes his way to the mountains to find answers. Mysterious and riveting in an unexpected way.

The TV show *Miami Vice* holds up after 20 years. How can you deny the awesomeness of Tubbs and Crockett cruising along in the little black Ferrari while Phil Collins wails about how he "can feel it coming in the air tonight." The real deal-sealer is the arrival of Lieutenant Castillo (Edward James Olmos). Most episodes are 40 minutes of goodness. Eminently diggable.

While wracking my brain for the DVDs I most anticipated, I kept coming up with the same title: *Battlestar Galactica: The New Series*. Once again, Edward James Olmos kicks celluloid ass. I like the way the special effects merge with the bare-bones retro feel of the battleship. The first season set my geek bone a twitchin'. A guilty pleasure.

THE WARRIOR (England) 2001, Miramax
List price: \$29.99

MIAMI VICE: THE FIRST SEASON (USA) 1984, Universal
List price: \$59.98 (three discs)

BATTLESTAR GALACTICA: THE NEW SERIES (USA) 2005, Universal
List price: \$59.98 (five discs)

MEGAN FABYAN

Actress playing Stacey, *Memories of Best Friends*

Amy Heckerling's *Clueless* — inspired by Jane Austen's *Emma* — is one of the pop-culture classics of my generation. Alicia Silverstone plays Cher Horowitz, a Beverly Hills high school kid who's stylish, bubbly, and outgoing. My character in *Memories of Best Friends* reminds me of this modern Emma heroine.

Steven Spielberg's *The Color Purple* concerns Celie, a young black girl growing up in the early 1900s. The trials and tribulations of the African American characters in this movie are stories that all young women can relate to.

David Lynch's *Mulholland Drive* has two seductive women caught up in a lethal and twisted mystery. After a car wreck leaves one woman an amnesiac, she and a Hollywood hopeful search for clues. It's a very original yet classic thriller, set in Hollywood.

CLUELESS (USA) 1995, Paramount
List price: \$14.98

THE COLOR PURPLE (USA) 1985, Warner
List price: \$19.96

MULHOLLAND DRIVE (USA) 2001, Universal
List price: \$14.98

bites him on the weenie. It's that kind of thing. Schlock unashamed. (That hiss you hear could be human in origin.) With Julianna Margulies, Nathan Phillips, Rachel Blanchard. 2006.

● (FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24)

Talk to Her — Almodóvar in awe, all over again, of the opposite sex. (Michael Cunningham's novel, *The Hours*, can be spied at one point as bedside reading, and we might well speculate that Almodóvar would have *killed* to be the filmmaker who brought it to the screen.) The first half, delineating the central quartet of a male

nurse, a bald journalist, a lady bullfighter, and a comatose dancer who embodies the Mystery of Woman, is played with such simplicity and sincerity as to raise the interest and hopes of the director's non-fans, and to sow uneasiness among the faithful. The second half restores order, in particular the ostensible silent-movie pastiche involving an incredibly shrinking man and a foam-rubber vagina. (An image ripped from the reels of another provocateur, Bertrand Blier, *Femmes Fatales*.) The color, in a warm palette weighted toward red, rust, orange, and yellow, can be appreciated by anyone. Javier Cámara, Darío Grandinetti, Leonor Watling, Rosario Flo-

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Año negro

América Bareló

Diario San Diego

En lo que va del año en curso se han registrado más muertes de migrantes en el sector fronterizo de San Diego, con 29 personas fallecidas, en comparación a los 23 decesos registrados en esta área durante el año fiscal 2005.

Estas estadísticas corresponden a un informe obtenido de la Patrulla Fronteriza en Washington que indica un aumento de seis migrantes

muertos en esta región.

En contraste con las cifras ofrecidas por la agencia federal, el Consulado General de México en San Diego aseguró que son 32 y no 29 los migrantes que han muerto hasta el mes de agosto.

"Una sola muerte es demasiado, por lo que estamos alentando a la población sobre los peligros de cruzar la frontera", manifestó Alberto Lozano, portavoz del Consulado Mexicano en San Diego.

deportes



Narra padre

Abraham Nudelstejer

Diario San Diego

¡Hola, qué tal! Al escuchar esta frase en las transmisiones de radio de los Padres de San Diego, de inmediato reconocemos que el saludo y la voz provienen de la garganta de Eduardo Ortega.

Por 20 años Eduardo ha sido la voz oficial del equipo local de Grandes Ligas y el viernes pasado recibió un merecido homenaje

en el Parque Petco antes del inicio del juego contra los Rojos de Cincinnati.

"Eduardo tiene un estilo muy particular que lo hace ser reconocido por toda la comunidad hispana", dijo el director de relaciones latinas de los Padres de San Diego, Alex Montoya.

La calidad de Eduardo Ortega lo ha colocado como la voz más reconocida del beisbol en nuestra región.

espectáculos



Se quedó con uno

Shakira, que estaba postulada para siete premios MTV a los videos musicales, se tuvo que conformar con uno solo: el de mejor coreografía del año.

Con su video "Hips Don't Lie" (Las caderas no mienten), la estrella colombiana se midió en los principales rubros del evento con grandes estrellas estadounidenses como Madonna, Christina Aguilera, los Red Hot Chili Peppers y Pink, y logró animar al público con una pre-

sentación en vivo de su éxito a dúo con Wyclef Jean.

Shakira perdió las categorías de video femenino del año, mejor video baileable, mejor video pop, selección del público, video del año y mejor dirección de arte. Otra latina que figuró en la ceremonia fue Jennifer López, quien con un traje corto dorado y un gorro que le hacía juego subió al escenario a presentar la más codiciada estatuilla; la de video del año.



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Endiablados

Un gol del argentino Bruno Marioni al inicio del juego fue todo lo que el Toluca necesitó para mantenerse invicto en el Torneo Apertura mexicano, al igualar 1-1 el domingo, en su visita al Estadio Azteca para jugar contra el América.

La anotación de Marioni, su quinta del campeonato, ocurrió a los dos minutos, cuando el delantero sacó un disparo con pierna izquierda que penetró por el ángulo derecho de la portería de Guillermo Ochoa.

A los 45, y con América encima de Toluca, el paraguayo Salvador Cabañas sacó un disparo de pierna izquier-

da que sacudió el poste derecho de Cristante.

Para la segunda parte, el Toluca renunció al ataque y prefirió defender su ventaja ante un América, que aunque intentaba, poco hacía por poner en peligro la cabaña de Cristante.

Fue hasta los 65 minutos cuando Cuauhtémoc Blanco, quien ingresó a los 33, se metió al área y recibió una clara falta de Emilio Hassan. El mismo Blanco fue el encargado de cobrar y con un disparo a media altura, a mano izquierda de Cristante, igualó los cartones.

Toluca enfrenta esta semana a los Monarcas de Morelia.



Crisis política

A raíz de la inestabilidad política que se vive en México, el Departamento de Estado norteamericano lanzó recientemente una advertencia para ciudadanos de este país que piensan viajar al territorio azteca.

La violencia en Oaxaca, los plantones del PRD en la capital mexicana y los recientes desmanes ocasionados por senadores y diputados perredistas el pasado 1 de septiembre al no dejar que el presidente Vicente Fox ofreciera su último informe de gobierno, han puesto en alerta a quienes piensan viajar a México.

En un sondeo realizado por Diario San Diego, residentes de esta región fronteriza dijeron que te-

men que se desate la violencia por la inestabilidad política que vive en México por lo que se abstendrán de viajar a ese país.

La mayoría de los entrevistados expresaron su enojo y antipatía ante la manera de proceder de líder del PRD, Andrés Manuel López Obrador, a quien lo culpan de lo que está ocurriendo en el país, específicamente en la capital mexicana, por lo que niegan que sea bueno visitar esa entidad y apoyar las maniobras de ese partido.

"Al Distrito Federal yo no voy, hay mucha inseguridad y con lo que hace el PRD peor, hay mucha violencia y se va a desatar más", aseguró Humberto Gutiérrez, residente de Chula Vista.



Mes de lujo

Eleazar López

Diario San Diego

Cantantes para todos los gustos y estilos musicales es lo que se espera para este mes de septiembre.

Un mes patrio que se verá engalanado con la celebración de El grito de Independencia de México, la presentación de Ricardo Arjona, Paulina Rubio, Ana Bárbara y Pepe Aguilar.

Ricardo Arjona abre los conciertos en el Coors Amphitheater de Chula Vista el 10 de septiembre. Un concierto esperado con ganas pues el gualtemalteco se encuentra en plena gira de promoción de su nuevo material discográfico 'Adentro' y de su gira del mismo nom-

bre por Estados Unidos.

Ana Bárbara, la cantante de música ranchera se presentará el jueves 14 de septiembre en Sycuan Casino. Con algunos meses de embarazo, la esposa del ya famoso 'viudo alegre' 'El pirru' viene con todas las ganas de demostrar que el matrimonio le sentó bien.

Paulina Rubio también se encuentra en plena promoción de su nuevo disco 'Ananda' y ella llegará a San Diego el viernes 15 de septiembre, en Viejas Concert in the Park en pleno grito mexicano.

El 16 de septiembre estarán Los Tucanes de Tijuana y el 23 Pepe Aguilar.

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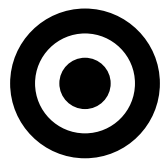
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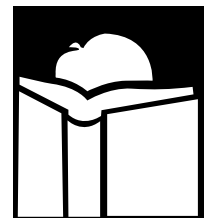
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HEALTHCARE: CAREGIVERS, full time, night shift-- 10:30pm-7am. Belmont Village, a beautiful, upscale senior living community near Highway 15 and Poway Road, is looking for Caregivers. Experience preferred. Excellent pay/bonus opportunity. To apply, call our 24-hour Job Hotline: 1-800-483-2098, Belmont Village at Sabre Springs, 13075 Evening Creek Drive, San Diego, CA 92128. EOE.

HEATING/AIR CONDITIONING Techs or Plumbers with or without experience needed immediately! Work for a national leader in the service industry, ARS (American Residential Services of California, Inc.). We offer technician training programs, great benefits. Must have clean DMV and valid California driver's license. ARS is a drug-free work environment. CSL#791820. To apply, please call 866-852-5404 or go to www.jobswithars.com.

HHA/CNA/AIDE and CNA/Nursing students. Immediate openings, North County and San Diego, for experienced Caregivers to assist seniors in their homes. 4-12 hours shifts and Live-in positions. Top pay! Bonuses. Medical/dental insurance. EOE. AALL Care In-Home Services. San Diego: 619-297-9601. North County: 760-471-7033.

HHS, COMPANIONS, ATTENDANT CARE. Throughout San Diego County! Personal care, light housekeeping, errands, meal preparation. Flexible hours, competitive compensation. Previous homecare preferred. For more information, please call: 760-634-7774; fax your resume: 760-634-7742; or apply online: www.HomeCareForYou.com

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Dining Room; full/part-time Broiler Cook, Sauté Cook, Room Service, Front Desk, Spa Concierge, Nail Technician, and Spa Attendant. It is a beautiful resort to work in with excellent benefits. Apply in person: 5921 Valencia Circle, Rancho Santa Fe 92067. Fax resume: 858-756-0165. Or e-mail: nancyh@ranchovalencia.com. EOE/Drug-Free Workplace.

HOTEL VALET TEAM. Ace Parking encourages outgoing, customer-oriented women and men who enjoy an active, outdoor lifestyle to join our Hotel Valet Attendant Team. Must have valid California Driver's License and ability to drive standard transmission. Apply today: 2550 5th Avenue, Suite 105, San Diego 92103. EOE. Females and minorities encouraged to apply. For more information, please call 619-231-9501.

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HOTEL. Newly renovated downtown hotel seeks energetic, upbeat team members: Maintenance, Administrative Assistant Houseperson. Full time. 500 West Hotel. Fax resume: 619-234-5272 or email: gm500west@rigid.com.

HOUSECLEANER, wanted. One Saturday a month, 8 hours. \$50/cash. Please speak English, can pick up in Pacific Beach. 858-488-4803.

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HOUSEKEEPERS wanted full time for Best Western Cabrillo Garden Inn, Downtown. Please apply in person: 840 A Street, San Diego, CA 92101. Call: 619-348-7720.

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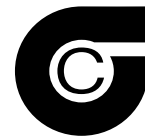
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JOB FAIR! Saturday, 9/9/06, 8:00am: 5201 Ruffin Road, Suite Q, San Diego 92123. Registrar of Voters now hiring temporary full-time workers for November 2006 election. Must be 18+ years of age with good customer service skills. Trainers (to train Poll Workers): \$25/hour. Clerical/Administrative (PC and phone skills): \$10.62-\$12.29/hour. Warehouse (Driver's License a plus): \$10.62-\$14.25/hour. Supplies Assembly: \$8.76/hour. For directions, call 858-495-5153.

JOB FAIR! Thursday, September 28, 10am-2pm, at The San Diego Hall of Champions, 2131 Pan American Plaza, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA 92101. For job opportunities and participating companies, please visit www.sandiego.employmentguide.com. The Employment Guide. www.EmploymentGuide.com.

JOB FAIR. Diversity Day Career Fair. Friday, September 15, 11am-2pm. Tubman/Chavez Multicultural Center, 415 Euclid Avenue, San Diego, 92114. Bring resume. www.thediversitygroup.org. Call for information: 619-277-9099.

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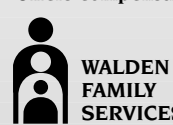
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PARKING ATTENDANT. Ace Parking is seeking customer-focused, friendly individuals for full-time positions. Must have valid California Driver's License and ability to drive standard transmission. Please apply in person, Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm: 2550 5th Avenue, Suite 105, San Diego 92103. EOE. If you have questions, please call 619-231-9501.

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PART TIME. Actors auditions. Calling all ghouls, monsters and zombies! San Diego County's largest haunted attraction Scream Zone is holding open auditions on Saturday September 9th between 2pm-4pm at the Del Mar Fairgrounds. Please enter Solana Gate and look for signs. No experience is necessary, just a love of Halloween and lots of energy. On the spot hiring. Must be 18 and over. Starting salary: \$7 per hour plus incentives. EOE. Apply online at www.sdfair.com or call 858-792-4257 for more information.

PART TIME. Is Spanish your specialty? Now hiring Sales/Customer Service Reps. Immediate openings on all shifts! top pay \$14-\$22/hour! Average \$9-\$14/hour. Flexible shifts. Paid training. Weekly pay, base salary. Supervisor and management opportunities. DialAmerica Marketing, Inc. www.dialamerica.com/sandiego. 9332 Claremont Mesa Boulevard, San Diego 92123. Call 858-292-8822.

PART TIME. Looking for a home-based business? Join our Watkins team today. Flexible, part time, excellent training provided. Free info at www.zestybiz.com.

PART-TIME TELESALES. Sunterra. Best commissions in the area. 9am-1pm Monday-Saturday or 5pm-9pm Monday-Friday and Saturday, 9am-1pm. Hourly plus commission and bonuses. Call Dawn for interview, 760-966-4711. dra1ston@sunterra.com.

PART-TIME YOGURT SALES. Flexible hours, Mission Valley. Seeking friendly, dependable people. Apply in person: Paradise Yogurt, 5664 Mission Center Road #401. 619-295-9648.

PART-TIME. Need more income? Join AVON/Mark. Up to 50% earnings on products sold and products you buy. Only \$10.00 to start! Tina, 619-993-0316. ohina2003@yahoo.com.

PAYROLL COORDINATOR. Terrific opportunity for a professional individual ready to move ahead in a great career in a well known company in UTC area. Responsible for processing payroll for over 200 employees. Must be a stable individual willing to learn and grow with their family

business. This position requires extensive training on the part of the applicant and a wonderful group of people. Email your resume to: chulavista-ca@appleone.com.

PEST AND TERMITE TECHNICIANS. Immediate openings in San Diego! We offer great benefits including paid training, 1st year earning potential up to \$35k+, outstanding growth potential, complete benefits package including health/dental/vision/life insurance and 401(k). Truly Nolen, 4891 Mercury Street, San Diego, CA 92111. 858-499-0255; fax 858-499-0280.

PEST CONTROL Applicators and Field Reps to service San Diego County routes. Clean DMV. Hourly plus commission, vacation, medical. E-mail Ben: help@allcitiespestcontrol.com. Fax resume: 619-562-0085.

PET CARE in your safe, loving home. Paid "Host Families" needed for vacationing dogs and cats. Experience with animals necessary. www.pawsnplay-pet-camp.com. Toll free, 888-320-PETS (7387).

PHONE PROS. Why wait 2 weeks? You're 3 days from payday. Monday-Friday. Get paid while you train to earn \$500-\$1000/weekly. No experience necessary. Sign-on bonus for experienced Reloaders. 619-220-7025.

PICTURE FRAMER/SALESPERSON. Aztec Graphics in Pacific Beach looking for Picture Framer with sales experience. Full or part time. Call Barbara, 619-318-2653.

PILATES INSTRUCTOR. Small Mission Valley studio. Must be Mat and Comprehensive certified. Some clientele provided. No commission. Very low studio fee. 619-347-5892.

PLUMBER/SERVICE TECH. Expanding local company seeking San Diego and North County applicants with experience. We provide: benefits, van plus equipment. Need good DMV. Drug test. Call 619-702-6067 or apply in person at: 3485 Picwick San Diego, 92102.

PLUMBERS, HEATING, AIR Conditioning Tradespeople with or without experience needed immediately! Work for a national leader in the service industry, ARS (American Residential Services of California, Inc.). We offer technician training programs, great benefits. Must have clean, current California DMV. ARS is a drug-free work environment. CSL#791820. To apply, call: 866-852-5404, or go to www.jobswithars.com.

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PLUMBERS/SERVICE TECHNICIANS needed now! Experienced preferred. Rescue Rooter offers: Medical/dental, 401(k), vans/tools, paid vacations/overtime, high income, drug-free workplace. To apply, please call: 866-852-5404 or go

to www.rescueroooterjobs.com. AA/EOE. License # 744542

POLICE OFFICERS. Begin a career with the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department. Jobs start at over \$45K, with an array of benefits ranging from medical coverage to solid retirement. The Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department will be conducting a 3-day testing in the Southern California area starting September 23, 2006. For information, visit: www.protectthecity.com.

POLICE OFFICERS. San Diego Police Department is hiring! Ready for a career change? Upcoming test block dates are: both Saturdays, September 22 and September 23. Applicants must attend both days of testing. Police Recruit earns \$43,723 per year. Police Officer I earns \$61,110 per year. For more information, Call 619-531-COPS or visit our website at: www.sandiego.gov/police.

POLL WORKER TRAINERS. \$25/hour. Job Fair: Saturday, 9/9/06, 8:00am: 5201 Ruffin Road, Suite Q, San Diego 92123. Registrar of Voters now hiring temporary full-time workers for November 2006 election. Must be 18+ years of age with good customer service skills. Also hiring Clerical/Administrative (PC and phone skills): \$10.62-\$12.29/hour. Warehouse (Driver's License a plus): \$10.62-\$14.25/hour. Supplies Assembly: \$8.76/hour. For directions, call 858-495-5153.

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PRESSMAN (ELECTRONIC) needed for up-and-coming printing company. Requires computer-to-plate knowledge and 3 years experience in pre-press. Contact: Javier: javier@gotmadcow.com. Call: 858-483-4638.

PROBATION CAREERS. Correctional Deputy Probation Officer I. County of San Diego Probation Department now hiring. Test Dates: September 9, 2006, 8am or October 14, 2006, 8am, Montgomery Middle School, 2470 Ulric Street, San Diego 92111. Must be 21 years, good physical condition, no illicit drug usage. U.S. citizen or becoming a citizen. Pass criminal and personal background investigation. No felony convictions. High school diploma or GED. \$34,028-\$43,430/year. www.sdcounty.ca.gov/probation. Jobline: 858-514-8558.

PRODUCTION WORKERS. 8-and 12-hour shifts. Carlsbad/Oceanside areas. Also hiring Electromechanical Assemblers, Calibration Technicians, Precision Assemblers and Electronic Technicians. www.jobs.volt.com. EOE. Volt Services Group, 1850 Maron Road, Suite 114, Carlsbad 92008. Fax: 760-720-7341. 760-729-8916.

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PUBLIC SAFETY DISPATCHER. California Highway Patrol is accepting applications for positions as a Public Safety Dispatcher II. \$3097-\$3762 per month. Applications must be postmarked by September 7, 2006. CHP is an Equal Opportunity Employer. For additional information and applications, check online www.chp.ca.gov; stop by your local CHP office or call 858-637-3863 or 1-888-4-CHP-JOB.

REAL ESTATE AGENT. Commercial broker seeking licensed agent. Must be familiar with lending processes for commercial and residential lending. job@globallendersinc.com. Fax resume: 619-595-1968.

REAL ESTATE AGENT/PROPERTY Manager, part time. Must be located in/near Linda Vista, have cell phone, references. Spanish speaking a plus. E-mail resume: joekwak@sbcglobal.net.

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RECEPTIONIST, PART TIME. Experience a plus. Needed immediately two days/week, 8-10 hours/week at holistic health clinic in Hillcrest area. Call Longevity at 619-886-4410.

RECEPTIONIST. Casa de las Campanas, a luxury retirement community in Rancho Bernardo, is searching for a part-time (24 hours) receptionist to work the 3-11pm shift. Responsibilities: handling a busy switchboard; monitoring of emergency panels; typing/word processing and customer service. Additional responsibilities may be assigned. Neat appearance and excellent organizational skills a must. Please apply in person, HR Department, 8:30am-12noon and 1-4pm, 18655 West Bernardo Drive, 92127. Or you may fax your resume to 858-522-1853. EOE.

RECEPTIONIST. Director of First Impressions. Responsibilities include answering multi-line phones, scheduling meetings, processing FedEx shipments and flexibility to assume other duties as required. Requires professional phone etiquette and positive disposition. Must type 50wpm and be familiar with Word and Excel. Email resume: MissionValley@appleone.com or call: 619-542-0016.

RECEPTIONISTS/Administrative Assistants needed immediately for professional businesses in UTC, La Jolla and Del Mar. Responsible for answering busy phone lines, greeting guests, sorting mail and performing general office duties. Requires 2 solid years of related experience. Good command of Word, Excel, and Outlook. \$25K-\$30K. 858-490-6470.

RECREATION ASSISTANTS: Part time. \$8.79-\$11.21/hour for facility/banquet set-up. Recreation Leaders: \$12.74-\$16.26/hour for front desk/reception. Weekend and evening hours available. EOE. Apply at: City of Coronado, 1825 Strand Way, Coronado CA 92118. www.coronado.ca.us. 619-522-7302.

RESERVATION AGENTS. \$500 Sign-On Bonus! Part-time PM shifts will full-time opportunities. Top Reeps earn over \$30/hour. No selling involved. Paid training/holidays. Medical/dental/life insurance. 401(k). Great location, close to trolley (Mission Valley location only). Apply in person 12-4pm Monday-Friday. Soleil Communications, Inc., a division of the Welk Resort, 6150 Mission Gorge Road #140, San Diego, CA 92120. Or call to set

up an appointment: 760-497-5291, 760-535-3675 for the Escondido location. E-mail fronteneau@welkgroup.com.

RESIDENTIAL/ELDER CARE. Live in management team. For a newly-licensed 6-person elder care and independent living complex at the old Sweetwater Ranch in Bonita. Live in management team (2 persons) will have the following qualifications: RN or LVN certification, Healthcare management experience and/or skills, General maintenance or residential construction experience. Benefits and compensation include: Shared, private 3-room apartment including room and board, initial compensation of \$50,000-\$75,000/year depending upon qualifications. Long-term potential for 50% profit-sharing, possibly exceeding \$200,000/year net compensation. See details on msn.careerbuilder.com. and Search "Bonita Valley Ranch." before calling. 619-994-2328.

RESORT. Full-service destination RV resort is accepting applications for part-time Market Shift Leaders. Resort perks include free non-motorized boat rentals and resort discounts! EOE. Apply at 2211 Pacific Beach Drive, San Diego, 92109, Monday-Friday, 8am-noon or 1-5pm. Please call Job Line for changes in available positions: 858-581-4208.

RESTAURANT KITCHEN HELP. Full and part time. La Jolla location. Inquire within: 1030 Torrey Pines Road. Or call 619-316-8735.

RESTAURANT MANAGERS and Counter Attendants. Subway Sandwiches. Day, evening shifts. Full-or part-time. Detail-oriented, good customer service skills. Competitive wages. Free employee meals. Apply in person. La Jolla: 7514 Girard Avenue (next to Vons): 858-454-0357. Management applicants, fax resume to: 619-688-9291.

RESTAURANT, CHILI'S Grill & Bar, Mira Mesa, now accepting applications for Host/Hostess, Servers, and To-Go. Apply in person any day, 2-4pm: Chili's, 5969 Lusk Boulevard.

RESTAURANT. Assistant Manager/Manager Trainee for Subway at 32nd Street Naval Base. Seek motivated individual with professional attitude who has leadership abilities, works well with others, and enjoys dealing with the public. 40-45 hours per week. Starting wage \$8-\$11/hour, depending on experience. Valid driver's license, car registration and car insurance required. Performance Bonus of \$150-\$400 per month after 90 days.

Benefits after 90 days. Fax resume: 619-216-0236. Call 619-216-3572.

RESTAURANT. Busy sandwich store. \$8/hour starting. Monday-Sunday. Flexible hours. Call 760-809-8539 or fax your resume to: 858-537-0985.

RESTAURANT. California Pizza Kitchen is opening soon in Vista Village and is now hiring! Servers, Host Staff, Bartenders, Cooks, Bussers, Dishwashers. CPK Team Members get flexible schedules, great pay, excellent training and great health benefits! Apply in person at our hiring site Monday-Saturday, 9am-6pm: Melrose Law Center, 380 South Melrose Drive, Suite 300, Vista. 760-643-0437 x2285. Apply online www.cpk.com. EOE.

RESTAURANT. Cook, Dishwashers and Deli Counter Clerks needed. Employment Bonus up to \$500. See ad under "Grocery/Natural Foods." Jimbo's Naturally!

RESTAURANT. Pick Up Stix is now hiring! Front Staff: \$7.50+/hour to start, depending on experience. Shift Leaders: \$8-\$10/hour, depending on experience. EOE. Please apply in person at the location nearest you: Hillcrest, 619-295-7849. La Jolla, 858-552-1566. Mission Valley, 619-299-9793. Pacific Beach, 858-483-9588. Point Loma, 619-758-9041. Chula Vista, 619-482-2789. Clairemont Mesa, 858-274-3220. Torrey Hills, 858-794-0450.

RESTAURANT. Short order cook. 5 years experience required. Breakfast, lunch, dinner. Full time. Starting wage, \$10/hour. For more info contact Pete, 619-276-7651.

RESTAURANT. Tired of the restaurant business? Get a real job! Work Monday-Friday, 1pm-9m. \$2200/month start plus great bonuses. Room for advancement. Call us at 619-238-0870.

RESTAURANT. Togo's Great Sandwiches on Miramar Road is looking for Counter Attendants and Delivery Drivers with good customer and communication skills. Start \$7.50/hour plus tips. Experience is not necessary. We need full and part time, day and evening shifts, Monday-Sunday. Shift Leader and Manager positions also available. Call 760-809-8539 or fax your resume to: 858-537-0985.

RESTAURANT. UCSD Dining Services needs experienced food service workers, including dishwashers with excellent customer service skills for locations all over campus. Career positions include paid holidays/vacation and excellent benefits. Career: 32-40 hours/week (Job #40106), part-time: 16 hours/week (Job #40103).

Hiring salary is \$9.36/hour. Application deadline: September 11, 2006. Criminal background check required. EEO/AA. For application materials and instructions please visit: http://joblink.ucsd.edu and reference job #'s listed above or call: 858-822-1827.

RESTAURANT/BAR MANAGER. Front of House Manager with 3 years minimum experience. Good salary, benefits and bonus. POS system and office organizational skills. Sales and marketing knowledge helpful. Apply in person, Monday-Friday, 12noon-5pm, Dublin Square Irish Pub and Grill, 554 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp Quarters, San Diego or fax resume: 619-239-5828 or e-mail Attn: Samme: dublinsquare@yahoo.com.

RESTAURANT/CAFE COUNTER/Barista. Upscale and popular cafe and bakery in the village of Rancho Santa Fe seeks Counter Person to assist with the taking of food and bakery orders and serving of sumptuous foods. Fast paced/professional environment. Perks include very good earning potential; holidays, Sundays and Mondays off; workday ends by 4pm. Call 858-759-0747 or apply in person between 2pm and 4pm Tuesday-Saturday: 16905 Avenida De Acacia.

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RESTAURANT/SANDWICH SHOP. Extremely busy. La Jolla Shores. People skills, multi-tasking, fast-paced environment. Starts \$8.00/hour plus tips. Flexible hours. Call before 11am, Kim/Phil, 858-459-3921.

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RESTAURANT: BLIMPIE SUBS and Salads now hiring part-time Customer Service. Monday-Saturday, 7am-4pm. \$7.25-

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RESTAURANT: COFFEE SHOP. Experienced Barista, Short-order Cook, and Server for fast-paced coffee shop in Hillcrest. Good pay plus tips. Apply before 2pm: Sodhi's Bean Shack, 4229 Front Street, San Diego 92103. Or call before 2pm: Victor, 619-295-9900. Or call Sodhi, 619-990-1438.

RESTAURANT: LINE COOK, experienced. Line Cook with at least 1 year experience needed for Dublin Square Irish Pub and Grill, in the heart of the Gaslamp. Please apply in person, Monday-Friday, 12noon to 5pm only: 554 Fourth Avenue, San Diego.

RESTAURANT: LINE COOKS, San Diego North County, full time/part time. Upscale senior living community near Highway 15 and Poway Road. Volume cooking and preparation experience in a restaurant environment required. Excellent pay, benefits and bonus opportunities. To apply, call 1-800-483-2098. Belmont Village at Sabre Springs, 13075 Evening Creek Drive, San Diego, CA 92128. EOE.

RESTAURANT: Assistant Manager, Shift Supervisor and Front Counter Servers. Dynamic, responsible. Fun environment. Brett, 858-560-0142, 310-890-7126. Pay DOE. The Extreme Pita, 4898 Conroy Street, Unit B, San Diego, CA 92111.

RETAIL CLERK/SALES. Immediate openings. \$7.50+/hourly, depending on experience. Flexible hours. AM/PM shifts. Part time or full time. No experience necessary; will train. Some benefits. Openings throughout San Diego. Must be dependable, 18+. For interview, fax information to 619-463-2817.

RETAIL JEWELRY SALES Associates. No experience required. Top salary with benefits: medical, dental, vacation, holiday, sick leave, life insurance, flex plan, 401(k), employee stock ownership plan, generous employee discount, more. Maui Divers Jewelry, www.mauidivers.com. Please call Suelly at 808-286-2490, fax 619-255-1632.

RETAIL SALES ASSOCIATES. Hazelwood Gifts, Mission Valley, Downtown and La Jolla. Part/full-time, weekends a must. Hourly plus commission. No experience necessary. Fax 619-233-1815 or call 619-233-1108.

RETAIL SALES MANAGER needed at Solana Beach tanning salon, full-time. Also full/part-time sales positions open, Solana/Miramar locations. Must be organized, intelligent, clean, and enthusiastic. Call 619-475-9243; submit info, contact@alwaystansd.com.

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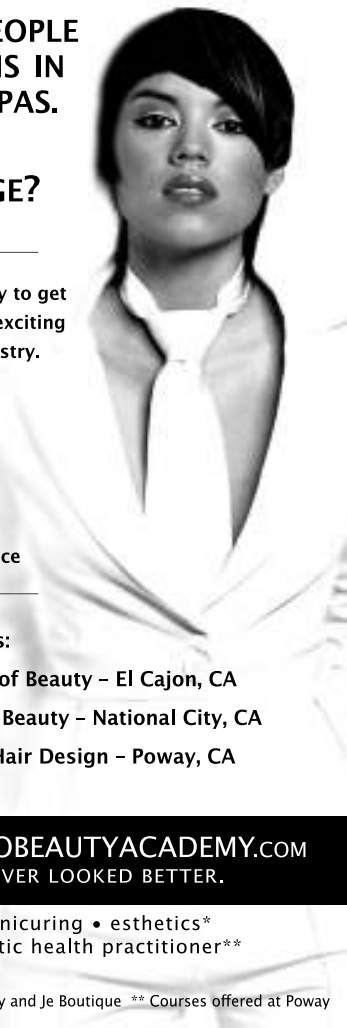
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SENIOR DISINFECTION TECHNICIAN (\$24.59-\$30.74/hour); Disinfection Technician (\$23.42-\$29.27/hour). The Otay Water District is looking for a proactive, innovative and dedicated Senior Disinfection Technician or a Disinfection Technician to perform skilled repair, alteration, construction, installation, maintenance and design of District-owned water quality disinfection systems and equipment. Please visit our website at www.otaywater.gov or call the job line at 619-670-2700 for requirement details. Send an application (located at www.otaywater.gov) by fax: 619-660-7288; or e-mail: hr05@otaywater.gov; or Otay Water District, Attention H.R., 2554 Sweetwater Springs Boulevard, Spring Valley, CA 91978. Open until filled. EOE.

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SOCIAL SERVICES CASE Management. Motivated person needed for progressive day program in Lakeside working with adults with developmental disabilities. Two years case management experience required. Supervisory experience also required. Full-time, excellent benefits. Call Unyeway, Inc. 619-562-6330. Or fax resume to 619-562-6547.

SOCIAL SERVICES. Bilingual mental health worker for outpatient mental health clinic to work with at risk children and families. BA required. Competitive salary, benefits, EOE. Fax resume Attn: MHW at 858-277-1262, or e-mail hr@newalternatives.org.

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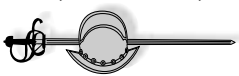
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SEX and/or relationship problems? Out of control? You are not alone. Call Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous, a 12-step fellowship. PO Box 3791, San Diego 92163 or 619-685-7211 or www.slaa-san-diego.org.

SURVIVORS OF INCEST Anonymous. Free 12-step support groups for men and women molested as children. Call Tim, 619-282-4798; www.siaawso.org.

WOMEN AGES 18-32: get paid for talking about men for a research project. \$20 for 30 minutes of your time. Anonymity encouraged. Call 858-228-0471.

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3 Ways to Respond to READER MATCHES ADS!

Call 1-900-844-6282

The cost is \$1.99 per minute. You must be at least 18 years old to call. Call and enter the number at the end of an ad to hear the advertiser's introduction and leave a message. The date in the ad is the last day to reply. The charge will appear on your phone bill as "Dating." Questions? 619-235-8200.

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No 900# access? Call anytime day or night to purchase a block of calling time and charge it to your Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express... for as little as \$1.25 per minute.

Call 1-800-360-9496 24 hours

No refunds. You may also purchase time at our office with cash or check only.

Send an e-mail

Matches ads are now on the Web. You may search them by specifying criteria such as age, ethnicity and nonsmoking. Respond to most ads by sending an anonymous e-mail for a nominal charge. You may also listen to intros online.

SanDiegoReader.com

From this page, click on "Matches."

tour. 5 historic haunted locations. Wednesday-Sunday. Economical. www.HauntedSanDiegoTours.com. SD Entertainment Tours. Reservations: 1-877-6-HAUNTED.

LAKE TAHOE, at Thanksgiving. Rent my condo North Lake Tahoe. Thanksgiving week. \$850+deposit. Breathtaking views, kitchen, sleeps 4. 951-970-3329.

LAS VEGAS TIME SHARE, Highest bidder by midnight 9/30/06. One of Monarch Grand Vacations, all over the world. Las Vegas Blvd, south of the strip. By owner, 858-456-8199.

TRAVEL DISCUSSION group for singles 40s-50s forming. Share travel experiences, make new friends. Interested? Call 858-292-7321.

DAVIEBABE, Boston. I should have sat beside you, not across. I should have walked beside you, not in front. I should have never left you.

GOLDMINE. Weaverville CA, 40 acres, accepting calls of interest. Principals only. 619-228-4784.

TO DIE FOR LIES, As truth, truth as lies: who more demented: Primitives ordering their slaves to kill, get killed, suffer, make suffer, or the robots themselves? Wonders never cease.

ZOE MCFARLAND, Dear Zoe. Would love to see you again. You can find me OB Jazz Festival, Julian Bluegrass Festival, Adams Avenue Street Fair.

me. What do you have to lose? (9/13) ☎70261

LADY CHARGER FANS wanted to watch games on TV together. Share houses, married or single, kids OK. Team is playing great ball season's started, call! (9/20) ☎70294

MATCHES WOMEN SEEKING MEN

FRENCH, SEXY, FIT, Attractive, 41, 125lbs, 5'6", blonde-blue, romantic, affectionate, passionate, sports, outdoors, indoors, travel, dancing. Gentleman, 41-55, athletic, fit, trustworthy, secure, handsome, beach, similars. (9/20) ☎69581

CURVY, ATTRACTIVE, Passionate, 5'6", green-eyed brunette. Seeking handsome man, 48-55. Wicked sense of humor a must, fun-loving, true of heart and deeds. (9/20) ☎69573

WELL TRAVELLED, Attractive realtor, a very young 60 in good shape, enjoys arts, outdoors. Seeks similar for nice times and possibly more. (9/13) ☎69550

SERIOUS, ARE YOU? 5'5", 150, average 40s. Seeking Caucasian male 45-53 to share all life has to offer. You won't be disappointed. Be safe. (9/20) ☎69849

CAL GAL, Likes nice dinners and travel, friendship and love. (9/20) ☎69575

BONDE BOMBSHELL, attractive, educated, athletic, romantic, female, mid-50's, but look 10 years younger-self sufficient, sensual, spiritual, check me out if you dare! (9/20) ☎69854

ROMANTIC, GOOD LOOKING, Nice figured lady. Seeking 59 plus, warm hearted, affectionate, communicative gentleman who likes fine dining, hiking, movies, traveling and spontaneous adventures. (9/20) ☎69853

GOOD-LOOKING GERMAN, Blonde, green eyes, 5'6" fun, humorous, positive attitude. Seeking educated professional easy going quality male, enjoy fine dining, beach walks 45-50. (9/13) ☎69548

ATTRACTIVE PETITE, 49, desires, funny and good man for friendship, dating and

long-term relationship. Nonsmoker, North County area preferred. (9/20) ☎69571

ATTRACTIVE ASIAN, Health care provider, 42, 115lbs, 5'4". No children, outgoing, love outdoor activities, homeowner, financially secure. Seeking college graduate, 40-45 nonsmoker. (9/20) ☎69850

ASIAN EXOTIC SEXY, Nice legs, curvaceous figure, 5'3", 115lbs, professional, childless, homeowner. Desires fun, fit, nonsmoker, upscale, successful, compatible, generous, 36+ Asian/Caucasian stable gentleman. (9/20) ☎69847

FEMALE, 54, OCEANSIDE, 5', thin. Seeking Christian male, non-judgmental, enjoys traveling everywhere, ocean, fishing, no couch potatoes, humorous, sincere, loyal, good conversationalist, compassionate, homeowner. (9/20) ☎69860

ARE YOU READY For love, new fifty, attractive, black diva, well-bred, fun personality, versatile, gardening, dining, jeans, dress-up, enthusiastic happy gentleman, honest, available, give, receive. (9/20) ☎69577

EXTREMELY ATTRACTIVE WOMAN Seeking man, financially secure, with no young children, that wants to do the finer things in life and to have fun. (9/20) ☎69567

WANTED, FUN GUY, Who enjoys weekend outings, art, Starbucks, walks, and eating out. North County gal, brown hair, blue eyes, 162lbs, 46. Call for details. (9/20) ☎69565

POSSIBILITIES ARE ENDLESS. 70 lady young, adventurous, intrigued with life, laughter comes easy. Dreams do come true, if shared by two. Take a chance. (9/20) ☎69856

SUMMER'S OVER, beach is done. Come on over, let's have fun. Sexy, 44 girl. Seeking 55-65, nonsmoking, successful, handsome, sweet, lovely man and delicious. (9/20) ☎69569

38-YEAR-OLD QUALITY LADY, 5'4", slender, brunette/blue eyes, and attractive. Seeks physically-fit gentleman, 36 to 48, for relationship. Must be presentable. (9/20) ☎69566

ATTRACTIVE ASIAN! Looking for serious monogamous relationship, with spiritual life together, 35-40 years old. Active, positive, Asian lady, warm heart and looking for strong man. (9/20) ☎69578

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1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____

PRINT CLEARLY: First 25 words are FREE. \$1.20/additional word. Do not abbreviate words. Continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24
25/FREE	26	27	28	29	30

FREE AD DEADLINE: 7 am Saturday

Mail: Reader Matches, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186 **Fax:** (619) 233-7907
Online: SanDiegoReader.com

LATE AD DEADLINE: 5 pm Tuesday

Fax: (619) 233-7907 **Phone:** (619) 235-8200
Walk-in: 1703 India St. (at Date St.) downtown

Matches ads are available for any 18+ single person who is seeking a sincere relationship with a member of the opposite sex. Ads containing explicit or implicit sexual/anatomical language will not be accepted. Ads in the "Shared Interests" category must list the primary interest as the first words; these ads will be sorted alphabetically. Either gender may be sought in "Shared Interests" ads; however, physical descriptions are not allowed. No last names, addresses or personal phone numbers will be permitted. No dating services, singles clubs or commercial businesses may advertise in this section. The San Diego *Reader* does not assume any liability for the content or reply to any Reader Matches advertisement. Advertiser assumes complete liability for content of, and all replies to, any advertisement or recorded message and for any claims made against the San Diego *Reader* as a result thereof. The advertiser agrees to indemnify and hold the San Diego *Reader* and its employees harmless from all costs, expenses (including all attorney fees), liabilities and damages resulting from or caused by the publication or recording placed by the advertiser or any reply to any such advertisement. By using Reader Matches, the advertiser agrees not to leave his/her telephone number, last name or address in his/her voice greeting message.

We must have the following information. Please print.

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To receive e-mail responses, simply provide your address below. (Don't worry, your e-mail address will not be revealed.)

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Choose One: Woman seeking a man

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RED MEAT

lethargy's landing strip from the secret files of Max Cannon

Panel 1: I can't believe it. I had that recurrin' dream again tonight. This is the fourth time this week that I've had me that exact same one.

Panel 2: Maybe it's a sign, or psychic or somethin'.

Panel 3: Jeez, I sure hope so. I could use me some giant mermaids to eat all them barnacles off the sides of my undersea battle station.

ROOMMATES

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Tim Mongeon
Construction
Pacific Beach

Traffic. The other thing is that a working man can't afford to buy a house. I lived in Arizona, moved out there and bought a place. They're all moving out there, then back and forth; prices fluctuate. It all seems to be leveling off. People get crazy along the border with the Minuteman thing; it doesn't help nobody. It gives Border Patrol guys work. The little guys coming across the border are just trying to get ahead; it's like anybody else.



Mike Cortez
Bike Shop Employee
Mission Beach

Too many tourists. We live off the tourists, for sure; they're a necessary evil. [People moving here] is overloading our infrastructure, but you know it's all good. September's my favorite month; that's when we get our beaches back. Transients are always a problem; the homeless population is pretty damn big. If I was a bum, I'd want to live here. Why not? You got easy pickings down here; good weather; friendly, happy people from other places who don't know any better and feed the squirrels. Pacific Beach is the younger crowd; Mission Beach has the older, more established locals down there.



Jonathan Belch
Plumber
Pacific Beach

The housing is totally overpriced. By far, everything is more expensive here than the rest of the country. The weather is great, though; it brings out people, it gives them outlets, and they aren't as angry. The rest of the country deals with crappy weather; you're stuck inside because it's hot out or you're cold and wet. It's more relaxed here and active. Parking is bad, but that's the downfall of any urban city. It's definitely easier to cross the border here; it's more concentrated here. In my trade, I see Latin American workers; if anything, these workers should be angry at these companies because they're just trying to better themselves. I've never felt less safe because of the border. I've got an education as far as my trade goes, so I'm not going anywhere.



Lydia Neusser
Student
Pacific Beach

The traffic, of course, ruins a lot. It's the same as in Los Angeles; L.A. would be a great city if it weren't for the traffic. Planning around traffic is a pain. I've taken the train from L.A. to San Diego and it's okay, but in San Diego, the bus system and trolley system don't work well. Everybody has a car and everybody can buy a car; it's only the people who can't buy cars that ride the bus. I'm a girl and I'd never want to be on the bus at night; it just doesn't seem safe. The whole bus system just doesn't seem well planned-out. San Diego is still nicer than L.A.



Rachel Head
Student
Mission Valley

The traffic, but I unfortunately don't have a car... so I contradict myself. Well, the people are really unfriendly: the tourists. It's a little crowded. A lot of people are prejudiced against high schoolers; I usually just go to the library after school. My friends like to make scrapbooks, and we like to volunteer to work at hospitals... older people and younger people, in particular. It's hard [to say] when you don't get out a lot. My one friend and I collect stamps; the president ones are pretty kick-ass.



Sarah Manning
Student
College Area

There are cops everywhere; they're mean and they always come and ruin my parties. We don't even get complaints from my neighbors. The night manager walks around the apartments and, if we have noise, will complain. My neighbors don't complain; they're always at my parties. I've only been to Mexico once, and yes, it was fun. People drink more down here. Well, they don't drink more... yeah, they do. I'm going to sound bad; I got offered three jobs since I got here, and traffic is worse where I come from in Sacramento.

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CLAIREMONT. \$1200. Nice 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Remodeled! Small yard, garage. Walk to park and shopping. Cat OK. 4429 Manitou Way. Agent, 619-469-7790. www.westmanproperties.com.

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DOWNTOWN. Air conditioned studio apartment with kitchenette and full bathroom. No smoking/pets. \$775, including utilities. 728 Market at 7th. Hughes Management, 619-239-1639 x103.

DOWNTOWN. Brand new! Affordable luxury! Large 1, 2, and 3 bedroom, 2 bath townhome apartments. Two blocks to Petco Park. Balconies/patios. \$1,239-\$1,762. Now leasing for November 2006. Lillian Place Apartments. 619-668-1532, x306.

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DOWNTOWN. Comfortable rooms, \$450/up. Studios, \$650/up. Near Gaslamp District. Very quiet and clean. Free cable TV, on-site laundry, vending machines, community kitchen, shared bathrooms. Near shopping, restaurants, movie theatres and Horton Plaza. No pets. Arlington Apartments, 701 7th Avenue. Hughes Management. 619-231-2385. www.sdreader.com/rent/2097.

DOWNTOWN. Cozy rooms, \$450-\$625, grab these little jewels today! Very comfortable, convenient location, historic building near C Street trolley. Free cable TV, on-site laundry, vending machines, modern elevator, no pets. Southern Hotel, 1159 6th Avenue at B, Hughes Management, 619-239-3808. www.sdreader.com/rent/2099.

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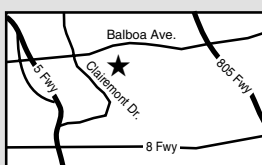
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HILLCREST. \$875. 1 bedroom, 1 bath at 1278 Essex St. Gated complex, parking, laundry on-site, walk to all! Call 858-583-0182 or 858-688-0287, or www.cal-prop.com.

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LA MESA. \$925. Spacious 1 bedroom upper unit. Air conditioning, ceiling fan, garage, on-site laundry. No pets. 4757 Jessie Avenue. 619-825-8954 or 619-460-8011.

LA MESA. \$850-\$860. Village 1 bedrooms. Carpet/tile, ceiling fan, on-site laundry. Close to shopping, public transportation. 8276 Orchard Avenue. John Epler, 619-838-0386 or 619-460-8011.

LA MESA. \$1375 rent, \$900 deposit. O.A.C. 3 bedroom 2 bath duplex townhouse style apartment. No pets. 4857-1/2 Jessie Street. 619-299-8515.

LA MESA. \$1050. Mint duplex, 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Private patio, laundry room.

Great neighborhood. Available now. Alley parking. Nonsmoking. 619-997-8807.

LA MESA. \$1195. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Garage, fireplace, patio, dishwasher, pool. 5530 Jackson Drive #8. AMI Property Management, 619-697-6314.

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LA MESA. \$925, 1 bedroom, \$1195. 2 bedrooms. Great community, superior location, lush landscape. Pool, spa, parking. No pets. 5500 Morro Way. TTPM, 619-466-8444, www.villageaptslamesa.com.

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LA MESA. Huge 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1200-\$1250. Fenced yard, air conditioning, covered parking. Available October. 5428 Lake Murray Boulevard. Agent, 619-260-1368 or 619-825-5135. View at www.sevillamgmt.com.

LA MESA. Must see! \$1095. 2 bedroom, 1-1/4 bath condo, berber carpet, large walk-in closet, pool, Jacuzzi, recreation room, laundry in building, carport, extra parking space. 1-2 cats OK with a pet deposit. Available now! 7502 Parkway Drive #309. Agent, 858-560-1178.

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MISSION VALLEY. \$1350/month. 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo. 925 estimated square feet. Pets negotiable. Community pool. 6370 Rancho Mission #911, San Diego. www.century21award.com. Agent, 619-471-1755.

MISSION VALLEY. \$1495. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-story condo. Granite countertops. Large patio off dining room. Hardwood floors/Berber carpet. Parking. All amenities. Cats OK. www.goldenhilipm.com. Agent, 619-234-9553.

MISSION VALLEY. \$895. Bright, sunny 500-square-foot studio, balcony. Free basic cable. Pool, Jacuzzi, laundry. Near river, shopping. 8043 Caminito de Piza #H. For appointment, 619-296-6200.

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MISSION VALLEY. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath, panoramic view, \$1500/month. Top floor, upgraded, A/C. 10400 Caminito Cuervo. Resort complex, pool, spa, fitness, tennis. Agent, 619-563-6656.

MISSION VALLEY. \$1595. 2nd story townhome. Gated community. Air conditioning. Pool, spa. Water, trash and basic cable included in rent. Pergo floor. 858-598-1111, x192. www.utopiangmt.com.

MISSION VALLEY. \$1280. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. No pets. Parking. Paint/carpet. Dishwasher. Quiet. Balcony. Pool. 1615 Hotel Circle South #D212. Juno, 619-275-3455.

MISSION VALLEY/TALMADGE/Kensington. 1, 2 & 3 bedroom apartment homes, \$985-\$1665. Now featuring 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Includes microwave, dishwasher, vaulted ceilings, balcony/patio. Underground parking. Pool, spa, sauna and fitness center available. Pet friendly! Available 10/10/06. Mission Pacific, 4454 44th Street. 1-800-372-9146. www.pacificliving.com.

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NORMAL HEIGHTS. 1 bedroom apartment. On-site laundry, gated community, quiet neighborhood, hardwood floors. \$800/month. 858-272-8790.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$825, 1 bedroom. \$925, 2 bedroom. Gated community, parking, laundry on site. Great location! Available 9/5, 9/7. 4515 35th Street, #8 and #5. 619-295-1100. www.cethron.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$775-\$975. \$200 off 1st month! 1 bedroom and 2 bedroom with on-site laundry and parking. Close to shops. 4655 33rd Street #3 and #9. 619-226-7368 or www.bkbinc.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$825, 1 bedroom. Spacious. Pool, off-street parking, on-site laundry. Close to major freeways. Sorry, no pets! 4841 West Mountain View Drive. 619-282-6440. Sunrisesliving.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$950/month, \$950(deposit). Spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Dishwasher, air conditioning. Washer/dryer in unit. Off-street parking. No pets. 4774 33rd Street #6. Available now. Cassidy, broker, 619-275-LIST.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$775, 1 bedroom. \$975, 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Spacious, quiet, gated community. No pets. 4530 40th Street. 619-284-8575. www.rasnyder.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$675-\$725. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Upstairs. Bright and sunny. Stove, refrigerator, laundry facilities. No pets. Non-smoking. Mr. A's Property Management, 619-697-1888.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$900. Nice, clean, quiet 2 bedroom, 1 bath, downstairs, new paint, carpet. Well maintained. Refrigerator. Laundry on premises. No pets. Conveniently located. 619-563-0779.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$895 rent. Deposit \$700. 2 bedroom, 1 bath upper unit. New paint. Air conditioning, stove, refrigerator, off street parking, on site laundry. One block from Adams. 4625 35th Street #7. 619-804-3325.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$795 rent. \$600 deposit. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath upstairs unit. Refrigerator, on-site laundry, ceiling fan. Garage available, \$75 extra. 4545 35th Street #6. 619-379-2896.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$200 off 1st month's rent. \$975 rent. \$600 deposit. Spacious, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, charming, upper corner apartment, air conditioning, refrigerator, stove, balcony. On-site laundry. Off-street parking. Close to freeways/shops/restaurants. 4524 40th Street #7. 619-379-2896.

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75,000 miles	MAJOR SERVICE	Starting at
105,000 miles	• Change oil (10W30) and filter • Check & top off all fluid levels • Check tire pressure • Rotate tires • Lube chassis • Service battery • Inspect suspension, steering & exhaust • Replace spark plugs (resistor only)	\$149^{95*} 4-cyl.
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90,000 miles		
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4-cyl.

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PICTURE STORY

Photograph from the San Diego Historical Society



All Women's Transcontinental Air Race competitors in San Diego, 1958. The race, which covered about 2400 miles and lasted four days, ended in South Carolina that year. The first competition, dubbed the Women's

Air Derby (and nicknamed Powder Puff Derby by Will Rogers) was in 1929. Amelia Earhart raced...and lost to Louise Thaden.

— by Robert Mizrahi

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$795 rent, \$600 deposit. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, lower/cottage-style unit with stove, refrigerator, new paint, gated community. Off-street parking. Garage. Pets OK. 2 blocks from Adams Avenue. 4575 Hawley Boulevard. 619-804-3325.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$895. 2 bedroom. Large downstairs end unit. Newer carpeting, spacious kitchen, tandem parking. Laundry facilities. Sorry, no pets. 619-296-3189.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$945. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, sunny unit, gated, parking, near all. 4563 38th Street. Agent, 858-560-1178.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$750. 1 bedroom. Parking and laundry onsite. Cat OK! Single story. Quiet complex. 3066-1/2 Adams. Manager, 619-283-0536.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$895. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Everything brand new! Very quiet. Available everyday for viewing! 2621 Monroe. Call Christy at 619-297-9061.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. Newly remodeled 2 bedroom, 1 bath with garage, easy freeway access to I-8, I-15, I-805. No pets. Available now. \$1100. Move-in special! 4567 Hawley Boulevard. 858-483-5111 x10. www.melroyproperties.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$925. Newly remodeled 1 bedroom, 1 bath with assigned parking space. Easy freeway access to I-8, I-15, I-805. Available 9/20. Move-in special! 4561 Hawley. 858-483-5111 x10. www.melroyproperties.com.

NORTH PARK. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. \$995 and up. Some with hardwood floors. Quiet complex, gated, spacious. Lease. Parking. No pets. 619-303-4969.

NORTH PARK. \$995. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment with garage. Gated. Quiet. New appliances. Laundry hookups available. No pets. Available September 1st. Don. 619-563-9727.

NORTH PARK. \$950. Very large, sunny 1 bedroom. Downstairs, quiet building. Remodeled bath, security gate, laundry. Across from park. 4135 Idaho Street. No pets. 858-537-9611.

NORTH PARK. Open Saturdays, 12-3pm. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Move-in special! A/C, bamboo floors, Travertine bath, stainless appliances, granite counters. Pool, off-street parking. No pets. 4050 Swift Avenue. 619-247-0036.

NORTH PARK. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, huge apartment, \$995. Laundry, parking. Tile flooring. Move-in special. Call 858-483-5111 x29. www.melroyproperties.com.

NORTH PARK. \$1050. 1 bedroom, garage with automatic opener. New carpet and paint. Laundry. Available 9/5. 4037 Alabama Street. Don, 619-563-9727.

NORTH PARK. \$750. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Laundry on-site. New paint. Assigned parking. Courtyard. Quiet. Gated. No pets. Available now. Manager on site. 619-563-9727.

NORTH PARK. \$1550. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Totally remodeled. New granite throughout. New carpeting. 2 patios. Fireplace. Microwave. Dishwasher. Direct access garage. Washer/dryer. Near Morley Field. 619-977-3737, 619-884-3474.

NORTH PARK. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, huge patio, garage, fireplace, dishwasher, refrigerator, microwave, washer/dryer, air conditioning. Security gate. Available 9/18. \$1795. Call 619-253-6387.

NORTH PARK. \$850. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Nice sized units in gated complex. Surrounded by lush landscaping. Laundry on site. Walk to brand new North Park Theatre. Available now. 3949 Kansas Street, #16. www.cethron.com, 619-295-1100.

NORTH PARK. \$1050. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment, Lincoln Avenue. Dishwasher. Garage. Small building. Close to freeway. 619-280-0061.

NORTH PARK. \$100+ move-in special! 1 bedroom, \$800. Parking, laundry, mirrored closet. 3162 Monroe. Call 619-284-1314.

NORTH PARK. \$1000. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Laundry on site. Near bus, new paint, new appliances. Parking. No pets. 4562 Bancroft Street. Centre City Property Management, 619-296-6699.

NORTH PARK. \$750 rent, \$600 deposit. 1 bedroom. Laundry. Parking spot. No pets. At 4222 Alabama Street #8. 619-299-0951.

NORTH PARK. \$1695. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house with 2 garages. Ikea cabinets. Dishwasher. Yard. Laundry. 3791 Arnold Avenue. 619-683-7638, Xilarent.com.

NORTH PARK. \$795. Adorable upstairs apartment with walk-in closet. Parking, laundry. 3927 Mississippi Street #7. Xilarent.com, 619-683-7638.

NORTH PARK. \$1395. 2 bedroom, 2 bath upstairs condo. All appliances, fireplace, parking. 4067 Utah Street #14. Xilarent.com, 619-683-7638.

NORTH PARK. \$1495. 2 bedroom, 2 bath upstairs condo. All appliances. Fireplace. Vaulted ceilings. Additional storage. Xilarent.com, 619-683-7638.

NORTH PARK. \$1295. 1 bedroom upstairs condo. Fireplace. Vaulted ceilings. All appliances. Sunny. Garage parking. Xilarent.com, 619-683-7638.

NORTH PARK. \$795. 1 bedroom. Upstairs corner unit. Low \$300 deposit. Cat OK. 3115 Polk. 858-866-5636.

NORTH PARK. \$1095. 2 bedroom, 1 bath cottage-style triplex. Hardwood floors. Washer/dryer included. Berber carpet. Mirrored closet doors. Parking. Cats OK. www.goldenhillpm.com. Agent, 619-234-9553.

NORTH PARK/HILLCREST. \$1350. 2 bedroom, 2-story apartment. Detached garage. Berber carpet. Large picture window. Balcony. Dining area. Gated. Laundry. Cats OK. www.goldenhillpm.com. Agent, 619-234-9553.

NORTH PARK. \$1150. Gorgeous, upstairs 2 bedroom, 2 bath, north of Morley Field. Vaulted ceilings. Balcony. Gas fireplace, formal dining area. Dishwasher. Gated 8-unit. Off-street parking. Laundry. Cats OK. www.goldenhillpm.com. Agent, 619-234-9553.

NORTH PARK. \$1025. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Large upstairs unit with balcony, across from park. Walk to bus. On-site parking. Air conditioning, dishwasher. No pets. 2805 Polk Avenue #4. Centre City Property Management, 619-296-6699.

NORTH PARK. \$1695. Large two story, 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath condo. Fireplace, private patio. Washer/dryer, off street parking. Pet OK. 3050 Suncrest. 619-287-1780. oksenditome@hotmail.com.

NORTH PARK. \$1250. 2-bedroom, 1-bath condo with 1-car garage, washer/dryer inside condo, refrigerator, dishwasher, stove, back patio, new carpet and paint. 3745 Swift Avenue #4. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400. www.peoplehelpingothers.com.

NORTH PARK. \$1350. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with attached garage. Custom built closets, new carpet/paint, fireplace, washer/dryer, high ceilings, very private. Available 10/1. 619-299-3918; 858-292-7504.

NORTH PARK. Spacious end unit condo with garage and balcony. 2 bedroom, 1 bath with washer and dryer inside unit. New stove, new oven, new dishwasher, new paint/fixtures, central air conditioning and heating. \$1200. Listen to message at 858-949-0002.

NORTH PARK/HILLCREST. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath, condo quality, walk-in closet, dishwasher, stove, microwave, refrigerator, balcony, assigned parking. 4078 Louisiana Street #5. \$1275. 858-483-5111 x10. www.melroyproperties.com.

NORTH PARK. \$825. Large 1 bedroom, upstairs, assigned parking, laundry on-site. Bright. Near all. No pets. Available now. 4344 Ohio Street #7. 858-483-5111 x10. www.melroyproperties.com.

NORTH PARK. \$800. 1 bedroom. Completely remodeled. New appliances, granite countertops, flooring. Assigned parking. Laundry. Available 9/15. 4053 Cherokee Avenue #2. More Property Management, 858-514-8201.

NORTH PARK. \$1075. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, downstairs unit. Laundry. New carpet, paint. Garage. No pets. 4379 Swift Avenue #4. More Property Management, 858-514-8201.

NORTH PARK. 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse. Newly renovated. Pool, on-site laundry, parking, elevator. \$1395. Call 619-543-0730. www.melroyproperties.com.

NORTH PARK. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Newly renovated. Pool, on-site laundry, parking. Elevator. \$1025. Call 619-543-0730. www.melroyproperties.com.

NORTH PARK. \$1550 includes water. 3237 McKinley Street. Newly remodeled 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Hardwood floors. Coin laundry. Freeway close. Cats ok. Available 9/10. 619-929-2612.

NORTH PARK. \$795. 1 bedroom, \$850, 1 bedroom with garage. Gated 7 unit complex, private patio, air conditioning, intercom, dishwasher. Laundry on premises, off street parking. No pets/smoking. 619-580-8980.

NORTH PARK. Wonderful 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhouse. Balcony. Hardwood floors, tile downstairs/carpet upstairs. 2-car garage. Pool, jacuzzi. Pets? Available now. \$1975. 619-206-9342.

NORTH PARK. \$850/month. Beautiful 1 bedroom apartment, completely remodeled. Walk-in closet. Ceiling fans. Off-street parking. 4065-1/2 Swift Avenue. New appliances. Close to all. \$500/deposit. 619-284-4804.

NORTH PARK. \$1700 rent, \$1600 deposit. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, beautiful 2-story condo, hardwood floors, granite countertop, all stainless steel appliances, washer/dryer hookups. Off-street parking. 3376 Grim #4. 619-804-3325.

NORTH PARK. \$850 rent, \$800 deposit. Cute upstairs 1 bedroom, 1 bath unit. Stove, refrigerator, garbage disposal, on-site laundry. Comes with a garage. 4250 Swift #5. 619-804-3325.

NORTH PARK. \$200 off first month's rent! 1 bedroom, \$750. Small complex, gated, laundry, parking. No pets. 4128 Wabash Avenue. 619-281-0579. www.melroyproperties.com.

NORTH PARK/HILLCREST. \$200 off first month! Studio, \$675. Large 1 bedroom, \$825. 2 bedroom, \$1150. Gated, dish-

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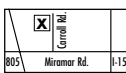
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\$49⁹⁵

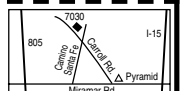
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LEAD STORY

— Boutique wigmaker Ruth Regina of Miami is readying a line of hairpieces for “teacup” dogs and other over-pampered canines at prices that reach into the hundreds of dollars. Most promising include the “Yappy Hour” (a fluff of curls) and the “Peek a Bow Wow,” which (according to the *South Florida Sun-Sentinel* in August) “falls down over part of a dog’s face, giving a glamorous look reminiscent of 1940s movie star Veronica Lake.” It’s for dogs that feel sexy, said Regina. “There [are] some dogs that have the come-hither look.”

Great Art!

— Inmate Donny Johnson, serving three life terms in solitary confinement at the Pelican Bay State Prison in California, was the beneficiary of a showing of his acclaimed paintings at a gallery in the Mexican tourist village of San Miguel de Allende, according to a July *New York Times* report. Because of Johnson’s isolation, his only “brush” is made from strands of his own hair; his “canvases” consist of blank postcards; and his medium is colors from decomposed M&M candies. At least six of the paintings, which the *Times* reporter called “powerful,” have sold for \$500 each.

— Martin Creed, a onetime winner of Britain’s prestigious Turner Prize, told the *Guardian* in July that his latest work, titled *Sick Film*, would open in London in October and that it includes 19 scenes of people vomiting on camera. Creed is in Los Angeles working on his next project, entitled *Shit Film*, and has already been able to line up 15 “performers,” perhaps, he said, “because L.A. represents the extreme edge of the world.”

Government in Action

— Budget-Busting: (1) While New York state grapples with a serious budget shortfall, the speaker

of the state assembly works at a law firm that trawls for “victims” of injuries at state parks, with a suggestive Web page list of accidents that might lead to lawsuits against the state. In August, after the *New York Post* reported the Web page, the law firm withdrew it. (2) In July, after New Jersey’s governor and legislature resolved a government-closing stalemate over spending in that heavily taxed state, the government announced it would reinstate its discontinued policy of paying for “erectile dysfunction” drugs for Medicaid recipients.

— *Beijing News* reported in July that, in preparation for the 2008 Olympics, the city intends to assign tracking numbers to every single cabbage, carrot, and pea pod in order to identify their origins to improve food safety. Five thousand tons of vegetables may be eaten during the Olympics, and Chinese farming has been criticized by Greenpeace for using banned pesticides and other soil pollutants.

Are We Safe?

— (1) Undercover investigators for the Government Accountability Office reported in July that they were able to purchase, on the open market from Pentagon contractors, surplus body armor, mounts for shoulder-fired missiles, and missile radar test devices. Nearly 2700 “sensitive” military items had been bought by 79 other buyers. (2) An FBI computer consultant, who said he was frustrated by bureaucratic delays in obtaining legitimate access to certain bureau files, was able to hack into the files via the FBI director’s secret password, which the consultant figured out using software found on the Internet. (3) Indiana state homeland security officials told Vermillion County officials in July to stop using the emergency-only highway message boards to advertise their charity fish fries and spaghetti dinners.

Police Blotter

— From an Atlanta police report, summarized in a July issue of the weekly *Creative Loafing*: A man working on a house on Smith Street was taken to Grady Memorial Hospital with serious injuries to his posterior. He happened to be bending over next to a wall that, unknown to him, a worker on the other side was drilling into, and the drill bit entered his “anal cavity.”

— Least Competent Cops: Four New York City police were called to a Bronx apartment house in July concerning a landlord-tenant dispute. The police were distracted by a teenager smoking marijuana and started to chase him, then a pit bull attacked the officers. The toll, 26 bullets later: one dead dog, one bitten officer, three other officers wounded by each other’s gunshots.

The Classic Middle Name (all new)

— Arrested recently and awaiting trial for murder: John Wayne Lewis, 59 (McAlester, Okla., June); Kenneth Wayne Beck, 34 (Warren County, Mo., June); Timothy Wayne Coalson, 44 (Senoia, Ga., July); Charles Wayne Thomas Jr., 22 (Dallas, July); Ira Wayne Cloniger (Washington, Va., July); John Wayne Thomson, 46 (arrested in Victorville, Calif., on a Washington warrant, August). Pleaded guilty to murder: Michael Wayne Nelson, 23 (Palatka, Fla., August). Executed for murder: Darrell Wayne “Gator” Ferguson, 28 (Dayton, Ohio, August). Committed suicide after escaping from a halfway house: convicted murderer David Wayne Nelson, 42 (Anchorage, Alaska, June).

Obsessions

— Huang Chunyi, 94, of Taiwan, told a reporter from *China Daily* in May that the secret to his longevity is that he likes to look at photographs of pretty women every day, and he showed off his collection of 100,000 that he has amassed

from newspapers and magazines over the past 20 years. His favorites are Cameron Diaz, Penelope Cruz, and Chinese model Chiling Lin. “I hope these scrapbooks will become family heirlooms,” he said, “so that my grandchildren can get a look at them.”

Least Competent People

— Least Competent Bail Bondsman: The unidentified bondsman who bailed out identity-thief suspect Thomas Samuel in Santa Cruz, Calif., last year on Samuel’s bogus check for \$9800 (after rejecting as bogus an earlier check for \$3200). Least Competent Lawyer: Ms. Knovack Jones pleaded guilty in Miami in July to ripping off a client for \$300,000, though she admitted that she lost most of that money in a Nigerian e-mail scam. (Said Jones, “He had a contract with the government [for] \$38.6 million, and he needed my [help].”)

Life’s Cheap in Florida

— (1) Eduardo Gonzalez, 18, was arrested and charged for shooting an Orlando, Fla., man to death in March for spilling beer on him in a bar. In August, the price of life went down even further when, according to police, Gonzalez put out hit contracts on five witnesses to the original shooting, which would have brought the total to six dead over one spilled beer, except (as is often the case) the “hit man” was an undercover cop. (2) A 34-year-old man was killed in Hollywood, Fla., in June after refusing to pay \$80 for a \$78 towing bill (he demanded \$2 change, which the driver did not have). The man had jumped on the truck to challenge the driver and fell underneath it to his death.

Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186 or to WeirNewsTips@yahoo.com

washer, laundry facilities, parking. No pets. Close to Naval Hospital, shops, freeways. 3722 Alabama Street. 619-299-1699. www.melroyproperties.com.
NORTH PARK. \$725. Upper 1 bedroom 1 bath. Quiet complex. Refrigerator, stove. 4042 Hamilton Street. 858-598-1111 x193. www.utopiamanagement.com.
NORTH PARK. \$795. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, recently remodeled. Tiled living room, kitchen, bathroom. Elevator, on-site laundry, security building. 3949 33rd Street. 619-280-2658.
NORTH PARK. \$925. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, gated complex, air conditioning, parking, patio, on-site laundry. No pets. Nonsmoking. 3119 Howard. 619-281-4698.
NORTH PARK. \$1050. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Newly remodeled, appliances, laundry. Near all. No pets. 3824 Arizona. 619-698-6911.

NORTH PARK. \$1100. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath with hardwood floors. Small, well-maintained property with courtyard and pool. Near Hillcrest. 4184 Mississippi Street. TPPM, 619-299-9897.
NORTH PARK. \$850. 1 bedroom, 1 bath ground floor unit. Spacious and bright. Walk to restaurant and shops. Laundry on-site, street parking. 3776 31st Street. Available now. Call 858-688-0287 or 858-583-0182. www.cal-prop.com.
NORTH PARK. \$885. 2 bedroom, 1 bath at 3316 31st Street. Downstairs corner unit with open sunny floor plan. 1 parking space, laundry on-site. Available 9/14. Call 858-583-0182 or 858-688-0287. www.cal-prop.com.
NORTH PARK. \$895. 1 bedroom, 1 bath triplex, large charming, spanish style. Laundry, yard. Pet negotiable. Move in special! 2723 Wightman. 619-698-6913.

NORTH PARK. \$725. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Available now. Close to all. Gated. On-site laundry. 6-12 month lease. No pets. 2860 Lincoln Avenue. Available now. 619-435-2700. mckeecompany.com.
NORTH PARK. \$795. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Available now. Gated. On-site laundry. 1 year lease. No pets. 3766 Swift Avenue. 619-435-2700. mckeecompany.com.
NORTH PARK. \$940. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Ground floor unit. Parking. Laundry. No pets. New paint. Available now. 4366 Texas Street #C. 858-550-2811.
NORTH PARK. \$995. 2 bedroom 1-1/2 bath. On-site laundry, parking, central location, near all. No pets. 3727 Herman Avenue #3. 619-229-9248.
NORTH PARK. \$795/month. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Hardwood floors, upper, laundry. 4363 Mississippi Street. Available Now. 619-295-1100. www.cethron.com.
OCEAN BEACH. \$925. Large 1 bedroom apartment. Off-street parking. Laundry.

No pets. Available now. 4419 Montalvo Street. 619-523-0763.
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OCEAN BEACH. \$950. 1 bedroom near beach. Small building, roomy, clean, quiet. No pets. Non-smoking. Nice home. 5050 Santa Monica Avenue. Manager #14. Call 9am-5pm, 619-222-3897.

OCEAN BEACH. \$1225. 2 bedroom, 2 bath upstairs apartment with balcony! Great location with dishwasher and laundry on site! No pets! 4231 Voltaire Street #7. Call 619-222-4836 x14. www.sunsetpacificrealty.com.
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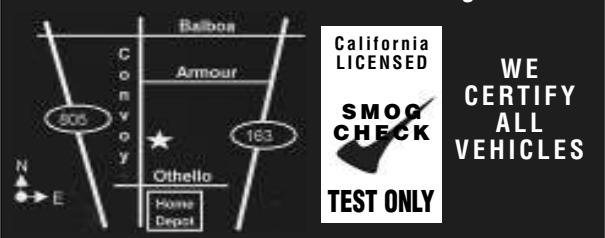
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\$99.95 Complete

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Includes resurfacing rotors. Parts and labor included. \$99.95
\$25 extra for ceramic pads.

BACK WHEN

In the Reader

Thirty Years Ago

From deep within a mountain tunnel a light is visible. Suddenly the tunnel is filled with a fierce metal beast, charging at breakneck speed toward the station. It careens around a corner and disappears down the tracks, a string of cars following.

Lindsay is treasurer of the Pacific Beach Model Railroad Club. In this pristine land, he is a giant who makes the trains run on time. Fifty years ago, Italians paid for such punctuality with Mussolini. For model railroaders at the Pacific Beach club, the price can also be substantial.

—“**THERE'S NO CRIME, NO POVERTY, NO POLLUTION, AND THE TRAINS ALWAYS RUN ON TIME,**”

Tom Elrod, September 9, 1976

Twenty-Five Years Ago

Pot-head Charger fans beware! Police agents dressed in typical fan garb are nabbing dope smokers and escorting them out of the stadium during home games. “San Diego Supernarcs!” exclaims Rita Chinneck, a fan who witnessed a bust at the Chargers-Rams game a few weeks back. “Here there were a bunch of drunks saying things and being rowdy, and the dope smokers were the calmest people in the stadium.”

—CITY LIGHTS: **“ROACH CLIPPING PENALTY,”** Neal

Matthews, September 10, 1981

Twenty Years Ago

Had the time been different, and the place, no doubt Marcuse would have continued on through his three-year appointment at UCSD. He met his classes regularly and, during summers and academic breaks, traveled abroad. He read continually, and although he was partial to classical music, he bowed to student enthusiasm and bought Bob Dylan and Joan Baez albums. He described himself as a romantic. He wept when he saw *Love Story*. A lover of animals, Marcuse kept small stuffed toy animals arranged around his bedroom and pictures of animals on his kitchen walls! He walked every day along the beach at La Jolla Shores. And until 1968, San Diego County citizens took little notice of Marcuse and the students associated with him.

—“**ANGEL OF THE APOCALYPSE,**” Judith Moore,

September 11, 1986

Fifteen Years Ago

I fancied at the time that my English teacher looked a little like Natalie Wood, an actress who did more than her share to point me down the heterosexual path. (This connection unfortunately ensures that she looks more like Natalie Wood in memory than she ever could have done in

fact.) And her characteristic stance, one foot angled sideways, balanced on the high heel, toe in the air, was made to seem more remarkable than time and experience have proven it to be. More ineffably remarkable, however, was the quantity of personal revelation that seeped through the crevices in the daily chunks of English grammar.

—“**TO NATALIE (SUBJECT) WITH LOVE (PREDICATE),**”

Duncan Shepherd, September 12, 1991

Ten Years Ago

A few decades ago, during the era when my friend Henry and I devoted many hours to exploring Tijuana, we found a saloon that I later learned was around the corner and up a block from where the old customs house used to stand, the site where the *insurrectos* of 1911 overpowered Mexican federal soldiers and claimed the town in the name of the Partido Liberal of the Mexican revolution.

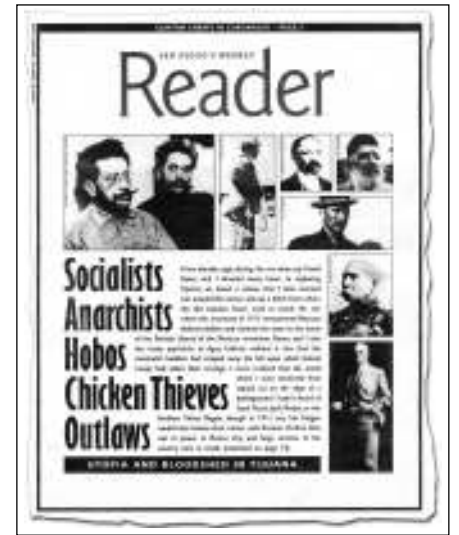
—“**SOCIALISTS ANARCHISTS HOBOS CHICKEN**

THIEVES OUTLAWS,” Ken Kuhlken,

September 5, 1996

Five Years Ago

When I was 27, Steve seemed like the most perfect man I'd ever met. Smart, funny, warm, affectionate, handsome. Steve taught English



San Diego Reader, September 5, 1996

and history and coached volleyball at a private school in L.A. Like his entire family, Steve had graduated from Stanford.

Because I was living and working in San Diego, Steve and I saw each other on weekends and talked every night on the phone. We went to Catalina in the summer and spent Christmas vacation in Mammoth. About a month before my 28th birthday, Steve committed suicide, near his parents' home in South Pasadena.

—KID STUFF: **“MOMMY'S TIME AWAY,”** Anne Albright,

September 6, 2001

Columns archived at SanDiegoReader.com

fresh paint in designer colors and a ceramic tiled entryway. Includes refrigerator, dishwasher, counter cook top and built-in oven. Community sundeck on roof with sweeping views of San Diego Bay and City Skyline. Walk to Kellogg Beach. One off-street parking space included and on-site laundry. Cats OK. Available now. 382-388-1/2. Rosecrans at Lawrence. Call Scott at 619-725-3648 or 619-846-6615.

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POWAY. Ask about our fabulous move-in specials! 8-12 month lease. \$300-\$500 deposits. OAC! Remodeled 1 bedrooms from \$1050; 2 bedrooms from \$1290; Pet friendly! New appliances! Patios/balconies. Tennis. Pool, spa. Fitness center. Silver Oak Apartments, 13409 Midland Road. 888-264-8776. www.sreader.com/rent/2150.

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RAMONA. Enjoy a quick drive home from the city into country life! Spacious 2 bedroom apartment homes with spa and laundry facilities. Nice clean community. Start at \$850 monthly. 411 14th Street. 760-789-7490.

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RANCHO BERNARDO. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, \$1250, \$800 deposit. Fireplace, patio/deck, parking plus other amenities. 1761 Alva Road. Agent, 858-560-1178.

RANCHO PENASQUITOS. Large, luxury 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhome. Porch with view. Attached garage. Washer/dryer. Pool/spa. Cats OK. \$1950. Option to buy. 619-778-2456.

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SAN CARLOS. \$875. Nice 1 bedroom condo. Quiet complex, downstairs, newer carpet. Pool and spa. No pets. 8671 Lake Murray Boulevard #5. Agent, 619-469-7790. www.westmanproperties.com.

SAN CARLOS. \$1295/\$1395: 2 and 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhouses. Fireplace, stackable washer/dryer, dishwasher, air conditioning, Jacuzzi, barbeque area. 8247/8259 Jackson Drive. Call 619-281-0030.

AUTOMOTIVE

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UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. Downstairs, large one bedroom apartment. Quiet, gated complex of 9 apartments with on-site laundry and parking. Walk-in closet, gas stove, newer carpet and paint. Cats OK, no Section 8. \$850/month, 4519 Campus Avenue. 858-200-9408.

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AUTOMOTIVE

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Jerry Sample, Jr. (General Manager) is an ASE Master Technician who is also **Acura/Honda factory-trained**. With well over a decade of experience, including several years working as a top mechanic at a well-known local Acura dealership, you can be assured of top-notch quality service. Jerry takes pride in what he does. His diagnostic skills are well-known throughout the industry. Often when customers are unable to achieve satisfaction elsewhere, they are directed to Jerry for an analysis. He thrives on a good challenge. Jerry will also take the time to explain to customers what he believes the problem is and how he would go about fixing it.

Greenlight Honda Acura Care prides itself on quality and service. We are proud to have more than 1,000 customers in San Diego and surrounding areas. The loyalty of our customers attests to Jerry and his crew's integrity.

Bryan Bettencourt (Service Technician) also has many years of experience in the automotive business including audio and communications. Bryan is the "go-to" guy for all your electrical needs. He complements Jerry in every way. Together, Jerry, Bryan and their team are a formidable group of technicians, ensuring that you walk away a satisfied customer. Some repair shops take shortcuts and often cover up problems with a temporary fix. We know... we fix their mistakes!

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Dear Saffron,

I have a troubled friend (or ex-friend — we'll see!) named "Brent." We've known each other since fifth grade. He was always a wild guy. After we graduated from UCSD, he developed a heroin problem. I saw less of him during that time because he was a real pain. After about 18 months on the skids he went into rehab, kicked heroin, and was clean for a couple of years. Off drugs he was nicer and didn't act out so much. He was still a handful, but we have a history, and though he tested me, we stayed friendly. I met an amazing, wonderful woman and, after dating a few years, we are getting married. We are so excited about our wedding, and it is important to both of us that nothing spoils it. We invited Brent to the wedding, which is planned for October. My fiancée, who is a tolerant person, met Brent a few times and knows his backstory. Brent started acting strangely a few weeks ago, and I figured he was back on heroin. It turns out

he has a new obsession: combining large amounts of alcohol with cocaine. He is high all the time and totally out of control. He says it's not like when he was on heroin because he can stop anytime (he just doesn't want to) and that booze and coke aren't dangerous like heroin was. He keeps talking about how he is going to use our wedding as an excuse to "party harder than I've ever partied before." I told him that he'll have to go easy and not get blasted out of his mind, and he said, "No, it'll be fantastic. You'll see." I can't get through to him. I know if he comes to the wedding he is going to do something to wreck it. He has done insane things at parties, to the point where people have called the cops. I've been talking to my fiancée and have come to a sad decision: I don't want Brent at our wedding. My fiancée agrees but asks, "How can we uninvite someone?" She has shed a few tears over the situation and wonders if we should just let him come and hope for the best. I want to tell him that he's still my "bro," but he can't attend — he's too drugged out. What do you say?

PROTECTIVE LA MESA GROOM

Dear Protective,

You have to be facing an extreme situation to disinvite someone to your wedding, but I think this Brent mess qualifies. He doesn't get to ruin your celebration, no matter how long you've known each other. It's depressing, but based on his track record I agree that he can't be trusted to behave. In fact, chances

are good he'll act like a raving maniac. Have your talk with him, and tell him he's not coming. Also say that as someone who cares about him, you advise an immediate return to rehab, because despite his absurd claims to the contrary, booze and coke are a very dangerous combo, and he's slipped back, big time.

Dear Saffron,

I read with interest the letter in your column from the young woman who'd been abused by her brothers when she was growing up and wanted to forgive them. I am a foreigner who was married to an American citizen, and he abused me during the marriage. We are divorced now, and he took our kids and a lot of my personal property. He continues to abuse me emotionally through e-mail and over the phone. I hate this man and cannot forgive him. My English is not very good. I feel helpless about getting my possessions back and stopping his continued abuse. What can I do?

VICTIMIZED IN EL CENTRO

Dear Victimized,

I am sorry to say that I get a lot of letters from women with a story like yours. You need to find a lawyer to help you get your belongings back. Try to find a bilingual lawyer who speaks both English and your first language, or one who can access interpreters. If your

ex-husband is harassing you, it may also be necessary to get a restraining order against him. When you find a lawyer, he or she can explain what's involved in obtaining a restraining order, and you can discuss whether that's a good course of action. If you need help finding a lawyer, you can call the Legal Aid Society at 877-534-2524; the legal clinic at the Center for Community Solutions, 858-272-1574; or the San Diego Bar Association lawyer referral service at 619-231-8585.

FREE READER T-SHIRT TO BEST QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Write to Saffron c/o the San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186-5803; call her at 619-235-3000 ext. 413; fax her at 619-881-2401; or e-mail to saffron@sdreader.com

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CLAIREMONT. Cutest house in Clairemont. By owner, 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 2-car finished garage, lots of amenities, backyard to die for, 4525 Melisa Way. 858-270-9998.

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- Inspect fuel filter
- Inspect air filter
- Rotate and balance 4 tires
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- Clean battery terminals
- Check all hoses
- Adjust emergency brake
- Flush brake system
- Inspect and adjust brakes
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- Inspect brakes
- Top off fluids
- Clean & adjust rear brakes
- Check radiator, radiator cap & all hoses
- Check tire balance
- Inspect fuel filter
- Check differential fluid
- Check manual transmission fluid
- Clean battery terminals
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SAN DIEGO, SOUTHEAST. \$425,000. 3 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. New appliances, remodeled bath. Great floor plan. 233 Review Drive (92114) MLS# 066056248. Teddy Charles, 619-823-2592.

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LA JOLLA. Sunny, lovely 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with pool and Jacuzzi. Monthly interest \$1695. \$15,000 down. APR only 5.9%. Call Agent, Elizabeth, at 619-286-5813.

LA JOLLA/WEST, 2/1 condo, attached garage, laundry, Tri-level, very clean. Vaulted ceilings, tiled fireplace, 1065 square feet. Bright and sunny. \$479,000, by owner. 858-525-1915.

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LA MESA. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Great Views! Central air conditioning and heating. Garage. \$399,000. 5430 Baltimore

Drive #84. Coldwell Banker, Quyen Doan, 619-850-2571.

LAKESIDE CONDO. 2 bedrooms. Call 1-888-Exit-123 property code 103703.

LITTLE ITALY. La Vita. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, granite counters, stainless steel appliances, fireplace, balcony, views of courtyard, fountain, more. Pool, spa, gym, recreation room. Washer/dryer with extra storage in unit. Approximately 706 square feet. Secured entry and underground parking. Short walk to bay, restaurants, and trolley. Comps available on request. No agents. Serious inquiries only. 619-316-2846.

MIRA MESA. Open house Sunday 9/10, 12-3:30pm. 8460 Capricorn Way. #58, 1 bedroom, \$225,000-\$239,000. #61, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$325,000-\$335,000. Coldwell Banker, Quyen Doan, 619-850-2571.

MISSION VALLEY. The Courtyards. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, all new kitchen appliances. Secure, clean, energy efficient. Sunny exposure. Gas fireplace. 24-hour security, \$385,000. Owner, 619-274-9678.

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PACIFIC BEACH. \$574,900. 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath condo with 2 car attached garage. Cul-de-sac. Washer/dryer. Stainless steel appliances. Over 1200 square feet. Gorgeous. 619-253-7674.

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ROLANDO. \$529,000-\$579,000. Fantastic home with view! Look no further, this home has everything! Large home with extensive upgrades throughout. Remodeled kitchen and baths, added 266 square feet bonus room off of family room. Detached office. Cris Schell, 619-316-1177.

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PARADE OF WEIRDNESS

The Set-up:

Although I usually profess to hate humanity, the truth is that I am a dedicated observer of human quirks and oddities, particularly the collection of human quirks and oddities that rides Chicago public transit. Most days, I enjoy the parade of weirdness that I see there. Even when my transit experience is objectively unpleasant — when someone is yanking it on the El, vomiting off the platform, or yelling about how Al Gore is a Chinese robot who controls the weather — I still feel that I am better off for having witnessed it.

All that has changed. Yesterday on the train I sat behind two individuals who grossed me out on every level. I am not all that easy to gross out, and I will share my collection of tropical skin-parasite photographs with you if you need proof of that assertion. These folks? Way worse than anything you can pick up while bathing with open sores in the Amazon. Maybe I was just abnormally sensitive that day, but you can judge for yourself.

The Catalogue of Atrocities:

A. A tweeky-looking African American man. His clothes are kind of dirty, but not really in a “homeless” way, just in a “not giving a fuck about stains” way. There is something odd lodged in his hair, and try as I might to avoid looking more closely at it (*Eyes on the book, Mimi! Eyes on the book!*), my morbid curiosity forces me to note that it is a large clot of macaroni and cheese.

B. His girlfriend, or perhaps wife, is an overweight and much younger white woman. She is wearing a hospital bracelet and carrying a wad of clothes in one of those “Patient’s Belongings” shopping bags. She has a poorly done tattoo of Tweety Bird on the back of her neck. At least I think it was supposed to be Tweety Bird, or else maybe a blurry and jaundiced Bea Arthur.

C. The couple is having a loud argument. They are having

trouble staying on topic, but for the most part it seems to be about money and is kind of cryptic in that the terms “fives,” “tens,” and “twenties” keep getting tossed around, along with many accusations, recriminations, and angry diatribes about someone named “Nancy.” The more I listen, the more it is obvious that Tweeky Guy and Big Mama are drug dealers involved in some complex crack-for-rent scheme, and Nancy is their main customer and landlord.

D. The conversation shifts to a discussion of whether or not Big Mama slept with someone named Darrell, with her swearing it was “just that one time.” Tweeky Guy gets kind of upset, but Big Mama soothes it over, repeating “it was just that one time, it was just that one time” like a mantra right through his litany of complaint, although at one point she switches it up to be, “It was just that one time; we needed the money.” Ah, but of course. High roller Darrell! Pimp daddy extraordinaire!

E. I wish I were making this up.

F. Abandon hope, all ye who read further, because it gets worse. The argument starts to dwindle and, as part of calming Tweeky Guy down, Big Mama reaches over and starts popping the

zits of her mac-n-cheese-headed paramour, squeezing and pinching and, yes, there is blood and zit-juice, which she daintily dabs off with her forefinger and wipes on the shoulder of his shirt. At this point, I have my hands over my face and am peeking through the fingers like a girl at a horror movie, and I am considering climbing over the woman next to me and



running for the exit, crowded El train or no crowded El train. I picture myself hitting the panic button for the conductor, babbling gibberish into the intercom. I picture myself being carried away catatonic on a stretcher, a victim of the grossness of humanity.

G. After a hellish eternity of zit popping, Big Mama lays her head on Tweeky Guy’s shoulder and sighs, “I want a baby.” “Damn straight you want my baby,” Tweeky Guy says cheerfully. “You going to have a dozen of my babies, bitch.” They smile at

each other. They get off the train at Wilson, crazy in love, on their way to do whatever people like that do. I wish that I could pluck out my eyes and soak them in bleach, or at the very least sustain some nonfatal but short-term-memory-erasing head injury. The end.

The Aftermath:

So now we have proved that not every transit story is quirky-sweet-uplifting, or even roll-your-eyes-at-our-urban-existence funny. A drunk peeing his pants and singing the theme from *The Love Boat*? I smile indulgently and look the other way. Dumb big-engagement-ring, ex-soror-

ity-girls yammering about nothing on their cell phones? The flame of annoyance flares, but soon dies down. It took Tweeky Guy and Big Mama’s vile, inappropriate grooming and moronic, circular, in-any-other-context-it-would-have-been-performance-art arguing to make my brain cringe. I guess I should thank them, really, for showing me that even a dedicated amateur anthropologist such as me has limits.

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ADULT SPORTS LEAGUES. VAVI Surf and Social Club, www.govavi.com, runs 12 different adult sports leagues, happy hours, event planning and vacations throughout San Diego. www.govavi.com.

BB GUNS. Several older Daisy BB guns, most are screw-type shot tubes and all in working condition, \$40 and up. 760-745-1948.

BODY BOARDS, \$6 each, 4 baseball batting helmets \$15/all, mens rollerblades, 3 pairs, good condition, \$20/all. Large tent \$10. 760-522-8199.

CHILD JOGGER. Stainless spokes, alloy wheels. Quick disassembly for transportation. If new \$300, for sale at \$125. 858-775-4572.

CLEATS wanted. Men's lacrosse or football cleats high top, leather, white, or blue 1970-1990s style, Converse, Adidas, Puma, New Balance, need mens size 8-1/2 to 9. Rob, 760-749-6619.

END OF SUMMER SALE! Kayaks starting at \$299. Accessories 15% off. Supplies are limited. Allen's Kayaks 858-488-5599, www.hikebikekayak.com.

FOUR RETRO FISHTYPE Shortboards, 1980s, \$150/each. Three 7.0 epoxy fun-shapes, mint \$275. Two 9.0 epoxy, mint \$425. 9.10 Hansen \$325. Fins/leash included, 760-809-8642.

GOLF CLUBS, complete set, men's and ladies', includes putter and bag. \$39/each. 619-461-4805.

GOLF CLUBS, Iron sets, Staff, McGregor, Prima, Wilson and more. \$19 each set, metal woods. \$5 each. Bags \$5. 619-276-0661.

GOLF CLUBS WANTED. We pay cash for Callaway, Taylor Made, Ping, other pro lines. New/used golf clubs and accessories for sale/trade. Play It Again Sports. Pacific Beach, 858-490-0222; Tierrasanta, 858-751-0338. College Area, 619-667-9499. www.playitagainsd.com.

HONDA R12X, 2004, with trailer, low hours, ski boat, near-mint condition, 2002 Magic Tilt Custom, no accidents, no dents, only fresh water, \$2000. tanlor42@yahoo.com.

KAYAK SALE! September 9th and 10th. Summer clearance on new and used kayaks and accessories. Cheap lessons, clinics, and raffles too! Aqua Adventures, 1548 Quivira Way, San Diego, 619-523-9577. www.aqua-adventures.com.

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CAMERA SHOW. Buy and sell everything photographic--vintage to modern. Thousands of bargains! All equipment guaranteed! Free appraisals. Sunday, September 24, 10am-3pm, \$4. Al Bahr Shrine Auditorium, 5440 Kearny Mesa Road, San Diego. Information: 310-578-7446.

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BEACH CRUISER, \$50. Road bike, Motiv 17" frame, 18 speed. \$50. 619-692-0159, leave message.

SURLY CROSS check, 58cm, Mavic open pros, Ultegra/105, XT brakes, Thompson post, Salsa stem, Travativ Elite. Pavement only. Absolutely mint. \$800. 760-929-2209.

VINTAGE, Schwinn mountain bike Impact Pro. Black 19" frame \$70. Park PCS-1 workstand \$65. Monkey lite riser bars \$25. Straight bars \$15. 858-571-0706.

AUTOMOTIVE

WINDOW TINTING advertisement with image of a car, listing services like Lifetime Warranty, Film Removal Available, and pricing starting at \$49 for window tinting and \$35 for car stereo installation.

ENGINE OR TRANSMISSION PROBLEMS? Major or Minor? We Can Help! advertisement featuring free 'Check Engine' light 21-point diagnostic, \$100 off transmission rebuild, and transmission service for \$399.

SMOG CHECK \$15.95 advertisement, also listing Oil Change \$19.95, BASIC TUNE-UP \$45, and TIMING BELT SPECIAL \$95.

210 San Diego Reader, September 7, 2006

VALUE TRANSMISSION & AUTO CENTER advertisement listing Automatic, Standard Differentials, Extended Warranties Welcome, and FREE TOWING services.

Automatic Transmission advertisement with pricing starting at \$444, including parts and labor, and a 2-year/24,000-mile warranty.

PACIFICRIM AUTO SPECIALTY advertisement listing services for Asian, Foreign, and Domestic vehicles, including oil changes, timing belts, and brake services.

Oil Change & Filter advertisement with pricing starting at \$19.99 up to 5 quarts, and other services like head gasket replacement and brake specials.

KIDNAPPING

Location: [600] 62nd Street, Encanto
Time/Date: 3:30 p.m. on 8/7/06

Officer's Investigation: At 6:45 p.m., Officer Rodriguez #5472 and I received a radio call to investigate the report of a possible kidnapping. Police communications advised that Raul G. was calling to

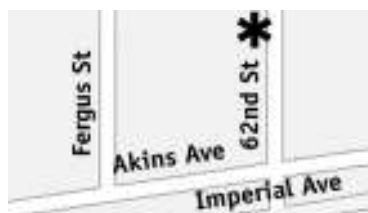
report this incident from Cathedral City. The reporting party received information from José N's neighbor that José had been taken from his home by several males with guns.

Upon arriving at the scene, Officer Rodriguez and I walked up to the front door. Rodriguez knocked on the front door and I heard a male voice respond, "Who is it?" in Spanish. Rodriguez announced ourselves as being "Police" in Spanish.... I then heard what sounded like a struggle inside the residence. I heard several thumps inside the walls of the residence coming from the first floor near the front door area. I also heard three violent thumps to the front window. Approximately three seconds later, the front door opened partially. I saw a Hispanic male later identified as José N. run out the residence, frantically waving his arms.

José was yelling, "They beat me, they beat me, they're going to kill me!" I grabbed José and took cover behind a parked vehicle. I requested for additional units to respond to the scene.

José told me that...he felt his wife and three children had possibly been kidnapped as well. I requested additional units to respond to their location in order to check their welfare.

Statement of José N.: I had just gotten home from work. I saw a white Explorer Sport Track pull up in front of my house. One of the guys in the Explorer called me over. I walked over there and then all of a sudden the guy in the front seat got out and he had a gun. He was



the guy with the green eyes and the goatee. He pointed the gun at my back and told me to get in the car and said that he just wanted to ask me a few questions. He also told me...they were going to kill all the people in my house. [He] told me that there were other cars that had come with them. I saw my cousin Javier in one of those cars. He was in the driver's seat of his brother's pick-up truck and there were two guys I had never seen before with him. I got scared because of what they said they were going to do to my family. My wife saw what was going on.

They kept asking me about "Copas" or "Copitas." I recognized that nickname as the person who lives in the converted garage/studio. I know him as Alvaro M. I told them I was not involved with Alvaro. Then they accused me of being "Copitas."

When we got to this house, I was led in by the three guys and two other guys who walked my cousin inside. There were about four other guys in the house...with guns. My cousin and I were told to sit in some chairs by the kitchen bar. The guy with the green eyes kept telling me to tell him where "Poly" was. All three of the guys then started kicking me in the groin and punching me all over...[and] kicked me in the face twice. Two of the guys...left with Javier at some point. The entire time they were hitting me, one of them would be on the telephone speaking to someone who said they had the guy they were looking for. I think every time they hurt the guy the other person had on their end, they would hurt me.

The thin dark-skinned guy (Suspect 3) then pulled out a semi-auto-

matic handgun and told me he was going to kill me....he pointed the gun at my forehead and said, "[We] are going to kill your kids and then I am going to kill you." [Suspect 2] then left the room and came back with an electric yellow saw and said, "If you don't tell us where he is, I'm going to cut off your fingers and then cut off your legs." He never turned the saw on but I thought he was going to do it.

They then began to eat some chips and drink some Gatorade and the guy with the green eyes told me when they were done, they were going to kill me.

I finally heard you guys knocking on the door. They heard you say it was the police.

ASSAULT WITH DEADLY WEAPON

Location: [3200] Olive Street, Lemon Grove
Time/Date: 10:02 a.m. on 8/23/06



Report: The preliminary investigation reveals that a female resident of the Olive Garden Apartments was assaulted in the complex by a white male adult. A struggle ensued which ended with both victim and suspect sustaining stab wounds. The victim fled the area ending up in the city of Chula Vista where she was assisted by Chula Vista Police. The victim was

transported to Mercy Hospital with multiple stab wounds. The suspect, who was located in an apartment in Lemon Grove, was also transported to a local hospital with a stab wound to the chest.

Update: In her attempt to get away, the victim struggled with the suspect, sustaining cuts to her face and chest. When contacted by sheriff's detectives, the suspect had a knife protruding from his chest. Paramedics were called and he was immediately transported to a local hospital. The suspect remains in the hospital, still closely monitored by medical staff.

STABBING

Location: Intersection of Tamarack and Jefferson, Carlsbad
Time/Date: 4:20 a.m. on 8/19/06



Incident: Officer Fanene was on patrol...when he saw a group of white and Hispanic males running from each other. Officer Fanene stopped and was contacted by the victim. The victim told Officer Fanene that there had been a fight between six Hispanics and four white males. During the fight, the victim stated that an unknown suspect stabbed him in the stomach area. A check of the area for the suspects was unsuccessful.

— Michael Hemmingson

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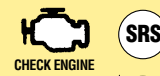
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I DON'T KNOW WHY I ASSOCIATED A CRASHING SOUND WITH MY TRUCK. Maybe it's the way my brain orders things according to luck. A basket full of chocolates, drugs, money, and strippers' phone numbers flies in through the window and I think, "That's not for you, sir. There's some mistake." A loud metallic bang? That's got my name written all over it.

After the attacks in 2001 I got a television; first one I'd ever owned. I watched the news every night, waiting for the announcement that they'd caught Osama.

One night I was mangling the rabbit-ear antenna around and watching through the gray diagonal lines when I heard a crunch from the parking lot behind my apartment.

Outside I see the monstrous white Cadillac of my neighbor, Eric, pushing against the rear quarter panel of my pickup. Eric was a 92-year-old, WWII Purple Heart veteran, blind in one eye, with a stiff left leg. Thinking he'd had a stroke behind the wheel and was mashing into my vehicle, I rounded his Caddy and knocked on the window, "Eric!" I shouted. "Eric, are you okay?"

Eric thumbed the electric window controller and pointed his fedora out at me. A rolling brown fog that stunk like old man and rye whiskey — mostly whiskey — billowed from the interior.

I went back inside.

After the blonde lady on the TV said they were still looking for Osama, I grabbed my coat and a camping chair. Under yellow sodium light, I watched Eric roast off his tires, inching my truck over bit by bit until it was pushing against a dumpster.

Every few minutes he'd stop, fumble with the column shifter to find the right gear, and then he'd start pushing my truck some more and call out, "Why that no good...! I'm gonna..." and I sat in my chair and watched.

"That's right, Eric. You get that son of a bitch," I called out to him as he crinkled the front of his luxury car into my old beat-up truck. "You ain't going to hurt that pickup, you go ahead."

I waited for Eric to work the booze and frustration out of his system and into the bent bumper of my old Ford. After he passed out, I shut his car off and sat there in my old camping chair to be sure he didn't wake up and go tear-assing around the neighborhood, drunk and in a gigantic car.

WHAT I WILL AND WON'T WATCH THIS WEEK

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

COLD PIZZA
ESPN2 9:00 A.M.
The original white meat.

FAMILY TIES
WB 9:00 A.M.

An open letter to all parents in San Diego: Shut your damn kid up. No, I don't care that little Timmy is gifted and creative and expressing himself. I'm trying to (a) shop for groceries, (b) enjoy my dinner, or (c) watch a movie. Drag him down off the card rack, candy display, or chair that he's mounted and is using as a podium for his great oration. No, you won't "stunt his development" if you take him the hell outside. Yes, I know he's going to be the greatest president this country has ever seen, but for now

put your bony hand over his mouth or I've got an oily rag and roll of duct tape in my truck suitable for this purpose. Thank you.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

NFL YEARBOOK
ESPN 10:00 A.M.

What the hell is a Charger? Whatever it is I suppose it's better than a "Brown." Or for that matter, a "49er." Don't give me that tired, old "A 49er is a prospector who came out for the Gold Rush of 1849" because, first of all, cram it, and second, do you really want to associate yourself with grimy, toothless men who were most likely felons and avoiding the law in other states when they came to California? Oh, I get it. There's the connection to modern football players.

SATURDAY,
SEPTEMBER 9

YOU GOT SERVED (2004)
USA 9:00 A.M.

Stop. Don't argue. Stop. Stop watching movies about car racing, cheerleading, or dancing where in the end the characters all learn a little something about multicultural harmony, friendship, and love that ignores race and social strata. Just stop. Because if you don't stop watching, they'll keep on making them. I don't care that you're waiting to get in the shower and there's really nothing else on. Or you're cooking and it's on as background noise. If they find a way into your consciousness once using this formulaic wheelbarrow-load of expired dairy product, they'll keep doing it. Please. Huff gas or something that's not as detrimental to your brain.

THE MERMAID CHAIR (2006)
LIFE 9:00 P.M.

I'm being mean. I don't want to be mean. Give me something nice to write about. Give me water lilies and worn fence posts and sitting on a wooden bridge, watching leaves change to auburn in the fall air. No? You're going to give me something called *The Mermaid Chair*? Fine. I'll send the bill for my GODDAMN ULCERS to the GODDAMN LIFETIME NETWORK!

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

BREAKFAST WITH THE ARTS
AETV 8:00 A.M.

The Australian girl I was rooming with bought me strong coffee and a baguette with butter and jam. We crossed the river that bisects Paris and sat, bundled against the December air, until the Musée d'Orsay opened. We practiced what little French we knew, and when the museum opened she chased school kids from room to room until a guard stopped us with "*Non! Absolument non!*" We knew what that meant.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

WALKER, TEXAS RANGER
USA 9:00 A.M.

Here it is. 9/11. Take me back, Chuck. Take me



Rockstar: Supernova

back to "before." The way it was, please. Use your beard of justice to make it better, if you can, Mr. Norris. Thank you.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

TIFFANY-INSPIRED LIGHTING
QVC 8:00 A.M.

All right. Dust yourself off. Don't live in the good feeling of feeling bad. It's September 12, a new day has come. Because as dark as it can get, you know there's always light, too. There's always light, too.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

ROCK STAR: SUPERNOVA
CBS 8:00 P.M.

The uneven bob with a blond stripe slightly off-center is this generation's Afro, mullet, or beehive. Twenty years from now we'll look at pictures of this atrocity and laugh our faces red at the ridiculousness a haircut can confer upon a person. Why wait? This show is the World Series of that Idiot's Wig and we can point and insult now. Ah, sweet instant satisfaction.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

SURVIVOR: COOK ISLANDS
CBS 8:00 P.M.

So, the big story is that this season the tribes are divided along race lines. A white tribe, a black tribe, a Hispanic tribe, and an Asian tribe. As long as motorcycling, extreme sports, and serial killing are the final three contests, my "tribe" is sure to win. The math, basketball, and soccer challenges don't look good for the home team, however.

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T.G.I.F.

“There was no way to see, from this altitude, the squalor, the ruination, the foulness.”

By John Brizzolara

The second Friday in September. I'm not there yet, and if you've picked this paper up in a timely fashion neither are you. But I'm going to go out on a limb here and say that by 2:00 in the afternoon on Friday, September 8th, it will be uncomfortably hot. It has been uncomfortably hot for some time now, with brief respites. The hothouse effect is becoming increasingly hard to dismiss outside of air-conditioned corporate offices or an air-conditioned Lexus. But don't those who can avail themselves of these refuges (read *they*) get a clue while they're on the golf course? Maybe \$8.00 martinis and imported beer ameliorate the discomfort to a large degree; but hasn't a single oil CEO and flat-earther who believes in the greenhouse effect to be Luddite, liberal hysteria ever stuck his head out of a window?

Because I am an enthusiast regarding the U.S. Constitution in ways that are inconvenient and meet with disapproval from the right, and also believe pretty much that this country was neither founded nor freed by the well behaved, I am often mistaken for a liberal hysteric and even an anarchist. This is understandable, as at times the difference is hard to discern. But choking in rush-hour traffic (nonexistent in San Diego not that long ago) and baking in ultraviolet ferocity while surrounded with crawling, single-occupant SUVs on I-5, I may fondle my bus pass and

feel truly righteous.

As a kid in the Midwest, the second week of September was an oppressive time. It was uphill in the early school year and likely still muggy. I transformed public parks or forest preserves or my family's back yard into Conradian jungles brimming with adventure. Garden or "garter" snakes became monsters; steaming puddles of mud were quicksand I didn't always avoid, shadows transmogrified into homicidal native tribesmen. I was a 19th-century British martyr to the sun in some godforsaken colony, Lawrence of Arabia, or Sir Richard Burton. This past summer in San Diego I found myself unable to romanticize the weather and was forced to confront the sweating, grunting, middle-aged curmudgeon I have become, an ageing hippy cursing industry and its gifts of fluorocarbons, carbon monoxide, and ozone-shredding, inefficiently consumed petroleum.

No one has yet heard me utter the words, "Save the planet," much less "Save the whales." I am unconcerned about the planet, and whales will either do just fine or they won't. It is, of course, me that concerns me.

Instrumental in bringing my disgruntlement to a peak is a recent reading of Robert Silverberg's *Hot Sky at Midnight*, a 1994 novel safely labeled science fiction, which is to say, nonsense, a comic book, not in any way real or having to do with you. Silverberg has managed to produce consistently high-grade literary fiction for several decades without attracting the attention of either mainstream readers or the literati (more real than the illuminati). He has, however caught my attention since 1973 with a reading of his book *Dying Inside*, as good as anything Updike or Bellow ever wrote. Aside from Silverberg's (a term of affection, and his beard is indeed a dull argentine these days) finely balanced sentences and uncharacteristic (for much of science fiction) characterization, the relevance of *Hot Sky* to our endless summer is of more than passing interest to anyone willing to stick his head out of a climate-controlled room.

Without giving anything at all away (in the unlikely event you find and pick up this out-of-print novel), a closing passage has stayed with me for several days as I sought shady sides of streets and sneezed or coughed or both at intersections like Midway and Sports Arena. That passage is a description of Earth viewed from space some 200 years from now and, ostensibly, exactly how it would be seen today.

"A perfect blue ball, gleaming brightly, mottled with bands of white. The



wounds mankind had inflicted were invisible. There was no way to see, from this altitude, the squalor, the ruination, the foulness. The bleak new desert zones that had been fertile agricultural areas a few generations back, the steaming fungoid forests covering the sites of abandoned cities, the drowned shorelines, [New Orleans] the clotted garbage in the seas, the colorful patches of poisoned air, the long dreary miles of blackened and withered wasteland.... No, the view from up here beyond the stratosphere was altogether superb.

"There were some who felt that it had merely been stained; if that was the case, the planet would need some time to cleanse itself. But it would. It would. Everything would be repaired.... The planet had plenty of time. We don't, but it does. Life would go on. Not necessarily ours, but life of some sort...we were such poor stewards of our domain, so be it. So be it. One kind fails, another kind eventually takes over. Life is persistent. Life is resilient."

It is unlikely I will have grandchildren, but allow me to lift my plastic, practically immortal plastic bottle of Crystal Geyser water to yours.

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