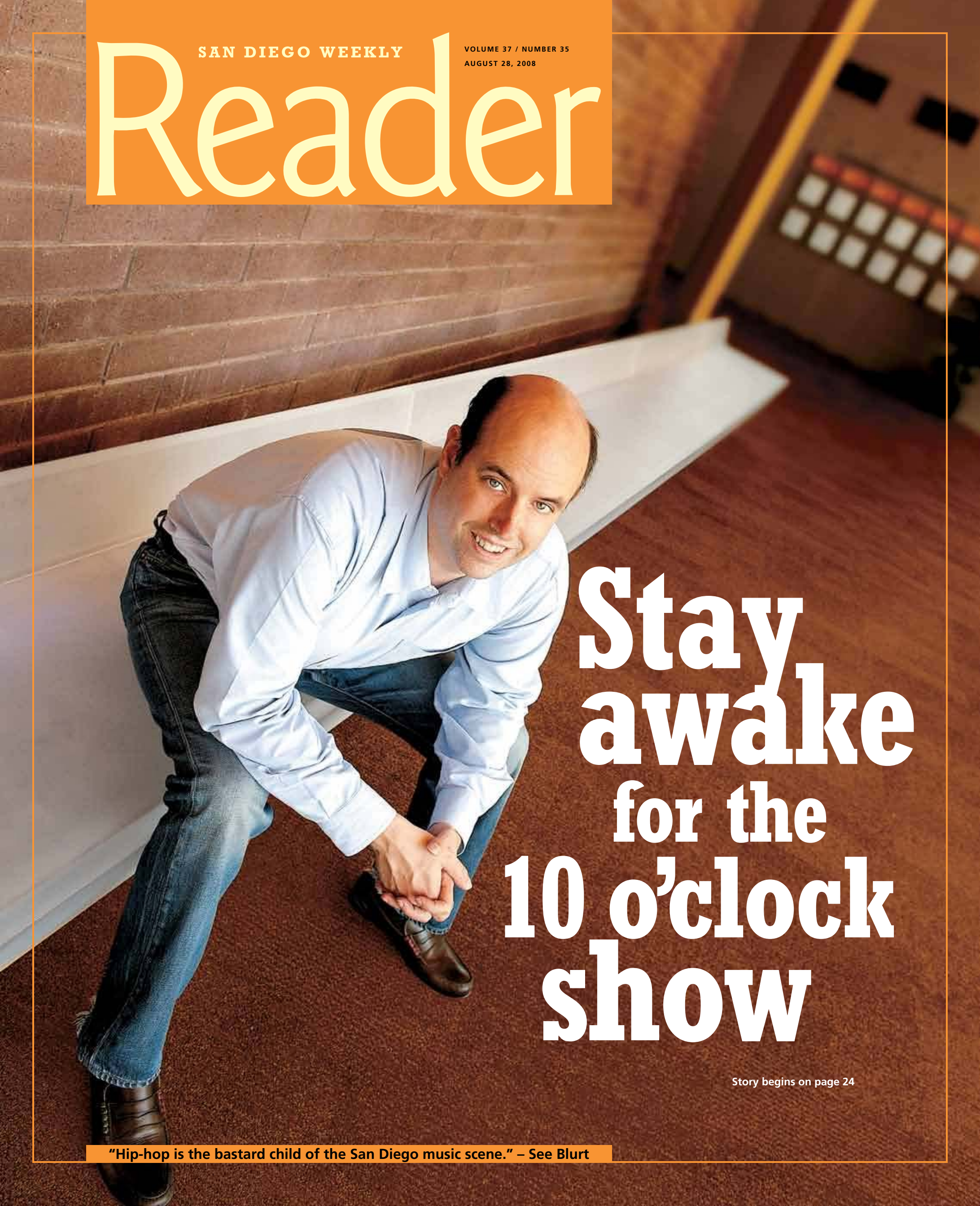
SAN DIEGO WEEKLY

Reader

VOLUME 37 / NUMBER 35
AUGUST 28, 2008



Stay awake for the 10 o'clock show

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"Hip-hop is the bastard child of the San Diego music scene." – See Blurt

San Diego Reader

August 28, 2008

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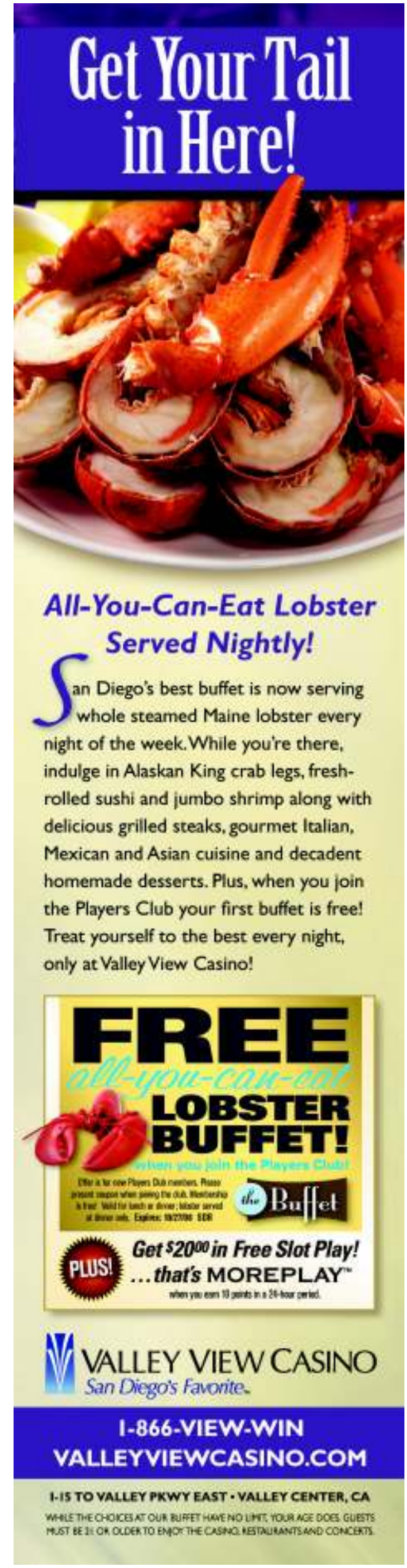

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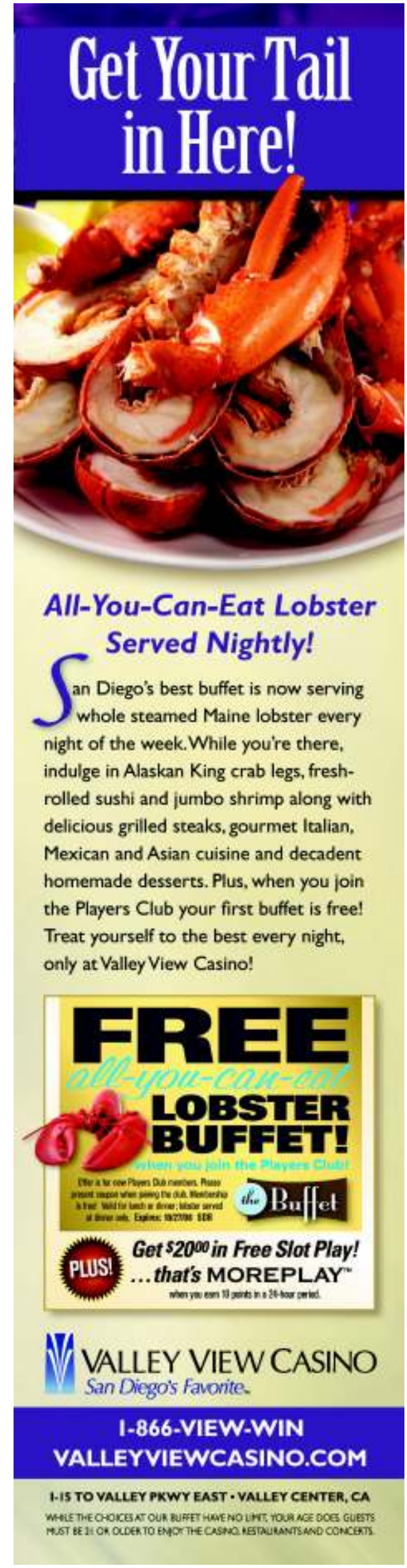

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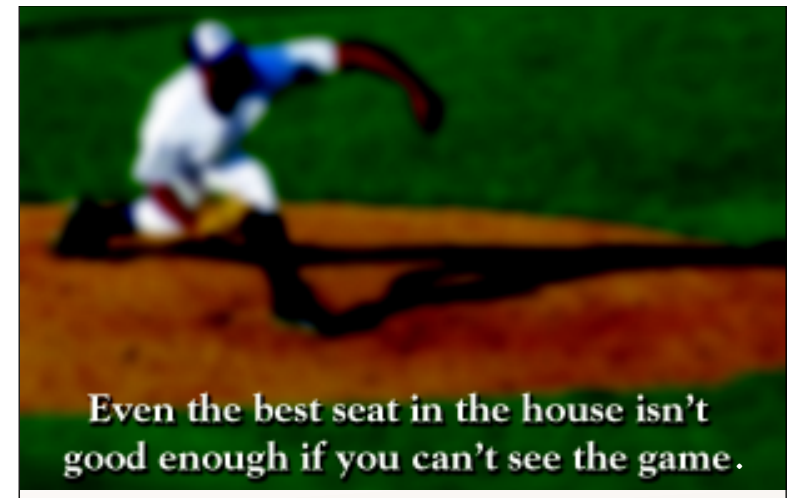

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Are the surgeons Refractive Surgery Specialists?
The independent surgeons affiliated with some centers may or may not be Refractive Surgery Specialists.

How long have they been established in San Diego?
Patients need to be aware of centers that come and go.

Is your surgeon always available before and after your surgery?
At many of these corporate-run LASIK centers the surgeon is available only at the center on the day of surgery. Be aware of surgeons who may not be available for post-operative care should a complication arise.

Do they have a variety of lasers available?
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Consumers Tightening Belts

By Don Bauder

American consumers are tightening their belts. So companies selling to households are pulling in their horns. Wall Street expects San Diego consumer companies such as Jack in the Box, Rubio's, Charlotte Russe, WD-40, and Callaway Golf to face a double whammy: waning customer demand and rising costs of doing business.

Households are tussling with excessive debt, rising unemployment, wages that have been stagnant for 8 years, tightening credit, still-falling home values, and higher prices for food and energy. It's little wonder that consumer sentiment has been running at close to its lowest rate for more than 25 years. "Credit growth will be slower in coming years, and so will economic growth," says E. James Welsh, Carlsbad money manager.

"We're passing out of a very, very long-term buildup in consumer spending," says David Allen of North County's Palomar Equity Research. "We reached the zenith in the last three or four years, and now we're on the downside of the slope. Profits have become a larger percentage of [total economic output] while incomes have lagged. Consumers have made up for that by borrowing through credit cards, mortgages, home equity loans, whatever. So the average consumer is more indebted at a time unemployment and inflation are rising. It doesn't paint a pretty picture."

"Many consumer stocks got beaten up horribly, then had a run-up, and now have turned back down," says Bud Leedom of Leedom Asset Management. He, too, doesn't see solid signs of a consumer turnaround, although the dollar's recent strength portends lower commodity prices that will translate into lower prices if the trend continues.

Mark Basham of Standard & Poor's thinks full-service restaurants are being hit the hardest, and fast-food outlets will pick up some of that business. But you can't see that in recent results of fast-food chains Jack in the Box and Rubio's. Jack has suffered two straight quarters of traffic declines, and its Mexican chain, Qdoba, has had three, says Rachael Rothman of Merrill Lynch. The company's bakery costs have soared 57.5 percent over the past year, while cheese prices have gone up 20 percent. One problem is that 43 percent of outlets are in California, where the economy founders. Rothman's target on the stock is $26, above where it is now.

John Owens of Morningstar, Inc., is more bullish: he thinks the stock's fair value is $40 a share. He likes the strategy of going upscale with Asian chicken salad, the 100 percent sirloin burger, and ciabatta burgers and sandwiches. On the other hand, Jack is going for the value market with such products as a nacho cheese sandwich. Early this month, the company lowered its forecast of earnings for the year but predicted they would still be up 7 to 9 percent. "That kind of growth in this challenging environment is impressive," says Owens, citing "cut-throat competition" from Burger King, Carl's Jr., McDonald's, and Wendy's.

"Rubio's has always lagged expectations," says Allen. The Mexican fast-food chain, which has more than 180 outlets in Western states, lost money in its first quarter. Its second-quarter profit of a mere $335,000, or 3 cents a share, was down from $503,000, or 5 cents, in the same quarter of the prior year. The stock has been as high as $11.90 over the past year. It's now trading around $6. Standard & Poor's says the stock is worth $4.70. According to S&P, 87 percent of the companies it follows are more desirable investments than Rubio's.

"The price of cheese, cooking oil, flour went way up, hitting Rubio's, which hasn't found a sweet spot yet," says Leedom.

Charlotte Russe, which sells apparel to women in their teens and 20s through 469 stores in the United States and Puerto Rico, is not garnering Wall Street's respect just now because of "extensive management upheaval," says Allen. In July, the company said it would have a weak fourth quarter. Also, chief executive Mark Hoffman would retire. In early August, the company said its chief financial officer, Patti Johnson, was stepping down. Len Mogil, the interim chief executive, would temporarily fill her shoes. Then executive vice president Patti Shields said she was taking off too. Since July 1, the stock has plummeted from almost $18 to around $12.

The company gets 25 percent of its sales from California, Florida, Arizona, and Nevada — states that are getting walloped economically. As a result, Charlotte Russe is "slowing the pace of expansion in response to difficult retail conditions," says Jason Asaeda of Standard & Poor's. The company earned $1.50 a share in 2006 and $1.43 in 2007 and should earn $1.21 this year and $1.15 next year, says Asaeda. That would be a pretty steady downspiral.

WD-40 makes a variety of household products. It has 80 percent of the U.S. market for its WD-40, the spray lubricant that people use to loosen up almost anything that sticks. The company also sells other lubricants, such as 3-In-One oil, heavy-duty hand cleaners, and household cleaners. Its Spot Shot carpet cleaner has half the U.S. market. Sales should grow by 4.34 percent this year, but they will decline in North and South America, says Loran Braverman of Standard & Poor's. He thinks new products and higher prices will boost sales in the next 12 to 24 months, but growth will be "below that of other household product companies," he says. Also, competition will stiffen.

S&P thinks WD-40's stock price is ahead of itself. It gives the target price as $26. But the stock sells for about $8 more than that already. S&P would sell the stock. Leedom, however, notes that this company's products are needed, not merely wanted: "It's a pure consumer blue chip; they have been doing a good job," he says.

In recent years, there has been a massive shift of wealth and income to the richest Americans. For example, the upper 1 percent now corrals more than 40 percent of the nation's financial assets, such as stocks and bonds. Nonetheless, American Express recently announced extremely disappointing earnings and said that the affluent are cutting back on spending. Results have been mixed at retail stores catering to the carriage trade. Callaway Golf goes for the upscale market by selling golf clubs made of space-age metals for hundreds of dollars per club. But Erik Kolb of Standard & Poor's expects Callaway's sales to rise only 0.8 percent this year, compared with 11 percent last year. Drivers and irons might record percentage gains in the low single digits, but golf balls will be a problem, says Kolb.

"Callaway is in a better, more upscale part of the consumer market," says Allen. "But it's dependent on the fickle taste of the golfer for the latest club. The golf-equipment market is basically flat, and there are no major improvement trends on the horizon. It looks like that market place has seen its glory days; now it's a slow-growth, competitive market, dependent on the next hot club."

Back in 1998, when it appeared that golf would ride a boom propelled by Tiger Woods and retiring baby boomers, Callaway stock

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Neal Obermeyer

Killers Reformed?

By Alastair Bland

They came, they conquered, and they stayed, but you'd hardly know it if you weren't an entomologist.

After years of media hype, Africanized hybrid honeybees, once commonly called "killer bees," have established themselves in urban areas to the point of genetic domination among wild European honeybees — also an introduced, if more mellow, species. Biologists, who regularly test local bees for genetic makeup, estimate that three-fourths of feral honeybees in San Diego County's urban areas are now Africanized, but to the surprise of beekeepers and scientists, the newcomers have been relatively polite neighbors.

"We may have overhyped it," says Dr. David Kellum, San Diego County's entomologist, "but we had to stress the danger level to get people's attention because these bees really are measurably more aggressive."

Local beekeepers have learned to contend with this new member of the environment. Beekeepers' colonies regularly become "infected" with Africanized genes, a situation observable by heightened aggressive behavior in the bees, which may pounce on a beekeeper at the slightest disturbance. Africanized bees produce honey just like the European subspecies, and while some beekeepers "run" Africanized bees, the insects' behavior can make them hazardous to work with. Where an unprotected person may get stung 10 times by a disturbed European colony, an Africanized colony might deliver 1000 stings.

"You open up the hive and they jump all over you," describes Chuck Nickels, part owner of San Luis Rey Apiaries in Valley Center.

Chuck Nickels

David Kellum holds vial of Africanized bees

Irish honeybees

PHOTOGRAPHS BY JOE KLEIN

James Gibbs

Beekeepers frequently "requeen" infected colonies, removing the Africanized queen and replacing her with a female purchased from a professional breeder, most of whom are based in genetically clean zones, such as Northern California or Hawaii. The colony's worker bees constitute the bulk of the hive's 50,000-odd bees. Workers can live for several months, while queens may live for three years or more. Thus, within weeks or months of requeening, all the Africanized offspring will have died off, leaving the colony clean and the pure queen seated on the throne.

But Nickels, who works between 4000 and 5000 hives, usually kills the entire colony when he observes Africanized behavior.

In the United States, Africanized bees have killed 23 people by some reports since entering Texas from Mexico in 1990. In California, one person, a Long Beach man, has been killed by Africanized bees since 1994, when they are believed to have arrived in the state.

"By stirring up the media interest all those years, we've alleviated the potential impact and disaster," says Kellum.

Bee advisories were distributed in Southern California in the 1990s in nine languages to elevate public awareness, says Dr. Eric Mussen, an apiculturalist at the University of California, Davis. Such campaigning and public education did not occur in Mexico, he says. The result was 175 deaths between 1988 and 1995, prompting the popular name "killer bee" in movies, on TV, and among the media.

African honeybees first appeared in the New World in 1956, in São Paulo, Brazil, as researchers attempted to breed their genetic material into local honeybees to produce a sturdy strain more appropriately suited to the local climate. The African bees escaped and "swarmed," breeding with local honeybees and foraying outward in search of new habitat, and the aggressive insects commenced on a northward journey of sometimes 250 miles per year. The bees reached Mexico in 1985. Meanwhile, dispersal slowed in the desert region of northern Mexico, and the Africanized bees arrived in Texas in approximately 1990. In California, the bees have moved northward at a rate of approximately 50 miles per year. The insects have been found as far north as Tulare County in the Central Valley and Santa Barbara on the coast, but for the past three years, says Mussen, northward movement has apparently ceased.

Kellum says that identifying Africanized bees' hives by observation may not be immediately possible. A colony of bees may move into an attic or a backyard and demonstrate a gentle temperament for several weeks. Behavior changes dramatically once they have built up a honey store to protect or established a nursery of young to guard. While all bees may respond aggressively to intruders, and Africanized bee venom is no more potent than that of other bees, Africanized bees are more aware of their surroundings. They may react to vibrations 50 feet from their hive and may chase fleeing targets for a mile or more.

The most recent such incident in California occurred in early June in Stoney Point Park in Chatsworth, north of L.A., when a group of teenage boys who had stumbled upon a hive was attacked by a swarm of bees. Their pet dog was killed. Also in June, a 72-year-old bulldozer operator in Graham, Texas, was attacked and

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Tightening belts

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zoomed to almost $34. But earnings have been volatile. Ditto for the stock. This year, it has been as high as $18.20. "Historically, the $9 or $10 range has been a floor for that stock," says Leedom. It recently bounced off that floor to above $13. But he doubts it will climb much higher. ■

Killers reformed

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stung thousands of times, according to local authorities. Rescuers hauled the man, who survived, into a truck, which the bees reportedly chased for several minutes.

Alan Mikolich, a commercial beekeeper who works 700 to 1000 hives in San Diego and Imperial counties, finds infected hives every week or two, he says. He recalls one such instance in early June.

"I was going through, opening the hives, and they swarmed out and stung me about ten times immediately."

He retreated, then returned wearing protective clothing and carrying a bucket of soapy water to douse the bees — a trick that coats the insects with suds and effectively drowns them. Emptying a can of ether into the hive will also do the trick. Last year, Mikolich, who has kept bees commercially since 1985 and prefers to work in shorts and a T-shirt, killed seven of his colonies.

James Gibbs, owner of Chaparral Honey in Valley Center, has killed only a dozen colonies in the past 5 years, he says. The 83-year-old has kept bees for 40 years and reports a limited influence from Africanized bees on his colonies. He prefers to requeen those that "turn mean."

Last fall, San Luis Rey Apiaries' Chuck Nickels found just three of his hives infected upon bringing them home from the Imperial Valley's alfalfa fields. Indeed, while local entomologist David Kellum's research in Escondido, San Diego, Oceanside, and many other cities has revealed a rate of 75 percent Africanization, the Imperial Valley is believed to bear a lower Africanized density, closer to 30 percent, according to UC Davis's Mussen.

Gibbs recalls the 1980s and 1990s, when people grew aware of the advancing bees.

"People were really worried, and the media did a lot of that," says the beekeeper. "The press, whenever they have the occasion, will play up what might be alarming. There were a few deaths in the U.S., but mostly it's been animals."

All Cities Pest Control regularly answers calls for bee removal throughout San Diego County. Of some 25 calls per day from residents with questions or concerns about nearby hives, perhaps one will involve Africanized bees, a rate that has steadily increased over time. For such instances, the service crew dons double bee suits — one cotton jumpsuit over another — as they can expect to get attacked by at least 10,000 bees, which is considered a small swarm. Large swarms may consist of 50,000 bees.

"The Africanized bee is absolutely, positively a dangerous animal," says Ben Rasmussen, service manager with the pest control company. "There hasn't been a human death in San Diego County, fortunately, though a lot of experts say it's only a matter of time.

"We definitely do not like the term 'killer bees.' In the '90s, TV media did us a disservice by hyping up the situation. It was a lot of talk backed by very little knowledge."

Gibbs believes the drought of recent years and the generally dry California climate has curbed the Africanized bees' invasion to an extent, noting that the subspecies is naturally accustomed to humidity. The beekeeper says that Africanized bees have made a more prominent presence in the American Southeast, where some beekeepers have relented, choosing to work the Africanized bees rather than fight an uphill battle.

But Gibbs has concerns about the incursion of Africanized bees into Southern California, and he claims the government's common policy of barring beekeeping from public lands facilitates Africanization.

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Killers reformed

continued from page 8

"These protected zones could become repositories for Africanized bees," he says. "By practicing this policy of supposedly maintaining wild native bees, they'll really only be maintaining a vacuum for Africanized bees. Bees tend to go where there are no other bees, so the feral bees will invade the open areas, and in this case that's the Africanized bees."

In urban areas, bees are known to thrive, as lush gardens and swimming pools provide food and water in abundance, but Kellum, the county's entomologist, believes that hobbyist and commercial beekeepers will mitigate the further encroachment of Africanized genes into the bee population. The situation today, he says, may be as severe as it will get.

UC Davis's Mussen, however, believes that in time Africanized honeybees could saturate the state.

"We're not capable of stopping Africanized honeybees, and we'll have to just find out eventually what their limit is in spreading north. Over time, insidiously, they're winning."

And people will get stung, but most parties agree that the situation is far less dramatic than the media once predicted. Africanized bees may dominate the county, but it seems that the "killer bees" never arrived. ■

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LETTERS

We welcome letters pertaining to the contents of the Reader. Phone them in at 619-235-3000, ext. 460; address them to Letters to the Editor, Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186-5803; fax them to 619-231-0489; or use our web page at SDReader.com/letters. Include your name, address, and telephone number. Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

Tijuana Equals Death

I would like to express my deep concern for the portrayal of Tijuana in two recent reports featured in the *Reader:* "Greetings from Tijuana" (Cover Story, August 7) and "Suicide Tourism" (Cover Story, August 21). I find it very disconcerting that your paper is consistently presenting a slanted view of Tijuana, a view that chooses to ignore other aspects of Tijuana's reality as an important center for business, economic development, tourism, and cultural activities. Proof of this one-sided view are the letters that some of your readers have already sent you expressing their criticism.

In the case of the report "Greetings from Tijuana," it is undeniable that Mexico has had a share of violence as a result of the resolve shown by the current administration in confronting the criminal networks plaguing our country. However, the report is centered in presenting sensationalistic aspects of this complex problem, instead of providing your readers with a more complete perspective on the reasons that generate the violence that is challenging both of our countries. The very broad brush with which your paper paints Tijuana does a great disservice to your readers.

The cover for your most recent issue featuring the story "Suicide Tourism" is another reason to be concerned about your portrayal of Mexico. By associating Tijuana with death in a very graphic way on your cover for the August 21 issue, your paper again presents a very negative and unfair portrait.

I encourage you to present a more balanced and objective perspective on Mexico's reality, as it would seem that the overarching objective of both pieces is to discourage people from visiting Tijuana, rather than informing your readership.

Remedios Gómez Arnau
Consul General of Mexico
in San Diego

Paid To Kill

Re "Suicide Tourism," Cover Story, August 21.

How much are you being paid to kill tourism in Tijuana?

Turismo de Salud Tijuana

Too Unbiased

I guess I didn't get the memo. How nice of your publication to put this in the hands of hundreds of thousands of San Diegans ("Suicide Tourism," Cover Story, August 21). I don't have up-to-the-minute statistics on your demographics; however, I would assume it's in the 18-to-30 range. Did you stop to think of the impact this would have on impressionable teenagers and adults alike? Although the spin in the article is focused on seniors or those with terminal illness, I wonder how people will respond to the aloof tone of Ernie Grimm? And to go as far as publishing the locations of these veterinary pharmacies — an added bonus, I must say. Now I not only know how to end my pain, but I know the exact street location of the Tijuana vendor I should go to.

I have a family member who used a similar book to the one mentioned in your article (if you could call an editorial of this caliber an article). Had he not been depressed and found comfort in a book (like the one mentioned) he may have sought help and other means of support from family and professionals. However, this book made the alternative to living an easy choice.

I know from an editorial standpoint you must remain unbiased, but how do you stay unbiased on this subject? And to go as far as putting it on the cover with a skeleton for a bus driver with a license plate reading *"muerte"*?

continued on page 55

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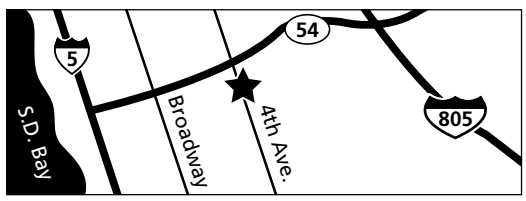

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STRAIGHT FROM THE HIP

BY MATTHEW ALICE

Illustration by Rick Geary

Heymatt:
I see that Horton Plaza has a section of parking for pregnant women. As a male, if I park there, will the cops (or mall cops) treat this the same way they would if I parked in the handicapped spots? And if my girlfriend parks there, will they make her pee on a stick for verification? I mean, what if she's only two weeks pregnant?

— J.B. Parks, downtown

Courtesy. That old, dead concept courtesy. Why, as a man, would you even be worrying about this? You drive up, read the sign (This space reserved for pregnant women), you check yourself out and decide you're not a pregnant woman, and you drive on. You slightly inconvenience yourself for the benefit of another. Courtesy. Do you have to be threatened with an expensive parking ticket in order to follow a polite suggestion? The answer to your question is, no, you won't get a fat fine for parking in a pregnant ladies' space. Pregnant women do not have any special standing in law as handicapped people do, so no special laws are written for them. The spaces are reserved by the mall ownership as a courtesy to a special group of shoppers. You can flagrantly ignore the signs and the only punishment you might suffer is the angry glares of people who didn't park in the pregnant spaces or maybe a pummeling with the purses of pregnant women who couldn't park there because you did. Non-pregnant women, of course, can park there with impunity, since no one is likely to be nosy enough to ask what's going on or make them pee on a stick in the parking lot.

Hey there, Matt:
When I was a young, troublesome rapscallion, one of my favorite destructive pastimes was to throw rocks at wasps' nests. I discontinued these little adventures after the wasps finally caught up with me one summer afternoon and sent me off to the emergency room. My question is, what exactly are wasps' nests made out of? Could it be wasp feces? Or do they just go down to the local Wasp Depot for overpriced supplies?

— Luscious Periwinkle, University Heights

Wasps aren't a common Southern California urban buglet. They're mostly found in mountainous areas and foothills, so maybe some explanation is required here. The nests of the wasps you will find locally (paper wasps, yellow jackets) look like irregular paper balloons (though yellow jacket nests are built underground or in crevices). Paper wasps prefer the eaves of your house. Bees and mud dauber wasps build nests from mud that they pick up and smoosh onto the growing structure. Paper wasps and yellow jackets scrape shavings from old fences, weathered telephone poles, any disintegrating wooden thing. And sometimes the odd paper bag or cardboard box in a fine example of natural recycling. Then they hang out chewing the shavings for a while, mixing them well with wasp spit. When they have an appropriately soft and sticky ball of pulp in their mouths, they head for the nest and spread the stuff onto the ballooning construction with their mandibles and legs. So the nests really are made of a form of paper — spat on, softened, squished, and compacted wood pulp.

Hey, Matt:
Every now and then I will get solicitations from various religious or political organizations with a "suggested donation" to purchase their books or DVDs. They place a suggested price on it, but isn't it true that if it is a donation, I can simply send one cent and by law they are supposed to send me the item? I'm not cheap, just thrifty in these hard economic times.

— Paul in Recession

A suggestion is just what it sounds like. Just a thought, a small hint. No one is holding a gun to your head or threatening to take you to small claims if you don't send the full amount and demand your DVD. They're just hoping enough people won't want to look like cheapskates and will opt for at least the suggested amount. But I guess you can resist that kind of emotional blackmail.

Matt:
Why do some old apartment buildings call themselves the Such-and-Such Arms? Like the Windsor Arms or the Johnson Arms? What are arms, besides the obvious?

— Madison Arms, Hillcrest

Arms, as in coat-of. The family crest. Tradition began with English tavern/hostels, often on a duke's or baron's land. To honor the landlord, the innkeeper would put the family crest on the sign and call the place the Smitherton Arms or whatever the duke's name was. Emigrants to the U.S. had no local dukes, but they made up their own version of the tradition to add a touch of class (British-style) to their drinking or sleeping establishment.

A searchable archive of past columns is available at SanDiegoReader.com
Got a question you need answered? Send an *email* to heymatt@cts.com or *fax* to 619-231-0489 or *mail* to Matthew Alice, c/o the *Reader*, Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186.

 By Patrick Daugherty

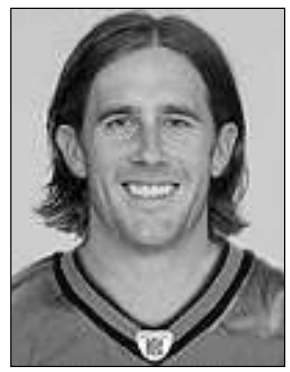
Seven Days Left

The NFL regular season goes off in one week. Players who make the cut get a shot at millions of dollars and what goes with it, while their brothers are thrown into the hell of real jobs, dinner at Pizza Hut, lousy apartments, and municipal golf courses.

Of the former group, quarterbacks are the ones fans watch in a train-wreck sort of way. They have the farthest to fall and therefore make the biggest splat. Follows is the QB situation on select teams seven days before the regular season begins.

San Diego: Philip Rivers is number one, nothing new.

New Orleans: Former Chargers quarterback Drew Brees has finished two seasons with the Saints. First year there he made All-Pro, completed 440 passes for an NFL record, also collected team records in passing yards, touchdowns, and completion percentage. Led the Saints to the NFC Championship game. More of the same in 2007. Has started every game since he's been with the club.



John Thomas O'Sullivan

Arizona Cardinals: Nothing official as of Tuesday. Matt Leinart played like a pig against the Raiders. Kurt Warner is an old guy. Arizona won't make the playoffs behind either man.

Rookie Matt Ryan will be the Atlanta Falcons' starting quarterback. Poor bastard. The last rookie QB to start Game One was David Carr in 2002. The Houston Texans went 4-12 that year and Carr was beaten senseless, sacked *76* times.

It's been a rough run for Atlanta. Their former quarterback, Michael Vick, moved to Leavenworth prison. Then, Bill Parcells toyed with the hapless owner, Arthur Blank, dangling the possibility of hiring "Beloved" for the job of kingfish. Unfortunately, "Beloved" rejected Blank at the altar and accepted the same job in Miami.

Atlanta looked like an infant left on the front porch of a crack house. As Jack Nicholson once said, "Whenever I have a problem, the first thing I think is, 'Will money solve this?'" Falcons owner Arthur Blank signed the number-three player in the 2008 NFL draft, Matt Ryan (Boston College), to a six-year, $72 million contract. The rookie starts Game One at home against Detroit on September 7.

Indianapolis Colts: Peyton Manning, as long as he breathes.

Washington Redskins: Coming off a bracing 47-3 loss to Carolina, the news is Jason Campbell will start. He started 13 games last year before he dislocated a ligament on his left knee. Washington head coach Jim Zorn is a rookie and has an interesting stat: he's never called a play in the NFL.

New York Jets: Admit it, you're curious how Brett Favre will do. Many are curious how he'll play. Others are hoping for another "yes I will…no I won't" at the end of the season, made much, much better this time because it will be played out in front of the New York media.

Miami: Chad Pennington was named starter on Monday. The former Jets QB was offloaded after the Jets acquired Bret Favre. The Jets and Dolphins play each other in week one. Might be the last interesting Dolphins game of the year.

Pittsburgh: Ben Roethlisberger. Until things change.

San Francisco: This is the jewel of 2008. Ladies and gentleman, presenting John Thomas O'Sullivan. It's beyond strange that he's the starting quarterback…in fact, it's unbelievable. The man has made a pact with the devil.

Get this for a bio: All-everything at Jesuit High School, Carmichael, California. Went to a local college (UC Davis), was a big deal there, broke a lot of records. But, Davis is one click below Division I and a member of the Great West Conference (quick, name one other conference affiliate), so nobody cares if he broke records.

O'Sullivan was a sixth-round New Orleans draft pick in 2002. That's six human years or 42 NFL years ago. He was the Saints' third-string quarterback, inactive all season. Ditto for 2003. Played for Frankfurt Galaxy in NFL Europe. Back to New Orleans. Inactive for the first four games of 2004, then traded to Green Bay for chump change. Inactive for 11 games with the Packers, played in final game of the season (took a knee on the last two plays).

Turned up in Chicago in 2005, was on the Bears' practice squad for the first nine games. Minnesota signed him to their regular squad in November. He was inactive for the rest of the 2005 season. Went to 2006 training camp with Minnesota. Didn't make the team. Signed by New England to their practice squad on September 5, waived by New England on October 2, signed to Carolina's practice squad on December 27. Chicago picked him up again in February 2007, waived him before their training camp began. Detroit picked him up on July 10, then San Francisco signed him as an unrestricted free agent in February 2008, gave him a one-year contract at minimum wage ($645,000). Named starting quarterback on August 22.

This is the guy to watch.

The man has made a pact with the devil.

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Singles program: no
Dress: mostly formal and traditional
Diversity: mostly African American
Sunday worship: 10:30 a.m.
Length of reviewed service: 2 hours, 15 minutes
Website: *abundantgracechristiancenter.org*

CYPRIAN IWUABA, SR.

Abundant Grace Christian Center North Park
★★½

Sermon	
content	★★★
delivery	★★★
Liturgy	★★½
Music	
congregational	★★½
band	★★½
Snacks	★★
Architecture	★★
Friendliness	★★★

Poor to satisfactory	(none)
Good	★
Very good	★★
Excellent	★★★
Extraordinary	★★★★

"God, You inhabit the praise of Your people," said associate pastor Tony Inyang during the prayers before the service began, and the praise team started in making a suitable habitation. "Welcome into this place," sang the two women up front in keening, warbling harmonies, and as they sang, the congregants began to trickle into the maroon-and-cream worship space. As the crowd swelled, so did the band: a drummer began a slow, heavy beat (with a microphone on his bass) as the women sang "Great Is Your Faithfulness"; bass showed up for "Glorify His Name"; keyboards burst forth under "Since I Laid My Burden Down." The songs were often simple — one short melodic line serving for "Thank you, Jesus," "You are holy," "Hallelujah," etc. — but the music behind them was not.

Half an hour later, the edifice of praise was built. Still, Inyang wanted more: "Exalt the Lord with me. Magnify His glorious name, for not everyone that saw yesterday has seen this day, but He has preserved you in the land of the living that you may offer Him worship. Open your mouth and begin to tell him how much you love Him." And the people obeyed, each in his or her own words.

"Have Your will in this assembly," prayed Inyang. "Dethrone everything that is contrary to Your will. Establish Your kingdom in the lives of Your people."

The clerk read the announcements, beginning with a word from the pastor's desk, taken from Isaiah: "And therefore will the Lord wait, that He may be gracious unto you." She announced baby showers for two congregants, one of whom (I believe) came forward to offer testimony about "what God has done for me. I committed sin — I had a baby without marriage. But by the grace of God," a traditional wedding had been arranged back in Africa. "God has granted the desires of her heart," said pastor Cyprian Iwuaba. "It is meant for us to be married before we begin to have children — those who want to do the will of God align themselves in that way.

"We are the people of God, who worship God in spirit," continued Iwuaba, calling for the tithes and offerings. "We have no confidence in the flesh. When we do things according to God's will, we see God's result.... Come giving with expectation that God will bless you." After the collection, Inyang prayed, "Those that do not have, Lord, we ask that You give, that they may partake in the joy of giving. Now let this money be used...to the prosperity of the kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ."

Iwuaba then read the story of Isaiah's commission: his terrifying vision of God enthroned in the temple and attended by angels, the cleansing of his lips with the coal from the altar: "See, this has touched your lips. Your guilt is taken away, and your sins are atoned for."

His sermon was titled "A Fresh Touch from God." "We can all go through times of spiritual decline — there is no zest, no zeal, no motivation to worship the Lord with our hearts.... We need to discover God as Isaiah has discovered Him. He realized God is holy. When he saw God, he saw himself. He was speaking woe to the people, but when he saw God, he said, 'Woe is me.' When you see God, what you pursue in life will change."

But first, "there must be a sense of need.... Sometimes there are obscurities about the future.... God wants to drive you to a Person who holds tomorrow, who holds the solution to life.... When we see the Lord is on the throne, nothing will disturb our peace."

Almost nothing. "We see the things we allow in our hearts and our minds, the things we tolerate in our lives, and we realize that those things have to go because God is holy, and He has said, 'Be ye holy, for I am holy.' Agree to abandon anything that is wickedness in your life! Let those shackles be broken now, in the name of Jesus Christ!" And when we receive the atonement, said Iwuaba, we can, like Isaiah, hear and respond to God.

What happens when we die?

"It depends — the preparation is made now," said Iwuaba. "Man is made to live forever, but because of the fall of man, we were expelled from the presence of God. Jesus made a way for us to go back, but it's whosoever wills it. If you accept the work that He did on the cross, if you appropriate it to yourself, then you are saved, and when you die, you will see Him. But those who die still in their fallen state, the Bible tells us that they go to Hades, where they will stay and wait until the Final Judgment."

— *Matthew Lickona*

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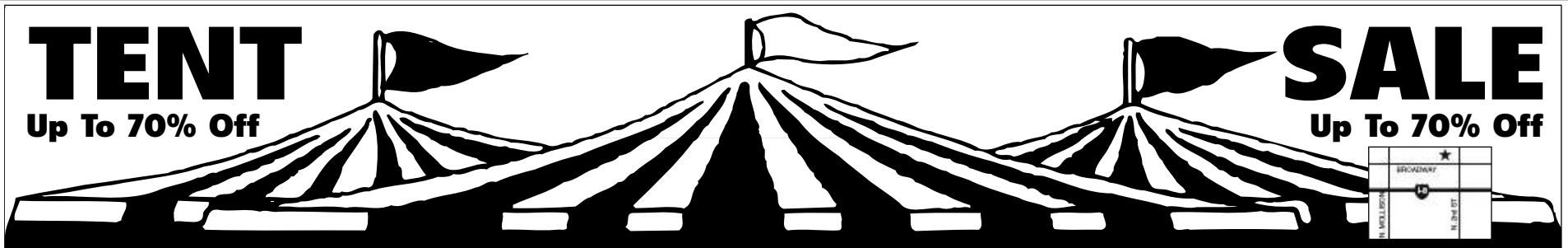

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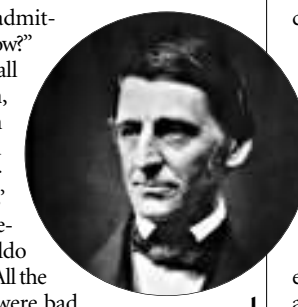
"Most people are comfortable in a one-on-one setting; it's the group that they find threatening."

–EVE KELLY

"It's not what you know, it's who you know," grumbled my nephew Walt over the phone last week. Two years out of college with a tech job, Walt had just seen his first major project proposal shot down.

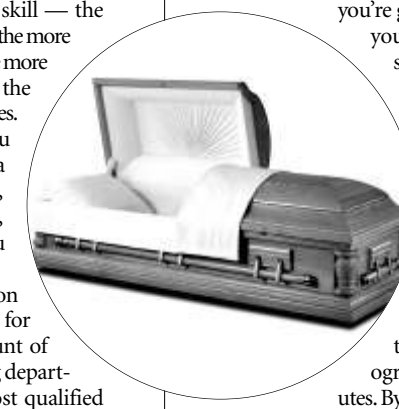
"Oh, man up," I scolded. "It's not what you know, it's how you present it. What are your presentations like?"

"Rocky," he admitted. "Nerves, you know?"



1

I decided to call Judy Kaplan Baron, Ph.D., a speech coach, author, and career counselor with over 25 years' worth of local experience. "Ralph Waldo Emerson said that 'All the greatest speakers were bad speakers at first,'" began Baron. "The point is that speaking is a skill. It can be developed, and people can get better at it. A person might think that if you're a good computer person — or an engineer, or a planner — that there's no reason why you should have to be able to speak publicly. But it's a tangential skill — the higher you go in an organization, the more you want to rise in your career, the more you want to influence people, the more important this skill becomes. How do you get the budget you want for your project? Lee Iacocca said, 'You can have brilliant ideas, but if you can't get them across, your brains won't get you anywhere.'"



Promotions aside — Baron stressed that just interviewing for a job required a certain amount of aplomb in the public-speaking department. "It's not always the most qualified people who get the job. More often than not, it's the people who interview the best. I've helped people get jobs that they've failed to get two, three, four times before. When they learn how to interview, all of a sudden they get the job."

Step one, said Baron, is getting over your fear. "Public speaking is the number-one fear in *The Book of Lists.* Death is number seven. Jerry Seinfeld's take on that is this: at a funeral, more people would rather be in the box than giving the eulogy. People think that good public speakers have no fear. That's not true — they do it in spite of their fear. The more you do it, the better you get."

How to conquer your fear? "There are things you can do prior to the presentation to help with nervousness — some are physical, some are psychological. Number one: people tend to breathe shallowly when they're nervous. If you're waiting to be introduced, take a couple of deep breaths and listen to yourself breathe. Just paying attention to your breathing makes it start to self-regulate. Exercise is also helpful. If your presentation is on the second floor of a building, walk up the stairs. If you normally take a two-mile run in the morning, make sure you don't skip it before the presentation."

2

And watch what you eat: "Sometimes, people get to a presentation early and have a cup of coffee and a pastry. Skip that. Caffeine and sugar are like squirting lighter fluid on the fire of your nervousness. And avoid milk products — cheese, yogurt, ice cream, cottage cheese. They tend to coat your throat and increase phlegm production, and they increase the likelihood that you will have to clear your throat during the presentation. On top of that, milk is a base, chemically speaking. When you get nervous, acids pour into your stomach, and the mixing of acids and bases can lead to a sour stomach."

On the psychological side of things, "You can pretend that you're talking to only one person at a time. Talk to one person for one sentence, then to another person for the next. Most people are comfortable in a one-on-one setting; it's the group that they find threatening."

And before you start talking, "It's good to get to know your audience. What are their expectations, their biases? What is their prior knowledge of the subject? If there are political issues between people in the audience to whom you are speaking, you may get an attack that has nothing to do with your content — it's really an attack against someone else in the audience."

So much for preparation. What about delivery? "The first time you give a presentation will be the worst, so make sure you practice it, and practice it in the format that you're going to be giving it. If you're going to deliver it standing up, then practice it standing up, because it gives a completely different feeling from sitting down. The most important parts of your presentation are the beginning and the ending. It's a good idea to memorize and choreograph the first two minutes. By 'choreograph,' I mean, come up with gestures that are appropriate to the content. A budget of $100,000 could be a lot or a little, depending on whether it's part of a school budget or an office-party budget," and your gestures can help to signify how it should be taken. "They support your message visually. They also help hold an audience's attention, and they give you a release for your nervous energy. And you want your gestures to be at face level — if people are paying attention to you, they tend to be looking at your face. Don't make them drop their eyes to your center."

Keeping your feet flat on the ground, said Baron, opens the diaphragm and makes your voice lower and stronger, "which gives an air of confidence." Short sentences help your listeners follow and understand. "And as the speaker, you want to be as well dressed as the best-dressed person in the audience."

There's more, of course, which is why Baron offers training sessions. "I'm very specific and behavioral. I'll stop people and make corrections along the way. It's almost like tuning a guitar — you tune it, but then it slips. You need to keep tuning it until the behavior stays in place. I work with individuals on an hourly basis. People learn a lot in one session, but most people need three to six sessions to really improve." Call for pricing: 858-558-7400; *judykaplanbaron.com.*

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1. Ralph Waldo Emerson
2. Judy Kaplan Baron

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We Sisters

by Barbarella

Video games are bad for you? That's what they said about rock and roll.

— Shigeru Miyamoto

Heather was right when she said an explanation wouldn't do it justice, that if I were to fully comprehend it, I'd have to try it for myself. Then again, the same could be said about any experience. As it seems to each year, the summer had gotten away from my sister. A few months ago, it seemed as if we had all the time in the world to hang out. But between my travels, our younger sister's wedding, and all the inevitable stuff that materializes to fill our "free" days, the months had flown by. Now Heather — a wife and mother of two young boys — had only a handful of days before she would reenter her rigidly scheduled life as a high school English teacher and honors-program coordinator. With an eye trained on the few grains of sand left in summer's hourglass, I accepted Heather's invitation to visit her at her home in San Marcos and finally try the new video-game console she'd been raving about.

Heather crooned the words to Ozzy Osbourne's "If I Close My Eyes Forever." With a straight face.

My dad was the first to tell me about Nintendo's new Wii system; Dad knew about it because, as a wish-granter for the Make-a-Wish Foundation, he had acquired one for a terminally ill child. As usual, when confronted with something new and mysterious, I looked to my friend the Internet for elucidation. After some digging, I learned that Wii (pronounced "wee") is intended to inspire dual thoughts of the all-inclusive "we" and the onomatopeic "Whee!" Gamers on Wii message boards believe the strange spelling represents two people standing side by side — ii. Still, for one reason or another, I find that last little *i* irritating.

When I arrived at my sister's place, the boys (Liam, 6, and Brian, 4) were standing in front of the television and appeared to be pantomiming tennis players. Each held a white, wandlike, wireless apparatus — "wiimotes." Liam executed a forehand stroke with surprising accuracy for a child who has never held a tennis racket. On-screen, the animated racket smashed the cartoon tennis ball across the court. This was not the two-dimensional, sit-on-your-butt-and-work-your-thumbs Nintendo of my childhood.

"Mom likes the bowling game," Heather said, prompting me to sputter a mouthful of Diet Coke. The idea of my mother playing any video game was absurd, evoking mixed feelings of amusement and uneasiness — the way I'd feel if I were to stumble upon my sister Jane (Miss Why Buy the Book When I Can Watch the Made-for-TV Movie) double-fisting Ayn Rand and Thomas Pynchon. However, when I remembered that my mother had been on a women's bowling league throughout most of my childhood, it was suddenly easy, though still strange, to envision her pretending to throw a 12-pound ball at the TV.

For me, Heather had a specific game in mind. As she held the disc in her hand, she said, "Remember when you used to get up in front of everyone and sing 'Greatest Love of All' by Whitney Houston?" I nodded. At seven years old, I'd discovered singing as a way to gather the attention of an entire room. As if we couldn't truly recapture the memory without singing every word, Heather and I began, "I believe the children are our future," and we didn't stop until just after we'd shrieked the line, "No matter what they take from me, they can't take away my dignity," at which point Brian, in the direct manner befitting a four-year-old, commanded us to cease. Of my sisters, it is Heather who shares my love of singing — we both enjoy belting out the same histrionic, beyond-our-vocal-abilities girlie songs, like anything by Laura Branigan, Andrew Lloyd Webber, or Celine Dion.

When he saw his mother reach for the "micwiiphone," Liam leapt around squealing, "Mommy, I wanna sing 'Sail Away'!"

"He's not talking about the Styx song, is he?" I asked. Heather nodded, enjoying my bewilderment. On the screen, an extravagant introduction to the *American Idol* logo was unfolding. In the seven years since the reality show first aired, I'd only seen one episode, but that was enough for me to get the gist. Karaoke may be fun, but I wondered how it could be a game. Liam didn't so much sing as he moaned the lyrics that scrolled across the television. According to the clapping hands, smiles, and nodding heads of the clunky animated versions of Paula Abdul, the British guy, and the guy in the glasses, my little nephew was rockin' like Dokken.

As I watched, I learned that this game

doesn't require players to render an inspiring performance or even sing the exact notes — one doesn't even need to say the right words. All you have to do is make noise into the mic in such a way as to keep the little green arrow in the center of the little purple line that appears high or low on the screen.

When Liam (who had actually sung all the correct words) earned a "diamond" for expertly executing the song, Heather took the mic. Seated with her knees tucked under her on the edge of her L-shaped sofa, Heather crooned the words to Ozzy Osbourne's "If I Close My Eyes Forever." With a straight face.

"Okay, it's my turn," I said, confiscating the mic as soon as Heather had finished intoning the last "You gotta close your eyes for me." I clutched the microphone in anticipation as Heather scrolled through the song titles. "Wait, there, go back," I said.

"To 'Bohemian Rhapsody'? You sure?"

"Totally. Let's do it."

"Okay," Heather laughed. "It has a reputation for being the easiest song on there. It has no complexity whatsoever."

"Go on. I can rock it. I know this song backwards and forwards." But three words in, I realized just how overconfident I'd been. At the first instrumental break, I said, "I was totally singing it, why wouldn't the arrow go up any higher?"

"You have to sing it a lot higher than that," Heather said. By the time I got to the part where I had to screech "mamma mia" at the pitch of a man whose balls are in a vise and then immediately repeat the words four octaves lower, Heather was doubled over with laughter.

"All right, fu—." Remembering the children, I reformulated my statement mid-word, "fuorget this." Poorly animated Paula was glaring at me for missing so many notes. "I want to do a different one next." Heather agreed that I deserved another chance, but first, she wanted the mic back. We both gently shushed Liam when he asked if he could have another turn. I became giddy when Heather chose "My Heart Will Go On" by Celine Dion, and I couldn't keep myself from singing along to the chorus. Heather scored a diamond. "Okay, now me," I said. I selected "Glamorous," as I had just listened to it on the drive up. I was surprised that, having heard it only a few times on the radio, I'd somehow memorized every word of Fergie's hit. After Heather sang "Copacabana," Liam gave up trying to get another turn, as I had eagerly snatched back the microphone to attempt Aerosmith's "I Don't Want to Miss a Thing."

I was about to go for "Black Velvet" when, glancing at my nephews playing with their trucks and Legos, it occurred to me I'd overlooked something very important. How could I have forgotten one of the main reasons for my visit? I set down the microphone and the wiimote. "Heather," I said, meeting my sister's gaze, "I'm hungry. Weren't we going to do lunch?"

"There's a place called NYPD Pizza up the street; they sell it by the slice," Heather said.

"I'm in," I said. "And when we get back, I'm singing 'Heart of Glass.' Paula's gonna love it." ■

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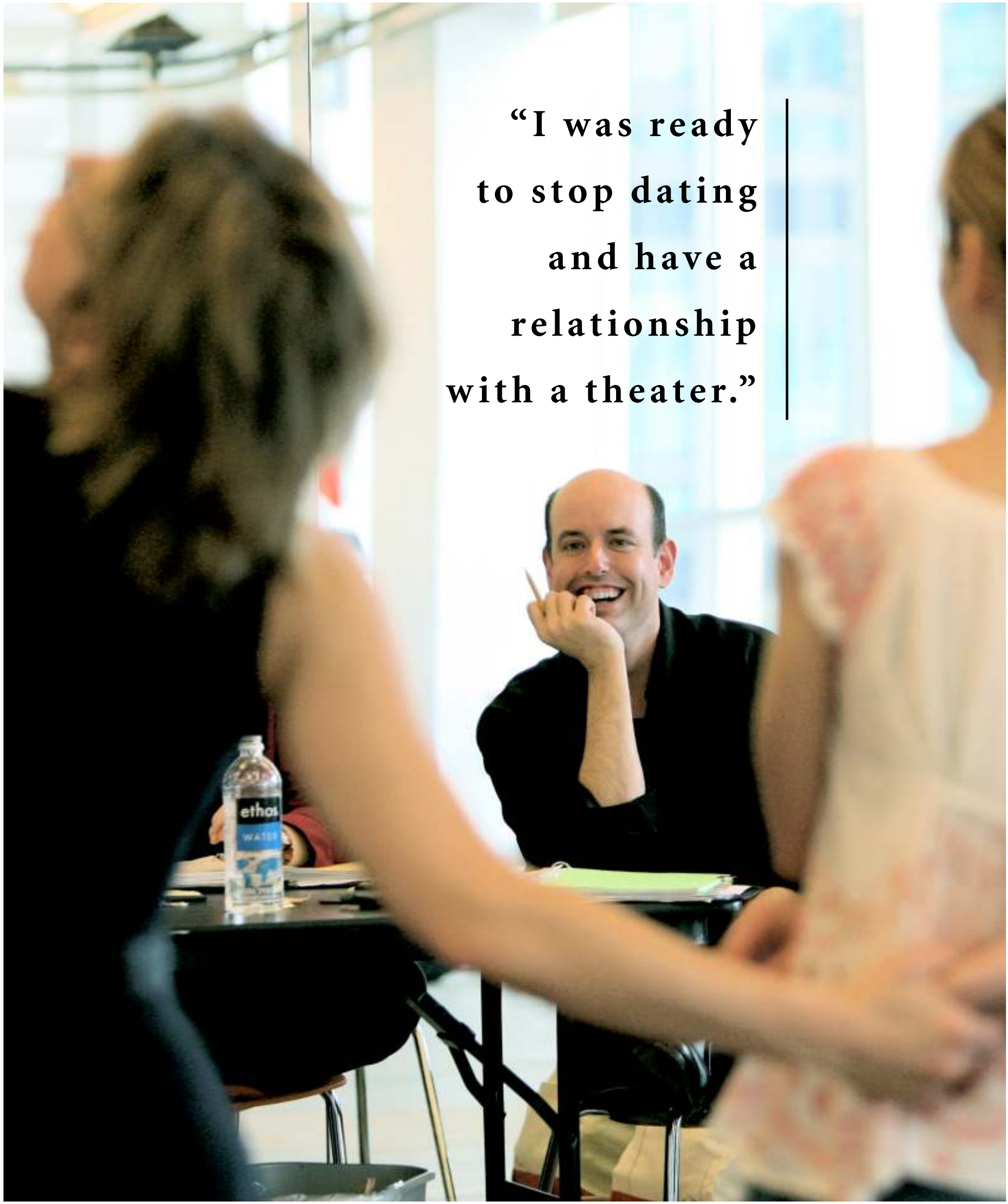
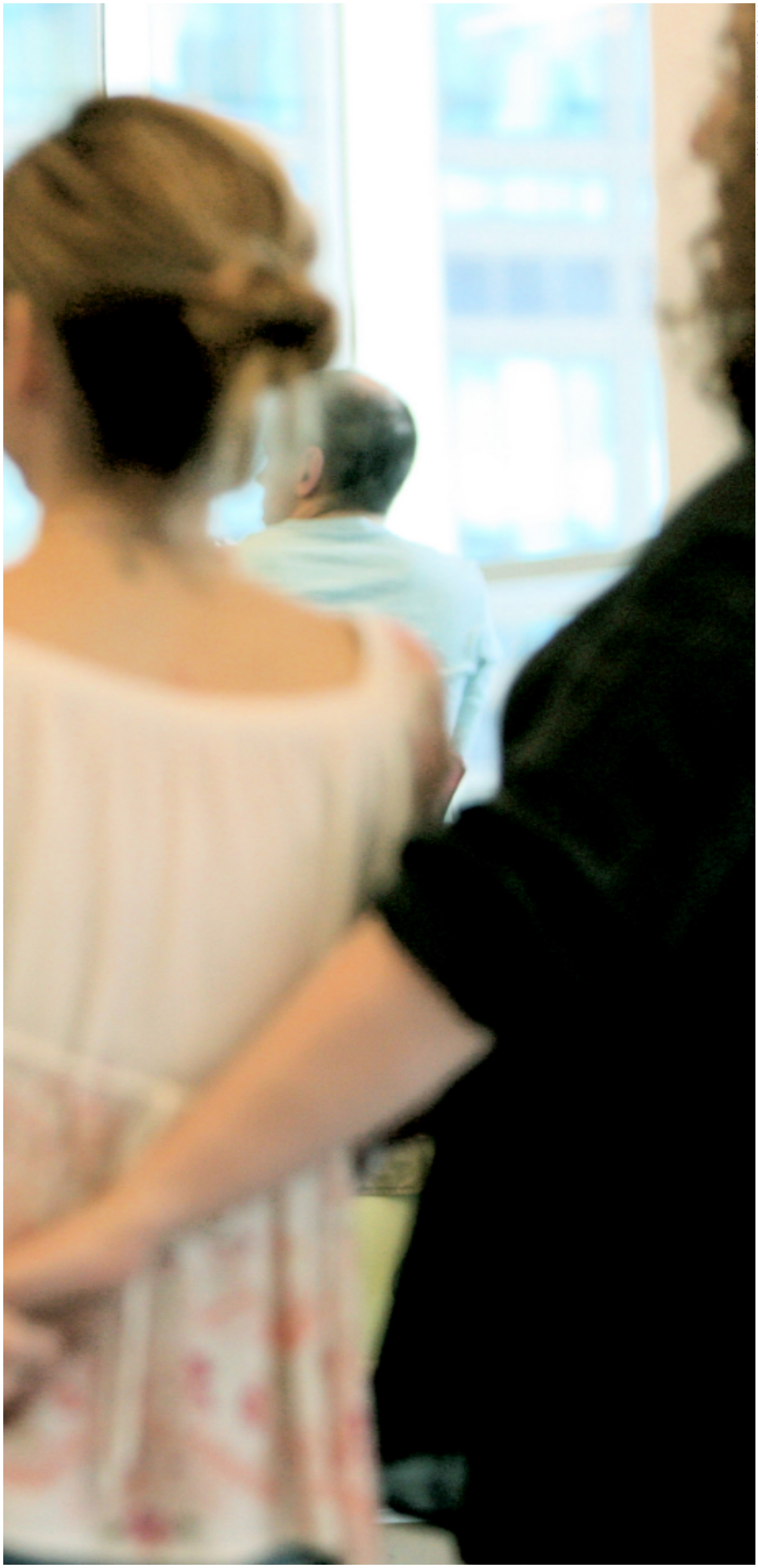
COVER PHOTOGRAPH OF CHRISTOPHER ASHLEY BY ALAN DECKER



"I was ready to stop dating and have a relationship with a theater."



PHOTOGRAPH BY JOAN MARCUS

Christopher Ashley

Stay awake for the 10 o'clock show

"Theater matters because it's the only place where one can find hope. Films are manufactured for us, but in the theater, the actors and the audience are getting together to manufacture a narrative, and to me, that's where hope resides."

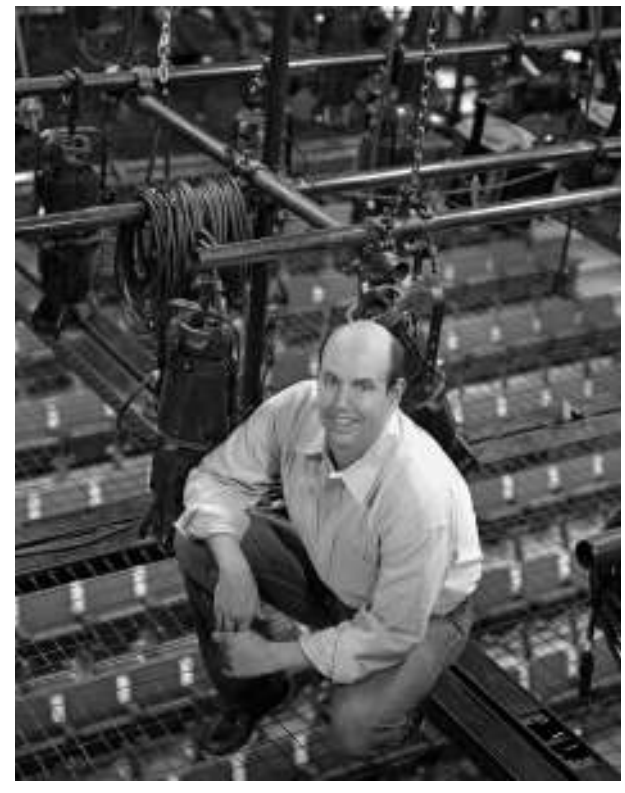
— Moises Kaufman, playwright, *33 Variations, The Laramie Project*, etc.

Kaufman's friend Christopher Ashley, currently in the midst of his first season as artistic director of the La Jolla Playhouse, concurs. For both men, the folks in the seats are not merely a crowd of spectators; they're participants. "For me," says Ashley, "there is nothing like being in a live audience, with an actual person on stage, experiencing emotions in front of you. There's a

sort of tightrope thing that happens — everything is being made up in the moment, and anything could happen. There's a communal experience that's part church, part circus, and part book club."

When 9/11 hit, Ashley was running a revival of *The Rocky Horror Show* on Broadway. "It's totally ridiculous — a story about how transsexual aliens take over the world. As unpertinent to 9/11 as it's possible to be." Pertinent or not, it shut down just like the rest of New York City theater in the attack's immediate aftermath. "But when we started up performances again a week later, the audience watched it with this electric, jubilant presence: 'I'm out of the house, and no one has tried to attack me, and I'm together with people, and I'm celebrating being part of a community.' Going to the theater that night was necessary and important, whether it was light entertainment or serious drama. People needed to be part of a community, together in a theater. When people watch a movie, they're mostly in their own heads, immersed in the movie. I think people watch a play *together*.... You're aware of yourself enjoying the show with other people."

Of course, that's coming from a self-diagnosed sufferer of "what Jean Cocteau called 'the red and gold disease.' " By which Ashley means a theater addiction: a love for the red velvet curtain with gold braid. "I suffered from a very early age," attests Ashley. "Acting as one of the workhouse boys in a production of *Oliver!* at the Cortland Repertory Theater in upstate New York, it seemed impossibly glamorous at age eight. The sense of community in an acting company was addictive, and staying up four hours past my regular bedtime seemed incredibly bohemian."



PHOTOGRAPH BY ALAN DECKER

Ashley: "I think San Diego is on the edge of [becoming] a major arts community."

Cortland gave way to Ann Arbor, and Ann Arbor led to Yale, and Yale led to Broadway, and Broadway, after 20-odd years, led to La Jolla. Ashley had wanted to come here ever since the mid-'90s, when artistic director Des McAnuff, the man who had revived the Playhouse in 1983, took what ended up being a five-year break from the position. Ashley applied (unsuccessfully) for the job; he was 30.

Even back then, he recalls, the Playhouse "had a reputation for an adventurous spirit." He keeps a poster advertising the 1986 season on his office wall; among other shows, the season included a new translation of Sophocles's *Ajax*, directed by Peter Sellars. The setting for the play was shifted to the present-day United States, and the final line about the inscrutability of the future was changed to a warning about the future's ability to "wipe us out" if we aren't careful. (And of course, in a nuclear era, there are no more godlike warriors, only diabolical weapons.) Also produced: the West Coast premiere of William Hauptman's *Gillette*. Hauptman had won a Tony in 1985 after writing the book for *Big River*. In 2002, Bruce Weber panned a revival of the play in the *New York Times:*

"I wish I had seen it [in 1986]; perhaps I would now have a clue what Mr. Hauptman had in mind. But as it is, the script is so riddled with juvenilia, borrowed character types and misguided flights of poetic fancy that it feels like the work of a teenager who has seen too many B movies. Either that or Mr. Hauptman was intent on writing a straight play with the cartoon heart of a musical."

Gillette may not have been entirely successful — or perhaps it merely failed to age well — but Weber's last sentence does sound like evidence for that "adventurous spirit" Ashley admired. "Those playwrights and directors were such an exciting crowd to bring here. I use the poster to remember what's become a kind of rule for myself: bring in the most exciting artists you can find, and make

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sure they can do their best work."

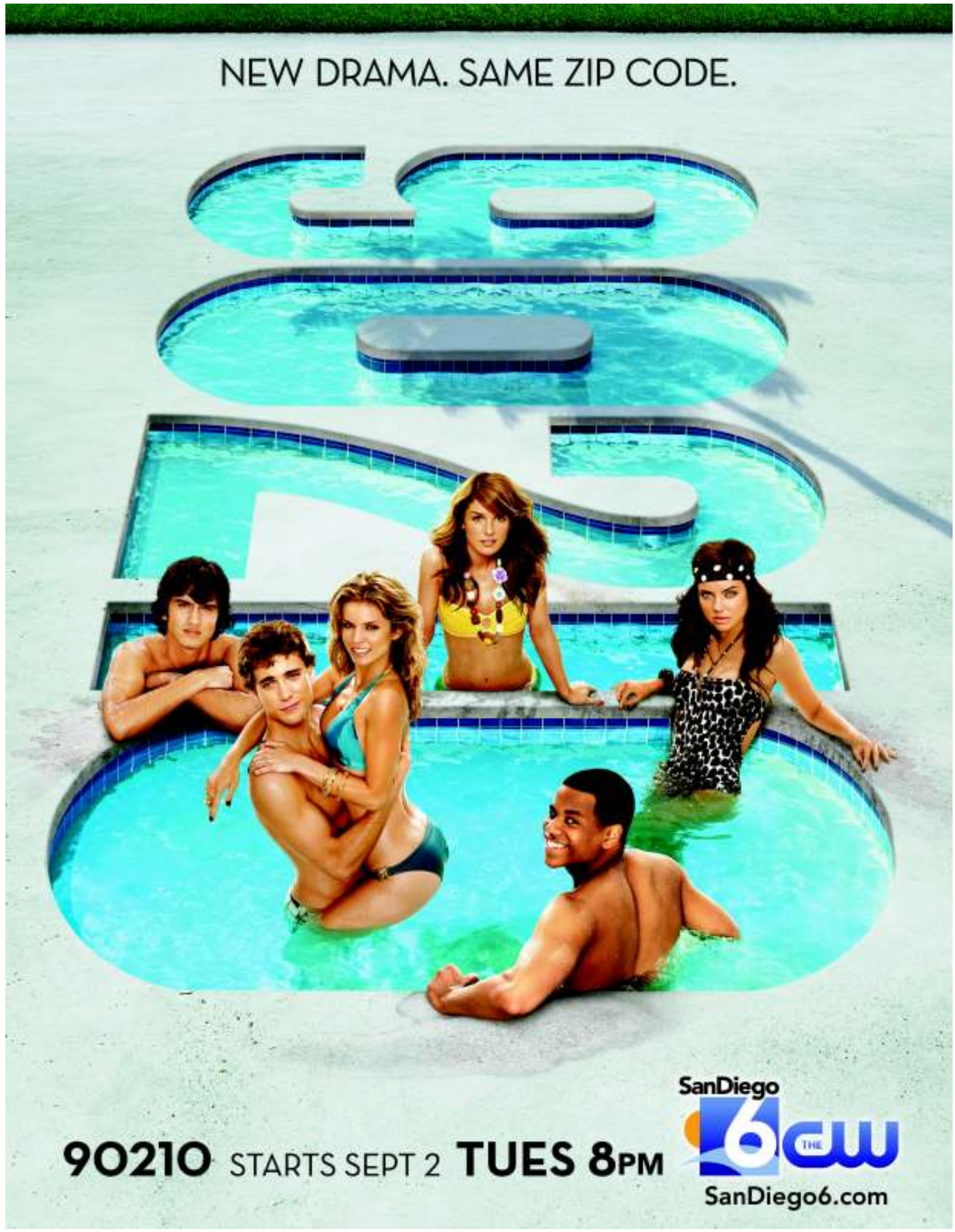
Moises Kaufman was one of those artists. When Ashley learned in April of 2007 that his second attempt at landing the artistic directorship had proven successful, he was already committed to three directing jobs, including the Broadway musical version of *Xanadu* (a roller-disco story that had flopped at the box office in 1980, only to be reborn years later on stage in all its glittery glory). "I arrived in La Jolla, and I had about two months to program our first season. The first thing I did was sit down with the staff, and we wrote down on three-by-five cards every project we could think of that would be fun to do. We filled a wall. Then the question was, 'How do we trim that to six subscription shows, two Edge shows, and a couple of Page-to-Stages?' "

Kaufman was an easy choice for Ashley. "Part of my application process was that the board wanted to know what artists I was interested in bringing in. That's one of the great things about being a producer; I get to support other artists in a way I never could as a freelance director. I developed a list of about 150 writers, directors, designers, and actors, and Moises was right at the top. I've known him for 15 years; he's one of the people I would invite in to dress rehearsals when I was directing to give me supportive feedback. I love his eye, and he's kind and critical in a really good mix."

And in *33 Variations*, Kaufman had a play in development. That meant it had already debuted at Arena Stage in Washington, D.C., but might still need, as Ashley put it, "another stage to explore itself before it ended up in New York. I saw it in Washington and almost made a call at intermission to offer for him to come here. I was that excited."

The play tells the story of Katherine Brandt, an ailing musicologist who becomes obsessed with Beethoven's obsession with a "secondhand waltz" written by music publisher Anton Diabelli. Diabelli invites 50 composers to write a single variation on his waltz; Beethoven winds up writing the titular 33. The play skips back and forth in time, from Katherine to Beethoven and back again, allowing for the occasional chronological mash-up. As she struggles against time to unravel the mystery of Beethoven's obsession, Katherine must also confront her disappointment with her own "secondhand waltz" — a daughter who is loving but worryingly unfocused, seemingly content to spend herself little by little on this thing and that.

Kaufman was happy to accept Ashley's invitation. "There was a lot he wanted to work on," recalls Ashley. "He's a perfectionist; I think he's had plays that have been four years in workshops. Here, he kept working



right through the previews."

"I wanted to increase the character of Beethoven," says Kaufman. "And I wanted to deepen the relationship between the mother and the daughter."

Ashley elucidates: "In Washington, Beethoven was a much more rudimentary character. He had a lot of stage time but almost no development. The present was where all the complete thinking had happened, and the past was kind of sketched in. Moises wanted to explore the questions of 'Who is Beethoven? What's he going through? How is his journey paralleling Katherine's? How are the two story lines working toward colliding at the end?' And he fleshed out the way the daughter was debilitated by her mother's disapproval and how their relationship developed through time. This draft is very different than what he had in Washington."

Joan and Irwin Jacobs Center for La Jolla Playhouse

There are a number of reasons for that difference. Kaufman's own questions came first, but those of others followed. "He's very collaborative," says Ashley. "Every single night, questions would come up in rehearsals, and he would go home and redraft and rethink."

Says Kaufman, "I work very much on my feet, with the actors on their feet, improvising, making changes. I do listen to the actors. It was funny — I was directing a couple of episodes of *The L Word* for television, and I would go on-set and ask an actor, 'What do you think your character wants at this moment? Why is she behaving this way?' The actor's eyes would open up — she was so grateful, really. 'You really want me to tell you what I think?' Most of the time, the director just says, 'Stand over there and say your line, and then come over here and say this other line.' In theater, you're in the same room for many hours a day. Remember the scene in *33 Variations* where Katherine comes over and sits down at the table and leans her head on Beethoven's back? That scene doesn't have a line of text — it was arrived at entirely through improvisation." Kaufman is quick to acknowledge that there are some film directors who are interested in actors' opinions, but still, the story plays to his notion of theater as the more communal milieu.

In this case, the communion was between playwright, director, and actor — and artistic director. "What shocked me about Ashley," says Kaufman, "is that for someone who's been at his job for so little time, he does it so well. He knows intuitively what the process needs: you want somebody supportive, but you don't want someone in your rehearsal room every day, and you don't want someone who gives you what you need and then doesn't come around again until opening

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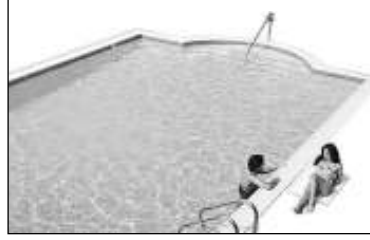

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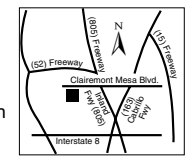

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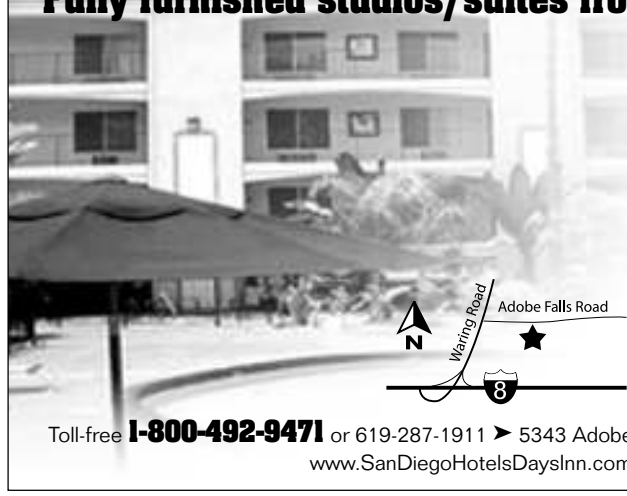

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night. Chris would leave us alone for weeks at a time, but he always kept in touch with me. And after the first previews, he gave me some fantastic notes. There were moments in the beginning where I was letting the actors take some time, and he said, 'You don't need that. Your play resides in the next two scenes, not in those moments.' And he was absolutely right. I think the job is a really good fit for him."

Other changes, says Kaufman, got made because "I am interested in playwriting that uses every single element of the stage. I call it 'writing performance' instead of 'writing text.' You saw it in *33 Variations* — the sets were used, the projections, the live pianist; everything was used to create a narrative."

That's true. I saw the play in the Playhouse's 492-seat Mandell Weiss Theatre — a standard proscenium with a stage down front. (The facility's other major space, the Mandell Weiss Forum, is designed as a thrust — one portion of the stage jutting out well in front of the rest.) Any number of moments from the La Jolla Playhouse production of *33 Variations* might serve to illustrate Kaufman's notion of creating narrative, but I'll choose just one: Beethoven alone at center stage, staring wildly at nothing save perhaps the music in his head, gesturing with swoops and jerks of his hands and arms and fingers as he describes the motion of the music he is wringing out of the "secondhand waltz," the same music that's ringing out from the piano stage left, while behind him on the wall, the notes appear like black spatters of paint on a projected staff. (I'm a child of my age; I would call the effect frankly cinematic. I suspect Kaufman would prefer "theatrical.")

After the play, as my wife and I wandered out through the lobby toward the evening dark, a woman draped in swaths of black fabric called out, "There will be a postshow outside in five minutes!" About six people gathered to see what was what. When the woman — La Jolla Playhouse teaching artist Sherri Allen — emerged to join us, she began running down a list of questions and making notes of our answers. An example:

"What did you think the play was about?"

Person A: "Finding the transcendent virtue in everyday things — Beethoven in the beerhall waltz, and the mother and her daughter, who is content to be ordinary."

Allen ran down the list, her pen twitching away over the clipboard. "Were there any particular scenes that will stay with you? Were there any points that weren't clear? What did you think of the nudity? What was done particularly well?" Then she asked for general feedback.

Person B: "I thought the first act was very slow — it didn't go from emotional beat to emotional beat. Instead, it went from intellectual point to intellectual point."

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the end, Allen pulled back the curtain a bit: "The play, from the playwright's point of view, is about obsession. Beethoven's obsession with the waltz, and Katherine's obsession with finding out why he was obsessed with it — it's her life's work. The daughter is the metaphor for the secondhand waltz. Katherine's daughter does not meet her expectations because Katherine knows what she wants and is very driven. She's devoted her whole life to one thing, and her daughter wants to try out different things."

Person B: "But the mother is not obsessed with the daughter."

Allen: "No, she's obsessed with her own life's work — she neglects her daughter."

Person B: "How does one illuminate the other if she's not obsessed with her daughter?"

Woman: "The daughter craves the mother's approval. She feels she's never met her mother's expectations."

Person A: "Beethoven is obsessed with the minor work. But Mom is not obsessed with the parallel minor work, which is the daughter. That's why Person B is saying that the one doesn't illuminate the other, because Beethoven is obsessed with the waltz, but Mom is obsessed with Beethoven."

Person B: "If Mom was obsessed with making the daughter into what she wanted the daughter to be, maybe we would be able to make that emotional connection between the two more easily."

Woman: "That's interesting. No one I know of has made that observation. I'm sure that will be very fascinating to the dramaturge and to the playwright himself."

"The audience feedback always got back to me," says Kaufman. "Those were my questions. I put it all in my head. When you begin to hear over and over that something is fantastic, you know that that part is working really well.

"These 60-year-old white audience members [were] totally grooving along."

When you hear over and over that there is confusion around a character, you had better look at that character. It's not that specific comments made a difference, but I read and studied everything. The whole ending of the play changed between the second and third preview in La Jolla. That was based on feedback from both the audience and the collaborators." The audience joins in the creation of narrative; the art becomes the starting point for a kind of conversation.

That fits nicely with Ashley's vision for his role at the Playhouse, and the Playhouse's role in the community. "When you do freelance shows, you start over every six weeks — new actors, new audience. I was ready to stop dating and have a relationship with a theater, put down some roots with the audience. I wanted to talk with them, not just for two hours, but across the seasons. For an individual show that we do, we have about half single tickets and half subscription tickets. What's great about a subscription audience is that they're loyal to you, and you get to have a conversation with them over time."

Subscribers bring stability, and stability brings with it a certain luxury of time and range. You don't have to make every show a blockbuster; in fact, it's probably better if you don't. Getting back to that wall of index cards and how Ashley went about paring it down: "I try to make sure that no play is like the others in the season; along every axis you can think of, you make sure the plays oppose each other — that there's small and large, funny and upsetting, musical and spoken, spectacle and just a person sitting in a room under a beam of light. There's room for political plays that look outward and for plays that look inward and ask what it's like being alive in a specific moment. We're committed to being a safe harbor for unsafe work, and by that I mean that we're always restlessly struggling for what's new, either in form or content — taking the audience someplace unknown. Hopefully, that's going to mean a big range as far as the kinds of experiences you have when you walk in the door."

The season opened with *33 Variations* — a small-scale, spoken-word drama. Then came the single-person show, Charlayne Woodard's *Night Watcher*, which told the story of a woman and the 30 children living under her care. "Charlayne has had a long history with the Playhouse," says Ashley. "This is her third show

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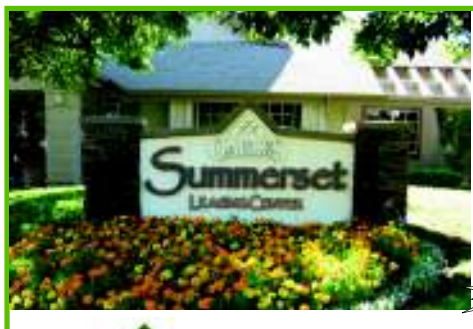

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here."

The Night Watcher served as this year's Page-to-Stage performance. According to the Playhouse's website, the program allows audiences to "experience the 'birth' of a play. Throughout the rehearsal and run of the show, the playwright and director make constant changes in response to audience reactions and feedback." That's the model for making the audience a member of the creative community, says Ashley. "I want to be doing more and more preshow discussions, along with the postshow. I don't want audiences to just come and see what we're doing; I want to talk to them about it. I want to invite the audience into the early stages of the play, to see the first reading, see the workshop of the third draft. That way, they get to see that a play is not just a final draft; it actually goes through this whole journey of self-discovery. Hopefully, the audience gets out of the 'liked it/didn't like it' idea and starts saying, 'Oh, wow, so that's how those ideas developed over time. How that character pays off at the end is not a random choice; that's a choice the artists have discovered and developed through the drafts.' "

Along the way, the theater gets to take the audience's temperature. "One of the things that's dangerous about being really heavily subscribed" — which, Ashley notes, the Playhouse isn't — "is that you can start programming to keep your subscribers. The more adventurous a show gets, the more some people will like it and the more some people won't." The Playhouse has found a solution in the Edge Series — one play a year supported not by subscribers but by a grant from the James Irvine Foundation. "It's not necessarily a play that we expect all of our subscribers to come to, but we think that for several thousand people, it will be their favorite thing all year. We'll pick each show because it's close to some edge, whether in form or content." Last season's inaugural production for the series was *Most Wanted*, a musical based on Andrew Cunanan, the San Diego native who killed five people, including designer Gianni Versace, in 1997. Says Ashley, "I think the audience was tender enough, scared enough about how we were going to present San Diego — it was fictionalized but clearly drawn

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from fact — that they were really glad for the chance to process it afterwards, to talk about their feelings."

(Ashley is quick to point out that the existence of the Edge as a distinct series ought not to reflect badly on the Playhouse's subscribers. "Did you see *The Seven* last season?" he asks. "It's a hip-hop Greek tragedy — a thousand words a minute, with a really dense hipster vocabulary. And you had all these 60-year-old white audience members totally grooving along. They knew very little about that world before they walked in the door, but they approached it with such a generous spirit; I was really impressed.")

Just now, the dial is turned to the musical-spectacle setting: *Memphis*, a musical about the roots of rock 'n' roll directed by Ashley himself and with music composed by David Bryan, the keyboard player for Bon Jovi. In November, *Xanadu* will take up the musical mantle, only without the gravitas. But before that will come the upsetting revival: Erskine Caldwell's *Tobacco Road*. "To me, it's a 75-year-old play that feels supremely modern," says Ashley. "It's about need. You have these characters during the Depression on this farmed-out bit of land, and they can't feed themselves. It's such a time of need in this country — and worldwide — and as a friend of mine said, the play is perfect for right now. And it's one of those things I love — a play that is both really dark and really funny." And before *that* will come *The Third Story*, an original (and rather less naturalistic) work from Charles Busch that was commissioned by the Playhouse before Ashley arrived. "One of my goals for the Playhouse is to make it more actively a home for new work, and one of the ways to do that is to commission artists you're excited about to create a play."

Here, "home" means where the new work lives — where it's born, grows up, and runs its course. And thanks to a recent multimillion-dollar expansion project, Ashley can put roofs over a lot of heads. "It was a real gift to have all the work of getting these buildings built before I got here. Now I get to play in them. We've gone from being a summer theater to producing 11 months of the year. One of my jobs here is to create events that use what this facility offers. The first one will probably be two years from now — a festival of new work that occurs simultaneously in all of the eight spaces and even connects over into the UCSD spaces. If you had eight shows going on here simultaneously, it would be one of the most exciting places in the country for theater."

"Before the expansion," he says, "there was only the Weiss Theatre and the Weiss Forum. We could produce only in these very inflexible, fixed-seat houses, which meant that we had to do plays that would appeal to a large audience." (Apparently, there would be little aesthetic or social pleasure to be had in sitting with a scattered few fellow travelers in the grand emptiness of a major space — another

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way that attending a play differs from going to the movies.) "The amazing thing about the Sheila and Hughes Potiker Theater is that it can be anything you imagine."

The Potiker is a big black box — pure potency. "We're talking about a show for the '09–'10 season where the audience walks through this maze of different walls." But if you have something more conventional in mind, the Potiker can be that, too. "We did a show called *Adding Machine* here last season — it was in the round. We did *The Seven* here, and we bumped up one section into a sort of raised stage. All the seats can disappear, so you can do a show for 50 people or a show for 400. The whole space is trapped — there's a parallel space below, so you can go down anywhere you want. And right behind the scrim is a big loading door; we've talked about opening it up for *A Midsummer Night's Dream*."

The Rao and Padma Makineni Play Development Center offers boxes as well, complete with lighting and sound system, if not seats and stages. "You can tape out the shape of any sort of stage you like and rehearse. It's fantastic. We also do workshoppy productions here. Every year, we commission a show for grade-schoolers that goes out and tours area schools, and then it comes here for a week." Other, smaller spaces feature windows looking out onto the sidewalk around the theater complex. "The architecture is striving to be as transparent as possible — open to the environment, a people's theater. The rehearsals are all open, in general. When you come to see a show, you'll hopefully be able to see everything that's happening in all the other spaces, so that it feels like a great community of arts happenings."

"If you're going to be a major theater, you need a place to rehearse your shows," concludes Ashley — and now he's got that. But that's not all you need. "Right now," he explains, "a lot of the readings and workshops that we do for new plays, we do in New York. It's amazing. It's a third as expensive to rehearse and do a reading in New York as it is to do it here. You have to bring in a playwright and a director and actors and put them up. It's part of the plan to actually own our own housing, so that we can have artists in residence. I definitely want to make that part of our conversation with the audience" — few of

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whom are likely to jaunt off to New York for a workshop.

Of course, another way to have artists in residence is to have artists who are residents, who come to San Diego because there's enough going on that they can hope to make a living. "There's a lot of theater energy in San Diego right now. Did you follow Seattle in the '80s? It was a real hotbed of theater — a lot of shows started there and went on to make a big impact nationally. Actors started to move there, because it was an exciting place to be. I think San Diego is on the edge of having the critical mass to be a major, major arts community."

The timing, he suspects, is ideal. "There are times when theater rides on its master storytellers, and there are times when there's room for exciting new people. Sometimes TV and film raid theater, and certainly, AIDS decimated a whole generation of writers. But now there are new people. I was just at the Theater Communications Group conference, and there are a lot of new, young theaters with tiny budgets — places being run on a couple of people's passion to put on a play. The work they're doing tends to be based on new writers from within their own community, and as far as I could tell, the work is tending to be very adventurous. That's a really good sign for the next ten years" — for theater in general, and for San Diego and the Playhouse in particular. Because along with the Weiss Theatre and the Forum, along with the Potiker and rehearsal spaces, grand and intimate, there is the Mandell Weiss Studio Theater: a 100-seat black box that will play host to Ashley's final piece in the community puzzle: local theater companies.

"Part of the mandate for myself was that I wanted to have a local theater company in residence. We're going to have a new company every year. We were looking for a company without a permanent home, one that was doing really interesting work and was ready for taking the next step vis-à-vis what we could give them" — a well-equipped home

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"The day I got here, I started looking through the papers and the publicity to see what I should be seeing. I went from downtown San Diego to La Jolla, from basements to churches, seeing every company I could find. I was trying to jam as many people's work into my memory as I could. That way, when we were looking at applications, I would have a framework: 'Oh, I've seen them.' "

One of those companies was Mo'olelo, founded by Seema Sueko; Ashley attended the opening night of *Cowboy versus Samurai*, an Asian-American retelling of *Cyrano de Bergerac*. Explains Sueko, "Underneath the issue of the nose, it's transferred to race, and some other issues come out around how the characters limit themselves based on identity. The main character, who is Korean, chooses to write letters for his friend, who is Caucasian, because he thinks this Korean-American woman likes only white guys."

The treatment of identity made the play of a piece with the rest of Mo'olelo's productions, works like *remains*, which explores the Israeli-Palestinian conflict; *A Piece of My Heart*, which focuses on women who served in Vietnam; and *Since Africa*, which tells the story of a Lost Boy of Sudan and his efforts at resettlement in America. "There are two volunteers helping him, a Caucasian Chicago socialite and the deacon at a black Catholic church. They live in different

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Participants will receive all study-related exams and investigational medication at no cost and may receive up to $5,000 for time and participation.

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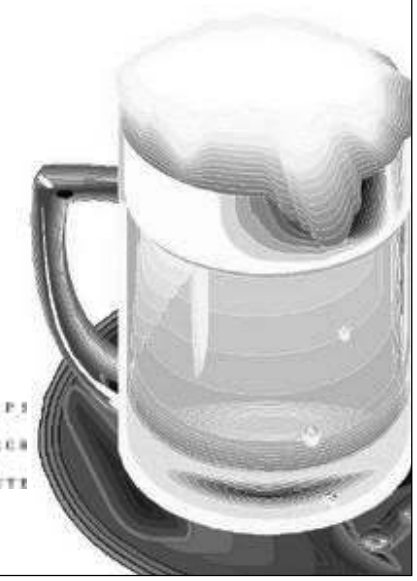

Qualified participants receive lab tests, medication or placebo, individual counseling and compensation for travel. All information is confidential.

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To qualify for this research study you must:

- Be a healthy man or woman age 18 to 65
- Have a history of Allergies or Allergic Rhinitis
- Be willing to make overnight stays

Females must be surgically sterile or postmenopausal.

Participants will receive all study-related exams at no cost and may receive up to $3,625 for time and participation.

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High Blood Pressure?

Have you been diagnosed with, or think that you may have, high blood pressure?

If so, you may qualify for a research study of investigational medications to treat high blood pressure.

Qualified participants must be at least 18 years of age.
If you qualify, you will receive at no cost study-related:

- Physical exams
- Laboratory tests
- Investigational study medications, and
- Compensation for time and travel

For more information, please contact:

San Diego Sports Medicine & Family Health Center
619-229-3909

Americas — which one does he get settled into, and how does his identity factor into that?"

Sueko first heard about Ashley's resident-company plan through press interviews. She heard about it again at the reception given Ashley at the W Hotel when he arrived in town. When the program was officially announced in January, she was ready, and Ashley was impressed. "I think we had ten theaters apply for the first year, and they were really strong applications. All ten basically made the case for why they were ready for attention and how they would use our resources to create exciting theater. Mo'olelo made a great case, but honestly, if no new companies applied, I could do the next eight years with what I've already got."

Like Kaufman, the choice of Mo'olelo seems an easy one, especially in light of Ashley's vision of involving the community — it's integral to every show Mo'olelo puts on. Consider *Night Sky*, the first show they'll be putting on at the Playhouse. Says Sueko, "Kristen Brandt, the former artistic director at the Sledgehammer Theatre, mailed me the script in November of 2006." (In this and other respects, the production fairly drips with locality — starting with the idea of doing it in the first place.) "She said, 'This looks like something that might fit for Mo'olelo.' It focuses on aphasia, a type of brain injury. It's about an astronomy professor who is rendered aphasic after suffering a concussion. A big part of what we do is community outreach in conjunction with each play, and she was saying, 'Maybe there is outreach work you can do at stroke centers and things like that.' "

Then, in February of '07, "One of our audience members came up after a performance and said, 'Have you ever considered a play that deals with brain injury? I used to be the executive director of the Brain Injury Foundation here in San Diego — there's a large community. The stories around brain injury are heroic and epic and funny — really great stories.' " (Another local impetus.) Sueko gave him the script; he shared it with the Foundation. "They liked it; they thought it really captured what aphasia was about." (Local involvement at the level of content.)

Finally, in May of '07, the Mo'olelo board met to discuss its 2008 projects. From the company's blog: "In a unique moment of art imitating life, or rather life guiding art, Joe Hiel, husband of board member Elaine Hiel, who had been patiently reading the paper…perked up. He pulled out the *San Diego Union-Tribune*, which featured a front-page article about soldiers returning from

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Iraq with brain injury. Joe, whose stroke in 1981 rendered him aphasic, pointed to the news article, referenced the play, and said, 'This is me.' The decision was made."

Since then, says Sueko, "We've been reaching out to the brain-injured community. It isn't just 'Hey, buy a ticket to see a show about people like you!' It's to encourage the community to be a partner, to take ownership of the project. And it's because we need the community to even do it. I'm going to play the character with aphasia, but I knew nothing about it, so I needed dramaturgical support from the brain-injured community." Sueko attended speech-therapy classes for the aphasic — her character's inability to express herself is a key theme. She spent time with the aphasic and those who care for the aphasic, learning about their troubles and how they deal with them, getting a sense for them as people. From the Mo'olelo blog: "Don Strom survived a brain aneurysm in 1992 that rendered him aphasic." He and his wife Jane "navigated through the journey of brain injury recovery and aphasia…a journey which changed them both but which they did together. They are a model for how a couple can face a crisis and not only survive but grow…Thanks to Jane and Don, I'm starting to crystallize some ideas about Anna," the play's protagonist. (Local involvement in the play's artistic development.)

(Clearly, it isn't *just* "Hey, buy a ticket," but

RESEARCH STUDIES

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- Are 18-65 years of age and have been diagnosed having migraine headaches for at least one year
- You have at least an average of 2 but not greater than 8 migraine headaches per month in the last 6 months
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...abdominal pain

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Participants may receive at no cost study-related:

- Colonoscopy (if not performed in the past 2 years)
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A research study is underway for men with **significant difficulty urinating** or who **have a weak stream** caused by benign prostatic hypertrophy, or BPH. Qualified participants will receive investigational intramuscular injection medication.

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2) Have significant difficulty initiating urine stream
3) No history of heart disease or stroke
4) No history of prostate surgery or prostate cancer

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Interested, please call:

619-521-2841

Medical Center for Clinical Research

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- Male or female, 18-65 years of age
- Migraine history of 2-8 migraine headaches per month
- Willing to undergo pulmonary testing and echocardiogram

Participants will receive at no cost:

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- **Non-diabetic with Impaired Fasting Glucose (blood sugar)**

Participants will receive a medical screening at no cost by board-certified physicians and have the option to enroll in a research study after screening. Compensation up to $800 will be provided to participants who qualify for the research study.

If you are interested please call:

(858) 552-8585 ext. 2884

Sueko is happy to grant that community outreach is a crucial part of her marketing plan. "We spend a majority of our time fundraising and writing donation letters; our ticket revenues cover only about 30 percent of the cost of each show, and we offer free tickets to community groups based on need. But we can go out into the community and establish relationships with key people who can help spread the word. When we did *Since Africa*, we sold out before it even opened, and one of the reasons was community outreach. We had the Sudanese Refugee Network, the International Rescue Committee, the National Conflict Resolution Center. And our leading actor was a Lost Boy of Sudan and had written a book. Whenever he went to a speaking engagement, he would mention the show.")

Sueko is unabashed about Mo'olelo's social-issue overtones. "With the returning Iraq War vets who have suffered traumatic brain injuries, I think it's crucial for the San Diego community to become more aware about these things — how do we support brain-injury survivors of all kinds? I don't see theater as being this exclusive thing that lives out on the side of things. I think theater is most effective when it is central to the civic dialogue. I spent a lot of time in the Middle East, and I was speaking with an Israeli playwright there — this was during my formative years in college. He said that theater should be the temples, the mosques, the synagogues, the churches of our lifetime, where

RESEARCH STUDIES

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• Be considered to be in good general health
• Wake up multiple times during a typical night's sleep

Qualified participants will receive at no cost:

• Study-related experimental medication • Study-related tests

Participants may be compensated for your time and travel.

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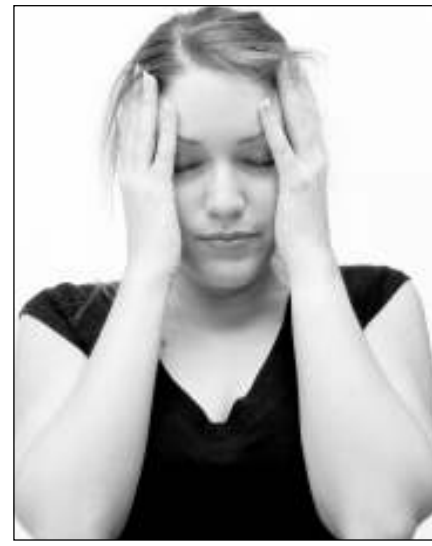

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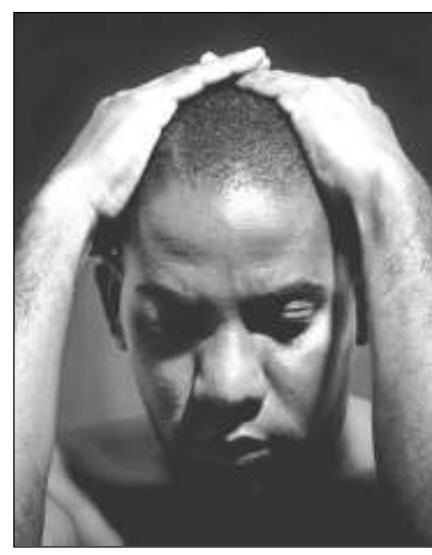

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For more information on any of these studies, please contact:

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people can really grapple with issues. Theater should be a place where people come and have dialogue and leave having heard something — a perspective that maybe they have not heard before. But they should also leave feeling reflected on stage. The hallmark of Mo'olelo is specifically that: making a show that has multiple perspectives and using it to create community dialogue. Bringing in communities who would not typically sit in the same room together, fostering bridges. There can be work done beyond the show."

Night Sky, to some extent, seems to be about giving voice to those who might be literally voiceless. Past Mo'olelo shows, however, give a clearer picture of the kind of dialogue Sueko mentioned — dialogue between groups "who would not typically sit in the same room." "We cannot live in a world which sees people as just labels," says Sueko. "Well, we can, but it's ultimately dangerous and unproductive. When I was writing *remains*, I workshopped it with both the local Jewish community and the local Palestinians, and I talked with some Christian Arab communities. When we did *A Piece of My Heart*, we partnered with the Veterans' Museum and used their venue for the play. After doing *remains*, our database was all

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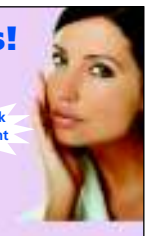

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model

social activists. We wanted to have a dialogue about Vietnam and about the current conflict. After the play, we had conversations that really broke down bridges. We had social activists talking with the daughter of a Vietnam veteran. They didn't see each other as opposites but as humans. They might seem like small things, but for the individuals, they are huge."

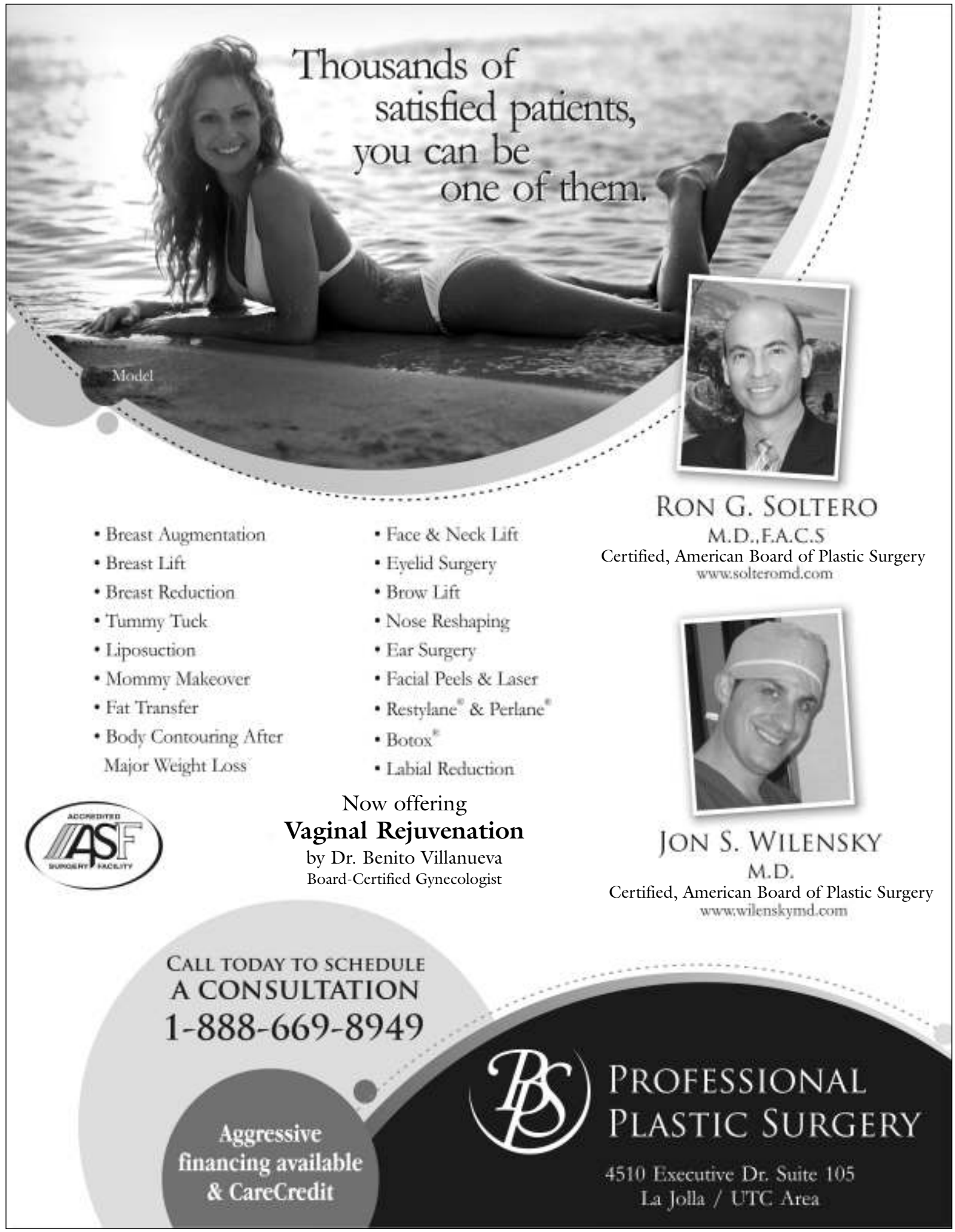
That kind of social commitment helps explain why Mo'olelo performed just one show a year until 2007, when it scaled up to two. Sueko came to San Diego in 2003 as an Equity actor, only to find that few directors in San Diego would hire her unless she gave up her Equity card. "If you give it up, you're cheaper, and you don't get health insurance and that sort of thing. I talked with other Equity actors who were experiencing the same thing, and I thought, 'I can sit around and bitch and moan about it, or I can create a small theater company that says: we will pay union wages to local actors. It's a line item on the budget, a big one, but one we'll never cut.' " And *that* kind of commitment helps make San Diego a more attractive destination for would-be actors — bringing Ashley's vision of San Diego as a major theater city one step closer to fruition.

In Sueko's eyes, it's practically synergy. "The Playhouse is demonstrating that you can be a major, national force on the theater scene, a theater that artists from all over the world are dying to work at, and at the same time, you can nourish the community in which you live. I think the theater residency demonstrates that." And she agrees with Ashley that the artistic spirit is fomenting in town. "In the past five, six, seven years, there have been a number of small companies like Mo'olelo that have been able to launch and survive. That speaks volumes."

The pieces are in place; now it's just a matter of making it all happen and keeping things exciting and varied. "It's an ongoing task for every theater in America," says Ashley. "How do you keep on broadening?" One way is to engage the community — or communities: playwrights, audiences, actors, other companies. Another way is to expand the notion of what theater *is*. The Playhouse expansion included a restaurant, and Ashley is happy that it will offer space for a cabaret. "It's going to be exciting, programming the cabaret, having music as part of the experience. The real question I have is this: people keep telling me that everyone in San Diego goes home by ten. That late-night San Diego is not so much a thing. Are we going to be able to keep an audience awake for a ten o'clock show? That will be interesting." ■

— Matthew Lickona

HEALTH AND BEAUTY



Unforgettable

LONG-AGO SAN DIEGO

AMERICAN ICARUS: LINCOLN BEACHEY LOOPS THE LOOP (Part Three)

by Jeff Smith

"Aviators are not born like poets," said Lincoln Beachey, who claimed that anyone could fly a plane but that he, and only he, was *the* natural-born poet of the air.

When "a mere lad," Beachey told the U.S. Congress in 1913, he stood on a mountain in Southern California and looked across a sweeping green valley to another mountain. He longed for the wings of a bird to fly to the opposite peak. As sunlight speared through the clouds, the Pacific and several islands suddenly glittered in the distance. "And I wanted to fly there too. And so I decided that someday I would build me a flying machine."

A world-famous stunt pilot and possibly America's first superstar, Beachey urged Congress to give military pilots better training. Many had died from meager instruction and ramshackle machines. North Island's aviation facility, Camp Trouble, had earned its nickname from tragedy. "The airplane of the future," pilot Ralph Johnson said at the time, "will be created from our crushed bodies."

Even senators could fly, Beachey told Congress. "Will you not journey with me?" No? "Oh, very well, I will call you a coward and forget and forgive you. And I will dare to say you will [not] experience life to its fullest until you have taken a trip to the clouds and to the skies."

By 1913, Beachey had become, writes Frank Marrero, "a national hero of colossal proportions." Millions had seen him "ocean roll," 180-degree rotations, one after another in a wavelike pattern; or tailspin from a mile up, pulling out at the last second; or snatch a handkerchief off the ground with a wingtip. Except for his tweed cap, which he wore backwards during exhibitions, Beachey, in his three-piece suit, flew with the audacity, and the precision, of a swallow.

One hundred newspapers declared him the "eighth wonder of the world." At his divorce proceedings his wife began naming women Beachey had promised to marry. When she reached number 32, the judge held up a hand and said, "Enough."

In 1913, the deaths of at least 22 pilots, trying to "outdo Beachey," forced him into retirement. Called "the Pacemaker of Death," he had done everything a "birdman" could do with one exception: he had never flown a circle in the sky. No one had and, Beachey boasted, only he could. But if he "pulled off this loop the loop," then others would die trying "because I have done it."

On September 21, 1913, four months into his retirement, Beachey got a shock: Adolphe Pegoud flew a complete loop in France. In a cable, Beachey accused Glenn Curtiss of "cheating me out of my dearest ambition…looping." Beachey demanded a specially made "pusher" biplane, the engine mounted in the rear, so he could "out-Pegoud Pegoud."

On November 15, Beachey began testing the new craft at Curtiss's San Diego teaching facility at North Island. At first, Beachey just practiced his familiar "air devilry": rolls and figure eights and his famous dip of death — making a stone-dead drop from 5000 feet, lifting the nose at the last second, and touching down as softly as a cat.

On November 18, over Camp Trouble, at the northeast corner of North Island, Beachey became the first American to fly upside-down. So everyone would know he'd done it, Beachey painted his name in long, blood-red letters on the top wing. When he landed, he pretended to lose control. The biplane jerked and yawed, skidding to a stop within a dozen yards of horrified spectators.

On Thursday, November 20, Beachey invited people in the crowd to fly with him. All heads turned away, paying serious attention to a cloud or a wristwatch. Eighteen-year-old Lillian Dixon volunteered. Strapped to the left lower wing's leading edge, she flew with Beachey for a cautious, 15-minute jaunt. When they came in to land, children, picnicking families, even horseback riders clogged the runway. Beachey swerved off course, mowing down heavy brush and finally stopping near an Army tent.

Beachey's loop-the-loop photograph

"I thought North Island'd be free of flying fans," he fumed as he helped Dixon down. "From now on I'm practicing off Point Loma!"

The next day he was back flying over North Island and wondering why crowds were smaller. To generate more, he "accidentally" dropped gold coins over "the Rocky Road to Dublin," a gusty area at the south end of North Island named after an Irish song. When he inverted his biplane, the coins tumbled from his shirt pocket and clinked past his chin.

On Monday, the 24th, 500 people watched Beachey take his picture upside-down. Not far away, Camp Trouble re-earned its grim nickname. Eighty feet above the ground, the engine of a Wright C No. 14 idled, misfired, and suddenly accelerated. The plane shot downward, and Lieutenants E.L. Ellington and Hugh Kelly crashed and died.

QUOTATIONS

1. Frank Marrero: "Beachey's fame was as vast as any in American history. His only fear was that he would be thought of as crazy and be forgotten."

2. Waldo Waterman: "After the crash, speculation held that this different airplane had caused him to misjudge speed…made him unable to 'feel the wind.' "

3. Waterman: "It was hard for me to reconcile: he had just lost his life, and we had lost Lincoln Beachey — just as we'd lost the many daredevils that had tried to emulate his singular mastery of the air."

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An angry Beachey said the military had "only three good machines" at North Island; the rest were repatched junk. Beachey announced that, out of respect for the dead, he wouldn't fly again until the big Thanksgiving air show on November 27. He'd had it, he said, with uncontrolled crowds, badly trained military pilots, and the government's "radical mistakes" in aviation policy.

The next day, Tuesday, November 25, Beachey abandoned his vow. At 3:00 p.m. he boarded his biplane. Since he'd given his crew two days off, an Army mechanic twirled the propeller. Unlike previous afternoons, when watchers jammed the bay in boats and lined the sandy runway, fewer than a dozen witnesses noticed Beachey take off into partly cloudy skies.

This was by design. "Beachey chose the time he thought would give him the most privacy in his trial at the loop," the *Union* wrote the next day — also that "he simply did not want to fail before a crowd."

But there was more: throughout Beachey's career, betting pools formed at each exhibition, the odds — usually around five-to-one he'd

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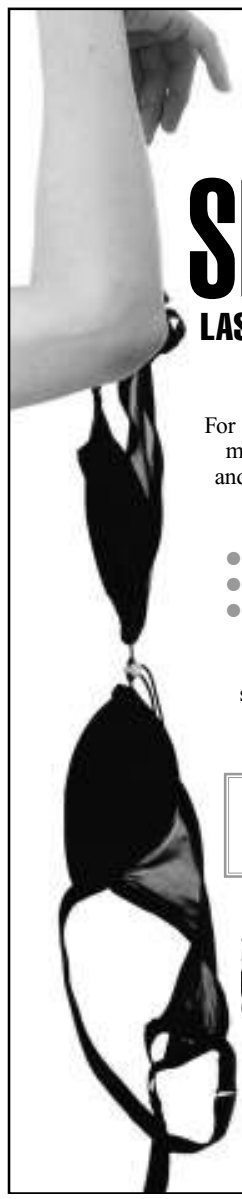

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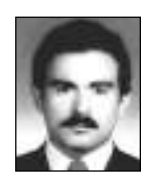

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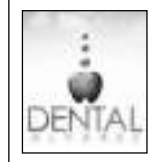

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"I was never egotistical enough to think that crowds came to witness my…trick-dog stunts." Only one thing drew them: "the desire to see 'something happen' — meaning, of course, my death.

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Beachey, writes Martin Caidin, developed a "sneering, go-to-hell attitude" toward his myriad fans. Several times during a show he'd fly *at* them just for kicks. He rarely, if ever, signed autographs and often huffed away after an exhibition.

For his first attempt at looping the loop, Beachey didn't just want privacy. He refused to share the historical moment with what was to him a bloodthirsty horde. As he took off from North Island unannounced, San Diegans heard, at best, the buzzing of a far-off bee.

Scientists swore the stunt was impossible: Beachey's upright motor would stall at the top of the circle. The machine would flop from the sky like a tailless kite.

Beachey powered straight

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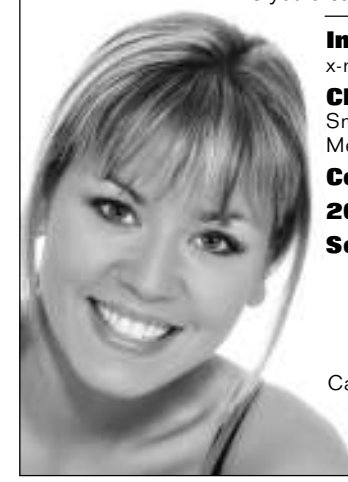

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up. Before beginning the loop, he had to make a hard dive to pick up speed. In case the engine did stall, Beachey flew over Spanish Bight, the shallow channel between North Island and Coronado.

He began the dive at 2700 feet. At 2000 he kept the throttle at full power but pulled back on the stick. The biplane began an upward crescent, arching backward like a gymnast. At the apex, "BEACHEY" in red letters flashed that he was upside-down.

He pulled harder on the stick. A hard new pressure slammed his neck and shoulders. His feet rose above him. The world spun. The plane made an inverted swan dive and completed a 150-foot diameter loop.

Then history: without pausing, Beachey arched up again, turned his back to the ground, then his head. He watched the horizon flip-flop — blue sky, blue-green bay, blue sky — and drew a second circle in the air, lower than the first but just as perfectly round. While others had looped before him, no one had done two in a row. Beachey didn't just beat Pegoud, writes Frank Marrero. At that moment, Beachey knew he "could outfly the birds."

When he landed, a few Army pilots shook his hand. "All the time they've been saying, 'Beachey is a fool flier and lucky to be alive,' " he barked through clenched teeth. "I tolerated them. Now I'm going to get angry. It is not a joke any longer.... I am not going to quit until I make all the scientific fellows — and rocking-chair aviators — take to their holes. I am the happiest man in the world."

Then he ferried across the bay and attended a memorial service for Ellington and Kelly. Within half an hour all of San Diego knew what he had achieved — and a day later, the world.

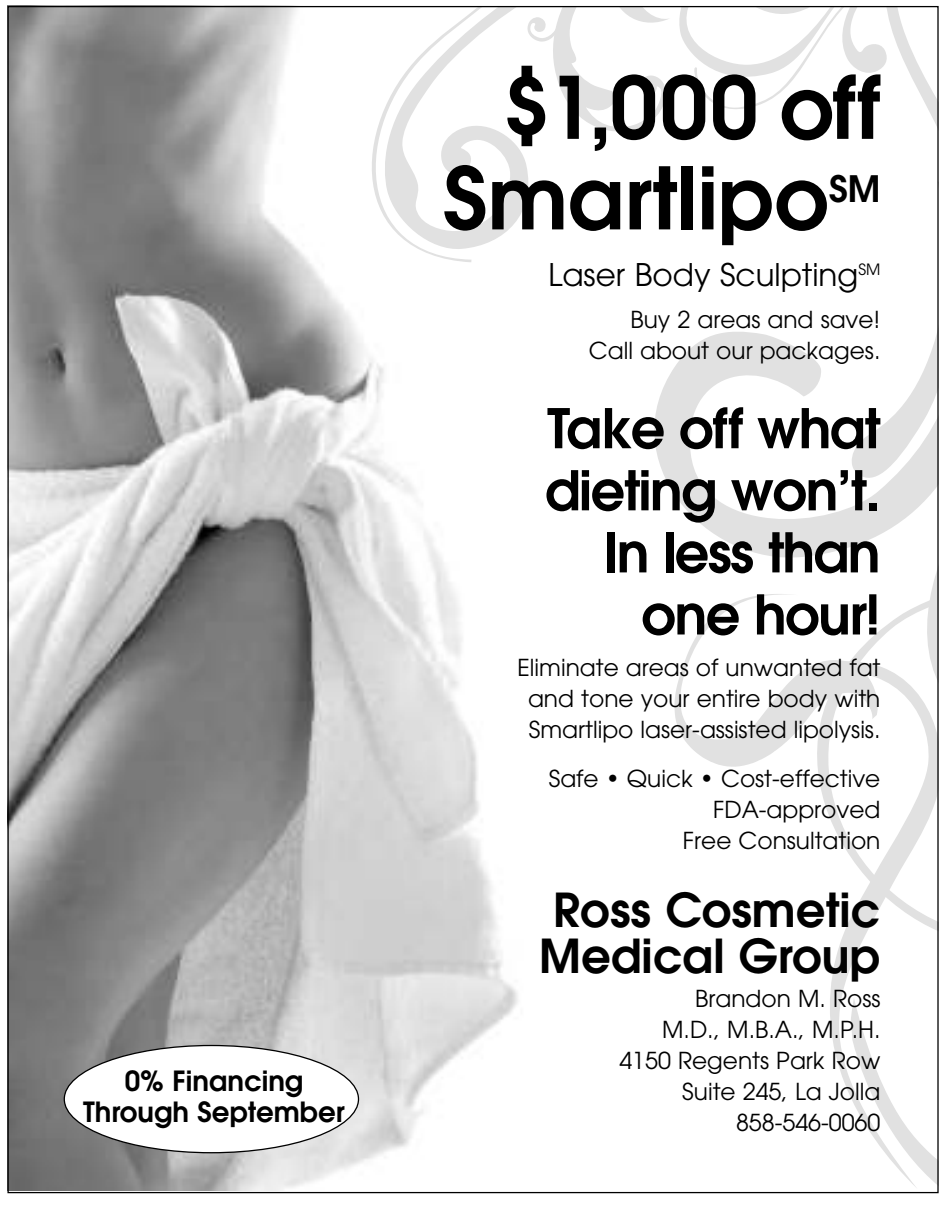
EPILOGUE:

On Thanksgiving 1913, Beachey looped three times before 10,000 paying customers at the Coronado Island polo grounds. They gave him, a *Union* headline proclaimed the next morning, the "Mightiest Tribute Ever Accorded Hero in History of City."

A year later, also on Thanksgiving, Beachey came back to San Diego to perform his 1024th loop. The miracle had become so commonplace that fewer than 1500 paid to watch. The short-lived era of the "birdmen" was coming to a close. Crowds bored with ocean rolls, Texas two-steps, and loops wanted greater spectacles.

In 1914, Beachey raced Barney Oldfield, the world-famous racecar driver, around at least 35 oval tracks, often knocking off Oldfield's hat with a wing tip. Beachey flew through the Palace of Machinery Building in San Francisco. He made eight loops in a row. He dressed like a woman and pretended to fly out of control, with no hands, coming within inches of trees and spectators.

Audiences demanded more. At Sacramento, infuriated by something the governor said, Beachey did a striptease. Every time he passed the stands, an article of clothing fluttered down. He deplaned in his underwear,



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astonishing some, offending many.

On March 15, 1915, Beachey had built his dream ship, a silver monoplane with bright yellow wings and an 80-horsepower Gnome Monosoupape rotary engine that flew twice as fast as his biplane.

He would test it before 50,000 spectators at the Panama-Pacific International Exposition in San Francisco. The aluminum fuselage gave him such unmatched quickness that a friend, Ted Macaulay, warned Beachey against looping.

"It'll be okay," Beachey replied, "as long as I don't pull out too tightly."

His mechanic, Arthur Mix, removed the chocks, and Beachey took off with an instrument, he felt, finally worthy of his abilities. For ten minutes he flew low-level loops over the bay, an ocean roll, and a mock tailspin. Then he came in for a landing.

"She's a homesick angel," he told Mix. "Gas her up. I'm going back again."

"Take it easy," Mix replied. "This baby's a lot faster than anything you've flown."

"Don't worry," Beachey winked through oil-streaked goggles. "But keep your eyes open. I'll wring her out this time."

Beachey arrowed upward for a dip of death. At 3000 feet he hurtled out of the sky faster than any pilot had ever flown. Too fast.

At 500 feet, two cracks echoed across the bay. The left wing folded upward, then the right. The plane became a trembling yellow V. As he nose-dived toward the water, Beachey shut off the engine and fuel line. His last gesture, which thousands witnessed from the grandstand, was a small good-bye wave with the fingers of his right hand. ■

— Jeff Smith

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Robert Kearney, MD

LETTERS

continued from page 12

I don't aim to be sarcastic or rude, and I'm sure from my own point of view I sound quite conservative. On the contrary, I'm a 24-year-old born-and-raised San Diegan who enjoys reading your publication. And, to be honest, this is the first story I've felt the need to comment on due to its controversial nature. I applaud the *Reader* for its ability to take risks; however, this crosses the line on multiple levels.

Thank you for letting me rant and rave a bit.

Name Withheld
by Request
via email

MOUs and LOIs

I commend Mr. Bauder for his well-researched and skillfully written article on Warner Springs Ranch ("Hot Water," "City Lights," August 21). He attributes to current general manager Jim Stilwell a fact I believe is erroneous. I believe that subsequent events and investigation prove that Highlands Resorts never tendered a $3000 deposit to Warner Springs Ranch pursuant to the established unsolicited Letter of Intent process. Instead, the Highlands Resorts "draft MOU" that was announced by Mr. Stilwell in a post to the Warner Springs Ranch website on August 17, 2008, was the product of a solicited process and therefore not subject to the established unsolicited LOI process.

This revelation brings owner-schmowners closer to the truth as well as a complete and honest answer to the question I've been asking for over three months; as referenced in the article, how did Highlands Resorts cut in front of other offerors and jump from last in time to first in line?

Moreover, also unanswered are questions of who first solicited Highlands Resorts and when the solicitation process first began. I hope everyone who has ever "taken the waters" at Warner Springs requests answers from Mr. Stilwell via email at *JStilwell@WarnerSpringsRanch.org* and the current board of directors via email at *board@warnersprings.com*.

Greg S. Maizlish
via email

Long Ago At Warner Springs

In general a good article as per Warner Springs re the last 30 years and over 100 years ago ("Hot Water," "City Lights," August 21). For about 70 years before the entity of Warner Springs Ranch, the property was open as a resort.

G. Henshaw
via email

Brain Rattlers

Your essay on airport noise was so partial in information as to be almost laughable ("Life Under the Flight Path," Feature Story, August 21).

First, the technology to muffle the sound of jets is well known. I've seen three-engine passenger jets fly overhead with barely a whoosh. Why not just say to all airlines and private planes, you can't land in our town if you make noise?

That brings up a second point. I've heard private single-jet planes make as much noise as any passenger jet. Ban them.

Third, the takeoff paths are fan shaped, that is, some take off straight on, others

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bank some left or right, others bank more left or right. It makes a difference.

Fourth, the landing path is always the same. When planes land from the west, every single one of them flies directly over my house.

Fifth, we don't want our windows and doors "soundproofed." We live here because we like them open, because we like to be outside, gardening, having a happy hour on the front porch, grilling on the back patio, etc. We want the noise stopped, period, instead of being trapped in a box.

Sixth, no one ever mentions the incredible spray of exhaust emitted every time a plane lands or takes off.

And seventh, and finally, things have improved some over the years (I've lived in OB/Point Loma since '76), but we still get what I call "brain-rattlers" every single day.

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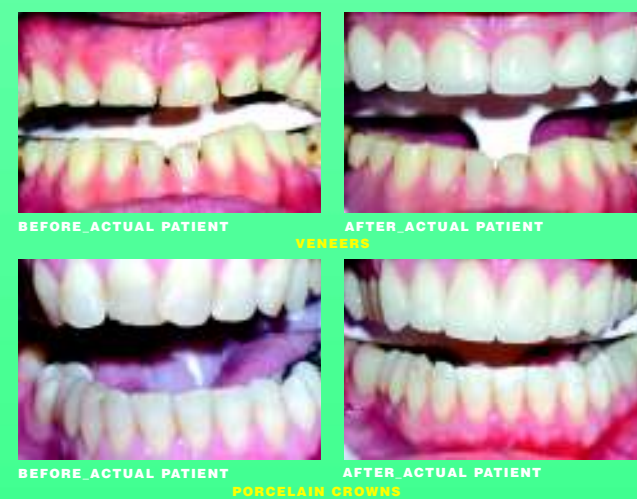

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ensure that we will always have to put up with its consequent noise and pollution.

John Mood
via email

Shut Up Or Move

They don't know how good they have it ("Life Under the Flight Path," Feature Story, August 21).

I grew up at the corner of Curtis and Plum streets in Loma Portal from 1945 to 1966. The noise from aircraft landing and taking off then was incredibly louder and of longer duration than it is today. The newest, stage-three aircraft are quiet compared to the B-36s, Electra Jets, and 737s that routinely roared overhead night and day — no curfew except the fog. My parents would not have dreamed of suing the airport or expecting soundproofing.

There was a daily 4:00 a.m. Delta arrival, and my mom would wake up when it was foggy and the plane did not arrive.

For anyone to voluntarily move into the Lindbergh flight pattern and then complain about it, much less have us pay $100,000 to upgrade their home, is the very height of hypocrisy!

The only person I ever knew who had a legitimate gripe with aircraft noise was Mr. Roulette, our next-door neighbor for many years. He built his home and lived in it well prior to Lindbergh Field's opening.

All the others should shut up or move and give me back my portion of that $100,000.

Scott Mac Laggan
via email

Noisy Hick Town

Your article ("Life Under the Flight Path," Feature Story, August 21) contains quotes from several people who live in the flight take-off pattern, and they pretty much say that they get used to it after a while, and in sum, the story wholly did not represent the views of others who are greatly disturbed by the *noise* — it's noise plain and simple — day in, day out, until 11:30 p.m., starting (this morning, for instance) at 4:51 a.m.

I live in the no-curfew incoming path — in the South Park area. These planes arrive every 1.5 or 2 minutes — for hours. I would love to enjoy watching a movie on TV on a Sunday evening with a window open and the breeze coming in. But I have to shut the window, and if watching TV, every frickin' time a plane goes over, the picture shakes (because I don't have cable, because TV is pretty worthless).

I was sick a couple of

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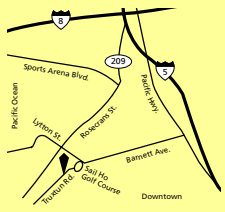

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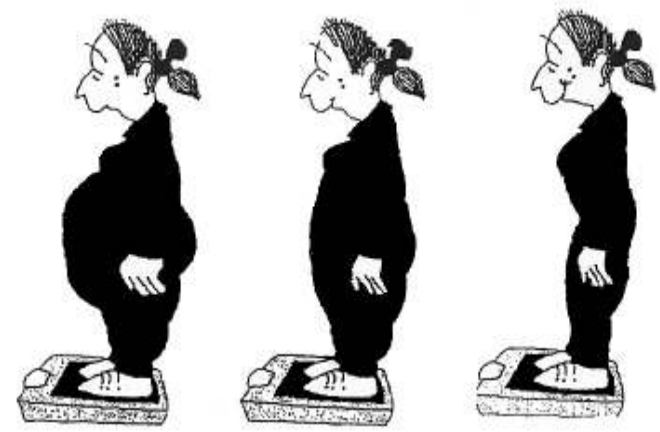

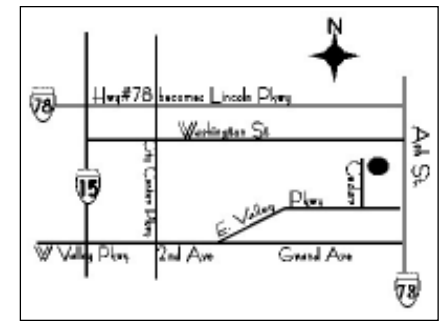

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weeks ago, went to bed at 8:30, needed to sleep. The planes were so annoying, listening to them, one after another, for hours — I kept watching the clock. Would they stop at 10:30 p.m.? 11:00 p.m.? Finally, about 11:30 p.m. they stopped. It makes you angry to feel that you have no control over the situation, and people should not have to live with constant *noise*. I spent $4000 on double-paned windows to keep out the noise — kind of makes you wonder why $70,000 to $100,000 must be spent on homes in the Quieter Home Program — and it helps somewhat. Thirty years ago when I moved into the house, the noise wasn't as bad as it is now, and just last night I heard Herb Klein talk about how another 12 gates will be developed at the airport.

Millions and millions of dollars are spent on planning and committees and studies — the number of aircraft landings and departures continues to increase — thus, the noise increases. No relief in sight. But let's form some more committees and *measure* it. Has anyone done a study on the effects of noise on people so affected by sleep interruption and deprivation because of these planes? There are nuisance laws — noise is a nuisance — why don't they acknowledge that in legal terms? Build a small airport in Otay Mesa for the FedEx carriers, put Terminal 2 planes in Miramar, put commuter planes in an expanded Gillespie Field. And, of course, establish an incoming flight curfew — that would all help and could be effected reasonably economically. San Diego is, and always will be, a hick town — we don't need international flights coming into our town, just very convenient, cheap shuttles to LAX (also lacking in this hick town). By the way, I'm a native San Diegan and spent elementary school under the flight path. I know what I'm talking about. The upshot is, no — some of us never get used to the *noise*, and it is a problem.

Cindi Lamert
via email

Complaint About A Complainer

I'm responding to an article in the August 14 edition. On the front page it says "Large Loud Parties Coming Soon to Your Neighborhood" (Cover Story). The gentleman who wrote this article interviewed a person by the name of Zonna Pennell, and she's complaining about her next-door neighbors because it's a vacation home rental. If you go on *vacationrentals.com,* click on "California," come down to the "Pacific Beach" area, about halfway down — there are 31 properties listed, and she's been advertising on there for the last number of years. It's a cottage, two bedroom, one bath, sleeps four people, $1250 to $1950 per week, "Adorable Beach Cottages by Zonna." Click on that and it will bring up a description of the property and will show the cottages,

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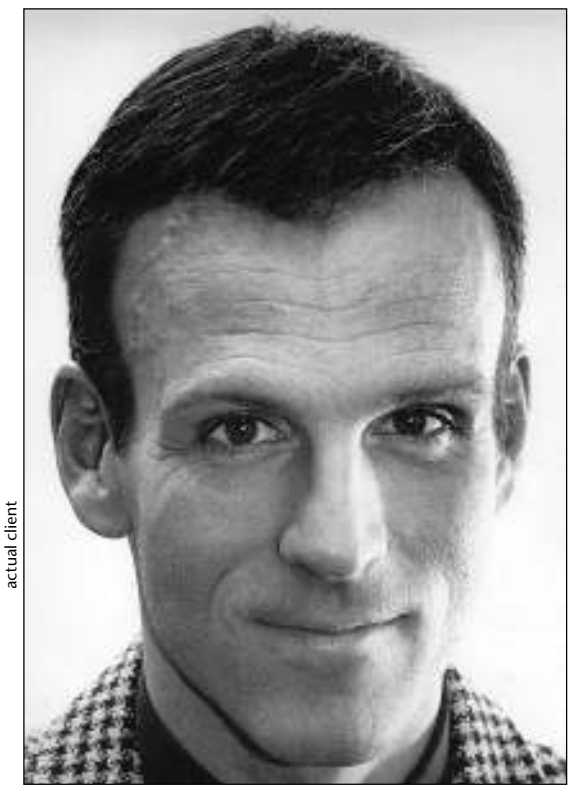
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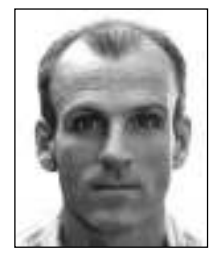
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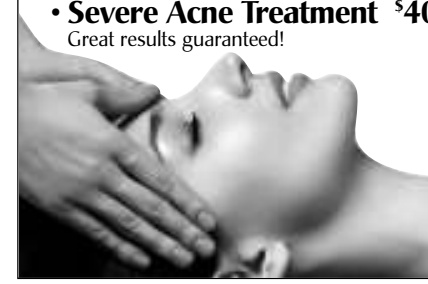

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one of the cottage's exterior, the interior, and there are at least six pictures. She's been advertising on this website for a number of years.

So when she comes out and complains about the vacation rentals, she basically to me is a real hypocrite. I know she complains about the people next door because their dogs bark, but she takes a lot of pride that she advertises on her website that she caters to families with dogs. She's always moaning and groaning about the people's dogs next door barking because they interfere with her barking dogs.

To me, this is wrong. She shouldn't even be permitted to even come out with statements like this in the press.

Jim

Larry Harmon responds: Zonna Pennell's vacation rentals are located in an area zoned for multiple residential units; her home is in an area zoned for single-family homes.

Dollar Store Frenzy

I believe Mr. Bauder is right regarding the recession ("Face Facts," "City Lights," August 14). "What recession?" Bush said. I recently heard there are over 8.8 million people unemployed in America. I live in Hemet, and the $1 store is crowded all day long. We lived in San Diego for 46 years, and I read Mr. Bauder's articles all the time.

Joe Cuseo
Hemet

Homeless? Where?

I live in Pacific Beach, a couple of blocks in from both the bay and ocean ("Booze Moves to the Alley," "City Lights," August 14). I spend a lot of time near the intersection of Garnet and Cass streets. I have *not* seen any increase in the homeless on the streets or in the alleys since the beach alcohol ban went into effect. Nor have my neighbors commented on any increase. However, since the ban, both my neighbors and I have noticed a huge decrease in drunken beachgoers urinating and vomiting on our properties, fighting in the alleys, and vandalizing private property.

Melanie Menders
via email

Beach Safety A Myth

Misinformation about the beach alcohol issue reached a new low with the August 14 story in the *Reader* entitled "Booze Moves to the Alley" ("City Lights").

The article stated that the police say the enforcement of the alcohol ban is working on the beach and surrounding areas. The Ocean Beach Main Street Association says the ban has reduced complaints from businesses. Substance-abuse-treatment professionals say the alcohol ban may convince some homeless people to seek the help they need.

While the story relayed some good information, the author abandoned all logic with the statement, "Prior to the ban…the beaches served as safe havens for the homeless, a place where they could go to

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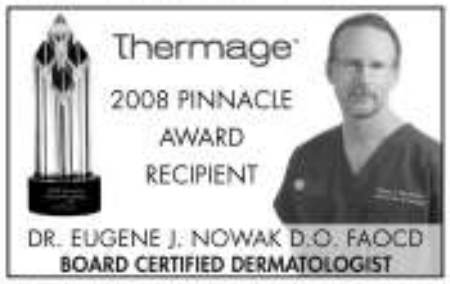

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drink and stay out of trouble."

Safe havens? Was the beach a "safe haven" for David Fortner? He's the homeless man who was drinking in Mission Beach and got into an argument with another. Fortner's throat was slashed with such violence that his spinal cord was severed and he died where he fell. On August 5, Fortner's murderer was convicted and sentenced to 26 years to life.

Stay out of trouble? Did Damian Maple and Francisco Montoya "drink and stay out of trouble"? Prosecutors say these two homeless men were drinking at a fire pit in Ocean Beach. They allegedly beat an Australian tourist over the head with a skateboard, fracturing his skull and eye socket. The helpless, injured tourist was then thrown into a fire pit and glowing coals were dumped over him. The two homeless men, Maple and Montoya, could be imprisoned for life.

A steady stream of homeless people flows into San Diego's hospitals and morgue all year long. Alcohol is often the catalyst for those injuries and deaths.

Homeless people are neither thugs nor criminals. Some do suffer from mental health issues or addictions or both. Allowing them to drink on the beach doesn't keep them safe, nor does it keep them out of trouble.

If you oppose an alcohol-free beach, you are absolutely entitled to your opinion. San Diego's homeless problem is complex and requires comprehensive solutions. To suggest that beach drinking has a positive impact on the homeless is ignorant, inhumane, and cruel. Most of all, it is shameful to use the plight of the homeless to advance the political agenda of returning alcohol to the beach.

Monica Green
via email

Euro Quito Edo

Once again, your crossword puzzle clues had an incorrect spelling for "capital/capitol."

August 14, 2008, clue number 40 across is given as "Shogunite capital." The answer is "Edo," the old Japanese name for the capitol *[sic]* city.

"Capital" has to do with money, finance, funds, etc. And it was used correctly in clue number two down, "Capital of Italy," with the euro as the answer.

Jogging your memory, the previous misuse of capitol/capital was, as I recall, two or three weeks ago. The clue was "capital in the Andes," with the answer being Quito, the capitol *[sic]* city of Ecuador.

I've been doing the puzzle and reading the *Reader* for many years; however, I think your new entry deadline is unrealistic.

A.R.

According to Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, *"capitol" means "(1)(a) a building in which a state legislative body meets, (b) a group of buildings in which the functions of state government are carried out, and (2)* cap *the building in which the U.S. Congress meets in Washington." A "city serving as a seat of government" is spelled "capital." — Editor*

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Can't Get Enough

Cult Films in the Park

Bit o' Burlesque

"I'm not sure if *Animal House* is as cult-y as *Harold and Maude* — it might be a little bit more mainstream," says Lauren Turner, marketing and communications coordinator for the Museum of Photographic Arts.

"The first one we showed was *Dirty Harry*, because the name of the artist's exhibition on view was Harry Callahan. *Animal House* doesn't tie in with the current exhibition so much as it does the start of the new school year. We were concerned about not having a big turnout for *Harold and Maude* [shown in February to coincide with Valentine's Day], but apparently it has a huge cult following — 350 people showed up. People were wild about that movie."

LOCAL EVENTS

Turner is expecting an even larger turnout for *Animal House,* which the museum will screen on Thursday, August 28, as part of its Photography off the Prado Thursdays program, which features a different cult film every three months. A committee of 12 museum employees who, Turner says, "went online to research what a cult film is," selects the films to be screened each quarter.

Cult films may be defined as movies that are deemed unsuccessful in theaters but later develop a limited but obsessive following. "I would define a cult film as a film that speaks to a person's inner child," says the museum's film and public programs manager Priscilla Parra. "A fan of cult films can look past things like absurd story lines, horrible acting, unnecessary musical numbers, strange camera gyrations, fake guts, and still see a precious gem in cinematic history."

"The most recent cult film is *Dark Knight,*" says Scott Marks, local film critic and founder of *emulsioncompulsion.com.* Bucking traditional definition, Marks believes that a cult film is any film that "attracts a die-hard audience of fanatics" and inspires repeated viewings.

"'Cult' can also indicate schlock, or films that were so bad they're entertaining," says Marks. "When *Pink Flamingos* opened, I was so young that I didn't know what a transvestite was — I thought Divine was just a fat chick. I was so taken by the depravity and honesty and crazed originality that for one year I went to see it every weekend."

Marks says that his favorite cult film is *Blade Runner.* "*Blade Runner* is my *Star Wars,*" he says. "When they brought that back, I saw it four or five times — I wanted to see how it would look digitally projected, enhanced, in Cinerama. I love that movie."

Nearly any film can generate a group of obsessive followers, but Marks says there are some he could never see making it into the category of cult. "*Ben Hur* is not a cult film. In most cases, I think that if a film becomes so big that everybody sees it, it tends to lose some of the originality that may have contributed to its cult status."

According to Parra, "Films that you probably never see on a cult film list are *Daddy Day Care, High School Musical, Daredevil,* and *The Mummy*." Tragic dramas also need not apply. Marks cites *Schindler's List* as an example of a non-cult drama. "I just can't imagine people dressing up as concentration-camp guards and standing in line."

Cult-classic aficionados often impersonate their favorite character. To invoke that fanatic feeling, some museum committee members have volunteered to dress in togas for the screening of *Animal House.* The movie will also be shown in the atrium as backdrop (or, according to Marks, "video wallpaper") for a performance by local DJ P. Prez. Drawing pads will be available in the atrium for anyone interested in sketching one of the scantily clad live models who will be circulating.

"The models for this event will be members of San Diego burlesque troupe a Bit o' Burlesque," says Lily Jackson, who runs the San Diego branch of Dr. Sketchy's Anti-Art School. "The models have been asked to improvise on the drunken frat-party theme. I expect some slightly naughty fun."

"If they really wanted to capture the spirit of the film," says Marks, upon hearing that burlesque models will be frolicking about in bits of toga, "they would get a bunch of fat alcoholic guys with beer guts in togas. Because that's what *Animal House* is."

— Barbarella

POP Thursdays: *Animal House*
Thursday, August 28
Event begins at 6 p.m.;
film begins at 7 p.m.
Museum of Photographic Arts
1649 El Prado
Balboa Park
Cost: $6
Info: 619-238-7559 or
popthursdays.com

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Calendar
LOCAL EVENTS

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DANCE

Contradance Graham Hempel calls, Ranting Banshee makes music for dance hosted by San Diego Folk Heritage. 619-283-8550. Friday, August 29, 7:30 p.m.; $7. Trinity United Methodist Church, 3030 Thorn Street. (NORTH PARK)

English Country Dancing Sharon Green calls for English country dancing. Steve Maranto on piano, Janet Parish-Whitacker on flute, Rosemary McGuinness on violin. 858-676-9731. Sunday, August 31, 6 p.m.; $8. Jean Hart Academy of Dance, 12227 Poway Road. (POWAY)

Midsummer Night's Dancing Student, professional showcase with dance party to follow. Deejay will play Latin, ballroom selections. Refreshments provided. 619-275-3533. Saturday, August 30, 7 p.m.; $15. Pattie Wells' Dancetime Center, 1255 West Morena Boulevard. (BAY PARK)

Ragtime-Era Tango Learn to lead and follow American ragtime-era tango (beginners: 7:15 p.m., intermediates: 8 p.m.) during Waltz & Such dance class in Casa del Prado room 207. Open request dancing follows until 9:45 p.m. All ages. Partners not required. Donation. 619-583-9956. Friday, August 29, 7:15 p.m.; $1. Casa del Prado, El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Rozmai Ukrainian Dance Ensemble Ukrainian culture, nostalgia, comedy reflected in troupe's high-velocity performance. Children under 10 free. 619-460-5733. Saturday, August 30, 7 p.m.; $25. Salvation Army Kroc Community Center Performing Arts Theatre, 6611 University Avenue. (COLLEGE AREA)

FILM

"Dark Comedy, Twisted Romance" David Lynch, Ari Gold, Isabel Vega featured in sixth annual "alt.pictureshows" short-film showcase. Definitive experiment in "physical channel surfing" conducted as films are shown on nonstop loop. Most films not rated, contain adult content. Free for members. 858-454-3541. Thursday, August 28, 7 p.m.; $5. Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, La Jolla, 700 Prospect Street. (LA JOLLA)

"Toga! Toga! Toga!" POP Thursdays presents *Animal House,* John Landis's cult comedy. Film screened on atrium wall accompanied by music from DJ P. Prez. Dr Sketchy's life drawing group guides visitors in sketching models from Bit o' Burlesque. 619-238-7559. Thursday, August 28, 6 p.m.; $6. Museum of Photographic Arts, 1649 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

OUT & ABOUT

IRON JAWED ANGELS
Museum of Photographic Arts, Saturday, August 30.

(SEE FILM)

High School Musical 2 Bring your blankets, chairs to this family evening. Film features Zac Efron, Ashley Tisdale, Vanessa Hudgens. 858-538-8198. Saturday, August 30, 5 p.m.; Hilltop Park, 9711 Oviedo Street. (MIRA MESA)

Iron Jawed Angels Hillary Swank fights for women's voting rights in this Golden Globe-winning film. Screened in honor of Women's Equality Day. Donation. 619-238-7559. Saturday, August 30, 5 p.m.; Museum of Photographic Arts, 1649 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Paper Moon Screen on the Green outdoor film series continues. The film stars Tatum O'Neal, Ryan O'Neal. Screenings take place on east lawn, near Botanical Building and Casa del Prado. 619-232-7931. Thursday, August 28, 8 p.m.; San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Son of Rambow Young Will is raised in isolation where television and music are forbidden. When he sees his first movie, cult classic *First Blood,* he sets out to make his own epic. Garth Jennings's homage to pop culture will be shown in library's third-floor auditorium. 619-236-5800. Wednesday, September 3, 6:30 p.m.; San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (DOWNTOWN)

Ugly Me The romantic comedy *Pretentiendo,* starring Barbara Mori, screens for Cinema en Tu Idioma series hosted by Media Arts Center. Screenings begin at 10:15 a.m., 12:45 p.m., 3:15 p.m., 5:45 p.m., 8:15 p.m., 10:45 p.m. In Spanish with English subtitles. 619-230-1938. Thursday, August 28, 10:15 a.m.; $7-$9. Mission Valley 7, 7510 Hazard Center Drive. (MISSION VALLEY)

Saps at Sea Tent Laurel and Hardy flicks promised when local chapter of Laurel and Hardy fans gathers. World War II-themed evening. *The Big Noise,* shorts, cartoon will be screened. 619-417-9032. Saturday, August 30, 7 p.m.; $6. Trinity Presbyterian Church, 3902 Kenwood Drive. (SPRING VALLEY)

FOR KIDS

"Puppets on Parade" 60th Anniversary celebration. Festivities include puppet-making workshops for kids, parade, shows. 619-544-9203. Monday, September 1, 11 a.m.; Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theatre, 2130 Pan American Road West. (BALBOA PARK)

Disney's High School Musical This "musical rumble between the brainiacs, the thespians, and the jocks" boasting over 75 young county actors is presented by ACT San Diego. 619-544-1000. Thursday, August 28, 7 p.m.; Friday, August 29, 7 p.m.; Saturday, August 30, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.; Sunday, August 31, 2 p.m.; $12-$21. Lyceum Theatre, 79 Horton Plaza. (DOWNTOWN)

The Elves and the Shoemaker Hardworking shoemaker receives help from funny little elves. Presented by Weaver's Tales. 619-544-9203. Thursday, August 28, 11 a.m.; Friday, August 29, 11 a.m.; Saturday, August 30, 11 a.m.; Sunday, August 31, 11 a.m.; $3–$5. Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theatre, 2130 Pan American Road West. (BALBOA PARK)

You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown White Dog Theatre Company production, through August 31. This summer musical features an adult cast and youth cast. Enjoy production with adult cast on Fridays and Saturdays (7:30 p.m.), Sundays at 2 p.m.; the youth cast takes stage on Thursdays 7:30 p.m., Saturdays 2 p.m., Sundays 6 p.m. Reservations: 760-405-3212. Thursdays, 7:30 p.m.; Fridays, 7:30 p.m.; Saturdays, 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Sundays, 2 p.m. and 6 p.m.; through Sunday, August 31, Theatrx, 155 East Grand Avenue. (ESCONDIDO)

All Aboard! Chula Vista Live Steam Club provides train rides. Donation: 50 cents. Children under 48" must be accompanied by an adult. 619-421-5227. Friday, August 29, 12:30 p.m.; Saturday, August 30, 12:30 p.m.; Sunday, August 31, 12:30 p.m.; Monday, September 1, 12:30 p.m.; Rohr Park, 4548 Sweetwater Road. (BONITA)

Do Lobsters Walk in Their Sleep? Find out during "Asleep in the Deep: Pirates" sleepover event. Educational activities, breakfast. Friday, August 29, 6 p.m., through Saturday, August 30, 8 a.m. Reservations: 858-534-7336. Friday, August 29, 6 p.m.; $60. Ages 6 and up. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)

Garden Story Time Garden-themed story time for preschoolers. 619-660-0614. Tuesday, September 2, 11:30 a.m.; Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West. (CUYAMACA COLLEGE)

Puppet Variety Show Comic ventriloquist Lynn Trimble presents comical characters. Magical spoofs, songs will bring laughter to all. 619-544-9203. Wednesday, September 3, 11 a.m.; $3-$5. Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theatre, 2130 Pan American Road West. (BALBOA PARK)

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IN PERSON

"Gangstas in the Public Library" Author Don Borchert will discuss *Free for All: Oddballs, Geeks, and Gangstas in the Public Library*, his memoir about his career as a librarian in Southern California. 760-753-7376. Saturday, August 30, 1 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.; Encinitas Library, 540 Cornish Drive. (ENCINITAS)

"Poetry Unlimited" Megan Webster, author of *Bi-Polar Express*, will be featured along with writer Linda Hutchison in this special presentation. Open readings will follow. 858-552-1657. Wednesday, September 3, 5 p.m.; La Jolla Library, 7555 Draper Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

This Poem Called My Body Red CalacArts, Calaca Press present chapbook release. Anthology features poems by eight young Latin women. Copies will be available for sale, signing. Donation. 619-920-1713. Saturday, August 30, 7 p.m.; Front, 147 West San Ysidro Boulevard. (SAN YSIDRO)

Comics That Kill Benefit Show John Ceccon, Friendly Frank, Tim Shaw, Suzanne West, Grant Cotter take the stage to benefit Rancho Coastal Humane Society. Donation. 760-230-2038. Saturday, August 30, 8 p.m.; ages 14 and up. E Street Cafe, 128 E Street. (ENCINITAS)

Latin Comedy Night English-language show featuring Latin comedians. 619-231-4343. Friday, August 29, 7 p.m.; $10. Ages 21 and up. 4th & B, 345 B Street. (DOWNTOWN)

Squeaky-Clean Comedy! Matt Agusto, Naveed Mahbub, and Rahim perform for family-friendly show. 858-433-1457. Saturdays, 7 p.m.; $5. Naveed's Comedy Club at Bella Roma Pizza and Restaurant, 6830 La Jolla Boulevard #103. (LA JOLLA)

LECTURES

"Budget Travel 101" Hostelling International leads workshop for independent travel on a budget, including packing tips, cultural awareness, personal safety, more. 760-966-1700. Thursday, August 28, 7 p.m.; Adventure 16 Oceanside, 2002 South Coast Highway 101. (OCEANSIDE)

"Family Worm Composting Workshop" Master composters Whitney Duenez and Laurie Furry will demonstrate how to maintain a worm composting bin and how to use worm casings it produces. Class includes worm activities for children. Registration. 619-660-0614. Sunday, August 31, 1 p.m.; $25–$30. Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West. (CUYAMACA COLLEGE)

"Freelance Writers Boot Camp" Writers Ken Kuhlken, Steven Saint discuss topics including query writing, fiction techniques in nonfiction, article basics. Seminar geared toward nonfiction writers. 719-638-6876. Saturday, August 30, 9 a.m.; $45. Ages 15 and up. Perelandra College, 8250 La Mesa Boulevard. (LA MESA)

"Frontiers in Science" K.C. Nicolaou, Ph.D., will present "Molecules That Changed the World"; Eric Fallon, Ph.D., will present "Biologic Therapeutics: On the Road to Personalized Medicine." Reservation: 858-784-2915. Wednesday, September 3, 5 p.m.; Estancia La Jolla Hotel and Spa, 9700 North Torrey Pines Road. (LA JOLLA)

"Mughal Jade: The Epitome of Perfection" Dr. Stephen Markel, curator of Southeast Asian art for Los Angeles County Museum of Art, will lecture about this unique style of art. 619-232-7931. Thursday, August 28, 1 p.m.; $5-$10. San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

"Parrot Personalities" Parrot Education and Adoption Center seminar in room D-6 at 1 p.m.; followed by exploration of "African Grays" at 2:45 p.m. Reservations: 619-287-8200. Sunday, August 31, 1 p.m.; $5-$15. Marina Village Conference Center, 1936 Quivira Way. (PACIFIC BEACH)

"Stronger, Higher, Faster" Pharmacology, physiology, technology are examined in a discussion of human performance. Reservations: 858-822-2647. Wednesday, September 3, 5:30 p.m.; Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, 1875 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

"Trees in the Water Conserving Landscape" Certified arborist Leah Rottke will lead in-depth discussion about trees. Topics include trees adapted to our climate, tree selection, watering new trees, more. Garden tour included. Registration. 619-660-0614. Saturday, August 30, 10 a.m.; $15-$20. Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West. (CUYAMACA COLLEGE)

"When Disaster Strikes: Wildfires 2007" Carlsbad Fire Chief Crawford and disaster preparedness team from Scripps Encinitas offer "look into the 2007 wildfires and lessons learned." Expect information on how to prepare for future disasters and this year's fire season. 800-727-4777. Thursday, August 28, 4 p.m.; Lomas Santa Fe Country Club, 1505 Lomas Santa Fe Drive. (SOLANA BEACH)

"Women Helping Women Among the Trials of Rural Enterprise in Kenya" Philip Leakey (youngest son of paleoanthropologists Drs. Louis and Mary Leakey) and his wife, Katy Leakey, live among Maasai in the Kenyan bush. Duo plans lecture and discussion on project they developed utilizing "the excellent beading abilities of the Maasai women" using grass as primary element. Event includes demonstration of grass beads, which will also be for sale. 858-454-0347. Thursday, August 28, 7:30 p.m.; Warwick's Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Employment Law Free legal consultation and discussion will be provided by volunteer lawyers. Topics to include hourly wage, overtime pay, discrimination. 619-424-6981. Wednesday, September 3, 2 p.m.; Imperial Beach Library, 810 Imperial Beach Blvd. (IMPERIAL BEACH)

Gallery Talk Artists Kristine Dickman, Karen Schaffman will discuss "United and Severed." Light reception to follow. 760-839-4120. Wednesday, September 3, 2 p.m.; California Center for the Arts, Escondido, 340 North Escondido Boulevard. (ESCONDIDO)

Poetry Workshop City Heights poet Jim Moreno leads "Eye of the Thunderbird: Writing in Community" workshop for beginning to practiced poets. *Zapatistas* will be screened. 619-285-9737. Saturday, August 30, 3 p.m.; $2-$5. Urban Performing Arts and Creative Arts Center, 6875 El Cajon Boulevard. (COLLEGE AREA)

Rose Care Mia discusses California's long rose season, gives tips on ways to ensure "a great fall bloom." 858-792-8640. Saturday, August 30, 10 a.m.; Cedros Gardens, 330 South Cedros Avenue. (SOLANA BEACH)

OUT & ABOUT

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TUESDAY-THURSDAY

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Tomato Guru Shares Wisdom
Steve Goto discusses tomatoes, gives advice on cool season planting. Tasting of various locally grown samples included. 760-745-8736. Saturday, August 30, noon; El Plantio Nursery, 1322 San Pasqual Valley Road. (ESCONDIDO)

OUTDOORS

Warm Water Temperatures, into the 70s Fahrenheit over the past couple of months, won't last much longer. As fall approaches, shorter days and increasingly oblique solar radiation will mean that less and less energy will be supplied to the ocean waters offshore. These waters will soon be shedding more thermal energy than they receive, thereby keeping the coastal area comfortably balmy for several weeks after the end of the summer-vacation season. Don't give up on the beach after Labor Day — the water's only a bit cooler, and the beaches are relatively uncrowded.

A Series of Low Tides late this month, associated with the new moon, are predicted for 2:26 a.m. on Thursday, August 28 (-0.9 feet); 3:02 a.m. on Friday, August 29 (-0.9 feet); and 3:34 a.m. on Saturday, August 30 (-0.8 feet). In mid-October of this year, minus tides will begin occurring during afternoon periods, a far more convenient time for exploring tidepools than the current wee-hour extreme low tides.

A Series of Diminishing High Tides, starting Thursday evening, August 28, will set the stage for possible "grunion runs" early next week, particularly at or after midnight on Monday and Tuesday. The small, silvery grunion tend to spawn on wide, gently sloping beaches such as Silver Strand, Mission Beach, Pacific Beach, La Jolla Shores, and Del Mar. California law allows the taking of grunion in summer (except in those areas classified as ecological preserves) by those possessing a state fishing license. The grunion must be caught by the hands only, and should be eaten (not wasted).

The Planet Venus, visible in the past month with some difficulty due to its low position in the west at dusk, finally attains a position of prominence as an "evening star" in September. By early October, Venus sets about two hours after the sun does. By the end of the year and into January, Venus will set some three hours after the sun goes down. Venus is so conspicuous during the peak of its evening-star phase that it has been "identified" many times as a hovering "UFO" by those not familiar with its striking brilliance in a clear sky.

ROAM-O-RAMA

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

A splendid sense of isolation pervades the upper reaches of Solstice Canyon — thanks to the preservation of thousands of acres of land that have been incorporated into the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. This brushy and dry country may look a bit unfriendly under harsh midday sunshine, but it's really quite intriguing when soft morning or evening shadows drape the hillsides and hollows.

Ideally you would start this loop hike in the late afternoon and go clockwise to take advantage of evening shadows while climbing through the canyon below. If you can leave about two hours before sunset, you'll hit the high point at Castro Crest by sundown. The distant lights of Los Angeles will be in view by the time you arrive back at your car.

Wild morning glories, Solstice Canyon

To reach the trailhead parking area, a staging area for the Backbone Trail, drive 5.5 miles north from Highway 1 (Pacific Coast Highway) on Corral Canyon Road. From the west edge of the parking lot, follow on foot the Backbone Trail, which switchbacks downward along the rim of a bowl drained by several upper tributaries of Solstice Canyon. Mostly, the trail makes use of old roads but some of it is newer trail tread. After about a mile of indecisive descent, you join a ravine bottom and then descend decisively to the main tributary of Solstice Canyon (1.3 miles). Turn sharply right and walk up-canyon 200 yards to a small meadow filled with dry grasses this time of year. Ahead, you're going to face a gain of about 900 feet of elevation, so take a generous pull or two from your water bottle.

Onward from the meadow, the trail passes under the fire-scarred limbs of live oaks. Then, as the oaks thin, you start climbing out of the canyon bottom. After rounding some switchbacks, you come up to Newton Road (2.8 miles), a dirt road crossing a saddle south of, and well below, Castro Peak. The Backbone Trail contours west toward Latigo Canyon Road at this point, but you go uphill on Newton Road, traversing Castro Peak's south slope.

When you reach the top of the grade (atop Castro Peak's east ridge), walk east about 50 yards on a side path to the top of a barren knoll. On clear days, the view encompasses almost the entire coastline from Ventura County to Palos Verdes. At least four of the Channel Islands can be seen poking out of the sea offshore. Near the winter solstice, the sun sinks to an ocean horizon as seen from here. Because the California coastline trends east-west in this area, the sun sets over land during most of the year.

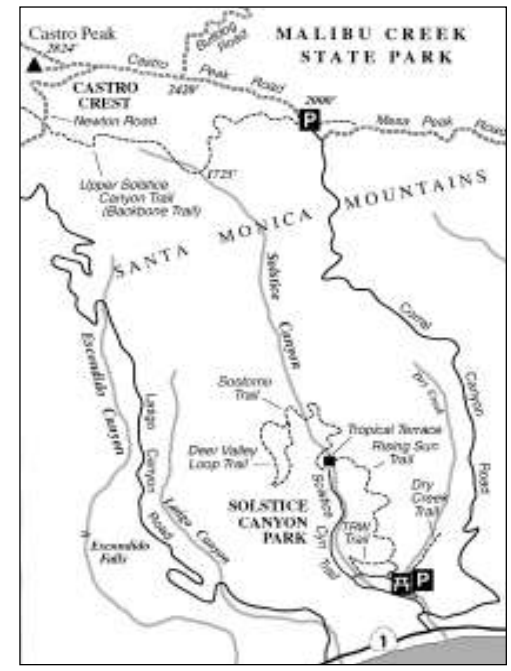
Just past the knoll you'll hook up with Castro Peak Road (3.6 miles). Turn right and let gravity repay you for your previous efforts. Within a half hour your car in the parking lot should be in view.

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

UPPER SOLSTICE CANYON

From upper Solstice Canyon climb to Castro Crest, a high point in the Santa Monica Mountains.

Distance from downtown San Diego: 155 miles
Length: 5 miles
Difficulty: Moderately strenuous



"Having Fun on the Trails" Explore flora, fauna, scenery of Daley Ranch with Carol Stanford. East side trails will be covered including Creek Crossing, Sage. 760-839-4680. Sunday, August 31, 3 p.m.; Daley Ranch, 3024 La Honda Drive. (ESCONDIDO)

"Tour of the Ponds" Katya McLane leads moderately strenuous hike touring ponds around Daley Ranch. Hike covers about four miles. 760-839-4680. Saturday, August 30, 9 a.m.; Daley Ranch, 3024 La Honda Drive. (ESCONDIDO)

Basic Birding Tom Troy leads basic birding program with emphasis on identifying birds by sight and sound and using binoculars, spotting scopes, field guides. Directions: 760-967-6915. Saturday, August 30, 8:30 a.m.; Buena Vista Audubon Society Nature Center, 2202 South Coast Highway. (CARLSBAD)

Birding the Marsh Guided birdwatching hikes around Sweetwater Marsh National Wildlife Refuge. 619-409-5900. Sunday, August 31, 11 a.m.; Chula Vista Nature Center, 1000 Gunpowder Point Drive. (CHULA VISTA)

MTRP Rocks! 100-million-year-old plutonic igneous, volcanics, and sedimentary rocks pointed out during guided walks. 619-668-3281. Saturday, August 30, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday, August 31, 9:30 a.m.; Wednesday, September 3, 9:30 a.m.; Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Tour del Día Offshoot Tours offers an hour-long guided stroll highlighting the Park Palisades area of Balboa Park. 619-235-1122. Saturday, August 30, 10 a.m.; Balboa Park Visitors' Center, 1549 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Trail Repair Work Head to Paso Picacho campground in Cuyamaca Rancho State Park with work shoes, gloves, hat, water, snack. Registration: 619-669-1697. Saturday, August 30, 8 a.m.; Paso Picacho campground, Cuyamaca Rancho State Park, Highway 79, five miles north of I-8. (JULIAN)

SOUTH OF THE BORDER

"Los Niños del Caucaso" Music, dancing from Caucasian region. Performances scheduled for 7 p.m., 9:30 p.m. 011-52-664-687-9636. Tuesday, September 2, 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.; Centro Cultural Tijuana, Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street. (BAJA)

"Photosintesis" Photography show featuring Lúmina, Clickaphoto. 011-52-664-687-9636. Friday, August 29, 7 p.m.; Centro Cultural Tijuana, Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street. (BAJA)

"Volver a lo Basico" Jaime Jarmillo lectures. 011-52-664631-1462. Friday, August 29, 7 p.m.;

$20. Tijuana Country Club, Boulevard Agua Caliente. (BAJA)

Memorias de una Infamia Reception for Lydia Cacho's new book. 011-52-664-687-9636. Thursday, August 28, 7 p.m.; Centro Cultural Tijuana, Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street. (BAJA)

Todo Mexico Play by José Alfredo Jiménez, music by Orchestra of Baja California. 011-52-664-687-9636. Thursday, August 28, 8 p.m.; $25-$35. Centro Cultural Tijuana, Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street. (BAJA)

Javier Bátiz, Baby Bátiz, and Friends In concert. 011-52-664-687-2604. Saturday, August 30, 7:30 p.m.; $20. Casa de la Cultura de Tijuana, Avenida París #5, in Colonia Altamira. (BAJA)

Motel In concert. 619-734-2333. Saturday, August 30, 9 p.m.; El Foro, Seventh and Avenida Revolución, downtown. (BAJA)

Tijuana Tattoo Expo Artists from countries including Holland, Mexico, France will be featured at this year's expo. Master Horiwaka will discuss Japanese tattoo technique. Boog will host Flash Design seminar. Tattoo contests, live entertainment. 1-888-775-2417. Saturday, August 30, noon; $6. Grand Hotel Tijuana, Boulevard Agua Caliente 4500. (BAJA)

SPECIAL

"From Acoustic to Electric" Violinist Antonio Pontarelli performs. "Outstanding Young Rock Musician" winner showcases evolution of acoustic to electric music accompanied by guitar, piano. Educational demonstration, workshop accompany concert. 760-438-5996. Saturday, August 30, 5 p.m.; $7-$15. Museum of Making Music, 5790 Armada Drive. (CARLSBAD)

"Leucadiart" Art walk features one mile of Highway 101 filled with local talent. Art demonstrations, kids' activities, raffle. Shuttles available in designated areas. Live entertainment including music, dance performances. Sunday, August 31, 10 a.m.; Leucadia Roadside Park, Leucadia Boulevard and North Coast Hwy. 101. (LEUCADIA)

"Nature's Gifts" Exhibition of fine art by local artists Elaine Davis and Dixie Sampier includes discussion of their work by the artists on Saturday, August 23, 1-3 p.m. Exhibit continues through Friday, September 12 in Mission Trails Regional Park Art Gallery. 619-668-3280. Thursdays, 9 a.m.; Fridays, 9 a.m.; Saturdays, 9 a.m.; Sundays, 9 a.m.; Mondays, 9 a.m.; Tuesdays, 9 a.m.; Wednesdays, 9 a.m.; through Friday, September 12, Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

"One Night Only" Community Work Experience hosts multimedia show. Artists and musicians featured include N.O.M.A.D., Mike Knife, Meagan Palmer, Sand Like Snow, Dolphin Brain, more. 760-219-4346. Sunday, August 31, 7 p.m.; $2. The Kava Lounge, 2812 Kettner Boulevard. (LITTLE ITALY)

"T Buckets Galore" Cajon Classic Cruise nights continue. Cruise nights offered on Wednesdays through September 24. 619-401-8858. Wednesday, September 3, 5 p.m.; Prescott Promenade, 211 1/2 East Main Street. (EL CAJON)

"Who Signed That? Signed and Inscribed Books" Rare book exhibit in Wangenheim Room showcases over 100 signed and inscribed books by various authors, book artists, illustrators, publishers, people associated with literary world. Among the famous: Samuel Clemens, Jack London and his wife Charmian London, Ray Bradbury, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Herbert C. Hoover. 619-236-5807. Thursdays, 1:30 p.m.; Fridays, 1:30 p.m.; Saturdays, 1:30 p.m.; Mondays, 1:30 p.m.; Tuesdays, 1:30 p.m.; through Tuesday, September 2, San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (DOWNTOWN)

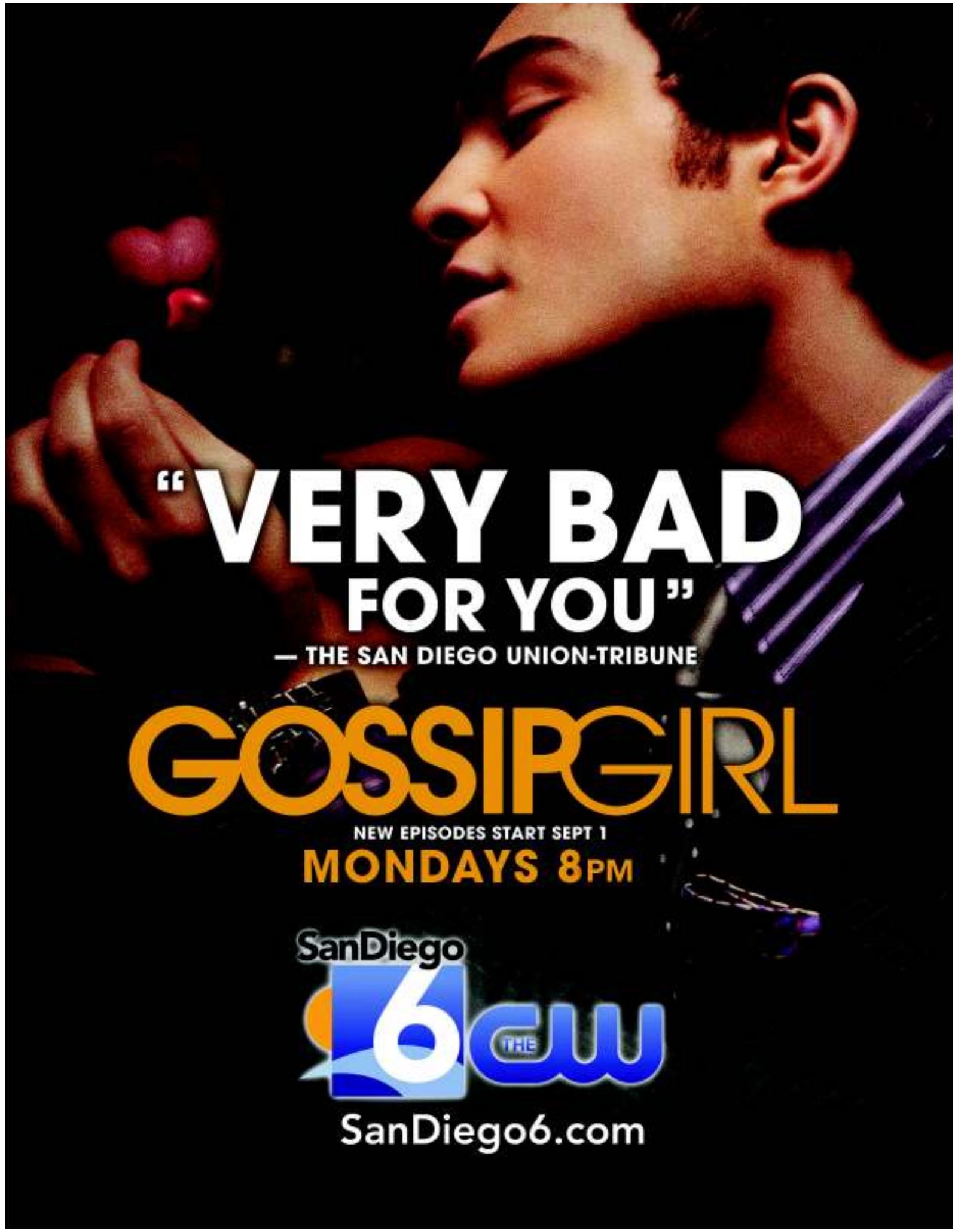
25th Anniversary Ride Secret Society Scooter Club's San Diego chapter takes celebratory ride through San Diego. The Casbah hosts post-ride party at 7:30 p.m. with food from Luche Libre, 94.9 deejay Tim Pyles, live music. 619-298-3532. Sunday, August 31, 4 p.m.; ages 21 and up. Gelato Vero Caffé, 3753 India Street. (MISSION HILLS)

Backyard Habitat Day Educational all-day event covering backyard maintenance, helping injured wildlife, water conservation, more. Standard admission rates apply. 619-409-5900. Saturday, August 30, 10 a.m.; $3-$6. Chula Vista Nature Center, 1000 Gunpowder Point Drive. (CHULA VISTA)

Big Ray's Classic Car and Cycle Show San Diego Auto Swap features classics, hot rods, cycles, high-performance vehicles on display (in conjunction with Kobey's Swap Meet). Vehicles on display and for sale, along with "acres of parts and accessories." 858-484-9342. Sunday, August 31, 7 a.m.; San Diego Sports Arena, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard. (POINT LOMA)

Etch-A-Sketch! August exhibit in Geisel Library (lower level, west wing) focuses on this 1960s toy. Stop by UCSD Arts Library to borrow an Etch-A-Sketch; create a sketch on the toy and it will be placed in exhibit case. Visit throughout August to see ever-changing gallery of sketches. 858-822-5758. Thursdays, 8 a.m.; Fridays, 8 a.m.; Saturdays, 8 a.m.; Sundays, 8 a.m.; through Sunday, August 31, UCSD Arts Library, Geisel Library, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Garden Party New South Bay Garden opens with festivities in-



cluding eco-booths, garden walks, lectures. Local plant societies, garden clubs will be present. Family-focused occasion. 619-421-6700 x5371. Saturday, August 30, 9 a.m.; Southwestern College, 900 Otay Lakes Road. (SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE)

Grand Summer Festival Street festival will feature muscle cars, food from Old California Restaurant Row, kid's area. Peruse goods from over 300 vendors. 760-945-9288. Sunday, August 31, 9 a.m.; San Marcos, Via Vera Cruz at San Marcos Boulevard. (SAN MARCOS)

House of Ukraine Lawn program promises ethnic music, costumes, and dance. 619-234-0739. Sunday, August 31, 3 p.m.; House of Pacific Relations, 2125 Park Boulevard. (BALBOA PARK)

Sake Tasting Blue Lotus hosts introduction to Japan's alluring drink. 619-260-0033. Wednesday, September 3, 6 p.m.; $18. Ages 21 and up. Parallel 33, 741 West Washington Street. (MISSION HILLS)

San Diego Hi-Performance Expo San Diego Auto Swap Presents car show featuring vendors, racing. Buy, sell, swap, or trade. Active military with ID, children under 13 free. Registration required for vendors and exhibitors. 858-484-9342. Monday, September 1, 7 a.m.; $10. Qualcomm Stadium, 9449 Friars Road. (MISSION VALLEY)

San Diego Quilt Show Hundreds of quilts on display. Quilt sales booth, special exhibits, vendors, cloth doll display, quilting bee, wearable art, charity raffle. Featured artist Mickey Lawler. Children 4-10 $5.00, 3 and under free. 619-443-2706. Thursday, August 28, 10 a.m.; Friday, August 29, 10 a.m.; Saturday, August 30, 10 a.m.; $8-$12. San Diego Convention Center, 111 West Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN)

San Diego Rare Fruit Growers' Sale Find the rare fruit and expert growers in Casa del Prado room 101. 619-232-8232. Saturday, August 30, noon; Sunday, August 31, 10 a.m.; Casa del Prado, El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Scrapbook Expo Learn newest techniques, enter contests, see newest scrapping tools. Special Crop Nights last until 11:30 p.m. both days. 888-252-EXPO. Friday, August 29, 10 a.m.; Saturday, August 30, 9 a.m.; $8. San Diego Convention Center, 111 West Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN)

Sight and Sound Walk the Walk presents its next preview night boasting range of performances, giveaways from Street Scene, House of Blues. 619-846-7180. Thursday, August 28, 7:30 p.m.; $5-$7. Ages 21 and up. The Kava Lounge, 2812 Kettner Boulevard. (LITTLE ITALY)

Tower After Hours Museum of Man celebrates Germany with this pre-Oktoberfest event. German cuisine, art, culture will be featured. Live entertainment showcased. 619-239-2001. Thursday, August 28, 6 p.m.; $5-$20. San Diego Museum of Man, 1350 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Triple Crown of Polo Trophy Crafted using age-old Tiffany & Co. craftsmanship, this 75-pound, 24-inch-tall trophy will be on display through September 30. 619-297-7200. Thursday, August 28, 10 a.m.; Tiffany & Co., 7007 Friars Rd # 420727. (MISSION VALLEY)

Wiener Nationals Enter your dog or cheer on competitors in 12th annual Wienerschnitzel Wiener Nationals! All dachshund owners welcome to participate for $10 fee. Registration 8:30 a.m. 619-283-5808. Saturday, August 30, 9:30 a.m.; Qualcomm Stadium, 9449 Friars Road. (MISSION VALLEY)

OUT & ABOUT

BASIC BIRDING, BUENA VISTA LAGOON
Saturday, August 30.

(SEE OUTDOORS)

SPORTS

"San Diego Sights and Sites" Bike historic Old Town, surrounding area. 619-787-7427. Saturday, August 30, 9 a.m.; Old Town Transit Center, 4005 Taylor Street. (OLD TOWN)

Cruise Pacific Coast Highway "Cruise for a Cause" charity bike ride benefiting Voices for Children. Ride begins in Oceanside, ends in Carlsbad. Hensley's Bar & Grill hosts post-ride raffle. Donation. 760-533-5644. Saturday, August 30, 10 a.m.; $5. Oceanside Transit Center Parking Lot, 290 Seagaze Drive. (OCEANSIDE)

Group Ride Bike through Mission Beach, La Jolla on 38-mile route. Meet in south parking lot. 619-647-3212. Tuesday, September 2, 9:15 a.m.; Mission Bay Visitors' Center, East Mission Bay Drive and Clairemont Drive. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Inline Skate Race Stop by to watch or compete in Rockin' Summer Classic Inline Skate Race 2008. Race held on 333-meter banked cycling track. Free for spectators, $32 competition fee. 206-984-0268. Saturday, August 30, 9 a.m.; San Diego Velodrome, 2221 Morley Field Drive. (BALBOA PARK)

Jockey Photo Day Celebrate Labor Day by having your picture taken with your favorite jockey. Held in Plaza de Mexico. 858-755-1141. Monday, September 1, noon; $6-$10. Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

Labor Day Arena Tournament San Diego Polo Club action promised. Preliminary matches at 1:30 p.m., feature match at 3 p.m. Parking: $5. 858-750-6841. Monday, September 1, 1:30 p.m.; $10-$25. San Diego Polo Club, 14555 El Camino Real. (RANCHO SANTA FE)

Nearing the Home Stretch! Del Mar Thoroughbred Club meet continues through September 3.

Racing slated every day except Tuesday. Post time is 2 p.m. except Four O'Clock Fridays (August 29 at 3:30 p.m.). Parking: $8. 858-755-1141, 858-793-5533. Thursdays, 2 p.m.; Fridays, 3:30 p.m.; Saturdays, 2 p.m.; Sundays, 2 p.m.; Mondays, 2 p.m.; Wednesdays, 2 p.m.; through Wednesday, September 3, $6-$15. Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

Paddock Party Racetrack's closing-day party. Season's leading owner, trainer, jockey honored. Food, beverages, live entertainment. 858-755-1141. Wednesday, September 3, 4 p.m.; $6-$15. Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

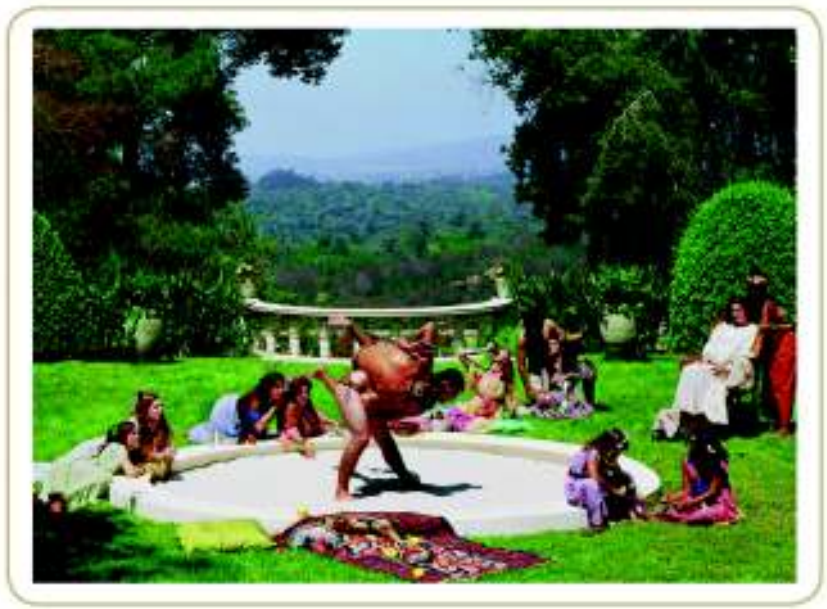
Padres Baseball Padres host Colorado Rockies in Petco Park. Games broadcast on radio station XPRS (1090 AM), XEMO (860 AM) in Spanish. Tickets: 619-795-5000, 877-374-2784. Friday, August 29, 7:05 p.m.; Saturday, August 30, 12:55 p.m.; Sunday, August 31, 1:05 p.m.; $8-$57. Petco Park, 100 Park Boulevard. (DOWNTOWN)

Pier Swim Participate in 79th Annual Labor Day Swim. Beach races, awards, raffle. 760-435-1031. Monday, September 1, 5 a.m.; Oceanside Pier, Mission Ave and Pacific St. (OCEANSIDE)

Snorkel with Sharks! Adventures among harmless leopard sharks and smooth hound sharks during outing hosted by Birch Aquarium-Museum. Reservations: 858-534-7336. Sunday, August 31, 8 a.m.; $30. Ages 10 and up. La Jolla Shores, 8200 Camino del Oro. (LA JOLLA)

Spreckels Cup Tournament Finals Preliminary matches at 1:30 p.m., feature match at 3 p.m. Parking: $5. 858-750-6841. Sunday, August 31, 1:30 p.m.; $10-$25. San

ELEANOR ANTIN
HISTORICAL TAKES



Through November 2, 2008

Travel back in time to ancient Rome and Greece through local artist Eleanor Antin's latest series of large-scale, color photographs. Each is an affectionate spoof on classical mythology and history that holds a witty message about contemporary society.

SDMA SAN DIEGO MUSEUM OF ART
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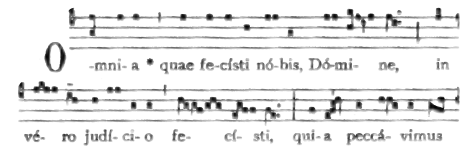
IMAGE: Eleanor Antin, *A Hot Afternoon* (detail), from *The Last Days of Pompeii* series, chromogenic print, 2001. Courtesy of Ronald Feldman Fine Arts, New York.

Eleanor Antin: Historical Takes is organized by the San Diego Museum of Art and made possible by the generosity of Pam and Jerry Cook. Sharon and Joel Lubovitz, Gordon Brodfuehrer, Ronald Feldman Fine Arts, SDMA's Artists Guild, Supervisor Pam Slater-Price and the County of San Diego, and an anonymous donor. Additional support is provided by the City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture, the County of San Diego Community Enhancement Program, and members of the San Diego Museum of Art.

Gregorian Chant Mass



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

Sunday, Sept. 14, 4:00 pm

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

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JOB and RESOURCE FAIR

Thursday, September 11, 2008
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Scottish Rite Center
1895 Camino Del Rio South
San Diego, CA 92108
(619)-266-4283

In partnership with the Employment Development Department, California Community Colleges, California Department of Veteran Affairs, California Labor and Workforce Development Agency, Department of Industrial Relations-Apprenticeship Standards, Veterans Employment Committee of San Diego County, San Diego Workforce Partnership, and various federal, state, local and private organizations within San Diego County.

GA 895 D

Holland America Alaska Show

Friday, September 5 • 6:30 pm
Scottish Rite Center
1895 Camino Del Rio South, Mission Valley

Saturday, September 6 • 11 am
California Center for the Arts
1 Civic Center Dr., San Marcos, CA 92065

Looking for a night out? Come engage yourself in the splendor of Alaska. AAA and Holland America are hosting this event designed to provide our members with all the information you need to know about planning your next vacation to this remarkable land.

Call one of your local AAA offices to reserve your space for this event:

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Del Mar
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(858) 794-3370

Encinitas
499 North El Camino Real
(760) 635 4070

Escondido
800 La Terraza Boulevard
(760) 740-5295

Grossmont
8765 Fletcher Parkway
(619) 644-5170

Oceanside
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(760) 930-7570

Poway/Sabre Springs
12630 Sabre Springs Pkwy
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BY SONIA ELIOT

What's That You're Reading?

NAME: MORGAN MEDRANO | **AGE:** 24 | **OCCUPATION:** NAVY
NEIGHBORHOOD: USS *NIMITZ* | **WHERE INTERVIEWED:** LESTAT'S COFFEEHOUSE, NORMAL HEIGHTS

What are you reading?

"*Guitar: Music History Players* by Richard Chapman. It's a history of guitar players and of the guitar itself. It goes through every type of musical genre you might hear a guitar in — blues, country, rock. It's got full bios on the guitar players. It gives you an idea of what made them them, what inspired them, what instruments they used."

What are your favorite parts?

"Always about one person — David Gilmour of Pink Floyd. I always want to know what makes him him — there are all these different takes on him. This is the first book that actually told me what his style was — he plays Progressive Blues Rock."

Have you read anything else lately?

"I just picked up *The Complete Works of the Brothers Grimm*. It's nice to see how the stories were originally written, before Disney and everyone else had their own kind of happy, cheery ways with them. For instance, *Sleeping Beauty* — the story is only two or three pages long. They get to the point and don't waste time with a lot of filler. Basically, in the Brothers Grimm version, a woman got mad and cursed the princess by making her and the entire kingdom fall asleep for 100 years. And then a lot of guys died trying to get through the thorn bushes to break the curse. The Grimms actually say that the guys died."

What book or work has been the most life-changing for you?

"Music, and the lyrics of music, have always been inspiring for me. I think I'd say 'Comfortably Numb' by Pink Floyd. It's from 1979, a very classic song; the lyrics are emotionally moving. When I listen, there's this passion. The band is progressive, a living entity — the lyrics get better as they go."

Do you have a favorite author?

"I like the authors of the classics. As a kid, I had instilled in me the idea that you must know the past because if you don't, you can't have a changed future. I like Tolkien's work, but it's very short-lived. Shakespeare's stories have a timelessness — if you reword them with common terminology, the stories still make sense and are still enjoyable. I'm more into his darker stuff. But for my favorite, I'd probably go with Edgar Allen Poe. He's poetic; there are so many sides to his work — it's not all depressing, the way some people think it is."

Do you read any magazines or newspapers?

"I read the basic area paper; it varies depending on where I'm at. I also go through the *Reader* and a lot of common magazines, the ones they lay out at stores or venues."

How many articles do you read through to the end?

"I read about a quarter of the articles to the end, and about half of them most of the way through."

Do you talk to your friends about reading?

"There are a few who read on the boat. In my group, I'm one of the lesser bookworms. I'm selective about what I read. I can't just get into anything. If I talk about a book, I like to go into details and really critique it, talking about what was done right and what was done wrong; what details were left out and what stuff didn't need to be included in the first place."

To get an online version of this column, go to sdreader.com. *You can print it, email it to friends, and get other columns on the same subject.*

Diego Polo Club, 14555 El Camino Real. (RANCHO SANTA FE)

Stickball Tournament Teams from New York, New Jersey, Florida, Puerto Rico will compete with local teams in 10th annual tournament. 619-917-8637. Saturday, August 30, 8:30 a.m.; Sunday, August 31, 8:30 a.m.; Monday, September 1, 8:30 a.m.; Little Italy. (LITTLE ITALY)

To the Lighthouse Join San Diego Bicycle Touring Society riders for jaunt from J Street boat launch parking lot (I-5 to J Street). Bicyclists will take Coronado ferry (bring money for fare) on this flat 47-miler and hit Point Loma lighthouse. 619-562-2882. Saturday, August 30, 8:45 a.m.; J Street Marina Park, J Street off I-5. (CHULA VISTA)

Triple Crown of Polo Match 14-16 (open). Preliminary matches at 1:30 p.m., feature match at 3 p.m. Parking: $5. 858-750-6841. Sunday, August 31, 1:30 p.m.; $10-$25. San Diego Polo Club, 14555 El Camino Real. (RANCHO SANTA FE)

Uphill Ride San Diego Bicycle Touring Society riders head out for 75-mile ride from La Jolla to Ramona. 619-473-8513. Sunday, August 31, 8:45 a.m.; Doyle Park, 8175 Regents Road. (UNIVERSITY CITY)

Velocity Summer Series 2008 These paintball events are "tailored strictly for beginner players," with five divisions of competition. Sign-ups: 7 a.m.; captains' meeting: 7:30 a.m.; play begins at 8 a.m. 619-871-8504. Saturday, August 30, 8 a.m.; Velocity Paintball Park, 1350 Warnock Drive. (RAMONA)

MUSEUMS

Bonita Museum and Cultural Center 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*. 619-267-5141. 4355 Bonita Road, 619-267-5141. (BONITA)

Campo Railroad Museum 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 offered each weekend (11 a.m., 2:30 p.m.) over portion of the San Diego and Arizona Eastern Railway. 31123-1/2 Highway 94, 619-465-7776. (INLAND BORDER TOWNS)

Chinese Historical Society and Museum From 1600s until early 20th Century, it was a common social custom in China for friends to exchange tiny spoonfuls of snuff tobacco from each other's bottles when meeting; snuff bottles were an essential accoutrement to upper-class lifestyle. Bottles were made from various materials including carved stone, jade, ivory, metal, porcelain, cloisonné, glass. "Snuff Bottles: A Hidden Chinese Art" showcases 42 19th- and early 20th-Century snuff bottles collected by Peg Evans between 1937 and 1939 in China. Some modern pieces will also be on display. Closes Tuesday, September 30.

See artifacts from San Diego's Chinese and Chinese-American history, culture, and art. Current museum artifacts include a 1920s warlord's bed, exhibits on Chinese footbinding and Chinese-American veterans. The museum is in a building originally built in 1927 for the Chinese Mission. Adjacent to the building is an Asian garden with koi pond and waterfall. 404 Third Avenue, 619-338-9888. (DOWNTOWN)

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. 360 Third Avenue, 619-427-8092. (CHULA VISTA)

Creation Museum A museum contrasting the evolution and creation world views. 10946 Woodside Avenue North, 619-448-0900. (SANTEE)

Gemological Institute of America Museum Permanent exhibits include displays depicting science and art of gemstones and history, lore and cultural significance of jewelry. Reservations are required. 5345 Armada Drive, 800-421-7250. (CARLSBAD)

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

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. 2125 Park Boulevard, 619-234-0739. (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." 4233 Park Boulevard, 619-296-3112. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

Leo Carrillo Ranch Historic Park 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.). 6200 Flying Leo Carrillo 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

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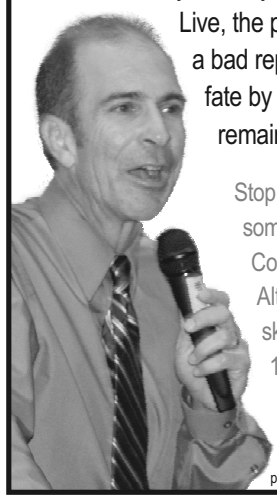

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inside Gate 4, off Pacific Highway. Witherby Street and Hancock Street, 619-524-6038. (DOWNTOWN)

Marston House Museum 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. 3525 Seventh Avenue, 619-298-3142. (HILLCREST)

Museum of San Diego History "Place of Promise: Stories of San Diego" lets visitors "literally walk on San Diego"; a map of county extends from wall to wall across the floor. Also featured in ongoing exhibit are two large 1930s murals by artist Charles Reiffel and a 1910 San Diego streetcar. Stories of San Diego are interpreted through images, artifacts, oral histories from society's collection. The museum is located in the Casa de Balboa building. 1649 El Prado, 619-232-6203. (BALBOA PARK)

New Americans Museum in NTC Promenade Opening exhibitions include Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service's "Becoming American: Teenagers and Immigration, Photographs by Barbara Beirne." Exhibit features black-and-white photo "interviews" by Beirne, who traveled through San Diego and U.S. capturing teenagers' responses to immigrant experience. Also on view: "A Contemporary Story: Perspectives by Immigrant and Refugee Artists," a collaboration between New Americans Museum and the AJA Project, a local organization empowering refugee youth to use photography and other media to share their stories. 2825 Dewey Road, Suite 102, 619-255-8908. (POINT LOMA)

OUT & ABOUT

INLINE SKATE RACE
Watch or compete, San Diego Velodrome, Saturday, August 30.

(SEE SPORTS)

Parsonage Museum of Lemon Grove "The Sonka Brothers General Store" is recreation of store said to have "kick-started the post-agricultural economy of Lemon Grove." Exhibit includes post office, array of domestic and farm artifacts, photographs, furnishings.

"Domestic Life in Lemon Grove: 1915" showcases furnishings, clothing, and artifacts from Lemon Grove ranches and homes, along with photographs of early residents and historic buildings. "The Parson's Study" is a permanent Arts and Crafts installation with rolltop desk, 155 English organ, an Edison Amberola, and library of cylindrical recordings. 3185 Olive Street, 619-460-4353. (LEMON GROVE)

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center "Tinkering" features more than 20 hands-on exhibits bringing out "your inner inventor" with pulleys, computer circuits, turntables, wind tunnels, more. In the "Tinkering Studio," kids transform household items into catapults, robots, spectroscopes, more. Closes June 7, 2009.

Ongoing exhibitions include "Origins in Space: Spin-Offs in Science and Technology," "So WATT! An Illuminating Look at Energy," "Aging for All Ages," "Kid City" (for preschoolers), "TryScience!" "Escape from Dino Island" is theme for motion simulator ride. Films are shown daily in the IMAX theater. 1875 El Prado, 619-238-1233. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Air and Space Museum "Star Trek: The Exhibition" is said to contain "the

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LOCAL EVENTS

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(SEE SPECIALS)

world's most comprehensive collection of authentic *Star Trek* ships, re-creations, sets, costumes, and props" from five television series and ten films created for more than 40 years. Sit on a re-creation of the original USS *Enterprise* bridge, enjoy a motion simulator.

Technological advancements made in aircraft propulsion over the last century are showcased in "100 Years of Aircraft Engines," including a functional reproduction of the 1903 Wright Flyer Engine; a Rolls-Royce liquid-cooled Merlin V-12 that powered the Spitfire and P-51 Mustang fighters; and a rare German Junkers Jumo 004, one of the world's first operational jet engines.

Concurrently, see "The History of Commercial Aviation in America." A new section of the exhibit celebrates the 40-year history of PSA, with original graphics, a re-creation of the airline's first ticket booth at Lindbergh Field, and uniforms and memorabilia donated by former employees. Ongoing.

"P-51 Mustang" celebrates the legendary Air Force fighter used during both World War II and Korea. The museum's Mustang is painted in the red-tail livery of the Tuskegee Airmen, who distinguished themselves flying bomber escort and ground-attack missions during World War II.

The museum offers exhibits of over 65 aircraft — including an RQ-1K Predator UAV (unmanned aerial vehicle) on indefinite loan from the National Museum of the United States Air Force at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, which "saw action over the Balkans in the late 1990s"; a replica of *Spirit of St. Louis,* a Fokker Scourge (or Fokker Eindecker E-III), a World War I Spad VII, flight deck of the USS *Yorktown,* and a Lockheed Blackbird spy plane — 1400 scale models, 10,000 aviation-related items, and memorabilia from Montgolfier hot-air-balloon era to Space Age, along with an International Aerospace Hall of Fame.

The museum is located in the Ford Building in the Palisades area. 2001 Pan American Plaza, 619-234-8291. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Archaeological Center "What Is Archaeology?" exhibit provides basics of archaeology in San Diego region from 9000 years ago to present day. Artifacts from center's collections provide look at past for young and old alike. Treasure hunt activity "archaeology quest" for kids, artifact matching game, hands-on crafts and research station. Closes Tuesday, July 21, 2009.

Center hosts monthly archaeological-themed lectures, workshops, and family events on second Saturday of each month. Museum is dedicated to curating and sharing archaeological collections with public for educational, scientific, cultural use. 16666 San Pasqual Valley Road, 760-291-0370. (ESCONDIDO)

San Diego Automotive Museum "Motocross America: The Early Years," continuing through Thursday, September 25, showcases history of motocross, traces evolution of the sport with memorabilia and over 60 off-road machines owned and raced by legends of the sport. A BMW R-1200 GS Adventure bike is on display in lobby. "Hall of Heroes" pays tribute to decades of American racing champions.

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. 2080 Pan American Plaza, 619-231-2886. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Hall of Champions Ongoing exhibits include "Bird Watching — Tony Hawk in Flight," "Surfing in San Diego," exhibits of baseball card art, fencing, local rugby history. The museum is dedicated to promoting, recognizing, and preserving athletic achievement. 2131 Pan American Plaza, 619-234-2544. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Maritime Museum "The Art of the Boat — Photos from the Rosenfeld Collection," continuing through July 2009, is collection of over 40 black-and-white photographs celebrating marriage of great yachts and sea through lenses of father-and-son team Morris and Stanley Rosenfeld. Duo is renowned for photographs of yachts, tall ships, and speedboats and photography of every America's Cup race from 1885-1992.

The photography exhibition "Portrait of Tall Ships" features more than 30 photographs by Thad Koza and Michael Berman. Exhibit includes chronicles of sailing adventures of the museum's ships. Through February, 2009.

"San Diego's Navy," based upon book by same name written by Bruce Linder, is said to be "the only comprehensive exhibit de-

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picting the extraordinary contribution the Navy has made to the history of the San Diego region."

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 HMS *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, complete research library. 1306 North Harbor Drive, 619-234-9153. (DOWNTOWN)

San Diego Museum of Man "People, Prints, and Politics: China 1920-1980" features work by Chinese artist and scholar Xian Rang Yong from Shandong Province. Yong utilizes Chinese art of woodblock printing to create compelling portraits, landscapes, depictions of cultural activities, political posters. Closes Sunday, October 19.

"Beyond Reasonable Drought" examines "ways in which culture and climate are intimately connected today as they always have been." Exhibition examines how water resources have affected populations, cultures.

"Gods and Gold: Ancient Treasures from Mexico to Peru" showcases museum's collections of Mexican, Central American, and South American archaeological objects. Rare gold and jewelry, exotic figurines, intricate stonework, and pottery from the ancient world are on display, as well as a crystal skull, on loan from a private collector.

"Art and Expression: The Legacy of Our Collections" highlights 17 key collections, relates stories of the collectors, how collections came to museum, their significance in preserving history of past generations. Objects include pottery, baskets, beadwork, jewelry, woodcarving, folk art, katsinas, bone and ivory implements, shields, textiles.

In "Artists Speak: Contemporary Art from Ghana and Zimbabwe," museum has partnered with artists from Ghana and Zimbabwe to showcase paintings and sculpture by accomplished African artists.

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)." 1350 El Prado, 619-239-2001. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Tugboat Museum A 100-foot retired Korean War-era tugboat built in 1951 is open for tours at museum. Boat is docked along Harbor Drive, between Grape Street and Broadway. Harbor Drive, 619-200-7417. (DOWNTOWN)

San Pasqual Battlefield State Historic Park Commemorates the clash (on December 6, 1846) during the Mexican War between the U.S. Dragoons, bolstered by sailors and volunteers from San Diego, and California militia. Narrated slide-show screens throughout the day, telling the story of the war in Mexico and California. Self-guided tour recounts the events of the battle and profiles the leaders of the forces and also describes the lives of the Indians indigenous to the valley. 16666 San Pasqual Valley Road, 760-737-2201. (ESCONDIDO)

Valley Center History Museum Movie star, "world-class bodybuilder," and longtime Valley Center rancher Steve Reeves is remembered in an exhibit continuing through Tuesday, December 30. He appeared in 18 movies and is best known as star of *Hercules.* Exhibit includes photos, movie memorabilia, personal mementos.

The museum features an educational exhibition centered around a California grizzly bear, described as "the only one on view in San Diego." Also on exhibit: model of an 1862 settler's cabin, collection of Indian baskets, and aerospace display. 29200 Cole Grade Road, 760-749-2993. (VALLEY CENTER)

William Heath Davis House Museum Museum is said to be the oldest surviving structure in the new town area of downtown San Diego. The house is a well-preserved example of a pre-framed lumber "salt box" family home, shipped from the East Coast to California by boat around Cape Horn in 1850. 410 Island Avenue, 619-233-4692. (DOWNTOWN)

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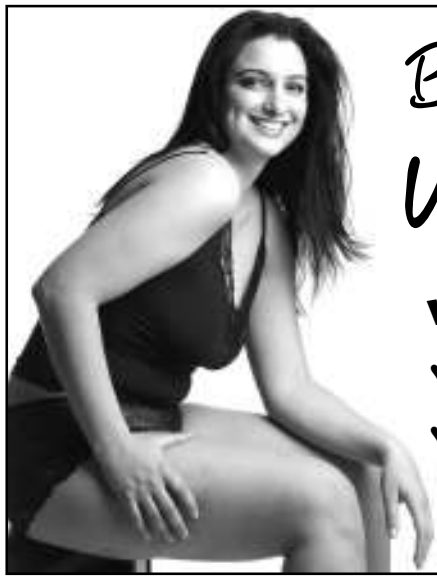

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CLASSICAL LISTINGS

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CLASSICAL

"1812 Tchaikovsky Spectaculars" San Diego Symphony Summer Pops season closes with concerts led by Matthew Garbutt. Principal cello Yao Zhao performs Tchaikovsky's "Variations on a Rococo Theme." Evenings conclude with fireworks. 619-235-0804. Embarcadero Marina Park South (206 Marina Park Way), 7:30 p.m., Friday through Sunday, August 29-31. (DOWNTOWN)

Piano Recital Students of Arkady Luxemburg will perform selections by Bach, Beethoven, Massenet, Chopin, more. 619-298-5313. PianoSD.com (1233 Camino Del Rio South), 4 p.m., Saturday, August 30. (MISSION VALLEY)

Organ Concert Civic organist Carol Williams in concert. 619-702-8138. Spreckels Organ Pavilion (2211 Pan American Road), 2 p.m., Sunday, August 31. (BALBOA PARK)

ART LISTINGS

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GALLERIES

"Looking and Listening: Conversations After Katrina" Artist Anna O'Cain's emotional installation piece examining effects of Hurricane Katrina. Free parking in designated spaces within Lot #1. 619-644-7299. Hyde Art Gallery at Grossmont College (8800 Grossmont College Drive). 7 p.m., Tuesday, September 2. (GROSSMONT COLLEGE)

"RUTV" Leslie Nemour's paintings explore mass media's effect on society. Free parking in designated spaces within Lot #1. 619-644-7299. Hyde Art Gallery at Grossmont College (8800 Grossmont College Drive). 7 p.m., Tuesday, September 2. (GROSSMONT COLLEGE)

Athenaeum Annual Juried Exhibition The Athenaeum hosts its annual exhibition to select A List's Members' Choice Award winner. Pieces by 39 San Diego artists will be on display. A-List members may cast their votes to select this year's winner. Singer-songwriter Korrie Paliotto performs. 858-454-5872. Athenaeum Music and Arts Library (1008 Wall Street). 7:30 p.m., Thursday, August 28. (LA JOLLA)

Brian Davis Reception Master floral painter's light-infused oil paintings will be on display. Artist will be present for dedications of artwork acquired during event. Refreshments provided. Reservation. 888-294-9880. Chuck Jones Gallery (2501 San Diego Avenue). 5 p.m., Saturday, August 30. (OLD TOWN)

ART MUSEUMS

California Center for the Arts, Escondido Museum Five new exhibitions of work by local artists. See "Active Duty" by Owen Mundy, "Contemporary Ruin: A Selection of Prints by the Los Angeles Printmaking Society", "United & Severed: That Window of Time", "Shannon McNeill: Little Drawings", and "Warning Signs," prints by R.H. Brownfield. Each "touches on issues relevant to contemporary life in America including motherhood, active-duty military life, loss, and more." Through November. 340 North Escondido Boulevard, 760-839-4120. (ESCONDIDO)

Mingei International Museum "Hungarian Folk Magic — The Art of Joseph Domjan" includes several of this master woodblock printer's pieces, along with objects from other cultures of the folklore images Domjan often portrayed. "Exhibition is an expression of the power of art to endure war, politics, and disaster and to rise, phoenix-like, from the ashes." Closes Sunday, October 12.

"India Adorned" features selections from museum's Stephen Huyler Collection. Exhibit "reveals the colorful diversity of Indian creative expression, presenting an evocative collection of works that are used in the daily routine of a typical Indian family — objects of worship, personal and domestic adornment, utility, and recreation." Closes Sunday, April 19, 2009.

"Forms in Wood and Fiber: Southern California New Work" features work of six distinguished San Diego wood artists and many California Fibers members. "Both fresh perspectives on traditional forms and cutting-edge contemporary expressions will be included in works of superior design and craftsmanship." Participating artists include Wendy Maruyama, Russ Filbeck, Patrick Edwards, Del Cover, Brett Hesser, and Gene Blickenstaff. Closes Sunday, January 4. 1439 El Prado, 619-239-0003. (BALBOA PARK)

Mingei International Museum — North County "Art of Play: Kinetic Toys of the World" — closing Sunday, September 14 — features objects that move when manipulated. See kites from many countries, pull- and push-toys, antique mechanical banks, puppets, wooden toys. 155 West Grand Avenue, 760-735-3355. (ESCONDIDO)

Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, Downtown "Human/Nature: Artists Respond to a Changing Planet," uses contemporary art to investigate relationships between fragile natural environments and human communities depending upon them. Collaborative multiyear exhibition project sent eight artists to eight UNESCO World Heritage sites around globe to complete mini-residencies, create new work informed and inspired by their experiences in these diverse cultural and natural regions. Exhibit features new commissioned works by Mark Dion, Ann Hamilton, Iñigo Manglano-Ovalle, Marcos Ramírez ERRE, Rigo 23, Dario Robleto, Diana Thater, and Xu Bing. Closes Sunday, February 1, 2009.

"Memory Is Your Image of Perfection" was curated by MCASD assistant curator Lucía Sanromán, presents photography and video works from museum's collection created by women artists of Southern California and Baja California. Exhibition "investigates the subject of memory through associations, oppositions, and overlaps amongst photographic genres that range from straight documentary photography to manipulated photography." Artists include Eleanor Antin, Uta Barth, Andrea Bowers, Sharon Lockhart, Ana Machado, and Yvonne Venegas. Through November. 1001 Kettner Boulevard, 858-454-3541. (DOWNTOWN)

Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, La Jolla "Elusive Signs: Bruce Nauman Works with Light" is said to focus "on Nauman's neons and light-room installations created over the first two decades of his career (1965-1985)." On view through Sunday, August 31, exhibition presents provocative body of work in which artist grapples with questions of how perception is shaped by light and space. 700 Prospect Street, 858-454-3541. (LA JOLLA)

Museum of Photographic Arts "Flesh: The Portraiture of Gary Schneider," continuing through Sunday, September 14, includes *John in Sixteen Parts,* a set of black-and-white fragments of Schneider's partner's face seen through time. Also included: *Genetic Self-Portrait,* an installation utilizing medical-imaging techniques to depict his own body from the inside out; and *Heads and Nudes,* where the South African artist uses exposures of up to three hours to explore and transform the flesh of friends and family.

"Picturing the Process: Landscape through Time and Space" — continuing through Sunday, February 1, 2009 — includes selections from MoPA's permanent collection, exploring ideas and issues related to landscape.

In "Humanitas: Images of India by Fredric Roberts," the artist pictures people in India, Myanmar, Cambodia, Bhutan, Thailand, China as they go about their lives, selling water or herding camels. Through Sunday, September 7. 1649 El Prado, 619-238-7559. (BALBOA PARK)

Oceanside Museum of Art "The Vibrant Edge: Paintings of Karl Benjamin from the 1960s, '70s, and '80s" — closing on Sunday, October 19 — "illustrates how this West Coast painting icon became known as one of the founding fathers of Hard Edge." Benjamin, whose oeuvre spans more than half a century, says, "Color is the subject matter of painting." 704 Pier View Way, 760-435-3720. (OCEANSIDE)

San Diego Museum of Art Touring exhibition "Georgia O'Keeffe and the Women of the Stieglitz Circle" boasts more than 80 pieces, including work by O'Keeffe, Gertrude Käsebier, Pamela Colman Smith, Anne Brigman, and Katharine Rhoades. These artists were "interested in redefining the identity of the modern woman and explored the changing themes of femininity in modernism." On view through Sunday, September 28.

"Eleanor Antin: Historical Takes," on display through Sunday, November 2, focuses on Antin's recent series of large-scale tableaux photographs based on Greek and Roman history and mythology, presented together for first time. "The three series are comprised of comic and psychologically complex melodramatic enactments of actual and fictional classical narratives."

"Visible Places: Works by Women on Paper" — continuing through Wednesday, November 12 — showcases works from SDMA's collection. The early- to mid-20th Century pieces offer historical framework allowing consideration of how artistic styles changed over time, reflect upon active participation of women in the social and political currents of the period. Artists included are Mary Cassatt, Käthe Kollwitz, Isabel Bishop, Barbara Hepworth, Leonora Carrington. Exhibit includes "Spatial Gestures," focusing on abstract works by contemporary women artists acquired by museum between 2006 and present.

"Emerging Elites: Indo-Muslim Cultures in Transition," examines artistic transitions that took place in Indo-Muslim cultural centers in the 18th and 19th Centuries. Exhibition treats these paintings as creative, ongoing cultural transformations. Closes Sunday, March 15, 2009. 1450 El Prado, 619-232-7931. (BALBOA PARK)

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

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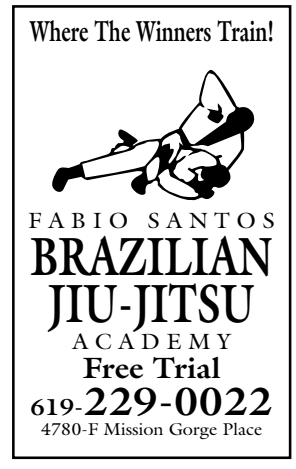
The deadline for the puzzle to arrive at the *Reader* office by mail, fax, or hand delivery (we have a mail slot in our front door) is Monday at 7 am.



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The Club Next Door In 2006, Mission Beach's WaveHouse tested the waters as a music venue by hosting concerts by James Blunt and Ziggy Marley; MTV filmed a *Total Request Live* segment there that year. Last year the club hosted a show by country artist Blake Shelton, and a Good Charlotte show sold out.

This year the 1100-capacity WaveHouse located in Belmont Park presented 15 shows, including Eek-A-Mouse, Ozomotli…and Unwritten Law plays there on September 6. In previous years, all three of those headliners performed at Canes (900 capacity), which is next door.

"Many of the shows they've done this summer we've submitted offers on as well," says Canes owner Eric Leitstein. Though leases are usually written to make sure that other businesses in the same complex won't sell the same product or service, Leitstein says Canes' lease does not have a non-compete clause. As owner of Belmont Park, Tom Lochtefeld is Canes' landlord. Lochtefeld also owns the WaveHouse, which, Leitstein acknowledges, is an awkward landlord/tenant relationship.

UNWRITTEN LAW OPTS FOR WAVEHOUSE

To ensure the WaveHouse got its share of the talent pool, earlier this year the venue hired entertainment director Shane Berry (formerly of 4th&B) and talent buyer Diana Martinez (formerly of Belly Up, House of Blues) to book its summertime series. Lochtefeld spokeswoman Heidi Hoff says that most of the WaveHouse shows were booked in-house, while a few were brought in by Clear Channel.

"The WaveHouse kills it because they have a 30-foot by 50-foot stage, and it's outdoors by the boardwalk," says one musician/businessman who has dealt with the WaveHouse. "They also have that wave machine going during the concerts, which adds more visuals. But because they are outside, they have to stop the music by 10 o'clock on weekdays and midnight on weekends."

Rumors have spread that the WaveHouse has been trying to take over Canes. Hoff says she has no comment on any takeover plans her boss may have. Leitstein would only say that he is in negotiations with Lochtefeld.

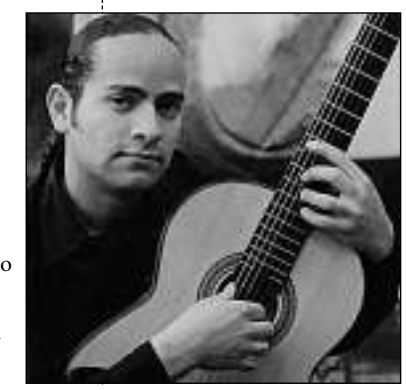
"What they want to do," says Leitstein, "is have the WaveHouse be a prototype so they can sell this concept [live bands in an outdoor setting next to a wave machine] internationally."

Leitstein says his landlord is "well within his legal rights" to book the bands that have played at Canes. But is it ethical? "I think that's up for the readers to decide."

— Ken Leighton

The Other Man On August 10, Sherman Oaks–based 43-year-old character actor Shelley Malil, best known for a role in 2005's *40-Year-Old Virgin,* allegedly stabbed former girlfriend Kendra Beebe 20 times at her San Marcos home.

With her two children asleep upstairs, Beebe had been having dinner on her back patio with local flamenco guitarist David Maldonado. After Malil approached the patio uninvited and began stabbing her from behind, Maldonado was able to wrest the knife from Malil and throw it over a fence before he ran inside to call police. According to the *North County Times,* when Maldonado had to leave the house to determine the address, Malil obtained another knife from the kitchen and continued his attack on Beebe. Malil chased her onto her front porch but relented after a neighbor persuaded him to drop the knife.

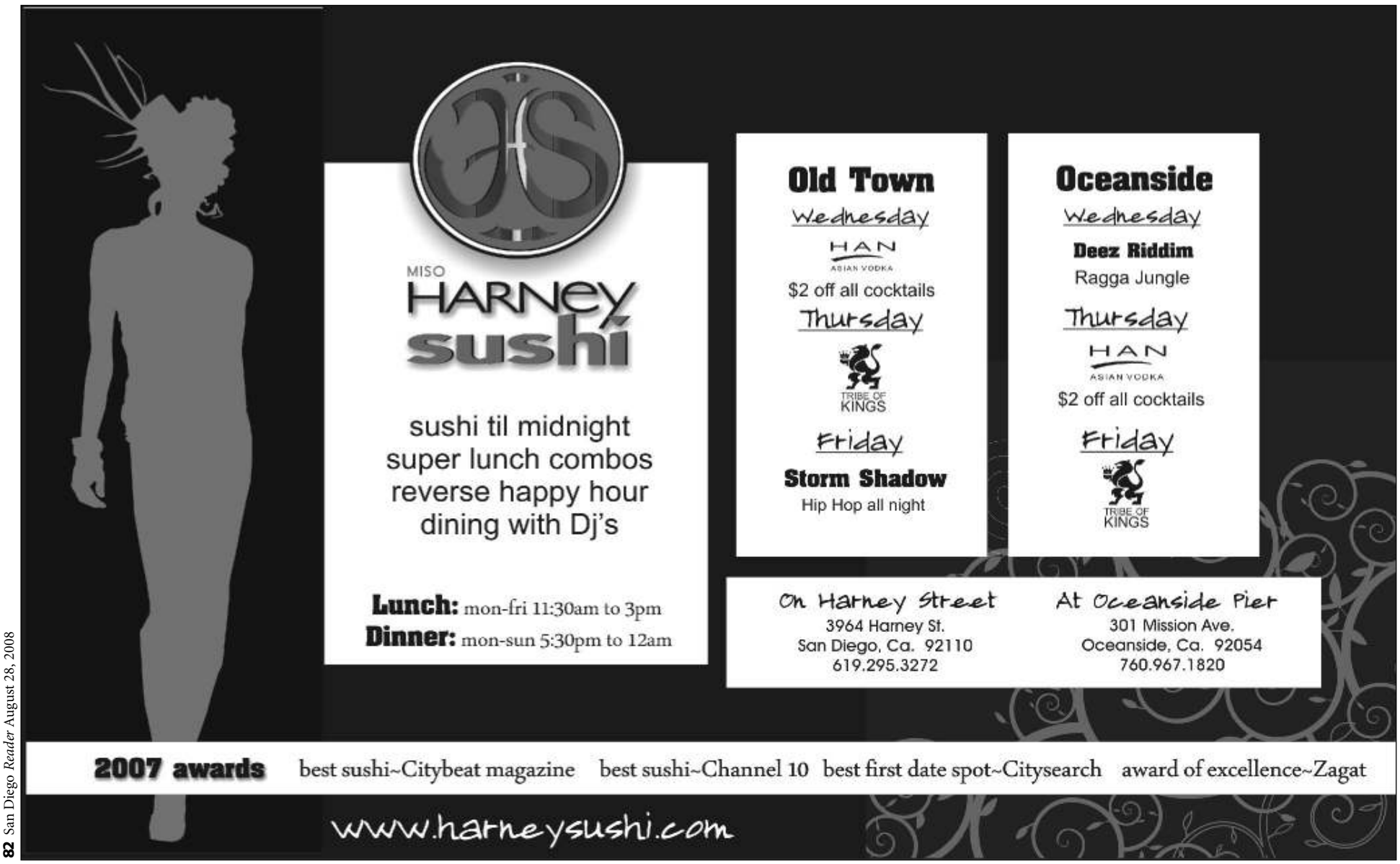

MALDONADO HELPS STOP KNIFE ATTACK

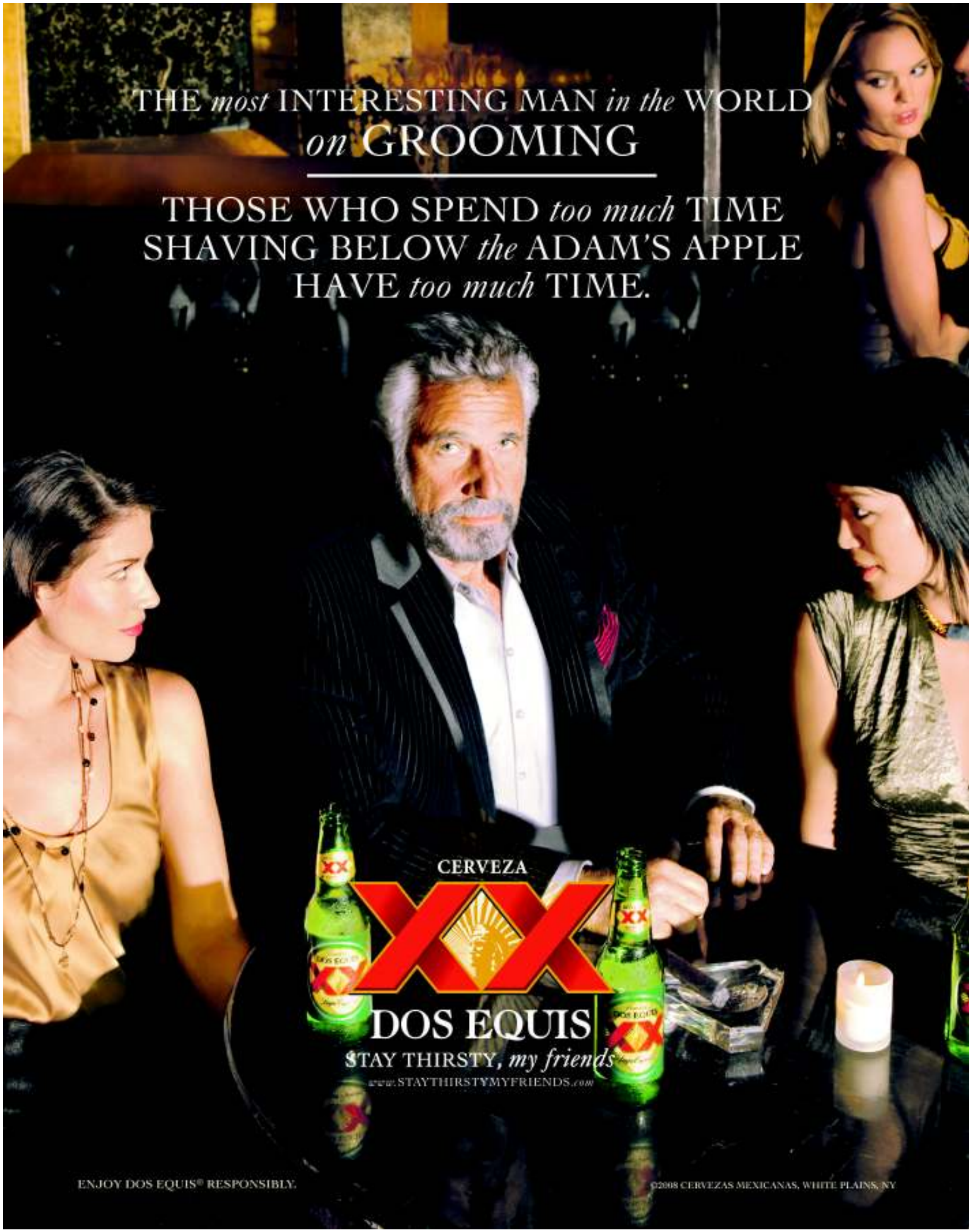
On August 12, Malil was arrested at the Oceanside Amtrak train station. The next day, he pleaded not guilty to attempted-murder charges. Malil's bail was set at $10 million, more than double what prosecutors had been asking for, in part because he was considered a flight risk, but also because the attack involved two victims.

Malil faces seven years to life for the crime. Both Maldonado and his spokesperson declined to comment for this story. Police reports indicate that Maldonado was injured during the scuffle, but if so, it wasn't too serious.

Part of a musical family that includes brothers Luis and Hector, Maldonado has not missed any performances. Beebe remains hospitalized at Palomar Medical Center with injuries that include two punctured lungs and stab wounds to the throat. Meanwhile, Malil's celebrity status has resulted in him being moved from out of the general inmate population at the Vista jail to a segregated unit of San Diego's Central Jail. No trial date has been set.

— Bart Mendoza

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"Eyes on first class from Cleveland to San Diego/ Will I return or stay, though my enemies don't want me to go/ From snow to sunshine, it never rains, they lied/ But I rather move on with pride, and no reason to apologize" (M-Double-A-L, "No Apologies")

PHOTOGRAPH FROM MYSPACE.COM/MACKALACTICMUSICK

M-DOUBLE-A-L MINDS HIS MANNERS

"Hip-hop is the bastard child of the San Diego music scene," says Cleveland transplant M-Double-A-L. "In some cases, it's viewed with fear and apprehensiveness; it's similar to Cleveland in that both cities aren't known for hip-hop, but both in fact have a lot going on underground."

After moving to San Diego in 2002, he says, "I saw a heavy indie-rock presence, but I was trying to find hip-hop culture in SD. I stumbled across the Hot Monkey Love Café, [where] they had open-mike nights, emcee battles, break dancing, and deejaying. After involving myself, I found out about groups such as the Icons, Deep Rooted, and others who've had success in and outside San Diego.…

"Every weekend, I would go to Mission Beach and Pacific Beach. Armed with a CD player and headphones, I let anyone who wanted to listen to the music, and some would even buy the album [from me]." That 2005 album, *Mackalactick Musick,* was also carried on consignment at Access Music in Pacific Beach.

Now, three years later, M-Double-A-L's new record, *Table Manners,* is nominated for Best Hip-Hop Album at next month's San Diego Music Awards, while the artist is nominated for Best Hip-Hop. His next album will be released in October. He appears September 24 at RT's Longboard Bar and Grill in P.B.

— Jay Allen Sanford

Caught Him with the Cocaine

Defamation League MC Chaz Lomack, 22, was to begin serving a four-month jail sentence on August 14 when he got a last-minute reprieve: the day before, he found a second job, which allowed him to participate in a work-furlough program.

"The judge said I had to either get a job or go to jail. I still have to sleep in jail each night. When I'm not at work, I have to be in jail; it's actually a halfway house on 35th Street, near the Coronado Bridge."

Lomack, who performs as Khemical Ali, was one of the 96 people arrested in a May drug sting called Operation Sudden Fall at SDSU. Eight of the original nine felony counts against him were dropped. He pleaded guilty to endangering public health for selling a controlled substance (cocaine).

At Lomack's sentencing, he was given three weeks to find a job that would guarantee him at least 35 hours a week.

"I had a kitchen job, but that was only for 20 hours a week. I just found a second retail job." He says both businesses are on Newport Avenue in Ocean Beach.

PHOTOGRAPH FROM MYSPACE.COM/KHEMICALALI

LOMACK GETS BACK ON STRAIGHT AND NARROW

Def League has released two CDs. Lomack says he and his bandmates plan to collaborate on their third CD through visitations at the halfway house and at his jobs.

"They have to let you have visitation," says Def League guitarist Nick Sleezin'. "There is no harm in listening to headphones; you can't get high by listening to headphones." Sleezin' says the rest of the band will record the instrumental tracks, and Lomack will add his vocals when he gets out.

"We're straying away from rap," says Lomack. "We play instruments now. There are beats, but they are now done with a full band. We added a bassist and a drummer. We're not making any more hip-hop albums."

Lomack says he plans to gig with his band as soon as he gets out, but there might be a hitch: "I'm not allowed to go into any bars for three and a half years; it's part of my probation. I am assuming they would let me go [to a bar] if I am performing."

— Ken Leighton

Sex and Veggies

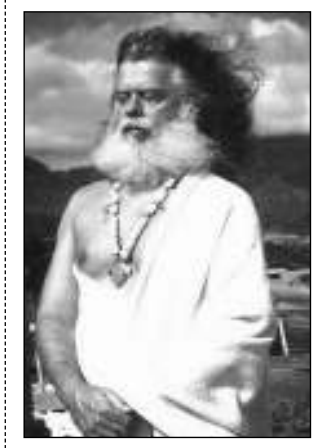
" 'The Motherhouse' and 'The Ascended Master Moves On (Hang Gliding in Heaven)' are our homage to Father Yod, the spiritual master of musical vegetarianism," says Eric Nielsen of High Mountain Tempel. The two songs on the band's new album, *The Glass Bead Game,* include sampled sermons given by controversial sex-and-veggie cult leader Father Yod.

Nielsen's partner Ras Al H'nou explains, "Father Yod lived a storied and adventurous life as a military hero, jiu-jitsu expert, and craftsman when he came to found one of the first health-food restaurants in America, the Source. What started as a series of lectures morphed into a full-blown commune, the Source Family. The group venerated Yod as the living embodiment of God and created a completely alternate lifestyle based on communalism, chanting, meditation, vegetarianism, and ritual sex.… The Source Family engaged in marathon sex magick sessions."

Yod was also a musician and recording artist championed by fan and sometime follower Sky Saxon of the Seeds.

"The Source Family released roughly ten albums," says Ras Al H'nout, "going under names like Ya Ho Wa 13 and Father Yod and the Spirit of '76. The music was a wild and thrilling ride through Yod's various beliefs and manifestos.… Father Yod played gongs and kettle drums while preaching."

The Source Family ended with Father Yod's 1975 death in a hang-gliding accident. According to Nielsen, "Family members went their own ways, but in recent years they've reconnected to publish oral histories of the group and stage concerts.… We use Yod's chants and snippets of wisdom on the new album to hopefully re-create the atmosphere the Family felt during their morning meditations."



HEAVEN'S HANG GLIDER (YOD)

— Jay Allen Sanford

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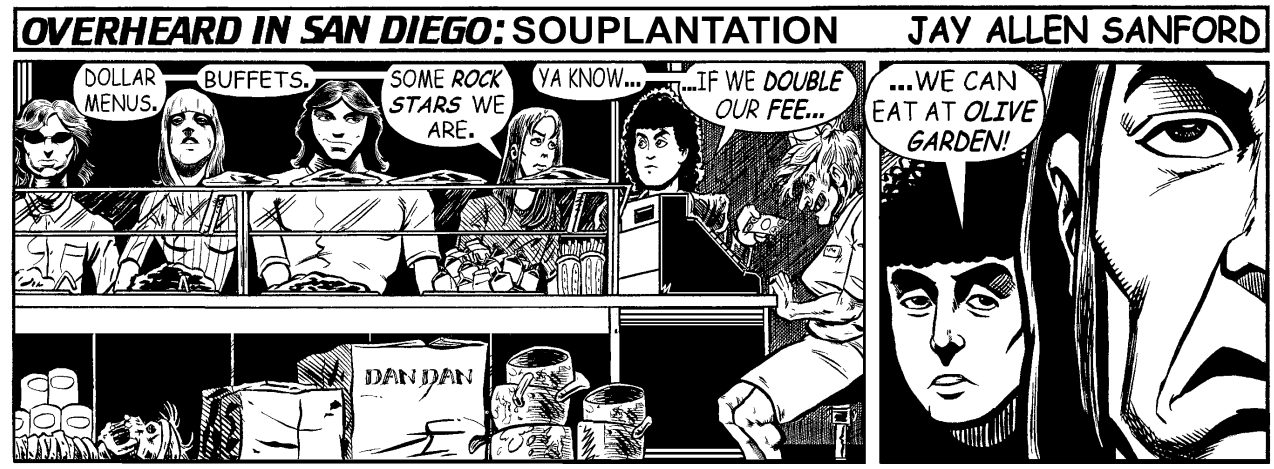

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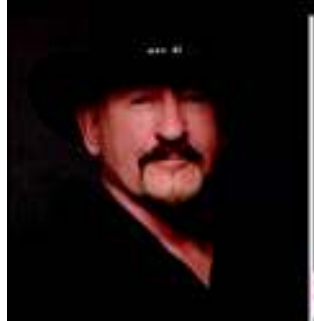

DAVE MASON
AUG 30

SADAO WATANABE
SEP 3

STRUNZ & FARAH
SEP 6 & 7

TIM FINN
SEP 10

LARRY CORYELL
SEP 12 & 13

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SUNDAY 8/31 • NOON-5 PM

THE DIRTY DOZEN BRASS BAND

THE BONEDADDYS
SUNDAY 8/31 • 9 PM

LEE "SCRATCH" PERRY

THE DEVASTATORS
DJ EMANUEL
TUESDAY 9/2 • 9 PM

SCARLET SYMPHONY

THE WIND TALKERS
THE HOWLS
WEDNESDAY 9/3 • 9 PM

AMOS LEE

LUCY WAINWRIGHT ROCHE
THURSDAY 9/4 • 9 PM

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TWO NIGHTS!

FRI. URBAN GYPSYS
SAT. BLASPHEMOUS GUITARS
FRI & SAT 9/5 & 6 • 9 PM

SUNDAY 9/7 • 8 PM

ALEJANDRO ESCOVEDO

CARRIE RODRIGUEZ
MONDAY 9/8 • 8 PM

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THE LIONS
BUCKFAST SUPERBEE
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HILL COUNTRY REVUE
Feat. members of North Mississippi Allstars
THURSDAY 9/11 • 9 PM

PINE MOUNTAIN LOGS

JUSTIN JAMES
FRIDAY 9/12 • 9 PM

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AUSTIN JAMES BAND

TUESDAY 9/16 • 8 PM

AESOP ROCK
FEAT. ROB SONIC & DJ BIG WIZ

THE MIGHTY UNDERDOGS
FEAT. LATEEF & GIFT OF GAB
FROM BLACKALICIOUS
WEDNESDAY 9/17 • 9 PM

LOS STRAITJACKETS

W/GUEST
THURSDAY 9/18 • 9 PM

SKANIC & DJs!

HOSTED BY DUB TRAFFIK CONTROL
FRIDAY 9/19 • 9 PM

JUST ADDED!
9/22 Anthony B
10/18 Skatalites
11/7 Roger Clyne & The Peacemakers
11/12 Grace Potter & The Nocturnals

UPCOMING SHOWS:
9/20 Deadline Friday
9/23 Railroad Earth
9/24 Okkervil River w/Sea Wolf
9/25 Bootsy Collins – Tribute to James Brown
9/26 40 Oz. to Freedom: Sublime Tribute
9/27 Common Sense
9/28 Greg Brown
9/30 Johnny Winter
10/1 The Dandy Warhols
10/2 The Black Lips w/Grand Ole Party
10/3 Dr. John and the Lower 911
10/4 The Tommy Castro Band
10/5 John Brown's Body
10/6 Nick Lowe
10/9 Joan Osborne
10/12 Jolie Holland
10/13 Hotel Café Tour w/Anya Marina, Meiko, Priscilla Ahn & Guests
10/15 Lotus
10/16 The Black Kids – On Sale 9/5 @ noon!
10/17 Uh Huh Her
10/21 Pinback – On Sale TBA
10/22 Taj Mahal
10/23 Presidents of the United States of America
10/24 Stereolab
10/25 Atomic Punks
10/26 SB Lifeguards Benefit w/Young Dubliners
10/27 Sonya Kitchell & the Slip
10/28 The Mountain Goats & Kaki King
10/29 Everlast
10/30 Cowboy Mouth
10/31 Halloween Heat w/80s Heat & Metro
11/6 Keller Williams
11/13 Galactic
11/16 Devon Allman's Honeytribe
11/17 Elisa
11/20 The Bacon Brothers
12/18 Venice Christmas Show
12/19 Young Dubliners Celtic Christmas

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8/29 Atomic Groove
9/5 The Fabulous Pelicans
9/12 The Mar Dels
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club crawler

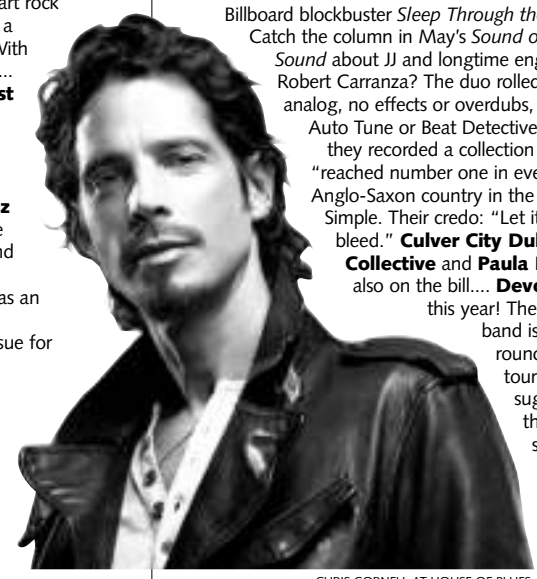
This Week In Music

Thursday 28

Seattle sludge-rockers the **Melvins** merge with **Big Business** and overtake Canes tonight. Mainstay Mels Buzzo and Dale joined L.A. duo Big Business for '06's *(A) Senile Animal,* a two-drummer assault on the band's Zeppelin-meets–Spinal Tap sound. This summer's Ipecac release *Nude with Boots* hones the big bass drums into a more listenable mix with their signature guitar drip. There's even a hint of old-school heavy-metal harmonies in Buzzo's overdubs. Check the Space takes for their latest taste and early-'90s discs *Houdini* and *Stoner Witch* for what made them great.... Last year's American Music Association "Artist of the Year" **Patti Griffin** appears at Belly Up. The folk singer is a favored songsmith among country-rock and pop elite, having been covered by Emmylou Harris, Dixie Chicks, Linda Rondstadt, Bette Midler, and on. Griffin's out in support of her new Grammy-nominated disc *Children Run Through*. Langhorne, PA's favorite son **Langhorne Slim** and his band the **War Eagles** will set the Solana Beach stage.... Chicago psych-rock quartet **Mannequin Men** are out West for L.A.'s Fuck Yeah Fest (that's Saturday). Check out M&M's recommendable sophomore set *Fresh Rot* — Black Francis fronting the Stooges? They'll kick off a Left Coast swing at Bar Pink tonight.... **Blue Turtle Seduction** is out to tout *13 Floors*, a new collection of roots rock and raga. The jammy Tahoe quintet digs in at the beach for two nights at Winstons in O.B.... Sonic young uns **Kill Me Tomorrow** play listenable art rock and write readable books. The trio is a feather in San Diego's cultural cap. With **Max Fields** and **Fantastic Magic**.... Brooklyn's **Matt and Kim**, their **Best Fwends**, and **Crocodiles** coif at Beauty Bar tonight and then the poppy triple bill caravans up to Ché Café for Friday-night sets.... POP Thursdays at MoPA presents **DJ Prez** spinning to the flash-art show on the walls, cult comedy *Animal House*, and Dr. Sketchy's cabaret life-drawing group. Yeah, there're drinks, as well as an after-party at Airport Lounge. Check Barbarella's Calendar highlight this issue for more on it.

Friday 29

Former Soundgardener, Audioslave **Chris Cornell** delivers new solo *Scream* to House of Blues. The guitarist/singer's got decent range but kills when he kicks that voicebox into overdrive. Dude rocked Bond, James Bond with his soundtrack hit in *Casino Royale* "You Know My Name".... "Come together in a relative way" when pop-n-bop locals **Get Back Loretta** get back to Casbah Friday night. The SDMA recipients are up for another this year. With **Vision of a Dying World** and **Boomsnake**. And don't miss Detroit duo **Silverghost**, who haunt the Atari.... Speakin' of ghosts, Cali wonder-kid **Jackie Greene** will be *Giving Up the Ghost* at Anthology. Since his solo dropped, Greene's been seen frequenting *Late Night with Conan* and toured in Phil Lesh's latest Dead revival.... Best of the bar bills: Local indie trio **Writer** celebrates a CD release, dropping melodic-pop *Blood Drops* on Whistle Stop. **Joel P. West** in support...**Pocket** empties jazz-n-funk on Bar Pink...**Jimmy Dean and the Sausage Kings** headline a rockabilly bill at O'Connell's...and the **Millionaires** and **MC Flow** roll through Beauty Bar.



CHRIS CORNELL AT HOUSE OF BLUES

Saturday 30

Surf troubadour **Jack Johnson** is this week's big ticket at the Cricket. The Hawaiian hit is out behind Billboard blockbuster *Sleep Through the Static*. Catch the column in May's *Sound on Sound* about JJ and longtime engineer Robert Carranza? The duo rolled live to analog, no effects or overdubs, no Auto Tune or Beat Detective, and they recorded a collection that's "reached number one in every Anglo-Saxon country in the world." Simple. Their credo: "Let it bleed." **Culver City Dub Collective** and **Paula Fuga** also on the bill.... **Devo** is 35 this year! The Akron band is a bit rounder, but tour reports suggest their synth-pop still sounds whack. They'll

DEVO AT DEL MAR RACETRACK

crack that whip at Del Mar Racetrack Saturday night. Show's free with paid track tix.... Chapel Hill's **Polvo** will play "guitar-based soundtracks to kung fu movies" when they hit Casbah Saturday night. The Touch & Go act dropped off the musical map in the '90s, but noise-rock's back and so's this essential quartet. Lend a bleeding ear to 1996's *Exploded Drawing*. Bethesda Thrill Jockey trio **Trans Am** split the bill behind their latest synth-rock set *Sex Change*. **Roxy Jones** opens.... Else: Alt-rock acts **Republic of Letters** and **A.M. Vibe** dial in at the Ken...the **Prayers** preach throwback pop at Whistle Stop...and **Manuok**, **Evacuee** (SanFran), **Joshua Lanes**, and the **Pentacles** fill a bill at Chasers.

Sunday 31

94/9 hosts a freebie for the Secret Scooter Society's 25th anniversary. They'll be rolling down to Casbah (plenty of scooter space out front of the club) to ska with mod DJs in the Atari Lounge. **Manual Scan**, **Self Made Men**, and **Downs Family** play the main stage and, after all, Jive Wire jocks spin holiday-eve dance jams till close.... It's beer pong via satellite Sunday night at Belly Up. How's your aim? **Dirty Dozen Brass Band** and the **Bonedaddys** entertain the gamers.... Austin experimentalists **Mr. Lewis and the Funeral 5** rock a punk-tango tip on last year's *Murder and the Art of Dance*. The band'll bear that pall to Bar Pink. (What's a pall?).... Beauty Bar books hot threes the **New Up**, **Secret Apollo**, and **Burning of Rome**.... And locals **Witt** (their last show!), **Colour Revolt**, **Wild Weekend**, and **Boomsnake** slither into campus club Ché Cafe.

Monday 1

"Right on time, like hair on a biscuit." You're gonna git songs about dancing, sex, fried chicken, and banana puddin' when Chapel Hill trio **Southern Culture on the Skids** and Denver's folk-goth group **Slim Cessna's Auto Club** preside over Casbah's Anti-Monday meet-up. The SCOTs dropped a tasty collection of Southern-fried covers last year with *Countrypolitan Favorites*. But give a listen to *Double Wide and Live* for the stage show.... Ex–Blood Bros. **Past Lives** dropped debut e.p. *Strange Symmetry* a couple weeks back. Less punk screamo, more rock mojo than their former hardcore crew. The Seattle quartet'll join **Kill Me Tomorrow** and the **Crocodiles** at the Ché.

Tuesday 2

Sleeper sets of the week has O.C. sideshow **Dusty Rhodes and the River Band** flowing through Brick by Brick Tuesday night. The juvenile jubilants are roots-rock revivalists of the party-down, praise-the-past variety, wielding mandolin, violin, accordion, keys, and three-part harmonies that'll prick up your ears and goose yer bum bum. Check their Space takes from *First You Live* and we'll see you at the show. Austin country skrunks the **Mother Truckers**, named "Best Roots Rock Band" at this year's SXSW, split the bill.... Otherwises: Hip-hop hit-man **Ice Cube** chills 4th&B...**Lee "Scratch" Perry** and the **Devastators** dub the club at Belly Up...and SanDago surf-rock surrealists **Zombie Surf Camp** join Sac-town's alt-rawk duo **Middle Class Rut** at Casbah.

Wednesday 3

Volcom brings Lemmy and the latest line-up to House of Blues behind their 20th studio disc *Motörizer*. The trio will rev it up with **Airbourne**, **Valient Thorr**,

MOTÖRHEAD AT HOUSE OF BLUES

and **Year Long Disaster**.... **Scarlet Symphony**, **Wind Talkers**, and **Howls** jam into Belly Up.... While Liverpool indie-rock trio the **Wombats** and L.A.'s electronic rockers **Pop Noir** darken the doors at Casbah.

— Barnaby Monk

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Calendar
MUSIC

Classical listings can be found in the Classical Music Guide. Music videos, driving directions, maps, event alerts, coupons, and more available online at **SanDiegoReader.com.**

HOW TO SUBMIT A MUSIC LISTING: *Call 619-235-3000 x405, night or day by 5 pm Friday, the week prior to publication. To send weekly or monthly schedules, fax to 619-231-0489 or mail to Reader Music Scene, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA, 92186. You may also submit information online at* SDReader.com *by clicking on the music section.*

THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

4th & B: 345 B Street, Downtown, 619-231-4343.
Tuesday, 8 p.m. — Ice Cube. Rap/hip-hop.

710 Beach Club: 710 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-483-7844.
Friday — Bitter:Sweet. With Audible Mainframe and Carbine. Pop/electro/acoustic.
Saturday — Split Finger. With Irieside and Flight to Athena. Reggae/rock.
Sunday — Northstar. With Escape Note. Progressive/rock.

Anthology: 1337 India Street, Little Italy, 619-595-0300.
Friday, 7:30 p.m. — Jackie Greene. Rock/pop/roots. $24.
Saturday, 7:30 p.m. — Dave Mason. Rock/folk/pop. $39-$42.
Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. — Sadao Watanabe. Jazz. $28.

Bahia Resort Hotel: 998 West Mission Bay Drive, Mission Beach, 858-488-0551.
Friday and Saturday, 6 p.m. — Adrienne Nims & Spirit Wind. Contemporary jazz/global music.

Bar Pink: 3829 30th Street, North Park, 619-564-7194.
Friday, 10 p.m. — Pocket. Soul/funk/jazz.
Sunday, 10 p.m. — Mr. Lewis & the Funeral 5. Lounge/punk.

Beauty Bar: 4746 El Cajon Boulevard, Kensington-Talmadge, 619-516-4746.
Sunday, 9 p.m. — The New Up. CD-release show with the Burning of Rome and Secret Apollo. Pop/rock/experimental. $5.

Belly Up Tavern: 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach, 858-481-8140.
Thursday, 9 p.m. — Patty Griffin. With Langhorne Slim. Folk rock/alternative/soul. $30-$32.
Friday, 9 p.m. — Rub-A-Dub Friday. Live reggae music. $5.
Saturday, 9 p.m. — Metal Snake. Eighties hair-metal tribute band. $12-$14.
Sunday, 9 p.m. — The Dirty Dozen Brass Band. With the Bonedaddys. Jazz/funk. $14-$16.
Tuesday, 9 p.m. — Lee "Scratch" Perry. With the Devastators. Reggae/dub/techno. $20-$22.
Wednesday, 9 p.m. — The Howls, Scarlet Symphony, the Windtalkers. Rock/experimental/punk. $8.

Bistro D'Vine: 3709 Avocado Road, Rancho San Diego, 619-660-2222.
Thursday, 6 p.m. — David Burnett. Jazz.

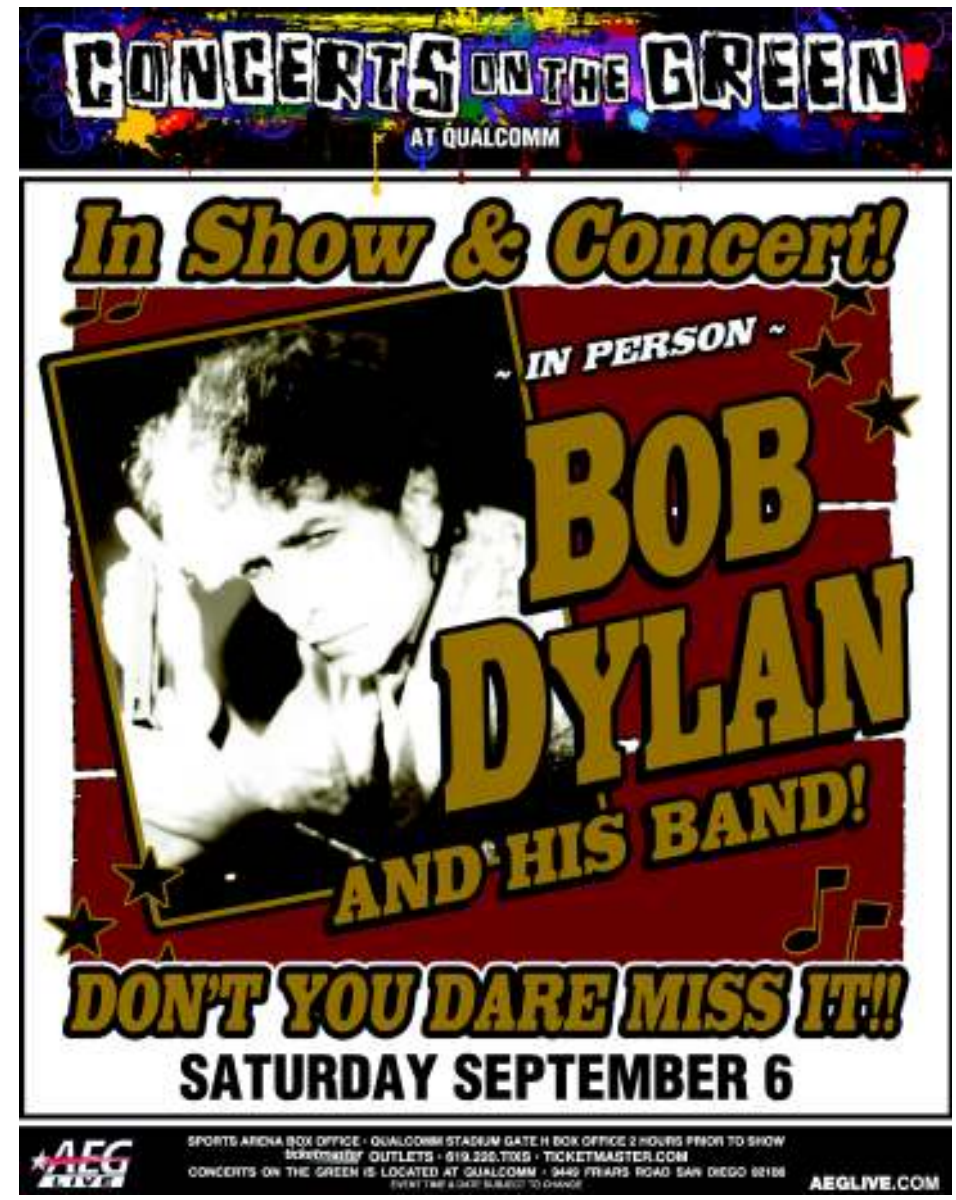
The Bitter End: 770 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-338-9300.
Thursday, 9 p.m. — New Colossus and Dreamtiger. With Jesse Nova. Indie/rock/blues.
Tuesday, 10 p.m. — Radiostar. Eighties new-wave rock.
Wednesday, 10 p.m. — Maddox Revolution. Pop/rock/jazz.

Bondi Bar and Kitchen: 333 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-342-0212.
Sunday, 3 p.m. — Jordan Reimer and Brandon Rice. With Sam Bybee and Astra Kelly. Acoustic/folk/pop.

Brick by Brick: 1130 Buenos Avenue, Linda Vista, 619-275-5483.
Thursday, 8 p.m. — Opus Dai and Breakhouse. With Someday Assassin. Rock/metal/punk. $5.
Friday, 8 p.m. — New American Mob. CD-release show with Rebel Rebel, the Strangers, the Whiskey Dicks, and the Fakes. Punk/rock/metal. $7.
Saturday, 8 p.m. — Starline Theorie and One Lonely Robot. With New Day Mile. Alternative rock/indie. $7.
Tuesday, 8 p.m. — Dusty Rhodes & the River Band. With the Mother Truckers. Country/roots/rock.
Wednesday, 8 p.m. — Josh Damigo, Ernie Halter, Keaton Simons. With Astra Kelly and more. Acoustic/rock/pop. $7.

The Calypso Café: 576 North Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-632-8252.
Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. — Adrienne Nims & Spirit Wind. Contemporary jazz/global music.

Canes: 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach, 858-488-1780.
Thursday, 8 p.m. — The Melvins and Big Business. Rock/metal. $16-$18.
Friday, 9 p.m. — Stranger, High Tide, Psydecar. Reggae/rock/hip-hop. $12.
Saturday, 9 p.m. — Little Brother and Wylde Bunch. Hip-hop/rap/soul. $20.



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9/6	DERBY DOLLS FUNDRAISER			11/16	HANSON
9/21	METAL MASS	10/20	TECH N9NE	11/19	MISFITS
10/3	JAMES	10/21	VNV NATION	11/23	GWAR
10/4	91X PRESENTS MINDLESS SELF INDULGENCE	10/24	DOUG BENSON	11/30	BELL BIV DEVOE
		10/25	BAYSIDE	12/4	FIVE FINGER DEATH PUNCH
10/8	YNGWIE MALMSTEEN	10/28	MATT NATHANSON		
10/11	CHRIS CAGLE	10/29	UMPHREYS MCGEE	1/25/09	RAMON AYALA
10/12	KINGS OF LEON SOLD OUT!	10/30	APOCOLYPTICA	2/7/09	BADFISH- A TRIBUTE TO SUBLIME
10/16	JORGE CELEDON & JIMMY ZAMBRANO	11/1	THE DAMNED		
		11/2	COBRA STARSHIP		

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Calendar
MUSIC

Sunday, 9 p.m. — Atomic Punks. A tribute to Van Halen. With Damage Inc. and Just Like Priest. $15.

The Casbah: 2501 Kettner Boulevard, Little Italy, 619-232-4355.
Thursday, 8:30 p.m. — Kill Me Tomorrow and Max Fields. With Fantastic Magic. Experimental/pop/rock. $8.
Friday, 10 p.m. — Get Back Loretta and BoomSnake. With Vision of a Dying World and Silverghost. Alternative/pop/rock. $8.
Friday, 7 p.m. — Neil Halstead and Miranda Lee Richards. Indie/folk. $12.
Saturday, 8:30 p.m. — Polvo and Trans Am. With Roxy Jones. Rock/funk/experimental. $14.
Sunday, 7:30 p.m. — Manual Scan and Self-Made Men. With the Downs Family. Rock/punk/folk.
Monday, 8:30 p.m. — Southern Culture on the Skids. With Slim Cessna's Auto Club. Garage/surf. $18.
Tuesday, 8:30 p.m. — Middle Class Rut and Zombie Surf Camp. Alternative/rock/surf. $6.
Wednesday, 8:30 p.m. — The Wombats and Pop Noir. Pop/rock/electro. $10-$12.

Ché Café: 9500 Gilman Drive, B-0323C, La Jolla, 858-534-2311.
Friday, 7:30 p.m. — Matt & Kim and Best Fwends. With Doctor Bird. Electro/pop/rock. $8.
Sunday, 7:30 p.m. — BoomSnake and Witt. Indie/rock/pop. $6.
Monday, 8 p.m. — Past Lives and Kill Me Tomorrow. With Crocodiles. Experimental/rock/pop. $7.

Coyote Bar and Grill: 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad, 760-729-4695.
Saturday, 6 p.m. — Michele Lundeen & Blues Streak. Blues/funk/rock.

Cricket Wireless Amphitheatre: 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista, 619-671-3600.
Saturday, 7 p.m. — Jack Johnson. With Culver City Dub Collective. Acoustic/folk/surf.

Croce's: 802 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-233-4355.
Thursday, 8 p.m. — Pocket. Soul/funk/jazz. $5.

Del Mar Thoroughbred Club: 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar, 858-755-1141.
Friday — Steel Pulse. Roots reggae.
Saturday — Devo. Eighties new-wave group.
Wednesday — The English Beat. Soul/reggae/pop punk.

Dirk's Niteclub: 7662 Broadway, Lemon Grove, 619-469-6344.
Friday, Saturday — Full Xposure. Covers/standards.

Dizzy's: 200 Harbor Drive, Downtown, 858-270-7467.
Sunday, 7 p.m. — Satoko Fujii mado. With Natsuki Tamura, Satoko Fujii, Norikatsu Koreyasu, and Akira Horikoshi. Jazz. $15.

Downtown Café: 182 E. Main Street, El Cajon, 619-440-5687.
Thursday, 6 p.m. — Chet & the Committee. Blues.

Dream Street Live: 2228 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach, 619-222-8131.
Thursday — Likewize and Actual Size.

Embarcadero Marina Park South: 206 Marina Park Way, Downtown.
Friday, Saturday, Sunday, 7:30 p.m. — "1812 Tchaikovsky Spectaculars." San Diego Symphony Summer Pops season closes with concerts led by Matthew Garbutt. Principal cello Yao Zhao performs Tchaikovsky's "Variations on a Rococo Theme." Evenings conclude with fireworks. 619-235-0804. $15-$75.

Epicentre: 8450 Mira Mesa Boulevard, Mira Mesa, 858-271-4000.
Thursday, 7 p.m. — Orangello. CD-release show with the Material, Nural, Dead City Sunday, and Out of My League. Alternative rock/pop. $7-$9.
Friday, 7 p.m. — A Shattered Hope and Invictus. With Soundescape and Desolace. Rock/metal/hardcore.

Fannie's Nightclub: 9143 Campo Road, Spring Valley, 619-698-2204.

OF NOTE

BY DAVE GOOD

"It comes up all the time," **John Gourley** says via telephone when I ask him to explain the name of his band. They call themselves "**Portugal. The Man**." "It's pretty off the wall, but at the time when we were coming up with a band name it made perfect sense to us." Gourley says they wanted to give the band a "larger-person feel, like Ziggy Stardust or Sgt. Pepper." I feel sheepish. At first I actually thought that "Portugal. The Man" was a dude, much the way my parents thought Jethro Tull or Pink Floyd were the names of actual persons and not entire bands.

Gourley is 27 and grew up in Alaska. "We had rabbit ears for our television antenna," he says. "We lived out in the middle of nowhere — the most random places — because of my father's work. We spent a lot of time in the car on long drives, just to get anywhere. We listened to oldies rock on the car radio, and the most-played group on oldies rock radio is the Beatles." Hence one of Gourley's influences. "It's kind of a cop-out because everybody listens to the Beatles, but I love every album." He says *Abbey Road* is his favorite.

PORTUGAL. THE MAN

Portugal's sound is experimental avant-pop rock with a smattering of soul. "When I was in high school and first starting to drive by myself, I listened to Wu Tang in the car, and I recognized their soul and R&B roots. They took the best and chopped it up and made music that transcended all that."

Gourley says he finally left Alaska when he turned 21. That's when he began touring with his band. "Up until then," he says, "I was too shy to play music."

RX Bandits headline.

PORTUGAL. THE MAN, Soma, Saturday, August 30, 8 p.m. 619-226-7662. $7 advance; $13 door.

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MYRON EUGENE
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ONYX DJs
RAGS (myspace.com/drags01)
J Smoove (Z90)
DJ Seize
31st AUGUST SUNDAY

Thursdays — Fuzz-Huzzi. Alternative/pop/punk.
Friday, *Saturday* — Loadstone. Classic rock/metal.

The Ferry Landing Marketplace: 1201 First Street, Coronado, 619-435-8895.
Saturday, 2 p.m. — Adrienne Nims & Spirit Wind. With Raggle Taggle. Contemporary jazz/global music.

The Field Irish Pub and Restaurant: 544 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-232-9840.
Thursday, 8:30 p.m. — Eamon Caroll. Traditional Irish music.

The Flying Bridge: 1105 North Coast Highway, Oceanside, 760-722-1151.
Saturday, 7:30 p.m. — The Lounge Butchers.

Georges on Fifth: 835 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-702-0444.
Fridays, 6:30 p.m., *Saturdays*, 6:30 p.m. — Peter the Prince of Piano. Piano/pop.

The Handlery Hotel and Resort: 950 Hotel Circle North, Mission Valley, 619-298-0511.
Thursday, 1 p.m. — Pool Party. With Lady Dottie & the Diamonds. Blues/soul/rock.
Friday, 8 p.m. — Alyssa Jacey. Acoustic/soul/folk rock.
Sunday, 12:30 p.m. — Lady Dottie & the Diamonds. Blues/soul/rock.
Wednesday, 5 p.m. — Christopher Dale and Friends. Acoustic/pop/rock.

Hilton San Diego: 1775 East Mission Bay Drive, Pacific Beach.
Thursday, 7 p.m. — Bill Shreeve, Steve Smith, Mark Smith. Jazz standards on the Acqua patio.

House of Blues: 1055 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-299-2583.
Friday, 7 p.m. — Chris Cornell. Alternative/rock/electro. $47-$62.
Saturday, 7:30 p.m. — La Grange. A tribute to ZZ Top. $10.
Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. — Motörhead. With Airbourne, Valient Thorr, and Year Long Disaster. Metal/rock. $27-$47.

Humphrey's Backstage Music Club: 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Point Loma, 619-224-3577.
Friday, 9:30 p.m. — Rockola. Classic rock. $12.

JP's Pub: 10436 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, Tierrasanta, 858-576-2509.
Friday, 9 p.m. — West of 5. Covers classic to modern rock.

Jimmy Love's: 672 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-595-0123.
Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m. — The Soul Revue. Jazz, dance, and top 40.

The Jumping Turtle: 1660 Capalina Road, San Marcos, 760-741-7778.
Thursday — The Actual Proof and Manic Diffusion. With Real Brew and the Motives. Rock/funk/alternative.
Friday — Dying Regret and Etched in Red. With Scar'd Sanity and From Dark. Metal/hardcore.
Saturday, *Sunday* — Burning Star Metal Fest. With Immolated Seraphim, Sentinel, Stiletto Silhouette, Damcyan, and more. Metal/hardcore/thrash.
Mondays — Reggae Infusion Irie Time. Various reggae bands perform.
Tuesday — Into Eternity. CD-release show with My Ruin, Abomination, and Ana Kefr. Metal/hardcore.

The Kensington Club: 4079 Adams Avenue, Kensington-Talmadge, 619-284-2848.
Friday — The Postals and the Bugs. With Heavy Cessna and Drunkin Punkin Idiots. Garage/rock/punk.
Saturday — Republic of Letters and A.M. Vibe. With Lanterns. Indie/rock/pop.
Sunday — Love or Perish and the New Dress. Punk/rock/folk.

Koehler Kraft Boat Yard: 2302 Shelter Island Drive, Point Loma, 619-222-9051.
Wednesday, 8 p.m. — The San Diego Concert Jazz Band. Contemporary jazz.

The Kraken: 2531 South Highway 101, Cardiff, 760-436-6483.
Thursday — Chill Boy.
Saturday — Stevi Lynn & Triple Threat. Classic rock.
Saturday — Ghost Riders and the Travel Agents. Rock.
Sundays, 4 p.m. — The Blues Brokers. Blues/soul/rock.

Little Italy Spaghetteria: 1953 India Street, Little Italy, 619-398-2974.
Saturday, 9 p.m. — Willovealot. Smooth-jazz.

The Lumberyard Shopping Center: 937 South Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 619-987-1277.
Friday and Saturday, 6 p.m. — Keith Jacobson. In the central courtyard. Smooth-jazz saxophone.

McP's Irish Pub and Grill: 1107 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-5280.
Thursday, 9 p.m. — 4 Way Street.
Friday, 9 p.m. — The Taylor Harvey Band. Bluegrass/rock.
Saturday, 9 p.m. — Mystique. Jazz/funk/R&B.
Sunday, 5 p.m. — 4 Way Street.

Mission Bay Deli: 1548 Quivira Way, Mission Beach, 619-223-5056.
Sunday, 2 p.m. — The Hip Replacements. Rock/soul.

Molly Malone's: 1270 Main Street, Ramona, 760-789-9050.
Friday, 9 p.m. — Lefthand Thread. Rock.
Saturday, 9 p.m. — Outta Line. Rock.

O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub: 1130 Morena Boulevard, Linda Vista, 619-276-5637.
Friday, 9 p.m. — Jimmy Dean & the Sausage Kings. With Behind the Wagon and the Cathouse Thumpers.
Rockabilly/punk/country.
Saturday, 9 p.m. — Off Track and Don't Say Vegas. With Starving for Gravity and Good Luck Mr. Gorsky. Alternative/rock/pop.
Sunday, 9 p.m. — River City. Folk/acoustic/indie.
Monday, 8 p.m. — Mystery Train. Pro-invitational blues jam.
Wednesday, 9 p.m. — Bill Cardinal and Katie Leigh & the Infantry. Pop/folk/rock.

Ocean House: 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad, 760-729-

4131.
Sunday, 3 p.m. — The Retro Rocketts. Classic rock.

Old Town State Historic Park: 4002 Wallace Street, Old Town.
Saturday, 2 p.m. — The City Guard Band. Performances will be held in the plaza; selections range from Sousa marches to concert pieces.

Osetra: 904 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-239-1800.
Thursdays, 8 p.m. — Live Jazz. In the E5 Lounge.
Wednesdays, 8 p.m. — Los Reyes del Ritmo. Flamenco and Latin music in the E5 Lounge.

The Ozone: 406 Pier View Way, Oceanside, 760-722-2216.
Saturday, 4 p.m. — Carrier Signal. Rock.

Pacific Beach Bar & Grill: 860 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-272-7278.
Friday, 7 p.m. — Live music.
Sunday, 6 p.m. — Live reggae.

Pala Casino: 35008 Pala Temecula Road, Pala, 877-946-7252.
Thursday — Poison. Glam rock/metal band from the '80s.

The Par Lounge at San Vicente Resort: 24157 San Vicente Road, Ramona, 760-789-8290.
Friday, 8:30 p.m. — MoonDance. Classic rock/R&B/soul.

Pasquale on Prospect: 1250 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-456-0722.
Sundays, 6 p.m. — Stage 4. Jazz/rhythm and blues.

Patrick's II: 428 F Street, Downtown, 619-233-3077.
Thursday — The Bill Magee Blues Band. Blues/soul/rock.
Friday — Missy Andersen. Blues/soul/funk.
Saturday — Soul Diego. Covers Motown, soul, and blues.
Sunday — 145th Street Deluxe Blues Band. Blues/funk.

Pete's Place: 8330 La Mesa Boulevard, La Mesa, 619-464-9535.
Saturday, 9:30 p.m. — The Farmers. Roots rock/Americana.

Prescott Promenade: 211 1/2 East Main Street, El Cajon.
Friday, 6 p.m. — The Variations. Big-band music for Concerts on the Green. 619-401-8858.

RT's Longboard Grill: 1466 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-270-4030.
Saturday — The Jones Revival. Classic rock.

Radio Room: 3519 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park.
Thursday, 8 p.m. — The Whiskey Dicks. With Flexx Bronco and the Homeless Sexuals. Punk/rock.
Friday, 8 p.m. — Syndicate and the Feelings Mutual. With the Valley Arena. Alternative/pop/rock.
Saturday, 9 p.m. — Spazboy. Punk rock.
Sunday, 2 p.m. — David Dondero and D.S. Yancey. With the Desert Diamonds, Breaker Breaker One Niner, and Save Amos. Indie/rock/folk. $5.

Ramona MainStage Theatre: 626 Main Street, Ramona, 760-789-7008.
Friday, 8 p.m. — Coldfire. Rock.
Saturday, 8 p.m. — The Ripples.

Riley's: 2901 Nimitz Boulevard, Point Loma, 619-255-8635.
Saturdays — Rock Forever Entertainment. Features live bands every Saturday night.

OF NOTE

BY WILLIAM CRAIN

The dollar is weak and the euro is strong, and the streets of American cities are humming with the sound of European tourists — often with their arms full of shopping bags from the Apple Store. Less noticeable and less commented upon is the number of European bands touring U.S. coastal cities and college towns. According to the music websites, the Scandinavians have just about monopolized indie pop and electropop in the past few years, and there's some sort of punk renaissance coming from France. And yet many, if not most, of these bands still sing in English, often with an American accent or an approximation thereof. Rock 'n' roll belongs to the world, but apparently the world still sees it as an American idiom.

No one makes this principle more clear than **French Cowboy** from the city of Nantes, France. The band is derived from Little Rabbits, an influential act that released seven albums before calling it quits three years ago. Many of those albums were recorded by Jon Spencer Blues Explosion producer Jim Waters in Tucson, Arizona, and the band apparently caught the Old West bug while they were there. As the name suggests, French Cowboy has a vibe that's suggestive of Americana, while remaining fascinatingly foreign — like Calexico covering Johnny Cash while collaborating with Stereolab in a Brian Eno production.

FRENCH COWBOY

At times French Cowboy recalls the collaboration of American Lou Reed and Welshman John Cale. When French Cowboy opens "Leather Boots" with the line "shiny boots of leather," it sounds like the opening line of that famous kinkfest "Venus in Furs." But there's a twist: Unlike the Velvet Underground, French Cowboy sounds as if they're mostly interested in the boots.

FRENCH COWBOY, Beauty Bar, Wednesday, September 3, 619-516-4746.

Wednesdays, 9 p.m. — Swing Night. Live swing bands perform.

Rock Paper Scissors: 4967 Newport Avenue, Ocean Beach.
Saturday, 1 p.m. — The Eben Brooks Band.

Rosie O'Grady's: 3402 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights, 619-284-7666.
Tuesdays, 9:30 p.m. — Bdub's Jazz Jam Session. Modern jazz classics and standards every Tuesday, with Bryan Whelan, Doug Walker, Laurel Grinnell, and friends.

The Round Table Cocktail Lounge: 1723 Euclid Avenue, City Heights, 619-264-6000.
Tuesdays, 6 p.m. — Charlie Blue. Blues.

San Dieguito United Methodist Church: 170 Calle Magdalena, Encinitas.
Saturday, 7:30 p.m. — Caji and Salomé. Modern Brazilian acoustic music for San Diego Folk Heritage. 858-566-4040. $15-$18.

Scripps Park: 1133 Coast Boulevard, La Jolla.
Sunday, 2 p.m. — The Heroes. Classic rock for conclusion of La Jolla Concerts by the Sea. 858-454-1600.

Seaport Village: 849 West Harbor Drive, Downtown.
Sunday, 1 p.m. — Nova. Covers/standards/dance.

Sevilla: 555 Fourth Avenue, Downtown, 619-233-5979.
Thursday — Orquesta Primo. Latin/mariachi/Tejano.
Sunday — La Charanga Cubana. Latin/salsa.
Mondays, 9 p.m. — Rock en Español.
Tuesday — Orquesta Guarare. Latin dance music.
Wednesday — Walter II and Orquesta Rumbaney. Salsa/Latin/tropical.

Soma: 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, Point Loma, 619-226-7662.
Thursday, 6 p.m. — Stick to Your Guns and Winds of Plague. *Thrash & Burn Tour* with Darkest Hour and more. Metal/hardcore/punk. $16.
Friday, 7 p.m. — His Irate Life and Northwall. With Seconds from Disaster, the Cost of Salvation, and more. Metal/hardcore. $9.
Saturday, 7 p.m. — The RX Bandits and Portugal. The Man. With Kay Kay & His Weathered Underground. Alternative/indie/soul. $13.

South Park Bar & Grill: 1946 Fern Street, South Park, 619-696-0096.
Thursdays, 9:30 p.m. — Open jazz

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Alejandro Fernandez // September 12 // Cox Arena
Luis Miguel // September 21 // Cricket Wireless Amphitheatre
The Raconteurs // September 24 // SDSU Open Air Theatre
My Morning Jacket // September 25 // SDSU Open Air Theatre
Switchfoot + Third Day // September 27 // Cricket Wireless Amphitheatre
The Marz Volta // October 2 // SDSU Open Air Theatre
The Swell Season // October 3 // SDSU Open Air Theatre
Sara Bareilles // October 9 // Spreckels Theatre
The Roots + Gym Class Heroes // October 15 // SDSU Open Air Theatre
Jimmy Buffett and The Coral Reefer Band // October 16 // Cricket Wireless Amphitheatre
Weezer // October 17 // Cox Arena
Neil Young // October 29 // Cox Arena
Rise Against // October 30 // Cox Arena
Jason Mraz // October 31 // SDSU Open Air Theatre
Ray Lamontagne // November 1 // Spreckels Theatre
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DARKEND THE SOUL
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THEORY OF FUNKATIVITY
LANDS ON FIRE
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5
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Voodoo Glow Skulls
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Cash'd Out
(Johnny Cash Tribute)
HARD FALL HEARTS
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11
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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20
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Calendar
MUSIC

jam.
Fridays, 7 p.m. — The John Kopecky Trio. Jazz.
Saturdays, 8:30 p.m. — Open blues jam. With Will Jackson.
Sundays, 6 p.m. — Original Music Modern Jazz Series. Every Sunday, with Doug Walker, Tim Nunnink, Nick Tocco, and Nathan Hubbard.

Spreckels Organ Pavilion: 2211 Pan American Road, Balboa Park.
Thursday, 6:15 p.m. — Kearny Mesa Concert Band. For Twilight in the Park summer concert series. 619-239-0512.

Stage Saloon: 762 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-992-7862.
Fridays — Trainwreck.
Saturday — The Disco Pimps.

Static Lounge: 634 Broadway, Downtown, 619-544-1609.
Sunday, 9 p.m. — Blu, Miki Vale, Pac-10. Hip-hop. $10-$15.

Terra: 3900 Vermont Street, Hillcrest, 619-293-7088.
Thursday, 6 p.m. — Robin Henkel. Blues/jazz guitarist.

Thornton's Irish Pub and Grill: 1221 Broadway, El Cajon, 619-447-5665.
Friday, 8 p.m. — Hugh Gaskins & the G String Daddies. Blues/soul/rockabilly.

Tiki House: 1152 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-273-9734.
Friday — The Tornado Magnets. Alternative/country/rock.
Saturday — Meld. Garage/blues/soul.

Tina's Night Club: 1956 54th Street, College Area, 619-263-0258.
Sunday, 6 p.m. — Willovealot. Smooth jazz.

Tio Leo's Lounge: 5302 Napa Street, Linda Vista, 619-542-1462.
Friday — The Honky Tonk Kings. Swing/rockabilly/country.
Saturday — Manganista. Alternative/ska/rock.

V Lounge: 5000 Willows Road, Alpine, 619-445-5400.
Friday, 5 p.m. — Michele Lundeen & Blues Streak. Blues/funk/rock.

Valley View Casino: 16300 Nyemii Pass Road, Valley Center, 866-843-9946.
Thursday, 7 p.m. — Firefly. Classic rock at the Main Stage bar.
Friday, 9 p.m. — Innovation. Covers/standards at the Main Stage bar.
Friday, 4 p.m. — The Fabulous Pelicans. Covers/standards at the Main Stage bar.
Saturday, 9 p.m. — The Heroes. Dance music at the Main Stage bar.
Saturday, 4 p.m. — Federal Funk. Soul, funk, and jazz at the main stage bar.
Sunday, 9 p.m. — Innovation. Covers/standards at the Main Stage bar.

Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park: 5005 Willows Road, Alpine, 619-445-5400.
Saturday, 8 p.m. — Melissa Etheridge. Rock/pop/country.

Winstons: 1921 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach, 619-222-6822.
Thursday, *Friday* — Blue Turtle Seduction. Rock/bluegrass/funk.

UPCOMING SHOWS

1st Street Bar: 656 South Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-944-0233.
September 13 — Misty & the Mobys.

4th & B: 345 B Street, Downtown, 619-231-4343.
September 6 — Xavier Rudd.
September 16 — Nick Cave & the Bad Seeds.
September 26 — Three 6 Mafia.
September 27 — Boogie Nights.
October 1 — Gogol Bordello.
November 1 — Rose Royce.

710 Beach Club: 710 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-483-7844.
September 11 — Blame One.
September 18 — Breakhouse.

AcousticMusicSanDiego: 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights, 619-303-8176.
September 6 — Barry McGuire.
September 13 — Rebeca & David Randle.
September 18 — Richard Shindell.
September 19 — Michael Chapdelaine.
September 21 — Willy Porter.
September 29 — Slaid Cleaves.
October 4 — Eric Andersen.
October 5 — David LaFlamme and It's a Beautiful Day.
October 10 — Catie Curtis.
October 11 — Kevin Welch.
October 25 — Eliza Gilkyson.
November 1 — Dave Alvin.
November 9 — Ellis Paul.
November 23 — Doyle Dykes.
November 28 — Tom Russell.

Across the Street: 4601 Park Boulevard, University Heights.
September 5 — Alan Silva.

Adams Avenue: 32nd Street & Adams Avenue, Normal Heights.
September 27, *September 28* — Adams Avenue Street Fair.

Anthology: 1337 India Street, Little Italy, 619-595-0300.
September 6, *September 7* — Strunz & Farah.
September 9 — Rockola.
September 10 — Tim Finn.
September 12, *September 13* — Larry Coryell.
September 19 — Hiroshima.
September 23 — Solas.
September 24, *September 25* — The Average White Band.
September 26 — The Eve Selis Band.
September 27 — Livingston Taylor.
October 2 — Stephen Kellogg & the Sixers.
October 3, *October 4* — Stanley Jordan.
October 7, *October 8* — Acoustic Alchemy.
October 14 — Mark Murphy.

>hometown CDs
BY OLLIE

Album: *Fretfull* (2008)
Artist: Wayne Riker
Label: self-released
Where available/price: Old Time Music Shop in North Park, Tecolote Guitar Works on Morena Boulevard, and online at CDBaby for $15
Songs: 1) The Betrayal 2) 8 p.m. Rag 3) Emancipation 4) Blue Alert 5) Sebastian's Last Prance 6) Devil's Dance 7) Minor over Matter 8) Sparkle Lake 9) Blues from A2Z 10) Conversation with Myself 11) Gypsy Cab 12) Fretfully Yours
Band: Wayne Riker (guitar)
Website: *waynerikerguitar.com*

Wayne Riker is a guitar teacher, and *Fretfull* should be lesson one because it's inspirational. Riker makes it sound easy. (Just pick up a guitar, and after 30 years of dedicated study you too could be this good!)

I've taken a guitar lesson, and to get my stubby fingers to play a correct F-minor chord took me three hours. My instructor told me, "Yeah, you're going to have to get new fingers." The next day I couldn't repeat what I'd learned, so my guitar stood in a corner of my bedroom for a year before I gave it away to a friend.

Wayne Riker's guitar supremacy is displayed on *Fretfull*. The songs follow a classical arrangement, rhythmically driving and complex in parts. Riker throws in a lot of variety, leaning toward jazz and blues riffs.

My one complaint is that the CD might be too scholarly: a dumb blues or rock album would offer more fun for the unwashed masses who might not want to suffer through a 40-minute lesson. But if you're a guitar student, this disc should be in your collection as a reminder to practice, practice, practice.

Wayne Riker

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 Jumping Turtle
"North County's True Music House"

THIS WEEK

THURSDAY 8•28
THE ACTUAL PROOF
MANIC DIFFUSION
REAL BREW
THE MOTIVES

FRIDAY 8•29
DYING REGRET
ETCHED IN RED
SCAR'D SANITY
FROM DARK

SATURDAY 8•30
BURNING STAR METAL FEST 3!!! DAY 1
Live music featuring
GREEN JELLY • D.I.
AGENT STEEL • NIHILIST
FUELED BY FIRE (Metal Blade Records)
EXMORTUS • BONDED BY BLOOD
IMMOLATED SERAPHIM
KEAPER • AUDKIK
WILLIE PSYCHO • SENTINEL

SUNDAY 8•31
BURNING STAR METAL FEST 3!!! DAY 2 Live music featuring
INTO ETERNITY • PSYOPUS
DEATHRIDERS (featuring Neil Turbin, formerly of Anthrax)
WAR FROM A HARLOT'S MOUTH
ANIMAL CORPSE • DEATH COMES IN THREES
DAMCYAN • DROWNSWERVE
STILETTO SILHOUETTE
LEFT TO VANISH • F**K THE FACTS

TUESDAY 9•2
INTO ETERNITY (CD release party)
MY RUIN • ABOMINATION
ANA KEFR • DESPITE THE WOLVES

UPCOMING SHOWS (See our website for more info):

THURSDAY 9•4
Nature of the Beast Album Release Party featuring:
QWEL • NATURE OF THE BEAST
Y-TEST & DJ ARKANE and special guests
$10 cover • All ages

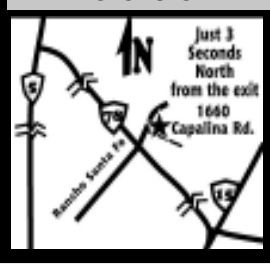
FRIDAY 9•5
Clear Onyx Media presents:
ADAMSGATE
WILD PONY KILLERS • MOTUS
$10 cover • All ages

SATURDAY 9•6
SIGH • S.I.G.M.A. PROJECT
ZIMMER'S HOLE
UNEXPECT • CLIMHAZZARD

SUNDAY 9•7
Pickwicket Entertainment presents
THE SPONSORSHIP SHOWCASE

WEDNESDAY 9•10
Jen Razz presents
Live music
TBA

FRIDAY 9•12
FINNTROLL • WARBRINGER
CARNIFEX • MORDIUM
TWILIGHT'S BANE



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Tickets for "Upcoming Shows" available at Ticketmaster & Humphreys.
All shows are 21 years and up.

Thurs., August 28 ■ 8 pm • Blues Guitar
Laurie Morvan

Fri., August 29 ■ 9:30 pm • Classic Rock
Rockola

Sat., August 30 ■ 6 pm
Labor Day Blues Fest
Featuring
The Fremonts • Bill Magee
Missy Andersen
Michele Lundeen
Len Rainey
Jam session at midnight

Sun., August 31 ■ 6 pm
Labor Day Jazz Celebration

with Tayari & DJ John Phillips

Monday, September 1 ■ 7 pm • Blues
The Road Dogs

Tuesday, September 2 ■ 7 pm • Blues Guitar
Robin Henkel

Wednesday, September 3 ■ 8 pm • Zydeco
Bayou Brothers

Upcoming Shows

Saturday, September 6
John Lee Hooker Jr.

Thursday, September 18
Larry McCray

Saturday, October 4
Ronny Baker Brooks

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2241 Shelter Island Dr. • 619-224-3577

October 17 — Paul Brown's Guitar Trio.
October 18 — The Subdudes.
October 24 — Steve Poltz.

Balboa Theatre: 854 Fourth Avenue, Downtown, 619-570-1100.
September 28 — Chris Thile & Edgar Meyer.

The Bar Pink: 3829 30th Street, North Park, 619-564-7194.
September 7 — Mad Juana.

Beauty Bar: 4746 El Cajon Boulevard, Kensington-Talmadge, 619-516-4746.
September 9 — Echo Revolution and Love Like Fire.
September 13 — Tiger Army and War Tapes.

Belly Up Tavern: 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach, 858-481-8140.
September 4 — Amos Lee.
September 5, *September 6* — Super Diamond.
September 7 — Orquesta Primo.
September 8 — Alejandro Escovedo.
September 9 — The Toadies.
September 10 — Arm the Angels.
September 11 — J.J. Grey & Mofro.
September 12 — The Pine Mountain Logs.
September 14, *September 15* — Digable Planets.
September 16 — Get Back Loretta.
September 17 — Aesop Rock and Rob Sonic.
September 18 — Los Straitjackets.
September 20 — Deadline Friday.
September 22 — Anthony B and Rootz Underground.
September 23 — Railroad Earth.
September 24 — Okkervil River.
September 25 — Bootsy Collins.
September 26 — 40 Oz. to Freedom.
September 27 — Common Sense and LA 5.
September 28 — Greg Brown and Bo Ramsey.
September 30 — Johnny Winter.
October 1 — The Dandy Warhols.
October 2 — The Black Lips and Grand Ole Party.
October 3 — Dr. John & the Lower 911.
October 4 — The Tommy Castro Band and Magic Dick.
October 5 — John Brown's Body.
October 6 — Nick Lowe and Paul Cebar.
October 9 — Joan Osborne and Matt Morris.
October 12 — Jolie Holland.
October 13 — Anya Marina, Meiko, Priscilla Ahn.
October 15 — Lotus.
October 16 — The Black Kids.
October 17 — Uh Huh Her.
October 18 — The Skatalites.
October 21 — Pinback.
October 22 — Taj Mahal.
October 23 — The Presidents of the United States of America.
October 24 — Stereolab and Monade.
October 25 — Atomic Punks.
October 26 — The Young Dubliners.
October 27 — Sonya Kitchell & the Slip.
October 28 — The Mountain Goats and Kaki King.
October 29 — Everlast and the Lordz.
October 30 — Cowboy Mouth.
October 31 — Halloween Heat.
November 6 — Keller Williams with Moseley, Droll & Sipe.
November 13 — Galactic.
November 17 — Elisa.
November 20 — The Bacon Brothers.

Birch Aquarium at Scripps: 2300 Expedition Way, La Jolla, 858-534-FISH.
September 17 — Sarah Borges and the Broken Singles.

Birch North Park Theatre: 2891 University Ave, North Park, 619-239-8836.
October 18 — Gaelic Storm.

Bistro D'Vine: 3709 Avocado Road, Rancho San Diego, 619-660-2222.
September 4 — David Burnett.

The Bitter End: 770 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-338-9300.
September 9 — Radiostar.
September 10 — Maddox Revolution.
September 25 — Carrier Signal.

Blue Agave Nightclub: 6608 Mission Gorge Road, Grantville, 619-521-3194.
September 25 — Grupo Niche.

Bonita: Otay Lakes Road and Bonita Road, Bonita.
September 27 — Charlie Imes.

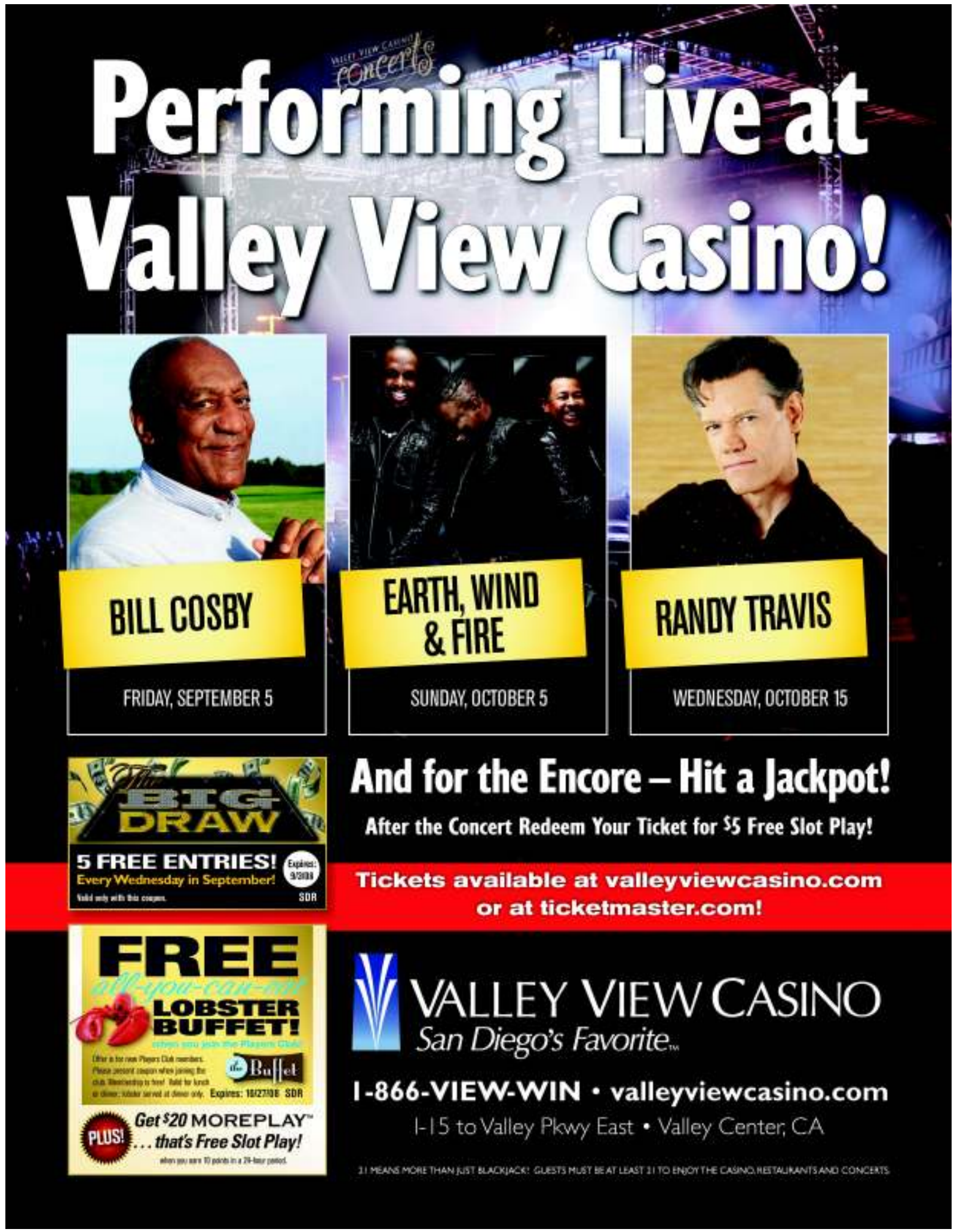
Brick by Brick: 1130 Buenos Avenue, Linda Vista, 619-275-5483.
September 4 — Mary Magdalan.

California Center for the Arts, Escondido: 340 North Escondido Boulevard, Escondido, 800-988-4253.
September 26 — Rickie Lee Jones.
October 18 — Linda Purl & Lee Lessack.

October 22 — Amy Grant.
October 28 — Vince Gill.
November 15 — The Preservation Hall Jazz Band.

Canes: 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach, 858-488-1780.
September 4 — The Theory of Funkativity.
September 5 — Guttermouth and Chaser.
September 6 — Cash'd Out.
September 11 — Ekolu.
September 13 — The B-Side Players and Agua Dulce.
September 18 — Call Down Fire and Glacier Hiking.
September 19 — Michael Palmer and Lambs Blood.
September 20 — Tainted Love.
September 25 — Echo Revolution and One Lonely Robot.
September 26 — Sprung Monkey and Mower.
September 28 — Talib Kweli and David Banner.
October 3 — The Aggrolites and Dirty Heads.
October 9 — NaCalifa.
October 11 — Andre Nickatina.
October 17 — Iration and B Foundation.
October 18 — Stranger.
October 24 — Lights.
October 25 — Devin the Dude.
November 1 — Dead Man's Party.
November 22 — Tainted Love.
November 26 — Lights.
November 29 — Cash'd Out.

Carvers: 11940 Bernardo Plaza Drive, Rancho Bernardo, 858-566-2400.
September 6 — The Hype.



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Calendar

MUSIC

September 12, *September 13* — Crossroads.
September 19, *September 20* — Laguna.
October 10, *October 11* — The Hype.
October 17, *October 18* — Laguna.
November 1 — The Baytown Band.
November 7, *November 8* — The Gold Dust Band.
November 14, *November 15* — The Hype.
December 5, *December 6* — The Gold Dust Band.
December 12, *December 13* — The Hype.
January 5, *January 6*, *February 6*, *February 7* — The Gold Dust Band.

Casa del Prado: El Prado, Balboa Park.
October 25 — "Let's Play."

The Casbah: 2501 Kettner Boulevard, Little Italy, 619-232-4355.
September 4 — The Tighten Ups and the Shakeups.
September 5 — Transfer, Hialeah, Modern Rifles.
September 6 — Witch and Earthless.
September 7 — Burning of Rome and the Feelings Mutual.
September 8 — RoMak & the Space Pirates.
September 9 — Bodies of Water and Throw Me the Statue.
September 10 — Tom Baxter and Charlie Winston.
September 12 — Demasiado, Irradio, Firethorn.
September 13 — Lady Dottie & the Diamonds.
September 14 — The Smart Brothers and the Wrong Trousers.
September 17 — Dr. Dog, Delta Spirit, Hacienda.
September 18 — The Wedding Present.
September 19 — Liam Finn and the Veils.
September 20 — Cash'd Out.
September 21 — Miles Hunt, Wayne Hussey, Lisa Dewey.
September 23 — Silver Jews and James Jackson Toth.
September 25 — Federico Aubele and Natalie Clavier.
September 26 — The Black Heart Procession.
September 27 — TSOL and the Hollowpoints.
September 28 — Ra Ra Riot and Walter Meego.
September 30 — Pattern Is Movement and Swim Party.
October 1 — The Sian Alice Group.
October 5 — The People Under the Stairs.
October 8 — Margot & the Nuclear So and So's.
October 9 — Quintron & Ms. Pussycat.
October 10 — Bang Camaro.
October 11 — Big Sandy & His Fly-Rite Boys.
October 14 — The Rumble Strips and Birdmonster.
October 17 — Born Ruffians.
October 18 — Chinese Stars and Hostile Comb-Over.
October 19 — Polysics.
October 20 — Brightblack Morning Light.
October 22 — Pinback and Mr. Tube & the Flying Objects.
October 30 — Ted Leo & Pharmacists.
November 2 — Chuck Ragan, Tom Gabel, Ben Nichols, Tim Barry.
November 4 — Magnetic Morning and Drew Andrews.
November 5 — Sole & the Skyrider band.
November 8 — Electric Six and Local H.
November 11 — King Khan & the BBQ Show.
November 15 — Mudhoney.
November 28 — Deerhunter and Times New Viking.
November 29 — Blitzen Trapper and the Parson Redheads.

Matt & Kim, August 29, Ché Café

Ché Café: 9500 Gilman Drive, B-0323C, La Jolla, 858-534-2311.
September 5 — Graf Orlock, Zann, Lewd Acts.
September 9 — Ceremony and Poverty Bay Saints.
September 13 — Rat City Riot and Northern Towns.
September 20 — These Arms Are

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Tuesday, September 2 etix
DUSTY RHODES & THE RIVER BAND
THE MOTHER TRUCKERS
TROPHY WIFE

Thursday, August 28
SOMEDAY ASSASSIN
OPUS DAI • BREAKHOUSE

Friday, August 29
REBEL REBEL
NEW AMERICAN MOB
(CD release)
THE STRANGERS
WHISKEY DICKS
JOHNNY CHEAPO

Saturday, August 30
DROPJOY
STARLINE THEORIE
ONE LONELY ROBOT
NEW DAY MILE

Monday, September 1
Martin from Over the Border presents
MARIA DANIELA Y SU SONIDO LASSERS
SILVERIO

Wednesday, September 3
JOSH DAMIGO BAND
ERNIE HALTER
KEATON SIMONS
ASTRA KELLY • NATE JAMES

Thursday, September 4 • Free Show
KICKING K8
MARY MAGDALAN • MOTUS
ELECTRIC MISTRESS

Friday, September 5
IRRADIO • KILLOLA
THE ACTION DESIGN
(Featuring ex-members of Tsunami Bomb)
JUPITER SOUND CLASH
THE FORWARD

Saturday, September 6
LINDSAY HAIL
(CD release ft. members of Sx-10 & Wick)
FEELING OF HATE • HERETIC
MISS KELLY STRANGE

Monday, September 8
PLEASURE DEVICE
EARLY AUTUMN
BEHIND THE WAGON

9/9 **Bleed the Sky** • 9/12 **Vains of Jenna** • 9/20 **Uli Jon Roth** • 9/26 **Rehab** • 9/27 **Hell on Heels**
10/1 **Semi Precious Weapons** • 10/2 **Lucybell** • 10/7 **The Plastic People** (From the Czech Republic)
10/10 **Rival Schools** • 10/11 **From the Jam, Scarlet Symphony** • 10/25 **DevilDriver** • **Snot**
11/1 **Caravans** • 11/7 **Imperative Reaction** • 11/14 **Rainn Benefit** • 11/26 **Green Jelly**

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• Thurs., 8/28: Skelpin
• Fri., 8/29: special guests Drowning Men
• Sat., 8/30: TrackYourDeeds, Inc. presents "Beach Cruise for a Cause" – Grab Your Bikes!
When: 10 am • Start: 290 Seagaze Dr., Oceanside
End: Hensley's Pub and Grill
All proceeds being donated to Voices for Children.
T.Y.D. will raffle Electra Beach Cruiser and other prizes.
• Sun., 8/31: Brit-Pop DJ
• Mon., 9/1: The Blokes
• Tues., 9/2: Comedy Night presenting Rich the Stitch
• Wed., 9/3: Joe Wood

Sneak Peek
• Sun., 9/14: Cranky George from the Pogues

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Thur. 8/28 & Fri. 8/29
Thursday
5-8 PM: Winstons Game Day with Nintendo Wii
Friday
7-9 PM OCEAN BEACH COMEDY
featuring TOM HESTER
(Both Nights) National Touring Artists

BLUE TURTLE SEDUCTION

Sat. 8/30
National Touring Hip-Hop

PIGEON JOHN
DESTRUCTO BUNNY
JFEVE • KRUSE

Sun. 8/31
4-7 PM: FUNK N THE TRUNK
Karaoke OB Style
OB•O•KE
HOSTED BY JOSÉ SINATRA

$2 drinks 9 pm to close

Mon. 9/1
6-8 PM: Drunk Poets Society
An evening of music from the Grateful Dead

ELECTRIC WASTE BAND

Tues. 9/2
6-9 PM: Think 'N' Drink Trivia
National Touring Artists
JACOB FRED JAZZ ODYSSEY

Wed. 9/3
4-8 PM: Winstons Art Show
With Fresh Reggae Beats by DJ COOL BREEZE
Rock
NEW DAYZ
With
THE JON GARNER TRIO

UPCOMING:
9/5: A Tribute to Sublime 40 OZ. TO FREEDOM
9/6: VEGITATION
9/10: The Driving Horns of Slightly Stoopid bring you C-MONEY & THE PLAYERS

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BLUE SPRING
KYLE BAN BAND
BLUE SUEDE BUICK

PRESEASON FOOTBALL
DET @ BUF 3:30PM
CHI @ CLE 4:30PM

PRESEASON FOOTBALL
SD @ SF FRI. 7PM

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OPENING DAY/SAT. 4PM

SOULSHINE 3Day BREAST CANCER Benefit
FRI. AUG. 29TH Bitter&Sweet
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STRANGER
NATURAL INCENSE
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Calendar
MUSIC

Snakes and sBach.
October 17 — Chinese Stars and the Awesome Brothers.
October 19 — The Paddle Boat and Agent Ribbons.

Copley Symphony Hall: 750 B Street, Downtown, 619-235-0804.
October 1 — Sigur Rós.

Cox Arena: 550 Campanile Drive, College Area, 619-594-6947.
September 12 — Alejandro Fernandez.
October 17 — Weezer.
October 29 — Neil Young.
October 30 — Rise Against, the Alkaline Trio, Thrice.
November 25 — New Kids on the Block.

Cricket Wireless Amphitheatre: 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista, 619-671-3600.
September 12 — Old School End of Summer Jam.
September 13 — Counting Crows and Maroon 5.
September 21 — Luis Miguel.
September 27 — Third Day and Switchfoot.
September 30 — Carlos Santana.
October 16 — Jimmy Buffett.

Croce's: 802 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-233-4355.
September 4, September 11 — Pocket.

Dublin Square: 554 Fourth Avenue, Downtown, 619-239-5818.
September 8 — Astra Kelly and Russ Russell & the New Formerlys.

East Village: 13th & K Streets, Downtown.
September 19, September 20 — Street Scene.

Embarcadero Marina Park North: 849 W Harbor Drive, Downtown.
September 12, September 14 — ArtWalk on the Bay.

Encinitas Library: 540 Cornish Drive, Encinitas.
September 7 — Rack of Bones and FriendsFirst.

Epicentre: 8450 Mira Mesa Boulevard, Mira Mesa, 858-271-4000.
September 6 — Bamboo.
September 12 — Sherm the Band and Unknown Motive.
September 13 — The Crashing Marbles and Six Reasons.
November 15 — A Cursive Memory.

Escondido Library: 239 South Kalmia Street, Escondido.
September 4 — Cahill and Delene.
October 2 — T.K. Gardner.
December 4 — Peter Sprague.

The Handlery Hotel and Resort: 950 Hotel Circle North, Mission Valley, 619-298-0511.
September 5 — John Katchur.
September 7 — Pool Party.
September 10 — Christopher Dale and Friends.
September 12 — The Citizen Band.
September 17 — Christopher Dale and Friends.
September 19 — The Christopher Dale Trio.
September 24 — Christopher Dale and Friends.
September 26 — Barbara Nesbitt.

Hennessey's Tavern - Gaslamp: 708 Fourth Avenue, Downtown, 619-239-9994.
September 24 — Brooklyn & Bradley.

Hensley's Flying Elephant Pub and Grill: 850 Tamarack Avenue, Carlsbad, 760-729-4996.
September 14 — Cranky George.

BACKSTAGE
at

Thurs Aug 28th
9pm- New Colossus
Dream Tiger
Jesse Nova

Sun Aug 31st
9pm- Decades Party!
70's, 80's and 90's!
Radiostar @ 10pm

Mon Sept 1st
9pm- Killer Karaoke

Tues Sept 2nd
10pm- Radiostar

Wed Sept 3rd
10pm- Maddox Revolution

Sun Sept 7th
9pm- Linday White
Ernie Garcia

Mon Sept 8th
9pm- Killer Karaoke

Tues Sept 9th
10pm- Radiostar

Wed Sept 10th
10pm- Maddox Revolution

Thurs Sept 11th
9pm- Feed the Kitty
Close Talker

Mon Sept 15th
9pm- Killer Karaoke

Tues Sept 16th
10pm- Radiostar

Wed Sept 17th
10pm- Maddox Revolution

Thurs Sept 18th
10pm- Summer Mencher
Dapper Dans

Thurs Sept 25th
8pm- Cathryn Beeks
Showcase
(4 Bands TBA)

Thurs Oct 9th
8pm- The Bitter End
Anniversary Party!

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Booking information
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Poison
August 28
tickets starting at $45

760 KFMB Political Party
featuring Glenn Beck
September 12
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Undercover

featuring:
Led Zepagain
Dead Man's Party
The Joshua Tree
Disco Inferno

September 13
tickets only $15

Kid Rock
September 17
tickets starting at $71

Ana Gabriel
September 21
tickets starting at $65

Anita Baker
September 27
tickets starting at $75

Smokey Robinson
October 8
tickets starting at $45

FREE Entertainment

August 29 – Metro

August 30 – Queen Nation
(Tribute to Queen)

September 5 – Arctic Heat

September 19 – Superfunk
Fantasy

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Thursday, August 28
Soul Thunder

Friday & Saturday, August 29 & 30 • 9 pm
Classic Rock

5 Miles High

Sunday, August 31
The Gulag Carnies
Darken the Soul
Burden Arise

New Every Monday
Karaoke

Wednesday, September 3 • 9 pm
The Reverend Stickman
Bedpost Buzzards • Fuzz Huzzi

Santee

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

Thursday, August 28
Bed of Nails • Hard Echo

Friday & Saturday, August 29 & 30 • 9 pm
Classic Rock

Serious Guise

Sunday, August 31
One Inch Punch
Magnolia Black

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Calendar
MUSIC

Hornblower Cruises: 1066 North Harbor Drive, Downtown, 619-686-8715.
October 3 — Z-Bop.
November 7 — The Bayou Brothers.

House of Blues: 1055 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-299-2583.
September 5 — Wild Child.
September 6 — Shinedown.
September 11 — DJ Flex.
September 11 — Cubensis.
September 12 — Ratatat.
September 13 — Rebelution.
September 14 — Black Rebel Motorcycle Club.
September 18 — The Fratellis.
September 19 — Lights.
September 20 — Bonfire.
September 22 — Lila Downs.
September 23 — Brazilian Girls.
September 24 — Paul Wall.
September 26 — Smokin' Joe Kubek & Benois King.
October 1 — Lagwagon and MxPx.
October 3 — James.
October 4 — Mindless Self Indulgence.
October 8 — Yngwie Malmsteen.
October 11 — Chris Cagle.
October 12 — The Kings of Leon.
October 16 — Jorge Celedón & Jimmy Zambrano.
October 17 — Led Zepagain.
October 19 — Streetlight Manifesto.
October 20 — Tech N9ne.
October 21 — VNV Nation.
October 25 — Bayside.
October 28 — Matt Nathanson.
October 29 — Umphrey's McGee.
October 30 — Apocalyptica.
November 1 — The Damned.
November 2 — Cobra Starship.
November 5 — Ingrid Michaelson.
November 12 — Joe Satriani.
November 16 — Hanson.
November 19 — The Misfits.
November 23 — GWAR.
November 30 — Bell Biv Devoe.
December 4 — Five Finger Death Punch.
January 25 — Ramon Ayala.
February 7 — Badfish.
February 21 — Reverend Horton Heat and Manic Hispanic.

Humphrey's by the Bay: 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Point Loma, 619-224-3577.
September 12 — The Alan Parsons Live Project.
September 13 — Air Supply and Christopher Cross.
September 16 — Lindsey Buckingham.
September 21 — Musiq Soulchild.
September 25 — Kenny G.

O'Connells
THURSDAYS KARAOKE
FRIDAY 8/29
JIMMY DEAN & THE SAUSAGE KINGS
BEHIND THE WAGON
CATHOUSE THUMPERS
SATURDAY 8/30
OFF TRACK
DON'T SAY VEGAS
STARVING FOR GRAVITY
SUNDAY 8/31
RIVER CITY
THE VERSO
DJ GONZO
MONDAY 9/1
BLUES JAM 8PM W/ MYSTERY TRAIN
WEDNESDAY 9/3
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Sunday: NFL Ticket in HD
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$3 drafts/margaritas & great food specials!

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Sat. & Sun. 10 am till 3 pm
$2.50 mimosas

$10 pitchers
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DOOR DISCOUNT PASSWORD IS: DOM P

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 29TH

HOSTED BY ROB ZOOMY & POINT ENTERTAINMENT

FRIDAY NIGHT SHAKEDOWNS

SPINNIN' ON THE WHEELS OF STEEL
DJ ENIGMA * DJ DUBZ * KAYELLA MIXMASTERS
WITH GUEST DJ'S OF MINDZALIKE: DJ JULZ & DJ EDROC

$3 KAMIKAZI SHOTS & FEATURED BOTTLED BEERS ALL NIGHT
$5 LONG ISLANDS & VODKA ROCKSTARS 'TIL 10:30PM
2 FOR 1 BOTTLE SPECIALS FOR VIP'S (CONTACT TINH @ 619.840.8087)

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 30TH

DRED CARPET PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

1 YEAR ANNIVERSARY EXTRAVAGANZA

SPECIAL GUEST HOST: CHRIS LOOS & VANYA FROM BLAZIN 98.9
SPECIAL LIVE PERFORMANCE BY INTERNATIONAL RECORDING ARTIST: ASHLEY ROBLES
IN THE MIX: DJ E-FLEX, DJ TECH, DJ RAGE
GIFT BAG GIVEAWAYS TO 1ST 50 GUESTS
$5 APPLETINIS & COSMOPOLITANS 'TIL 10:30PM
$JAGERMEISTER SHOTS : $4 BUD LIGHT LIMES
HOSTED BAR BY SVEDKA VODKA FROM 9-10PM | 2 FOR 1 BOTTLE SPECIAL
STRICT AND UP SCALE DRESS CODE REQUIRED : DOORS OPEN AT 9PM

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30TH @ 7PM
SOCIAL SATURDAYS - CHAMPAGNE TASTING EVENT!
PLEASE CALL 619.696.3326 TO PRE-RESERVE : 21+ : MORE INFO : DECOSEVENTS@GMAIL.COM

SUNDAY, AUGUST 31ST

INFINITE ENT., OFF TOP PROD., EVENTVIBE, MUSIQDIVE,
101 PARTY PROD., THROWDOWN ELITE & JAY AVERY PRESENTS

KRUSH : 18+ MEGA EVENT

DJ AYEENA & DJ AL SQUARED
WITH JORGE LUNA OF LYON CROWNS ON THE DRUMS

ALSO FEATURING INIFINITE ALLSTARS:
DJ SIXX & DJ RAMPAGE ALONG WITH 101 PARTY ROCKER DJ SENEMA
2 ROOMS OF HEART POUNDING MUSIC FOR 18+ & 1 DEDICATED OPEN-AIR ROOM FOR 21+

EVENT SPONSORED BY: THROWDOWN ELITE TRAINING CENTER
AND HOSTED BY CELEBRITY UFC FIGHTER : DEAN "THE BOOGIEMAN" LISTER
THROWAWAY GIRLS WILL BE IN THE BUILDING WITH MEMBERSHIP GIVEAWAYS ALL NIGHT!

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619.696.DECO : WWW.DECOS.TV : 731 FIFTH AVENUE GASLAMP

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www.sandiegoreader.com/news/contests/

and click on the AEG Live logo!!!

Calendar
MUSIC

September 26 — Seal.
September 28 — Etta James & the Roots Band.
October 2 — David Byrne.
October 3 — America.
October 5 — Cecilio & Kapono.
October 9 — Duffy.
October 19 — Gordon Lightfoot.

The Jumping Turtle: 1660 Capalina Road, San Marcos, 760-741-7778.
September 4 — Nature of the Beast.

The Kensington Club: 4079 Adams Avenue, Kensington-Talmadge, 619-284-2848.
September 13 — Sayvinyl.

The Kraken: 2531 South Highway 101, Cardiff, 760-436-6483.
October 4 — The Farmers.

La Paloma Theatre: 471 South Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-436-7469.
September 10 — Picus Maximus.

McCabe's Beach Club: 1145 South Tremont Street, Oceanside, 760-439-6646.
October 11 — Fleetwood Max.

Neurosciences Institute: 10640 John Jay Hopkins Drive, La Jolla.
September 18 — Bill Charlap and Renee Rosnes.

O'Connell's Pub and Nightclub: 1130 Morena Boulevard, Linda Vista, 619-276-5637.
September 5 — Death on Mars and Flight or Fight.

On Broadway: 615 Broadway Avenue, Downtown, 619-231-0011.
September 7 — Shawne Merriman After Party.

Open Air Theatre at 5500 Campanile Drive, College Area, 619-594-6947.
September 6 — Slightly Stoopid and Pepper.
September 24 — The Raconteurs.
September 25 — My Morning Jacket.
October 2 — The Mars Volta.
October 15 — The Roots and the Gym Class Heroes.
October 31 — Jason Mraz.

Pala Casino: 35008 Pala Temecula Road, Pala, 877-946-7252.
September 13 — JACKfest II Undercover.
September 17 — Kid Rock.
September 21 — Ana Gabriel.
September 27 — Anita Baker.
October 8 — Smokey Robinson.

Petco Park: 100 Park Boulevard, Downtown, 619-795-5000.
November 4 — Madonna.

Pine Avenue Park: 3205 Harding Street, Carlsbad, 760-602-7513.
September 21 — Cowboy Jack.

Pounders: 125 West Grand Avenue, Escondido, 760-739-1288.
September 13 — Hear No Evil.

Poway Center for the Performing Arts: 15498 Espola Road, Poway, 858-748-0505.
September 15 — Judy Collins and Leo Kottke.

Prescott Promenade: 211 1/2 East Main Street, El Cajon.
September 5 — The Mar Dels.

Qualcomm Stadium: 9449 Friars Road, Mission Valley, 619-283-0460.
September 6 — Bob Dylan & His

6-Hour Weekend Special Starting at $399
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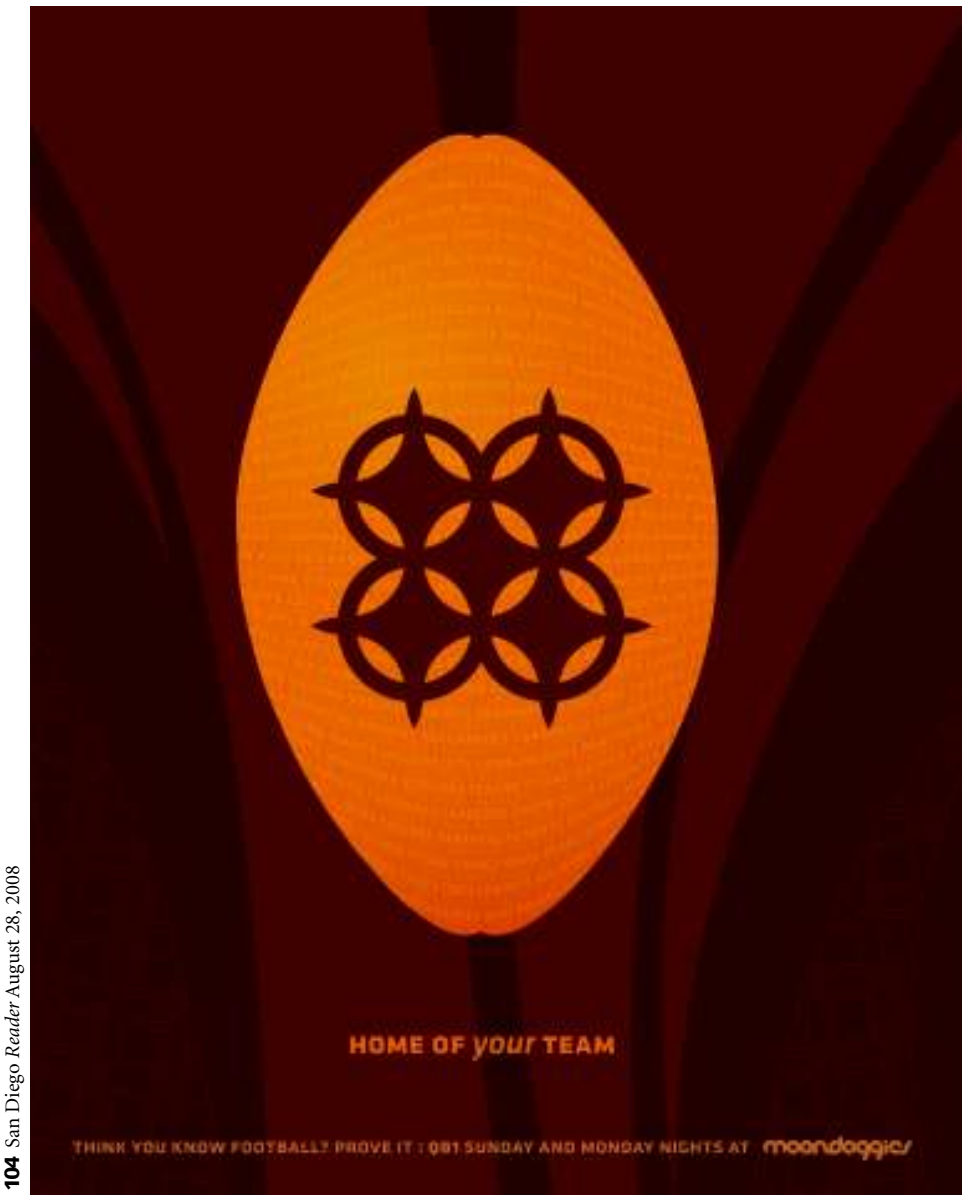

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Now every Tuesday 7:30-10:30 pm $8
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Every Tuesday 6:30-7:15 pm.
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$7 All Day • 1:30-6 pm

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Ranchita Rocks 2008

Strangelove Productions

SEPTEMBER 12TH, 13TH, 14TH

Yonder Mountain String Band
Bassnectar • Particle
Mountain *featuring* **Leslie West & Corky Laing**
Ruby the Fire Breathing Fire Truck
featuring **aerial performers Zircon & Wish**
Melvin Seals & JGB • Gram Rabbit • Tom Freund
Shark Attack • ON THE ONE • Izabella • Delta Nove • Vegitation
Alfred Howard and the K23 • MoJow & Vibration Army
PUJA • Cubensis
The Frequency • Interstate Blues • The Nate LaPointe Band • Beth Preston
Still Time • Chi Club • Blackbirdz • Four Minutes til Midnight
Techno Hillbillies • Grand Canyon Sundown Red Warrior Drum Group
The Glenn Smith Band • Cheap Thrills • Outpost • Haywire
Left Hand Monkey Wrench • Tefflon • The Naked Sun • The Maykers
Stolen Rose • Dopegirl • Mike Delux Band • OB3 • The Troubleweeds
Funky A • A Dull Science • Compass Rose • O.T.I
Christopher Hawley Rollers • Pangea Collective • Off Track • LA 5
DJ Smitty J • Radius • Obscure Relevance • Jay Constable
Destructo Bunny • Nikki O'Neill Band • DJ Atom Matter
Linda Sublett • Fishamon & the MindWorld Steppers
Comedy *featuring Lisa Sundstedt's* **Pretty Funny Women**

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SAN DIEGO WEEKLY

Reader STREET TEAM in the scene

Have you been tagged by the *Reader* Street Team? See your photos on sdreader.com

5th Annual Thread Fashion Show at the Sheraton

Tony Hawk's Boom Boom HuckJam at Concerts on the Green

Upcoming Events

Live Music by The Melvins & Big Business
Thursday, August 28
3105 Ocean Front Walk ▪ Mission Beach
Call (858) 488-1780 for tix and info.

Live Music by Project: Out of Bounds
Thursday, August 28
1542 N. Coast Hwy., Leucadia
Meet the Reader Street Team at 10 pm!
Call (760)753-2094 for more info.

For more information on upcoming events visit sdreader.com

Calendar
MUSIC

Band.
October 24 — Great White.

Ramona MainStage Theatre: 626 Main Street, Ramona, 760-789-7008.
September 5 — The Hitts.
September 6 — The Rumblers.
September 12 — Given Life.
September 20 — Danielle Tucker and the City Limits Band.
September 27 — Cash'd Out.

Riley's: 2901 Nimitz Boulevard, Point Loma, 619-255-8635.
September 13 — Federal Funk.

San Diego Civic Theatre: 1100 Third Avenue, Downtown, 858-570-1100.
November 10 — Alanis Morissette.

San Diego Sports Arena: 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, Point Loma, 619-224-4171.
September 20 — Janet Jackson.
September 26 — Playhouse Disney Live!
October 5 — Panic at the Disco and Dashboard Confessional.
October 7 — Neil Diamond.
November 8 — Carrie Underwood.
December 1 — Celtic Thunder.
December 21 — The Cheetah Girls.

San Diego Sports Club: 1271 University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-299-7372.
September 4 — "Best Pop Album Night."

San Dieguito United Methodist Church: 170 Calle Magdalena, Encinitas.
September 6 — Peggy Watson.
September 20 — Peter Sprague and Fred Benedetti.
September 27 — "Tribute to Woody Guthrie."

Scottish Rite Center: 1895 Camino Del Rio South, Mission Valley, 619-297-0397.
September 6 — "The Music of Sri Chinmoy."

Seaport Village: 849 West Harbor Drive, Downtown.
September 7 — The Bayou Brothers.
September 14 — Barbara Jamerson & Two Deep.
September 21 — The Cat-illacs.
September 28 — Nova.

Sevilla: 555 Fourth Avenue, Downtown, 619-233-5979.
September 4 — BombaChante.
September 7 — Angel Lebron y Su Sabor Latino.
September 9 — Orquesta 8.8.
September 10 — Charlie Chavez y Su Afro Truco.
September 11 — Orquesta Primo.
September 14 — Orquesta Salsa Caliente.
September 16 — Walter II and Orquesta Rumbaney.
September 17 — Orquesta Guarare.
September 18 — Son y Clave.
September 21 — BombaChante.
September 23 — Orquesta Primo.
September 24 — Trece de la Suerte.
September 25 — Orquesta Salsa Caliente.
September 28 — Orquesta Primo.
September 30 — Charlie Chavez y Su Afro Truco.

Soma: 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, Point Loma, 619-226-7662.
September 4 — White Chapel and Through the Eyes of the Dead.
September 5 — Play the Fox.
September 6 — Canobliss and Sicarus.
September 12 — The Rocket Summer and the Secret Handshake.

THURSDAY • AUGUST 28
FAREWELL TO ADVENTURE MAX
KILL ME TOMORROW
TOBYN CLARKE & THE TENDER FAERIES
FANTASTIC MAGIC

FRIDAY • AUGUST 29
EARLY SHOW – 7 PM
NEIL HALSTEAD
MIRANDA LEE RICHARDS

LATE SHOW – 10 PM
GET BACK LORETTA
VISION OF A DYING WORLD
BOOMSNAKE

IN THE ATARI LOUNGE
SILVERGHOST

SATURDAY • AUGUST 30
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TRANS AM
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FM 94.9 PRESENTS A FREE SHOW
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FREE FOOD FROM LUCHA LIBRE
MANUAL SCAN
SELF MADE MEN
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LATE NIGHT – 10 PM
JIVEWIRE/ ONE NATION UNDER A GROOVE
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MONDAY • SEPTEMBER 1
SOUTHERN CULTURE ON THE SKIDS
SLIM CESSNA'S AUTO CLUB

TUESDAY • SEPTEMBER 2
ZOMBIE SURF CAMP
MIDDLE CLASS RUT
ROYAL CAMPAIGN

WEDNESDAY • SEPTEMBER 3
THE WOMBATS
POP NOIR

THURSDAY • SEPTEMBER 4
THE TIGHTEN UPS
THE SHAKEUPS

FRIDAY • SEPTEMBER 5
FUNDRAISER FOR ERIC'S SON
TRANSFER • HIALEAH
MODERN RIFLES

SATURDAY • SEPTEMBER 6
WITCH • EARTHLESS

SUNDAY • SEPTEMBER 7
BURNING OF ROME
FEELING'S MUTUAL
TAPEDECK MOUNTAIN
TUSHUSHIMARE

TUESDAY • SEPTEMBER 9
THROW ME THE STATUE
BODIES OF WATER

THURSDAY • SEPTEMBER 11
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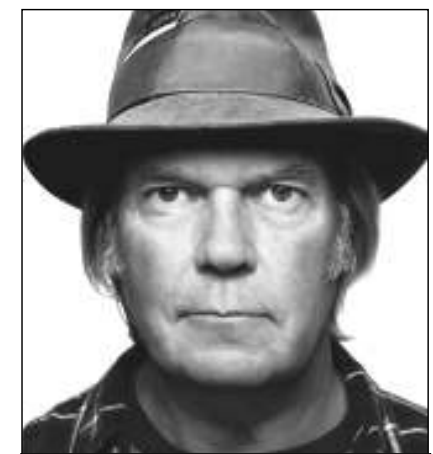
Madonna
November 4



Neil Young
October 29

Jack Johnson August 30
Alejandro Fernandez September 12
Art Laboe September 12
Counting Crows/ Maroon 5 September 13
Janet Jackson September 20
Luis Miguel September 21
Raconteurs September 24
Santana September 30
Sigur Ros October 1
The Mars Volta October 2
Neil Diamond October 7
Sara Barieles October 9
Jimmy Buffett October 16

The Roots October 15
Weezer October 17
Frank Caliendo October 18
WWE October 28
Rise Against October 30
Jason Mraz October 31
Carrie Underwood November 8
Alanis Morissette November 10
Cheech & Chong November 28
Cheetah Girls December 21

"Drowsy Chaperone" September 23-28
"Think You Can Dance" September 28

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Thursday, August 28
Bill Magee Blues
"The Legend Continues..."

Friday, August 29
Missy Andersen
"High-Energy Soul"

LABOR DAY WEEKEND!

Saturday, August 30
Soul Diego
"High-Energy Motown Dance Rock"

Sunday, Aug. 31
145th St. Deluxe Blues Band

Labor Day Monday, Sept. 1
Chet Cannon & The Committee

Tuesday, Sept. 2
Blue Largo

Wednesday, Sept. 3
Len Rainey & The Midnight Players

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October Wildfires

1-year anniversary community benefit party to promote healing

Love and Roll Productions Benefit Concert Series present:

Great White

With very special guests:

Dokken • Sweet • Asia

Friday, October 24, 2008
at Qualcomm's practice field

Benefit concert for the victims of the October wildfires.

On sale today at 10 am at Ticketmaster.
VIP packages available: **858-395-3473**
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Spreading love through music.

Sponsored by RB United Recovery Center

RB United
rebuilding RB together

Rancho Bernardo United is a coalition brought together by the Rancho Bernardo Community Foundation to identify and meet our community's after-the-fire needs.

Calendar
MUSIC

September 13 — Kate Voegele and Virginia Coalition.
September 14 — Tyrone Wells, Jason Reeves, Tyler Beach.
September 19 — Rancid.
September 20 — Children of Nova and Deaf Zero.
September 21 — August Burns Red, a Skylit Drive, Sky Eats Airplane.
October 3 — Shiny Toy Guns.
October 11 — Kataklysm and Dying Fetus.
October 15 — Norma Jean and Haste the Day.
October 16 — Anberlin and Scary Kids Scaring Kids.
October 17 — The Academy Is….
October 24 — Chiodos and Silverstein.
October 31 — All Time Low and Mayday Parade.
November 1 — Suicide Silence and Emmure.
November 2 — Maylene & the Sons of Disaster.
November 14 — Minus the Bear and Annuals.
November 15 — Ludo.
November 16 — Underoath and Saosin.
November 26 — Shwayze and Tyga.
November 29 — Pierce the Veil and Breathe Carolina.

Spreckels Theatre: 121 Broadway, Downtown, 619-235-9500.
October 9 — Sara Bareilles.
November 1 — Ray Lamontagne.
November 8 — Citizen Cope.

Swedenborg Hall: 1531 Tyler Avenue, University Heights.
September 6, September 7 — Amanuel Zarzowski and Brenda Xu.

Sycuan Casino Showcase Theatre: 5469 Casino Way, El Cajon.
September 4 — Foghat.

Theatrx: 155 East Grand Avenue, Escondido, 760-735-2491.
September 19 — The Bill Magee Blues Band.
October 17 — Dennis Jones.

Tio Leo's Lounge: 5302 Napa Street, Linda Vista, 619-542-1462.
September 5 — Shake Out.
September 6 — The Charles Burton Band.
October 25 — The Farmers.

V Lounge: 5000 Willows Road, Alpine, 619-445-5400.
October 4 — Federal Funk.

Valley View Casino: 16300 Nyemii Pass Road, Valley Center, 866-843-9946.
September 5 — Federal Funk.
October 5 — Earth, Wind & Fire.
October 15 — Randy Travis.

Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park: 5005 Willows Road, Alpine, 619-445-5400.
September 12 — Jaguares.
September 17 — San Diego Music Awards.
September 28 — Flogging Molly.

Viejas Casino DreamCatcher Show Room: 5000 Willows Road, Alpine, 619-445-5400.
September 14 — Sister Hazel.
September 20 — Federal Funk.
November 1 — K-Ci and JoJo.
November 7 — The Spinners.

Wave House: 3125 Mission Boulevard, Mission Beach.
September 6 — Unwritten Law.
September 26 — The Dark Star Orchestra.
October 18 — Bob Schneider.

Winstons: 1921 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach, 619-222-6822.
September 12 — Pocket.
September 16 — EOTO.

WorldBeat Cultural Center: 2100 Park Boulevard, Balboa Park, 619-263-7911.
September 6 — Tribal Seeds.

Yoga One: 1150 Seventh Avenue, Downtown, 619-294-7461.
September 13 — Jakob Martin.

DJ

HOW TO SUBMIT A DJ LISTING: *Call 619-235-3000 x405, night or day by 5 pm Friday, the week prior to publication. To send weekly or monthly schedules, fax to 619-231-0489 or mail to Reader Music Scene, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA, 92186. You may also submit information online, get directions, maps, event alerts, RSS feeds, club coupons, and more at* SanDiegoReader.com.

Air Conditioned Lounge: *Fridays*: DJ Junior. Disco, funk, and '80s music. *Saturdays*: Juicy. With Mike Czech and DJ SG. *Sundays*: Guest DJ Night. Guest DJs to be announced. *Mondays*: Dedicated to You. Modern funk and soul with DJ 1979. *Tuesdays*, 11:30 p.m.: Big Sonic Chill. Sponsored by San Diego's Local 94.9. *Wednesdays*: Rotating Crew. Spin house, electro, and hip-hop. *Thursday*, 9 p.m.: Boombox Thursdays. With DJs Edgartronic, Groundfloor, and guests. 4673 30th Street, Normal Heights. 619-501-9831.

Bar Dynamite: *Thursdays*, 9 p.m.: DJs SG, Dubz, Teknikscian. Hip-hop, old skool, and mashups. $5. *Wednesdays*, 9 p.m.: Deep House Nite. DJs Duane, Lil Ryan, and Johnny D spin house music. 1808 West Washington Street, Mission Hills. 619-295-8743.

The Bar Pink: *Mondays*, 9:30 p.m.: Grown Folk Music. Features the Husky Boy All Stars DJ Buddha and Duse. Hip-hop/soul. 3829 30th Street, North Park. 619-564-7194.

Beauty Bar: *Tuesdays*, 9 p.m.: Trans Am Tuesdays. New wave '80s dance party with DJ Heather Hardcore. 4746 El Cajon Boulevard, Kensington-Talmadge. 619-516-4746.

The Bitter End: *Sunday*, 9 p.m.: Decades Party. Music from the '70s, '80s, and '90s. 770 Fifth Avenue, Downtown. 619-338-9300.

Camel's Breath Inn: *Fridays*, *Saturdays*: Live DJ. Ages 21 and up. 1033 Friars Road, Mission Valley. 619-281-1722.

Candelas: *Thursdays*: DJ ALA. Deep soulful house music. 416 Third Avenue, Downtown. 619-702-4455.

Canes: *Saturday*, 9 p.m.: D-Rock and Sighphur One. *Friday*, 10 a.m.: Live Beach Broadcast. With local Rock 105.3. 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach. 858-488-1780.

Coyote Bar and Grill: *Thursdays*, 10:30 p.m.: DJ Earl Henry. *Fridays*, 10:30 p.m., *Saturdays*, 10:30 p.m.: DJ Steve Hasty. 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad. 760-729-4695.

Deco's Restaurant & Nightclub: *Thursdays*: Krush. Hosted by Chase Costello, Steve Kamp, Jack Kennedy, and more. Hip-hop/mashups/party rock. Ages 18 and up. 731 Fifth Avenue, Downtown. 619-696-3326.

The Filling Station: *Fridays*, 9 p.m., *Saturdays*, 9 p.m.: DJ Dance Party. 9522 Miramar Road, Mira Mesa. 858-578-0757.

Inferno Young Adult Nightclub: *Wednesday*, 9 p.m.: Summertime Jam. With DJ Dizzy D. Techno/hip-hop/pop. $7-$10. Ages 16 and up. *Friday*, 9 p.m., *Saturday*, 9 p.m.: DJ Kool T. Spins Top 40, techno, and '80s. $10. Ages 16 and up. 775 Metcalf Street, Escondido. 760-741-1271.

Jack's La Jolla: *Thursdays*, 10 p.m., *Saturdays*, 10 p.m.: Wall Street Bar. DJs and dancing. 7863 Girard Avenue, La Jolla. 858-456-8111.

Kadan: *Mondays*, 9 p.m.: Mayhem Mondays. Punk rock every Monday. Live bands and resident DJ Nate Horror provide the tunes. 4696 30th Street, North Park. 619-640-2500.

The Kensington Club: *Wednesday*, 9:30 p.m.: DJs Adam Zerote and Albert Camote. Spin punk, hardcore, metal, and more. 4079 Adams Avenue, Kensington-Talmadge. 619-284-2848.

The Kraken: *Tuesday*: DJ Aesthetix. 2531 South Highway 101, Cardiff. 760-436-6483.

Moondoggies Pacific Beach: *Saturdays*, 9 p.m.: What's Good. DJs Enigma and Cisco. Hip-hop, R&B, and Top 40. 832 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-483-6550.

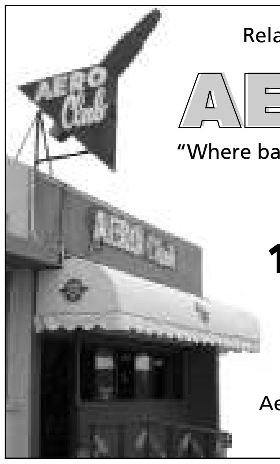
On Broadway: *Saturday*: Dimitris Mykonos. Electro/house. *Sunday*: Sander Van Doorn. Club/electro/techno. *Friday*: BT. Electronica. 615 Broadway Avenue, Downtown. 619-231-0011.

Sevilla: *Fridays*, 9:30 p.m.: Blazin' Fridays. Hip-hop and reggaeton with Blazin' 98.9. *Saturday*, 9 p.m.: South Beach Party. White party with DJ Armando. Latin/salsa/hip-hop. 555 Fourth Avenue, Downtown. 619-233-5979.

Static Lounge: *Sunday*, 9 p.m.: DJs Jaba One, Oli Baba, Windz. Hip-hop. 634 Broadway, Downtown. 619-544-1609.

Whiskey Girl: *Fridays*, 9 p.m., *Saturdays*, 9 p.m.: DJ Marc Thrasher. Mixes music videos. *Sundays*, 9 p.m.: DJ Famous Dave. Mixes music videos. *Mondays*, 9 p.m.: U Call it Mondays. With DJ Marc Thrasher. *Tuesdays*, 9 p.m., *Wednesdays*, 9 p.m.: DJ Famous Dave. Mixes music videos. 600 Fifth Avenue, Downtown. 619-236-1616.

Whistle Stop Bar: *Sundays*: Night of the Cookers. Listen to classics and favorites from personal jazz record collections. Ages 21 and up. *Tuesdays*, 9 p.m.: Friends Chill. Board games and mellow grooves every Tuesday night. Candyland, Connect 4, Operation, Atari and Nintendo on the big screen. Ages 21 and up. 2236 Fern Street, South Park. 619-284-6784.



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Crasher

LITTLE ELVIS

by Josh Board

Top left: Kids guarding the birthday cakes; *Top right:* James and the belly dancer; *Bottom left:* At the photo booth, where black-and-white Polaroids were taken; *Bottom right:* Little Elvis

I went to North County for James's 90th birthday. As I pulled up, I noticed that there was a party across the street for a woman expecting a baby. I thought that was an interesting contrast, and I would've gone over and crashed it, but I wasn't sure how receptive they'd be. And I already had another party to go to later that day.

James's birthday bash was catered by Pat & Oscar's. Several people surrounded the food table, so I went into the backyard to talk to the smokers.

I met a guy from Canada. He told me a story about his brother-in-law, who had a friend who could've invested in the board game Trivial Pursuit. His buddy developed the game, and he needed investors. It started as a group of friends who had trivia contests in bars while watching hockey. None of them wanted to throw in the $5000 investment. Now they all regret it.

As we were talking, a belly dancer performed inside the house. It was fun watching her sidle up to James, who put his hand on his chest as if he were having a heart attack.

When the dancer was finished, she came outside. She was married to the Canadian guy. The subject of movie reviews came up. They had a little dog with them and said they wanted to start a review column with dogs doing the reviews. The dancer said, "It would have two paws up if it was good and dog poop if it was bad."

> "One sheet, two sheets, three sheets, four — some use less, some use more."

She explained that it would focus more on a few scenes, as opposed to the usual way reviews are written. I said, "Well, a dog wouldn't miss any scenes by going to the bathroom."

Seretta, James's daughter, had a broken leg, but that didn't slow her down from taking video of the festivities.

I met a woman who told me that her son Scott was on the cover of a *Reader*. She said that it was a picture of him swallowing fire. "How does one learn how to do that?" I asked. "By reading books and practicing." I asked if she tried to talk him out of it. "Oh, no. This is one of the better things he's done in life. He got into magic and Houdini-type escapes. Then music and drugs. This is nothing. Now he works for Freak Show Deluxe." She handed me his card, which read, "Murrugun the Mystic." The card had a picture of Scott with a sword down his throat.

One guy told me that he crashed things. I said, "Cars?" He laughed and said, "No, movie sets. I crashed the set of the Jamie Foxx movie *Kingdom*. It was filming in Scottsdale. I just drove up in my van and said, 'Extra.' That gets you onto every set."

He told me a story about Garth Brooks sitting next to him in an ice cream parlor.

A guy with long hair overheard this and said, "I once got into Tom Petty's hotel room by saying I was a roadie. I didn't meet him, but I saw him briefly. He went into another room with a girl, and I never saw him again."

It was a lengthy drive to the second party in National City. It was for someone younger, a Filipino guy named Rady, who was turning 80. His grandkids had put together a '50s-themed party for the occasion. I pulled out my old letterman jacket for my girlfriend to wear. I wore a letterman sweater. Not the most comfortable outfits on a summer afternoon.

Lowell, who helped put the

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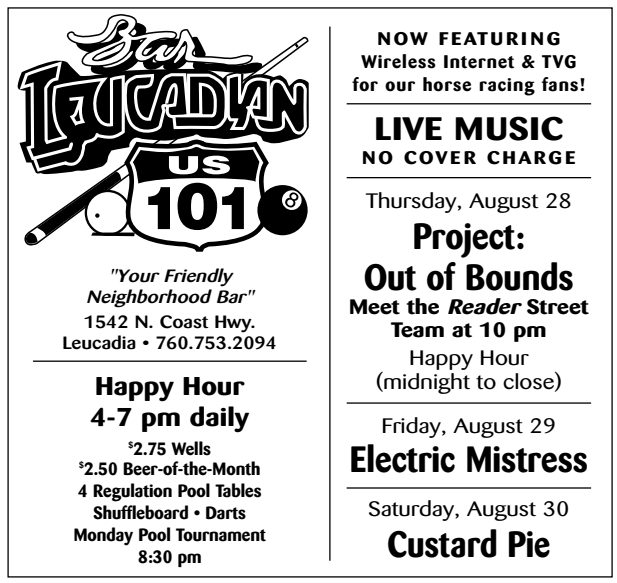


Crasher

party together, was wearing a white T-shirt. I told him he should've had a pack of cigarettes rolled into the sleeve, and he said, "Well, I wanted to keep this PG-13."

His wife was wearing a pink dress with a black belt.

There were a few ladies with poodle dresses and some kids wearing ties and hats. They all looked great. One guy said, "Those kids look more like pimps."

The backyard had canopies set up, so there would be shade. The fence was covered with '50s photos and record albums. I looked closely at an Emerson, Lake & Palmer album. As one guy walked over to where I was, I said, "I think this record, after being nailed up here, will be too scratched to play again." He said, "Well, with that lame prog rock they did, that's a good thing."

There were music notes hanging all around. Someone said that they'd had a treasure hunt before we arrived. An album on our table had a clue that read, "one sheet, two sheets, three sheets, four — some use less, some use more." I was told, "A woman was trying to figure this out, and I told her it was toilet paper and that she should go inside and get some. She took the whole roll from the bathroom. But they had toilet paper already hidden out here somewhere."

I saw a kid about three or four years old dressed as Elvis, with a little white jumpsuit, huge sunglasses, and sideburns. I tried to get him to do a song, since karaoke was going. A woman next to me said, "You can't have a Filipino party without karaoke, especially in National City."

A few of the songs were sung in Tagalog, but most were popular American tunes and not from the '50s. As someone sang Journey's "Open Arms," a person at the table next to me mentioned that the band's current singer is a guy they discovered singing Journey at karaoke bars in the Philippines.

They had a snow-cone station in the corner of the backyard. Lowell built it, and at some point everyone at the party made it over there. I had a cherry-flavored cone.

Since I had eaten at the previous party, I wasn't hungry, which was unfortunate because they had a table with every kind of food imaginable. I did end up tasting the *pansit*, my favorite dish. It had angel-hair noodles, peas, carrots, chicken, and lots of spices.

A woman was walking around with a huge camera taking black-and-white Polaroids of all the guests.

Rady enjoyed himself. He wore a red bowling shirt and had his full head of white hair slicked back. I found out he has seven kids, each with about four kids of their own. And he has three great-grandchildren.

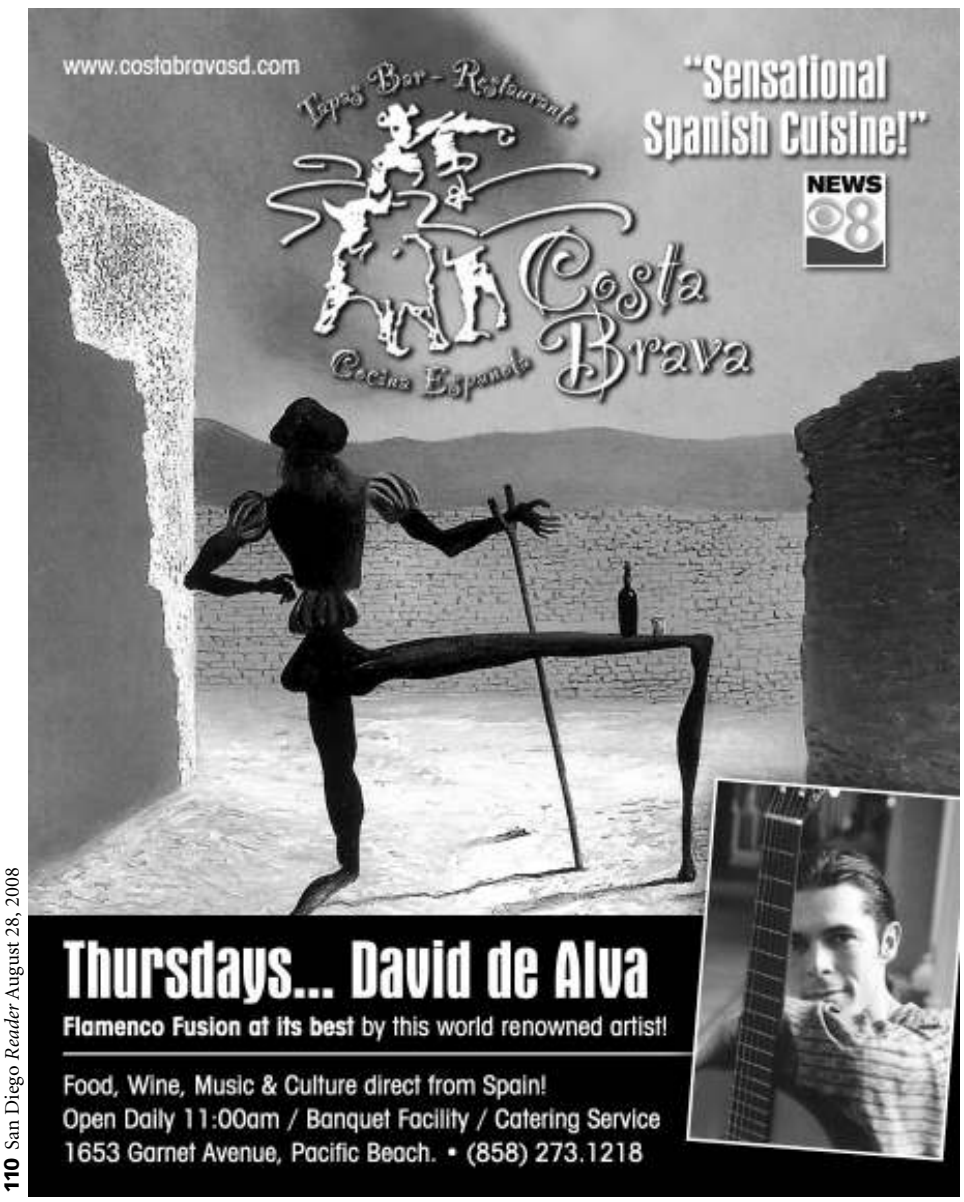
I met a musician in a band called Static Regain. I asked what that meant. "It's an air-conditioning term. Only nerds would know it." He told me about a girl who once worked for Reprise Records. She wanted a copy of their CD because she liked it. As she was listening to it, a UPS guy delivering a package to her asked for a copy. She had been asked at gas stations and other places about it. She has passed the disc on to her old bosses, who want to hear a demo. I said, "That sounds like how bands got signed in the old days. When Toni Basil had the song 'Oh Mickey,' the record-company president was listening to it in his car. It was his kid's favorite song on the tape, so he decided to release it as a single."

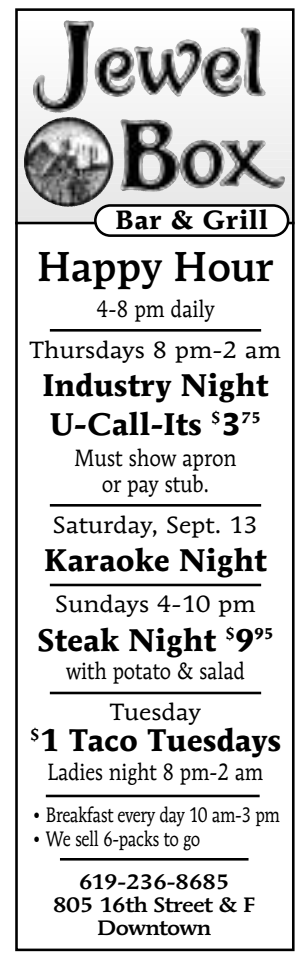
Two cakes were brought out. One was chocolate with black-and-white checkers and the image of a couple dancing. The other cake design included a jukebox made of frosting. Thirty minutes passed before the cakes were cut, but four of the kids kept the flies at bay by waving paper plates back and forth over them. Little Elvis couldn't wait and put his fingers in the frosting for a taste.

I said to my girlfriend, "That's how it starts. If he keeps doing that with cakes, in a few years, he will look like the old, fat Elvis in the white jumpsuit." ■

Crash your party? Call 619-235-3000 x421 and leave an invitation for Josh Board.

To get an online version of this column, go to *sdreader.com*. You can print it, email it to friends, or get other "Crasher" columns and stories by Josh Board.





Coming Up Roses

PHOTOGRAPH BY JOE KLEIN

Roseville (named for its first settler, Louis Rose, not a shrub) is a Point Loma neighborhood also called "the village." It's a bit out of the way but has such a distinctive character that going there feels like actual travel, a mini-vacation minutes from home. And now it has a serious restaurant of the same name to justify the trip — or as the Michelin Guide says, one that's "worth a detour."

Not far from Old Venice, Roseville's site used to be a pizzeria, and before that it was — guess what? — a pizzeria. The renovated space is surprisingly large and airy, with well-spaced tables and booths, an antique copper ceiling, and a cool, woodsy, oddly rural elegance you might expect at an upscale resort in, say, Big Sur. It now plays host to a reunion of several staffers who were at Laurel in the period before Tracy Borkum bought that restaurant from Gary Parker and eventually replaced everybody. The owners are George and Wendy Riffle; George, a born charmer, ran the dining room at Laurel and, as a consultant, helped open Blanca and the Ivy. The chef is Amy DiBiase, who ran Laurel's kitchen for a while and arrives at Roseville after a stint among the monkeys of Baleen. (Not live — just the decor theme there; Amy had a monkey embroidered on her chef's jacket.) The pastry chef, Heather Fangon, is another Laurel alumna who worked alongside Amy on the sauté station there.

DiBiase's maturing style involves evoking French classics but giving them fresh twists and surrounding them with spectacular seasonal produce. Take her asparagus salad. (You'll be glad if you do.) It's essentially the classic bistro salad of frisée, lardons and poached egg (and it does include a bit of frisée around the edges, along with watercress), but perfectly cooked asparagus dressed in truffled vinaigrette replaces most of the frizzy endive, and the crisp-cooked pancetta is even better than bacon. An exquisite poached egg, like a disc of golden sunshine, smiles on top of the greenery.

Herb-crusted albacore, in turn, is not your boring ubiquitous "seared ahi." It's transformed into a knockout (and normally I dislike albacore — too darn white for my taste). The thin seared edge is coated with dried *herbes de Provence,* strong on thyme, a nice change from standard black pepper with a sharpness of its own but also a deep, green dimension. On top of the near-raw, tender fish slices are salty, coarsely chopped Kalamata olives, while for contrast, the plate bears a thick slick of soothing, earthy shiitake cream. Combine a bite of fish with the olive tapenade and a dip into the silky sauce, and you've got a flavor/texture combination you've probably never experienced before. I found it spectacular.

REVIEW
NAOMI WISE

Foie gras torchon (a round cooked by gently poaching in cheesecloth) is classic, but freshly paired with a slick of very sweet muscat cream sauce (sweeter than I liked, actually, but the Lynnester loved it) along with white peaches, and with hazelnut raisin toast if you want to spread your liver on it. (That reminds me to praise the delicious, crusty Italian-style table rolls from nearby Con Pane and the high-quality unsalted, spreadable butter.)

"What are *gnudi?*" Lynne asked as she read the menu. "They're naked ravioli — the cheese filling without the pasta wrapping," I said. "You'll see. The *g* is silent, so they're pronounced 'nudie,' like the old soft-core porn movies showing topless volleyball games." They were cloaked in a marvelous fresh morel mushroom butter sauce alongside fresh peas with summer truffles. Although comparisons may be odious, I couldn't stop myself from comparing them to the ethereal, float-away buffalo-milk ricotta *gnudi* that DiBiase's onetime Laurel boss, Jason Shaeffer, made when he was at 1500 Ocean at the Hotel Del. These *gnudi* were pleasant but earthbound.

Our best entrée was a flawless duck-leg confit, with crunchy skin rising airily about the moist, succulent meat. "I've had so many awful confits in San Diego," I mused aloud, "with flaccid, soggy skin, or else skin that's burned and dried out over dry meat. But this — *this* — is true French-style confit. The crackly skin is the whole point of the dish. Almost like Peking duck." It came swathed in a mixture of braised shelling beans, wonderfully intense rainbow chard, bits of applewood-smoked bacon (making the beans happy, and us too) and flavorful, greaseless duck *jus.* This was so good that when time came to pass the plate, Lynne had to tell her normally polite next-seat neighbor, "Don't bogart that duck, my friend."

Braised Berkshire pork cheeks tasted oddly sexy, perhaps because of their deeply porky flavor and juiciness. Berkshire hogs are a heritage breed, slow growing, raised naturally and humanely as a premium meat and usually sent to piggy heaven at about 200 pounds, rather than the 300-plus pounds of commercial breeds. All these factors, plus the lushness of cheek-meat, could account for the appeal of the dish. But the meat was glazed rather too generously with orange-lavender honey, which is delicious stuff but a little overwhelming. This is a near-great entrée that needs better balance — I'd like less honey, more pig *jus.* Amy has heard other diners' opinions and is still thinking about the best balance for the dish.

"What's *brandade?*" asked Inta, a handsome, Nordic blonde (and fellow New York expat) join-

Roseville
★★★★ (Excellent)

1125 Rosecrans Street (at Cañon), village of Point Loma, 619-450-6800, *rosevillesd.com.*

HOURS: Seven days, 5:30 to about 9:30 p.m. weeknights and Sunday; to 10:30 p.m. weekends or when busy.
PRICES: Appetizers, $11–$20; entrées, $19–$32; desserts, $8–$16.
CUISINE AND BEVERAGES: California-French seasonal cuisine with fine ingredients. Well-chosen international wine list at wide price range ($29–$2950), 18 choices by the glass.
PICK HITS: Asparagus salad, herb-crusted albacore, foie gras torchon, duck confit, *pommes frites,* hazelnut brown butter cake, lemon chiffon parfait. Chef's picks: halibut with *brandade,* Monday-night special Meyer beefburgers (plus confit, lemon chiffon parfait).
NEED TO KNOW: Hard-to-find, narrow restaurant entrance is between a large drugstore and Village Liquors (look for small dining patio). Parking (and actual front entrance) in back. Atmosphere elegant but comfortable; norm is dressy-casual to slightly dressy.

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

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

ing the posse for the first time, as we were trying to decide on our entrées. "It's salt cod that's been soaked to rehydrate it, mixed with potato purée and milk or cream," I said. "Let's try it!" was the response. It came as a large, lightly breaded croquette supporting a slab of northern halibut, with whole-grain mustard crème fraîche and asparagus. Loved the croquette, but the halibut was overcooked to serious dryness. I didn't think I'd have to specify, way out in untouristed Point Loma, that I like my fish "underdone" by Zonie standards. When I spoke with Amy later, she confessed to cooking it to the preference of all those retired Navy officers out there who demand their fish thoroughly dead. The default is "medium-well" (mine is opalescent medium-rare). If you want it done less, state your preference when you order it.

"What's a papillote?" Sam asked. Alex, our paragon of a waitress, had arrived at our table, and she fielded the question, explaining that it's a wrap of parchment paper. When you bake fish and vegetables inside it, the fish comes out moist and aromatic. The *papillote du jour* contained local rockfish and summer squash. Sam somehow mentally envisioned a pastry case instead of a paper wrap (no, hon, that's a coulibiac) and wanted to try it. The dish disappointed us: Rockfish are on the bland side, and so are summer squashes. No big thrills there. (Best fish *en papillote* I've ever eaten was a hunk of Copper River salmon with fresh morel cream sauce — two vibrant flavors with cream to mediate between them.)

"What's a *tian?*" asked Inta, looking at the list of side dishes. I was starting to feel like Yojimbo, the grumpy title samurai in Kurosawa's film, with a gaggle of student wannabes asking him too many questions. "It's named for the cooking vessel, an unlidded earthenware baking dish, and it consists of layers of sliced vegetables baked together." The *tian* on the menu was of summer squash, a veg that we were already having with the fish, so we didn't order it. Fries-freak Lynne wanted to try the side of *pommes frites,* of course, which turned out to be skinny, salty, and perfect. I wanted to try the mac 'n' cheese, more formally called Orecchiette and Humboldt Fog Gratin. It was interesting — thick pasta and lean, tangy goat cheese. Sam, lactose-intolerant, particularly took to it. (Goat cheese has no lactose.)

Sorry to say, our party got the last bottle of a fabulous white wine (unless the restaurant can buy some more): Qupe's "Bien Nacido" Cuvée chardonnay-viognier 2007. Big, chewy, slightly sweet with bright acidity, it was ideal for our first courses, easily able to handle the vinaigrette on the asparagus and a spectacular match for the salty-earthy albacore garnishes. For a second round, our waitress suggested the Saint-Bris sauvignon blanc from France. It, too, was full-bodied and rewarding, opening up to a generous, fruity, oakless finish. To go with the pork and duck entrées, we ordered a couple of glasses (neatly divided by our waitress) of the Magnet pinot noir, a thoroughly food-friendly bottling, firm and rich, again with up-front fruit. Of course, I hated to pass on the Batard Montrachet ($395) from the whites selection, and, alas, the 2000 Châteauneuf du Pape ($2950) is a three-liter bottle. That was more than we needed, so for that reason alone we didn't order it. It's a fine wine list — our delicious wines were all from its lowest-price end — and our waitress guided us expertly.

Having to try desserts after all this food was near tragic. We were full halfway through our entrées. Making matters worse, the espresso machine had just blown up in a fit of Italian pique, so my standard with-dessert drink was unavailable. The regular coffee was made from a good Italian dark roast and tasted fine, but George was so apologetic that he insisted on comping us to two extra desserts (groan!).

(Actually, we were pretty sure that we got "made" as a reviewing party, just by being so ultra foodie. We'd asked too many questions. Passed plates around too expertly, with the practiced choreography of a Marx Brothers skit. Kept a menu to consult as we ate, so we'd know what we were tasting. All these tactics add up to more fun in restaurant eating, and if you-all would adopt them, too, you'd enjoy your meals even more and also give me a little extra cover. You might even get comped for dessert sometime. Anyway, halfway through dinner, Lynne spotted the waitress talking to George behind a pillar, surreptitiously glancing at us. Didn't really matter, though, because by then we were well into the meal; nothing about the cooking could be changed to impress us, service was already fine, and George had been hospitable from the very start — and cute from birth.)

Hazelnut brown butter cake (in French it's called *financier*) comes with Bing cherries in red-wine sauce, topped with mascarpone gelato. "It's the sleeper on our dessert menu," George told us. It was our favorite. Light, nutty cake with a distinct butter undertone, loose chopped nuts all around, and accompaniments to sweeten it without weighing it down — pure, homey satisfaction.

"Chocolate and blackberries" consists of chocolate cake, chocolate mousse, and blackberry sorbet. It's dark and, oh my, it's chocolatey. The tart sorbet keeps it from edging past decadence. And bittersweet chocolate pot de crème is simply the French classic, the Gallic form of chocolate pudding, accompanied by a crackly little rectangular cookie of dark chocolate and nuts.

Lemon chiffon parfait tasted to Inta like "Key lime pie without the crust." It was a rich but weightless whip of tangy cream with fresh citrus sections at the bottom, topped with raspberries and companioned by a tasty lavender shortbread cookie to bring it back to earth. (Can they make me up a bathtub full of this stuff to soak in?) The menu said the dessert included "citrus *suprèmes.*" "What are *suprèmes?*" asked Sam. "Baby love, oh baby love, I need you, oh, I need your love," I sang out in a fake-soprano as acidic as the lemon. No more questions. And this time, I didn't know the answer.

ABOUT THE CHEF

"I've always worked in restaurants," says Amy DiBiase, who just turned 30. "I grew up in an Italian family, so food was always around. My grandfather owned a little clam shack in Maine, and my mom and my aunts were all general managers at restaurants. So I was a little restaurant rat…. I was in the back of the kitchen hanging out with my mom. I'd get stuck doing little jobs, like, I'd be over with the guys portioning meats or bagging things for them or doing silverware or helping my mom with her paperwork. It was a really good background in the reality of restaurant work.… A lot of people come out of culinary school, never working in a restaurant, and they're just — sometimes they've spent all that money on school, and when they start working, they just can't handle it."

Right out of high school she attended Johnson and Wales Culinary School in Rhode Island. By the time she graduated, her parents were moving to North County, so she researched San Diego and at age 22 found a job as a line cook at Laurel under Jason Shaeffer (who had just replaced Boston-bound Douglas Organ, the original chef-owner). Eventually, she worked her way up to chef de cuisine, a job she'd held there for over a year when Tracy Borkum bought the restaurant and installed Fabrice Poigin as executive chef over the entire Borkum empire (which also includes Chive, Kensington Grill, and a catering company). A few months later, Amy was replaced. (A few months after that, Poigin resigned.)

"I'd been there four and a half years, so it was time to move on and learn something else, and I had an opportunity at Baleen as chef de cuisine under executive chef Brian Freerksen, who was a great mentor," says Amy. "George Riffle here was a regular customer of Baleen, and he brought me in and introduced me to the general manager and the executive chef. We had a number of casual meetings and eventually a tasting. It was about a two-month process. They hired me to bring in a local chef, bring in some local business. I reformatted the menu while keeping their signature dishes — for a hotel restaurant they gave me a lot of creative freedom as soon as I earned their trust. I was such a shy person, even after all that time at Laurel I didn't know the other chefs around town, but I starting doing a lot of charity events, things like that, to get local attention, and now I'm not shy anymore. Baleen gets a lot of attention in the national media, but they hadn't done a lot locally. And since it's a hotel restaurant, I learned the 'numbers side' of being a chef — how to run an efficient, profitable restaurant, accounting for the fluctuations in food costs and the labor costs. You don't get to see that on a daily basis in an independent restaurant.

"This is my first executive-chef position, and it's a whirlwind. You think that you're prepared, and then you're not. I thought I knew what was up with opening a restaurant from the bottom up. I think I did well with the hiring. I put in a little ad in craigslist and was really adamant about hiring people who were into food and wine and not [just] for a paycheck, and I have a great staff back there. We opened strong. A lot of people were surprised at how fast and how well we came together." She still works on the line most nights, expediting and tasting plates before they go out. When necessary, she'll fill in any position from garde-manger to line chef.

The final question: What are *suprèmes?* They're the citrus fruit sections (navel orange, mandarin, ruby grapefruit, whatever) that lurk in the depths of the lemon parfait. ■

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TIN FORK
ED BEDFORD

"I'm a cook, not a chef," says Mary.

"There's a difference?" says Carla, looking up from her dinner. She's diving into her turkey, cranberry sauce, mash, and peas. Totally standard, but it's been so long since she's had it, it's like "Taste it again for the first time."

I see what Mary's getting at. This is Clayton's, the diner that she's just taken over, not the Hotel Del. Like Clayton himself for 50 years before her, she makes no-nonsense food for the real world. Hey, I'm happy. I've got pork chops with applesauce, peas and carrots, and mashed potatoes with a brown gravy over the top, plus a rich, red veggie soup stuffed with lentils, corn, zucchini, you name it. This sort of meal is what your grandma cooked. And the byword is: don't skimp. Like, my chops have a patty of bread stuffing hidden under them and a mini dinner-roll loaf with a pat of butter beside it. And Carla has a salad that she's drowning right now in bleu cheese dressing from a syrup jug. It's all part of the deal. Hers cost $7.25, mine $7.95. Not bad, 'specially for Coronado.

This is the second time in two days we've been here at Clayton's. Correction: Third, if you count Friday night when we came to the Mexican Takeout, which is, like, the annex at the back of Clayton's on Tenth. They have the dreamiest shrimp burritos. Mary introduced that, too. Oh man. Cost $6.25. Ate it right outside on the concrete bench, reading the newspapers in their pay boxes. Don't get any better.

We've been staying two nights in Paradise with Carla's buddy Patty. There's a big dinner tonight, but meanwhile, Carla rediscovered Clayton's. Part of her childhood.

'Course, Mary's facing an awesome challenge. I mean, Clayton's in Coronado is an icon, like Harry's in La Jolla. Only smaller. And older. Harry's dates to about 1960. Clayton's (and there was a Mr. Clayton, who ran the place for maybe 50 years) has been serving joe and chow since 1947. Now, as then, it's a bricky little East Coast–style café at the corner of Tenth and Orange, with a full-length U-shaped counter inside and half a dozen booths against the wall. In a way, Clayton's seems to anchor the entire town. You see Navy captains, judges, plumbers, and can collectors all sitting side-by-side here, yakkin' away.

Mary's given it a facelift (vertical beige-and-cream–striped walls, new acoustic ceiling), but the ancient wooden phone booth's still there at the back, plus a genuine 1940s mechanical NCR cash register's still what they ring you up with, and the Seeburg jukebox is alive and well, with remote push-button selectors scattered around the counter and at each table booth, playing a time warp of tunes.

Right now it's "Moon River." And it was "Moon River" yesterday when we came in for breakfast. (Though Carla wanted an early lunch. Here, no problem: They serve everything, all the time.) We swung aboard the maroon counter seats and collected menus from the waitress, Maria.

Carla scanned "sandwiches," from hamburger and fries or coleslaw for $6.25, to roast beef sandwich (same sides) for $5.50, to patty melt and onions on rye ($5.95). They had hot sandwiches like the meat loaf for $6.50 and a bunch of "chef's specials," such as spaghetti and meat sauce with salad and cheese bread ($6.95) or fish and chips with dinner salad ($7.25). Carla ends up taking a "chili size," which is like the $7.95 chili cheeseburger, only this is a "hamburger patty on English muffin with chili, cheese, and onion, served with fries." It's $6.95.

Me: no hesitation. Sometimes you gotta eschew to chew. Heh heh. That is, sacrifice the ordinaries and go straight for the most outrageous. I could have the one-egg any style with potatoes and toast ($4.50). I could have the 6-oz. steak and two eggs ($7.75). I could experiment with the, uh, jelly omelet for $5.95. But no. The last choice is my first choice: "The Garbage Omelet" ($7.95).

"That means it has everything," Maria says. "Three eggs, ham, bacon, spicy sausage patty and links, mushrooms, tomatoes, bell peppers, onions, and Swiss, cheddar, and American. With hash browns and toast."

Somehow I make it through this delicious, salty colossus and come out the other end to find that Carla has, like, eviscerated her burger — and gone one better. Uh, make that one *batter:* she's ordered a bowl of onion rings $3.95. I have to help her out, of course, and I'm here to say these are the wickedest, freshest, lightest onion rings I can remember having. Damn, they're good.

So that was yesterday. Today, after finishing the turkey and pork chops, our moment of sin comes when Mary points to an apple pie sitting under glass on the center island. "I bake it each morning," she says. "Southern-style…"

We cave. It comes with two large balls of peach-colored vanilla ice cream. It's so fresh, so sweet, but tangy (she uses Granny Smith apples). Honestly, the dang thing's dee-vine. If I were a chef (not a cook), I'd do that finger-kiss thing. *Mwaah.*

Mary

"I'm from Tennessee," says Mary. "We take our cooking seriously in the South."

"Now all we've got to do is fit through that door," I say.

"And make it through Patty's dinner tonight," Carla says. "Are we crazy?"

"We'll say we're on a diet," I say. "The Tennessee diet." ■

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Crush

MATTHEW LICKONA

"I'm not drinking any fucking Merlot!"
— Miles, a Pinot Noir fan, in the film *Sideways*

Miles was that reviled thing: a tremendous, unabashed wine snob. And yet, people listened. Pinot Noir sales in America took off after *Sideways* came out. And Merlot? Merlot got hit hard enough that, at somebody's birthday party one night in Napa, somebody suggested making a movie in response to Miles's rejection of the noble grape from Bordeaux.

Filmmaker Rudy McClain was at that party, and he thought it sounded like a good idea. That was the germination of *Merlove,* the documentary that serves as his first completed effort. "I have drawers full of little ideas," he says, "and I've written a couple of screenplays. But I ended up being stuck inside too much. I decided I needed to get out and see the diversity of real human beings." His neighbors, for starters. "I grew up in St. Helena, and some of my friends own wineries or are winemakers" — Swanson's Chris Phelps, for example. "I had a camera for testing out my scenes, so I just grabbed it and started backing people into corners until I got interviews. I looked at it as an opportunity to get out and do something — to actually get out of the house and make a movie. It had all of these elements: it was local, it was an underdog story, and it had ties to one of my favorite filmmakers" — *Sideways* director Alexander Payne. "I also thought, *Hey, a lot of these wineries are having issues with their Merlot not selling. Maybe I could even get some cash to get out and make a movie supporting it.* "

As McClain sees it, Miles's dismissal had such force because, for all our increased ease around the grape, "People had really low self-esteem with wine because it's not really part of our culture yet, and they didn't want to be embarrassed. Think about teenyboppers at the mall — everyone wants to have the right clothes or the right accessories, the right 'in' thing. It's not so much about being an individual. You don't want to make a mistake; you don't want to look like you don't know what you're doing. When it comes to adults and wines, it's that same thing, hugely magnified. That's why *Sideways* kind of turned the tide."

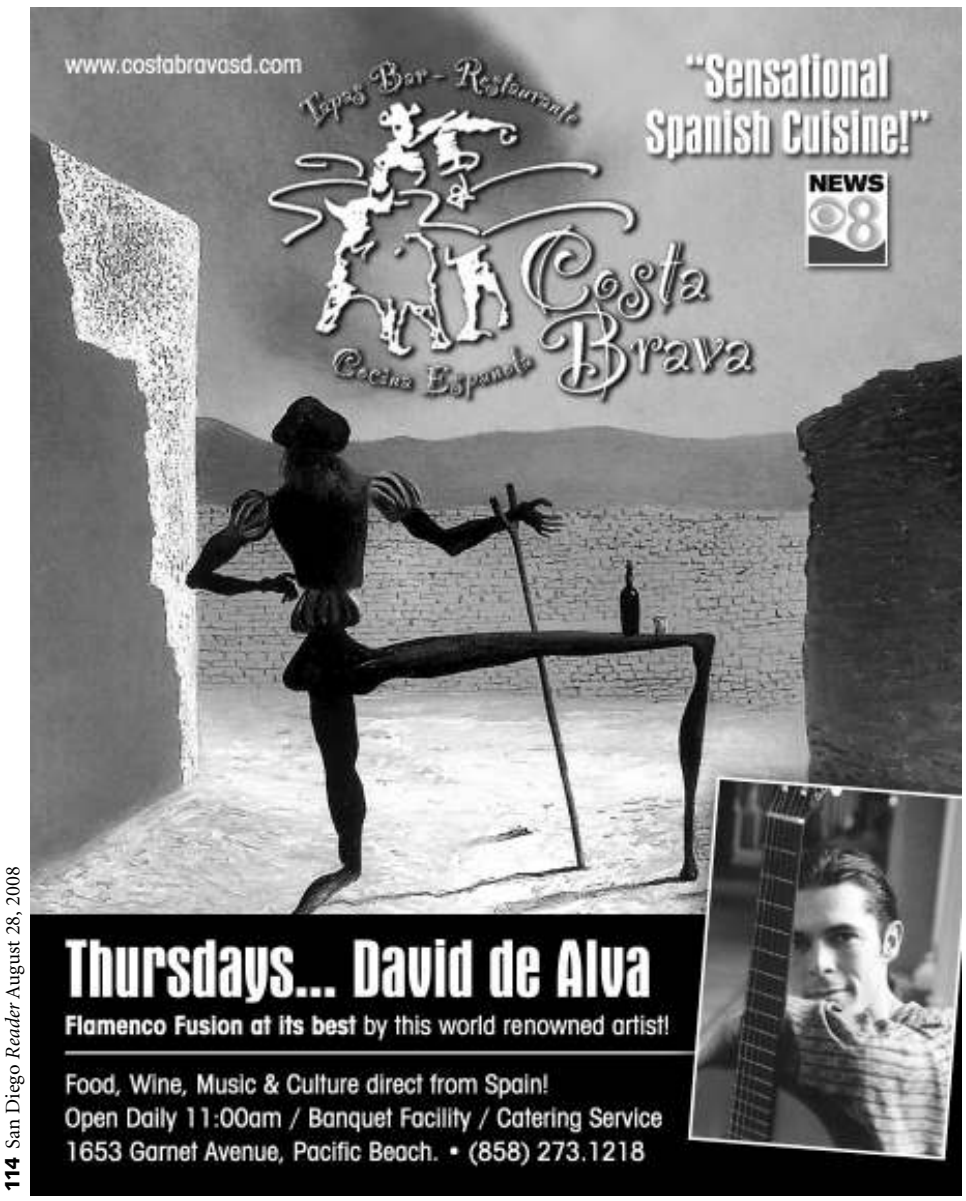
Of course, it's not as if Miles didn't have a point. Long before *Sideways,* the Merlot market got hot and people started to cash in on the varietal — it'll make drinkable wine at a low price point, and that's where many producers aimed. McClain's final cut of the film — screening at the Copia Center for Wine, Food, and the Arts in Napa on September 5 — has as its principal framing device a personified bottle of fine Merlot that "is forced to empty its contents into an ocean of mediocre Merlot. People can't tell the difference between what's good and what's bad — that sort of thing. Then he's got to rebuild" — refill? — "himself. He gets help from a French winemaker, who explains to him that he's not American, he's French. You know, 'What did those Americans do to you? Your name is not Merlot — it's Merlove!' "

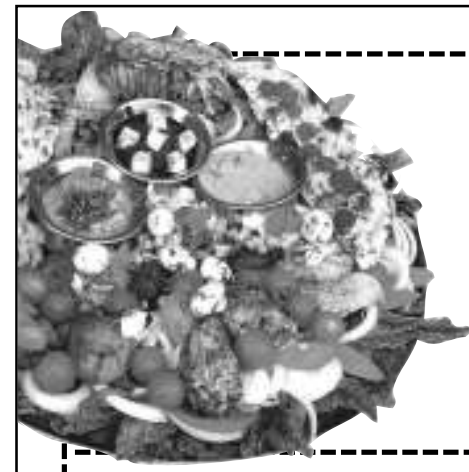
McClain thinks that reclaiming Merlot's reputation — from itself as much as from Pinot or Cabernet — is "all about good wine and bad wine, and understanding what makes them that way." Things like terroir and winemaking. "I fell in love with the idea of terroir," says McClain, "keeping diversity of place. If you protect the contradiction — a varietal tasting one way in one place, and being a completely different thing when it comes from 500 miles away — then you can pick up a bottle from a different part of the world and taste that year and that part of the world through that wine."

Small wonder, then, that his neglected bottle finds himself turning to the French — those great guardians of terroir — for help in recovering what has been lost. McClain's coup on *Merlove* was scoring an interview with Jean-Claude Berrouet, then working as winemaker for Château Pétrus, the most celebrated Merlot producer in the world. "Chris Phelps at Swanson was my first interview. Then Larry Stone of Rubicon agreed to talk to me, and that was huge. And then Phelps told me that Berrouet was in town. Phelps asked him if he would mind talking to me, and I think because I'd been cool with the people I'd already interviewed, he agreed. And then, on camera, he said, 'Maybe I see you in France?' I was definitely going to France after that. We went there and tasted at Pétrus." McClain was glad he made the trip. "If you're in a room, and the room is Napa Valley Merlot, tasting Merlots from [the Bordeaux regions of] Pomerol and Saint-Emilion was like the floor dropping out. It went down to a depth that I had never experienced before, on an emotional level." (For that matter, McClain was also taken with the Washington Merlots — he praised their earthiness, their acidity, their "clarity of fruit. You feel like you're more connected to the earth.")

France's superstar consulting winemaker Michel Rolland also agreed to an interview. Explains McClain, "I wanted to talk to him because I wanted to see if what was happening around the world matched what was happening in America. I talked to a French woman who worked for the English magazine *Decanter,* and she said, 'What do you mean, people stopped drinking Merlot?' " Rolland agreed. "He said he didn't see a worldwide effect, because the notion of varietal is particularly strong in America." Elsewhere, "They talk about varietal a little bit, but they're mostly focusing on the winemaker, the terroir, the place where it's produced. Plus, he was born in Pomerol. Merlot is his life, it's deeply rooted in him."

The goal, says McClain, is to let Merlot serve as a window into the larger world of wine. "If people can understand the diversity of Merlot, if we can





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take them through that education on Merlot in particular, and then take it to multiple varietals, then we can give them the idea, 'If Merlot can be made well considering these factors, then who knows what varietals are out there that I might like?' " The diversity of one grape points to the diversity of many, and diversity is the virtue here. "Trying new wines, like trying new things in life, is what's going to bring you the most pleasure — that's a premise. Everyone has a hard time trying new things. People say it's like a little death, getting out of your comfort zone. But it's amazing, the things that line up for you when you do it. I have friends who are winemakers, who are doing very well financially and have their lives pretty much set, and they can't get into Pétrus. They say, 'I can't believe you did that.' It's not to say that I'm better somehow, I just kind of kept my heart open."

Now it's just a matter of finding an audience. Reels are headed out to distributors, and McClain is scheduling screenings on request via the film's website, *www.merlove.com*. "And if anyone wants to kick in financially," he adds, "I'm still offering equity stakes in the movie. A friend of mine did the music — but he needs to make a living, and I can't afford to pay him any more. Another friend of mine went to France with me and shot the footage over there. He got a free trip to France, but I couldn't pay him. A lot of people are putting their butts on the line to help this movie be awesome, and it would be a dream come true for me to write checks to all of them." ■

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GINZA SUSHI

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 almost 900 reviews. A complete searchable list is available online at* **SanDiegoReader.com.** *Price estimates are based on the latest information available for a midrange entrée.* **Inexpensive:** below $10; **moderate:** $10 to $19; **expensive:** $20 to $29; **very expensive:** more than $30. Please call restaurants in advance for reservations.

BEACHES

Barbarella 2171 Avenida de la Playa, La Jolla, 858-454-7373. This popular restaurant sits nestled in an English garden just blocks from the beach. You can dine amidst the flora at street-side tables, in the enclosed patio, or in the small dining room. Once you're seated, the friendly staff provides fresh-out-of-the-oven sourdough wheat bread to nibble on. The menu changes daily, offering fresh fish, steak, chicken, pastas, soups, and pizzas, all cooked with a twist of imagination that delivers on the flavor. For instance: pizza topped with smoked salmon, crème fraiche, chives, and fried capers. Or delicate Alaskan halibut served over creamed spring onions with a watercress salad. If a fresh-fruit crepe happens to be on the dessert menu, leap on it! Open for lunch and dinner daily. — *S.M.*

Café Athena 1846 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-274-1140. With a

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more upscale, eye-catching decor and a longer and more serious menu than most Greek cafés, this is a popular destination, so be sure to reserve for dinner or you'll risk a long wait. The choices include good soups and appetizers (except for a sub-par *taramasalata*), outstanding moussaka, above-average gyros, and interesting, unusual desserts. There's plenty for vegetarians. Rather noisy when crowded. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to low moderate. — *N.W.*

Costa Brava 1653 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-273-1218. Cordial owner-host Javier Gonzalez opened this charming restaurant so that local Spaniards would have a place to gather with an authentic atmosphere of home, and indeed, the "Euro" atmosphere and late hours give a truly Iberian feel. The lively garlic-rich dishes here include a wide array of tasty tapas and, among the entrées, a paella that's made to order (sized to serve two or four; call ahead for larger groups). Patio seating in good weather. Parking lot and wheelchair access via the alley behind the restaurant. Open daily 11 a.m. to midnight, with bargain prices at Sunday brunch. Reservations advised for weekend evenings. Moderate. — *N.W.*

Fleming's Steak House & Wine Bar — La Jolla 8970 University Center Lane, La Jolla, 858-535-0078. A steakhouse for ladies who power lunch, an "old girls'" club, or just a happy place where the term "a nice piece of meat" isn't a bad thing? The mahogany of the "old boys'" steakhouse genre gives way here to cheery cherry wood. When you get the fried cheese, it's Brie, rolled in panko bread crumbs and slivered almonds. And the wine list boasts far more than just burly Cabernets and Bordeaux — over 100 of the far-flung offerings are available by the glass, and you can assemble your own three-glass tasting flights. Prime steaks are the main event, perfectly cooked and well-seasoned. Try the key lime pie for dessert — custardy and full of limey bite. Valet parking. Dinner nightly. Very expensive. — *A.M.*

Humphrey's by the Bay 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Point Loma, 619-224-3577. Most diners at this resort/concert venue restaurant eat at the prix-fixe preshow dinners because they guarantee good seats for the concerts at the next-door ampitheatre. But better food emerges once the music-mavens leave the premises. The kitchen features fine seafood, juicy meats, and Prime steaks with seasonal veggie garnishes. Preparations are pleasing but in no way startling — it's a hotel restaurant, after all. Reserve for show nights or to snare a window table with a gorgeous marina view. Free parking when there's no concert, valet parking when there is. Dining room pleasantly quiet. Open daily breakfast through dinner; brunch buffet Sunday. Preshow prix fixe upper moderate, à la carte expensive/very expensive. — *N.W.*

Kaiserhof 2253 Sunset Cliffs Boulevard, Ocean Beach, 619-224-0606. Even on weeknights, crowds fill this restaurant and *biergarten,* chowing down on hefty, hearty German cooking in a festive atmosphere. Flavors are authentic, but can be monotonous due to the kitchen's reliance on commercial products (especially a heavy-flavored beef base that makes all the sauces taste alike). Good schnitzels, potato pancakes. The excellent apple strudel is the only dessert made in-house. Reservations advised, especially for patio seating. Full bar. Lunch Friday through Sunday, dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Moderate. — *N.W.*

The Marine Room 2000 Spindrift Drive, La Jolla, 858-459-7222. High cuisine, high adventure, high seas — at only moderately high prices. With chef Bernard Guillas as top toque, the Marine Room has become the quintessential great San Diego restaurant. The exhilarating coastal view meets Cal-French-Pacific Rim cuisine that's as exuberantly out-front as the waves whacking the windows. Guillas's oceanic culinary inventiveness with ultra-fresh, exotic ingredients makes every visit a voyage of discovery, and preparations are so elaborate that each listing on his precise menu reads like a whole tasting dinner. Midweek specials, $40. No corkage fee any night. Wheelchair ramp to the left of front door. Reservations requested; slightly dressy but not stuffy. Noisy when crowded. Easiest route: Make a right from westbound Torrey Pines onto Roseland or Viking and go left on St. Louis, which runs into Spindrift. Dinner Sunday through Thursday 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday 5:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. — *N.W.*

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

Red Sails 2614 Shelter Island Drive, Point Loma, 619-223-3030. One of the city's oldest eateries has been renovated to look like it always has, but fresher. The dining rooms resemble those on a river paddleboat or a small, rakish cruise ship, while the bayside patio is a funky waterside pleasure, beset by pigeons. The menu runs to simple seafood and steaks (wet-aged USDA Choice), but quality is uneven. Tasty starters include briny littleneck clams on the half-shell, an interesting clam chowder, and a classy house salad (but ask for vinegar and oil on the side to dress it). The coconut shrimp entrée is a good, guilty pleasure, but the fin fish and fried entrées taste like supermarket frozen food. For the starch accompaniment, baked potato is the most flavorful option. Full bar, strong cocktails, weak wine list. Kiddie menu available. Daily three meals until 11 p.m. Low moderate. — *N.W.*

Sante Ristorante 7811 Herschel Avenue, La Jolla, 858-454-1315. The name is Italian for "saint," and the Northern Italian/regional cooking shines here, especially the fish and seafood dishes. Fresh seafood specials are available every night, in addition to those on the menu. Excellent pasta with mushrooms, ravioli with quail, and lamb chops. Separate room for bar; separate private dining room. Lunch Monday through Saturday, dinner nightly. Enclosed patio for lunch. Not to be missed. Moderate (pastas) to expensive. — *E.W.*

Sushi on the Rock 7734 Girard Avenue, La Jolla, 858-456-1138. This noisy, high-energy spot — a boxy, saloon-like space with a sushi bar in back — draws a lively twentysomething crowd (although older folks will have plenty of company, too). Unlike more traditional sushi bars, there's a vast selection of "rock and rolls" — huge, creative party sushi. And they're fabulous, with sparkling fresh seafood and immensely clever combinations. Try, for instance, the shrimp tempura roll, which wraps fried shrimp, crab shreds, daikon sprouts, and Japanese mayo in deep-fried salmon skin — the combo would be just as impressive as an appetizer at a top Cal-French restaurant. The Orange Crush is another sublime invention, fresh and crunchy with veggies and *tobiko* wrapped in suave salmon. Even simple rolls are so well conceived, and the rice so nicely seasoned, you won't need soy-wasabi dip. No reservations, long waits (in cramped entryway) on weekends. Good sake list. Lunch weekdays, dinner nightly, with deep discounts for happy hour specials. Moderate. Second (quieter, but with full bar) location at 1923 Calle Barcelona, Carlsbad, 760-436-6261. — *N.W.*

BAJA

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

Chiki Jai Avenida Revolución #1388, Baja, 664-685-4955. Eat here and you're surrounded by ghosts: Errol Flynn, John Huston, Rita Hayworth, Anthony Quinn, Ava Gardner, and, they say, Ernest Hemingway, who all ate — and drank *vino tinto* — here. Plus the great stars of boxing and bullfighting. But mainly it was a haven for Spanish jai alai players desperate for Old Country food. This is one of Tijuana's great historic eateries, its tale written on the walls. Old border photos, Don Quixote art, fighting bull ranchos' brands, and a matador's framed green cape with his blood still on it. The food's all Spanish, so paella is big (with soup, salad, French bread, and bleu cheese), but also try the baby eel appetizers, chorizo (pork sausages), *bacalao* (cod fish) *à la Vizcaina,* trout with olive oil and garlic, and Gallican octopus. Vegetarian upon request. Open daily. Inexpensive to moderate.— *E.B.*

La Diferencia Avenida Sanchez Taboada 10611-A, Baja, 664-634-3346. Mexican haute cuisine, with inventive combinations of traditional flavors. The creative menu reframes the old dishes and devises new ones. Wine list centers on Baja wineries (Monte Xanic and Cetto) at reasonable prices. Vegetarian upon request. Secure, free valet parking next to exterior courtyard. Menu is in Spanish (in a hard-to-read font), but some staffers speak some English. The restaurant is often noisy, even louder when mariachis play. Smoking permitted. Wheelchair access marginal. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — *N.W.*

La Escondida Santa Monica #1, Baja, 664-681-4458. This hidden *(escondida)* mansion has been a restaurant for three decades. The terrazzo and garden overlooking the Tijuana River Valley make breakfast and dinners a treat. House specialties are more interesting than the regular fare. Try the seafood casserole *(cacerola de mariscos);* the *tambor* (a dish of layered beef, cheese, and pork); or the roasted baby Monterrey goat *(cabrito tatemado).* Desserts include the house *especial,* mango and ice cream with *rompope* (Mexican eggnog), and *crepas de cajeta con nieve,* crepes with walnuts, green pistachio ice cream, and "burnt milk" caramel sauce — the nearest thing to liquid fudge this side of paradise. Vegetarian on request. On weekends the place rocks with parties and live music. The big downside: It's hard to find. Take Agua Caliente Boulevard one half mile past the racetrack, turn right at Las Palmas, then left at the Rey del Pollo sign. The La Escondida entrance sign is in red neon at the road's end. Open daily for breakfast, lunch, dinner. Moderate. — *E.B.*

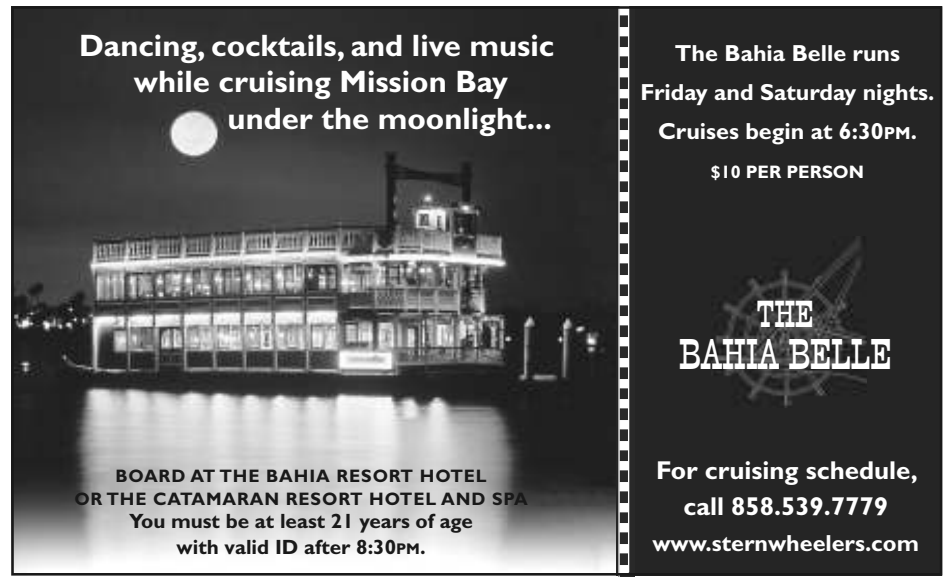
Los Pelicanos Calle Del Cedro 115 #45, Baja, 661-612-0445. This hotel dining room is El Nido's little (and less-gifted) sister, with a shorter menu and perhaps less-careful cooking. It serves good steaks and surf-and-turf in a handsome room and, at lunch, on a pretty ocean-view terrace. To find it, look for large sign on west side of Juarez, north of the tourist hub, directing you to the site. One winding flight up to the restaurant, no elevator. Bilingual staff and menu. Vegetarian upon request. Full bar. Open daily, three meals. Moderate; cash only. — *N.W.*

Tacos Varios y Aguas Frescas Corner of Constitución and Third, Baja. This is "just" a cart, but don't let that stop your making the effort. Students, local businesspeople, and workers agree: this is the real thing. It's always causing a people-bulge on the sidewalk. However, the cart is only here from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m., so you have to time it right. But from tongue to chicken mole, to *milanesa,* steak ranchero, *carne asada, chile relleno,* and *pescado* (fish), they create really big taco meals right there. Bonus: standing around chomping in the street is a great way to meet people and practice your Spanish. Nighttime only. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

CENTRAL

Beach City Market 3 Horton Plaza, Downtown, 619-232-2491. Is this the nearest thing to an actual café downtown? Where you can sit outside and slurp coffee or have a full meal and watch the world pass by? It tries hard to be, even though it's fast deli food. Your sandwich comes in butcher paper. Soup pots are cardboard. You can buy wine, but you can't drink it here. Why? Other Horton Plaza tenants won't allow it. Still, soup-and-sandwich deals give good, generous portions, like minestrone and the Londonport roast beef sandwich flavored with port, white herbs, and spices; or the Deluxe, roast beef with horseradish. Open 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Boomerangs Gourmet Burger Joint 4577 Clairemont Drive, Claire-



mont, 858-483-9500. Aussie food? Nope. The Boomerang idea is that "you'll always come back for more." Although maybe they *are* thinking Aussie with their extensive create-your-own-burger options, which include fixings like horseradish, artichoke hearts, carrots, cranberries, cheeses, and mushrooms. Their bright idea: chop and tuck these items into your raw burger meat, like a joey into mama roo's pocket. Add imaginative sauces (Thai peanut, chipotle pepper, citrus, others). Result: great-tasting burgers. They're a bit pricey, maybe because they use only "100-percent Angus hormone-free beef." But that means they can safely cook your burger rare. Rare! That's enough to boomerang anyone back. Open daily 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Broadway Pizza 1008 Broadway, Downtown, 619-232-6264. This restaurant, near the downtown senior center and City College, offers no-nonsense Italian-American food. And they're not skimpy: from a pizza slice to barbecue beef sandwiches to a Louisiana-style sausage link sub, portions are generous. If you want a hearty dinner, try the whole slab of beef ribs, with veggies, garlic bread, and salad. Unfortunately, the quality has dropped; the formerly fine pizza, for instance, is now marred by oily, low-grade mozzarella and not-so-great optional deli-meat toppings. But the main thing is, while the rest of downtown snores, they're still open, from 10 a.m. to 3 a.m., seven days. And they'll even deliver to nearby neighborhoods. Inexpensive. — *N.W.*

Brothers Ópera, Patisseries Fines 1354 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-234-0425. Catherine de Medici brought her macaroon recipe to Paris in 1533. Thierry Cahez brought the same recipe to downtown San Diego in 2007. Customers have been swooning ever since. Well, this customer anyway. Cahez, a well-known pastry chef, has made a specialty of the delicate, golf-ball-sized, almond-based cookies. But the patisserie he opened also features breakfast pastries like chocolate-filled croissants and lunch items like little square French pizzas, *croque monsieurs* (toasted cheese sandwiches with ham), *croque madames* (*croque monsieur* plus an egg), and sandwiches. His pastries are exquisite, and the place has a genuine French feel to it. Open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. (9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday); closed Sunday. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Le Cake Château 1152 Seventh Avenue, Downtown, 619-325-0977. This feels like a real French pâtisserie. For starters, the display cabinet has beautiful golden flaky croissants, plus pastries too arty to eat. They do breakfast, but at lunchtime the place is abuzz. You gotta try their version of the *croque monsieur* (grilled ham-and-cheese sandwich covered with a mornay sauce), or crêpes with, say, blueberries and sweet cream cheese. The grilled chicken Caesar wrap is good, but it's their originality with simple items that'll turn you on. Like the onion roll loaded with marinated mushrooms, roasted peppers, caramelized onions, goat cheese, and caper mayonnaise. Or a dessert carrot cake with "pineapple raisins." Don't ask. You have to try it. Open daily except Sunday for breakfast and lunch. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

California Pizza Kitchen — Mission Valley 7007 Friars Road #901, Mission Valley, 619-298-4078. Two Beverly Hills lawyers started this chain in 1985 to exploit "the premium pizza segment." Some 150 restaurants later, guess it worked. The place is all shiny chrome, glass, etched palm trees, golden wood and black furniture, and two pizza ovens with real logs burning inside. The Original BBQ chicken pizza, the chain's first hit, is still their top seller. It has barbecue sauce, smoked Gouda and mozzarella cheeses, BBQ chicken, red onions, and cilantro. The BBQ chicken chopped salad is good too, as is the jambalaya. If you've got a sweet tooth, but are embarrassed to order Hawaiian pizza, try the pear and Gorgonzola. It has caramelized pears, caramelized onions, Gorgonzola and other cheeses, and hazelnuts. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.*

The Field Irish Pub and Restaurant 544 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-232-9840. This spirited, colorful saloon, physically transported whole-hog from the Ould Sod, offers delicious Irish music live most nights, and also attempts serious Irish cooking — with some successes. Try the lovely herb-rich Irish stew, or the boxty, potato crêpes rolled around your choice from a variety of fillings (salmon, beef, etc.). Or start the day here with a huge, carnivorous Irish breakfast. Open daily. Low moderate. — *N.W.*

Greystone 658 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-232-0225. The Italian steakhouse fare here centers on dry-aged Prime beef, game meats (including exceptionally tender bison), lobster, and pastas as the main draws, with indifferent starters and desserts. An impressive

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wine list offers rewarding California and Italian bottlings at $35 to $50 but roars up to the stratosphere of first-growth Bordeaux, super Tuscans, and scandalously overpriced Napa reds. Bossy, sometimes-abrasive waiters push higher-priced choices. Patrons are mainly "suits" with deep expense-account pockets, loudly talking business or enjoying raucous office parties in a testosterone-high atmosphere. Wheelchair access to the street patio and bar area only (dining rooms are up- or downstairs). Reservations urged but may not be honored promptly. Dinner nightly. Extremely expensive. — *N.W.*

Joe's New York-Style Deli 3401 First Avenue, Banker's Hill, 619-295-7666. You enter a time machine: a cavernous concrete-floored deli that dates back to 1902, with a high ceiling, acorn-shaped hanging lights, and a big old-fashioned cooler-counter packed with cheeses, hams, and sausage meat. Old display cases carry olives, pâté, Ryvitas. A sawed-off wooden barrel bulges with Hungarian wines. Go for wraps, jumbo hot dogs with sauerkraut, or East Coast-generous sandwiches like corned beef, dry Genoa salami, cotto salami, bologna, or liverwurst. That Boars Head liverwurst is da bomb. Caesar salad with chicken or a cup of tortellini soup are good light alternatives. Open breakfast through early dinner daily. — *E.B.*

Lefty's Chicago Pizzeria 3448 30th Street, North Park, 619-295-1720. An eight-pound pizza? That's what Lefty claims his "king of all pizzas" weighs at his often-crowded little corner pizzeria. Truth is, you can't help but be drawn, especially at night, to the little ribbon of lights framing the sidewalk canopy with its tables and benches. Lefty is determined to bring "the real Chicago" to San Diego. So of course we're talking deep-dish pizzas, as well as some thin and crispy. But the ultimate is his "stuffed" pizza, a 14-inch, eight-pound monster that needs one hour's "make and bake" time. They also do Chicago hot dogs, char burgers, beautiful spicy fries, juicy Italian beef au jus sandwiches, and a decent Lefty's *Carbonara* (spaghetti, eggs, bacon, Parmesan, and cream). Open lunch and dinner six days, closed Mondays. — *E.B.*

Mr. Tiki's Mai Tai Lounge 801 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-233-1183. If you loved Trader Vic's (or can remember it, anyway), you may be amused at the revival of the genre here. Check out the "grass skirt" decor with huge tiki gods and the vaguely "islander" cuisine featuring, in addition, Asian fusion items, elementary sushi, and the occasional sprint into fusion-cuisine seafood. But, as you might guess, the greatest creativity in the house goes into the silly umbrella cocktails, and those are mainly delish. Age 21 and over after 9 p.m. (even with parents). Dinner nightly. Cocktails until 11 p.m., weekends until 1 a.m. Moderate. — *N.W.*

Old World Deli & Café 3930 30th Street, North Park, 619-238-0568. This is a delight for anyone who loves northern European food. Their Great Grilled Grueben — homemade corned beef on rye with Swiss cheese, sauerkraut, Thousand Island dressing, and mustard is, as they say, *gemütlich*. Also, try the sausage platter: grilled bratwurst, kielbasa, sauerkraut, potato salad, spicy mustard, and rye bread. Open for breakfast and lunch six days, closed Sunday. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Osetra 904 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-239-1800. Possibly the most expensive restaurant in San Diego. Osetra is named for a precious, near-endangered caviar (which it serves) and attracts patrons who enjoy throwing their money around. The atmosphere is pure Las Vegas, with two floors of loud ambient music, glitzy decor, and a "wine angel" in black tights hoisting herself around a gleaming glass tower to fetch your precious bottle. Celebrities and big spenders get attentive service; others take their chances. The menu is mostly seafood, but it, too, carries the Vegas imprimatur of vulgar bad taste. Too many bold flavors are at war on almost every plate, and even the simplest dishes are overwrought frenzies of fusion. Best bets for satisfying your palate and curiosity: raw oysters, the cold seafood platter, caviar (if your wallet and conscience can afford it). Disabled access to first-floor dining room only. Full bar. Dinner nightly to at least 10 p.m. Reserve well ahead. Exorbitant. — *N.W.*

P. F. Chang's China Bistro — Mission Valley 7077 Friars Road, Mission 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 mall Chinese chain (130-plus restaurants) has a certain cool. Those reproduction Chin Dynasty horses are really something, as are the bits of the Great Wall and the terra-cotta 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, if one searches for them. And — not that it's at all Chinese — the massive Great Wall of Chocolate dessert will knock you over. Lunch and dinner. Moderate. — *E.B.*

The Palm 615 J Street, Downtown, 619-702-6500. This upmarket chain steakhouse, open since 1926, claims to be the oldest family-operated white-tablecloth restaurant in the country, and it's spread all over the country as well. The Gaslamp branch, its 30th, is just like all the other branches, even down to decor details, which is the whole point — business travelers with contacts to impress can rely on it wherever they go. The fare features tender, dry-aged and wet-aged USDA Prime beef from the chain's own wholesale butcher and, for the really high-rollers, monster-sized Nova Scotia lobsters. Other good dishes are shrimp Bruno (with a Dijon sauce), baked crab cakes with no filler, and the Slater Special, which combines the last two in an appetizer. Don't eat meat, but do eat garlic? Try clams and shrimp *posillippo* and scare off the vampires. All dishes à la carte. Portions are generally gigantic on up. Key lime pie (a normal-sized wedge) makes a good, tart dessert, and clean *macchinettas* make outstanding espresso. Excellent wine list, plenty by the glass; full bar. Valet parking. Dinner nightly. Very expensive.— *N.W.*

Panda Inn 506 Horton Plaza, Downtown, 619-233-7800. Behind all the Panda Express fast-food stops is the smaller, more serious Panda Inn chain which originated many of the now-familiar dishes of semi-Americanized Mandarin cuisine (they claim to have invented orange chicken, and their version is vastly better than those at the 99-cent joints). Tofu with eggplant and Mongolian Hotpot, a meatball casserole with Chinese cabbage, are among the more authentic choices. Preparations here are generally clean and greaseless with well-balanced flavors; spicy dishes are moderately hot unless you request otherwise. It's not the spot for high adventure, but it does offer dishes for all tastes. Moderate-priced banquet menus make this a good choice for family gatherings. Full bar. Validated parking in Horton Plaza garage; heated patio seating in dry weather. Lunch and dinner daily. Lunches inexpensive, dinner moderate. — *N.W.*

The Prado 1549 El Prado, Balboa Park, 619-557-9441. In a magical space at the heart of Balboa Park, Prado features cute neo-Nouveau decor and a something-for-everyone menu of American-Mexican-Italian-with-Asian-touches cuisine. The food brings few surprises, but is flavorful and served in huge portions. Top choices include meaty crab cakes and an astonishingly tender, slow-roasted pork loin. A meringue-based banana *tres leches* cake is everyone's favorite dessert. The bar makes a nice stop during a museum crawl and offers ethereal fried oysters and a range of gussied-up margaritas. Keep an eye out for special prix-fixe dinners that include tickets to museum exhibitions. Dinner reservations vital. Vast interior can be noisy, but heated, umbrella-topped terrace tables are quiet and scenic. Moderate to a little expensive, with reasonable wine list. — *N.W.*

Quarter Kitchen 600 F Street, Downtown, 619-814-2000. Don't be intimidated by the chic reputation of this high-end hotel restaurant. Normal people can eat here, too, dressed not to the nines but to the high-fives on weeknights, keeping in mind that the best appetizers can be so exquisite that entrées may be superfluous. The menu attempts to please all tastes, from haute cuisine down to publicity-grabbing high-end pub grub (Wagyu sliders, oversized Kobe hot dogs, et al.). Among the best tastes: Caviar "tacos" (in paper-thin potato shells with crème fra?che) are amazing even with nonendangered paddlefish roe. (Ossetra is also available.) Salmon tartare and spicy crab soup also thrill the senses. The entrées include both delicate "chef" fare and steakhouse fare, including an irresistible side of truffled fries (forget the steak, buy the fries). You can eat fabulously here without bankruptcy if you're picky and go for light and superb rather than heavy and conventional. Three meals daily, until midnight on weekends. Very expensive. — *N.W.*

Saffron Noodles and Sate 3737 India Street, Mission Hills, 619-574-7737. It's the smell of the spicy chicken grilling that will get you every time. Whatever the recipe is — and Su-Mei Yu, the owner and celebrated cookbook author, says it's from the Isaan, Thailand's ethnic Lao Northeast — it catches your nose. We're talking "boxing-arena grilled chicken," after the place where she smelled its spicy cooking aromas while growing up in Bangkok. You have a choice of five sauces to go with the chicken, from peanut to sweet pepper. Also try the noodle soups, like Tom Yam with shrimp: sinus-clearing, delicious, and surprisingly filling. The food here is real, fresh, genuine Thai cuisine with Chinese echoes — like Su-Mei Yu herself. Middle-class San Diego seems to have adopted her eatery, despite the fact you're in a pretty stark gray-and-white room with views of I-5. Open for lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Taka 555 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-338-0555. The seafood at this always-packed sushi bar and Japanese appetizer restaurant is top quality. *Ama ebi* (sweet shrimp) from the live tank go down soft and silky smooth, unlike their frozen brethren. And the chefs are highly skilled: the well-seasoned rice is freshly made all evening, and for once the spicy scallop hand roll has scallops, mayo, cuke, and hot pepper running all the way through, not just plopped on top. Savory appetizers supplement the sushi, including miso-baked black cod and mushroom-topped *agedashi* (lightly fried) tofu. The one problem: the later you arrive, the louder it gets. Make reservations, and if you value your ears, go at an early hour. Dinner nightly. Most dishes inexpensive, but many little bites can eat a hole in your wallet. — *N.W.*

Tamale Cart 1852 National Avenue, Logan Heights, 619-338-9140. If you've ever wondered what it would be like to eat as the Aztecs ate, come here and try some of the tamales — classic Aztec food — in all their flavors. Tamales are sort of steamed cornmeal dumplings wrapped in corn husks, served with sauce. The choice of goodies stuffed in the middle can include strips of pork, beef, chicken, or cheese, as well as pineapple, strawberries, or coconut. While you're at it, try the traditional accompaniment, the *champurrado* drink: milk mixed with masa — ground corn meal — chocolate, and cinnamon. In this mainly Spanish-speaking market you can sit, watch, and pick up a few bargains too. Tamales make a great breakfast. Three should do you. These are made by the Restaurant Chiapaneco up at 25th and Market. Open breakfast through late lunch, seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Woodstock's Pizza 6145 El Cajon Boulevard, College Area, 619-265-0999. It's a college pizza joint, but the fare rates well above standard beer ballast. For that matter, the beers — Karl Strauss and Wyder's Ciders (along with the usual Coors Light and Bud) — aren't exactly chug-suds. Crusts — white or sweetly robust whole wheat — are pressed, tossed, and then folded over at the edge, producing a spongy, crunch-crusted rim. The mozzarella is rich, gooey whole-milk; the marinara sauce is dark and spicy; and the toppings are fresh, hearty standouts. Watching your weight? Two low-fat combos (half the cheese) are available. Inexpensive. — *A.M.*

NORTH INLAND

Athens Market Café 11640 Carmel Mountain Road, Suite 124, Carmel Valley, 858-675-2225. At this offshoot of Mary Pappas's downtown Athens Market, sister Vickie's food is just as good. If you want a big start, order the *saganaki*, a cheese appetizer that comes flaming to your table. And you can't lose with

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mezedakia, a big oval sampler of *dolmades* (stuffed grape leaves), *lokaniko* (a delicious Greek sausage), *spanakopita* (spinach in filo pastry), tomatoes, cucumbers, *tzatziki* dip, hummus, feta cheese, and olives. But come for the lamb. It's wonderfully flavorful, skewered in the souvlaki entrée (which comes with beans and rice) or as lamb chops. Moussaka (baked eggplant, zucchini, and ground beef) goes down well too. Or what's wrong with a simple plate of feta cheese, kalamata olives, and a glass of Greek red? Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.*

Bamboo Hut 9172 Mira Mesa Boulevard, Mira Mesa, 858-348-0414. You'll find a taste of Hawaii in a strip mall in a neighborhood that's all mall. The bright little "hut" has bamboo chairs, a bamboo ceiling, bare floors, and unclothed tables, with a sushi counter next to a tiny kitchen with a roaring gas grill. A large lattice awning offers outdoor seating a few steps from the door. The quality of the food is all over the map, though — this is not the place to try your first Spam sushi. The seafood sushi is good, though, including a fine Rainbow Roll with really sweet crab; the more creative rolls run to cream cheese and hot sauce. "Local food" choices include a tasty ahi *poké* and excellent chicken *katsu;* the *kalbi* short ribs are tough, though. Plate lunches include one to three entrées (priced accordingly) with steamed or mildly garlic-flavored rice, macaroni salad, and green salad with bright orange dressing à la Kraft French. Be sure they deliver what you ordered; there may be slipups. Open seven days, lunch and dinner. Very inexpensive. — *N.W.*

Casa Reveles Mexican & Seafood Restaurant 201 Mission Avenue, Escondido, 760-480-5565. "Revels," as the locals pronounce it, offers zesty, careful cooking with some unusually authentic flavors. The Michoacán-style carnitas (available in several "stuffed" dishes as well as an entrée) are outstanding for their moist smokiness, and the house's slightly crunchy fresh-tomatillo version of salsa verde is exciting. Seafood is necessarily frozen (given the inland location), but is handled tenderly. Late breakfast through dinner daily. Breakfast specials Saturday and Sunday until noon. Inexpensive to low moderate, with some three-course seafood dinners high moderate. — *N.W.*

Fish House Vera Cruz 360 Via Vera Cruz, San Marcos, 760-744-7346. Additional locations in Carlsbad and Temecula. This affordable seafood eatery packs in diners like sardines. Fresh fish and lots of it is the happenin' thing. On a recent day, 23 different fresh fish selections were available as daily specials, on top of the regular menu of crab, lobster, oysters, shrimp, catfish, etc. All fish are grilled plain, with nothing added but a dab of tartar sauce. The seafood is so fresh you don't really mind. Each entree includes a choice of side dishes, two for lunch and three for dinner. The Manhattan chowder is especially tasty, as is their "krab" salad. This is an ideal place for families, but don't even think of it for a romantic meal out. Dinner daily, lunch daily except Sunday (dinner all day Sunday). Moderate. — *S.M.*

The Philadelphia Sandwich Company 3904 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-571-0888. This classic luncheonette is a monument to Philly culture, including sports pennants, historic photos, and colorful mummers' costumes. The menu is equally devoted to the city's cuisine, especially its two great cult sandwiches: the hoagie and the cheese steak. The mixed-meat hoagie is way more than a hero — its flavor array is similar to (and just as intense as) a New Orleans muffuletta. As for the cheese steak, it starts with steak strips, onions, and your choice of cheese, and expands from there. Philly natives may like the simple version with Cheez Whiz, but the luscious "Everything" with provolone is more likely to seduce the innocent. "Philly fries" (with garlic) are the right go-with. The menu also offers Pennsylvania-packaged foods ("Philadelphia Scrapple" to go, Tastykakes, Wise potato chips) to nostalgic émigrés. Lunch to early dinner nightly. Inexpensive. — *N.W.*

The Place: El Parque 2659 Reche Road, Fallbrook, 760-731-2775. Just think Little Red Riding Hood — this is Grandma's place. Okay, it's not a little old, thatched cottage — it's a cream-painted metal shed with a gazebo in front. But it is in the Live Oak woods, and you can sink your teeth into some pretty fair Mexican food here, sitting alongside an interesting bunch of agricultural workers and maybe some ruby miners. Good combination plates include the tostada and beef taco, and burrito and enchilada. The time to be here is Sunday morning, when those aggies pour in here for the menudo, cooked in a three-foot-high pot. Open daily, breakfast through early dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

La Tapatia 340 West Grand Avenue, Escondido, 760-747-8282. Take a walk on the mild side at this family-owned favorite, in business since the 1930s. You'll find standard Mexican fare in a comfortable dining room or, in good weather, a lovely, arbor-like stone-walled patio. The most celebrated dish is the "cheese crisp," a large tostada covered one-third in ground beef, one-third in beef chunks, and one-third in beans, with cheese, avocado puree, and sour cream over all. Many preparations (grilled seafoods, etc.) are healthy, and veggies taste fresh. Seasonings are rather de-tuned, but there's a saltshaker and a lively salsa on the table. Open daily, three meals. Moderate. — *N.W.*

Wayside Café 507 South Main Avenue, Fallbrook, 760-723-9633. Locals love meeting and eating in this long low-porched building — partly because it all just feels small-town America. The place used to be Mahrs' Service Station. You can even sit in the old lube bay to eat. Count on generous servings, especially the mountain piles of red-skinned home-fries as a side at breakfast. Open

User Reviews — RESTAURANTS

Best user comments from Reader website

Bertrand at Mr. A's

I have dined here several times a year for a long time and am very familiar with the establishment. The food is always good and the atmosphere appropriate for the fanciest of occasions or business. However, I dined here last week and had the RUDEST busser I have ever had and a mediocre waitress. The busser was clearly not amused by the smallest of requests I asked of her and as she walked away I heard her swearing under her breath and then saw her talking to the waitress and looking over at our table in a completely inappropriate way. She ruined my ability to enjoy my meal and made me feel very self-conscious about my needs, such as being out of water and needing dessert settings. I was really irritated and don't know how a place like Mr. A's continues to employ a girl who can't stand working in a restaurant.
By **msheartdoc** 1:49 p.m., Aug. 11, 2008

Filippi's/Little Italy

FUGGEDABOUTIT!!
This place reminds me of my Aunt Lena's basement the week before Christmas – food everywhere, and an aroma that transports you to another world.
Passing through the deli section before you get to the restaurant is a gastronomic nirvana. I love the cheese hanging from the ceiling along with the dehydrated fish waiting to be soaked. It reminds me of my Uncle Strimp's car that had a similar smell. I miss him.
Then there's the food – they actually use garlic! So many "Italian" restaurants have forgotten that real Italians LOVE garlic. The sausage and raviolis alone could end wars. Relaxing at a dimly lit table under some old statue or picture, I am always looking to see if Paulie Walnuts or Tony Soprano will walk through the door and order meatballs.
The service is great and the wait staff efficient. I cry tears of joy when they get real busy and everybody starts shouting at each other. It's like home.
The price won't set you back either. You can get a gallon of Chianti, cheap. So get a couple on your way out.
Mangia
By **bohemianopus** 1:58 p.m., Aug. 13, 2008

The Philadelphia Sandwich Company

The Philadelphia Sandwich Company on Convoy Street has the absolute best cheesesteak in town! The owner Joe has kept my family's business since 1975, when we moved out here from PA. The last thing my Dad enjoyed before he died last August was one of Joe's steak sandwiches. He said, "It was the best sandwich I ever had!" Thanks to all of the people who work there for all the years of great service and great food!
By **lil59vixen** 3:03 p.m., Aug. 17, 2008

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for breakfast and lunch daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

NORTH COASTAL

Fidel's Carlsbad 3003 Carlsbad Boulevard, Carlsbad, 760-729-0903. It's not upscale modern Mex — no cumin-infused, mango-corn salsa on Fidel's menu — but who gives a flyin' fajita when you can order just about any traditional SoCal-Mexican dish and know it's gonna be good? Whether you try the chicken-and-rice soup with fresh cilantro and avocado chunks, fluffy chile rellenos, a crab enchilada, carne asada with all the trimmings, or a lonely à la carte chicken burrito, you're going to be a happy camper. Add a reliable margarita or a beer and you're set at this popular North County mainstay. Open seven days a week for lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. —*S.M.*

Joe's Crab Shack — Oceanside 314 Harbor Drive, Oceanside, 760-722-1345. Joe's is silly with crab-shack ambience (campy nautical paraphernalia on down to souvenir gimme caps), but the food's not bad. You can choose buckets of steamed, barbecued, or garlic crab (of various subspecies), or go for fried or grilled seafood or steaks, or salads. Grown-ups may prefer the patio to the rockin', raucous interior. Full bar, not much wine. Inexpensive to low moderate. Also in Pacific Beach, Mission Valley, and downtown. — *N.W.*

Joey's Smokin' B-B-Q — Carlsbad 6955 El Camino Real, Carlsbad, 760-929-1396. Joey Maggiore doesn't produce Southern "Q" so much as So-Cal "Q" — more an homage to Memphis than anything you'd find in Memphis itself — but the tables include paper towel dispensers instead of napkins, a clear signal to go ahead and get messy. All the meats are smoked, not grilled, in true "Q" fashion. Pulled pork offers reasonably credible Memphis-style flavor and tender-chewy texture. Baby back ribs come in three versions: sweet ribs glazed with the "suh-weet" sauce, wet ribs glazed with the mild-spicy sauce, and dry-rubbed ribs sprinkled with spice rub. Sweet or wet are the best. Chicken plates come in a variety of sizes and parts. Housemade hot links are well seasoned in the Louisiana manner but extremely salty. The list of sides is long and varied. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — *N.W.*

Johnny Mañanas 308 Mission Avenue, Oceanside, 760-721-9999. Local teachers hang out at this green- white- and red-tiled place because it's such good value. Most dishes are Mexican. There's a Caribbean chocolatey, black bean, paprika, curry-in-the-rice thing going on. Pescado Veracruz (fish marinated in lime juice and garlic with rice, beans, and green salad) is good. The roasted chicken is delicious. The Big Breakfast Burrito Special (eggs, onions, beans, cheese, and rice, wrapped in a large flour tortilla) is *muy popular,* but then so is J.M.'s Great All-American Cheeseburger. Open daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Osteria del Pescatore 1201 Camino Del Mar, Del Mar, 858-509-9293. The restaurant's name means "Fisherman's Hostelry," and you'll find expert, courteous service and well-crafted seasonal Italian fare here with a strong emphasis on zesty fresh seafood. Go straight to the single-spaced page-long list of daily specials for the most exciting dishes, including spaghetti *a cartoccio* (baked in parchment) and lobster risotto. But save room for dessert, especially if the day's offerings include *torta alla nanna,* a rose-scented nut confection. Parking behind restaurant (turn east on 12th Street); heated dining patio available. Interesting international wine list. Reservations advised. Lunch Tuesday through Saturday; dinner nightly. High moderate to expensive. — *N.W.*

Pacific Coast Grill 437 South Coast Highway 101, Solana Beach, 858-794-4632. The grill features a free-form menu of Pacific Rim cuisine featuring fine ingredients and integrating Mexican, Hawaiian, and Asian flavors into So-Cal comfort cooking. Try the green salad with vibrant cranberry vinaigrette, the Bag of Bones (house-smoked pork ribs), and whatever fruit creation is on the dessert menu. Busy and noisy; reservations urged for weekend dinners and all summer. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Full bar. Moderate to expensive. — *N.W.*

Red Tracton's 550 Via de la Valle, Del Mar, 858-755-6600. Even though you know you're a half mile from the Pacific Ocean and across the street from the Del Mar Racetrack, one step inside Red Tracton's dining room sends you reeling back in time to an upscale, dimly lit, maroon-and-gilt restaurant of 1960s' Chicago. The only thing missing is the scent of cigars. Food portions are enormous: The lobster sandwich (a touch heavy on the mayo) easily packs a half pound of lobster (available at lunch on Fridays). The selection is generous: steaks, prime rib, seafood, chicken, and pork — all expertly prepared and served in record time. On days when you don't give a rip about the Surgeon General's latest warnings, run to Red Tracton's and indulge your All-American appetite. Lunch Monday through Saturday, dinner nightly. Expensive. — *S.M.*

Tomiko 87 Encinitas Boulevard, Encinitas, 760-633-3587. In a lovely setting overlooking Moonlight Bay you can enjoy Japanese and Pacific Rim fusion cooking and sushi in a serene but lively dining room. When the sushi bar is free from the weekend rush, the quality can be amazing: stunningly fresh *uni,* world-beating silky *toro.* The sushi-master also keeps an eye on the restaurant's seafood purchases, so they meet exacting standards. Appetizers such as "salmon tower tartare" and "drunken black cod" are rewarding, as are the simple, excellent fusion-tinged seafood entrees. Reserve for weekends, especially for sushi bar. Dinner nightly. Moderate. — *N.W.*

I Trulli Trattoria 830 South Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-943-6800. An enduring hit in Encinitas (where there's no shortage of Italian restaurants), I Trulli serves modern Italian food with fashionable new ingredients. The menu, subtitled "Nouvelle Italian Cuisine," resembles the somewhat ambitious, generically "northern Italian" bills of fare that you encounter all over Hillcrest and the Gaslamp. (It is, in fact, a partner restaurant to Hillcrest's Arrivederci.) The signifiers of seriousness are the pink peppercorns, goat cheese, sun-dried tomatoes, and light cream sauces that coexist with the more traditional mozzarella-tomato sauce arrays. Best bets are the daily specials, which offer the greatest chance for fresh ingredients and creativity. Busy, cramped, painfully loud inside. Street patio next to highway is also noisy. Reserve for dinner on weekends or expect an hour's wait. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Moderate. — *N.W.*

Tuscan Sun Italian Deli 1070 North El Camino Real, Encinitas, 760-633-4546. A town abounding in Italian restaurants ought to have a great Italian deli, and it does. You'll find domestic and imported deli meats and cheeses, fresh-baked breads and focaccia, marinated veggies, and a wealth of gourmet products from Italy. The specialty is the Caprese sandwich on focaccia bread with a variety of fillings, best served grilled and dressed with pesto. The eat-in/take-out menu includes pizza, pasta, salads, and a host of sandwiches. Open daily. — *N.W.*

SOUTH BAY

La Bella Pizza Garden 373 Third Avenue, Chula Vista, 619-426-8820. From the outside, La Bella looks like an Italian farmhouse, with geraniums, bright green shutters, and maroon canopies. A real extended family runs this business. Their secrets are: long hours (from breakfast until after midnight daily), big meals, and small prices. The menu includes standards like spaghetti with meatballs or lasagna, including sides of garlic bread, soup, or salad. The hit with kids is "Papa's Favorite," an 8-inch pizza with mushrooms, pepperoni, and sausage. Open daily, three meals. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

El Dorado Seafood & Grill 311 Palomar, Chula Vista, 619-426-4545. The food of Peru is arguably the zestiest in South America, and Chula Vista's growing Peruvian community expects authenticity. El Dorado is there for them. The *papa relleno* is pure bliss — a little football of creamy mashed potatoes, lightly fried around a filling of ground beef, olives, and raisins. *Seco de cabrito* features young goat in a complex, herbed stew exploding with cilantro. Peruvian ceviche is lively and garnished with *cancha,* smoked hominy-corn kernels. Alas, here in the far north, the cuisine's fire is tuned way down for the kiddies — but there's always hot sauce. Reflecting the local population, half the menu here is Mexican — not tacos but more serious dinner dishes, especially seafood, carried out with above-average flair. Breakfast and dinner daily, lunch weekdays. Inexpensive to moderate. — *N.W.*

Il Fornaio — Coronado 1333 First Street, Coronado, 619-437-4911. Il Fornaio's defensive architecture walls it off from the Great Unwashed — the tourists wandering around Coronado's Old Ferry Landing — but it's worth breaching if only to get your teeth into their to-die-for bread. *"Il fornaio"* means "the baker," after all. Beyond bread, we're talking rustic-feeling, herbal, ultra-fresh salads, and everyday Italian dishes ranging from *sfilatino con bistecchina* (thin grilled steak on a baguette with creamy dijon and salad) to a giant mesquite-grilled 22-ounce *bistecca alla fiorentina,* with lots of vegetarian and pasta dishes in between. A simple penne *alla sorrentina* — pasta tubes with a tomato, mozzarella, and basil sauce — is charming. Pizza *puttanesca* is heaven too, if you're into anchovies. Interesting regional menus from different provinces of Italy pop up during the first two weeks of each month. Most staffers seem mindblowingly knowledgeable. Moderate. — *E.B.*

Island Pasta 1202 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-4545. This unassuming, spill-out-on-the-street restaurant somehow got it right. Simple tables on the sidewalk, daily made-on-the-premises semolina pasta, most dishes costing in the single digits. A simple fettuccine Alfredo is a pleasure al fresco with a glass of wine, sparkling against the fresh flowers on the table, watching Coronado's world go by. One good — and vegetarian — special to ask for is the *verdure* pasta, a combo of artichoke hearts, spinach, capers, mushrooms, onions, and olives over spaghettini. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Mary J's Café 1930 Cleveland Avenue, National City, 619-477-6645. Mary J and her café have been around for 40 years, and about the only thing to change is the prices. This is the real National City. The regulars start piling in at 5 a.m. Mary always has specials going, but check the big-board menu above the stove too. One of their most popular items is the Trucker's Breakfast (three eggs, ham, bacon or sausage, home fries, and toast), or steak and eggs with hash browns and toast. Mary's son Vic, the morning cook, always gives you more than enough. For lunch or early dinner, try the meat loaf with mixed veggies, boiled potatoes covered with gravy, toast, and soup or salad. Or chicken-fried steak with all the fixings. Also hefty: cheeseburgers or tuna melts (with fries plus soda included in the price) and that old American favorite, a fried egg sandwich with chips. Open 4:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Miguel's Cocina — Chula Vista 970 EastLake Parkway, Chula Vista, 619-656-2822. Although the cooking is blandly pleasant (even the guacamole is underseasoned), it's surprisingly painstaking. Soups are built on fine stocks, salads can be vibrant, and seafood is treated so tenderly that the numerous shellfish-stuffed tortilla concoctions (shrimp enchiladas, lobster burritos) are positively luscious. Lunch and dinner daily. Moderate. — *N.W.*

The Tin Fish 910 Seacoast Drive, Imperial Beach, 619-628-8414. At a table by this fish shack at the far end of the pier, you can watch people and pigeons (and people feeding pigeons) as you dig into huge portions of simple seafood, appetized by the sea air. The bill of fare features fish — fried, grilled, chowdered, or wrapped into burritos, tacos, or sandwiches. The big fried combos are about what you'd expect, but more piquant pleasures come in smaller packages. (Portions are generous, whatever you order.) The spicy fish tacos are really spicy, while the fried onion rings are of surpassing delicacy. Best of all, the crab cakes are huge and seriously crabby, with plenty of meat and very little filler. With a call, they'll give you a lift from the parking lot to their restaurant. A second branch at 170 Sixth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-238-8100, offers patio dining across from the Convention Center, with live music during summer. Both locations open daily for lunch and early dinner. Inexpensive to low moderate. — *N.W.*

EAST COUNTY

Anthony's Fish Grotto — La Mesa 9530 Murray Drive, La Mesa, 619-463-0368. If you don't want over-complicated food, Anthony's obliges. Fish and chips is still the simplest and the best. Or Mama's Platter, cod combined with batter-fried calamari, shrimp, oysters, scallops, and clam strips. Anthony's has been up and running for six decades now, with the buying power to get the pick of the catch. The menu offers 18 different seasonal fish to choose from, plus — if you've got the bread — delicious lobster dishes (in season) like lobster thermidor with a creamy, winey sauce. No reservations. Open daily, lunch through dinner. Moderate. — *E.B.*

Greek Town Buffet 345 West Main Street, El Cajon, 619-441-9708. Just another Greek buffet? Well, yes. Your choices are standard: gyros meat, spanakopita, moussaka, *dolmades.* And the decor is the usual blue and white with Greek island posters. But it's the customers who give it an exotic feel, speaking languages from Russian to Greek to Somali. And if you're hungry, this all-you-can-eat deal is great. Have gyros meat, but also try the chicken souvlaki (grilled lemon chicken), or start with the excellent *dolmades* (grape leaves wrapped around beef and rice). The leaves' tangy taste and the lemony sauce inside get your juices running. Don't forget salad…or the dessert table (how could you leave without baklava?). Open for lunch and dinner, seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Grossmont Student Center Cafeteria 8800 Grossmont College Drive, Grossmont College, 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. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Mario's de la Mesa 8425 La Mesa Boulevard, La Mesa, 619-461-9390. The man on the burro (seen on the restaurant's sign and menu) holds two flags, those of Mexico and the U.S.A. — very appropriate. Few dishes (except maybe the menudo) will push the paler palate too far in any direction, but gosh-all, everything is so darn tasty. Tamales are a house special: rich, pillowy clouds of cornmeal surrounding richer shredded pork scattered with raisins for a smidgeon of sweetness. Pork also gets loving treatment in the *carnitas rojas,* big chunks browned to the barest crisp, which falls away to melting tenderness. Great marinade (cumin?) on the carne asada; intense flavor and buttery richness on the "machaca sonora style" (dry-roasted shredded beef). Beans are so light as to seem whipped; rice is studded with peas and spicy carrots. Service is fast and friendly. Breakfast and lunch Sunday and Monday; three meals Tuesday through Saturday. Inexpensive. — *A.M.*

Owl Cafe 674 Main Street, Imperial Valley, 760-336-0298. This classic American café is over 50 years old and still serves good rib-sticking food morning, noon, or night. Try breakfast special #1: pancakes, two eggs, and two bacon strips. For lunch, the French dip sandwich. Full-plate dinners — and they are full — include roast beef and chicken-fried steak. Open Monday through Friday 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Closed Sunday. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

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Thai Cafe **$1 off buffet**
VIP Oriental Buffet **$3 off all-you-can-eat buffet**

Restaurants listed without coupon offers have only menus online. Restaurants with • have multiple locations. See online menu or coupon for all locations.

Blame-Thrower

"One touch of nature makes the whole world kin."

REVIEW
JEFF SMITH

When *Spring Awakening* won eight Tony Awards for 2007, including Best Musical, word around the Big Apple went that it would never tour, that it was strictly a "New York show." Why? Frank Wedekind's "tragedy of childhood," on which the musical's based, is just too controversial, too sexually explicit for the provinces.

Well, *Spring* is explicit, but almost tastefully so. The sex scenes, including masturbation beneath a nightshirt, aren't done to titillate. They illustrate youthful perplexity as much as — and often during — erotic pleasure. If one finds such sights offensive, then one should stay away. For the rest of us provincials, though, *Spring*'s a bullet-train ride back to the days of raging hormones.

Shakespeare said, "One touch of nature makes the whole world kin." How Wedekind's adolescents experience that epic but fleeting "touch" and how their elders stifle it are what the musical's about.

Wedekind wrote the play in 1891, but because it was so "obscene," he couldn't get it produced for 15 years. In brief, often fragmentary scenes, teenage self-discovery clashes with lockstep repression. The play takes place in a rural German town. Melchior Gabor's mother won't let him read Goethe's *Faust* because it's "too radical." Moritz Stiefel isn't measuring up in school and fears how his parents will react. Young Wendla Bergmann's mother, who assures her 14-year-old daughter that babies come from storks, lengthens Wendla's frock to make it a more "penitential garment." Almost by conspiracy, parents and teachers stomp out sexual stirrings in the young. They want their children to "desire what is good rather than what is interesting." In the process, a "suicide epidemic" breaks out.

Spring Awakening may offend, but not just its explicitness. The show opens with a blame-thrower. There's no overture, no easing-in period. Christy Altomajre's excellent Wendla walks out, stands on a chair, and sings "Mama Who Bore Me." The opening arrests, not merely because it's so simple (why didn't anyone think of this before; just enter and go), but because our eyes see one thing and our ears hear another. Wendla tenderly caresses herself, as if exploring uncharted territory, but she sings with controlled ferocity. Her mother gave her "no way to handle things" and made her "so sad." Winter trumped spring. That's why "there's no sleep in heaven, or Bethlehem."

In the reprise that follows "Mama Who Bore Me," Wendla's friends join in (none of whom leaves adolescence unscathed). Their teachers taught guilt, not the facts of life. The twin numbers set the musical's hurt and angry tone. They also establish its vocal style. Laser-eyed, their mouths sculpting every word, the cast sings front, concert-style. They roar into hand mikes, as if convinced that no one would listen otherwise — or that no one is listening period.

They aren't just earnest, they're *serious,* and never more so than in the show's — and, some claim, this generation's — anthem. *Hair* had "Aquarius," *Rent,* "Seasons of Love." When the cast did a brief medley of the *Spring* score at the Tonys, it was okay for them to sing about "The Bitch of Living" on TV. But when they came to the anthem, they muted its offensive words: "You can kiss your sorry a** goodbye," they sang, because life is — the song's title — "Totally F*****."

An underlying reason people feared *Spring* might not tour well, I suspect, is that the original's such a spare, incredibly tight show that the demands of touring might dilute it. There are no wasted moves, and often it blasts from 0 to 60 in an instant. Plus, the characters are sketchy and require top young talent to get their attitude, that fury, just right.

The production at the Balboa Theatre represents a dual shakedown cruise. The company's beginning a national tour here, and the renovated theater's having its first big musical tryout. Flying colors for both. The Balboa's such a natural venue for this kind of event you wonder why it ever closed.

Spring Awakening

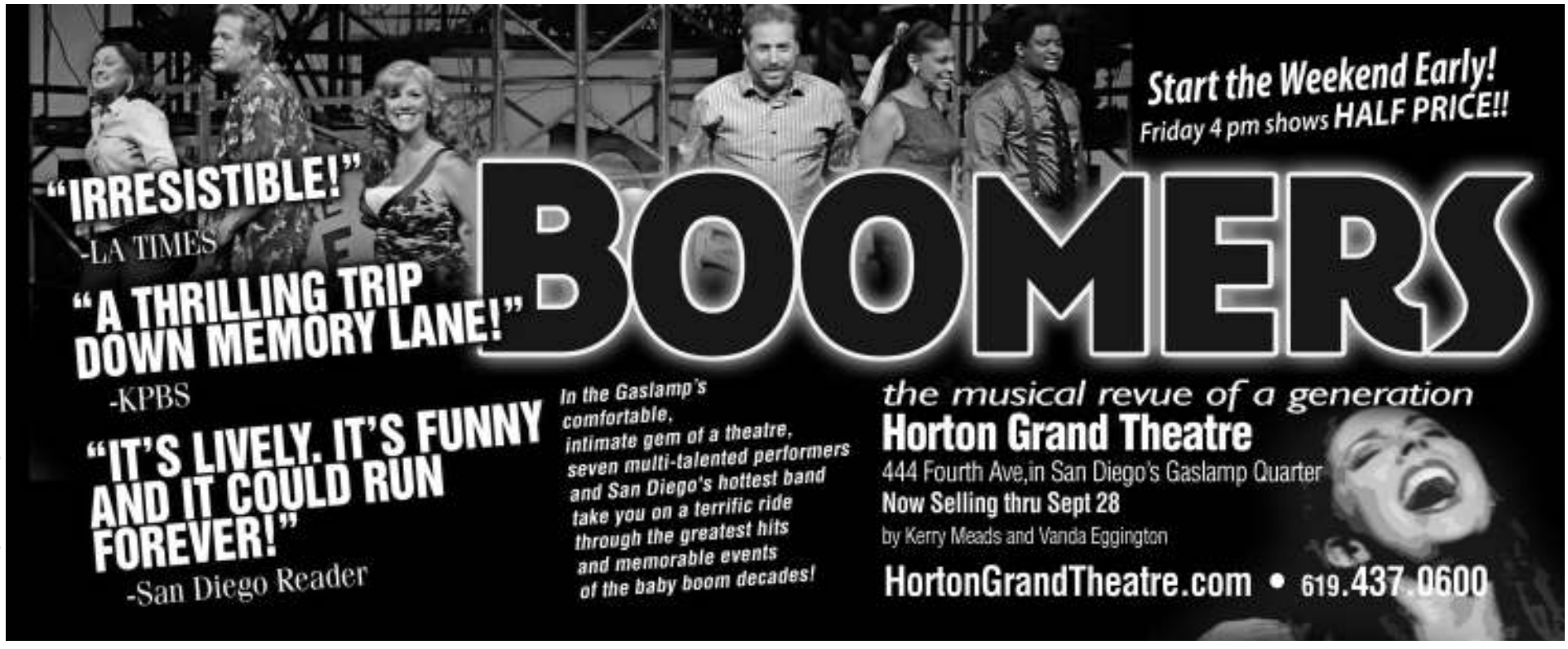
Spring Awakening, *book and lyrics by Steven Sater, music by Duncan Sheik, based on the play by Frank Wedekind*
Balboa Theatre, *854 Fourth Avenue, downtown*
Directed by Michael Mayer; *cast: Christy Altomare, Kyle Riabko, Blake Bashoff, Matt Schingledecker, Ben Moss, Andy Mientus, Gabrielle Garza, Kimiko Glenn, Steffi D, Sarah Hunt; scenic design, Christine Jones; costumer, Susan Hilferty; lighting, Kevin Adams; sound, Brian Ronan; music director, Jared Stein; choreographer, Bill T. Jones*
Playing through August 31; *Thursday at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday at 8:00 p.m. Sunday at 6:00 p.m. Matinee Saturday at 2:00 p.m. and Sunday at 1:00 p.m. 619-570-1100.*

And the production rocks. Kyle Riabko, as the budding nihilist Melchior, and Blake Bashoff as Moritz (a mesa of brown hair rising from his scalp) head a cast with no weak links. Every move, whether singing out or stomping the floor hard, is absolutely in the moment.

On the technical side, *Spring*'s both then and now. Kevin Adams's extraordinary lighting combines neon lines and circles with galaxies of blue, orange, and red stars. The music has rock and hip-hop roots. But the musicians play instruments more attuned to Wedekind's era: string bass, cello, violin, and viola.

Director Michael Mayer bleachers some audience members on the sides of the stage. (Michael Greif used a similar approach to make his *Rent* more intimate.) Christine Jones's scenic design's also a hybrid. The box set with three red brick walls suggests today. Objects on the walls — a headless body in a casket, an angel's wing — light up and tell parts of Wedekind's original story. Among other things, the musical becomes a tour through a sad old museum.

Susan Hilferty's Edwardian costumes — boys in four-button sport coats, girls in long, puffy-shouldered cottons — make the stage resemble a *Harry Potter* movie, in which heretofore asexual students encounter a mystery far greater than magic. ■



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.

All's Well That Ends Well

Most of Shakespeare's romantic comedies begin with an arranged marriage: the female's father chooses for her. But what if the golden slipper were on the other foot? What if the woman — Helena in *All's Well* — were free to name her mate with the King's blessing? And what if her intended — rich young Bertram — flat refuses enforced wedlock and would rather go to war than marry beneath his station? In effect, Shakespeare takes a social given of the time and dumps it on its ear. Helena persists; Bertram flees (and becomes a lying womanizer); then she *really* persists. At the Old Globe, director Darko Tresnjak relocates the play in Victorian times, which allows Linda Cho to dress the cast in cold, formal charcoals, the soldiers in bright red and black. Tresnjak counters the stiff-upper-lip surface with bawdy touches, including a frontal view of Michelangelo's Goliath-sized statue *David* upstage (and upstaging all below). As Bertram and Helena, Graham Hamilton and Kimberly Parker Greene are adequate. The fun's in the secondary roles: Jim Winker's crotchety King ("wrapped in dismal thinkings"), Kandis Chappell, Charles Janasz, and music-voiced Celeste Ciulla. Bruce Turk is special as Parolles who, like Helena, becomes a threat to the male-dominated social order. Over the years, audiences and critics have had a "problem" with the play. But I never have. Its perplexities are much more lifelike than most of the happy-enders (how many weddings have you attended where people whisper, "Give it six months" and are being optimistic?). All may be well that ends well, but at the ending of *All's Well,* Helena and Bertram have only just begun.

Worth a try.

OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. THURSDAYS, 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 8 P.M. TUESDAYS, 8 P.M. WEDNESDAYS, 8 P.M. THROUGH SEPTEMBER 28.

Altar Boyz

The Welk Resort Theatre presents the musical comedy spoof about a fictitious Christian boy-band on the last night of their national "Raise the Praise" tour. Nick DeGruccio directed.

WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8860 LAWRENCE WELK DRIVE, ESCONDIDO. 888-802-7469. THURSDAYS, 1:45 AND 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 1:45 AND 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 1:45 P.M. TUESDAYS, 1:45 AND 8 P.M. THROUGH SEPTEMBER 14.

Anything Goes

Cole Porter's musical classic, about antics aboard the S.S. *American,* gets an outdoor staging at the Kit Carson Amphitheater. Songs include "I Get a Kick Out of You" and "You're the Top."

KIT CARSON PARK, 3333 BEAR VALLEY PARKWAY, ESCONDIDO. SUNDAYS, 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. THROUGH AUGUST 31.

Boomers

Lamb's Players Theatre reprises one of its most popular shows. In this salute to the Baby Boom generation, when a guy sings a snippet from "Big Girls Don't Cry" a woman counters with "It's My Party and I'll Cry If I Want To," as if Lesley Gore wrote the song in response to the Four Seasons. Now in its fourth — fifth? — version, *Boomers* has grown a great deal since it premiered in 1993. It's added social dimensions (the original was mostly about middle-class whites), more period details, and a much better understanding of one's later years (gained from experience: authors Kerry Meads and Vanda Eggington are now 15 years older). Ostensibly the piece is a lecture about the generation from 1946 to 1964. A deliberately, sometimes annoyingly, crotchety Jim Chovik recalls major events and provides statistics, from JFK to Kent State (but leaves out Jackson State!), from hippies to yuppies, marriage to divorce, and beyond. Themes from TV commercials and shows zip past, medleys of parts of songs cluster around a theme (Vietnam, relationships), and the evening unfolds like a game of "name that tune" in fast-forward. Boomers in the audience gulp "oh's" of recognition when a musical fragment triggers memories. One could wish that, at least once or twice, the company would do a whole song (let Anise Ritchie's Aretha-strong voice do all of "Respect"; or Keith Jefferson all of "I Heard It Through the Grapevine"). One could also wish that the characters weren't so one-note (Bill Doyle's hippie must express the same Owsley-marinated perplexity at least ten times). But the performances overall are quite good, as are Meads's direction and the four-piece backup band. You won't learn why the pump don't work or how good brown sugar can taste, but if you're of a certain era, *Boomers* will time-machine you back in a lively manner.

Worth a try.

HORTON GRAND THEATRE, 444 FOURTH AVENUE, DOWNTOWN. 619-234-9583. THURSDAYS, 7:30 P.M. FRIDAYS, 4 AND 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 4 AND 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M. THROUGH AUGUST 31.

Cadillacs of Comedy

Carlsbad Village Theater hosts the comedy group that vows to "take the funny business from crass to class in 4.7 seconds."

CARLSBAD VILLAGE THEATRE, 2808 STATE STREET, CARLSBAD. 760-434-5944. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. OPEN-ENDED RUN.

The Compleat Works of Wllm Shkspr (Abridged)

"It is I, Hamlet, the *cheese Danish!*" Bardolators may wince at how their sacred cow gets sent up in the Reduced Shakespeare Company's antic speed-read through the plays. *Othello*'s a rap number, the histories a football game (the King's crown becomes the ball), and *Titus Andronicus* is a cooking show, for cannibals. *Compleat* began at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in 1987 and ran for 10 years in London. New Village Arts's updated version's a kick. To the credit of director Rob Salas, and the three performers — Joshua Everett Johnson, Tim Parker, and Adam Brick — the entire show feels improvised (some actually is, but the border between planned and ad-libbed material blurs). And it flows like a toga party trashing the "musty, 400-year-old plays." Audience participation contributes, especially when sections of the house become parts of poor Ophelia's psyche

("cut the crap, Hamlet," one section screams, "my biological clock is ticking and I want babies NOW!"). Late in Act Two (which sprints through *Hamlet*), the lights dim and Johnson recites the "what a piece of work is man" speech "straight," and with such skill it becomes obvious that he must play Hamlet — and not the cheese Danish!

Worth a try.

NEW VILLAGE ARTS THEATRE, 2787 B STATE STREET, CARLSBAD. 760-433-3245. THURSDAYS, 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 AND 7 P.M. THROUGH AUGUST 31.

The Dream Is Rising (The Dream Is Still Alive)

San Diego Black Ensemble presents its second annual tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., including T.J. Johnson performing the "I have a dream" speech, accompanied by an ensemble company of actors; ensemble dancers, directed by Monique Gaffney, interpreting the song "Abraham, Martin, and John," sung by George Walker; and Common Ground Theatre Academy students performing "A Dream Deferred/A Dream Rising" by Langston Hughes. Music is provided by Brutha Earl's West Coast Soul Band.

Worth a try.

ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, 2278 SIXTH AVENUE, BANKER'S HILL. 619-298-7261. SATURDAY, 6 P.M.

The Joy Luck Club

During the second Sino-Japanese War, Suyuan Woo founded the Joy Luck Club with three friends to cope with the chaos around them. When Amy Tan's novel begins, Suyuan has died and her daughter, Jing-Mei "June" Woo, has been invited to take her seat at an American version of the club. The novel, and Susan Kim's dramatic adaptation, shoots off in four directions (literally the four compass points and the four winds), as June and her friends and their mothers and grandmothers tell "talk stories" of fragmentation, conflict, and a shared/lost cultural heritage. Ultimately, the women of June's generation find their voices in newfound gifts, from a past they previously avoided, that have been in their bones all along. Staging the 18-scene, tree-like structure's a vast enterprise. I wish I could report that the San Diego Asian American Repertory has pulled it off. But the night I caught the show, the production had good moments (the red dragon spectacle, for instance, and performances by Elise Kim Prosser, Joyelle Cabato, Tiffany Loui, and Robert Borzych), but the cast overall needed to project a good third more. Loud fans behind the audience (especially the one in the middle) drowned them out. Also, many of the narrators spoke in whispers, and their voices consistently trailed off at ends of sentences, which blurred key factual information and made the stories hard to follow if one hadn't read the book. These difficulties can be overcome, and the production could improve a great deal during the course of its run.

ACADEMY OF PERFORMING ARTS, 4580-B ALVARADO CANYON ROAD, GRANTVILLE. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M. THROUGH SEPTEMBER 14.

The Merry Wives of Windsor

Shakespeare on short notice: legend has it that Queen Elizabeth wanted a play featuring Falstaff in love. The Bard had, the legend says, two weeks to write the five-act comedy. The script takes longer than his others to get going. And once it does, it's mostly setups and punch lines. Shakespeare used a fascinating shortcut, however: he didn't have time to develop characters, so he gave them distinct voices and turned the stage into a Babel of warped idioms. For the Old Globe, director Paul Mullins reset the play in the Old West. Ralph Funicello's versatile, stained-wood set becomes a dusty street, a dance-hall saloon, and a moonlit forest (okay, the relocation doesn't work 100 percent). Denitsa Bliznakova's multilayered costumes make the transition from buckram to buckskin with ease. If the production has a concept, it would be *"Merry Wives* is goofy. We're honoring that. Enjoy." Mullins's large cast communicates the fun of doing one farcical lick after another. As Falstaff, Eric Hoffman's opening night was, at best, okay. Hoffman pushed for emotional breadth almost to the point of straining his voice (plus, Falstaff relishes language as much as he does capons; Hoffman gave his words more utilitarian deliveries). Some individuals shine. Katie MacNichol and Celeste Ciulla, as the merry mistresses Ford and Page, bookend the show with schemes and class (a favorite bit: at one point they adopt a 19th-Century melodramatic style and frolic with histrionics). White hair down to his shoulders, Jonathan McMurtry looks like Wild Bill Hickock, until he draws his six-shooters and terrorizes the town. Wynn Harmon's Caius, a French doctor in an aqua jacket, malaprops amusingly. Deborah Taylor, Charles Janasz, and Sloan Grenz enhance

Sight Unseen

scenes. And Bruce Turk, as Frank Ford, turns a minor character into a Falstaff-sized, green-eyed dupe.

Worth a try.

OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. THURSDAYS, 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 8 P.M. TUESDAYS, 8 P.M. WEDNESDAYS, 8 P.M. THROUGH SEPTEMBER 28.

My Fair Lady

When you watch a good production of *My Fair Lady* — and Starlight Musical Theatre's got one — you hear the great songs and literate speech, but there's another kind of music as well. Along with the various accents, from clipped Brahmin Ascot to the dropped *h*'s of Lisson Grove, the cast shouts so many *ooh*s and *ah*s and *cor-blimie*s you'd think you were watching the Beer Pong Championship of the British Isles. The production always feels sure-handed. If an upstaging jet blasts overhead during a song, the singer keeps going — Lerner and Loewe will take no back seat to air traffic! If it happens during a speech, the cast doesn't simply freeze; they adopt expressive Pageant of the Masters poses, as if in defiance of silver-bellied interlopers. The show's real strength is the leads. Norman Large plays Professor Higgins big, but not grandiose. He sings with clear, pointed tones and drenches the man with Shavian attitude (Henry's convinced he has "the milk of human kindness by the quart in every vein") but leaves just enough room for vulnerability. As Eliza, Jennifer Boswell runs the vocal gamut from "Jest yew woit, 'enry 'iggins" to "Without You" and does it beautifully. Red-faced Stephen R. Reynolds is always fun as Alfred P. Doolittle, especially when he becomes "respek-able." And Chanlon Jay Kaufman, who plays smitten Freddy Eynsford-Hill, has a narrow aperture. Like an Olympic athlete, he's got one chance to star, in this case one song. And when Kaufman sings "On the Street Where You live," he grabs the gold.

Worth a try.

STARLIGHT MUSICAL THEATRE, SOUTH PAN AMERICAN PLAZA, BALBOA PARK. 619-544-7827. THURSDAYS, 7:30 P.M. FRIDAYS, 7:30 P.M. SATURDAYS, 7:30 P.M. SUNDAYS, 7:30 P.M. THROUGH AUGUST 31.

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 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. Using suggestions from the audience, they play "Emotional Sympathy," "Blind Line," and "Freeze Tag," with judges awarding points to the best scenes. Klunkers and groaners get booed; quick wit rewarded (one of the most refreshing parts of the contest: people acknowledge failure, abundantly, then forget it). It makes for a lively, often funny evening. And Gary Kramer is one talented comedian.

Worth a try.

MARQUIS THEATER, 3717 INDIA STREET, MISSION HILLS. 619-295-4999. FRIDAYS, 7:30 AND 9:45 P.M. SATURDAYS, 7:30 AND 9:45 P.M. OPEN-ENDED RUN.

Pretty Fire

In one sense, Charlayne Woodard has lived to prove a doctor wrong. She was born premature, she says in her solo piece: one pound, eight ounces and "blue-black." She wasn't supposed to live, a doctor said, and if she did, she'd never be "normal." In five scenes — which move from her birth (and her grandfather appealing to an authority higher than MDs) to age 11 (when she discovers her singing voice) — Woodard's solo show proves the doctor both wrong and right. She lived, but she isn't "normal." She's blessed with artistic gifts as an actor, singer, and storyteller. *Pretty Fire* (the ironic title refers to one of America's most hideous sights) grows in narrative drive as Charlayne grows. The earlier sections could use tightening, and the piece in general unfolds like a 90-minute script expanded to two hours with an intermission. At the Lamb's Players Theatre one can't fault Tracy Hughes for the slow spots. She gives her all in every scene, a tour de force combining her rich singing voice with eloquent silences (when faced with racism and brutality for the first time, she almost seems to implode; and during these moments the spellbound audience is hear-a-pin-drop mute). Hughes creates at least a dozen characters so sharply crafted it's as if you've known them all along. Kerry Meads's precise, almost gymnastic direction ranks among her best work. Robert Smyth's spare two-level set includes a seashell-shaped fan, like 25 tines of a huge bamboo rake, on the rear wall. Nate Peirson's lighting illumines the fan with cascades of raindrops then burns an ugly fire.

Worth a try.

LAMB'S PLAYERS THEATRE, 1142 ORANGE AVENUE, CORONADO. 619-437-0600. THURSDAYS, 7:30 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 4 AND 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M. TUESDAYS, 7:30 P.M. WEDNESDAYS, 7:30 P.M. THROUGH SEPTEMBER 7.

The Receptionist

Adam Bock's Kafkaesque comedy is tricky to talk about, since everything depends on what you don't know. It takes place in the reception room of the "northeast office" of some sort of company (what kind is the tricky part; let's just say they don't make widgets). We witness daily office life. Edward Raymond, the boss, talks about letting healthy fish go and eating only the damaged ones (who receive a painless bleed-out in his loving hands) and how "everything out there is eating something." His second-in-command, Lorraine, complains about her ex, a narcissist from whose ardent self-regard she can't quite disconnect. And poor, harried Beverly, the receptionist, carries on several conversations, and handles several crises, at once, while rarely completing a sentence. Bock's sharp dialogue combines crisp patter with steep nonverbal gulfs, which the Cygnet Theatre production always stresses to good effect. Wearing Jeannie Reith's somber charcoal business attire (which gains meaning as the 80-minute show evolves), and ably directed by Sean Murray, the cast catches the play's contrary tones with precision. Melinda Gilb's a hoot as Beverly, chameleon of various attitudes, depending on the moment. Jo Anne Glover turns Lorraine (played as a dumb blonde in the original) into an amazingly dimensional creation. Excellent work. Sean Cox is appropriately slick as the aptly named Mr. Dart, and Dale Morris expertly makes Edward Raymond seem one of the world's kindliest bosses. Sean Fanning's photorealistic office has such a lived-in quality it must have been there before they built the theater. And Eric Lotze's lighting shifts from institutional neon to bold, expressionist Axis of Evil effects.

Worth a try.

CYGNET THEATRE — ROLANDO, 6663 EL CAJON BOULEVARD, SUITE N, COLLEGE AREA. 619-337-1525. THURSDAYS, 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 AND 7 P.M. THROUGH AUGUST 31.

Rio Can Be Murder

Mystery Café presents an interactive dinner-theater show onboard the *William D. Evans* stern-wheeler. It's the first carnival celebration in Rio de Janeiro after WWII. Everyone's masked, including the evil villain. 619-544-1600.

BAHIA RESORT HOTEL, 998 WEST MISSION BAY DRIVE, MISSION BEACH. THURSDAYS, 6:30 P.M. THROUGH AUGUST 28.

Romeo and Juliet

For the Old Globe, director Richard Seer wisely sets Shakespeare's tragedy in its time. Romeo and Juliet lived when a land-based economy was still the norm. Vows, like marriages and one's social station, were permanent, and their love was absolute. Anna R. Oliver's costumes include the slashed fronts and sleeves of the period. Iron gates and stained-glass windows dominate Ralph Funicello's stained-wood set. And York Kennedy's splendid lighting finds that mystical source, somewhere above and to the side, that illumines the works of Tintoretto and Caravaggio: amid darkness the lovers glow. Stage pictures resemble paintings. Some echo each other, as when Juliet's hand reaches down for Romeo, from the balcony and from the tomb. But Seer breaks the picture frame, so to speak, when Romeo and Juliet address speeches to the audience. If the choice was meant to endear them to us, they don't need it (I can't think of anyone audiences could care more about). And including us in their private thoughts breaks their tragic isola-

tion. The night I caught the show, Graham Hamilton — and the production overall — settled in about a third of the way through. At first Hamilton dashed off his poetry as if it were prose. Later he hit his accents and began to mean what Romeo meant. Heather Wood not only expresses Juliet's youth and intelligence, she has a naturally melodic voice that only rings false when she tries to add melody to it. The production offers strong visuals, and the story, as so often in Shakespeare, works on elemental levels. But the second half's a mite stately and restrained. It honors the Bard but could improve if it unleashed the tragedy's opera-like impulses. *Romeo and Juliet* runs in repertory with *The Merry Wives of Windsor* and *All's Well That Ends Well*. Call the theater for days and times of each.

Worth a try.

OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. THURSDAYS, 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 8 P.M. TUESDAYS, 8 P.M. WEDNESDAYS, 8 P.M. THROUGH SEPTEMBER 28.

Sight Unseen

Jonathan Waxman's paintings are in such demand people from Park Avenue to Tokyo are buying work he's yet to do "sight unseen." He's enjoyed far more than 15 minutes of fame. What he misses, as he's having a retrospective of his work in London, are his 15 minutes of inspiration — 17 years ago. A story rarely has just two sides. Good ones, like Donald Margulies's 1991 drama, can have a dozen. *Sight Unseen* refuses to stand still. Waxman, for example, is a montage of competing impulses. Why has he come to see his ex-lover, Patricia? Lord his success over her? Ask forgiveness? Rediscover lost inspiration? Or just connect with someone, anyone? All, and possibly more, of the above. Like Sondheim's *Merrily We Roll Along* (also about an artist who has lost his way), *Sight* moves back in time. Given its technical experimentation (Waxman's one of the best examples we have of a deconstructed character), you'd think the play would be stiff and depersonalized. It isn't. It's alive and unfolds like a slowly turning prism, revealing new, unexpected twists. Although the Old Globe's opening night had some rough edges, the Esther Emery-directed production served Margulies's fascinating script. Anthony Crane (Waxman), Ron Choularton (Nick, the ex-lover's husband), and especially Kelly McAndrew as Patricia effectively probe the play's twisting, emotional core.

Worth a try.

SAN DIEGO MUSEUM OF ART, 1450 EL PRADO, BALBOA PARK. 619-232-7931. THURSDAYS, 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 2 AND 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 AND 7 P.M. TUESDAYS, 7 P.M. WEDNESDAYS, 7 P.M. THROUGH SEPTEMBER 7.

Spring Awakening

Broadway*San Diego hosts the eight-time Tony-winning Broadway musical based on Frank Wedekind's 1891 play about the self-discovery and budding sexuality of three teenagers. Michael Mayer (Tony winner) directed.

BALBOA THEATRE, 854 FOURTH AVENUE, DOWNTOWN. 619-570-1100. THURSDAYS, 7:30 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 2 AND 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 1 AND 6 P.M. THROUGH AUGUST 31.

Thoroughly Modern Millie

Christian Community Theater stages the musical that originated at the La Jolla Playhouse and won six Tony awards (including best musical) and five Drama Desk awards in 2002. Millie Dillmount seeks her fortune in 1920s New York.

EAST COUNTY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER, 210 EAST MAIN STREET, EL CAJON. 619-440-2277. THURSDAYS, 7 P.M. FRIDAYS, 7 P.M. SATURDAYS, 2 AND 7 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 AND 7 P.M. THROUGH AUGUST 31.

Troilus and Cressida

Compass Theatre hosts a production of possibly Shakespeare's most angry play, a "dark, sexy satire" on the Trojan War in which Troilus falls in and then out of love for Cressida and "minds sway'd by eyes are full of turpitude." Welton Jones directed.

COMPASS THEATER, 3704 SIXTH AVENUE, HILLCREST. 619-688-9210. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M. THROUGH OCTOBER 5.

Where There's a Will... There's a Wake

Mystery Café Dinner Theatre presents James Pascarella and Will Roberson's interactive comedy, set in a 1920s speakeasy where suspicion shrouds every "gangster, game, and dame." Pascarella directed.

MYSTERY CAFE, 505 KALMIA STREET, BANKER'S HILL. 619-544-1664. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. OPEN-ENDED RUN.

THEATER DIRECTORY

Actors Alliance Of San Diego
2650 Truxtum Road, Suite 203
Liberty Station
(619) 224-3600 www.actorsalliance.com

American Rose Theatre
858-243-4349
www.americanrosetheatre.com

Arts Tix
28 Horton Plaza, Downtown
(619) 497-5000
www.sandiegoperforms.com

Asian American Repertory Theatre
(888) 568-2278
www.asianamericanrep.org

Beacon Theatre
(760) 724-8218
www.beacontheatresd.com

Borrego Springs Performing Arts Center
590 Palm Canyon Dr., Borrego Springs
(760) 767-4275 www.bspac.us

The Broadway Theatre
340 East Brodway, Vista
(760) 806-7905 www.premiereforkids.com

California Center For The Arts
340 N. Escondido Blvd., Escondido
(760) 839-4100 www.artcenter.org

Carlsbad Village Theatre
2822 State St., Carlsbad
(760) 729-0089
www.carlsbadvillagetheatre.com

Centro Cultural De La Raza
2004 Park Blvd., Balboa Park
(619) 235-6135 www.centroraza.com

CCT Musical Theater
1545 Pioneer Way, El Cajon
(619) 588-0206
www.cctmusicaltheater.com

Civic Theatre
3rd & B, Downtown
(858) 570-1100 www.sdcivic.org

Center Stage Players
(619) 750-5402
www.centerstageplayers.com

Clairemont Community Players
Holmes Elementary
4902 Mt. Ararat, Clairemont
(858) 560-5114

Community Actors Theatre
2957 54th St., State College
(619) 264-3391
www.communityactorstheatre.com

Compass Theatre
3704 6th Ave., Hillcrest
(619) 688-9210 www.sixthatpenn.com

Copley Symphony Hall
750 B St., Downtown
(619) 235-0804
www.sandiegosymphony.com

Coronado Playhouse
1835 Strand Way, Coronado
(619) 435-4856
www.coronadoplayhouse.com

CYT Theater For Kids
1545 Pioneer Way, El Cajon
(619) 588-0206 www.cyt.com

Cygnet Theatre Company
6663 El Cajon Blvd., Ste. N, College Area
(619) 337-1525 www.cygnettheatre.com

Diversionary Theatre
4545 Park Blvd., Normal Heights
(619) 220-0097 www.diversionary.org

East County Performing Arts Center
210 E. Main St., El Cajon
(619) 440-2277 www.ecpac.com

Educational Cultural Complex Theater
4343 Ocean View Blvd., Southeast
(619) 527-5256

Eveoke Dance Theatre
644 7th Ave., Downtown
(619) 238-1153 www.eveoke.org

The Fault Line Theatre
3152 Fifth Ave., Hillcrest
(619) 692-3382 www.faultlineprod.com

Fern Street Circus
(619) 235-9756 www.fernstreetcircus.org

The Fritz Theatre
(619) 233-7505 www.fritztheatre.com

Grossmont College
Stagehouse Theatre, El Cajon
(619) 644-7234
http://grossmont.gcccd.cc.ca.us/

The Hispanic Arts Theatre Of San Diego
(619) 475-7496

H.I.T. Productions Dinner Theater
Shirley's Kitchen, 7868 El Cajon Blvd.
La Mesa (619) 561-8673
(619) 561-8673 www.dinnertheater.net

Horton Grand Theatre
444 Fourth Ave., Downtown
(619) 234-9583

Inner Mission Productions
(619) 245-4958
www.innermissionproductions.org

Ion Theatre
(619) 374-6894 www.iontheatre.com

Iris Theater
4580-B Alvarado Canyon Rd.
(619) 271-4144 www.iristheater.org

Laguna Playhouse
606 Laguna Canyon Rd., Laguna Beach
(949) 497-2787

La Jolla Playhouse
Mandell Weiss Center, UCSD
(858) 550-1010
www.lajollaplayhouse.org

La Jolla Stage Company
7887 Herschel Ave.
(858) 459-7773 www.thelajollastageco.org

Lamb's Players Theatre
Paul and Ione Harter Stage
1142 Orange Ave., Coronado
(619) 437-0600 www.lambsplayers.org

Lamplighters Community Theatre
8053 University Ave., La Mesa
(619) 464-4598
www.lamplighterstheatre.org

Lyric Opera San Diego Stephen & Mary Birch North Park Theatre
2891 University Ave.
(619) 239-8836
www.lyricoperasandiego.org

Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theater
Balboa Park
(619) 685-5990

Mesa College Theatre Company
7250 Mesa College Dr., Clairemont
(858) 627-2621

MiraCosta College Theatre
One Barnard Dr., Oceanside
(760) 795-6815 www.miracosta.edu

Mira Mesa Theatre Guild
(858) 693-7328

Moonlight Stage Productions
651 E. Vista Way Vista
(760) 724-2110 www.moonlightstage.com

The Muse Theatre
(619) 239-2894
www.themusetheatre.com

Mystery Cafe
The Imperial House Restaurant
505 Kalmia St., Hillcrest
(619) 544-1664 www.mysterycafe.net

National Comedy Theatre
3717 India St., Mission Hills
(619) 295-4999
www.nationalcomedy.com

New Village Arts Theatre
2787 B State St., Carlsbad
(760) 433-3245 www.NewVillageArts.org

North Coast Repertory Theatre
987-D Lomas Santa Fe Dr., Solana Beach
(858) 481-1055 www.northcoastrep.org

North Park Vaudeville
2031 El Cajon Blvd., North Park
(619) 647-4958

The Old Globe Theatre
Cassius Carter Centre Stage
Lowell Davies Festival Theatre, Balboa Park
(619) 23-GLOBE (234-5623)
www.oldglobe.org

Old Town Theatre
4040 Twiggs St., Old Town
(619) 688-2494
www.theatreinoldtown.com

Onstage Playhouse
291 Third Ave., Chula Vista
(619) 422-7787 www.onstage.itgo.com

Palomar College Theatre
1140 W. Mission Rd., San Marcos
(760) 744-1150 x2453 www.palomar.edu

Patio Playhouse
201 E. Grand Ave., Escondido
(760) 746-6669 www.patioplayhouse.com

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(760) 765-1100 www.pinehillslodge.com

Point Loma Nazarene University
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3900 Lomaland Dr., Point Loma
(619) 849-2433 www.ptloma.edu

Poway Center For The Performing Arts
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(858) 748-0505 www.powayarts.org

PowPAC, Poway's Community Theater
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Ramona MainStage Theatre
626 Main St., Ramona
(760) 789-7008

The Rehearsal Room
1159 6th Ave., Downtown
(619) 589-9963

San Diego Actors Theatre
P O Box 880285 92168
(858) 268-4494 www.sdactorstheatre.net

San Diego City College Theater Saville Theatre
14th and C Streets, Downtown
(619) 230-2676 www.sdcity.edu

San Diego Junior Theatre
Casa Del Prado Theatre, Balboa Park
(619) 239-8355 www.juniortheatre.com

San Diego Musical Theatre
(858) 560-5740
www.SDMT.org

San Diego Opera
1200 Third Ave., Downtown
(619) 232-7636 www.sdopera.com

San Diego Repertory Theatre
79 Horton Plaza, Downtown
(619) 544-1000 www.sandiegorep.com

S.D. School Of Creative & Performing Arts
2425 Dusk Dr., Paradise Hills
(619) 470-0555 www.scpa.sandi.net

San Diego State University
Don Powell Theatre
and Experimental Theater
(619) 594-6884 http://theatre.sdsu.edu/

San Diego Theatresports
1531 Tyler, Hillcrest
(619) 465-7469 www.improvise.net

Scripps Ranch Theatre
10455 Pomerado Rd., Scripps Ranch
(858) 578-7728
www.scrippsranchtheatre.org

San Diego Black Ensemble Theatre
(619) 280-5650

Sledgehammer Theatre
(619) 544-1484 www.sledgehammer.org

Southwestern College
900 Otay Lakes Rd., Chula Vista
(619) 482-6367 www.swc.cc.ca.us

The Spreckels Theatre
121 Broadway, Downtown
(619) 235-9500

Star Theatre
402 North Coast Highway, Oceanside
(760) 721-9983 www.startheater.org

Starlight Musical Theatre
Starlight Bowl, Balboa Park
(619) 544-7827
www.starlighttheatre.org

Sullivan Players
1531 Tyler Ave., Hillcrest
(858) 274-1731

Sushi Performance & Visual Art
320 Eleventh Ave., Downtown
(619) 235-8466 www.sushiart.org

Teatro Mascara Magica
(619) 231-3586
www.sandiegoreps.com

Theatrx
155 East Grand Ave., Escondido
(760) 735-2491 www.theatrx.8m.com

Tonic Productions
(619) 246-4853 www.tonicproductions.org

Truax Performing Arts Center
400 Rancho Del Oro, Oceanside
(760) 967-7918

University Of California San Diego
UCSD Theater, Studio Theater
Mandell Weiss Center
(858) 534-4574
www-theatre.ucsd.edu

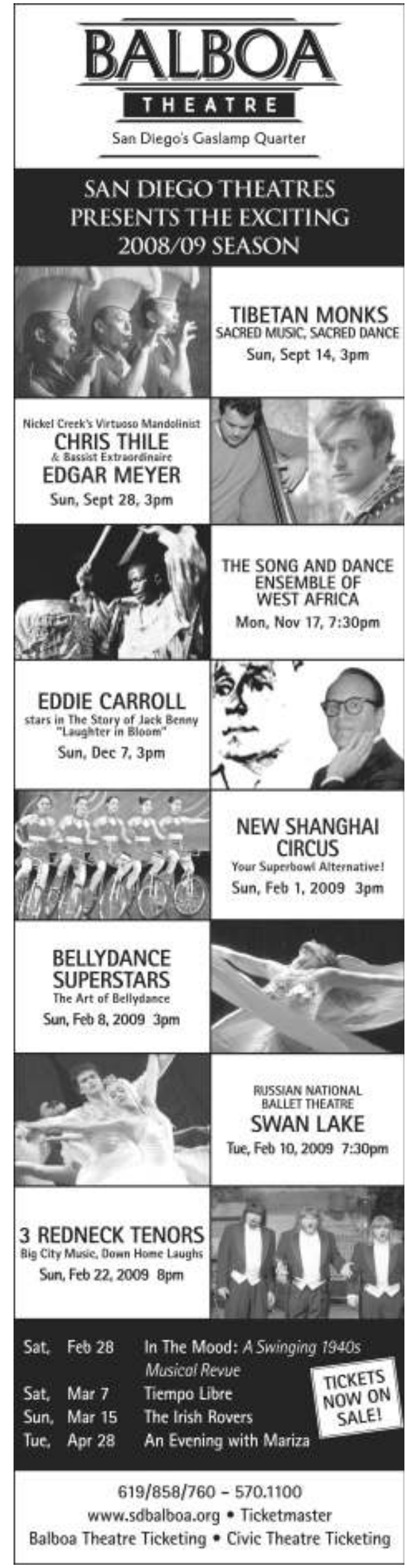
University Of San Diego
5998 Alcala Park, San Diego
(619) 260-7934 www.sandiego.edu

Vantage Theatre
(619) 262-6162
http://home.san.rr.com/vantagetheatre

Welk Resort Theatre
8860 Lawrence Welk Dr., Escondido
(888) 802-7469
www.welkresort.com/sandiego

The Wild Parrot Players Community Theatre
Point Loma United Methodist Church
1984 Sunset Cliffs, Ocean Beach
(619) 269-6946

Women's Repertory Theatre
(619) 282-3277
www.womensrep.org



An End

He suffered no doubts that the critic's voice was as vital as the artist's.

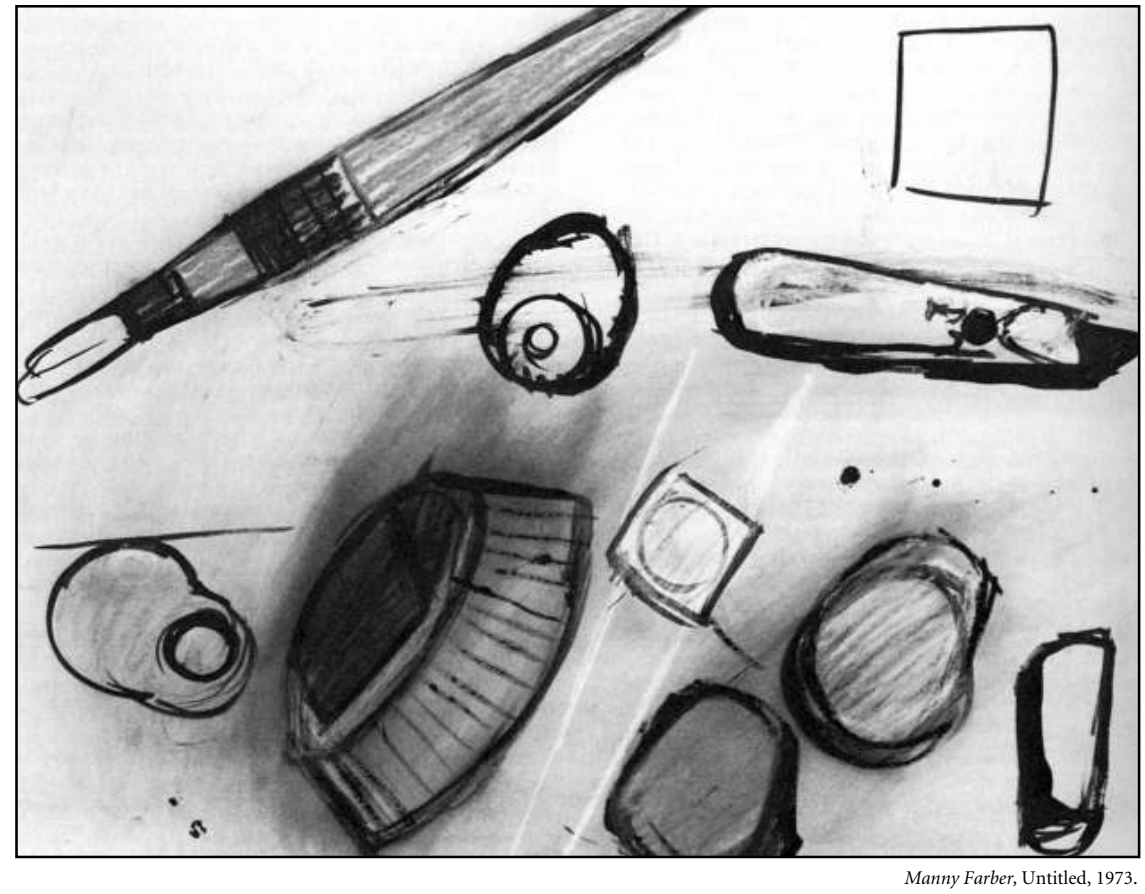
REVIEW
DUNCAN SHEPHERD

He was ninety-one-and-a-half. It had been a long and gradual decline. Yet how quickly I could switch over from "I can't believe he's still here" to "I can't believe he's gone."

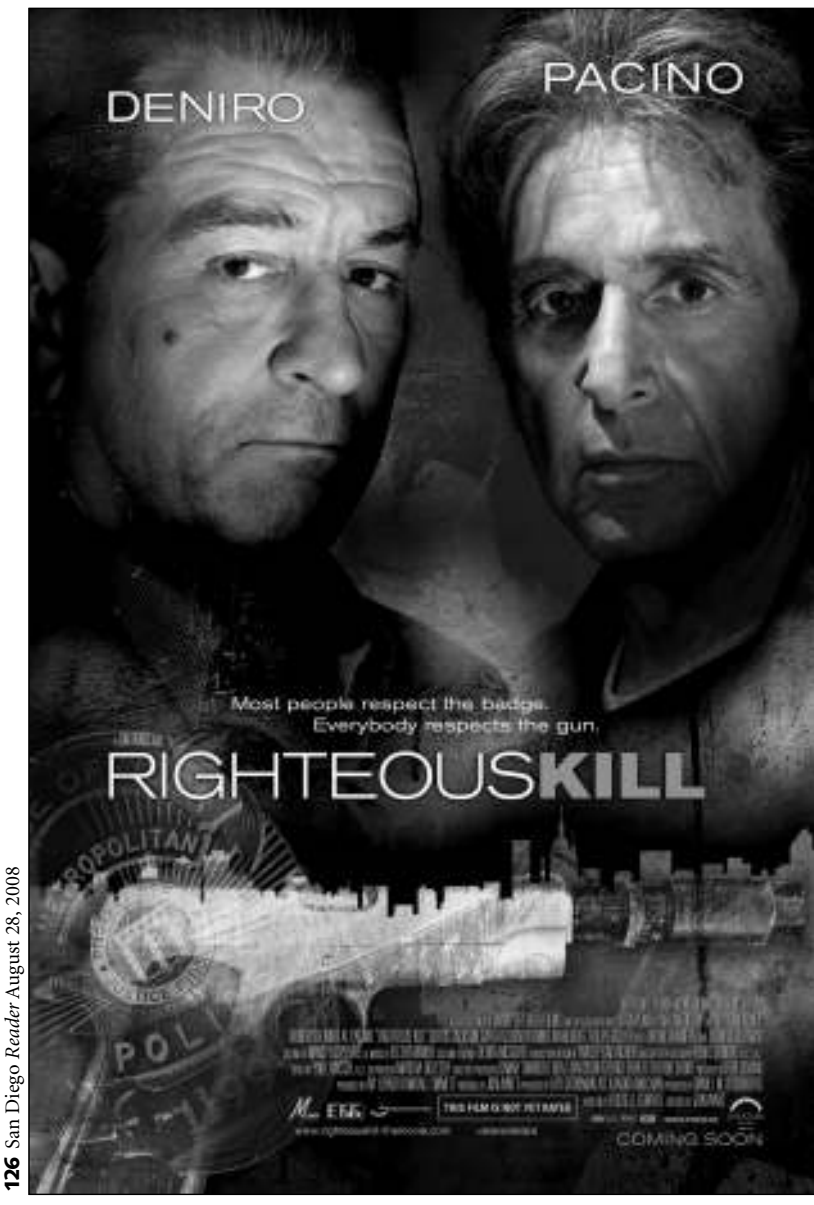
The passing of Manny Farber early last week at his home in Leucadia provided a lesson in perspective: tearing myself away from writing about *Tropic Thunder*, heaven forgive me, to sit at the deathbed of the greatest man I've known, greatest film critic I've read, greatest teacher I've had. Driving the long road south down 101 those final days, returning from the deathwatch, was a genuine ghostly experience, a tour of mutual past haunts: Kardiff Kitchen and The Coffee Mill in Encinitas; the stone's-throw oceanfront cottage in Del Mar where he and his mate, the artist Patricia Patterson, were installed when I moved to town in 1971 and where I house-sat and pet-sat when they went off for a summer in Europe the next year; the UCSD campus where I received — I wouldn't say earned — an M.F.A. in 1974, Manny making a good show of putting me through the wringer in my oral exam while another panelist, the experimental filmmaker Stanton Kaye, kept stepping in and answering his challenges in my stead; Sheldon's twenty-four-hour coffee house off the Pacific Beach exit on Interstate 5, good for a caffeine run on late nights at his painting studio, unspooling 16mm films till all hours on the walls.

None of these places is still there, apart from UCSD of course, and even then not the UCSD of the early Seventies, when the Visual Arts Department was lodged in one of the old wooden cabins on Matthews Campus, formerly USMC Camp Matthews. Around it, there was no La Jolla Village Square, no La Jolla Village Center, no University Towne Centre, no Costa Verde, no Starbucks at every point of the compass. For a midday break, the nearest alternative to the school cafeterias would be the antiseptic coffee shop at Scripps Memorial Hospital: no students, no faculty to be run into there.

I wrote about my history with Manny Farber a couple of years ago, a piece still available on the *Reader* website for anyone who cares to pursue it, and I cannot now go into the rudiments without running the risk of repeating myself. I can be certain, without having to reread the piece, that I would not be repeating myself if I mentioned something a friend of mine, who was there at the time, expressed surprise I had left out. How could I have overlooked the parade of cineastes drawn to the university by Manny's gravitational pull? — Rossellini, Franju, Godard and Gorin, Wenders, Herzog, et al., not to forget the critics Raymond Durgnant and Jonathan Rosenbaum. These were without question a valuable supplement to a film student's education, and Manny was more than amenable to setting them up in their personal forums. But in my recollec-



Manny Farber, Untitled, 1973.



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tion, Manny, who never had enough time to dissect a movie in a three-hour class, never ran out of angles of attack, never exhausted the possibilities of juxtaposition and rearrangement, would never give over his own class time to these luminaries. He suffered no doubts that the critic's voice was as vital as the artist's.

So I left that out. I left a lot out. The student-written critical journal, *The Movie Geek*. The regal widow of James Agee (clear to the cigarette holder) who, brought in by Manny from New York, toiled in the art office in a secretarial capacity. The hilarious classroom impressions of John Wayne and James Stewart in *The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance*, the chalk caricatures on the blackboard — words can't convey. And maybe the biggest omission, indicative of Manny's self-inundation with work, the reams of Xeroxed notes generously churned out for students and T.A.'s alike: "From the film's beginning, Warhol and Fassbinder insist 'this is a movie' and not an experience to be lived through vicariously. Consider the off-center focus at the end of Fassbinder's *Amok* film: the center is on a drip-drip gossip of two women, but the camera's focussed on the long stupefied Raab, Herr R., watching the TV with his mind elsewhere. The tense dramatics, the anticipation and suspense, are deliberately cut out while the movie holds on a homely, honest course," etc., etc. Whatever the scope of the tribute, Manny being Manny, me being me, it was foredoomed to inadequacy.

When I spoke to him by phone after the opening of an exhibit of his latest drawings at the Quint Gallery last May, he was unusually talkative for recent times. I was enthusiastic about the show ("I like it as much as you do," he said), but I mostly listened, I took some notes, though I can't make much out of them today: something about the "abomination" of how art is taught, something about the "measuring" element in drawing, something about the "time" element, something about what he took away from the Rudolph Schaeffer School of Design in San Francisco's Chinatown in the Thirties. Slower though he had gotten, I was nevertheless lagging behind. I should have taken better notes.

For me, this is a loss of a size that contains all loss, all the things that are forever gone and never coming back. Youth, for example. Kardiff Kitchen. The Coffee Mill. Sheldon's. The Seventies — when Manny's published film criticism came to a stop. The single-screen theater — the Unicorn in La Jolla, to name the one where we went together to watch Barbara Loden's *Wanda* immediately after my arrival. The drive-in. The double feature. The "B" movie. Technicolor. The list lengthens and lengthens. If I could put myself in a properly open and receptive frame of mind, I could perhaps look at all this loss as something like, oh, preparation. A readying. I'm still trying to learn from Manny Farber. ■

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 SDReader.com.

America the Beautiful — Documentary by Darryl Roberts on the national obsession with physical beauty.

(HORTON PLAZA 14, FROM 8/29)

Babylon A.D. — Vin Diesel vehicle, with Melanie Thierry, Michelle Yeoh, and Gerard Depardieu, directed by Mathieu Kassovitz.

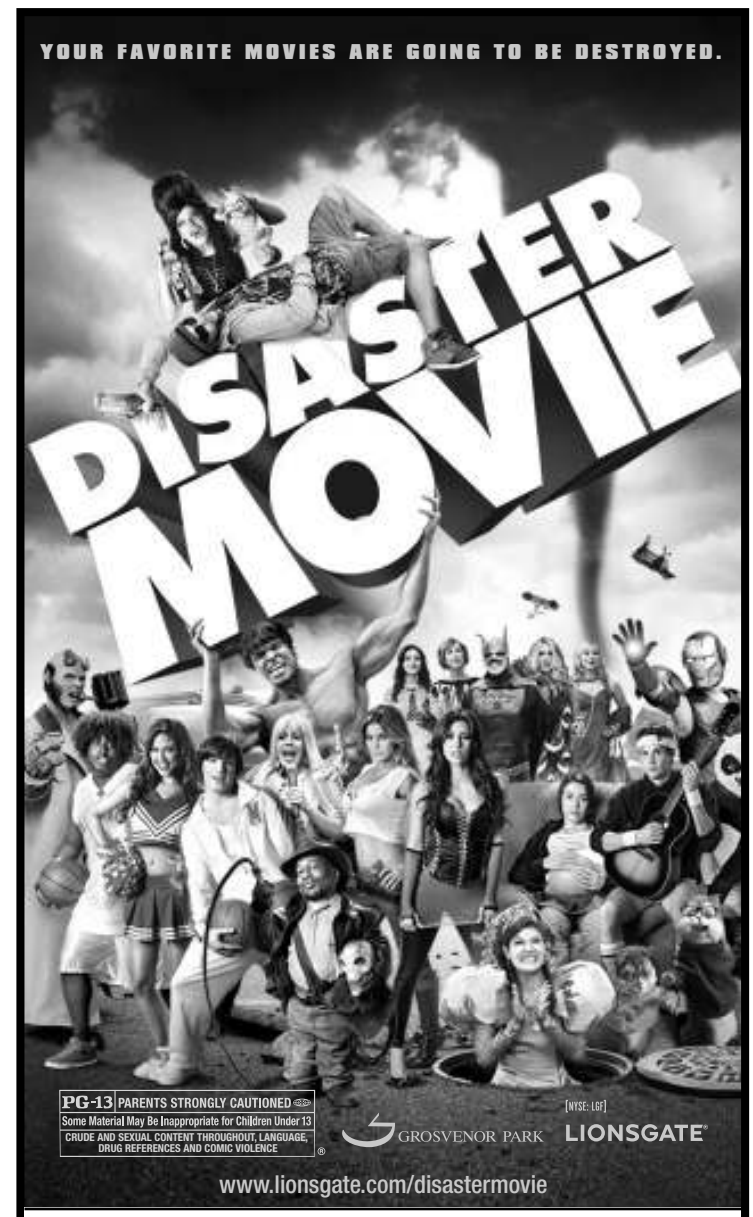
(CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SAN MARCOS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 8/29)

Bottle Shock — Unpalatable promo for California wines, more broadly a paean to good old American know-how and a chance, at the same time, to stick it to the French, the British, the Old World. A competitive wine tasting in the Bicentennial year of 1976, boiled down as "a bunch of hicks taking on the French," has been freely fictionalized into a chipper comedy (or so we intuit from the prodding music), boasting bright photography, a spotty period atmosphere, a flimsy vinicultural backdrop, and, apart from Freddy Rodriguez in a small role, an assemblage of oddly unappealing people: the stereotyped snob (Alan Rickman), the tactless capitalist (Bill Pullman), the dippy hippie (Chris Pine), the blithe blonde (Rachael Taylor), the snooty barmaid (Eliza Dushku), among others. Directed by Randall Miller. 2008.
● (FLOWER HILL 4; HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; PALM PROMENADE 24)

Boy A — Muffled drama, in milky light and molasses-y dialect, about a young Brit, a Mancunian, released from prison to start a new life under a new name, unable to outrun his past. It might have more impact if you could comprehend more than every third word. With Andrew Garfield, Peter Mullan, Siobhan Finnernan, and Alfie Owen; directed by John Crowley. 2007.
★ (KEN, THROUGH 9/4)

Brideshead Revisited — The Evelyn Waugh novel revisited, at roughly a fourth the length of the early-Eighties TV miniseries. Matthew Goode, as the self-professed atheist artist Charles Ryder, murmurs his way through the pages of a radical rewrite (particularly the gay abandon): first year at Oxford, the tormented Catholics of Brideshead manor, Venice, Marrakesh, and so on. A white-haired Emma Thompson as the tyrannical Catholic matriarch supplies brief relief from the tedium. With Ben Wishaw, Hayley Atwell, and Michael Gambon; directed by Julian Jarrold. 2008.
● (LA JOLLA VILLAGE; MISSION VALLEY 7, FROM 8/29)

The Dark Knight — Fashionably "dark" comic-book movie, the first one to think of putting the darkness right up in the title — a synonym, that, for "the bat man," as he is frequently and unfamiliarly referred to, or simply Batman to you and me. Aside from the title, the second installment in Christopher Nolan's restyling of the DC Comics superhero earns no points as a trailblazer. It would earn none even were it the first installment, although we must acknowledge that this trend-follower sets itself apart as an exceedingly oppressive, grinding, grueling, torturous experience. (The relentless, rumbling, theater-rattling background music alone could be a health hazard to anyone with mild depressive tendencies.) It requires the stock figure of the Joker — banish all memories of Jack Nicholson in



Tim Burton's 1989 edition, "dark" though it was itself, as well as Cesar Romero in the glaringly light TV series from the Sixties — to carry the banner and the burden of the post-9/11 terrorist. "Some men," Batman's manservant succinctly sums up the emblematic evildoer, "just want to watch the world burn." To strive to invest some psychological realism and topical relevance into this figure — the parched and cracked face paint, the raccoonish circles around the eyes, the greasy stringy hair, the obscenely writhing tongue, the adenoidal voice pitched somewhere between Al Franken and Bugs Bunny — is not only a losing battle but a foolish one. (Heath Ledger is the vanquished.) However high Nolan might pile on the gravity, however long he might stretch out the agony, the comic-book iconography inevitably simplifies and trivializes the moral debate: Can you fight fair when you fight terrorism? The truth is that Nolan's lack of faith in the superhero of olden days — the White Knight — goes hand in glove with a larger lack of faith in the fairy-tale form. He can't trust it to convey its import (in spite of all the scholarly efforts of Bruno Bettelheim, Joseph Campbell, et al.) without an additive of grand-operatic bombast. Christian Bale, Aaron Eckhart, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Michael Caine, Gary Oldman, Morgan Freeman. 2008.
● (FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Traitor

Disaster Movie — Spoof of Hollywood blockbusters, written and directed by Jason Friedberg and Aaron Seltzer, with Matt Lanter, Vanessa Minnillo, Nicole Parker.
(CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SAN MARCOS 18; SOUTH BAY DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 8/29)

Elegy — An aging but actively tomcatting Columbia professor develops an erotic obsession with a "thirty-odd-year" younger Cuban student, who, in his eyes, resembles Goya's Maja. (Penelope Cruz, the student, actually played Goya's Maja in *Volaverunt*, and here repeats the *desnuda* pose.) Isabel Coixet's rendition of the Philip Roth novel, *The Dying Animal*, is slow, pensive, adult, and cultured, if a bit overdependent on facile avenues of expression: first-person voice-over and classical mood music from Satie and Pärt (yes, "Spiegel im Spiegel" again, for at least the seventh time in the decade). Ben Kingsley, even apart from the polished dome, is well able to impersonate an egghead. With Patricia Clarkson, Dennis Hopper, Peter Sarsgaard. 2008.
★★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS)

Fly Me to the Moon — Badly drawn houseflies (general conformation and consistency of troll dolls) stow away aboard Apollo 11. The 3D computer animation may escape the screen; it can't escape the insipidness. With the voices of Trevor Gagnon, David Gore, Philip Bolden, Christopher Lloyd, and (as himself) Buzz Aldrin; directed by Ben Stassen. 2008.
● (CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; LA COSTA 6; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; PALM PROMENADE 24; POWAY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6)

Frozen River — Stoical prole sob story has some fresh ground to go over — the smuggling of illegal aliens through the slushy snow of the Mohawk Indian reservation on the Canadian border — and some stark scenery to go with it. Writer and director Courtney Hunt, whose plotting and pacing are sloggingly pedestrian, expends a lot of energy explaining how a law-abiding white woman could get caught up in that sideline: a gambling-addicted husband who skips out on Christmas week, a fifteen-year-old son eager to drop out of school and go to work, nothing to put under the tree for the five-year-old, a dead-end job at Yankee Dollar, bills due. Melissa Leo, aging in a characterful way, able to assume the lead role without a Charlize Theron reverse makeover, does a solid professional job, so much so as to highlight the amateurism around her. Misty Upham, Charlie McDermott, Michael O'Keefe. 2008.
★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS)

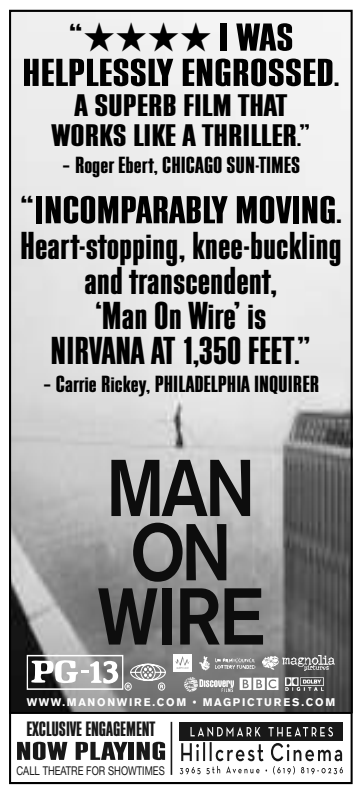
Hamlet 2 — Andrew Fleming's low-budget indie about a lame-duck Drama teacher at West Mesa High in Tucson, forced to share classroom space first with the cafeteria workers and then with the girl volleyballers. The beady-eyed, seaweed-haired Steve Coogan is often funny as the affected artiste in a cruel and mocking world, and even when he's not making you laugh he's persuading you of his talent. Best evidence: his dark night of the soul in front of his word processor, staring at the blank screen with inextricable shock and terror ("Writing is so hard!"), snarling at the placid housecat ("What is your fucking problem?"), responding to a sudden burst of inspiration, or anyhow a sudden burst of actual typing, with a blurred back-and-forth between tears and laughter, a sort of Bipolar Express. His latest and last project, a musical time-travel sequel to *Hamlet*, never sounds remotely plausible (the eventual sight of it doesn't improve matters), and the fractious Latinos in class, in addition to further reducing the plausibility of the project, take precious time away from the teacher's devoted disciples, a repressed homosexual and a goody-two-shoes ingenue, winsomely embodied by Skylar Astin and Phoebe Strole. Elisabeth Shue — remember her? — is well cast as Elisabeth Shue, more precisely as an alternative Elisabeth Shue who might have quit Hollywood in disgust and taken up a new career as a nurse at a fertility clinic in Arizona. With Catherine Keener, David Arquette, Joseph Julian Soria, and Melonie Diaz. 2008.
★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

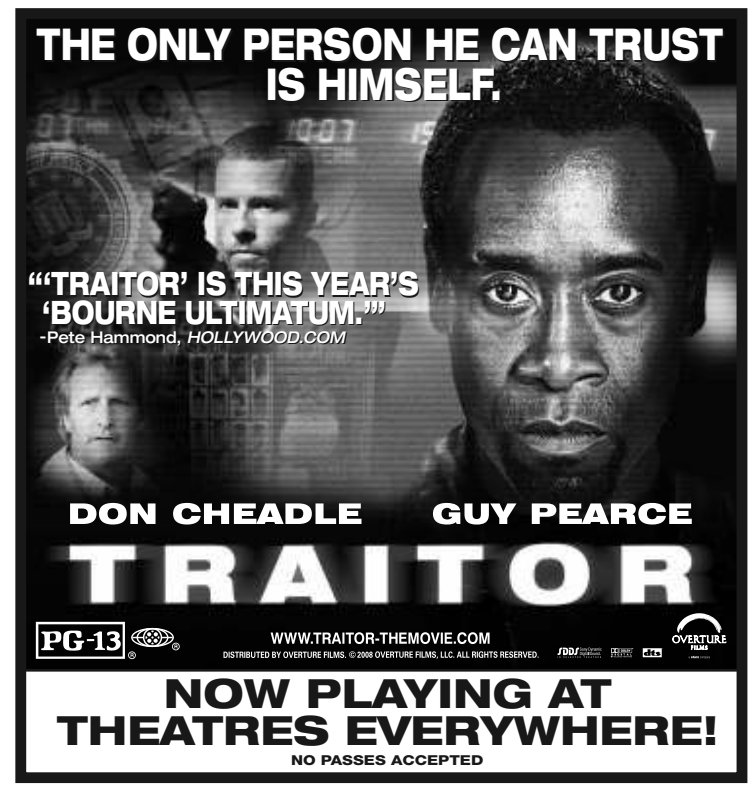
The House Bunny — Bimbo comedy about an evictee from the Playboy Mansion (a frisky Anna Faris) who becomes house mother to the misfits of Zeta Sorority, helpfully dumbing them down. Admittedly, the anti-intellectualism is balanced by an attempt at smartening up the bimbo, but there is, in every sense, nothing to it. With Emma Stone, Kat Dennings, Colin Hanks, Beverly D'Angelo, and Hugh Hefner; directed by Fred Wolf. 2008.
● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Journey to the Center of the Earth — The Jules Verne novel serves as a factual guidebook for a week of uncle-nephew bonding. The 3D effects can be a bit crude (twice we get spat in the face, once drooled in the face), and it takes a while to reach the fun stuff (the flying fish, the flesh-eating plants, the floating rocks, the lone dino), but at least the fun stuff is fun. With Brendan Fraser, Josh Hutcherson, and Anita Briem; directed by Eric Brevig. 2008.
★ (HORTON PLAZA 14; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24)

Mamma Mia! — The Catherine Johnson stage musical brought to the screen under its stage director, Phyllida Lloyd: a romantic-comic bauble about a scheduled wedding on a Greek island, to which the bride-to-be, unknown to her mother, has invited the three men who are sole candidates to be her biological father. (All three prove to be remarkably uncurious and acquiescent guys.) But that's a mere pretext for the players at short intervals to warble tunes from the ABBA songbook. Among the things that might be said about the movie are (a) that ABBA, infectious though they can be, are not exactly the Beatles, as witness the latter's similar use in *Across the Universe;* (b) that another and better wedding movie, *Muriel's Wedding*, had already successfully plundered the ABBA songbook, without asking its cast to do the singing; (c) that this cast for the most part are not singers (Pierce Brosnan in full throat looks as if his head's about to explode), although no apologies need be made for Meryl Streep, who, besides her lusty belting, supplements her usual emotion-plumbing with some peppy physicality; (d) that the natural settings, clearly, brightly, sunnily photographed, somewhat temper the inherent campiness; and (e) that this tempering, in a work of such fragile artifice, is not necessarily a good thing. To get down to a couple of specifics, the "Super Trouper" number on the eve of the wedding is a definite high point, and despite the shortage of competition for high points, the closing credits are well worth hanging on for, providing two higher points in the form of encores — twin peaks, if you please — with Streep and her bosom buddies (the blissfully confident Christine Baranski and the indomitably plucky Julie Walters) stepping off the Greek island and onto a secluded concert stage, in disco-era Vegas costumes. With Amanda Seyfried, Colin Firth, Stellan Skarsgard, and Dominic Cooper. 2008.
★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION VALLEY 20; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Man on Wire — Filmmaker James Marsh takes a novel approach to the topic of the World Trade Center, a caper documentary (to coin a genre) on the forty-five-minute funambulist stunt undertaken in 1974 by the Frenchman Philippe Petit, walking a tightwire between the Twin Towers. The events of 9/11 are never mentioned, but





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COSTUME DESIGNER CAROLINE B. MARX MUSIC SUPERVISORS JOEL C. HIGH AND REBECCA RIENKS MUSIC BY TRANSCENDERS EDITOR DAVID CODRON PRODUCTION DESIGNER ETHAN TOBMAN DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY DANIEL STOLOFF LINE PRODUCER BRIAN PITT EXECUTIVE PRODUCER SAM NAZARIAN
PRODUCERS JULIE DANGEL MALCOLM PETAL KIMBERLY C. ANDERSON PRODUCED BY ADAM ROSENFELT MARC SCHABERG WRITTEN BY DAN CALLAHAN & ADAM ELLISON DIRECTED BY DEB HAGAN

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MOVIE SHOWTIMES

Bargain showtimes are in parentheses.

CENTRAL

CLAIREMONT

Town Square 14
4665 Clairemont Drive (858-274-1234)
Babylon A.D. (PG-13); **College** (R); **The Dark Knight** (PG-13); **Death Race** (R); **Disaster Movie** (PG-13); **Hamlet 2** (R); **The House Bunny** (PG-13); **The Longshots** (PG); **Mamma Mia!** (PG-13); **Pineapple Express** (R); **The Rocker** (PG-13); **Star Wars: The Clone Wars** (PG); **Step Brothers** (R); **Traitor** (PG-13); **Tropic Thunder** (R); **Vicky Cristina Barcelona** (PG-13); **WALL-E** (G)

DOWNTOWN

Gaslamp 15
701 Fifth Avenue (619-232-0400)
Death Race (R); **Hamlet 2** (R); **Hellboy II: The Golden Army** (PG-13); **Henry Poole Is Here** (PG); **The House Bunny** (PG-13); **The Longshots** (PG); **A Man Named Pearl** (G); **Mirrors** (R); **The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor** (PG-13); **Sex and the City** (R); **The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants 2** (PG-13); **Tropic Thunder** (R)

Horton Plaza 14
Horton Plaza (619-444-FILM)
America the Beautiful (R) Fri. (1:05, 3:30, 5:55) 9:00 Sat.-Sun. (1:05, 3:30) 5:55, 9:00; **Babylon A.D.** (PG-13) Fri. (1:30, 3:40, 5:50) 8:00, 10:10 Sat.-Sun. (12:15, 2:25) 4:40, 7:00, 9:15; **College** (R) Fri. (1:20, 3:35) 6:05, 8:55 Sat.-Sun. (1:20, 3:35) 6:05, 10:00; **The Dark Knight** (PG-13) Fri. (1:25, 4:40) 8:05, 9:40 Sat.-Sun. (12:30, 3:45) 7:05, 9:40, 10:20; **Disaster Movie** (PG-13) Fri. (1:00, 3:15, 5:30) 7:40, 9:55 Sat.-Sun. (1:00, 3:15) 5:30, 7:40, 9:55; **Goal! 2: Living the Dream** (PG-13) Fri. (1:20, 4:10) 6:55, 9:35 Sat.-Sun. (1:20) 4:10, 6:55, 9:35; **Journey to the Center of the Earth** (PG) Fri. (1:50, 4:05) 7:15, 9:30 Sat.-Sun. (1:50) 4:05, 7:15, 9:30; **Mamma Mia!** (PG-13) Fri. (1:35, 4:25) 7:05 Sat.-Sun. (1:35) 4:25, 7:10; **Pineapple Express** (R) Fri.-Sun. (1:15, 3:50) 6:30, 9:10; **The Rocker** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 7:00, 9:50; **Star Wars: The Clone Wars** (PG) Fri. (1:30, 4:15) Sat.-Sun. (1:30) 4:15; **Step Brothers** (R) Fri. (2:00, 4:20) 6:45, 9:15 Sat.-Sun. (12:20, 2:45) 5:05, 7:25, 9:45; **Traitor** (PG-13) Fri. (1:45, 4:30) 7:10, 9:45 Sat.-Sun. (12:00, 2:35) 5:10, 7:45, 10:20; **Vicky Cristina Barcelona** (PG-13) Fri. (1:10, 3:25, 5:45) 8:00, 10:15 Sat.-Sun. (1:10, 3:25) 5:45, 8:00, 10:15; **Wanted** (R) Fri. (1:40, 4:20) 6:50, 9:20 Sat.-Sun. (12:25, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:30

LA JOLLA

La Jolla 12
8657 Villa La Jolla Drive (858-558-2262)
Babylon A.D. (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 12:05, 2:30, 5:00, 7:45, 10:15; **College** (R) Fri.-Sun. 12:40, 3:15, 5:45, 8:15, 10:45; **The Dark Knight** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:40) 3:05, 6:30, 9:55; **Death Race** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:45) 2:20, 5:05, 7:40, 10:20; **Disaster Movie** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; **Hamlet 2** (R) Fri.-Sun. 12:15, 2:45, 5:20, 7:50, 10:25; **The House Bunny** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:35) 2:15, 4:55, 7:30, 10:05 Sun. 2:15, 4:55, 7:30, 10:05; **Mamma Mia!** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:00) 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00; **Pineapple Express** (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:15) 2:00, 4:40, 7:25, 10:10 Sun. 2:00, 4:40, 7:25, 10:10; **The Rocker** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 10:35p.m.; **The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants 2** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:00) 1:50, 4:45, 7:35 Sun. 1:50, 4:45, 7:35; **Traitor** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:30) 2:25, 5:10, 7:55, 10:40; **Tropic Thunder** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:05) 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40

La Jolla Village
8879 Villa La Jolla Drive (619-819-0236)
Bottle Shock (PG-13) Fri. 1:40, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30 Sat.-Sun. 11:10, 1:40, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30; **Brideshead Revisited** (PG-13) Fri. 2:00, 4:50, 8:00 Sat.-Sun. 11:00, 2:00, 4:50, 8:00; **Tell No One (Ne le dis a personne)** (NR) Fri. 2:10, 5:00, 8:15 Sat.-Sun. 11:30, 2:10, 5:00, 8:15; **Vicky Cristina Barcelona** (PG-13) Fri. 1:50, 4:40, 7:15, 9:45 Sat.-Sun. 11:20, 1:50, 4:40, 7:15, 9:45

MIRA MESA

Mira Mesa 18
10733 Westview Parkway (800-326-3264)
Call theater for program information

MISSION HILLS

Cinema Under the Stars
4040 Goldfinch Street (619-295-4221)
Roman Holiday (Not Rated)

MISSION VALLEY

Fashion Valley 18
7037 Friars Road (858-558-2262)
Babylon A.D. (PG-13); **College** (R); **The Dark Knight** (PG-13); **Death Race** (R); **Disaster Movie** (PG-13); **Hamlet 2** (R); **The House Bunny** (PG-13); **The Longshots** (PG); **Mamma Mia!** (PG-13); **Mirrors** (R); **The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor** (PG-13); **Pineapple Express** (R); **The Rocker** (PG-13); **The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants 2** (PG-13); **Star Wars: The Clone Wars** (PG); **Step Brothers** (R); **Traitor** (PG-13); **Tropic Thunder** (R); **Vicky Cristina Barcelona** (PG-13); **WALL-E** (G)

Mission Valley 7
7510 Hazard Center Drive (619-685-2841)

Fly Me to the Moon (G) (10:00 12:00 2:00 4:00) 6:15 8:30 10:30; **Hamlet 2** (R) (10:15 12:30 3:00) 5:30 8:00 10:45; **Ugly Me** (PG-13) 10:30 12:45 3:15 5:45 8:15 10:45; **The Rocker** (PG-13) (10:00) 10:15; **Traitor** (PG-13) (10:45 1:30) 4:15 7:00 9:45; **Star Wars: The Clone Wars** (PG) (12:30 2:45) 5:15 7:45; **Tropic Thunder** (R) (11:30 2:15) 4:45 7:30 10:15; **Vicky Cristina Barcelona** (PG-13) *(10:00 12:15 2:30) 5:00 7:30 10:00*

Mission Valley 20
1640 Camino Del Rio North (858-558-2262)
Babylon A.D. (PG-13); **College** (R); **The Dark Knight** (PG-13); **Death Race** (R); **Disaster Movie** (PG-13); **Hamlet 2** (R); **The House Bunny** (PG-13); **Journey to the Center of the Earth** (PG); **The Longshots** (PG); **Mamma Mia!** (PG-13); **Mirrors** (R); **The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor** (PG-13); **Pineapple Express** (R); **The Rocker** (PG-13); **The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants 2** (PG-13); **Star Wars: The Clone Wars** (PG); **Step Brothers** (R); **Traitor** (PG-13); **Tropic Thunder** (R); **Vicky Cristina Barcelona** (PG-13)

STATE UNIVERSITY

Ken
4061 Adams Avenue (619-819-0236)
Boy A (R) Fri. 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 Sat.-Sun. 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45

UPTOWN

Hillcrest Cinemas
3965 Fifth Avenue (619-819-0236)
Bottle Shock (PG-13) Fri. 2:10, 4:40, 7:20, 9:50 Sat.-Sun. 11:35, 2:10, 4:40, 7:20, 9:50; **Elegy** (R) Fri. 2:00, 4:30, 7:10, 9:40 Sat.-Sun. 11:25, 2:00, 4:30, 7:10, 9:40; **Frozen River** (R) Fri. 2:20, 4:50, 7:30, 10:00 Sat.-Sun. 11:45, 2:20, 4:50, 7:30, 10:00; **Man on Wire** (PG-13) Fri. 2:30, 5:00, 7:40, 10:10 Sat.-Sun. 11:55, 2:30, 5:00, 7:40, 10:10; **Transsiberian** (R) Fri. 1:50, 4:20, 7:00, 9:30 Sat.-Sun. 11:15, 1:50, 4:20, 7:00, 9:30

Museum of Photographic Arts
1649 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-238-7559)
Call theater for program information

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center
1875 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-238-1233)
Dolphins (Not Rated) Fri. 6:00p.m.; **Grand Canyon Adventure: River at Risk** (NR) Fri. 11:00, 3:00 Sat.-Sun. 11:00, 3:00, 7:00; **Mummies: Secrets of the Pharaohs** (NR) Fri. 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 8:00 Sat.-Sun. 10:00, 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00; **Mysteries of Egypt** (Not Rated) Fri. 7:00p.m.; **Sea Monsters 3D: A Prehistoric Adventure** (NR) Fri. 1:00, 5:00, 9:00 Sat.-Sun. 1:00, 5:00

San Diego Natural History Museum
1788 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-232-3821)
Ocean Oasis (Not Rated) Fri.-Sun. 12:00, 2:00, 4:00; **Planet Earth: Fresh Water** (NR) Fri.-Sun. 11:00, 1:00, 3:00

EAST COUNTY

EL CAJON

Parkway Plaza 18
405 Parkway Plaza (619-401-3456)
Call theater for program information

LA MESA

Grossmont Center 10
5500 Grossmont Center Drive (619-465-7100)
Babylon A.D. (PG-13); **The Dark Knight** (PG-13); **Death Race** (R); **Disaster Movie** (PG-13); **Hamlet 2** (R); **The House Bunny** (PG-13); **Mamma Mia!** (PG-13); **Pineapple Express** (R); **The Rocker** (PG-13); **Traitor** (PG-13); **Tropic Thunder** (R)

RANCHO SAN DIEGO

Rancho San Diego 15
2951 Jamacha Road (800-326-3264)
Babylon A.D. (PG-13) Fri. (12:15, 2:40, 5:05) 7:30, 9:55 Sat.-Sun. (12:15, 2:40) 5:05, 7:30, 9:55; **College** (R) Fri. (12:05, 2:35, 5:05) 7:45, 10:10 Sat.-Sun. (12:05, 2:35) 5:05, 7:45, 10:10; **The Dark Knight** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:05, 2:55) 7:00, 10:25; **Death Race** (R) Fri. (11:40, 2:25, 5:10) 8:00, 10:45 Sat.-Sun. (11:40, 2:25) 5:10, 8:00, 10:45; **Disaster Movie** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:20, 1:55, 4:10) 7:15, 9:40; **Goal! 2: Living the Dream** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:55, 2:45) 7:05, 9:50; **Hamlet 2** (R) Fri. (12:10, 2:35, 5:15) 7:40, 10:40 Sat.-Sun. (12:10, 2:35) 5:15, 7:40, 10:40; **The House Bunny** (PG-13) Fri. (11:30, 2:05, 4:40) 7:20, 10:00 Sat.-Sun. (11:30, 2:05) 4:40, 7:20, 10:00; **The Longshots** (PG) Fri. (2:20, 5:00) Sat.-Sun. (2:20) 5:00; **Mamma Mia!** (PG-13) Fri. (11:15, 2:00, 4:45) 7:25, 10:15 Sat.-Sun. (11:15, 2:00) 4:45, 7:25, 10:15; **The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:35) 7:50, 10:25; **Pineapple Express** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:00, 2:50) 7:50, 10:50; **The Rocker** (PG-13) Fri. (2:10, 4:55) Sat.-Sun. (2:10) 4:55; **Star Wars: The Clone Wars** (PG) Fri. (11:45, 4:20) 6:55, 9:30 Sat.-Sun. (11:45) 4:20, 6:55, 9:30; **Step Brothers** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:25) 7:55, 10:35; **Traitor** (PG-13) Fri. (11:10, 2:15, 4:50) 7:35, 10:20 Sat.-Sun. (11:10, 2:15) 4:50, 7:35, 10:20; **Tropic Thunder** (R) Fri. (11:00, 1:45, 4:30) 7:45, 10:30 Sat.-Sun. (11:00, 1:45) 4:30, 7:45, 10:30

SANTEE

Santee Drive In
10990 Woodside Avenue (619-448-7447)
Babylon A.D. (PG-13) Fri.-Sun.; **College** (R) Fri.-Sun.; **Mirrors** (R) Fri.-Sun.; **Tropic Thunder** (R) Fri.-Sun.

SOUTH BAY

CHULA VISTA

Chula Vista 10
Broadway between H and I (619-338-4214)

Death Race (R) (11:15 2:00) 4:30 7:15 9:45; **Donsol** (PG-13) (10:00 12:30 3:00) 5:30 8:00 10:30; **Fly Me to the Moon** (G) (10:00 12:00 2:00 4:00) 6:15 8:15 10:15; **Hamlet 2** (R) (10:45 1:15 3:45) 6:00 8:30 10:45; **The House Bunny** (PG-13) (10:30 1:00 3:30) 6:00 8:30 10:45; **The Longshots** (PG) (10:00 12:15 2:45) 5:15 7:45 10:15; **Star Wars: The Clone Wars** (PG) (11:45) 5:00; **Mirrors** (R) (11:30 2:15) 4:45 7:15 10:00; **The Rocker** (PG-13) (2:30) 7:30 10:00; **Traitor** (PG-13) (10:15 12:45 3:15) 5:45 8:15 10:45; **Tropic Thunder** (R) (11:00 1:45) 4:15 7:00 9:30

Otay Ranch 12
Eastlake Parkway at Olympic (858-558-2262)
Babylon A.D. (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:40) 12:40, 3:00, 5:15, 7:35, 9:45; **College** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:50) 12:45, 3:05, 5:25, 7:50, 10:05; **The Dark Knight** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 12:10, 3:20, 6:30, 9:40; **Death Race** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:45) 2:20, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10; **Disaster Movie** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:00) 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30; **Hamlet 2** (R) Fri.-Sun. 1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 8:00, 10:20; **The House Bunny** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:55) 2:30, 4:55, 7:25, 9:55; **The Longshots** (PG) Fri.-Sun. 2:15, 7:05; **The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:25) 2:05, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00 Sun. 2:05, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00; **Pineapple Express** (R) Fri.-Sun. 9:20p.m.; **The Rocker** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 4:30p.m.; **The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants 2** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 10:15p.m.; **Star Wars: The Clone Wars** (PG) Fri.-Sun. 12:20, 2:50, 5:20, 7:45; **Traitor** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:15) 1:50, 4:25, 7:00, 9:35 Sun. 1:50, 4:25, 7:00, 9:35; **Tropic Thunder** (R) Fri.-Sun. 2:00, 4:35, 7:10, 9:50

Palm Promenade 24
770 Dennery Road (858-558-2262)
Babylon A.D. (PG-13); **Bottle Shock** (PG-13); **College** (R); **The Dark Knight** (PG-13); **Death Race** (R); **Disaster Movie** (PG-13); **Fly Me to the Moon** (G); **Goal II: Living the Dream** (PG-13); **Hamlet 2** (R); **Hancock** (PG-13); **The House Bunny** (PG-13); **Journey to the Center of the Earth** (PG); **The Longshots** (PG); **Mirrors** (R); **The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor** (PG-13); **Pineapple Express** (R); **The Rocker** (PG-13); **The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants 2** (PG-13); **Star Wars: The Clone Wars** (PG); **Step Brothers** (R); **Traitor** (PG-13); **Tropic Thunder** (R); **The Wackness** (R); **WALL-E** (G)

Rancho Del Rey 16
East H Street (619-216-4707)
Babylon A.D. (PG-13) Fri. (12:00, 2:25, 5:00) 7:30, 9:55 Sat.-Sun. (12:00, 2:25) 5:00, 7:30, 9:55; **College** (R) Fri. (12:05, 2:30, 4:55) 7:25, 10:10 Sat.-Sun. (12:05, 2:30) 4:55, 7:25, 10:10; **The Dark Knight** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:10) 3:40, 7:00, 10:15; **Death Race** (R) Fri. (12:15, 2:45, 5:15) 7:50, 10:30 Sat.-Sun. (12:15, 2:45) 5:15, 7:50, 10:30; **Disaster Movie** (PG-13) Fri. (11:55, 2:10, 4:30) 7:15, 9:35 Sat.-Sun. (11:55, 2:10) 4:30, 7:15, 9:35; **Goal! 2: Living the Dream** (PG-13) Fri. (11:50, 2:35, 5:20) 8:05, 10:40 Sat.-Sun. (11:50, 2:35) 5:20, 8:05, 10:40; **Hamlet 2** (R) Fri. (12:30, 2:50, 5:10) 7:40, 10:05 Sat.-Sun. (12:30, 2:50) 5:10, 7:40, 10:05; **The House Bunny** (PG-13) Fri. (12:20, 2:45, 5:10) 7:55, 10:25 Sat.-Sun. (12:20, 2:45) 5:10,

7:55, 10:25; **The Longshots** (PG) Fri. (4:50) 9:40 Sat.-Sun. 4:50, 9:40; **Mamma Mia!** (PG-13) Fri. (1:30, 4:20) 7:10 Sat.-Sun. (1:30) 4:20, 7:10; **The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor** (PG-13) Fri. (1:35, 4:15) 6:55, 9:45 Sat.-Sun. (1:35) 4:15, 6:55, 9:45; **Pineapple Express** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:55, 3:50) 7:05, 9:50; **The Rocker** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 10:00p.m.; **Star Wars: The Clone Wars** (PG) Fri. (12:25, 4:25) 6:50, 9:20 Sat.-Sun. (12:25) 4:25, 6:50, 9:20; **Traitor** (PG-13) Fri. (12:00, 2:40, 5:20) 8:00, 10:40 Sat.-Sun. (12:00, 2:40) 5:20, 8:00, 10:40; **Tropic Thunder** (R) Fri. (12:05, 2:35, 5:05) 7:45, 10:20 Sat.-Sun. (12:05, 2:35) 5:05, 7:45, 10:20; **Vicky Cristina Barcelona** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (1:00, 3:55) 6:45, 9:25; **WALL-E**

IMPERIAL BEACH

South Bay Drive-In
2170 Coronado Avenue (619-423-2727)
Call theater for program information

NATIONAL CITY

Plaza Bonita 14
3030 Plaza Bonita Road (858-558-2262)
Babylon A.D. (PG-13); **College** (R); **The Dark Knight** (PG-13); **Death Race** (R); **Disaster Movie** (PG-13); **Hamlet 2** (R); **The House Bunny** (PG-13); **The Longshots** (PG); **Mirrors** (R); **The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor** (PG-13); **Pineapple Express** (R); **The Rocker** (PG-13); **Star Wars: The Clone Wars** (PG); **Step Brothers** (R); **Traitor** (PG-13); **Tropic Thunder** (R); **WALL-E** (G)

NORTH INLAND

CARMEL MOUNTAIN

Carmel Mountain 14
11620 Carmel Mountain Road (858-674-9770)
Babylon A.D. (PG-13); **Death Race** (R); **Disaster Movie** (PG-13); **Hamlet 2** (R); **The House Bunny** (PG-13); **The Longshots** (PG); **Mamma Mia!** (PG-13); **The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor** (PG-13); **Pineapple Express** (R); **The Rocker** (PG-13); **Star Wars: The Clone Wars** (PG); **Traitor** (PG-13); **Tropic Thunder** (R); **Vicky Cristina Barcelona** (PG-13); **WALL-E** (G)

ESCONDIDO

Escondido 16
350 W. Valley Parkway (760-291-0119)
Babylon A.D. (PG-13) Fri. (12:00, 2:25, 4:55) 7:40, 10:05 Sat.-Sun. (12:00, 2:25) 4:55, 7:40, 10:05; **College** (R) Fri. (12:10, 3:00, 5:25) 8:10, 10:40 Sat.-Sun. (12:10, 3:00) 5:25, 8:10, 10:40; **The Dark Knight** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:40, 3:05) 6:30, 9:55; **Death Race** (R) Fri. (11:55, 2:30, 5:05) 7:45, 10:25 Sat.-Sun. (11:55, 2:30) 5:05, 7:45, 10:25; **Disaster Movie** (PG-13) Fri. (11:50, 2:15, 4:45) 7:20, 10:15 Sat.-Sun. (11:50, 2:15) 4:45, 7:20, 10:15; **Goal! 2: Living the Dream** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:25, 3:20) 7:10, 10:20; **Hamlet 2** (R) Fri. (12:15, 2:55, 5:20) 7:50, 10:30 Sat.-Sun. (12:15, 2:55) 5:20, 7:50, 10:30; **The House Bunny** (PG-13) Fri. (11:30, 2:05, 4:35) 7:05, 9:35 Sat.-Sun. (11:30, 2:05) 4:35, 7:05, 9:35; **The Longshots** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:05, 3:10); **Mamma Mia!** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:20, 3:15) 6:45, 9:30; **Mirrors** (R) Fri.-Sun. 7:55, 10:35; **The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor** (PG-13) Fri. (1:25, 4:10) 6:55 Sat.-Sun. (1:25) 4:10, 6:55; **Pineapple Express** (R) Fri. (1:35, 4:20) 7:00, 9:50 Sat.-Sun. (1:35) 4:20, 7:00, 9:50; **The Rocker** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 9:45p.m.; **The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants 2** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 6:50, 9:40; **Star Wars: The Clone Wars** (PG) Fri. (11:35, 2:10, 4:50) 7:25, 10:00 Sat.-Sun. (11:35, 2:10) 4:50, 7:25, 10:00; **Traitor** (PG-13) Fri. (11:45, 2:35, 5:15) 8:00, 10:45 Sat.-Sun. (11:45, 2:35) 5:15, 8:00, 10:45; **Tropic Thunder** (R) Fri. (11:25, 2:00, 4:40) 7:30, 10:10 Sat.-Sun. (11:25, 2:00) 4:40, 7:30, 10:10; **WALL-E** (G)

FALLBROOK

River Village 6
5256 S. Mission Road (760-945-8784)

Fly Me to the Moon (G) (11:00 1:00 3:00) 5:00 7:15 9:15; **Hamlet 2** (R) (12:30 3:00) 5:30 8:00 10:30; **The Rocker** (PG-13) (11:30 1:45) 4:15 7:00 9:30; **Traitor** (PG-13) (12:45 3:15) 5:45 8:15 10:45; **Star Wars: The Clone Wars** (PG) (11:15 2:00) 4:45 7:30 9:45; **Tropic Thunder** (R) *(12:00 2:30) 5:15 7:45 10:15*

POWAY

Poway 10
13475 Poway Road (858-646-9423)

The Dark Knight (PG-13) (12:15 3:45) 7:15 10:30; **Death Race** (R) (11:30 2:00) 4:45 7:15 9:45; **Fly Me to the Moon** (G) (10:15 12:15 2:15) 4:15 6:15 8:15 10:15; **Hamlet 2** (R) (10:00 12:30 3:00) 5:30 8:00 10:30; **The House Bunny** (PG-13) (10:30 1:00 3:30) 6:00 8:30 10:45; **The Rocker** (PG-13) (10:00 12:30 3:00) 5:30 8:00 10:30; **Star Wars: The Clone Wars** (PG) (11:15 1:45) 4:30 7:00 9:30; **Traitor** (PG-13) (10:15 12:45 3:15) 5:45 8:15 10:45; **Mamma Mia** (PG-13) (12:00 2:45) 5:15 7:45 10:15; **Tropic Thunder** (R) *(11:45 2:30) 5:00 7:30 10:00*

SAN MARCOS

San Marcos 18
1180 West San Marcos Boulevard at Old California Walk (760-471-3711)
Call theater for program information

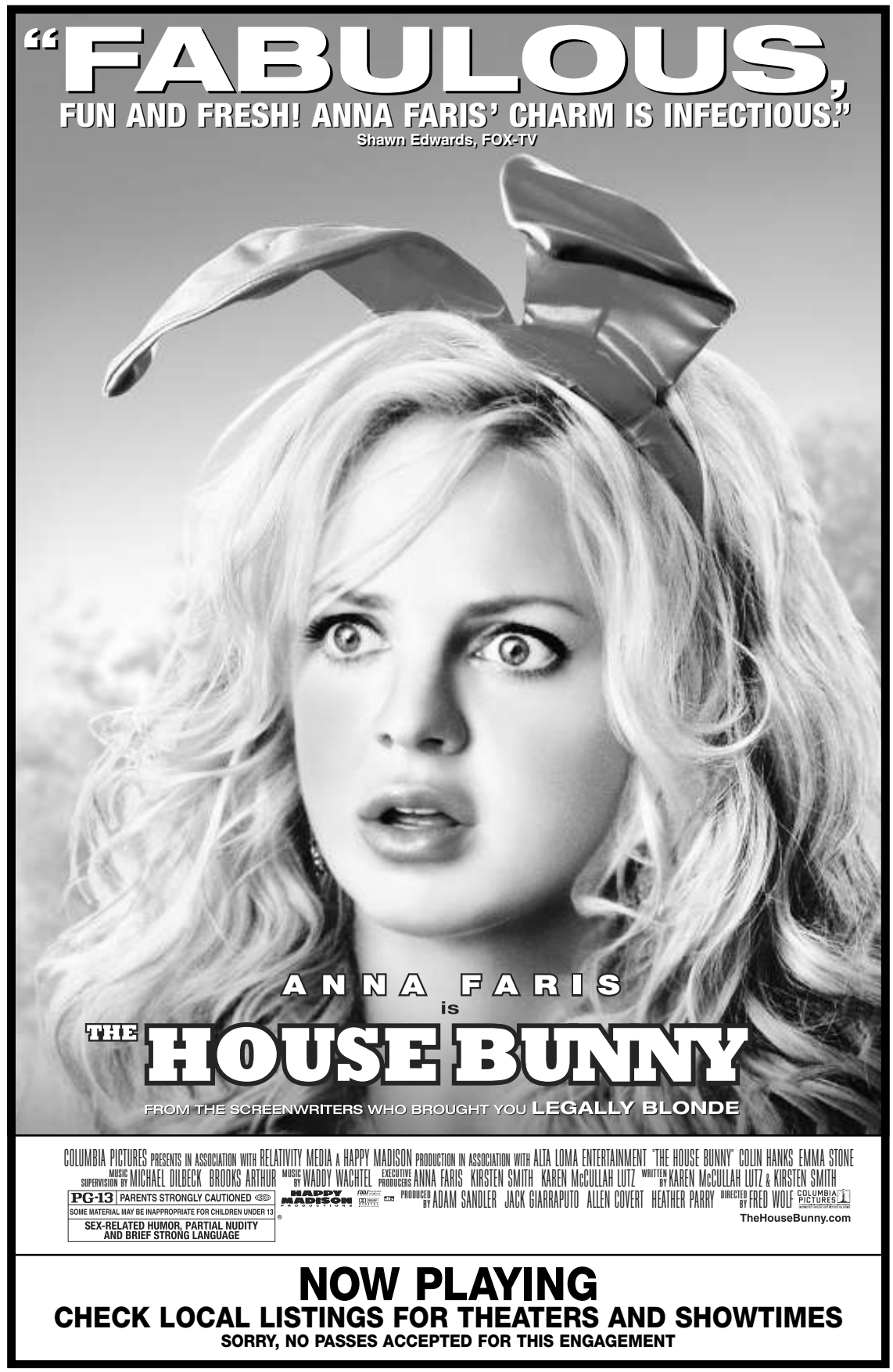
VISTA

Vista Village
Highway 78 at Vista Village Drive (760-945-7469)
Babylon A.D. (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:20, 2:50, 5:10) 7:30, 9:50; **College** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:25, 3:05, 5:20) 7:55, 10:15; **The Dark Knight** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:25, 3:50) 7:15, 10:30; **Death Race** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:50, 2:30, 5:05) 7:40, 10:15; **Disaster Movie** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:15, 2:45, 5:00) 7:20, 9:40; **Hamlet 2** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:30, 3:00, 5:25) 7:50, 10:05; **The House Bunny** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:45, 2:25, 4:50) 7:25, 10:00; **Journey to the Center of the Earth** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:05, 2:20, 4:40) 7:00, 9:20; **The Longshots** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:10p.m.); **Mamma Mia!** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:05, 1:45, 4:25) 7:10; **Mirrors** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:50, 2:35, 5:15) 7:55, 10:35; **The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (2:25, 5:10) 7:50, 10:40; **Pineapple Express** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:00, 2:40, 5:20) 8:00, 10:45; **The Rocker** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 9:50p.m.; **The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants 2** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (2:00) 7:05; **Star Wars: The Clone Wars** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:35, 4:40) 9:45; **Traitor** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:20, 2:05, 4:45) 7:35, 10:20; **Tropic Thunder** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:30, 2:15, 5:00) 7:45, 10:30

NORTH COASTAL

CARLSBAD

Plaza Camino Real
2385 Marron Road (760-729-7469)
Babylon A.D. (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:45, 3:00) 5:15, 7:30, 9:35; **The House Bunny** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:05, 2:20, 4:45) 7:00, 9:15; **The Rocker** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:10a.m.); **Traitor** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:30, 2:00, 4:35) 7:15, 9:45; **Tropic Thunder** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:20, 2:45) 5:10, 7:40, 10:00



DEL MAR

Del Mar Highlands 8
El Camino Real at Del Mar Heights Road (858-646-9420)

Death Race (R) (11:45 2:45) 5:15 7:45 10:30; **Fly Me to the Moon** (G) (10:00 12:00 2:00 4:00) 6:15 8:15 10:15; **The House Bunny** (PG-13) (11:30 2:15) 4:45 7:30 10:00; **Pineapple Express** (R) (11:00 1:30) 4:15 7:00 9:45; **The Rocker** (PG-13) (10:00 12:15 2:30) 5:00 7:30 10:15; **Star Wars: The Clone Wars** (PG) (11:15 1:45) 4:30 7:15 9:45; **Traitor** (PG-13) (10:00 12:30 3:00) 5:30 8:00 10:30; **Tropic Thunder** (R) (10:15 12:45 3:15) 5:45 8:15 10:45

Flower Hill 4
2630 Via de la Valle (858-646-9425)

Bottle Shock (PG-13) (10:15 12:45 3:15) 5:45 8:15 10:45; **Hamlet 2** (R) (10:00 12:30 3:00) 5:30 8:00 10:30; **Mamma Mia!** (PG-13) (11:30 2:00) 4:45 7:30 10:15; **Vicky Cristina Barcelona** (PG-13) (10:00 12:15 2:30) 4:45 7:00 9:30

ENCINITAS

La Paloma
471 South Coast Highway 101 (760-436-SHOW)
The Wackness (R)

LA COSTA

La Costa 6
6941 El Camino Real (at Aviara/Alga) (760-599-8221)

The Dark Knight (PG-13) (3:45) 7:00 10:15; **Fly Me to the Moon** (G) (10:00 12:00 2:15) 4:15 6:15 8:15 10:15; **Hamlet 2** (R) (10:00 12:30 3:00) 5:30 8:00 10:30; **The Rocker** (PG-13) (10:00 12:15) 5:00; **Star Wars: The Clone Wars** (PG) (11:00 1:30); **Traitor** (PG-13) (12:15 2:45) 5:15 7:45 10:30; **Mamma Mia!** (PG-13) (2:30) 7:30 10:00; **Tropic Thunder** (R) (10:15 12:45 3:15) 5:45 8:15 10:45

OCEANSIDE

Mission Marketplace 13
College Boulevard and Mission Avenue (760-806-1790)

The Dark Knight (PG-13) (12:30 3:45) 7:00 10:15; **Fly Me to the Moon** (G) (10:00 12:00 2:00 4:00) 6:00 8:00 10:00; **Hamlet 2** (R) (10:00 12:30 3:00) 5:30 8:00 10:30; **The House Bunny** (PG-13) (10:30 1:00 3:30) 6:00 8:30 10:45; **The Longshots** (PG) (11:45 2:15) 4:45 7:15 9:45; **Mirrors** (R) (2:30) 5:15 7:45 10:15; **The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor** (PG-13) (10:30 1:30) 4:15 7:15 10:00; **Pineapple Express** (R) (11:30 2:15) 5:00 7:30 10:00; **The Rocker** (PG-13) (10:00 12:15); **Star Wars: The Clone Wars** (PG) (10:00 12:15 2:45) 5:15 7:45 10:15; **Traitor** (PG-13) (11:00 1:45) 4:30 7:30 10:30; **Tropic Thunder** (R) (10:15 12:45 3:15) 5:45 8:15 10:45

Oceanside 16
401 Mission Avenue (760-439-1733)
Call theater for program information

they're an irrepressible subtext in the found footage of the site before and during construction, and in the cloak-and-dagger planning and execution of the covert assault on the Towers. One still photo of the wirewalker poised in midair even captures an overhead jet — at a safe clearance — in the same frame. Because so much of the film consists of present-day talking heads (interwoven with black-and-white reenactments and authentic archive footage), there's something a bit coy about the omission. Certainly the enormity of the later crime needn't be introduced in mitigation of Petit's mischief. But the disappearance of the Towers from the face of the earth would serve to underscore the singularity, the unrepeatability, of the stunt. Perhaps that goes literally without saying. And yet, if the Towers meant so much to Petit from the first moment he learned of the project (surreptitiously ripping a page out of a magazine at the dentist's office), then it would be only natural to solicit from him something in the way of an elegy. The documentary's function as a caper thriller, meanwhile, is on balance a success. The narrative information doesn't always come in the best order or fullest form, and it comes with a good many interruptions and side trips, but the details of the operation will often, for one reason or another, boggle the mind.

And although the undimmed history, along with the manifest survival of the talking heads, would seem to put a low ceiling on the suspense, anyone with the slightest touch of acrophobia will not, at the climax, be able to keep palms dry. 2008.
★★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS)

Mirrors — It begins (after a pre-credits throat-slit) with a promising setting, a burned-out department store of charred mannequins and hallucinogenic mirrors. It proceeds, however, into repellence, incoherence, and tedium. With Kiefer Sutherland, Paula Patton, Amy Smart, and Jason Flemyng; directed by Alexandre Aja. 2008.
● (CHULA VISTA 10; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; SANTEE DRIVE IN)

The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor — As if this "franchise" were not already junked up (and joked up) enough, it now adds Asian martial arts, Shangri-La, computer-animated yetis, a snowy avalanche in place of a sandstorm, a three-headed dragon, a terra-cotta army, and more. Will the thrills ever commence? With Brendan Fraser, Maria Bello (taking over the Rachel Weisz role, British accent and all), Luke Ford, John Hannah, Jet Li, Michelle Yeoh, and Isabella Leong; directed by Rob Cohen. 2008.
● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14)

Pineapple Express — A buddy comedy, a stoner comedy, a crime comedy from the House of Apatow, about a user and his dealer — best friends — on the run from the mob. As the two dopers, James Franco mimics the classic symptoms with dedication, while Seth Rogen is content to be Seth Rogen or else powerless to be otherwise. The rampant violence and gruesome mayhem are meant to be as full of merriment as, say, the puke on the computer printer or the English subtitle beneath the Asian thug, "Prepare to suck the cock of karma." It might be interesting as a penal experiment (for you Apatow devotees, that has nothing to do with the penis) to compel anyone amused by such stuff to sit through, in succession, *George Washington, All the Real Girls, Undertow*, and *Snow Angels*. Those are the complete previous credits of the director, David Gordon Green, instantaneous poster boy for the Indie Sellout. With Danny McBride, Gary Cole, Rosie Perez. 2008.
● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; PLAZA BONITA 14; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14)

The Rocker — A heavy-metal drummer, booted out of the band at the brink of their breakthrough, gets a second chance twenty years later with a high-school prom group whose members are half his age. (Location: Cleveland, with too-many-to-count shots of the Rock-and-Roll Hall of Fame.) The wish fulfillment and mainstream sanitization thwart the potential for satire. With Rainn Wilson, Christina Applegate, Teddy Geiger, Josh Gad, and Emma Stone; directed by Peter Cattaneo. 2008.
● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Roman Holiday — William Wyler's poor-little-rich-girl fairy tale — checked by a powerful and rueful sense of reality — about a savvy American journalist who shows a sheltered princess a good time on the town. The feminine role, possibly Audrey Hepburn's signature role, maximizes the actress's opposite sides, her outward, otherworldly refinement and her unsuspected capacity for fun. And Gregory Peck is less starchy than normal, too. With Eddie Albert. 1953.
★★★ (CINEMA UNDER THE STARS, 8/28 THROUGH 31, 8:30 P.M.)

Sex and the City — The big-screen resuscitation of the defunct HBO series (1998-2004) runs, or better say sashays, two hours and twenty minutes. That's a lot of clothes and accessories, a lot of accompanying pop songs, a lot of chatty first-person narration, a lot of superficiality, a lot of vacuity. Maybe it would help if you had followed these four bosom buddies — the stringy Sarah Jessica Parker, the Amazonian Kim Cattrall, the pop-eyed Kristin Davis, the pinched Cynthia Nixon — throughout their six seasons of looking for love. To be sure, there's not much looking anymore, and yet not much relating, either: the men, now that they've been landed, are little more than accessories themselves. Tempestuous developments do occur: one of the buddies neglects to wax her pubes, one of them poops her pants, one of them packs on a spare bicycle tire, and the remaining one dyes her hair. (Symptoms of bigger things, but even so.) Maybe, on the other hand, it would be better to follow these buddies no further. Written and directed by Michael Patrick King. 2008.
● (GASLAMP 15)

The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants 2 — Three years later, the girls have gone on to separate colleges (Yale, Brown, NYU, and the Rhode Island School of Design) and on to a different director (music-video veteran Sanaa Hamri) and on to unexciting new challenges (pregnancy scare, married boyfriend, long-lost grandmother, summer-stock role in Shakespeare), and the loss of the peripatetic pants at the end cannot be regretted if it means no further updates. At this point Blake Lively retains her freshness, and America Ferrera shows her experience. With Alexis Bledel, Amber Tamblyn, Blythe Danner. 2008.
★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24)

Son of Rambow — A sweet nothing, acutely cloying, about the bonding of dissimilar English schoolboys, devil and angel, plus a slightly less adhesive French exchange student with two-toned hair and trend-setting wardrobe, all collaborating together on a video sequel to *First Blood* for entry in a Young Filmmakers Competition. Cartoon slapstick and tender sentiment coexist unpeacefully, if not mutually destructively. With Will Poulter, Bill Milner, and Jules Sitruk; written and directed by Garth Jennings. 2008.
● (SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY, 9/3, 6:30 P.M.)

Star Wars: The Clone Wars — Or in the order the words appear on screen and in the ads, *Star the Clone Wars Wars*. It fills in events on the timeline between parts two and three of the second cycle in George Lucas's space saga. If, from this remove, that's still of concern to anyone. Under the guiding hand of Dave Filoni, the full computer animation, as opposed to the extensive but partial computer animation in the aforesaid cycle, nudges the action ever farther into the universe of the video game. If, again, that's of any concern. Best let the zealots fight it out. 2008.
● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Step Brothers — Mainstream comedy, at the broadest point in the stream, about a pair of developmentally arrested forty-year-olds (Will Ferrell, John C. Reilly), still living at home with their respective single mom and single dad, then living together after the parents meet and marry, living first at loggerheads and later in boisterous accord. Everything is pushed to extremes with the intent of making it extra, extra funny, and with the result of making it not at all funny. It is to co-producer Judd Apatow rather than director Adam McKay that we are prone to ascribe the prosthetic testicles; and it's between the scriptwriting team of Ferrell and McKay that we are obliged to split credit for lines like "I want to roll you into a little ball and shove you up my vagina" and "I feel like a lightning bolt hit the tip of my penis." With Mary Steenburgen, Richard Jenkins, Adam Scott, Kathryn Hahn. 2008.
● (FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Tell No One — If this doesn't give us what we expect and want from a French thriller, part of the reason must lie in its source, an American mystery novel by Harlan Coben. Convoluted and contorted beyond resemblance to organic life on Earth, concocted and cockamamie beyond the realm of all probability, it boasts the sort of plotting where an unassuming Parisian pediatrician, hounded by a remorseless hit squad, can call in a favor (i.e., troop support) from a grateful hoodlum with a hemophiliac infant. Or where a handy heroin addict will turn up dead at just the moment when you need a body in order to stage a *faux* murder, and you can count on no one noticing the discrepancies between the autopsy cadaver and the supposed victim. All along the way the storytelling em-

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Man on Wire 2008

I finally saw *Man on Wire* today. I thought it was fantastic. Unfortunately, when most people hear "documentary," their eyes glaze over. But this film is actually a very entertaining "caper" movie more like *Ocean's Eleven*. And it just happens to be true. I was already thinking that when Phillipe's former girlfriend brought up the fact that he began to look at it like a bank robbery and how much that delighted him, being a bit of an anti-authoritarian "bad boy." In fact, I was watching loads of TV shows and movies about bank robberies before the attempt. I'm not sure what the trailers for this film looked like, but I think it should have been promoted this way — a caper. It probably would have had a much bigger mass appeal.
It really surprised me that there was so much original footage from 1974 in this film. What great foresight on their parts and what a fantastic piece of history they preserved. The event was very well chronicled — a film 34 years in the making and just begging to be made. The scene with the guard at the desk struck me as really squirrelly and unbelievable, though. I don't think it could have gone down as depicted in the film. Very strange. That's my only gripe, though. You're right. A must-see. And a probable Oscar nominee for Best Documentary.
Next: *Bottle Shock*.
By **antigeekess** 10:40 p.m., Aug. 18, 2008

Vicky Cristina Barcelona 2008

Vicky Cristina Barcelona is not necessarily a typical Woody Allen film, even though the film uses plenty of his trademarks. As usual, Allen casts his latest ingenue, Scarlett Johansson, as Cristina, the adventurous, wide-eyed traveler. And you'd swear Cristina's uptight traveling companion, Vicky (Rebecca Hall), is channeling Allen's stuttering voice nearly every time she speaks. Yet, the great departure from his usual style and saving grace of the film is when Penelope Cruz storms onto the scene! Cruz (Maria Elena) plays Javier Bardem's tumultuous ex-wife. Unlike the other characters in the film, Maria Elena is viscerally alive! She is wild, angry, suspicious, vulnerable, and dangerous! Maria Elena lays herself out for all to see. Cruz as Maria Elena is a commanding presence, and in the film, Maria Elena RULES! Her allure has such a hold on Bardem that he feels he is cursed, with or without her. And Cristina finds undiscovered parts of herself due to her closeness with Maria Elena, who is the only one who truly "sees" Christina and her talents. And, you could say that Vicky (Christina's engaged-to-be-married traveling companion), a little worse-for-the-wear, owes her marriage to Maria Elena. All in all, I can't say this film is even close to Oscar-worthy, but Cruz's performance is!!! *Vicky Cristina Barcelona* is definitely a destination worth exploring, if only to encounter one very exceptional character along the way.
By **Trutheau** 7:19 p.m., Aug. 22, 2008

Dangerous Beauty 1998

This biographical drama by Marshall Heskovitz about the 16th-century courtesan and poet Veronica Franco is not the *Happy Hooker* meets *Torquemada*. As a man who views films as literature, for me, I find few films uphold a "this world" ethic and that makes this work a phenomenal achievement against films that seem to revere drug dealers, drug users, and murderers. Catherine McCormack's portrayal is stunning as Franco, who enters the life of a courtesan to be close to her love interest Marco, played by Rufus Sewell. The magestry of the film lies in its philosophical commentaries. Franco is a direct contrast to the women portrayed of the era. The "downing a banana in one gulp" is not designedly for enticement except for film viewers. It is coupled with Franco's demonstration of her intellect, which showed a mind-body unity that Marco's wife Giulia De Lezze, played by the lovely Naomi Watts, finds "obscene." Where sex is viewed as a duty, Franco views it as pleasurable. Where women are relegated to the sidelines of society as mere producers of male heirs, Franco pursues her goals actively. Where husbands are chosen for women out of duty, Franco chooses whom she associates with and has sex with. She is the captain of her fate. The evolution of the conflict between Maffio Venier, played by Oliver Platt, and Franco presents an interesting transition from Venier's unrequited interest in Franco to envy of Franco's success, both monetarily and intellectually, and to his becoming the chief prosecutor in her inquisition as a "repentent" Christian. The trial of Franco before the inquisition for witchcraft foreshadows the transition from early Christian civilization, and its moral values, to the burgeoning Renaissance. Facing a sentence of possible death, this conflict climaxes in Franco's uncompromising, unapologetic, and courageous defense of her life and choices. To me, this makes *Dangerous Beauty* an incredible "sense of life" film.
By **lifeMQM** 2:33 a.m., Aug. 24, 2008

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ploys withholding and delaying tactics whose effect is more annoyance than suspense; and at the finish it features a long-winded verbal summation that, besides its bookishness, compresses the absurdities into an intolerably small space. All that aside, the film is perforce populated with Frenchmen (and bilingual Canadian and British women), who, true to form, work hard and selflessly to engage our interest: François Cluzet, the Gallic Dustin Hoffman, in looks at least, if not also in rodenty intensity, as the doctor who believes he has lost his wife to a serial killer, and comes to find out, on the eighth anniversary of the event, that he may not have lost her for good; Marie-Josée Croze (the Canadian) as the absent wife; Kristin Scott-Thomas (the Brit) as an uptown lesbian; the formidable Nathalie Baye as a high-priced and all-business attorney; François Berléand as the dogged, obsessive-compulsive cop on the case (exasperated, for example, at his underling's carelessness in differentiating between the trash bin and the recycling bin); and the venerable veterans Jean Rochefort and André Dussollier as separately grieving fathers. The latter, with supreme poise and not a hint of a knee-buckle, shoulders the brunt of the absurdity. 2007.
★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

Traitor — Espionage interlaced with education. A range of Muslim beliefs and attitudes emerges in the course of an FBI crackdown on a terrorist network. Fiercely acted by all concerned (Don Cheadle, Guy Pearce, Saïd Taghmaoui, Neal McDonough, Jeff Daniels), but rather frivolously resolved, and the camera is prone to excitability at the least moment of stress and tension. Written and directed by Jeffrey Nachmanoff. 2008.
★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Transsiberian — A couple of Iowa missionaries in China take the long and scenic route home on the Beijing-to-Moscow rail line, and the along the way fall in with drug runners. Director Brad Anderson tames his shaky camera for some recognizably Hitchcockian suspense sequences. With Emily Mortimer, Woody Harrelson, Eduardo Noriega, Kate Mara, and Ben Kingsley. 2008.
★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS, FROM 8/29)

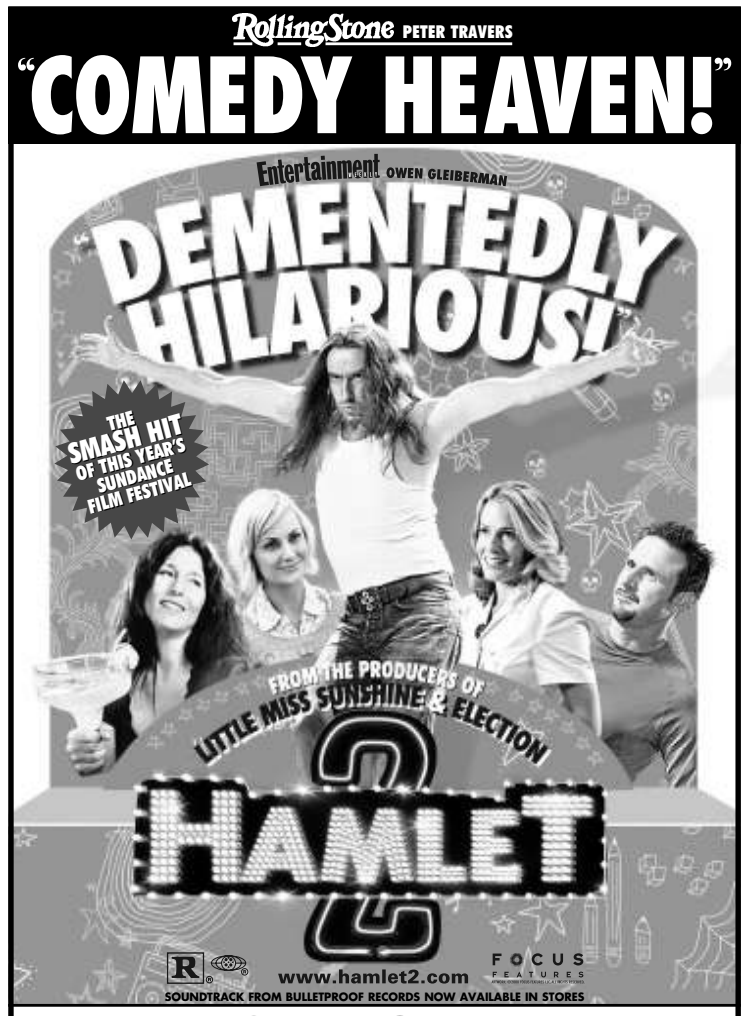
Tropic Thunder — Major-studio satire on a major-studio Vietnam War epic. The slipshod plotting, the willful misinformation about how movies are made, and the pandering to the groundlings do not close off all avenues of inspiration. Four fake trailers at the top of the movie, introducing the motley cast of the movie-within-the-movie, give a hint of the allowable latitude. The ones of the over-the-hill action star (Ben Stiller, the movie's director and co-writer besides), the gross-out comedian (Jack Black), and the hip-hop gangsta (Brandon T. Jackson) are but a tepid warm-up to the topper, the one of the multiple-Oscar-winning thespian from Down Under (Robert Downey, Jr.), a monastery love story called *Satan's Alley*, a tony period piece aimed at the art circuit: the narrator's clipped phrases, pregnant pauses, and portentous tones are dead-on. Downey dominates the action in the Vietnam jungle as well, his character having undergone a "controversial pigmentation alteration" to play an African-American foot soldier, emphatically putting the grunt in the grunt. His only competition for acting honors comes from outside the jungle (though Nick Nolte has his moments as a wizened Vietnam-vet advisor, the company's guide to the Heart of Darkness), back home in Hollywood, where a heavily disguised Tom Cruise models a bald dome, bushy chest and arms, a bumpy nose, and a padded middle as a Harvey Weinsteinian bullying studio boss. (Funny notion: his everyday tough talk goes beyond anything ever heard by a cutthroat Asian heroin dealer and hostage taker.) If nothing else, the raging megalomania serves as a full-coverage mask for the actor's chronic overacting. Similarly, the gut-spilling, blood-squirting gore in the movie — at least the gore in the movie-within-the-movie — is made more palatable by the satire. Through it, you can have a retrospective laugh at the pretensions and pieties of *Apocalypse Now, Platoon, Rambo, Saving Private Ryan*, what-you-will. With Steve Coogan, Danny McBride, Matthew McConaughey. 2008.
★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SAN MARCOS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Vicky Cristina Barcelona — You can't claim that Woody Allen's rapid rate of production doesn't show. Even the title of this one sounds more like brainstorming for a title than like a final decision: three names off the chalkboard of keywords. Vicky and Cristina, two separate people, are dissimilar American friends, the first pragmatic and steady, the second capricious and restless, together visiting Barcelona for the summer. (Allen's British sojourn seems to be over, though he's not ready to come home.) The young women are picked up in tandem by a brooding Catalan artist with a legendarily tempestuous love life, flown off to Oviedo, seduced in sequence, separated by choice. Then the artist's ex-wife re-enters the scene after her attempted suicide, setting up a ménage. The film is almost more a sketch than a fully filled-in picture, a skeleton thin on flesh. (If Allen tends to hurry his ideas, it may be because he always has new ones waiting to join the queue. More than he can get to in a lifetime.) The dialogue, much of it in the writer's laziest declarative vein — *I'm this, you're that, he or she's the other* — has not been polished anywhere near his brightest sparkle. And the dryasdust omniscient narrator spares him a heap of expository labor: "One evening Mark and Judy took them to the opening of a friend's art gallery." The half-baked aspect has its upside. In consequence of the cut corners and rushed development, a lot happens in only ninety minutes, and Allen can lay out on a broad canvas his vision of human discontentment and self-ignorance. He can lay it out as a pattern, not as an isolated instance. The complicating appearance of Penelope Cruz as the ex-wife, shrewdly put off till just past the halfway point, is a potent pick-me-up in a flagging narrative, a powerfully physical, sensual, passionate presence that deliciously shows up the callow blankness of Scarlett Johansson and Rebecca Hall. With Javier Bardem, Patricia Clarkson, Kevin Dunn, Chris Messina. 2008.
★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; TOWN SQUARE 14)

The Wackness — Summer vacation after high school and before college: a romance blossoms between a teenage dope peddler and his classmate client, and a bond of friendship forms between the former and the latter's father, a crazy mixed-up psychiatrist. The action is set back in 1994, but that's no excuse for the colors fading almost to ashes. And while Olivia Thirlby is appealing as the girl, Josh Peck isn't the most credible friendless virgin, a social pariah despite his superficial attractiveness (in a too-cool-for-school sort of way, sleepy-eyed, slack-jawed, froggy-throated) and despite his flourishing candy store. Ben Kingsley's strangeness as the psychiatrist is more the strangeness of an actor than of a character, the strangeness of an affected, abstracted manner and a stifled, indefinite accent. With Famke Janssen, Jane Adams, Mary-Kate Olsen, and Method Man; written and directed by Jonathan Levine. 2008.
★ (LA PALOMA; PALM PROMENADE 24; FROM 8/29)

WALL-E — Relentlessly sentimental science fiction about a cute anthropomorphized "male" robot — a rattletrap contraption of binoculars atop tank treads — programmed to pick up garbage on an evacuated Earth in the 28th Century (his name is an acronym of Waste Allocation Load Lifter, Earth-Class), all alone on the planet but for the company of an indestructible cockroach, until his world gets rocked by the arrival of a smooth white egg-shaped "fembot," whom he follows up to a mother ship of epicene, spineless, walrus-like humans. Rather remarkable for any movie are the long stretches of nonverbal narrative, reminiscent of the opening and closing stretches of *2001*. (Other allusions to the Kubrick classic — the musical snippet from *Also Sprach Zarathustra*, the unblinking red eye of HAL-9000 — suggest the emulation is entirely conscious.) No less remarkable, in the context of a Disney computer cartoon, are the distinctive whiffs of post-apocalyptic and dystopian melancholy. The happy ending pretty much ruins it. If the film wanted full credit for evoking those feelings, the best ending it could have held out would be hopeful, not happy. With the voices of Ben Burtt, Elissa Knight, Jeff Garlin, and Sigourney Weaver; written and directed by Andrew Stanton. 2008.
★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; FASHION VALLEY 18; MISSION VALLEY 7; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Wanted — Nerd's daydream of getting out from under one's pencil-pushing job, one's bossy boss, and one's cheating girlfriend, finding out it's in one's genes to be an elite assassin, learning the tricks of the trade in nothing flat, e.g., guiding bullets telekinetically, intercepting enemy bullets in midair, and so on. (A daydream only imaginable in the video-game era.) In its loosey-goosey humor, over-the-top action, anything-goes fantasy, and gimmick-riddled visuals (the rough grain of the image would not count as one of the gimmicks), the movie drips with disdain for its material and its audience alike. With James McAvoy, Angelina Jolie, Morgan Freeman, Terence Stamp, and Thomas Kretschmann; directed by Timur Bekmambetov. 2008.
● (HORTON PLAZA 14)



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CAREGIVER, CNA, HHA live-ins and hourly. We need San Diego Countywide, immediate assignments. Full/part time. Call for interview. Avalon Home Care, Inc., 760-730-3955.

CAREGIVER, LIVE-IN/HOUSEKEEPER. 6 bed Residential Care Facility Elderly (RCFE). Sunday evening to Friday noon. Assist with showers, etc. Room and board plus salary. 619-460-2272.

CAREGIVERS. Home Instead Senior Care needs cheerful, dependable people to help seniors stay at home with our non-medical home care services. Competitive pay/training. Flexible hours. Great benefits. Central/East Jobline: 619-433-6200. South Bay/Coastal: 858-277-3722.

CAREGIVERS/CNAs/HHAs Immediate openings: Hourly, Live-in, Nights. Cheerful Caregivers needed to assist seniors in-home. Minimum 1-year experience. Premium pay/bonuses/benefits, 24-hour office support. Age Advantage, 619-660-8881, 760-720-7272.

CAREGIVERS/LIVE-IN. Happy, smiling caregivers and Administrators needed to look after elderly in La Jolla. Top rates plus room and meals. Health benefits. Call Joy: 858-459-4845.

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$10.63-$12.50/hr. Must have 3 years of hotel experience and speak English.

Greenhouse Worker **Résumé: greenhouseworker@optimumhealth.org**
$8.84-$10.40/hr. Responsible for all aspects of planting, growing and harvesting of wheatgrass and other sprouts in a greenhouse environment. Assist with seed deliveries, daily cleaning of the grounds, restocking seed supplies, shipping, the OHI Store, driving utility carts on the property. High school diploma/general education degree (GED)/equivalent required. Driver's license required. 1 year of experience preferred in Landscape, Gardening Agriculture, Greenhouse and Nurseries.

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New: $36,275-$46,300 annually
Safety Retirement–Sworn Officers 3% at age 50.
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Montgomery Middle School
2470 Ulric Street • San Diego, CA 92111

Note New Application Process: YOU MUST COMPLETE APPLICATION BEFORE TAKING TEST. Complete and submit an on-line application form and provide correct and complete responses to the Supplemental Questions. Print a hard copy of your application and bring this copy to the written examination. Applications may be obtained at:
http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov

For additional information, contact the department's
Jobline: 858-514-8558
www.sdcounty.ca.gov/probation

and Downtown San Diego area. Must have valid CA driver's license and reliable transportation. Background check required. Please call 760-294-8070.

CAREGIVERS/COMPANIONS. Minimum 1 year experience non-medical home care for seniors. Valid California Driver's License. Serving Santee/La Mesa/Del Cerro/San Carlos. Maureen, Visiting Angels, 619-749-7525.

CAREGIVERS/COMPANIONS. Visiting Angels, America's Choice in Homecare. Now hiring compassionate, caring Caregivers/Companions. Requires minimum 1 year experience in non-medical home care for seniors and valid CA driver's license. Serving Poway, Rancho Penasquitos, Scripps Ranch and Mira Mesa areas. Call for an immediate interview: 858-775-1176.

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CASHIER. Immediate opening for a Cashier, 10am-6pm, Monday-Friday, no nights or weekends. $9.50 per hour. Pharmacy in the UTC area. Call 760-835-0720.

CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINERS NEEDED. Princesses and Super Heroes. Pays $15/hour, plus gas. Own transportation required. 18+ years of age. Call for information and interview, 619-440-4387.

CLASSROOM AIDES. Work with developmentally disabled children in non-public school. Experience preferred. Allied Gardens, Chula Vista, La Mesa. Monday-Friday, 7:30am-1pm. $9.75/hour to start. EOE. www.vistahill.org. E-mail: steinjobs@vistahill.org. Fax resume: 619-281-0453. EOE. Apply weekdays, 9am-4pm: Stein Education Center, Attention: HR, 6145 Decena Drive, San Diego CA 92120.

CNA/ACUTE CARE. CNA, CNA/Interpreter, CNA/Nursing Unit Secretary/Interpreter, Nursing Unity Secretary/Interpreter. Apply online: www.pph.org, weekdays: In person 7:30am-4:30pm, Palomar Medical Center, HR: 660 East Grand Avenue, Escondido, 92025; Pomerado Hospital, HR: 15615 Pomerado Road, Poway, 92064; Palomar Continuing Care, 1817 Avenida del Diablo, Escondido, CA 92029.

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CNAs, CERTIFIED NURSING Assistant. All shifts, full time/part time. Benefits available. 7760 Parkway Drive, La Mesa. Call 619-469-0124 x11.

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COFFEE BARISTA NEEDED. Full/Part-time. Mornings and/or afternoons. UCSD and Rancho Santa Fe locations. Great tips. No experience necessary. Call Bob, Fairbanks Coffee, 858-699-7610.

COMMUNITY TRAINING Specialist/Job Coach. $9.75/hour to start. Assist developmentally disabled adults in the community. Behavioral and instructional programs. Implement schedules. 32.5 hours/week. Benefits. E-mail: steinjobs@vistahill.org. Fax resume: 619-281-0453. Apply weekdays, 9am-4pm, Stein Education Center, Attention: HR, 6145 Decena Drive, San Diego CA 92120.

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September 3, 2008 – 5:30 pm Arrival
or
September 6, 2008 – 7:30 am Arrival

Applications must be completed ***online*** at **www.joinsdSHERIFF.net** and the application printout brought to the test site. Applicants arriving without a completed application will be turned away.

Sheriff's Administrative Center
9621 Ridgehaven Ct., San Diego, CA 92123
Registration by e-mail or phone is required.
Space is limited.
recruit@sdsheriff.org

18-year-olds eligible to apply!
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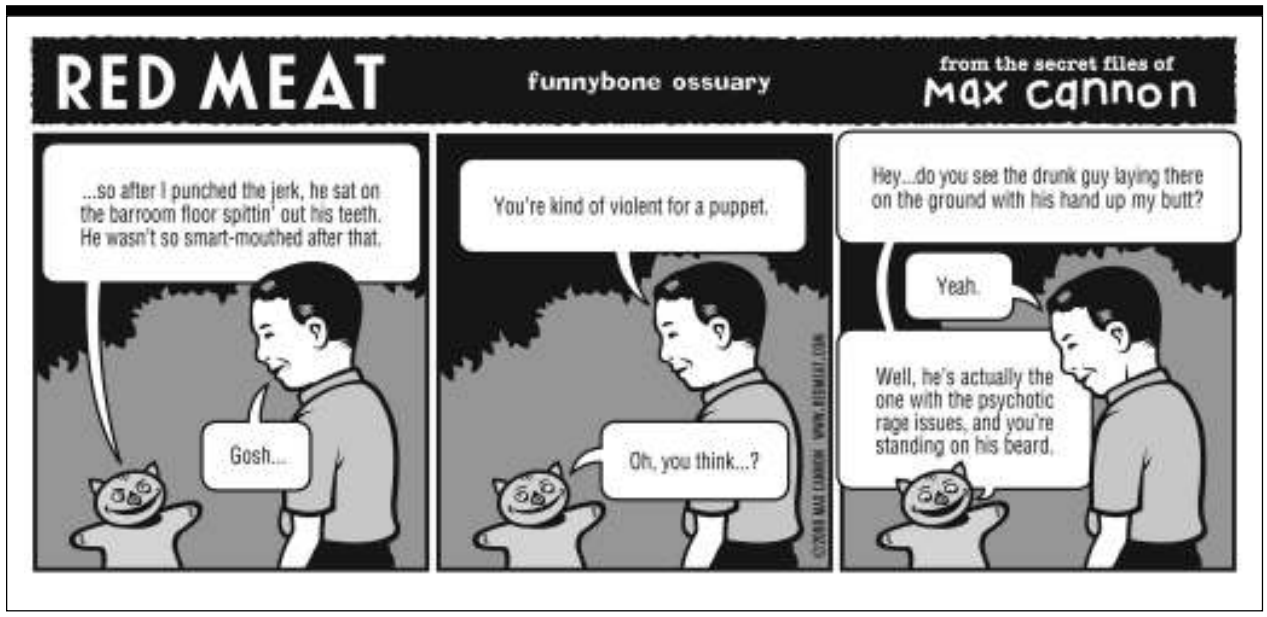

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CORRECTIONAL DEPUTY PROBATION Officer I. County of San Diego Probation Department now hiring. Test Dates: September 6, 2008, 8am or October 4, 2008, 8am. Montgomery Middle School, 2470 Ulric Street, San Diego 92111. Must be 21 years, good physical condition, no illicit drug usage. U.S. citizen or becoming a citizen. Pass criminal/personal background investigation. No felony convictions. High school diploma/GED. $36,275-$46,300/year. New Application Process: applications may be obtained at http://www/sdcounty.ca.gov. You Must Complete Application Before Taking Test! Complete and submit an on-line application form and provide correct and complete responses to the Supplemental Questions. Print a hard copy of your application and bring this copy to the written examination. Jobline: 858-514-8558. www.sdcounty.ca.gov/probation.

COUNSELOR/BEHAVIORAL COACH. Therapeutic Behavioral Services Program (TBS), bilingual, part time, 30+ hours weekly. In home, work with risk youth and their families. Coach will provide Therapeutic interventions for behavior modification and teach behavioral skills in the home or in a residential facility. BA in Psychology, Social Work or related and experience with children required. Most hours will occur after school and evenings. Must be available 4 week nights and one weekend day. Benefits available. Fax resume to: 858-569-6201 or e-mail to: tbs@mhsinc.org.

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPS. Requires previous customer service experience and PC proficiency. Strong communication and interpersonal skills a must. Flexible schedule required. Drug-free workplace. EOE/AA. Pre-employment drug test and background check. Rescue Rooter, 9895 Olson Drive, San Diego, 92121. For immediate interview, contact Laura: 858-457-6506. E-mail lmyking@ars.com.

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CUSTOMER SERVICE/DISPATCHER. ARS of San Diego is seeking a motivated multitasker with good communication and leadership skills for a fast-paced environment. Must be a team player with a minimum of 2 years Dispatcher experience. Fax resume: 858-677-5479; or apply in person: 9895 Olson Drive, Suite A, San Diego 92121. Drug-free work environment. License #791820.

DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICER. Now hiring! County of San Diego Probation Department. Test Date: September 27, 2008. Qualified applicants will be notified by mail of the time and location of the test. Applications must be submitted no later than 15 days prior to exam date. Qualifications: Bachelor's degree with experience. Must be 21 years, good physical condition, no illicit drug usage. U.S. citizen or in process of becoming a citizen. Pass criminal/personal background investigation. No felony convictions. $52,520-$63,835/year. Safety Retirement-Sworn Officers 3% at age 50. Bilingual men/women encouraged to apply. Applications can be accessed online from the Job/Current Recruitment section of the County website at: www.sdcounty.ca.gov. Jobline: 858-514-8558.

DEPUTY SHERIFF and Deputy Sheriff Detentions/Courts. San Diego County Sheriff's Department. Hiring for two types of positions; take one exam, apply for either or both! Exam Dates: Wednesday, September 3, 2008, 5:30pm arrival or September 6, 2008, 7:30am arrival: Sheriff's Administrative Center, 9621 Ridgehaven Court, San Diego, CA 92123. Space is limited. Registration by email or phone is required prior to the test at recruit@sdsheriff.org. Applications Must Be Completed Online at www.joinsdSHERIFF.net and the application printout brought to the test site. Applicants arriving without a completed application will be turned away. Detention/Courts: $39,796-$61,608 annual salary, plus benefits. 18-year-olds eligible to apply! Deputy Sheriff: $49,704-$71,099 current annual salary, plus benefits. U.S. citizen or applied for citizenship; 20-1/2 years old. High school graduate or G.E.D. required. Valid California Driver's License prior to appointment. Effective oral and written communication in English. EOE. Additional test dates: 858-974-2000.

DETAILER/YACHTS. Wash/buff/wax in local San Diego marinas. Full-time, $8.50-$9.50/start. Reliable vehicle required, will transport equipment. 619-944-0741.

DISPATCHER/CUSTOMER SERVICE. ARS of San Diego is seeking a motivated multitasker with good communication and leadership skills for a fast-paced environment. Must be a team player with at least 2 years dispatcher experience. Fax resume: 858-677-5479; or apply in person: 9895 Olson Drive, Suite A, San Diego (92121). Drug-free work environment. License #791820.

DOG BRUSHER/BATHER 7:30am-5pm Wednesday-Saturday. Fun, busy environment. Experience helpful. Call 858-456-1552 or apply in person Wednesday-Saturday: 508 Nautilus Street, La Jolla, 92037.

DRAIN CLEANERS/SERVICE TECHS with experience needed immediately! Rescue Rooter offers excellent pay, vans, tools, uniforms, year-round work and outstanding benefits: Medical/dental, 401(k), paid vacations/overtime, drug-free workplace. To apply, e-mail: lmyking@ars.com or call: 858-457-6506; or apply in person: 9895 Olson Drive, San Diego 92121. License #765155, AA/EOE.

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DRIVERS. $1700-$2400 monthly. Fuel paid. Auto parts delivery with late model pickup truck, car or van. Clean DMV. Local and North County openings. Bonus paid. Independent contractors. 619-233-4374.

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Community Training Specialist/Job Coach • $9.75/hr. to start, DOE
To assist developmentally disabled adults in the community. Behavioral and instructional programs. Implement schedules. 32.5 hours/week. Benefits.

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Assist teachers in group- and community-based instruction for developmentally disabled adults. Implement behavioral management programs. 30 hours/week.

Classroom Aides • $9.75/hr. to start, DOE
Work with developmentally disabled children in a nonpublic school. Experience preferred. Allied Gardens, Chula Vista, La Mesa. Monday-Friday 7:30 am-1 pm.

Stein Education Center, 6145 Decena Drive, San Diego, CA 92120
Fax: 619-281-0453, E-mail: steinjobs@vistahill.org
All applications/résumés must include job title. www.vistahill.org
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We are looking for a **Guest Services Agent** with previous experience in a hotel Front Desk environment. A minimum of 1 year previous experience in Hotel Guest Services is required. The shift that is available is a full-time 2:45 pm shift. Strong computer and communication skills are needed and ability to work well under pressure is a must!

To apply, please send resumé (as a Word or PDF attachment) to: hr@ranchovalencia.com

Or apply in person at:
5921 Valencia Circle, Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067
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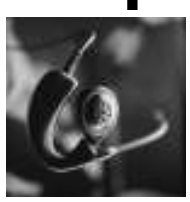

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GREENHOUSE WORKER. $8.84-$10.40/hour. OHI is a mission of the Free Sacred Trinity Church, a non-denominational church that has been operating spiritual retreats since 1976. Responsible for all aspects of planting, growing and harvesting wheatgrass and other sprouts in greenhouse environment. Assist with seed deliveries, daily cleaning of the grounds, restocking seed supplies, shipping, the OHI Store, driving utility carts on the property. Driver's License required. High School diploma, general education (GED) or equivalent required. 1 year experience in Landscape, Gardening Agriculture, Greenhouse and Nurseries preferred. Nonsmoking, drug-free environment. Resume to: greenhouseworker@optimumhealth.org or call 858-634-5516. Apply at 9665 Granite Ridge Drive, Suite 310, San Diego, CA 92123. www.optimumhealth.org.

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HAIRSTYLIST/MANICURIST. Need change? Booth rental giveaway: 6 months No-Rent offer! Part time/full time. Excellent opportunity to save money! Please call and leave message: 858-382-8795.

HAIRSTYLIST with clientele for booth rental or commission. Good with color. hair extensions, and/or wig knowledge a bonus. Judy, California Hair Additions, 619-589-0210. www.cahairadditions.com.

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HOUSEKEEPERS II. Full-time position. Benefits. $10.63-$12.50/hour. Must have 3 years hotel experience and speak English. Flexible work schedule including weekends and holidays. OHI is a mission of the Free Sacred Trinity Church, a non-denominational church that has been operating spiritual retreats since 1976. Nonsmoking, drug-free environment. Resume to: housekeeping@optimumhealth.org or call 858-634-5516. Apply at 9665 Granite Ridge Drive, Suite 310, San Diego, CA 92123. www.optimumhealth.org.

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JOB COACHES. Community-oriented Center for Independent Achievement is seeking dependable individuals in East County. 1:4 group ratio maximum. $8.50-$9.50/hour. Annual raises. Bonuses for exceptional performance. Benefits with full-time. pficareer@yahoo.com. Fax 619-440-6864. 619-440-6802.

LAW ENFORCEMENT. Deputy Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Detentions/Courts. San Diego County Sheriff's Department. Hiring for two types of positions; take one exam, apply for either or both! Exam Dates: Wednesday, September 3, 2008, 5:30pm arrival or September 6, 2008, 7:30am arrival: Sheriff's Administrative Center, 9621 Ridgehaven Court, San Diego, CA 92123. Space is limited. Registration by email or phone is required prior to the test at recruit@sdsheriff.org. Applications Must Be Completed Online at www.joinsdSHERIFF.net and the application printout brought to the test site. Applicants arriving without a completed application will be turned away. Detention/Courts: $39,796-$61,608 annual salary, plus benefits. 18-year-olds eligible to apply! Deputy Sheriff: $49,704-$71,099 current annual salary, plus benefits. U.S. citizen or applied for citizenship; 20-1/2 years old. High school graduate or G.E.D. required. Valid California Driver's License prior to appointment. Effective oral and written communication in English. EOE. Additional test dates: 858-974-2000.

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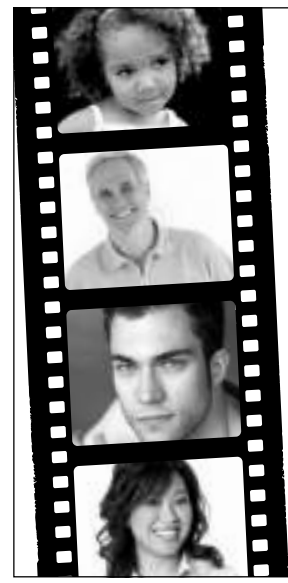

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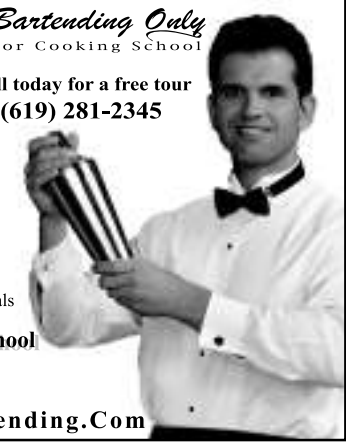

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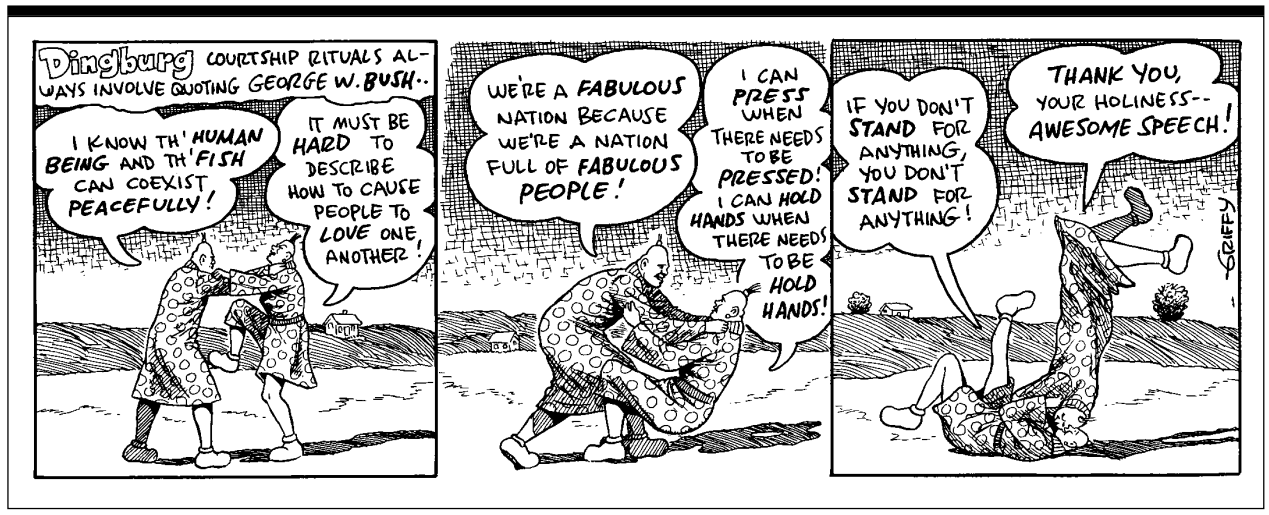

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Thom Hogan

Actor

College Area

It would probably be Steve McQueen. He had that sense of daring. He had a rugged toughness that worked well on-screen. And he could snuggle up with all the attractive Hollywood ladies, which is a plus.

Wayne Meyes

Entrepreneur

North County

My choice would be three different actors: Marlon Brando, Paul Giamatti, and Alan Rickman. I pick them based on my personality type and the types of characters they have all played in various movies. Rickman is my favorite of all those, and we have a lot in common.

Yvette Ivie

Artist

College Area

Oh, that's easy. Mary-Kate or Ashley Olsen. I don't know, though, if I need to pick an actress that is quirky and interesting looking like I am. Someone mentioned Goldie Hawn. Another person said Sally Kellerman. Maybe I'll say Madonna. She can do the songs for the movie, too.

Sam Warren

Book publisher

San Diego

It would be Richard Burton as the lead. I'm not sure why. That's just the first actor that popped into my head. There is a guy that would be in my life story. And Vin Diesel is the spitting image of him. It deals with my years in the TJ jails. He was an American there that protected us. He's in San Quentin now. Diesel would be a good choice to play him.

Walt Carver

Yacht builder

City Heights

It wouldn't be Charlton Heston. I'd probably go Robert Redford. He could do a good job and wouldn't need any makeup. I like the idea of a Burt Lancaster. He used to be in the circus. I think Kirk Douglas did that or some sort of thing like that. So they would bring a good aspect to the part with those types of skills.

Reverend Frye

Minister

College Area

It could be any actor that plays me, really. I don't have a preference as to which one I'd like for the starring role. But I would want William Shakespeare to write the movie. That way I'd know that my character has all the best lines.

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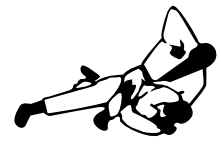

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RULES OF THE GAME

1) Each week we're printing a list of EVERYONE who submits the correct answers to the previous week's puzzle. See this week's contenders below.
2) When you successfully complete a puzzle, we'll also print a brief (10 words or less) message that you've written. This is optional, but it's a great opportunity for you to give a shout out to your mom, or toot your own horn! Each time you submit a new puzzle, you may submit a new message.
3) We're keeping track of how many puzzles you successfully complete. But your information will only be printed when you successfully complete a puzzle AND get it to us by the new puzzle deadline: 7:00 a.m., Monday.
4) Entries must be faxed to 619-231-0489 or mailed to Reader Puzzle, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803, or delivered through our mail slot at 1703 India Street in Little Italy.
5) Wow! Now we're giving away 15 Reader T-shirts each week to contenders chosen randomly!

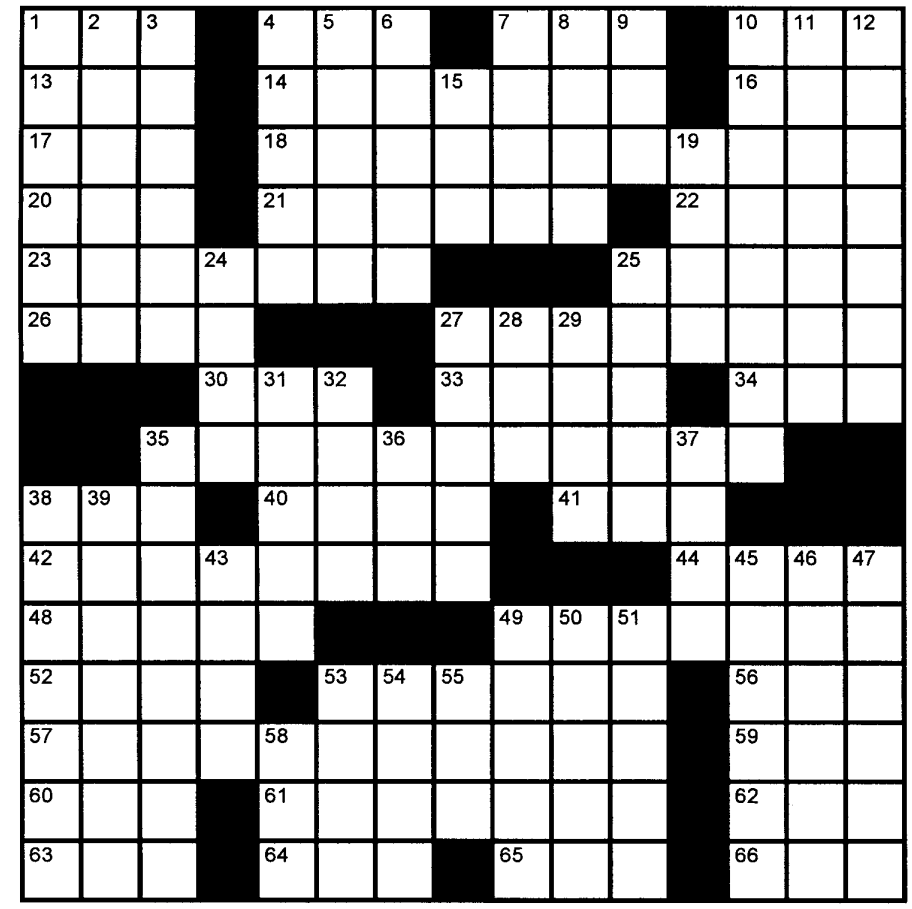
And now for the really small print:
1) All answers must be legible and entered in the spaces provided.
2) Entries that arrive after the deadline will not be considered.
3) One entry per person per week or you will be disqualified.
4) Employees of the Reader and their immediate families are not eligible.

Across

1. "That's more than I need to know," in Internet lingo
4. "Hey, ewe!"
7. License to drill?: Abbr.
10. Fast flier
13. It's hard to get out of
14. Imitate
16. Cabinet dept.
17. 8th of 12: Abbr.
18. "On the Pulse of Morning" poet
20. 2001, to Claudius
21. Tanorexic
22. ____ Hari
23. Regular hangout
25. Shot for Shaq
26. "Star Trek" helmsman
27. Most secluded
30. Walkman batteries
33. Gas, say: Abbr.
34. PM periods
35. Ruckus
38. "Odds ____ ..."
40. Like many loafers
41. Peruvian pronoun
42. Accepts again, as a resolution
44. Area
48. Last word of many fairy tales
49. "Ally McBeal" actress
52. Word that means "humdinger" or "doozy" (and an apt title for this puzzle)
53. Beseech
56. 12th of 12: Abbr.
57 1977 Triple Crown winner
59. Deutschland "D'oh!"
60. Dutch ____ disease
61. Diner sign
62. Deutschland: Abbr.
63. Deadly snake
64. Plus
65. Knight's title
66. 180 degrees from WNW

Down

1. Hobos
2. Oahu wear
3. Clara Bow's nickname
4. Buck of filmdom
5. Without ____ in the world
6. "Here's looking ____, kid"
7. "What Happens in Vegas" star Cameron
8. Fashion initials
9. Line part: Abbr.
10. Chipotle, e.g.
11. Self-centered one
12. Class cutters
15. PC linkup
19. Radiate
24. Beach bash
25. Trucker's expenses
27. Actress Dee and others
28. Fraternity letter
29. 80% of the Kentucky Derby
31. "It's ____ nothing"
32. Reaction to freshness
35. Incubator part
36. Antiviral drug
37. Leaking
38. Body of water south of Orsk
39. Fills up
43. Old Test. book
45. "Ripe" life stage
46. Barbara and Jenna, to Jeb
47. Trick-taking card game
49. Lovett and Alzado
50. Wombs
51. Show fear
53. Design
54. No longer working: Abbr.
55. Burning issue?
58. Spot in the afternoon?



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P	L	O	D	■	I	T	A	L	O	■	E	C	H	O
H	E	L	L	O	D	O	L	L	Y	■	A	H	A	S
■	■	■	■	H	A	L	■	■	■	P	R	I	M	E
■	M	R	H	O	L	L	A	N	D	S	O	P	U	S
D	I	E	U	■	■	■	M	A	Y	A	N	■	■	■
E	X	A	M	S	■	M	O	T	E	L	■	A	H	S
D	U	D	E	W	H	E	R	E	S	M	Y	C	A	R
E	P	S	■	A	U	T	O	S	■	S	U	T	R	A
■	■	■	A	M	I	E	S	■	■	■	R	I	D	S
I	S	N	T	I	T	R	O	M	A	N	T	I	C	■
S	P	I	T	S	■	■	■	A	N	Y	■	■	■	■
L	O	C	H	■	W	H	A	T	S	U	P	D	O	C
I	K	E	A	■	P	E	E	T	E	■	C	O	P	Y
P	E	R	T	■	M	E	R	Y	L	■	B	A	P	S

THIS WEEK'S CONTENDERS:

☛ **indicates T-shirt winner**

☛ **John Rosenbach, Escondido, 11.** *"No way, Laurence."*
Pamela Swain, College Area, 11. *"Carp diem."*
Trinaise Abbott, Rancho Bernardo, 10. *"Sometimes you have to rely on a giraffe filled with whipped cream."*
Vince Cuseo, Vista, 10. *"It's an ugly planet - a bug planet!"*
Carolyn Dalton, Escondido, 10.
Karen Davies, San Carlos, 10. *"Aren't you glad you started this? You need more T-shirts."*
D. Faulkner, University Heights, 10. *"Pedal more; weigh less."*
George Jackson, Oceanside, 10. *"This is #10."*
Bob Maxwell, Coronado, 10. *"Punctured punctuation"*
☛ **Ron Meyer, Santee, 10.** *"Hi Honey. I love you."*
☛ **Gary Mocko, Ocean Beach, 10.**
Susan Morfey, Little Italy, 10. *"Thanks for the great birthday."*
Ric Witt, Clairemont, 10. *"Vote Libertarian."*
Jay Newington, Balboa Park, 10. *"JG — I want to make your dreams come true, too."*
Jim Odell, Vista, 10. *"Thursday's SD Reader puzzle is a big part of my week."*
Julie Osburn, North Park, 10. *"Thanks Michael for 65A. You're the best!"*
Clinton Smith, La Mesa, 10. *"How 'bout them Padres"*
Paul Stanton, Canyon Hills, 10. *"Adopt a homeless cat or dog today and spay/neuter."*
☛ **Stephen Wilder, Rancho Bernardo, 10.** *"Start the countdown: Oktoberfest, October 3, 4, 5 and 10, 11, 12 — El Cajon."*
H. J. Broadhurst, Hillcrest, 9. *"Celebrate 88 years of women's suffrage in the USA."*
Joseph Ciprian, Little Italy, 9. *"I got nothin'!"*
Amna Cornett, Mission Hills, 9. *"Can you get cross-eyed from crosswords?"*
Donna Cresta, Chula Vista, 9. *"It's great to be a winner."*
Dale Duffala, La Jolla, 9. *"It's getting better, Carol. Lurve you!"*
Clemencia Angus, Linda Vista, 9. *"Pepe, don't you love swimming with your mask? Peace!"*
Thomas McVeagh, Lakeside, 9. *"Thanks for not sending me back to the minors!"*
C. J. Muellner, Spring Valley, 9. *"What's up, dude. Where's my T-shirt?"*
Chris Peterkin, Scripps Ranch, 9. *"Go Pop!"*
Janie Redmond, Cardiff, 9. *"Don't pay the ransom. I've escaped."*
Jessica Romero, Chula Vista, 9. *"Bear, you are the pho king."*
Shirley E. Bolden, College Area, 8. *"Stay focused in spite of your age."*
Kurt Dornbusch, Mission Valley, 8. *"Gimme some gum, Dum Dum!"*
John L Drehner, North Park, 8. *"I got kicked out of Texas. I forgot the Alamo."*
Janet Goff, Cardiff, 8. *"SFU — No. 1. Good going."*
Paula Henderson, La Jolla, 8. *"Chloe is the best dog ever!"*
Anna McCutcheon, Downtown, 8. *"www.paintwithdan.com"*
Michael McGriffin, Bay Park, 8. *"I sliced my right thumb today — OUCH!"*
Don Reckles, Carmel Valley, 8. *"Happy Brithday, Dad/Papa! We love you!"*
Lisa Torrescano, Spring Valley, 8. *"Lisa and Kelley still rule."*
☛ **Woody Anderson, Carmel Valley, 7.** *"Har mar du? Kristine och Elliott."*
Dennis Beabout, Temecula, 7. *"Thanks again, Dustin!"*
Leslie Chase, Campo, 7. *"I love you, Bill Mellow Orange!"*
Marilyn Cooper, Chula Vista, 7. *"All I was looking for was a good restaurant when I found this puzzle."*
Betsy Cory, Chula Vista, 7. *"John, Pamela, Lillian: I'm creeping up on you!"*
☛ **William Cushing, Rancho Bernardo, 7.** *"Hi Ron. Thanks for checking."*
Joseph Dzajic, Clairemont, 7. *"Somewhere over the rainbow is my T-shirt."*
☛ **Elaine Marume, Oceanside, 7.**
Barry Newman, Escondido, 7.
Jennifer Rabner, Escondido, 7.
Rich Sewell, Ocean Beach, 7. *"The new instant replay still would have screwed the Padres!"*
☛ **Gayle Studer, Mission Valley, 7.** *"Time flies when you're having fun."*
Nedda Viscovich, Cardiff, 7.
Dave Small, San Carlos, 7.
Glenn Walker, Pacific Beach, 7. *"Puzzle should be online."*
Don Austin, Laguna Beach, 6.
Dan Blair, Linda Vista, 6. *"Dogs bite, cats delight"*
Gerard Dermody, Encinitas, 6. *"The Schriveled Sack, a paean to Balzac."*
☛ **Harry Engel, La Jolla, 6.**
Ben Espe, Mission Valley, 6. *"Two less pre-season games, please!"*
Rand Feura, Santee, 6. *"On to Mount Laguna. "*
Barney Firks, Ocean Beach, 6.
Ken Hanson, Clairemont, 6. *"Go Park Rapids Panthers"*
Richard Hutchings, Santee, 6.
Mary Johnson, Del Mar, 6. *"You know I do!"*
Martha Klages, Encanto, 6. *"Thanks to my husband, Larry, for the help."*
Frank Kuzniar, Carlsbad, 6. *"It's easy to grin when your ship comes in."*
Geoff Mao, Encinitas, 6. *"Thanks for the shirt."*
Elizabeth Noll, Alpine, 6. *"The future is unwritten."*
Elenore Stephens, Potrero, 6. *"P-town 4 life!"*
Barbara Neill, Santee, 6.
Alan Richards, San Diego, 6. *"BAPS? You can always tell the last word filled in."*
Jack Rohrer, Clairemont, 6. *"Plumber's motto, A good flush beats a full house."*
Robert Tucceri, El Cajon, 6. *"Dominick, good luck at Granite Hills High."*
Jeff Van De Moere, Banker's Hill, 6. *"Fenster: I said he'll flip you, flip ya for real."*
☛ **Dave Washington, La Jolla, 6.** *"Beau was a good 23-year-old cat."*
Tom White, University City, 6.
Jerry S. Anders, Scripps Ranch, 5. *"H.L. Menchen was right."*
☛ **Shannon Barry, Pine Valley, 5.** *"F is forever fooling."*
Korey Castillo, Bay Park, 5. *"Game on."*
Andre Desilets, Downtown, 5. *"I Santa, I don't need toys this year, just a money tree, ha ha."*
Jack Hawkins, Encinitas, 5. *"Puzzle me this, oh great caped crossader."*
A. T. Certik, Bonita, 5.
W. Hodgson, Escondido, 5. *"Health insurance costly? Wait until it's free."*

THIS WEEK'S CONTENDERS CONTINUED:

☛ **indicates T-shirt winner**

David Castillo, Bay Park, 5. *"Rest in peace, Aunt Lupe."*
Bud Fisher, Mira Mesa, 5. *"Why don't you guys spring for a new fax machine?"*
Norman Kenney, Carlsbad, 5. *"Heigh-Ho, Bodo!"*
Pat McMann, Solana Beach, 5. *"Poo Poo Head, I am tired of carrying the team."*
Richard Miner, Cherokee Point, 5. *"Yes you can step in that same river tomorrow."*
Robert Phillips, Downtown, 5. *"Indecision may or may not be my biggest problem."*
Tony Radna, Hillcrest, 5. *"What's the difference between snowmen and snowwomen? Snowballs."*
Eric Sandquist, Allied Gardens, 5. *"Deer don't use Kleenex."*
Carol Simpson, Pacific Beach, 5. *"Thanks for the T-shirt."*
Jean D. Smickle, Santee, 5.
Jeff Smith, UTC, 5.
Eddie Spaghettio, Coronado, 5. *"143UNIT15! Chodzmy do lozko, moj zhajamy! Recherche! Niebezpieczenstwo! Yikes! CIUM21"*
John Stead, Santee, 5.
Kelley Wilson, Santee, 5. *"Happy Birthday, Lisa. Good luck, Shawn."*
Danny Wilson, Mira Mesa, 5. *"Please vote for Obama!"*
Kim and Nate, La Mesa, 4. *"Who's got class? We do."*
Mike Adkins, Santee, 4.
Brian W. Beach, Santee, 4.
Jean Marie Barnes, Grantville, 4. *"Yeah, I got my shirt. Happy Birthday Kris and Alicia!"*
Ray Batenich, North Park, 4. *"Tee thx. Happy happy joy joy happy happy joy. Ren"*
Ben Brainard, Santee, 4.
Bryan Breckenridge, Santee, 4.
Marvin A. Brown, Clairemont, 4.
Chris Byzewski, Linda Vista, 4.
Wally Chapman, Chula Vista, 4. *"Another great Reader puzzle."*
Glen and Tesi Chavira-Cournoyer, Chula Vista, 4. *"Lola loves me more!"*
Doug Coffin, Santee, 4.
Dan Collins, Santee, 4.
Laura Conshafter, Santee, 4.
Matt Dene, Santee, 4.
J. DeWitt, Santee, 4.
Sheilah Doyle, Santee, 4.
Kathleene Evans, Santee, 4.
Mark Franc, Santee, 4.
Tim Glover, Santee, 4.
Andy Harrison, Santee, 4.
L.D. Hartpence, Santee, 4.
C. Hayes, Gaslamp, 4. *"Kudos to Reader staff."*
Mark Hill, Santee, 4.
Anne Hinton, , 4. *"Lots a help from Roger."*
Jim Hutchings, Santee, 4.EM Hutchings, Santee, 4.
Naomi Kashiwabara, Clairemont, 4. *"Librarian's helpful."*
Gary Kuske, Santee, 4.
Susie Lektorich, Coronado, 4. *"Take a train to the ball game!"*
Bill Love, Santee, 4.
Kevin McNearney, Santee, 4.
Melissa Menard, Escondido, 4. *"For the 3 Js in my life: Jonathan, Julia, Joshua."*
Donnie Nelson, Santee, 4. *"Good show!"*
Marge Nelson, El Cajon, 4. *"Heartland Lions, We Serve."*
Linda Millsberg, Santee, 4.
Sande Penuliar, Mira Mesa, 4. *"Thanks for the T-shirt."*
Nathan Petty, Santee, 4.
Gillian Schulman, Cardiff, 4.
Shirley Stafford, Carlsbad, 4. *"Yay! My fax got through this time."*
Thelma Strickland-Hicks, Del Mar, 4. *"Read with your child."*
Al Stumpfhauser, Oceanside, 4. *"No deal, Howie!"*
Stacy Tool, Santee, 4.
Woody Weaver, Santee, 4.
Adele West, Rancho Bernardo, 4.
Warren Winters, Santee, 4.
Mary Woodbury, Santee, 4. *"Fun!"*
Ivan Yanev, Santee, 4.
Stephen Young, Santee, 4.
Ken A., Ocean Beach, 3. *"Manscaping is for east coast girly men."*
Sheila Agahan-Price, Oceanside, 3. *"For Denise for thinking outside the box!"*
Don Albee, Santee, 3.
Doretha Albee, Santee, 3.
Bud Anderson, Santee, 3.
D. Asencio Jr., Ramona, 3. *"Woo hoo! Third time!"*
☛ **Jean Avila, Clairemont, 3.**
Carl Bennett, Escondido, 3.
Rolan Bloomfield, Santee, 3.
Neal Brown, Santee, 3.
Margaret Buckner, Santee, 3.
John Bullock, Santee, 3.
☛ **Glory Cadenhead, Clairemont, 3.** *"Look Mom, I did it."*
Max Calhoun, Vista, 3. *"I love my dead gay son."*
Tim Dene, Santee, 3.
Dave Descoteaux, Santee, 3.
G. Doyle, Santee, 3.
Heather Ellsworth, Santee, 3.
Marilynn Harrington, Santee, 3.
Ed Edwards, Santee, 3.
Kathleen Fowler, Santee, 3.
Craig Hollinger, Santee, 3.M. Jordan, Santee, 3.
Troy Knapp, Santee, 3.
David Kuntze, El Cajon, 3. *"Wouldn't it be great if we all just got along?"*
Dennis Lamboy, Santee, 3.
Monty Landy, Santee, 3.
Kathy Law, La Mesa, 3. *"Love to Bill. Luck to me. Ladies' size medium, please."*
Angie Longoria, Santee, 3.
Aaron Lundblade, Santee, 3.
Rick Marin, Santee, 3.
Erin Marin, Santee, 3.
Heber Moore, Santee, 3.
Kevin Moreau, Santee, 3.
James C. Nelson, El Cajon, 3.
Charles Overdorf, Santee, 3.
Eugene Padua, Santee, 3.
Jim Piburn, Point Loma, 3. *"Pumped a lot of 'pane' down in New Orleans."*
Bill Pischke, Ramona, 3. *"Our love sparkels like orange garnet jewels in the sun."*
Randy Schimpf, Santee, 3.
J. Schwendinger, Santee, 3.
M. Sherritt, Santee, 3.
Ron Shields, Santee, 3.
Sam Spaeth, El Cajon, 3.
Gayle Squire, Santee, 3.
Bill Stevens, Oak Park, 3. *"Sam is our Halloween cat."*
Greg Thomas, Ocean Beach, 3. *"Get a job Oakley . . . I get it like a joke."*
Rich Tschiegg, Scripps Ranch, 3. *"Sitting in my yurt doing the Reader puzzle"*
Eli Vinson, Santee, 3. *"Goodbye Mr. Praniewicz."*
Andrea Vollmer, Vista, 3. *"Hi to the knitting girls!"*
Lee Woodbury, Santee, 3.
Dan Abernathy, Santee, 2.
Rick Austin, Santee, 2.
Roy Bailey, Santee, 2.
Derek Besand, Santee, 2.
Rick Braithwaite, Santee, 2.
Loren Broadstone, Santee, 2.
Dave Capehart, Santee, 2.
Mike D'Asaro, Santee, 2.
Jill Dickens, Santee, 2.
Mike Downey, Santee, 2.
Byron Ellsworth, Santee, 2.
Eduardo Emett, Santee, 2.
Steve Fagerwold, Santee, 2.
Emma Friemuth, Santee, 2.
Marie Grace, College Area, 2. *"This one's for you, Ricky."*
Mike Gross, Santee, 2.
Ward Harrington, Santee, 2.
Ricky Hartpence, Santee, 2.
Sondra Hartpence, Santee, 2.
Michelle Hay, El Cajon, 2. *"May does crossword puzzles."*
Philip Heinz, Escondido, 2. *"D.G., nobody loves you liike me!"*
LeRoy Hemingway, Santee, 2.
Steve Jenks, Santee, 2.
Eric Jesperson, Santee, 2.
Clarice Albinana Larson, UTC, 2. *"This one is for Lani."*
Eben Maat, Santee, 2.
Donald Millsberg, Santee, 2.
Ken Milne, Santee, 2.
Rumir Miravalles, San Diego, 2. *"Again?!"*
Deborah Moore, Santee, 2.
Kristi Munn, Mission Beach, 2. *"I love summer in San Diego!"*
David Papworth, Santee, 2.
Derek Rasmussen, Santee, 2.
Richard Rose, Santee, 2.
John Shultz, Santee, 2.
Randy Sjoblom, Santee, 2.
Nathan Squire, Santee, 2.
☛ **Linda Summers, Mission Valley, 2.** *"Helping to keep the brain working"*
Matt Taylor, Santee, 2.
Jen Wager, Spring Valley, 2. *"Yay! We did it. I love you!"*
Peter Woodbury, Chula Vista, 2.
Laurie Teemsma, Santee, 2.
Sue Worthen, Santee, 2.
Bob Vollmar, La Jolla, 2. *"If a pig loses its voice, is it disgruntled?"*
Manny Espino, Santee, 2.
Martha Ponce, La Mesa, 1. *"I'm no longer puzzled!"*
Jayne Mathieu, Clairemont, 1.
Emily Strahan, Lakeside, 1. *"This would have been easier with you here to help!"*
Dustin Beabout, Temecula, 1. *"www,Travian.com. Top 3,000 on Server 1!"*
Denis Montano, Mira Mesa, 1. *"Hello, Home Depot."*
Carol Kuske, Santee, 1.
J. Breckenridge, Santee, 1.
Sara Khwaye, Poway, 1. *"Go Obama!"*
Aaron G, Balboa Park, 1. *"Be the one."*
☛ **Dana Wassarman, Downtown, 1.** *"Seb is cool baby, yeah!"*
Juan Mercado, El Cajon, 1. *"RJM fears the mad pig."*
Ron Akers, Sabre Springs, 1. *"I wish we had a hockey team."*
Terry Golden, Clairemont, 1. *"I love a challenge."*
Larry Hartpence, Santee, 1.
Kevin Koluclziej, Mira Mesa, 1. *"This is a great puzzle for me to poop on."*
Ariana Ward, , 1. *"Get saved today and spend eternity with me. Love, God"*
Jan Watson, North Harbor, 1. *"I won 4 T-shirts before this one started, Laura."*
Bill Vollbrecht, Oceanside, 1. *"Happy Birthday Jeff."*
Sheila Rodbell, Encinitas, 1. *"Cockapoos spread joy."*
Becky Reeb, Point Loma, 1. *"In vino veritas"*

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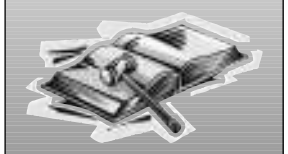
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MOVIE BUFFS. Interested in watching movies then discussing it afterwards

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LEAD STORY

— Martha Padgett gave birth to quadruplets in Riverside, Calif., in July, but she only did half the work. The other two babies were born to her partner, Karen Wesolowski, using Padgett's eggs and the same sperm donor, and whose two came along 22 hours after Padgett's two. The women carried two fertilized eggs each only because they had failed five times before with in-vitro fertilization and just wanted to improve the odds of having at least one child between them.

Latest Religious Messages

— "Someone's getting a new spinal cord tonight!" yelled Canadian tent-revival preacher Todd Bentley in July during his crusade in Lakeland, Fla. (also telecast on GodTV and the Internet), according to an Associated Press observer. Miracles are "popping like popcorn," he promised, punctuating each hands-on salvation with an Emeril-type "Bam!" His unorthodoxy extends to sometimes roughing up the afflicted, he admits, because that's what God tells him to do (e.g., kneeing a "cancer patient" in the stomach, banging a crippled woman's leg on a platform). Anyone in need of healing should, Bentley shouts often, "come and get some!"

— The most popular UK Hindu temple east of London appears to be the spare bedroom of Sushila Karia and her husband, Dhirajlal, in a quiet residential neighborhood in the resort town of Clacton-on-Sea. On holy days, the line of pilgrims extends down the hall and stairs, through the living room, out the door, and across the lawn, according to a May report in London's *Daily Mail.* The temple, inaugurated 29 years ago to save Hindus the 90-mile round-trip to London, contains 17 marble gods that were specially blessed for the occasion by priests in India.

Cultural Diversity

— France's Council of State turned down an otherwise-acceptable petition for citizenship by a French Moroccan woman in July, on the basis that her total submission to her husband makes her "insufficient[ly]" "assimilat[ed]" into the country's ethos of gender equality. The 32-year-old Muslim veils her entire body in public except for a narrow slit for the eyes and, for example, rejects the idea of voting, in that such matters should be left entirely to the discretion of her husband and male relatives.

— "The days of the ceramics trade here are numbered," lamented Francisco Figueriredo, 68, of Portugal's Caldas da Rainha region. For more than 30 years, Figueriredo and his wife have been two of a small number of craftspeople who have shaped and molded penises integrated into various models for export (e.g., mugs with penis extensions, penis-shaped bottles, ceramic soccer figures with penises peeking out from under flags). A July Reuters dispatch attributed the decline to a general loss in the provocativeness of public sexual displays.

— The government of France announced that, starting next year, it will regulate the booming business of country-western line-dancing by requiring licenses of teachers after 200 hours' instruction. Inexplicably, at least 100,000 people in the country line-dance weekly, and the popularity is growing, according to a May dispatch in *The Times of London.* A French Dance Federation official said he guesses the preference for line-dancing over square-dancing is the French preference for no physical contact.

— Questionable Judgments: (1) Dr. Frederick Lobati, 47, was charged last year with felony abuse of his daughter in Ozark, Mo., but in June 2008 offered the defense that, being of African heritage, he was merely applying a "konk" (a bare-knuckle punch), which is an acceptable punishment in his culture. (2) In June, the High Court in Johannesburg granted the request by a Chinese civil rights organization to switch Chinese South Africans from "caucasian" (as they were during apartheid) to "black" (which would allow them to better qualify for government benefits).

Scenes of the Surreal

— (1) The president of Japan's Osakana Planning Co. told attendees of the Japanese Seafood Show in July that his tuna makes superior sushi because his company administers acupuncture to each fish prior to its death in order to reduce stress. (2) A Welsh oil painting, *Newport Nude,* which was mothballed 60 years ago for being too brazen for public display because the model is naked, drew fresh criticism when reintroduced in July at a public gallery in Wales but this time only because the naked model is holding a cigarette.

Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, San Diego *Reader,* P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186 or to WeirdNewsTips@Yahoo.com

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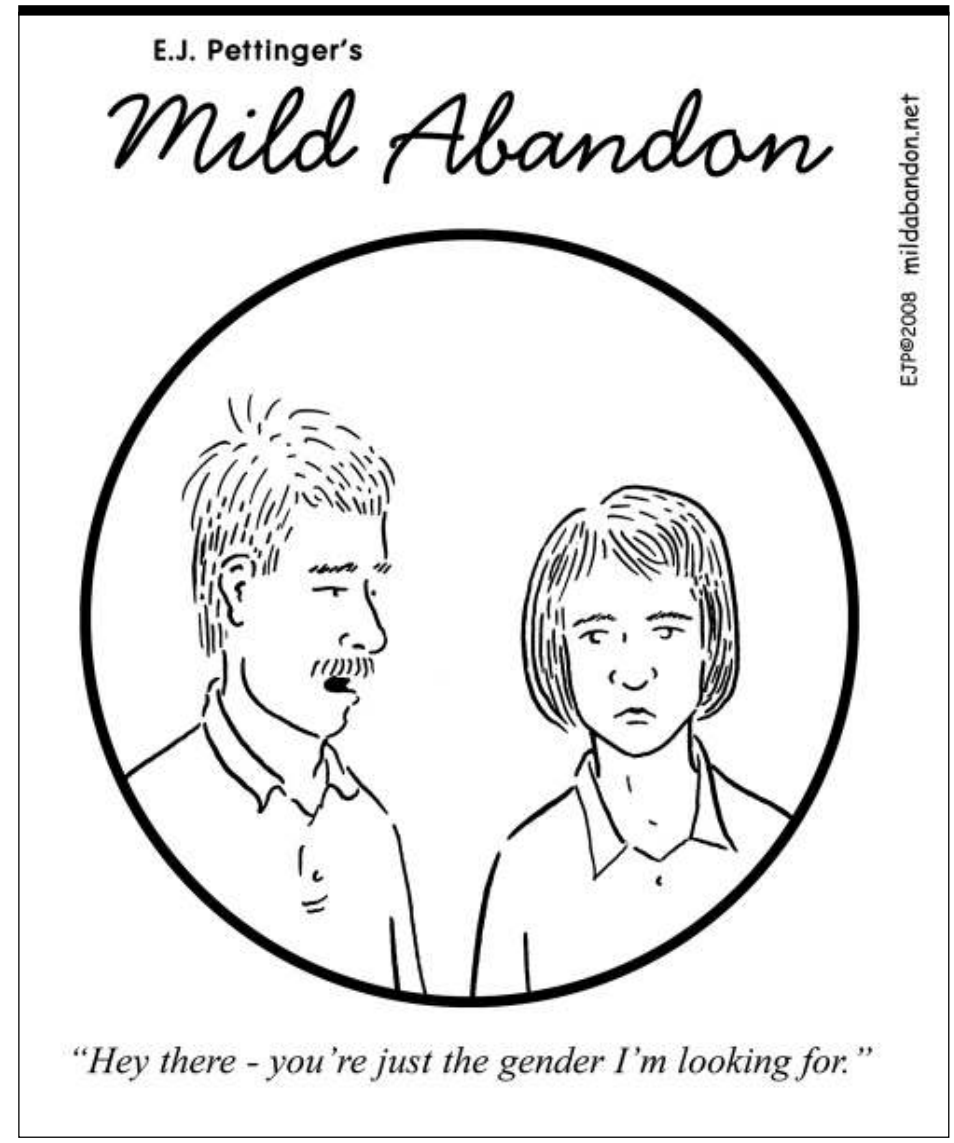

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Reader Pop Quiz

This week's questions

1. As reported in "City Lights," how many people in California have Africanized bees killed since they arrived in 1994?
2. What $2950 bottle of wine did Naomi Wise and company decide against in their meal at Roseville?
3. What was the title of the "hip-hop Greek tragedy" the La Jolla Playhouse staged last season, as Matthew Lickona reported?
4. The number-one fear people have, Eve Kelly learns, is what, according to *The Book of Lists?*
5. A belly dancer reveals to party-crasher Josh Board that she plans to start a movie-review column written, seemingly, by what or whom?
6. Barbarella's six-year-old nephew belts out what song on the home karaoke machine that Mom and Aunt Barb are playing with?
7. The Tony-winning musical *Spring Awakening* is playing at the Balboa Theatre. According to Jeff Smith's review, it's based on a play written in what year?
8. In what public area was actor Shelley Malil apprehended on charges of attempted murder? (See "Blurt.")
9. Can a man get a ticket parking in the pregnant ladies' spots at the mall? (Ask Matthew Alice.)
10. At a tender age, movie critic/blogger Scott Marks was spellbound by "the depravity and honesty and crazed originality" of what movie? (See "Local Events.")

Answers to last week's Reader Pop Quiz

1. A swimming pool. (p. 20)
2. Robert the instructor's. (p. 23)
3. From 11:30 p.m. to 6:30 a.m. (p. 43)
4. A bar. (p. 108)
5. Granero Los Alazanes or Star Pet (p. 26)
6. *Breathless.* (p. 65)
7. Trespassing. (p. 6)
8. Embezzlement. (p. 80)
9. The Wife of Bath. (p. 122)
10. Yes. (p. 15)

Congratulations to last week's winners:

Nik Kane, Elena Serros, Dana Collins, Gordon Kanteena, and M. Reyes

Rules

Pop Quiz answers must include page number on which the answer is found.
First five correct sets of answers delivered to the Reader wins — one Reader T-shirt or $25 per entrant.
Answers must be submitted by Monday at 7 a.m. after the issue in question.
Mail quiz answers with page numbers to Reader Pop Quiz, Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186.
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RANCHO PENASQUITOS. Own bath, female only. Close to shopping, YMCA. Avialable September 1. Share cost and space, $600/month, 858-829-6586.

SAN CARLOS. Near SDSU, I-8 west and I-8 east. Female preferred. $495, 1/2 utilities. No pets, smoking, drugs. Pool, washer/dryer, Wi-Fi cable. 619-265-1843.

SAN DIEGO, SOUTH BAY. $80-$100/week. New sober living 5000-square-foot massive home. Satellite, Internet, 2 kitchens, workout room, pool/jacuzzi, sanctuary. Thomas, The Tree House, 714-787-8744.

SAN DIEGO. $395/month, $50/deposit. Sober living home. Peaceful 5 bedroom home. Shared or single rooms available. Free Internet, cable, phone, washer/dryer. Near busline. Pacific House. Tony, 619-665-3062.

SAN MARCOS. Female wanted to share 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath condo with mom and daughter. $650, $400 deposit. All utilities, Internet included. Pool, jacuzzi. 760-807-2565.

SAN MARCOS. Small bedroom and bath, $500/month. Close to Palomar College, bus line, shopping, freeway. Female, no drugs/alcohol. 760-597-1088.

SAN MARCOS. Off Nordahl and 78. Private bath, garage, includes utilities, cable, pool, kitchen privileges. Female nonsmoker, no pets. Available now. $650/month, $300 security. 760-745-0482.

SANTEE. $650, utilities included. Master bedroom and bath, 200 square feet, kitchen/laundry privileges. No smoking, drugs, drinking, pets. Available immediately. 619-578-1674.

SANTEE. Private, large, master suite in cozy condo in Highland Trails off Mission Gorge Road. Private patio. Includes cable, utilities. $625. Female preferred 619-449-6285; 619-504-2224.

SERRA MESA. 9'x11' room, share bath. $455, includes cable, high-speed Internet, phone, laundry, $45 utilities, $300 deposit. Driveway parking. No pets/smoking. John, 619-889-0281.

SERRA MESA. $800. Deposit. 163/Genesee. Huge master bedroom in townhome. Much closet space. Indoor cat. Attached garage parking. Washer/dryer. Pool. Female preferred. No smoking/drinking/partying/pets. Available 9/1/08. 619-871-7811.

SERRA MESA, Room in 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. Pool, game room, HD cable, wireless internet. Near all highways. $650/month, 1/2 utilities, first/last, 619-571-3361.

SERRA MESA. Room for rent. Single occupancy $600, $400 deposit, 1/4 utilities. Includes cable, high-speed Internet, kitchen, living room. Easy access to freeway, Mission Valley, Fashion Valley, stadium. See to appreciate. No drugs/smoking. 858-277-7003; 858-449-6449.

SOLANA BEACH. Upscale neighborhood. Furnished 3 bedroom. $1250 plus utilities and 1-month refundable deposit. Nonsmoking, no pets. View Del Mar race track finish line. 858-345-4595.

VISTA. $550 all inclusive. Master bedroom, gated community, sunset views, garage, spa, pool. Close to Highway 78. 760-801-1073 or 760-295-9076.

Roommate Services

PLACE ADS IN THE READER by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

ALL AREAS -ROOMMATES.COM. Browse hundreds of online listings with photos and maps. Find your roommate with a click of the mouse! Visit: www.Roommates.com. (AAN CAN)

RENTALS

Commercial

PLACE ADS IN THE READER by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

POINT LOMA. $800. Quiet, office space. 534 square feet. Private bathroom. Skylights. Large windows. Conveniently located. 12 month lease. 1261 Suite #c Rosecrans Street. 619-224-8454.

GARAGE FOR RENT. Chula Vista. $250 double 400 square feet. For dry storage only. Gated, 24/7 access. 619-425-6511.

PACIFIC BEACH GARAGE. Dry storage only. Great location! 10x20, 2 shelves. Available now. 1-year lease required. $160/month. Address: 1183 Pacific Beach Drive and Everts. 619-318-6477.

MORENA BUSINESS DISTRICT. San Diego office space to share. Just south of La Jolla without the price! Starting at $900/month. Month-to-month options. 5 Freeway close. Contemporary with views. Fully equipped with or without staff. Multiple rental options and spaces. Call 858-483-4770 or 619-316-4127.

MISSION HILLS. Small center with 2 spaces available now. Street level with net leases available from $950/month. May be converted from 2 smaller spaces into 1 large office suite. See on-site manager in #11 at 930 West Washington Street, San Diego 92103. www.centrecity.net. 619-296-6699.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1.50/square foot gross. Nice professional building. 640-1100 square feet available. Elevator, common restrooms, parking. Utilities included except phone and Internet. 2180 Garnet Avenue. 619-231-2727.

NATIONAL CITY. Warehouse/Retail/Manufacturing. Alley with rear dock. 4000 square feet. Free-standing building. Finished office with air conditioning, alarm, auto sprinkler, ADA bath. Near trolley, off Highway 5. 2120 Wilson. $3000/month. 858-568-5081.

PACIFIC BEACH. Office space. 1400-square-foot ground floor office, ample parking. Easy access. 4455 Lamont Street, Suite 3. 858-270-4492 x203.

SANTEE PRIVATE OFFICE. Signalized corner Carlton Hills and Carlton Oaks. West Santee. Near highway 52/125. Light, bright, open. Bath, Central air. Bill, 619-980-2455.

MISSION BAY. Office Suite. 662 square feet at $1.50. Next to I-5. Easy access. Free parking. Appliances. Bathroom included. 2445 Morena Boulevard #208. Juno, 619-275-3455.

NATIONAL CITY RETAIL SPACE. Near base. 1725 square feet. $1.25 per square foot. Triple net lease for 1 year. Parking available. 3280 Main Street. Hughes Management, 619-239-1639 x103. hughesmanagement.net.

POINT LOMA. Versatile office/loft. Perfect for resident artist. Upstairs. 2-parking. $1500. 1500 square feet. 2176-C Chatsworth. Agent, 619-463-2971.

OFFICE SPACE, East Mission Valley. $1600. 1825 square feet, third floor, bright, new carpet/paint, utilities included. Covered secured parking. Can be divided. Sharon, 619-301-4364.

MISSION VALLEY. Small office, shared space, approximately 163 square feet. Building has tropical garden. Easy freeway access. Near USD. $279 plus 1/3 SDG&E. Call 619-296-5900.

POINT LOMA/MIDWAY. $1.10/square foot gross. Great street frontage at this high-traffic location. 500-3000 square feet available. Improvements planned. Lock in your low rate now! 3333 Midway Drive. Agent, 619-231-2727.

GASLAMP ART SPACE! $150/up. High ceilings, tall windows. Gallery venue for shows. Uniquely affordable. 100-600 square feet. 402 Market. Hughes Management, 619-239-1639 x103. www.HughesManagement.net.

POINT LOMA. Commercial space. $1295. Close to bay, Shelter Island! 935 square feet with rest room. 1335 Rosecrans. 858-583-0182. www.Cal-Prop.com.

BANKER'S HILL/UPTOWN OFFICE. Wonderful location near Downtown and Hillcrest. Free parking, elevator, interior restrooms, large waiting/reception area. Competitive rates. Call 619-846-8238.

RENTALS

Houses

PLACE ADS IN THE READER by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

ALLIED GARDENS. 6323 Eldridge Street. 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath house, $1900. Garage. Front and backyards, hardwood floors, air conditioning, refrigerator, stove, washer/dryer hookups, vertical blinds. Ready now! No pets. Agent, 619-471-2201.

BAY PARK. $2800. 3 bedroom, 2 bath plus den home. Hardwood floors. Separate dining room. Garage. Washer/dryer. Small pet OK. 2004 Erie Street. 619-435-0387.

BAY PARK/CLAIREMONT. $2395. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house with a view of the bay. Laundry. Large living area. Open floor plan. Patio. No pets. Available 8/15. 1-year lease desired. Call Coldwell Banker Property Management, 858-488-2228.

CHULA VISTA. $3000/month. 5 bedroom, 3 bath house in Rancho Del Rey. 2620 square feet. Washer/dryer. 1-2 year lease on credit approval. 619-246-6856.

CHULA VISTA. $3500. Tropical landscaped 3 bedroom. Bonita Village Estate. 1.34 acres. Pool. Jacuzzi. Tommy Bahama style custom home. Horse property, pets OK. Shoni, 619-988-9441.

CHULA VISTA/OTAY. $1795. 4 bedroom, 2 bath. Spacious home. Nice neighborhood. Living room with beautiful rock fireplace. 3958 Rene Drive. www.UtopiaManagement.com, 858-598-1111 x193.

CLAIREMONT. Newly remodeled 3 bedroom, 2 bath, master with walk-in closet, 2-car garage. Dishwasher, hookups, 2 fireplaces, patio, canyon view. Enclosed yard, gardener included. $2350/month. 619-840-2089.

CLAIREMONT. 4 bedrooms, 2 baths in quiet area. $2150. New carpet, fresh paint. Washer, dryer, refrigerator. Nice backyard. No pets; nonsmoking. Available now. 619-297-1777.

COLLEGE AREA. 4 bedroom, 3 bath house. All appliances! 2 master bedrooms! Panoramic view. Large deck. Pets OK. Available now! $2650. 4701 Elsa Road. 619-871-6909.

COLLEGE AREA. 5 bedroom, 2 bath house. 2-car garage, private fenced yard. Walk to all. Available now. $3250. 5252 Stone Court. 619-871-6909.

COLLEGE AREA. $2100. 3 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, freshly painted, all appliances, wash/dryer hookups, single car garage, large yard. Walk/bike to SDSU. 5146 Leo Street. Available 8/30. By appointment, 619-298-7232. www.sbayproperties.com.

COLLEGE AREA/ROLANDO. $2300. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house, pool, views, fireplace, manicured lawn, washer/dryer hookups. 4250 West Overlook Drive. www.centrecity.net. 619-296-6699.

COLLEGE AREA/ROLANDO. $1895. 3 bedroom, 1 bath house: Very attractive, open beam ceilings, large living room.

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COLLEGE/ROLANDO. $1975. Newly constructed 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. Open floor plan, all appliances, including washer/dryer, central air/heat, backyard, 1-car garage. 858-279-2880.

DEL CERRO. $2300. Large, lovely 4 bedroom, 2 bath, double garage, fenced yard, close to all. 1 year lease. Available now. 6219 Chrismark Avenue. 619-465-6588.

DEL CERRO. $2500. 5 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath house. All new appliances, washer/dryer. Fireplace, 2 car garage. Pet ok. 8314 High Winds Way. 619-640-7530. www.sdforrent.com.

DEL MAR. Large remodeled 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath 2-story house, skylights, large backyard/3-car garage/driveway. 13625 Mango. $3995. Available 10/1. No smoking/pets. 619-606-9111.

DEL MAR/SOLANA BEACH. Private house, block to ocean. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Cathedral ceilings, fireplace, oak/slate floors. Fenced yard. Pets OK. $3200. 760-942-2205.

EL CAJON. 4 bedroom, 3 bath home. 2-car garage. Includes "granny flat." 2-fireplaces. Appliances. Air. Ceiling fans. Yard. Pets considered. $2300. 1645 Braddon Way. 619-501-1961.

EL CAJON. $2195. 3 bedroom, 2 bath home, 1545 square feet. New construction, vaulted ceilings. Large living room with fireplace, open kitchen, all upgraded appliances including cook-top and dishwasher. Large baths with beautiful accents. Master bedroom includes walk-in closet. Central heating and air conditioning, 2-car garage with washer/dryer hookups, fenced yard and patio. No pets. Nonsmoking. Move-in ready. Gardener included. 820 North Third. 619-683-9274.

EL CAJON. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house, $1950. Family room, garage, washer/dryer hookups, bonus room, patio, front/backyard. New carpet, ceramic tile. Quiet neighborhood. Pets on approval. 619-200-8205.

ESCONDIDO. $950-$1550. Tired of apartment living? 1, 2 and 3 bedroom manufactured homes offer spectacular hilltop views. Full-sized washer/dryer, some small yards. Peaceful community, sorry no pets. 1924 Sheridan Avenue. 760-745-1677.

GOLDEN HILL $1550. Charmer. 3 bedroom, 1 bathroom house. Big yard. Carpeted floors. Off-street parking. 3316 B Street, 92102. Hughes Management, 619-239-1639 x103. www.hughesmanagement.net.

LA JOLLA. $6500. 4 bedroom, 3 bath home. Ocean views! 3000 square feet. Pool. Stainless appliances. Granite countertops. Built-in flat screen TV. Fireplace. Patio with fire pit. 2-car garage. Gardener and pool maintenance included. Available 9/1. Pets Considered. 1681 Paseo Bonita. Alta Vista Properties, 858-274-3600. www.AltaVistaManagement.com.

LA JOLLA. $3200. 4 bedroom, 3 bath home. On Mount Soledad with pool, yard. 2-car garage. Very light and bright. Pets considered. Available immediately. 5404 Coral Reef. Alta Vista Properties, 858-274-3600. www.altavistamanagement.com.

LA JOLLA. Charming 3 bedroom, 2 bath home, corner lot, fireplace, cathedral ceilings, appliances. Lovely enclosed yard with fruit trees. Walk to UCSD and YMCA. Great location. $3150/month. No pets/smoking. Available now. Lease. 858-518-2184.

LA JOLLA. $5100. Ocean view custom 4 bedroom, 4 bath home. 2725 square feet. 2-car garage. Built in 2006! Pets considered. Available now. 7201 Fay Avenue. More Property Management, 858-514-8201.

LA JOLLA/University Heights. $3495. Must see! Spacious 5 bedroom, 3 bath in UTC. All appliances, fireplace, pool, fenced yard, wood floors, garage. Pet ok. 3544 Villa Nova Avenue. 619-804-3325.

LA MESA. $1650. 3 bedroom plus den, 1-1/2 bath house. New carpet. No pets. Yard good location. 4848 Jessie Avenue. AMI Property Management. 619-697-2555.

LA MESA. $2500. 4 bedroom, 2 bath house. Jacuzzi, fireplace. Outdoor grill. 4487 Panorama Drive. 619-640-7530. www.sdforrent.com.

LAKESIDE. $1700. 2 bedroom, 1 bath house. 1-1/2 acres, propane fueled, ceiling fans, new appliances, fireplace, workshop, washer/dryer hookups, garage, pets negotiable. 9368 Riverview Avenue. 6619-698-6911. www.goldenmanagement.com.

LEMON GROVE. $1400. 2 bedroom, 1 bath house. Patio room, 1-car garage, 1 off-street parking. Totally remodeled. Available 9/1. Water/trash paid. 619-218-6314.

MIRA MESA. 4 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-car garage, fireplace, all appliances, washer/dryer. Fenced yard, patio. Gardener included. $2200. Available 9/1. 650-863-6737. http://www.geocities.com/rent7916seawindlane.

MISSION BEACH. 3 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath house. $2500/month. Steps to ocean! Laundry facilities, parking. Near shopping. Call 619-234-7572.

MISSION BEACH. $3800. 1/2 off first month! Completely remodeled! New everything! Ocean/bay views. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, tri-level home. 2-car garage. Large sundeck. Washer/dryer. Storage. Lease. 909-223-6628.

MISSION BEACH. 3 bedroom 3 bath, 3 stories, furnished den, detached property can sleep 10. Remodeled kitchen. Steps from beach, boardwalk, restaurants. $3500/month, 619-871-9225.

MISSION BEACH. $2400. Bay front! Steps to bay! 2 bedroom, 2 bath house, living/dining room, kitchen, fireplace, laundry. Hardwood floors, yard and parking. 510-229-7039.

MISSION BEACH. $3200. Steps to bay! 4 bedroom, 2 bath house, living/dining room, laundry, parking. Available September. 510-229-7039.

MISSION BEACH. $3200. Steps to bay! 4 bedroom, 2 bath house, living/dining room, laundry, parking. Available September. 510-229-7039.

MISSION BEACH. $2500. Steps to bay! 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. Laundry, yard and parking. Available September. 510-229-7039.

MISSION HILLS NORTH Historical residential area. 2 bedroom 2 bath 1600-square-foot house. Garage, patio, fireplace, hardwood floors. On-site laundry. No pets. $1895/month. 619-298-6436.

MISSION HILLS/MIDDLETOWN. $2400. 2+ bedroom, 1 bath house, hardwood floors, fireplace, patio. Parking. 3538 Columbia Street. www.centrecity.net. 619-296-6699.

MISSION VALLEY. Escala. Newer 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath. View. Excellent condition/community. 1800 square feet. 2/garage. Air, washer/dryer, refrigerator, pool, gym, tennis, $2799. 619-261-5906.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. $1450. 2 bedroom, 1 bath Craftsman home. Hardwood flooring. Gas stove. Refrigerator. Laundry hook-ups. Fenced yard. Covered patio. Storage. Street parking. Near neighborhood park. Cat OK. Available 9/1/08. 3823 Edna Place, front house. 619-793-4638.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, $1900. Utilities included. Remodeled inside. Dining room, breakfast nook. Laundry onsite. Off-street parking. Pet considered. 4386 35th. 619-822-7664.

NORMAL HEIGHTS/KENSINGTON. $995. Sweet, little 2 bedroom house, quaint and quiet. Just refurbished. 4543 39th Street. 619-987-0001.

OCEAN BEACH. $1500. Deposit $1500. 2 plus bedroom, 1 bath beach house. Small yard. Refrigerator, stove. Close to beach. No pets. 4961 Brighton Avenue. Available 9/10. 619-226-7368 or www.bkbinc.com.

OCEANSIDE. $1200. Deposit $1000. 2 bedroom, 2 bath cottage. Close to beach. Refrigerator, stove. Small yard. Off-street parking. Laundry. Indoor cat OK. Available now. 209 Surfrider Way #G. 619-226-7368 or www.bkbinc.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. $675. Small studio cottage with fenced backyard. Pet ok! Year lease. 1541 Felspar Street. Appointment only. 858-454-0781.

PACIFIC BEACH. $2500. 3 bedroom, 2 bath cottage. Yard. 3 parking spots. Washer/dryer. Available 9/1. Pets considered. 1733 Oliver Street. Alta Vista Properties, 858-274-3600. www.AltaVistaManagement.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. $2795. Beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath, large fenced yard, wood floors, fireplace, original wood cabinets, all appliances, garage. 3541 Jewell Street. 619-804-2654.

Say What?

Jen Anaya | *Age: 29* | *Occupation: Medical Data Entry* | *Lives: Talmadge*

I use the word "**booty**" for almost everything. I started saying it about six months ago. I think I heard a friend say it or something. I don't remember. Anyway, I thought it sounded fun and people look at you funny when you say it. I don't use it to talk about an actual booty, which I guess it also a slang word, just different. When I use it, it means anything that's bad or negative. For example, if you're late for work, that's booty. Or if your friend is being a jerk, they are booty."

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PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Washer/dryer. Garage, parking, yard. Quiet! $2475/month. 2152 Missouri Street. Call 858-273-4812.

PACIFIC BEACH. $2250. 3 bedroom, 1 bath house, flexible lease, carpet floors, garage parking, yard, patio. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

PACIFIC BEACH. $2100. Charming 2 bedroom cottage. Wood floors. Custom paint. Updated kitchen. Stone fireplace. Washer/dryer. 2 parking spaces. 5150 Bayard Street. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

POINT LOMA. Cozy 3 bedroom, 2 bath single-story home, harbor/bay view. Newly remodeled kitchen, hardwood floors. Stove, refrigerator. Includes water/gardener. 2-car garage, laundry hookup. Quiet! Available September. $2995. For information/application, contact Stella Biggs, GM Realty. 619-384-1945.

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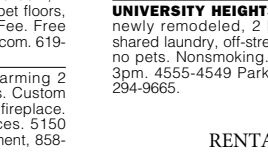

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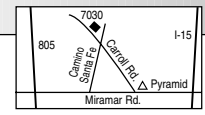

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15K or 30K may not require all services or parts listed.

- Install new spark plugs
- Change engine oil and filter
- Inspect filters
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- Clean battery terminals
- Check radiator & hoses
- Flush brake system
- Inspect and adjust brakes
- Inspect underhood components
- Check fluids • Inspect belts
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Premium plugs extra. Most 4-cyl. cars and light trucks. Some trucks and 4x4s slightly higher.

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Plus parts. A/C extra. Most cars. All vehicles welcome. Call for a quote for your vehicle.

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Most cars.

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$17.95 *Synthetic oil available*
Includes 5 quarts 10W/30 oil and new filter. Most cars.

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One day with any repair over $380

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(With appointment, please)
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From **$79.95** *Most cars.*
Replace pads or shoes, inspect hardware, inspect rotor & drums, inspect hydraulics. Non-slip rotors, semi-metallic pads & premium pads extra. 4x4s, light trucks & 4-wheel disc extra. Lifetime warranty available.

Prices subject to change without notice. Must present coupon at time of service.

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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.HughesManagement.net, www.sdreader.com/news/rent2097.

DOWNTOWN. Cozy rooms, $450-$625. Very comfortable, convenient location, historic building near C Street trolley. Choice of shared or private bathrooms. 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.HughesManagement.net, www.sdreader.com/news/rent2099.

DOWNTOWN. Economical furnished rooms, $450-$550, best price, save money. Conveniently located on C Street trolley line, near restaurants, free cable TV, shared bathrooms, on-site laundry facilities, vending machines, elevator service, no pets, 636 C Street (between 6th and 7th). C Street Inn, Hughes Management, 619-234-4165. www.HughesManagement.net, www.sdreader.com/news/rent2098.

DOWNTOWN. Gaslamp area. $425-$550. Community kitchen, shared bath, on-site laundry, vending machines, no pets, Star Hotel, 522 7th Avenue. 619-235-6068. Hughes Management. www.HughesManagement.net.

DOWNTOWN. Outstanding furnished rooms, $450-$500. Heart of Gaslamp. Shared bathrooms. Community kitchen. Free cable. No pets. Windsor Hotel, 843 4th Avenue. 619-235-6068. Hughes Management. www.HughesManagement.net.

DOWNTOWN. Attractive rooms. Shared bath. Utilities included! Near City College! $450-$595/month. Weekly rates from $125! 719 14th Street, Villa Victoria. Hughes Management, 619-231-2385. www.HughesManagement.net.

DOWNTOWN. Beautiful building, new furnished rooms. Refrigerator, microwave, TV, cable. Starting at $175 weekly. 920 Beech Street. Call 619-234-1952.

DOWNTOWN. Furnished studios. From $59/daily, from $210/weekly rates! Ideal, affordable, short-term stays. Private bathroom, kitchenette, microwave, refrigerator, cable TV. Air conditioning, laundry, voice mail. High speed Internet. Food service daily. Near trolley/bus/freeway, Balboa Park, Gaslamp. West Park Inn, 1840 4th Avenue. www.westparkinn.com. 619-236-1600. www.sdreader.com/news/rent2037.

DOWNTOWN. Premier location. Furnished studios with full baths, from $199/weekly. Two award-winning buildings to choose from with 24-hour staff, gyms, laundry rooms, sundecks. Free wireless Internet. Island Inn: 202 Island Avenue (Second and Island), 619-232-4138. J Street Inn: 222 J Street, 619-696-6922. www.affordablehousingsd.com.

DOWNTOWN. Fully furnished studios with utilities included. Rates start at $160/week. Free wireless Internet. Baltic Inn: 521 6th Avenue. 619-237-0687. www.affordablehousingsd.com.

DOWNTOWN. $540 and up plus deposit. Furnished room available in residential hotel with shared kitchen/bath. Includes microwave, refrigerator, cable TV. 1545 Second Avenue, between Beech and Cedar. 619-795-1398.

DOWNTOWN. Brand new rooms near City College. Single rooms with kitchenettes from $140/week plus deposit (long-term). Includes utilities/cable. Quiet, secure. Shared bath/laundry. Hotel Mediterranean. 619-231-8656. www.hotelmed-sd.com.

DOWNTOWN. $775 and up. Cozy studios. All utilities included! Stove, refrigerator, carpet. Laundry, street parking. No pets. Close to Balboa Park. 1758 6th Avenue. Agent, 619-298-7724.

DOWNTOWN. $675. Studio, 1 bath apartment, great views, all utilities paid, near Petco Park, controlled access building. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

DOWNTOWN. $750. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, cat OK with deposit, hardwood floors, paid water/trash/gas. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

DOWNTOWN. $1710. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths apartment, pet OK with deposit, barbecue/picnic area, business center, spa, pool, fitness. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

DOWNTOWN. $1895. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths condo, 897 square feet, pets OK, walking distance to harbor, Embarcadero, Gaslamp. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

DOWNTOWN. $1325. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, pet OK, amazing views of San Diego, refrigerator, microwave, dishwasher. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

DOWNTOWN. $1995. 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom condo. Spacious air conditioned 5th floor unit. Faux/electric fireplace, granite countertops, marble and carpet flooring combination. 1480 Broadway #2521. www.utopiamanagement.com. 619-291-5555 x193.

DOWNTOWN. $1775. 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom. Large corner unit in the Icon community on the corner of 11th and J in East Village. 350 11th Avenue #830. www.utopiamanagement.com. 619-291-5555 x193.

DOWNTOWN/EAST VILLAGE. Newly remodeled rooms available for weekly/monthly rentals, $500/up plus $300-$400 security. Controlled access, shared bathrooms/kitchens. Full size beds. Laundry facility. Patio area. Palms Hotel, 619-233-0408.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. From $800/month. Private bath, cable TV, microwave, refrigerator. Utilities included. Secure, quiet, charming. Efficiency apartments with laundry. Near trolley/bus lines, blocks from harbor. On-site manager. Villa Caterina, 1654 Columbia Street. 619-232-3400.

DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. Studio, $895. Rooftop penthouse, 900 square feet. One bedroom, $1395. 9' ceilings. Secure, quiet building with laundry. 1534 Front, near Beech. 619-233-7428.

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. $1400-$1600. One month free rent! $99 deposit. Live/work loft. Open floorplan. Pets OK. On-site parking available. On-site property manager. Telephone-entry keyless access system. Laundry facility. Cable ready. High speed Internet capability. Hardwood floors. Generous closet space. Dishwasher, electric range, stove, refrigerator. Central air/heating. Exposed duct work. High ceilings. 5 floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking Horton Plaza/Downtown. Call today, 619-231-1333. www.sdreader.com/news/rent2145.

DOWNTOWN/CORTEZ HILL. Studios. $785 and up. Limited access building, charming, quiet, residential neighborhood. Utilities paid. On-site laundry. No pets. HOH, 619-299-8746.

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. Move-in Specials. Live/Work Lofts in the heart of The Gaslamp! Roof decks with barbecue. Laundry on every floor. Parking available. Seven locations Downtown. Select pets OK. Visit loft leasing office: 315 Fourth Avenue. 619-231-1505 x12. www.trilogymanagement.com. Also visit www.sdreader.com/news/rent2064.

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. Las Flores Hotel. Small, quiet. $125/week and up. Four-week minimum. Color TV with basic cable. Refrigerator in most rooms. Secure. 619-235-6820.

DOWNTOWN/GOLDEN HILL. Must see! Huge, gorgeous 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Beautifully remodeled. Garage. Hardwood floors. Cherry cabinetry. New appliances. Courtyard. Laundry. Near downtown/Petco/Gaslamp/Balboa Park. Freeway close. $2000. Ramiro, 619-992-8090, 619-232-9489.

DOWNTOWN/GASLAMP. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Washer/dryer, appliances, air conditioning, amenities. 5th, Island. Shops, restarants on ground floor. $1325, month-to-month lease, $800 deposit. Availalbe 9/20/08. 619-250-5813.

DOWNTOWN/SHERMAN HEIGHTS. 2 bedroom Victorian charmer, must see! Large recently renovated apartment, Downtown/Bay views. On-site laundry. No pets. 408 21st Street. $1100/month. 619-992-3495.

EAST SAN DIEGO. $695. Furnished studio alcove apartment. Complete living room, bedroom and kitchen furniture. No SDG&E deposit or hook-up fee required. Near 52nd and University. 5101 Towle Court. Close to SDSU. Laundry room. Off-street parking. Low $300 deposit. 619-281-9451.

EASTLAKE. $1795. 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhouse. Beautiful tri-level, with Tuscan neutral dark beige tile floor throughout main level. 2203 Hunting Point Road. www.utopiamanagement.com, 858-598-1111 x193.

EL CAJON. $895. 2 bedrooms, spacious apartments. Air conditioning, fans, pool, patio, gated, laundry. Off street parking. Quiet park-like setting. 619-925-7657 or 619-368-8422.

EL CAJON. $775. Clean 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Gated parking. Pool. Laundry room. Barbecue area. Central heat/air, stove, refrigerator, ceiling fans. Lease. 619-312-0606.

EL CAJON. Fabulous 7 Motel. Furnished rooms starting at $225/week. Parking. Pool. Cable. Maid service. Laundry. 24-hour security. 1527 East Main Street. 619-442-0457.

EL CAJON. $900/up. 2 bedroom, 1 and 2 stories. Amenities. Pool, park-like grounds, parking. Near town, shops, bus. 743 South Magnolia Avenue. Call 619-579-0174, 619-464-1818.

EL CAJON. Just $800, 1 bedroom. Air conditioning, appliances, laundry on-site, pool, off-street parking. Near restaurants, theater and shopping. Lushly landscaped. No pets. 619-334-7934.

EL CAJON. $850. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Nice quiet location. Private yard. Washer/dryer. Parking. Close to all. Small pet OK. Section 8 OK. Available now. 558 E. Lexington Avenue. www.cethron.com. 619-733-9033.

EL CAJON. Cajon Villa. $1000. Deposit $500. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Pool. Parking. Air conditioning. Laundry room. No pets. Available 9/15. 933 Peach Avenue. 619-447-9193.

EL CAJON. 1 bedroom, $795. 2 bedroom, $965. $200 off first month's rent, OAC. Smaller, quiet community. Patios, balconies around nice courtyard. Pool area. Cats welcome on approval. Section 8 OK. Villa Mollison, 991 North Mollison. 619-588-1780.

EL CAJON. $850. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath, upstairs. Carpet, dishwasher, gas stove. Laundry room. 1 assigned parking. No pets. Section 8 OK. 1423 Peach Avenue. Phillips Realty, 619-291-6686.

EL CAJON. $725. 1 bedroom. El Cajon's best maintained property with beautiful courtyard and sparkling pool. No pets. 1072 E. Madison Avenue. TPPM, 619-444-1614. www.fourwindsapts.com.

EL CAJON. $725. 1 bedroom in very well-maintained pool/courtyard complex. Super clean apartments. No pets. 314 Wisconsin Street. TPPM, 619-742-7600. www.palmestates.info.

EL CAJON. Spacious 2 bedrooms starting at $925. $300 move-in special! Private patios. Great location with on-site parking and laundry. 432 Dominguez Way. TPPM, 619-405-4500.

EL CAJON. $1050. Half off first month! Spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath. New carpet and paint. Central heat/air, dishwasher. Patio. Community laundry. Parking. No pets. 444 Ballantyne. 619-440-1909.

ENCINITAS. $895 & up. Sick of roommates? Cozy beach trailers in quiet park. Near beach, Coaster, restaurants, shops. 152 North Coast, Highway 101. 760-753-4101.

ENCINITAS. $1210-$1250. 1 bedroom. Patio or balcony. Small complex. Assigned parking, laundry. New paint. Bright, airy. Garden setting. 1-1/2 blocks to beach. Close to shopping, freeway, coaster. No pets/smoking. 760-929-1950.

ESCONDIDO. $825. Large 1 bedroom apartment. Parking. Small, quiet, newer complex. Views. Laundry onsite. Close to shopping, hospitals. 619-846-8238.

ESCONDIDO. $950-$1550. Tired of apartment living? 1, 2 and 3 bedroom manufactured homes offer spectacular hilltop views. Full-sized washer/dryer, some small yards. Peaceful community, sorry no pets. 1924 Sheridan Avenue. 760-745-1677.

ESCONDIDO. $1395. 2 bedroom upper. A/C. 1 covered parking. Laundry. Patio. Stainless steel appliances. Granite countertops. Fireplace. Walk-in closets. Pools, spas. No pets/smoking. 858-449-0226.

ESCONDIDO. Call for specials! Spacious 1 bedrooms from $835, deposit $400. 2 bedrooms from $995, deposit $500. Great floor plan. Pool, spa. Covered parking. Laundry. RV parking. Cats are welcome. 640 West Lincoln Street. 760-489-8989.

ESCONDIDO. $1100. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Spacious. Clean. Renovated. Private patio. Gym. Laundry. Bus. Lots of parking. Great location. Quiet. Tile floors. Appliances. 760-212-9194.

FASHION VALLEY. $1250. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Huge walk in closet. Dishwasher. On site parking. Balcony. No pets. 5720 Gaines Street. 619-299-3477.

FASHION VALLEY, WEST. $1600. 3 bedroom, 2 bath apartments with laundry hookups. Across from USD. Upstairs and downstairs. Units available. No pets. 5845-65 Lauretta Street. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacificrealty.com.

GOLDEN HILL/SOUTH PARK. $795. Very large studio. Murphy bed, built in cabinetry. Pool, laundry facilities. Available 8/1. Pets ok. 1714 Grove Street #1. 619-962-1887.

GOLDEN HILL. $1400. 1 bedroom bungalows with 1-car garage. White picket fence. Upgraded new carpet. All new appliances. Washer/dryer hookups. Dishwasher. Coved ceilings. Fireplace. Pets negotiable. Available 8/15. 1231 28th Street. Agent for appointment, 619-871-8915.

GOLDEN HILL. $1200. Upstairs 1 bedroom apartments. Garage. Patio. New carpet, paint. All appliances. Pets negotiable. Available 8/15. 1231 28th Street. Agent for appointment, 619-871-8915.

GOLDEN HILL. $1285. 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo. 2 minutes from downtown. Contemporary setting, large upstairs outside patio. Wood flooring. 1 garage. Laundry facility. 619-247-7327.

GOLDEN HILL, Charming 1 bedroom, 1 bath $775. Hardwood floors. Great neighborhood, laundry on-site. No pets. Available 9/08. 2421 E Street. 619-857-3706.

GOLDEN HILL. $1695. 3 bedroom, 1 bath townhome. Contemporary setting, fully remodeled, stainless steel appliances, granite counter tops. Upstairs patio. 1300 square feet. Minutes to downtown. Garage. Laundry facility. Security entry. 619-247-7327.

GOLDEN HILL. $1045. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Newer carpet, flooring, paint. Dishwasher, fireplace, underground parking. Available immediately. 3093 C Street #7. 619-222-9308.

GOLDEN HILL. $895. Huge 1 bedroom condo. Giant living room. 2-walk-in closets. Refrigerator. Air, dishwasher, underground parking. Available immediately. 3093 C Street, #17. 619-222-9308.

GOLDEN HILL. $1225. 2 bedroom, 2 bath upstairs apartment. Berber carpet. Dining area. Private balcony. Large size bedrooms. Dishwasher. Big closets. Off-street parking. Laundry on site. 1 year lease. Cats OK. Agent, 619-234-9553.

GOLDEN HILLS. $950. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, will single attached garage. Completely remodeled kitchen. New paint, carpet, blinds, etc. No pets. On-site laundry room. 2934 F Street #1, San Diego, 92102. Call: 619-284-3324.

GOLDEN HILL/DOWNTOWN. 1 bedrooms starting $1170. Free application fee. Fantastic city views! Controlled access. Washer/dryer in unit. Dishwasher. Refrigerator. Stove/range. Microwave. Central air conditioning/heat. Rooftop deck. Spa. Outdoor barbecue lounge. Underground parking. Pet friendly! Golden Pacific, 1015 19th Street. Call today, 1-800-433-6156. www.pacificliving.com. www.sdreader.com/news/rent2028.

GOLDEN HILL. 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhome. $2100/month; deposit $2100. 2-car garage. Upgraded. Available 9/15/08. 1504 square feet. 2761 A Street #402. v@sdcpm.net. SDCPM, 619-220-4840.

GOLDEN HILL. $825. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Historic building. Gated community. Close to all. 2528 'C' Street, #6. www.centrecity.net. 619-296-6699.

GOLDEN HILL. $1145. Spanish charm. Bright upper 2 bedroom apartment. Extra room. High-coved ceilings. Wood floors and Berber carpet. Gas appliances. Security gates. Laundry. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

GOLDEN HILL. $1800 rent. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath condo, cats are perfect 3. Minutes from everything. 2538 C Street. S&D Property Management, Inc. 619-640-7530. www.sdforrent.com

HILLCREST. Spacious 1 and 2 bedrooms! Berber carpet, fireplace, spa, gym, intercom and elevator. Sorry, no pets. Hillcrest Summit, 4134 4th Avenue. See photos at www.WexfordLiving.com. 619-299-0047.

HILLCREST. $1400. 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo. 3 units. Pool. Executive suite. Game room. Private parking. Pets negotiable. 3907 Georgia Street. Agent for appointment, 619-871-8915.

HILLCREST. $805. Sunny studio in charming, gated Spanish building. Recently remodeled kitchen with gas stove. Ceiling fan. Tile shower. Laundry on-site. 1830 Robinson Avenue. Call 619-298-1961.

HILLCREST. $1295. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, hardwood floors, laundry hook-ups, parking space, garage available $100/monthly. Cat ok. Near Downtown busline. 3310 Reynard Way. Agent, 619-298-7232. www.sbayproperties.com.

HILLCREST. $200/week and up. Refrigerators, cable TV and HBO. Embassy Hotel, 3645 Park Boulevard, San Diego 92103. 619-296-3141.

HILLCREST. Bright 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Completely remodeled. Washer/dryer. Parking. Large deck overlooking canyon. 1 block from Balboa Park. Great area. Pets OK. $1495. 4133 Georgia Street. 619-549-4959, 619-325-1470. Please leave message.

HILLCREST. $1295 rent. $800 deposit. OAC. Large 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. Parking space #2. Laundry. Storage. No pets. At 3745 7th Avenue #2. Agent, 619-299-8515.

HILLCREST. $1250. Extremely large 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Newly redecorated. Upper unit. New dishwasher, self-cleaning oven. Sheltered patio. Parking. Laundry. Near all. 1037 Essex Street. No pets. 619-692-0364.

HILLCREST. $1400. Deposit $1400. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Cute, clean. New appliances. Above real estate office. No pets. Walk to shopping, restaurants and bus. Good credit a must! Lease. 3740 4th Avenue. 619-296-2200.

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HILLCREST. Hillcrest Palms. Senior complex, 55+. $900. 1 bedroom apartments. Gated community. Convenient location. Near hospitals, restaurants, shopping. No pets. 4042 Albatross Street. 619-574-0784.

HILLCREST. $1250 rent. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Laundry. Parking. 6 month lease. 4226 Cleveland Avenue. Call 619-255-4944 or 858-490-1600. kandrproperties.com.

HILLCREST. $995. 1 bedroom. Senior (62+) or disabled living. Elevator. Parking. Close to public transportation, shops and freeways. Available now. Small pet (25lbs) with deposit. Hillcrest Regency, 1050 Essex Street. Call Dan, 619-294-4146.

HILLCREST. $1250. Extra large upper 1 bedroom, 1 bath, hardwood floors, appliances, walk-in closet, private patio, view of downtown, laundry. Cat ok. 2241 4th Avenue #102. 619-300-9487.

HILLCREST. Starting at $950. Extra large studio and 1 bedroom near Balboa Park. Appliances, hardwood floors, walk-in closet, laundry. Pet ok. 2311 4th Avenue. 619-804-3325.

HILLCREST. 2 bedroom. $1200. Immaculate apartment with off-street parking. Near Henry's Marketplace. No pets. 4219 Georgia Street. TPPM, 619-299-1004.

HILLCREST. $1195. 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom condo. Centrally located near downtown and Balboa Park. This is an upper unit in a small complex. 3620 Park Boulevard, #8. www.utopiamanagement.com. 619-291-5555 x193.

HILLCREST. $1195. Premier 55+ living, upper, all new granite counter, appliances, elevator, air conditioning, balcony, walk-in closet, garage, laundry, barbecue area, near all. 3912 Albatross. 619-299-7737.

HILLCREST. $1375. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Pool, canyon view. Close to all. Recreation room. Cat OK. Sleepy Hollow Apartments, 4149 Sixth Avenue #25. Cori, 619-298-1059. www.centrecity.net.

HILLCREST. $2500. 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhome. Rooftop deck, marble counters, washer/dryer hookups, stainless appliances, 1100 square feet, 2-car garage, cherrywood cabinets. 4376 Cleveland Avenue. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400. www.peoplehelpingothers.com.

HILLCREST. $875. 1 bedroom. Senior 62 plus. Best deal in Hillcrest! Come make new friends at the Park Towers Senior Complex. Units are painted in designer colors. Range, refrigerator. Ceiling fan and air conditioning included. Bedroom has a walk in closet. There is an activities room, elevator and on site laundry. Building is gated with intercom. Section 8 welcome. 1220 Robinson Avenue. Cats and small dogs ok. Contact the resident manager at 619-291-7284. scott@hendershawandassociates.com.

HILLCREST. $1995. Classic 1920s charm with a modern flair. It's the next best thing to owning your own home. This newly remodeled upper level 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath apartment home has undergone a complete remodel in excess of $50,000. Designed by one of San Diego's premier interior decorators, this unit is sure to please. Incorporating the new with the original 1922 design has resulted in a classic rustic look but with all of the modern comforts. All new cabinets with granite countertops. Stainless steel appliances including dishwasher and micro hood. Natural stone flooring in kitchen and baths. Slate shower enclosure. Hardwood floors in the living room, dining room and hall. Plush carpet in the bedrooms. All new fixtures and hardware. Ceiling fans. New blinds and windows. Washer/dryer in unit. Includes a 1 car garage. One year lease required. $850 deposit. Sorry, no pets. Available 8/15. 3610 Park Boulevard at Brookes. Call 619-846-6615.

IMPERIAL BEACH. $875-$1100. Large 1 bedroom and 2 bedroom. $600-$800 deposit. Carpet. Laundry. Courtyard. Water/trash paid. Gated. No pets. 750 11th Street. 619-423-4610.

IMPERIAL BEACH. $800-$995. Ocean view studio, 1 bedroom on the beach. Refrigerator. Stove. Pet? Laundry facilities on premises. Off-street parking. Available now. Seacoast Drive. 619-424-9233.

KEARNY MESA. $1195. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, remodeled kitchen, new carpet, patio area and parking. Laundry, pool, gym. Sorry, no pets. Agent 858-576-6396.

KENSINGTON. $1295. Very spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Bright corner suite, skylight. All amenities. Great location. Close to Downtown, Mission Valley and SDSU. Sorry, no pets. 858-456-2098.

LA COSTA/CARLSBAD. $1400. 1/2 off first month with 12 month lease. Quiet 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Vaulted ceiling. New carpeting. Assigned parking. Indoor cat OK. Off La Costa Avenue, near golf course. 760-943-7590.

LA COSTA/CARLSBAD. Starting at $1450. Spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath with all amenities in beautiful development near La Costa Golf Course. Fireplace, washer/dryer, air conditioning, pool/spa/sauna. 2371 Caringa Way. Alicante Views. Open daily. TPPM, 760-431-7575. www.alicanteviews.com.

LA JOLLA VILLAGE. Stunning ocean views! Best location! 1 and 2 bedroom apartments facing ocean. Hardwood floors, multiple decks, sunsets, gardens, barbecues. Furnished/unfurnished. Utilities/cable/internet optional. 1 bedroom start at $1750. 2 bedrooms start $3300 including garage. Laundry. Terms negotiable. Pets ok. 616 Prospect Street. In Eden. 858-869-5746.

LA JOLLA. $1975. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Quiet, immaculate garden style complex in central village location. Walk to beach and shops. Fireplace, washer/dryer. 2 parking space. Lease. No pets. Open Saturday 1-2pm. 7601 Eads Avenue #1. TPPM, 858-699-3851.

LA JOLLA. $895. Charming studio, garden setting, near UCSD, stove, refrigerator, full size bath, 1 block from great shops and restaurants. 7529 Herschel Avenue. 619-804-3325.

LA JOLLA/WINDANSEA. $2700. 2 bedroom, 2-1.2 bath townhome in quiet duplex. Stove, refrigerator. Dishwasher. Microwave. Washer/dryer. Gas fireplace. Side yard. Huge 2-car garage with opener. Custom built home close to Windansea Beach. Ask about pet upon approval. Available now1. 543 Bonair Way. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com.

LA JOLLA/UTC. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, $1290. All appliances, washer/dryer, balcony, gated, garage. storage, pool, jacuzzi, fitness center. Year lease. No pets. Available 9/1. 858-335-5612.

LA JOLLA/UTC. $1645. 2 bedroom, 2 bath triplex, 2-car parking, balcony, central air, washer/dryer, pool, exercise room. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

LA JOLLA/UTC. $1230. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, carpets, refrigerator, stove, microwave, dishwasher, balcony, patio, washer/dryer. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

LA JOLLA/UCSD. $2550. 3 bedroom, 2 bath townhome. Fireplace. 2-car garage. Washer, dryer. No pets. 1-year lease desired. Call Coldwell Banker Property Management, 858-488-2228.

LA MESA $1150. 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex; Very nice upstairs unit with washer/dryer hookups, garage, yard. $300 gas card at move in. 6103 Severin Drive. 619-698-6911. www.goldenmanagement.com.

LA MESA. $825. Studio. Clean, quiet, secure. Ready for move-in. On-site laundry. New paint. If you can find one better; rent it. 7908 La Mesa Boulevard. Call 619-713-1044 or Rachael 610-804-1044.

LA MESA. $875 rent. 1 bedroom. $1100 rent. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Parking. Pool. Laundry. 5436 Vincetta Court. kandrproperties.com. Call 619-417-4964.

LA MESA. $795. Studio with parking. $995. 1 bedroom with garage. Parking, laundry on site. Cat OK. Available early October. 5027 Guava. kandrproperties.com. Call Charlene, 619-980-0238.

LA MESA. $775/month. Nice studio with patio. Garage included. Call 619-462-1550. www.sdaptbrokers.com.

LA MESA. $1350. 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex: air conditioning, newly remodeled, washer and dryer hookups, garage. Private yard. 6170 Nancy. 619-698-6911. www.goldenmanagement.com.

LA MESA. $975. 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Air conditioning/heat, water/sewer/trash included, downstairs, new appliances, laundry room. 7508 Parkway Drive #101. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400. www.peoplehelpingothers.com.

LA MESA. $900. Half off first month on approved credit. 1 bedroom, clean, quiet complex with pool, spa, community laundry, air conditioning, parking. No pets. 4850 Williamsburg Lane. 619-550-6712.

LA MESA. $1195. $500 off first month's rent with year lease! Classic 1950s' style 2 bedroom apartment. Great location. Available for your consideration, located in a small quiet complex. Current ownership has installed new windows, refinished the original hardwood floors, added ceramic tile countertops and new vinyl floors in the kitchen and bath. Full size kitchen. Large living room and spacious bedrooms with ceiling fans. Current upgrades to include new paint in designer colors, new light fixtures and new blinds. Includes one off street covered parking space, property has on-site laundry and is close to shopping and restaurants. Available now. Sorry, no pets. 8010 Fairview Avenue. Photos available upon request. Call Scott, 619-846-6615. scott@hendershawandassociates.com

LA MESA. 1/2 off 1st month's rent. 1 and 2 bedrooms starting at $895. Near Trolley, downtown La Mesa, appliances, on-site laundry, off-street parking. Cat ok. 4969 Mills Street. 619-460-2420.

LA MESA. 1/2 off 1st month. Spacious 1 and 2 bedrooms starting at $825. All appliances, on-site laundry parking, barbecue area, near SDSU. 7334 La Mesita Place. 619-466-6450.

LA MESA. 2 bedroom. $1025. Move-in special, OAC. Spacious. Air conditioning. Gated complex. Laundry. Tenant parking. No pets. Lease. 4332 Parks Avenue. 619-303-4969.

LA MESA. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1100 square feet. Balcony. Beautifully refurbished, air conditioning, pool, parking. 24-hour laundry. $1475. No Section 8. No dogs. 619-464-5557.

LA MESA. Half off first full month's rent, OAC! $1025. 1 bedroom. Free credit check. New carpet. Pool, saunas. Off-street parking. On-site laundry. Close to downtown La Mesa, trolley, shops and freeways. Cats welcome. Crestview Apartments, 4515 3rd Street. 619-465-9934.

LA MESA. Mellmanor Apartments. $920/up, 1 bedroom. $1220/up, 2 bedroom. Across Grossmont Center, trolley, Costco. Quiet, spacious units. Pools. 8750 Mellmanor Drive. 619-461-1940.

LA MESA. Starting at $895. 1/2 off 1st month. 1 and 2 bedrooms, garden setting, appliances, very spacious, sparkling new everything. 4325 Lowell Street. 4325 Lowell Street. 619-460-1074.

LA MESA. Very large apartment homes in a lush garden complex. Storage space. Near shopping and public transportation. 1 bedroom, 1 bath $925, 2 bedroom, 2 bath $1200-$1300. 2 bedroom townhouse, $1335. Community pool, laundry, covered parking. 619-697-3285. For photo, floor plans, map and directions, see website: www.sdreader.com/news/rent1035.

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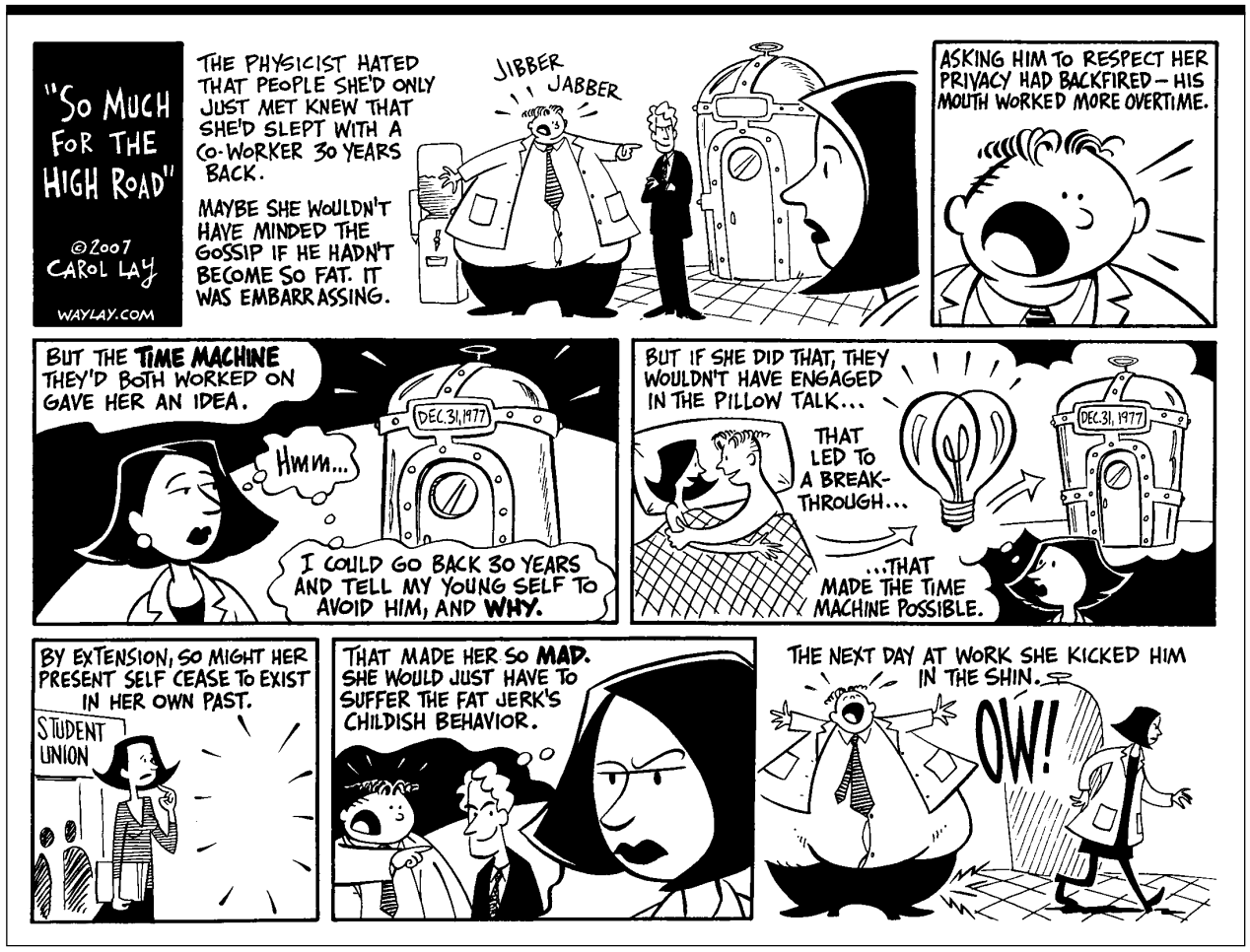

LA MESA. Villa Morocco. 2 bedroom townhome, $1200. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, $1425. Spacious. Near Grossmont Center. Great neighborhood. Near all! 5545 Morro Way. 619-589-8854.

LA MESA/CASA DE ORO. 1 bedrooms, $945-$995. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, $1145-$1195. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, $1395-$1445. Air/heat. Huge patios/balconies. Gated access and parking. Small pet OK. Elegant, sculptured courtyards with flower gardens, fountains, gas lamps, park benches. Charming, New Orleans ambiance. 3903 Conrad Drive. 866-894-6343. www.sdreader.com/news/rent1017.

LA MESA/FLETCHER PARKWAY. Super spacious studio's and 1 bedrooms starting $850-$995. Open house Saturday 8am-5pm. Award winning community for beautiful landscaping. Pool and spa. Great location. No pets. 5500 Morro Way. TPPM, 619-884-7900. www.villageaptslamesa.com.

LA MESA/COLLEGE AREA. $995. Very large 2 bedroom, 1 bath, remodeled interior. Clean, quiet, secure. New paint and carpet. If you can find one better, rent it. 7240 El Cajon Boulevard. Call Rachael 619-804-1044 or Mercedes 619-741-4024.

LA MESA/COLLEGE AREA. $995. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Clean, quiet, secure. This is a good upstairs unit. If you can find one better, rent it. 7240 El Cajon Boulevard. Call Rachael 619-804-1044 or 619-713-1044.

LAKESIDE for rent. Cottage/mobile home, 55+ community in beautiful park. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, $797/month. Air conditioning, pool, clubhouse, laundry room. Available now. 619-443-3600.

LAKESIDE. $2200. 4 bedroom, 3 bath house. 2 story with loft and view, balcony, patio, pool, upstairs loft, central air conditioning, hardwood floors, private yard, all appliances, must see! 9371 Riverview Avenue. 619-698-6911. www.goldenmanagent.com.

LAKESIDE. $1295. 3 bedroom upstairs apartment, newly remodeled 4-plex: tile, carpet, appliances, paint. Parking, on-site laundry, yard/picnic area. Section 8 OK. 12618 Laurel. 619-957-7272.

LAKESIDE. From $710. Nice 1 bedrooms in quiet 55+ community. Laundry, air conditioning, clubhouse. Parking. 12133 Rockcrest Road. 619-443-9611.

LEMON GROVE. Fabulous location near trolley and shops. 2 bedroom, $990 monthly. 1 bedroom, $790 monthly. $700 deposit for both. Good credit required. Leave message. 619-252-5175.

LEMON GROVE. Duplex 2 bedroom 1 bath, 1 car garage, fenced yard. Stove, refrigerator. Remodeled, new carpet/paint. Patio. Washer/dryer hookups, $1250/month, $1250/deposit, 858-274-6742.

LINDA VISTA. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, $1125 and $1225. Single level corner units. Deposit $900. Some backyards, assigned parking, hardwood floors. No pets please. Office at 7025 Eastman Street. Call 619-249-9585.

LINDA VISTA. $1150. Very nice 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex, 800 square feet. Laundry on site. Near USD. No dogs. Available 9/1. 858-715-9472.

LINDA VISTA. $685-$1200. Studios with utilities included, 2 bedrooms, 3 bedrooms. Laundry, gated parking. $400-$800 deposits! No pets. Astro Vista Apartments, 2249 Ulric Street. 858-565-6400.

LOGAN HEIGHTS. $1050. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, downstairs, off street parking, laundry on site. No pets, Section 8 ok. 3142 National Avenue #3. 619-640-7530. www.sdforrent.com.

MIRA MESA. Studios from $1170. 1 bedrooms from $1325. 2 bedrooms from $1466. Wi-Fi hotspot! Pets welcome. Dishwasher. Washer/dryer hook-ups. Central air conditioning/heat. Patio/balcony. 4 laundry rooms. 5 pools and spas. Fitness center. Covered parking. Near I-15/I-805. www.gables.com. Gables Summerset, 11102 Caminito Alvarez. 1-888-595-3318. www.sdreader.com/news/rent2128.

MISSION BEACH. $1800-$2000 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, loft style. Peek of the ocean and 100 feet from beach. Short/long term. 619-962-1887.

MISSION BEACH. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath, new carpet, $2000/month. Steps to ocean! Laundry facilities, parking. Near shopping. Available 8/15/08 till 6/15/09. Water/trash paid. 619-234-7572.

MISSION BEACH. On the boardwalk! Newly renovated large 2 bedroom, 2 bath units. Luxury units for rent. Granite, Stainless steel appliances. Travertine tile. Everything new! Private balconies, new pool, security building/parking. 3790 Riviera Drive. $2750. Manager at 619-247-2114.

MISSION BEACH, SOUTH. $975. 1 bedroom. Cute, small. Stove, refrigerator. Coin laundry. No parking. Shared courtyard. Close to ocean and bay. Cat OK with additional $300 deposit. Available 9/21. 725-1/2 Ensenada Court. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com.

MISSION BEACH. $1450. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath house. Parking. No pets. Nonsmoking. Small patio/storage. Carpet/paint. Appliance. 725 Rockaway Court. Juno, 619-275-3455.

MISSION BEACH, SOUTH. $895. Cute studio, murphy bed, parking, utilities paid, year round. Steps to beach. 2826 Mission Boulevard. No pets. 858-488-5463.

MISSION BEACH. $1050. 1 bedroom, 1 bath duplex, refrigerator, stove, approximately 650 square feet, freshly painted, walk to ocean. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

MISSION BEACH. $795. Studio. Steps to ocean and Bay! Includes parking and utilities. Full kitchen. Very clean. 3669 Mission Boulevard. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

MISSION HILLS. $1200/up. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Laundry. Parking. Pets OK. La Paloma Apartments. Open daily, 1-5pm. 3911 Dove. 619-297-1134.

MISSION HILLS. $1175. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Patio view, laundry, parking, cat ok. 801 Torrance. AMI Property Management. 619-697-6314.

MISSION HILLS. $1800. Upper 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment, approximately 1000 square feet. Fireplace, washer/dryer, air conditioning, 2-car tandem garage. Heart of Mission Hills. Walk to all. 3963 Eagle Street, #8. www.centrecity.net. 619-296-6699.

MISSION HILLS. $975. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Immediate move-in! Views. Private patio. On-site laundry. Off-street parking. 1042-1/2 West Spruce. Mike, 619-247-2114.

MISSION HILLS. $1600. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, approximately 1100 square feet, formal dining room, fireplace, large kitchen, bay view. 3043 Union Street. www.centrecity.net. 619-296-6699.

MISSION HILLS. $1200. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, laundry onsite, storage, parking. 3224 Reynard Way. www.centrecity.net. Call 619-296-6699.

MISSION HILLS/HILLCREST. New, luxurious, very large 2 bedroom, 2 bath condos, $2300. Designer kitchen, washer/dryer, HVAC, decks. Parking, security. Credit check. Open house Saturday, 1-4pm. 3972 Albatross. Broker, 619-293-3118 x5.

MISSION HILLS. $1595. Near Little Italy. Spectacular city and Bay views. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath with garage, deck, high ceilings, stove, refrigerator, laundry facility. No pets. 2805 Columbia Street. 619-988-0705.

MISSION VALLEY. Summer special! From $490/weekly, Renovated fully furnished studios/suites! Pool, spa. Full kitchen. On-site laundry. Complimentary continental breakfast. Off-street parking. Free high speed Internet, cable-80 channels, HBO! Near SDSU, Qualcomm, more! Days Inn & Suites, 5343 Adobe Falls Road. 1-800-492-9471; 619-287-1911. SanDiegoHotelsDaysInn.com. www.sdreader.com/news/rent2139.

MISSION VALLEY. $2400. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, Washer/dryer, 2-car garage, patio. Gated community. 7691 Hazard Center Drive. www.centrecity.net. 619-296-6699.

MISSION VALLEY. $1495 with Move-In Special! New granite countertops, customized paint, crown moulding, more upgrades! Private patio, extra storage. Pool, Jacuzzi. Laundry on site. Covered parking. Great location; must see! Available 9/1/08. 619-302-2156.

MISSION VALLEY. $1225. Extra large 1 bedroom, 1 bath, gated, walk-in closet, all appliances, air conditioning, balcony, pool, spa, fitness room. 6780 Friars Road #248. 619-804-3325.

MISSION VALLEY, EAST. $1200. Condo-quality 2 bedroom, 1 bath. New paint and appliances. Skylight. Air conditioning, fireplace. Keyed entry. Garage. 6755 Mission Gorge Road. 858-457-0397.

MISSION VALLEY. $1060. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, parking included, fitness center, fireplace. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

MISSION VALLEY. $1295. 2 bedroom, 2 baths apartment, 6-months lease, close to freeways/dining/shops. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

MISSION VALLEY. $1195. 1 bedroom, 1-1/2 bathroom. Extra large 890 square feet. Air conditioning top floor condo with vaulted ceilings at "Mission Ridge". 10325 Caminito Cuervo #201. www.utopiamanagement.com. 619-291-5555 x193.

MISSION VALLEY/TALMADGE/Kensington. 2 bedrooms from $1420! 3 bedrooms from $1795. Gated community! Pool, spa with free WiFi access. Outdoor billiards, barbecue lounge. Fitness center. Computer lab with printer. Laundry center with flat screen TVs! Parking. Pet friendly! Mission Pacific Apartments, 4454 44th Street. Cal today, 1-800-372-9146. missionpacific_pacificliving@crossfiremail.com. www.pacificliving.com. www.sdreader.com/news/rent1010.

MISSION VALLEY. $950. A newly renovated studio condo. Upper with private balcony. Loads of amenities! 7932 Mission Center Court. Call for appointment, 619-793-4010.

MISSION VALLEY. $2595. 2 bedroom plus office, 2 bath Escala Townhome. All upgrades, 2-car garage, fireplace, private balcony, good access to all in Mission Valley. 2674 Piantino Circle. Agent, 858-560-1178.

MOUNT HELIX/CASA DE ORO. Move-in special, OAC! $1125, 2 bedroom. $1399, 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Spacious. Laundry. Garages. Balconies. Pool. Military accepted. Espanol. 619-857-0365.

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3rd-place winner

There She Goes

Author Name: **Adam Rusch**
Neighborhood: **North Park**
Age: **30**
Occupation: **Bored computer worker/ musician**

Editor's note: The winner of July's $100 third-place prize for our monthly neighborhood website essay contest is printed below.

Deadline for the next neighborhood contest is August 31, 12 midnight.

Post your entry by going to SDReader.com/neighborhoods, *find your neighborhood or campus, and follow the instructions to create a blog.*

I couldn't help it. As I walked by what used to be my favorite bar, I had to peer through the window and see the abomination. I could not even recognize it anymore — my old home away from home. "Goddamn it," I sighed to my date. "This used to be my favorite place, and now it's just going to be another shitty yuppie bar."

"The Office," as it's now called, used to be Scolari's Office on 30th, between University and Lincoln. A great place to see underground bands, get the f-ck out of the house, have good times with friends, and have drinks without draining your wallet. Sure, it had its downsides. It smelled funny, the PA was often half working, and there were various scumbags around from time to time. Nothing out of the ordinary for an actual dive bar. But I had some of my best times there — met most of my close friends there and saw a lot of good bands there. It felt like a community.

Now its cheap drinks are replaced with five-dollar wells; no cover charge is replaced with a cover charge; the dark, comforting atmosphere is now trendy bullsh-t lights and what-have-you. Even a f-cking velvet rope outside.

As I walked with my date toward Lincoln and my soon-to-be-stolen truck, I looked down 30th Street: La Boheme (the ultimate "f-ck you" to people who loved their neighborhood just as it was five years ago), yoga studio, restaurant, dance studio, restaurant, beer-snob bar, SUVs, lifted bro-trucks, BMWs...in the distance, the sh-thole that was Aztec Bowl, now nestled against a Starbucks.

I remember when everyone called that donut shop "Hooker Donuts" because of all the tranny hookers that would lurk late at night around the back waiting for johns. I told my date, "You could go in there wasted at 2:30 a.m. and get a pink cruller and a coffee and watch the trannies come out of the shadows like vampires. It was amazing."

She laughed and said, "Sounds like fun."

"Yeah," I sighed. "They don't stay open late anymore."

NATIONAL CITY. $1210. Immaculate 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Minutes to 32nd. Washer/dryer. Fireplace. Private patio. 2 parking. Hai Nguyen 714-675-8593; email; navyphysician@yahoo.com.

NATIONAL CITY. Great location! 3 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse, $1450. Balcony. Washer/dryer hookups. Views. Parking. Garages. Lease. No pets. 940 Palm Avenue. 619-336-0436.

NATIONAL CITY. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, recently upgraded, $800/month with $800 deposit. Parking space. Water paid. 116 Palm Avenue. 619-474-4441.

NATIONAL CITY. $750/month. 1 bedroom fully furnished. Low $150 deposit. No SDGE deposit or hookup required. 624 East 24th Street. Office open daily. 619-474-3787.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. $1300. Deposit $1000. 2 bedroom, 2 bath with garage. Refrigerator, stove. Great neighborhood. Near freeway, shopping, SDSU. No pets. Available 9/5. 4743 West Mountain View Drive. 619-226-7368 or www.bkbinc.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. $845. $700 deposit. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Downstairs. Garage. New carpet, stove, refrigerator. Close to all. Indoor cat OK. 4365 33rd Street. 619-226-7368 or www.bkbinc.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. $750. Deposit $800. 1 bedroom. Stove, refrigerator. Downstairs. Parking. Close to all. No pets. Available 9/11. 4669 Iowa Street #3. 619-226-7368 or www.bkbinc.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. $745/month. Senior/disabled. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, first floor. New floors, small patio, elevator, laundry. Quiet. 3628 Monroe. Call 619=269-3487.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. $725. Spacious studio. Upstairs unit with full kitchen and bath. Walk-in closet. Parking. Laundry. Air conditioning. 4527 39th #10. Xilarent.com. 619-683-7638.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. $675. Studio. Courtyard. Stove, refrigerator. Close to Adams. No pets. 4673-1/2 Felton Street. Agent, 619-298-7724.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. $900. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, built-in bookshelf, large closet, laundry on site, parking. 4613 Alabama Street #9. www.centrecity.net. 619-296-6699.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. $840 rent. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Gated. Parking. Laundry. 4761 Mansfield. Call 858-490-1600. kandrproperties.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. Move-in special: $100 off first month! 2 bedroom, $1100. Newly remodeled. Pool, barbecue, laundry. Open house Saturday and Sunday, 1-4pm. 4566 36th Street. Call 619-284-2104 or 858-401-3397. www.melroyproperties.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. $800. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, remodeled kitchen, new vinyl. On-site laundry. Garage parking. Gated community. 619-255-0382. www.sdaptbrokers.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. $750. 1/2 off first month. Charming upper 1 bedroom, 1 bath, appliances, walk-in closet, on-site laundry, off-street parking. Near all. Cat ok. 4625 35th Street #12. 619-804-3325.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. $1195. Extra large 2 bedroom, 2 bath, great location, all appliances, air conditioning, on-site laundry, parking, storage. Cat ok. 4469 Kansas Street #2. 619-804-3325.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. $850. 1 bedroom downstairs unit. Laundry. Parking. Available 8/27. No pets. 4429 Idaho Street #1. Agent, 858-514-8201.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. $825. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Charming cottage in a tropical courtyard setting with new carpet. 3231 Adams Avenue. www.utopiamanagement.com. 619-291-5555, x193.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. $850. 1 bedroom in nice, quiet complex, north of Adams Avenue. Hardwood floors, appliances, laundry. MG Realty, 619-229-0231.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. $945. 2 bedroom apartment. Remodeled. Dishwasher. Laundry facilities. Parking space. 4525 34th Street. Shore Management. Call manager, 619-280-1334.

NORTH PARK. $950. Quiet, 1 bedroom, downstairs. On site laundry. Garage. Nice hardwood floors, new tile, freshly painted. 3970 32nd Street. No pets. 619-284-3324.

NORTH PARK. $750/month. 1 bedroom upstairs apartment. Wood floors. $500 deposit. 4120-A Iowa Street. No pets. Available now. 619-669-9953.

NORTH PARK. Spacious 2 bedroom, $1050. Quiet complex. Gated. Parking. Laundry. Easy freeway access. 1 year lease. No pets. 619-303-4969.

NORTH PARK. $900. 1 bedroom duplex. Wood floors, small yard, small pet. Laundry on site. Garage extra $125. 3108 Upas Street. Reference. Appointment only, 619-992-7791.

NORTH PARK. $650. Small, lower 1 bedroom duplex. Stove, refrigerator, shared rear yard, street parking. Nonsmoking. No pets. Water/gardener included. 2909 Gunn Street. 619-303-7322.

NORTH PARK. $750 rent. $600 deposit. OAC. 1 bedroom duplex. Parking lot. No pets. At 3029 Monroe Avenue. Agent, 619-299-8515.

NORTH PARK. $1300. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath townhouse-style duplex, quiet residential neighborhood, laundry room, washer/dryer hookups, stove, refrigerator, garage. Large, shared patio. 619-447-5873.

NORTH PARK. $995, large 2 bedroom. New carpet/blinds. Paint, wall to wall closets, built-in bookcase, parking, laundry. Gated complex. Well maintained. No pets. 4354 Utah Street. 619-994-1672.

NORTH PARK. $1185-$1235. Upstairs 2 bedroom, 2 full baths. Mirrored closets, new stove/dishwasher, fireplace, balcony. Laundry onsite. Gated parking. Nonsmoking unit. Cat ok/deposit. 619-241-2596.

NORTH PARK. $675 studio. On-site laundry. Cat welcome. Great location. Call 619-298-4474. www.sdaptbrokers.com.

NORTH PARK. $1250. 3 bedroom, 2 bath apartment, dishwasher, 2 car garage, free basic cable TV. 3960 Idaho #9. AMI Property Management. 619-697-6314.

NORTH PARK. $950. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, laundry, parkin. No pets. 4060 Iowa #7. AMI Property Management, 619-697-6314.

NORTH PARK. $1650. Spacious 3 bedroom, 2 bath, near South Park. All appliances, washer/dryer hookups, private patio. Parking. Cat ok. 3376 Grim Avenue. 619-804-3325.

NORTH PARK. $775. 1 bedroom. Downstairs. Gated. Laundry. Parking. No pets. 4371 Swift Avenue #2. More Property Management, 858-514-8201.

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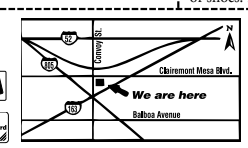

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Attention: Honda/Acura Owners

For those of you not familiar with our automotive repair shop, we'd like to introduce ourselves. We are a family-owned and -operated general auto repair business. Our goal is simple: provide top-quality service and good, honest auto repair. We have no interest in selling you items/services you don't really need. We simply believe in telling you like it is and you tell us what you want done. Although our name suggests only Honda and Acura repairs, we are a general full-service repair shop specializing in Hondas and Acuras.

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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Typo Patrol Results

Issue of August 21, 2008

Crasher p.108 - come out this *s/b* come out of this
Back When p.167 - that could he
s/b that could be
Found by **Kevin Galan** ($20)

Event listings p.72 - Sweet Water Marsh
s/b Sweetwater Marsh
p.74 Suffragist's Parade *s/b* Suffragists' Parade
p.75 organization such as *s/b* organization, such as
Theater listings p.124 - her grand father
s/b her grandfather
Found by **Armin Moths** ($40)

Club Crawler p.82 - Eddie Grant *s/b* Eddy Grant
Music listings p.93 - Covers disco *s/b* Covers, disco
p.96 - September 13 *typed twice*
Theater listings p.122 - Leslie Gore
s/b Lesley Gore
Back When p.167 - LOSERS *s/b* LOSERS"
Diary of a Diva p.23 - "child's pose"
s/b 'child's pose'
Puzzle results
p.150 - Penasquitos *s/b* Peñasquitos
User Reviews (restaurants) p.116 - your shows
s/b your shoes
Found by **Brian Slipper** ($70 and a T-shirt)

Diary of a Diva p.22 - seen), were *s/b* seen) were
Found by **Jeanne Tourville** ($10)

City Lights p.8 - Boulevard Ranger station
s/b Boulevard ranger station
Best Buys p.20 - for 20 count *s/b* for 20-count
Suicide Tourism
p.28 - 100-millileter *s/b* 100-milliliter
Events listings
p.66 - Casa Del Prado *s/b* Casa del Prado
p.70 - as model to discover *s/b* as models to discover
p.74 - Cady Stanton *s/b* Elizabeth Cady Stanton
p.76 - Society", *s/b* Society,"
p.76 - Time", *s/b* Time,"
p.76 - Drawings", *s/b* Drawings,"
Music listings p.90 40 Oz. Mouse
s/b 40 Oz., Mouse
p.90 - Mouse and Runhoney
s/b - Mouse, and Runhoney
p.102 - Playhouse Disney Live.
s/b Playhouse Disney Live!
Restaurant listings p.118 - from Michoacan
s/b from Michoacán
p.118 - very Michoacan *s/b* very Michoacán
p.119 - Jimmys *s/b* Jimmy's
Found by **Karelyn Kimokeo** ($150)

Typo Patrol Results p.149 - Classsical *s/b* Classical
Remote Control King
p.168 - Broadcast Company *s/b* Broadcasting Company
Found by **Gary Dismukes** ($20)

Club Crawler p.82 - laidback *s/b* laid-back
p.82 - Ya'll *s/b* Y'all
p.82 - the Uh-OK *s/b* the Oh-OK
Roam-o-Rama p.72 - neighborbood *s/b* neighborhood
Found by **Chelsea Navarro** ($40)

Unforgettable p.35 Z's *s/b* Zs
p.35 - "S's" *s/b* "Ss"
p.36 - letters. "BEACHEY." *s/b* letters: "BEACHEY."
p.36 - "BEACHEY." traveled *s/b* "BEACHEY." He traveled
Found by **Sylvia Robb** ($40)

Note: Lots of sharpies sending in finds without page numbers. Due to increased number of respondents, there's no longer time to research the validity of those finds.

You must send in a copy of the printed error — either the actual page or a copy of the page (including page number). Only one award per error — first copy of error delivered to the *Reader* wins. Exceptions: improper grammar in direct quotations, slang, idiosyncracies of style, and playful spellings. Typographical errors found in stories and listings (sorry, no ads or blogs) must be submitted by Monday, 7 a.m. after the issue in question. We'll pay **$10** to the first person to point out the error. (Or choose a **Reader Typo Patrol T-Shirt**.) **Mail to: Typo Patrol, SD Reader, Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186; or fax to 619-231-0489; or deliver to 1703 India St.**, in Little Italy (yes, we have an after-hours mail slot).

NORTH PARK. $875. 1 bedroom. Open house Saturday 10-11am. Bright, upstairs apartment with huge closets in quiet small complex. New designer carpet. Controlled access, off-street parking, coin laundry. No pets. 4381 Utah #5. TPPM, 619-296-8802.

NORTH PARK. $1060. Large 2 bedroom. Quiet, garden setting. Close to golf course, restaurants and shops. Laundry. No pets. 3058 Ivy Street. TPPM, 619-255-8638.

NORTH PARK/near Hillcrest. $1200. Bright 2 bedroom, 2 bath with hardwood floors. Small attractive courtyard property in excellent corner location near Hillcrest. No pets. 4192 Mississippi Street. TPPM, 619-299-9897.

NORTH PARK. $1200. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Garage. 2 parking. Small gated complex. New air, dishwasher. Laundry in building. Water, gas, trash paid. 619-656-1774.

OCEAN BEACH. Beautiful beachfront ocean view! Studio, $995. 1 bedroom, $1075-$1200. 2 bedroom, $1400-$1600. Serene security garden buildings. Hardwood floors, ceramic tile, laundry. Garages available. Pets considered. For address and availability, call 619-224-1748. For applications, call 619-501-5553.

OCEAN BEACH. $950. Blocks to the beach! 1 bedroom. Clean. Parking. Laundry. No pets. Seacoast Apartments, 5030 Lotus. Call Doris, 619-204-1651.

OCEAN BEACH. $950. Deposit $950. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Close to beach. Refrigerator, stove. Laundry. No pets. Available 9/10. 5074 Lotus Street. 619-226-7368 or www.bkbinc.com.

OCEAN BEACH. $1015. Large 1 bedroom apartment with garage. Laundry, patio, close to beach. No dogs/cats. New paint/carpet. 5051 Lotus. Available 9/5. 858-292-6046.

OCEAN BEACH. $1450. Large, quiet 2 bedroom, 2 bath, all appliances, washer/dryer, new carpet, gardener, off-street parking. Clean. Bright. Nonsmoking. No pets. 858-457-3905.

OCEAN BEACH/POINT LOMA. $1195. 2 bedroom, 1 bath with new paint, linoleum, hardwood floors. Available 9/1/08. No pets. 3672 Voltaire. Agent, 619-463-2971.

OCEAN BEACH. $1475. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Laundry. Parking. Hardwood floors. Pet considered. Available 9/20. 2420 Seaside Street. More Property Management, 858-514-8201.

OCEAN BEACH. $1050. 1 bedroom apartment, pet OK with deposit, pool, newly remodeled, new appliances, 1 block from beach. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

OCEAN BEACH. $1629. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, will consider pet, covered parking, pool, laundry, walk-in closets, balcony/patio. Fee. Free Search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

OCEAN BEACH. $975, large studio. $1600, large 2 bedroom, 1 bath. No pets. Block to beach. Walk to shops and nightlife. 1929 Bacon Street. 619-224-3443.

OCEAN BEACH. $1750. 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom condo. Neutral carpet and tile floors. Granite countertops, stainless steel appliances. Faux cherry wood cabinets. Washer/dryer. 4437 Mentone. www.utopiamanagement.com. 619-291-5555 x193.

OCEAN BEACH. Steps to ocean. 2 bedroom 1 bath, $1325. No smoking/pets/barbecuing. Quiet complex, laundry onsite. Optional parking $75/month. 5073 Del Monte Avenue. Available 9/01/08, 619-788-9200.

OCEAN BEACH. $925. Block to beach! Clean and cozy upstairs 1 bedroom. Peak ocean view! Ceiling fan. Berber carpeting. Shared 35' deck. Laundry. Parking. No pets. Nonsmoking. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

OCEANSIDE. Large 1 and 2 bedrooms, west of Interstate 5, just 8 blocks to beach, in vibrant downtown village. Beautiful remodeled units. 508 North Nevada Street. Visit www.WexfordLiving.com. 760-433-8810.

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OCEANSIDE. $850. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, will consider small pet, refrigerator, stove, yard, near freeways, beach, dining, more! Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

OCEANSIDE. $1175. 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo, pool, on-site laundry, stove, dishwasher, patio, air conditioner. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

OLD TOWN. $695-$750. Low $150 deposit. Fully furnished studios-alcoves on excellent hillside location. Free basic cable. 1616 Guy Street. 619-298-6242.

OLD TOWN. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. 1912 San Diego Avenue #9. San Diego Bay view. Includes two-car garage. No pets. $1150/month, deposit $1150. www.timcassidy.com. Cassidy, Broker, 619-275-LIST.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH. $1850. Duplex. Large upper 2 bedroom. Immaculate, sunny. 1.5 blocks ocean. Dishwasher, white tile. Patio. Parking. Laundry, yard. No pets. 865 Missouri. 619-275-2610.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1150. 1 bedroom apartment. New carpet, paint, flooring. Completely remodeled. Quiet. Gated. Covered parking. Small pets OK. $1150 deposit. 619-339-9951.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. $2700. 3 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Spectacular bay, downtown views! Fireplace, balcony, appliances. Available 1 August. 2050 Pacific Beach Drive. 619-813-0458.

PACIFIC BEACH. Magnificent whitewater view! 2 bedroom, 2 bath furnished ocean-front condo. On boardwalk. Balcony, pool. All appliances, assigned underground parking. Water/cable included. Available 9/08-5/30/09. $2700-$3300. 626-826-9263.

PACIFIC BEACH. 3 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Gas and electric included. 4220 Noyes. Near Grand and oliver. Upstairs unit. $1750 monthly lease. 760-887-2000.

PACIFIC BEACH. 1 bedroom plus den, $1025. Dishwasher, ceiling fan, patio. Parking, laundry. Walk to beach/shops. No pets. Lease. 4467 Dawes. 858-483-4553.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1795. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment, 1200 square feet. Quiet. Fireplace, balcony. All appliances. Laundry. 2 parking. No smoking/pets. Available 8/1. 858-272-7616.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Bay views! Spacious deck, all appliances. Garage/2 spaces. $2550/month. 2050 Pacific Beach Drive. 619-398-5044.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1350-$1500. Two 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Hardwood floors. Granite countertops. 2 off-street parking. Washer/dryer. Dishwasher. Patio. Available 9/15. 2069 Felspar. 619-884-3399.

PACIFIC BEACH NORTH. $1115. Large, upstairs remodeled. Stove, refrigerator. Dishwasher. Microwave. Coin laundry. Parking. No pets. Nice shared courtyard area. Available 9/10. 1544-1/2 Diamond. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1175. 1 bedroom. Huge, remodeled. Downstairs. Stove, refrigerator. Dishwasher. Microwave. Coin laundry. Parking. Shared courtyard. No pets. Available 8/22. 1550 Diamond. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1100. 1 bedroom single story duplex. Glass sliding doors onto private fenced 23x14 yard. Pet ok. Reserved parking. Coin laundry. 2112 Grand. 858-272-3178.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1050. Newly remodeled 1 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Private front/rear yard. Pets negotiable. Near beach, bay, and freeways. Deposit. Year lease. 858-354-3464.

PACIFIC BEACH. 1 bedroom, 1 bath and 2 bedroom, 1 bath, $980 and $1450. Balcony, new decor. Clean and quiet. Parking. No pets. 1790 Diamond Street. Call Allan, 858-245-9508.

PACIFIC BEACH/CROWN POINT. $1250. Bright, sunny, 1 bedroom duplex. Appliances. Garage. Laundry facility. Great location to bay and park. 3720 Ingraham Street. 858-272-9547.

PACIFIC BEACH. $2200 rent. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Washer/dryer. Dishwasher. Parking. 1 year lease. 1749 Reed Avenue. Call 858-490-1600 or kandrproperties.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. Big weekend open house! Great studios at bargain prices: $845 and up. Pool, parking, laundry. Near bay/beach. Hurry! No pets. 858-536-1900.

PACIFIC BEACH. $825. Studio, 1 bath apartment, 1-car parking, approximately 425 square feet, breakfast bar. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

PACIFIC BEACH. $945. 1 bedroom apartment, cat OK with deposit, on-site laundry, refrigerator, stove, patio. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1325. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, 1-car parking, refrigerator, stove, 800 square feet, great kitchen/dining area. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1400. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, new carpets, parking, common area pool/barbecue, 12 blocks from beach. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

PACIFIC BEACH. Starting $1595. Senior building (ages 62+). Spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath in controlled access building. Balcony, immaculate, elevator, washer/dryer. Fireplace. Secured parking. 1625 Chalcedony Street. TPPM, 619-806-5760.

PACIFIC BEACH. $895. 1 bedroom in garden setting. Easy access location. Pool. Recreation room. Laundry. No pets. 2710 Grand Avenue. TPPM, 858-273-8657.

PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, $1200, $1200 deposit. Mile to the beach! One parking space. Laundry on site. 6-month lease. No pets. 619-435-3830.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1625. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Newly remodeled unit with fireplace and balcony. Centrally located. Close to shopping and all Pacific Beach has to offer. Open Saturday 2:30-3:30pm. 1938 Felspar Street #3. TPPM 858-699-3851.

PACIFIC BEACH. Live so close to beach and make friends envious! Charming 1 bedroom apartments from $1160. Only 1 block from the beach! Located in the north Pacific Beach neighborhood with beachfront access only minutes away. Short distance to downtown La Jolla shopping and dining. Our quaint apartment homes include on-site laundry facility, extra storage and a quiet location. Cat friendly. Call our rental office today! 858-272-7464. www.pacificliving.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedrooms with den starting $1925. Free application fee! Free poolside Wifi. Sundeck. Cardio fitness center. Equipment and weight room. Across from Mission Bay bike trail. Spectacular views. Super floor plans. Limited availability. Cat friendly. The Pacific at Mission Bay, 2636 Grand Avenue. 1-800-490-6372. pacificatmissionbay_pacificliving@crossfiremail.com. www.pacificliving.com. www.sdreader.com/news/rent1049.

PACIFIC BEACH. Studio. $775. Deposit $500. On-site parking. All utilities paid. 4220 Noyes #4, between Oliver and Grand. Lease and credit check required. 714-505-4923.

PACIFIC BEACH/MISSION BEACH. $2295. On the bay front. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, full-size washer/dryer. Large patio facing the bay. Stainless steel appliances. One parking space. 1-year lease desired. Call Coldwell Banker Property Management, 858-488-2228.

POINT LOMA. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath condo, 2-car garage, laundry hookups. 6-unit complex. No pets. $1850/month. Available September 1. Call 619-224-7791.

POINT LOMA. $1095 rent. $800 deposit. OAC. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Parking for 2 cars. Pool. Laundry. No pets. At 2625 Camulos Street #16. Agent, 619-523-1453.

POINT LOMA. Newly renovated 1 bedrooms from $1350! City/bay views! Bamboo laminate floors. Stainless-steel appliances. Custom Euro-style cabinetry. Sculpted carpet in bedroom. Resort style pool. Oversized hot tub. Sauna. Fitness center. Air conditioning. Covered parking. Pet friendly. Gables Point Loma, 3811 Marquette Place #2N. 619-223-6577. Gables.com. www.sdreader.com/news/rent1003.

POINT LOMA. 50% off deposit! Spacious 1 and 2 and 3 bedrooms starting at $1140. 2 bedrooms, $1459. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, $1749. OAC. Pet friendly! Clubhouse. Fitness room. Business center. Tennis. Pool. Jacuzzi. Near shopping, beaches, restaurants, freeway. Stonewood Gardens, 3889 Midway Drive. 1-888-773-6259. MG Properties. www.sdreader.com/news/rent2118.

POINT LOMA. Studio and 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartments available, starting at $885!*. Close to ocean, off-street parking. Spa area, on-site laundry. Cats/dogs 20 lbs OK. Water and trash included. *Limited offer, on approved credit, see manager for details. 2449 Soto Street, apartment #102, San Diego, 92107 619-224-1973. Or visit us on our website at www.sdrenting.com.

POINT LOMA. $1895. Large 3 bedroom, 2 bath, all appliances, washer and dryer, fireplace, ceiling fan, private patio, pool. Blocks to beach. 3845 Groton Street #2. 619-804-3325.

POINT LOMA/LA PLAYA. $2795. Completely remodeled 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Laundry. Travertine floors. Granite countertops. Stainless steel appliances. Views! Private balcony. Underground parking. Secured building. Steps to the beach. Available now. 2955 McCall Street. 619-247-2114.

POINT LOMA. $1195. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Immaculate community. Luxury apartments. Large downstairs with private patio. Tile floors. Bright, upgraded countertops and cabinets, stainless steel appliances. Close to beaches, downtown and more. 3020 Hugo Street. Call Paola at 619-987-3634. sunriseliving.com.

POINT LOMA/SUNSET CLIFFS. $1600. Steps to ocean! 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Garage. Pets ok! 4839 and 4827 Orchard Avenue. 619-222-6020. 92107

POINT LOMA. Beautiful 1 and 2 bedrooms in gorgeous tropical complex with spectacular views! Pool and spa, view deck, state-of-the-art fitness center, business and media room, gated parking and more! No pets. 3950 Leland. 619-223-1390.

POINT LOMA. $950. Newly remodeled studios with fantastic upgrades! Everything is new! Gated entry, parking, laundry, barbeque area. No pets. 2089 Chatsworth Boulevard. 619-222-0152.

POWAY. $1050. 1 bedroom. Nice, well-maintained complex with air conditioning, off-street parking, community laundry. Near all. No pets. 12529 Oak Knoll Road. 858-486-0109.

POWAY/SABRE SPRINGS. $1500. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Fireplace, carpet, dishwasher, air conditioning, patio, pool. 10921 Sabre Hill Drive #375. www.centrecity.net. 619-296-6699.

RANCHO BERNARDO, Bernardo Heights. $2400. Beautiful 2 bedroom plus loft, 2-1/2 bath condo, spacious, washer/dryer, kitchen appliances, patio, 1-car garage, pool, jacuzzi. 12555 Calle Tamega #110. www.centrecity.net, 619-296-6699.

RANCHO BERNARDO. Award winning community. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath corner unit with driveway! Gated community. Call for details. Top Notch Realty, Inc., 858-715-0688.

RANCHO PENASQUITOS. $1350. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. $1750. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. $600 off with 6-month lease! Low $500-$700 deposits! Newly remodeled. Air conditioning, Pool, spa. Carport. No pets. Rancho Villas Apartments. ranchovillas@earthlink.net, 858-484-0744.

RANCHO PENASQUITOS. $1750. 3 bedroom Casablanca ground-floor condo, poolside. Master bedroom/private patio plus second patio. Well-maintained complex close to shopping, library, YMCA. 619-602-4113, camelotte@ccim.net.

RANCHO SAN DIEGO. $1350. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Master/living room open to large balcony, mountain view. Vaulted ceilings, fireplace, new flooring, washer/dryer. Park-like setting, barbecues, pool/tennis, nearby golf. Near 94/125. No smoking/pets. 2972 Anawood Way. 619-593-0266; 619-244-7210.

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BACK WHEN

In the Reader

Thirty Years Ago

Mao Tse-tung, chairman of the Chinese Communist Party, will be dead exactly two years September 9.

The only major confrontation the Mao Memorial Committee has had was with another communist group — the Communist Party Marxist-Leninists (CPML).

According to Doug Sollosy, chief organizer of the memorial committee, a skirmish with CPML members broke out two weeks ago in Mission Hills. Sollosy and another committee member were putting up posters on telephone poles outside the First Congregational Church in which a meeting of the U.S./China People's Friendship Association was being held. Sollosy says a man who is in the CPML tore down one of his posters and a slug-swap ensued.

—CITY LIGHTS: **"IT'S MY PARTY,"** *Neal Matthews, August 31, 1978*

Twenty-Five Years Ago

Imperial Beach mayor Brian Bilbray, whose ambitions for higher office are no secret, has had enough problems on his hands in the recent past, with his city's treasury nearly empty and with his beaches closed for the summer due to sewage from Mexico. So the last thing he needed was a phone call several weeks ago from a *Chula Vista Star-News* reporter inquiring about an incident the previous Friday night in which Bilbray allegedly called a superior court judge and asked him to free a friend of his.

—CITY LIGHTS: **"FIRST IMPRESSIONS,"** *Thomas K. Arnold, September 1, 1983*

Twenty Years Ago

Aurore and Ethel Lee await their turn in the shuffleboard tourney. In the winter of life, they sit, legs crossed at ankles, on folding chairs at a card table. The skin on the tops of their hands is shiny, and speckled as trout.

"I think people our age, older people, they mostly believe," says Aurore. "They hope to go to heaven."

"In rest homes," agrees Ethel Lee, "they talk about it a lot, yes." Hell? Who will go there? "Rapists, murderers. Hitler," offers Aurore.

—**"IN SIGHT OF HEAVEN,** *Judith Moore, September 1, 1988*

Fifteen Years Ago

After liftoff, I established an en route climb speed of 140 knots and turned to the southeast. We were passing through 4000 feet. Ahead in the near distance, the Salton Sea came into view, off to the right Mt. Laguna and the Mt. Laguna RADAR! Alan asked, "Should we be concerned about being seen on their screen?"

"We're on their radar screen, count on it, and all they can do is watch us disappear down into Mexico."

—**"DON'T LOAD THE NOSE: A POT PILOT'S CONFESSION,"** *Michael Jon Thorne, September 2, 1993*

Ten Years Ago

On one side are two multimillionaires; five national cable-and-broadcast conglomerates; a well-entrenched, monopoly daily newspaper and its army of compliant reporters; the mayor and city council and their taxpayer-paid staff; political consultants expected to spend as much as it takes — maybe more than $2 million — to make sure voters approve a new $400-million-plus baseball stadium for San Diego.

"It's good for all of us" is their motto, and political consultant Tom Shepard, who once pleaded guilty to a charge of money laundering in the political corruption case of his old mentor Roger Hedgecock, is now leading the charge for taxpayer funding of a downtown pleasure palace, replete with luxury suites and an artificial beach.

—**"THE HELL WITH TED LEITNER, THE HELL WITH TONY GWYNN,"** *Matt Potter, September 3, 1998*

San Diego *Reader,* September 3, 1998

Five Years Ago

The Naugahyde must go. That's what deputy fire marshal Terry Baird told Casbah co-owner Tim Mays August 20 about the trademark black padding mounted behind the stage.

The world-famous backdrop, which has appeared in *Rolling Stone* and *Spin* magazines, was originally used for booths at a Farrell's ice cream parlor. It has been part of the club since it opened at its Kettner and Laurel location nine years ago.

—BLURT: **"THE NAUGAHYDE MUST GO,"** *Ken Leighton, August 28, 2003*

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coastal. Nonsmoker/no pets 858-246-7233, or cell 858-349-6575.

SANTEE. $875. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Stove, refrigerator, carpet, blinds. Close to Hwy 67. On-site laundry, off-street parking. No pets. 8527 Graves. 619-258-2584.

SERRA MESA. $1875. 4 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Completely remodeled, single-story corner unit with lots of storage throughout. Pool and Gym. 3454 Castle Glen. 858-598-1111 x193, www.utopiamanagement.com.

SOLANA BEACH. Beautiful 2 large bedroom, 3 bath townhouse. Large loft/den. Lomas Santa Fe golf course. Pool. Lease. Pet considered. $2450. 858-792-5002.

SOUTH BAY. 3 bedroom 2 bath, plus den. Washer/dryer, dishwasher. Small patio. $1800/month, $1800/deposit. More information call 619-518-6391 or email saureus3@aol.com.

SOUTH PARK. $1195. 1 bedroom, 1 bath Spanish-style cottage with appliances, large shared yard, blocks from Balboa Park. Small pet ok. 619-804-3325.

TALMADGE. $865. Large 1 bedroom. Clean, quiet, 800 square feet, parking, gated, air conditioning, barbecue, storage. Cats ok. 4544 Winona Avenue. 619-229-1406.

TALMADGE. $800. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Laundry on-site. Downstairs. Beautiful wood floors. All appliances, gated complex. Available 9/1. 4533 Contour Boulevard. www.cethron.com. 619-295-1100.

TIERRASANTA. $1100. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo. No pets. Air conditioning. Parking. Fireplace. Carpet/paint. Dishwasher. Pool. Balcony. Gated. 11233 Tierrasanta Boulevard #54. Juno, 619-275-3455.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. $925. Deposit. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. On-site laundry. 1 assigned parking. Near freeway. Sorry, no smoking. No pets. 4462-1/2 Louisiana Street. Agent, 619-692-4121.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. $1195. Extra large 2 bedroom, 1 bath. New paint, vinyl and carpet. Lots of closet space, shared patio, laundry, parking. Small pet ok. 4152 Mississippi Street #2. 619-804-3325.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. $1000. Senior complex. Extremely large 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. Brand new carpet, paint, flooring. Sheltered patio, controlled entry, all amenities. Near bus and shops. 4574 Campus Avenue. No pets. 619-994-7392, 619-461-9415.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. $1195. Extra large 2 bedroom, 1 bath, Spanish-style, appliances, new windows, crown molding, back patio, laundry. Small pet ok. 4360 Hamilton Street. 619-804-3325.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. $795. Spacious 1 bedroom, 1 bath unit in small, centrally located complex. On-site laundry. Move-in special: Half off first month's rent! www.utopiamanagement.com. 858-598-1111, x193.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. $795. Spacious, private 1 bedroom unit with new carpet and fresh coat of paint. Complex has on-site laundry facility. www.utopiamanagement.com. 858-598-1111, x193.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, senior or disabled community, $695. On-site laundry, gated community. 4086 Swift Avenue. Agent, 858-560-1178.

CASA DE ORO. $700, includes utilities. Clean, quiet, small 1 bedroom. Country atmosphere. Covered parking. 9875-1/2 Dale Avenue. Good credit/references required. Appointment only. Agent, 619-585-7035.

CHULA VISTA. $725, upstairs 1 bedroom in central location near Downtown. Library, parks, transportation. 266 Landis Avenue #D. Good references/credit. No pets. Agent, 619-585-7035.

UTC. 55/up. Spacious luxury living. Pool, spa, golf course. 1 bedroom, $1124. 2 bedrooms, $1299. $99 deposit. Town Park Villas, 4633 Governor Drive. 858-453-0441.

REAL ESTATE

HOUSES

PLACE ADS IN THE READER by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

ARIZONA, FLAGSTAFF. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, den. 10 acres. Beautiful view. Large deck surrounds manufactured home. Large solar array, never-ending source of power. $190,000/best. 928-853-7467.

AUSTIN, TEXAS. Affordable living, "live music capital of the world." #1 destination for relocating families, singles. House in hill country, on the lake or loft downtown. Realtor, Tom Wilson: 512-673-0388. twilson@avalaraustin.com.

BAJA CALIFORNIA, MEXICO. La Mision. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, beautiful oceanview, 24-hour security guard, gated community. Best beach in Baja. $250,000 or rent $1000/month. 760-250-7055.

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LAKESIDE. Very nice 2 bedroom, 2 bath, double wide mobile home. Great park, great neighbors. New carpet, vinyl flooring, upgraded plumbing, paint, louvers, $60,000. 619-417-4385.

MOBILE HOME. To be moved to your location. 1974, 12x56, with 10x7 living room extension, new blue carpet. Paid $30,000, books for $7400/best/trade. 619-518-4258.

MOUNT LAGUNA cabin, large 2 story, 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Only 45 minutes from downtown San Diego. Furniture, most decor included. $195,000. Imfritz3@yahoo.com or 619-994-0381.

YUMA, ARIZONA. No money down. 3 units, 2 bedroom, 2 bath; 1 bedroom, 1 bath. 400-square-foot-shop. $240,000. Will consider a trade. 619-618-5061.

REAL ESTATE

CONDOS

PLACE ADS IN THE READER by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

DEL MAR. Lovely, sunny 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.

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KEARNY MESA. For sale by owner. Studio condo. $150,000, "as-is". 3250 Ashford Street, 92111. Approximately 463 square feet. Nice layout. Parking, pool/spa. Storage space. 858-571-6829.

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OBAMA PICKED ME TO BE VICE PRESIDENT! And I picked Kermit the Frog to serve as my vice vice president, along with undersecretary Michael Phelps.

Our first order of business will be to stage Kermit's swamp and Michael's water tank in the vice presidential office. I've got it all worked out. They can feed each other — Kermit can throw in a fish every hour, and Michael's tank draws flies, which Kermit will eat. That's what politicians call "win-win." Kermit will of course be in charge of cleaning Michael's filters, but I'll look after the bubbly treasure chest, hollow castle, and bright turquoise pebbles at the bottom of his tank.

Second order of business is for me to live up to my campaign promises. Yes, fine citizens, I will immediately enact the "wet Band-Aid" law, in which children who lose a Band-Aid in a pool have to eat some other kid's wet Band-Aid. As well as fulfilling my vow that any Hooters girl found on the street during the day without her muzzle on will be shot in the butt with a BB gun.

Zombies are right out.

In honor of being appointed vice tyrant of homeland endeavors, I've named my crotch "The Stimulus Package."

In the coming term I will require several things to aid me in the full accomplishment of my duties: (1) a rocket pack; (b) cookies; and (4) access to every Marvel comic ever printed. These are not frivolous items; they each fulfill a purpose. In case of disaster, the comic books will act as a guide to defeating supervillains. One cannot fight evil without the nutritional benefit of cookies. And the rocket pack is a rocket pack because everyone should have a rocket pack, and since I'll be the head honcho what's in charge around here, I get mine first.

Of course, this office isn't going to be all fun and shooting pandas with water guns full of whiskey. No. There are goals to be accomplished, namely the roundup and dispersal of illegal aliens. In my pursuit of these wrongful immigrants, I'll need a Wonder Woman costume and all the margarita mix that'll fit in the back of a Ford Festiva.

What's that?

Who the hell is Joe Biden? A senator? From where? What the hell is Delaware? Oh, okay, I'll play along. Sure it's a state. So, *where* is this mythical state of Delaware nobody's ever heard of? Obama picked him for vice president?

Ah, rats! Stupid CNN. Ruin all my fun.

WHAT I WILL AND WON'T WATCH THIS WEEK

THURSDAY, AUGUST 28

WHEEL OF FORTUNE

NBC 9:00 P.M.

With the nonstop Olympics coverage, I've become accustomed to everyone on TV going about their routines half-naked. Now I want it all the time. Pat Sajak, you get in that patriotic, bikini-cut Speedo. I SAID GET INTO THAT SPEEDO, PAT SAJAK!

TABATHA'S SALON TAKEOVER

BRAVO 10:00 P.M.

Oh, goodie, a reality show about the fashion industry. Well, it's about time. Now all I really need is a dramatic program about medicine, one about the police, something about lawyers, and a comedy in which there's a bumbling but kind-hearted husband and a hotter-than-he-deserves wife. I wish someone would get cracking on those. Because it's not like there are *thousands* of them already.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 29

ANDERSON COOPER 360

CNN 8:00 P.M.

I've got it in my mind that Barack Obama's inaugural ceremony is going to play out something like the scene from *Blazing Saddles* in which the new sheriff rides into town. Now all we need is frontiersman Gabby Johnson up on the church bell tower to tell us when Senator Obama is approaching.

GRIZZLY MAN DIARIES

ANIMAL PLANET 9:00 P.M.

It's the classic tale. Asocial man seeks refuge in wilderness. Befriends bears. Bears eat him. Bears poop. Flowers grow in poop. Other man goes to sniff flowers. Bears eat him. Woman discovers body. Bears eat her. Ninjas deployed. Bears eat ninjas. Army helicopters called in. Bears eat them, pick their teeth, and burp. Robots:

LA JOLLA/UTC. 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.

PACIFIC BEACH. Like new! View! Top floor. End unit. Overlooking pool. Huge luxury studio. Plus 8x10 custom loft. 5 skylights. Cathedral ceilings. 100% custom upgraded. Security complex. Tennis courts. Lagoon. Pool tables. Fitness center. $259K. 0-3% down! Appointment, 619-921-3333.

ROSARITO MEXICO, Playa Blanca, 14 miles from border. Luxury ocean front property, upgraded 2 bedroom 2 bath condo. 24 hour security. Gated community, balcony, granite, all appliances (stainless). Reduced $239,000/owner. 619-250-0210.

SAN CARLOS. 2 bedroom upgraded townhome. Fenced patio. 100% California Housing Financing agency, financing below market rates to qualified first time buyers. $180,000, 619-583-8746, sam@sammarini.com.

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0. Bears: 4,487. Angry villagers storm. Bears obtain fire, start wearing clothes, and using iPhones. ALL GLORY TO OUR BEAR OVERLORDS! (You've heard this story a thousand times.)

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30

CHUCK

NBC 8:00 P.M.

Headline! "NBC Revives Stinking Corpse One Year After Official Death. Medical Community Stunned. TV Viewers Groan and Roll Eyes and Search Area for Items to Blind Themselves With." Story at 11.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 31

THE SHRIMP ON THE BARBIE

XDTV 2:00 P.M.

In the late 1980s the U.S. discovered a magical country where the people speak a funny language and where the animals have odd little pouches. It's a wonderful place, and Hollywood saw fit to situate every single movie of a generation in this strange land, but after that we forgot about the crazy country and it returned to being a stinky desert island. I think it's called Austria, and nobody cares about it anymore. Eat one, Austria. We're sick of you.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

THE 2008 JERRY LEWIS TELETHON

KUSI 9:00 A.M.

Please, won't you dig deep and give? Every year we run this telethon to fund our project of turning Jerry Lewis into a cyborg and, so far, every year he only gets older, uglier, fatter, more irritating, more of a pompous ass, and his ears are full of potato salad and ranch dressing and he pees himself. A lot. So please, won't you help?

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION

CBS 7:00 P.M.

The sound of money transferring to secret bank accounts and the "*scritch, scritch, scritch*" of hotel registry pens writing "John Smith" can be heard as far away as Albuquerque. In other news: The prices of those tiny drug baggies, condoms, and penny loafers skyrocket all around the Minneapolis area.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION

PBS 6:00 P.M.

Also, I wanted to work in a joke about a good portion of the Repubs being closet gays, but I couldn't squeeze it into the capsule up there. So, just imagine that I did, okay? Thanks. (If you could throw in something about being old and maybe a joke about testicles too, then that'd be super. Okay, thanks.)

90210

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

90210

CW 8:00 P.M.

We don't have to write new stuff anymore. We can just rip any old thing off and call it a day. Excuse me, I'm late for a production of *Joanie Loves Chachi,* starring a filthy old pair of tube socks. And it's set in my shower. And I'm naked. Why am I crying and why do I smell like vanilla extract? We'll just have to wait and see how the story unfolds, now, won't we?

To get an online version of this column, go to sdreader.com. *You can print it, email it to friends, and get other columns and stories by Ollie.*

bank does! Agent, Elizabeth, 619-286-5813.

HOTEL OWNER WANTS TO BUY property anywhere. Small houses, big houses, condos, apartments, commercial, vacant land, and notes. Call 619-204-0610.

JAMUL. 9.7 acres; undeveloped, 360-degree view $175,000. 9.8 acres; undeveloped with rolling, useable land space, view to ocean $175,000. 12 acres; barn, $350,000. 619-464-2131.

ROSARITO, MEXICO. Oceanview lots (2). One away from ocean. View to Coronado Islands. Great investment. Area growing. 1 mile south of future Donald Trump Towers. 858-268-4233.

20-ACRE RANCHES near booming El Paso. Good road access, surveyed. Only $15,900, $200 down, $159/month. No credit checks. 800-843-7537. www.sunsetranches.com. (AAN CAN)

Tickets

PLACE ADS IN THE READER by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

CHARGERS TICKETS, Press level, premium location, individual games for sale, face value, $98. Leave message for Don 619-291-9996.

Sports

PLACE ADS IN THE READER by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

CANIVA L TYPE TENTS. Odds, sides and pieces, no hardware. Lakeside, 760-994-3525.

GOLF EQUIPMENT, Cobra staff bag $45. Starter clubs and bag $50, 4 different golf bags, Zebra or Ping putter $25/each. Downtown 858-864-2708.

GOLF, CART, BAG, black, with balls, good condition, $20. 619-523-1782.

KAYAKS FOR SALE. Tandem kayak packages from $795 to $1095. Leftover Cobra Expedition kayaks from $695 to $995 (regular $1295 to $1700). New kayaks, 9 feet to 18 feet from $595 to $1700. Closeout prices on used and demonstrator models from $395 to $895. Some used trade-in closed cockpit kayaks, 10 foot to 14 foot also available, priced from $250-$500. Visit our website www.kayaksd.com or call San Diego Sailing Center at 858-488-0651.

MASTERCRAFT PROSTAR 205, 1999. Corvette engine, bimini top, tandem axle trailer, cd player, xm radio, 411 hours. Clean/fun, V-drive. Vests included. 20'6", $20,000, 323-899-8814.

SAILBOAT. 1969 Coronado 25'. 3-year-old engine. Good condition. Sleeps 4. Galley. At Mission Bay Yacht Club. Must haul away. $1000. 619-992-7791.

SOFTBALL PLAYERS. We want a 2nd baseman and a 3rd baseman. We also need an outfielder. 619-295-0385.

SOFTBALL TEAM needs a shortstop and a left fielder. 619-295-0385.

SURFBOARDS. 9'2" Donald Takayama, great condition, just $450. Six shortboards including: 2 Aloha, 2 Merricks, 7.5 JC equalizer and numerous other fishes and quads. Also, 1960s longboards. Hurry! Call 760-809-6180.

SURFBOARDS. Two 6' trifin shortboards with leashes in fair-to-good condition. Reduced to $95 each. 619-892-2788.

SURFBOARDS, WETSUITS, wakeboards wanted. We pay cash for good quality used surf, wake and water sports gear. We also buy golf, skate, softball, exercise machines and weight, scuba, rollerblades, roller skates and more. Get cash or trade for other sports and fitness equipment. Play It Again Sports. Find locations: playitagainsd.com. 858-490-0222.

TENNIS LEAGUE. Intermediate to advanced skill levels. Join the year-round fun at the #1 League in San Diego. Leagues starting now. 858-794-1800; www.tennisleague.com.

TREADMILL, PaceMaster Pro Select, excellent condition, $275/best. 619-462-4824.

Computers

PLACE ADS IN THE READER by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

A+ COMPUTER TECH SUPPORT. Repairs, upgrades, installations, virus/spyware removal, website design, music, networks, cable/DSL, video, etc. A+/MCP certified. 24/7 onsite. $25/hour. 858-344-7155.

COMPUTER CIRCULATION CENTER. Buy, sell, trade. Laptops, PCs. Repairs, upgrades, virus/spyware removal. 24-48 hour turnaround. 9350 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, San Diego 92123. Call 858-573-0411.

DELL DIMENSION XPS P3, desktop, monitor, DVD, free internet, Office, $145. Photo printer copier scanner $60. Wireless G router $40. More at http://acdk.tripod.com, or 858-273-2290.

GET A NEW COMPUTER. Brand name laptops and desktops. Bad or no credit - no problem. Smallest weekly payments available. It's yours now. Call 800-803-8819. (AAN CAN)

LAPTOP BLOWOUT. FREE Diagnostic. Laptops starting from $298 for ACER, Dell, IBM, Toshiba and more. Laptop/projector rentals-$25/$75. 3 locations! Going fast, call now: 1-888-861-8347.

TOTAL COMPUTER. Commercial service. We do everything. Installation, set-up, training, repair, networking, telephones, DSL, wiring, upgrades. $20 in-home diagnostics. 619-941-1809; cell, 619-607-0221.

Wanted / Trade

PLACE ADS IN THE READER by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

CARDBOARD SHOTGUN and rifle shell boxes (pre-1960), duck and game calls, hunting and fishing badges (pre-1940), and paper licenses (pre-1930). Call 858-565-1756.

CASH FOR WALT DISNEY, Autographs and collections, original animation, comic and advertising art, comics with $0.10/$0.12 cover prices. Vintage Disney/Disneland items, 619-465-3090.

FISHING TACKLE. Collector wants for his personal collection wooden lures, reels, miscellaneous by Heddon, Pflueger, Creek Chub, South Bend, Shakespeare, to name a few. 619-972-3488.

I AM LOOKING for a person who knows carpentry. Exchange for housing. Please call me after 9am. 619-479-4212.

INDIAN ARROWHEADS/ARTIFACTS. Must be authentic. Call Steve at 619-985-8562.

OLD TOYS AND TRAINS. Lionel, American Flyer, Marx. Aurora, Corgi, Dinky, Hot Wheels, Matchbox, slot cars. Buddy-L, Smith-Miller, Structo, Tonka. Old plastic vehicles: Pyro, Renwal. Dave, 858-756-2411.

SEWING MACHINE WANTED. Looking for (heavy duty) sewing machine, 760-994-3525.

WANT TO BUY, heavy duty stand for patio umbrella, 1 and 1/4 inch, 858-272-9795.

Antiques & Collectibles

PLACE ADS IN THE READER by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

ANSTEAD'S AUCTION. We buy antiques, collectibles, household furniture, appliances, TVs, home electronics, pianos. Prompt service. Local buyers. Licensed/bonded. Serving San Diego since 1971. 619-233-3148; 1-888-722-2002.

BUDDHA COLLECTION, 307 PIECES. Slashed prices/final sale. Everything must go! Wood, bronze, resin, marble. Singing bowls, old collection, Nepal, 4"-16", $40 up. 6360 El Cajon Boulevard, San Diego. Open 12-5 daily, closed Monday. 619-582-1100. www.buddha-for-you.com.

FAINTING COUCH, antique, turn of the century, dark walnut frame with gold velvet fabric, $675/best. Amy, 619-231-0030.

FRANKLIN MINT DRAGON, collection. Sculptured dragons on crystal base. $125-$150/a piece. Call to see. Kathy or Ashley, 619-444-3764.

JEWELRY. 50 pieces of sterling silver. Rings, necklaces, brooches, bracelets, earrings, charms, cuff links, $5-$15 each. Very good condition. 619-297-7636.

SCONCE, oil gauge wall light, brass and wood, $40/best. 619-296-7185.

TRAIN, older Marx set, transformers, cars, engines, track, $50. Women's old magazines, 1960s-1970s, $2 box. A blast to the past. Old mantle clock, $25. 619-282-9581.

WANTED: I buy 1950s-1980s rock and roll concert posters, flyers, handbills, used or unused tickets, programs. Private party. Please call 619-501-6210.

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HEAD GASKET Parts and labor. MOST CARS. 4-CYL. $250
MUFFLER INSTALLED MOST CARS. $39.95
CV BOOT INSTALLED $24.95

Garage Sales

PLACE ADS IN THE READER by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

LA JOLLA. Multifamily moving sale. 8/30-8/31, 7am-1pm. Kitchenware, furniture, lamps, computer parts, area rugs, books, clothes, 20" TV. 342 Nautilus Street (off La Jolla Boulevard).

OCEANSIDE. Friday-Sunday, August 29, 30, 31, 8am-4pm. Huge selection, no junk! Computer scanner, metal lathe kitchenware. Formal table setting. Goose down comforter. Electric blanket. Men suits. Women clothing. 2166 Saratoga Street, Oceanside East of 5.

TIERRASANTA. Super Saturday open house. Featuring best in home business products from beauty, jewelry, easy appetizers, preserving family memories, more. Choose to buy or not. 8/30, 10am-5pm. 4455 Shields Street, 92124.

Appliances

PLACE ADS IN THE READER by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

APPLIANCES: Refrigerator frost-free energy saver, stove, washer/dryer: $145 each. 1-year warranty. Leon's Appliances, pick up and delivery. Repairs. Can deliver free. 619-702-3270.

DISHWASHER/DRYER, Late models, multi-function, energy savers. Dishwasher under counter or portable. Dryer can stack or rest on floor. Super deal at $80/each. 619-461-2643.

KENMORE REFRIGERATOR, Single bed frame, boxspring mattress, 2 metal filing cabinets, 4 chairs, bookcase, glassware all shapes and colors, much more, 619-944-9927.

REFRIGERATOR, Whirlpool, 25 cubic feet, side by side, white, 35"Wx69"H, Energy Star, ice/water dispensor in door, $300. Call 619-793-9415.

WASHER/DRYER SETS: Both pieces from $250. Refrigerator, 2 doors, stove, gas or electric, $145. 1-year warranty. Leon's Appliances Pick-Up and Delivery. Repairs. Can deliver free. 619-702-3270.

WHIRLPOOL ELECTRIC DRYER. 2 years old, super capacity plus. 8 cycles. Wrinkle Shield option. Quiet dry noise reduction system, $150. Call Ken anytime, 858-232-3284.

Electronics

PLACE ADS IN THE READER by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

TV, 27" color, flat screen, like new, excellent picture, $160. 619-461-4805.

Furniture

PLACE ADS IN THE READER by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

BAR STOOLS, 2 with black upholstery and chrome, 3 months new, no back support, cost $160, sell $100. 619-339-7318.

BED $100 ABSOLUTE BARGAIN! The Furniture Warehouse is now open to the public. We sell warehouse direct. Come see our large showroom. We have over 70 sets in stock from $89! 995 Bay Boulevard, Chula Vista, 91911. Open 11am-7pm daily. Closed Monday. Credit cards accepted. Legitimate warranties in writing! Fast delivery. Call 619-426-2727. www.tfwarehouse.com.

BED $169 A BARGAIN. A Ortho Pillowtop Queen, new in plastic with warranty, mattress/box. All sizes. Credit cards accepted. Can deliver. 800-464-6420. North County, 800-464-6490.

BED FRAME, metal, fits different size beds, can be easily taken apart to be transported in a car, $20. 858-277-3065.

BED: DISCOUNT FURNITURE and Mattress. Bed sets, dinettes, sofas, sectionals, mattresses and more! 30%-70% below retail every day! Free layaway, free financing, 12 months no interest/no payments. Fast delivery. Open Monday-Friday, 10am-7pm, Saturday/Sunday, 11am-5pm. Factory warranties included. 858-495-3325. Address: 4810 Mercury Street, San Diego, 92111. www.realdealfurniture.com.

BOOKCASE, maple, 2 years old, dimensions 72"Hx24.5"Wx23.5"D, $150. Jen, 858-678-0333.

BOOKCASES. Oak, walnut, mahogany, cherry, or teak, choice of 2x2, 2x6, 3x3, 3x4, 3x6, 4x6, 4x7, remodeling office, $25-$150. 619-670-8356.

BUNKBEDS. Wooden. Excellent condition. No mattresses. $150. Santee 619-328-2471.

CHINA CABINET, slate top, 72"x31, matching server, 46"x31, $400. Oak rolltop desk, 52"x45-1/2", $150. Highback fireside chairs, $40. 760-599-0249.

DESIGNER high-end Roche Bobois/Treasures furniture. Tuscany-style sofa, 1 year old. Bed, Treasures, mattress and box spring. Queen chair/ottoman. Matching dinette, wine armoire. 858-454-4049.

DINING ROOM TABLE SET, beautiful condition with extension leaf, 8 chairs, 6 armless, 2 with arms, chair seats upholstered with no stains, $950/best. 858-536-9770.

DINING TABLE, oak, with 6 chairs, always covered, excellent condition, $400. Pictures and delivery available. 619-280-5155.

ELECTRIC TWIN BED, LazyBoy, good condition, $300. 619-464-4083.

EXECUTIVE DESK, and matching conference table, faux marble, very nice condition, easy move. $850 or $500/each. 3 other desks pictures available. Can deliver, 619-280-5155.

FURNITURE. Save 40% or more! Order from manufacturers' catalogues and save. Factory direct store. Solid cherry, maple, oak or pine, American made Vermont craftsmanship or imported. San Diego's best home furnishings source since 1960. Member of the Better Business Bureau. Al Davis Furniture, 1601 University Avenue, 2 blocks west of Park Boulevard in Hillcrest. www.davisworld.com or email to info@davisworld.com. Call 619-296-1221.

HUTCH, beautiful folkart trastaro from Michoaca, Mexico, 7'Hx4'x18", rare, carved birds, asking $1200. Serious only. 760-290-3545.

MATTRESS $125. Orthopedic mattress, plush, queen, new with warranty. Must sell. Can deliver. Twin, full and king also available. Call 619-929-5244.

MATTRESS BOX PILLOWTOP SET. New in plastic with warranty. Queen $169. King $239. Credit cards accepted. Can deliver. Call 800-464-6420. North County, 800-464-6490.

MATTRESSES. Save 40% or more! Mattress World in Hillcrest sells new beds at warehouse pricing lower than regular stores. Student specials. Legitimate warranties. Fast delivery or pickup. Name brands. Member of the Better Business Bureau. Authorized Sealy, Simmons, Spring Air, Aireloom dealer. Also Latex, chemical-free and Swedish style Visco-Memory! Mattress World, 1601 University Avenue, 2 blocks west of Park Boulevard in Hillcrest. www.sandiegobeds.com or email to: info@davisworld.com. Call: 619-260-8000.

SMALL DINETTE TABLE. Maple wood, with leaf it is oval 3'x4' or 42"x52" without leaf it is round. 4 matching chairs. Can seat 8. $125, 858-675-0568.

SOFA, Stickney type, good condition, wood frame with spindle sides, needs cushions, $50. Stereo cabinet and TV stand, $50. 619-460-5975.

Miscellaneous For Sale

PLACE ADS IN THE READER by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

BARBECUE, Charcoal with rotisseries and many items $35, 858-279-9050.

BED$ A PILLOWTOP MATTRESS Box Set. New in plastic with warranty. Queen $169. King $239. Credit cards accepted. Can deliver. 800-464-6420. North County, 800-464-6490.

CEMETERY PLOTS, Greenwood Memorial Park, King David Jewish section, row 10, lot 363, 2 side by side, priced below market. Call 858-220-6771 or 858-277-1377.

CHINA SETS, Noritake bamboo pattern serves 8, mint! $350. Matching tea set $175. Floral 40 piece set, $275 pictures available, 858-864-2708.

DESK, 6 drawers, 38"Wx78"L, and chair, $50. Wedding dress, hat, shoes, size 8, $50 all. Off-road tires, 18" and 21", 2 each, $5 each. Table glass top, 36"Wx50"L, $25. 858-277-7197.

FLOATING ISLAND butcher block, solid oak, 26x38x36, drawers both sides, like new, paid $950, asking $250. Earl, 619-283-9010.

FREE DIRT, clean, no rocks or weeds, native soil, large or small amounts available, any quantity OK. Pacific Beach area, 858-459-9358.

GOOD PROPANE, burnisher, $400. Ramp $125. Willie 619-462-1250.

HEAVY METAL MAGAZINES. Original issues, $800, 619-420-9167.

LAWN MOWER, Honda, $45. Expensive car cover, $25. Large antique iron farm wheel, $45. Canoe, 17' aluminum, $295. Car top clam shell carrier, $12. 858-581-1869.

PATIO TABLE, concrete, seats 6, high grade, your choice of tile installed, all weather, $300. Credit cards accepted. 760-250-7055.

POCKET DOORS, 10 pane, prehung, over all 72"x80", never painted or stained, $450. Jim, 619-665-3103.

PUSH LAWN MOWER, $25. Garden swing, $30. Garden cart, $15. World War II pilot's leather jacket, $125. Toy cars, 200, $55. Dress form, $35. 858-581-6223.

RESTAURANT EQUIPMENT liquidation sale. 1508 E Street (downtown), San Diego 92101. Everything you need to open a restaurant. Too much to list. 619-981-0789.

SHOES, men's 9-1/2 to 10-1/2, $5. Luggage, no wheels, 28"x20", $8. Tire, temporary, used T105-80-D13, 4 lugs, $15. Bike parts, $1.50. Elegant bamboo patio chair, $6. 619-583-3751.

SPA/HOT TUB. Deluxe 2008 model. Neck jets, therapy seat. Never used! Warranty. Can deliver. Worth $5950, sell for $1950. 858-530-0980.

SWIM SPAS, FACTORY DIRECT. Everyday price beats any retail store! Over 20 years. Lightning, Colossus, Tahitian models featured. Expanding into San Diego. JC Spas, 866-477-2748.

TELESCOPE, William Optics, tripod and accessories, $2350. Megrez ED Doublet 110mm, Celestron Advanced GT motorized tripod, power supply, 12Vdc to 110Vac adapter, eyepieces, more. 858-342-3393.

TOOLS. Rockwell door plane #126, $200. Rockwell belt sander #361, 3"x24", $100. 760-941-9371.

TRAILER, 6'1/2"x9'x12', not registered, good tires, $500. Bed/dresser, double, circa 50", $25. Boat stuff, props, fishing poles, boat winch, $35 for all. Boat motor. 619-442-8605.

VINTAGE CALIFORNIA CYPRESS coffee table with resin top crystals inside tree base, signed and numbered. $1200/best. Call Jonathan, 800-884-9395.

Motorcycles

PLACE ADS IN THE READER by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

HONDA CB-750, 1980, salvage title, piston damage, $675 or will part out engine, frame, and all accessories. Douglas, 619-232-2020.

HONDA VTX 1800R, 2005, beautiful titanium VTX Retro model, new, out of box 11/06, 7K miles, massive power, awesome styling, shaft drive, $7950. 858-200-3379, 858-334-9230.

MOTORCYCLE REPAIRS! Mobile service. We come to your home or office. Tune-ups, oil changes, brakes, much more. Honda, Kawasaki, Suzuki, Yamaha. Credit cards accepted, low prices. House Calls Motorcycle Repair, 800-481-6531. www.housecallsmotorcyclerepair.com.

SCOONY SCOOTERS. Licensed, bonded, insured dealership. 2 new models to choose from. Starting from $2599. We take care of DMV paperwork. Ricky Schoonover, 619-894-1048. www.ScoonyScooters.com.

YAMAHA ROYAL STAR. 1999. Only 2400 miles. Red. Mint, all chrome parts and windshield, factory. Leather bags, special pipes, $8500. Originally $19,000, 619-464-4083.

Automotive Cars

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T.G.I.F.

Jimmy and I were a little past the point of just feeling lucky to get wood on the ball.

By John Brizzolara

The end of summer is at hand, and I may well miss it. Jumping the gun a bit, but not by much, I find myself less disgruntled, overheated, and dying for that sense of "death in the air that really gets the boys' pens moving," as Hemingway once wrote to Fitzgerald around this time of year. Writing this at the very beginning of August, again, I say, I may be congratulating myself prematurely. Still, not bad, not bad as summers go.

I never went to summer camp, but what I had was baseball on Chicago's West Side. It was a very large city park across from St. Robert Bellarmine school, which my cousin Jim attended. He was a genius — a doctor today, and he was always meant to be. No question. Jimmy was a good pitcher, very good. So was I, but he was better, so I hit better, which landed me in right field most of the time. Shortly after dawn, Jimmy and I would wake up on those '60s summer mornings and put out the call in front of six to ten friends' houses up and down Merrimac and Montrose Streets: "Yo-oh, Vinny! Yo-oh, Ant'ny! Yo-oh, Stosh! Hey, Missus DeSilvio! Can Ant'ny and Ant'ny come out to play?"

Jimmy had an A2000 pitcher's glove worth $60. I forgot what I had. Jimmy's dad was a cop and would sometimes hit some out to us. Both he and my father were giants with the strength of major-league colossi. Each fly ball was a thing of awe and beauty, every grounder a haiku of grace and restraint. Jimmy and I were a little past the point of just feeling lucky to get wood on the ball, but it puzzled us as to why our fathers were not famous all-star legends. Why would you want to be a cop or an advertising insurance copywriter if you could hit and field like that?

Royal Crown Cola in 16 oz. bottles is part of that memory. Nothing ever tasted as good as that, not after that last summer. Not even Royal Crown Cola. Not even booze.

We never had nine guys on a team, but often we would have five or six, which was plenty. From 7 a.m. to sundown at 8:30, even 9 o'clock, stopping for a lunch of Italian sausage or salami sandwiches, we played baseball. Years later, trying to recapture the taste of that salami, I entered a Jewish delicatessen on Court Street in Brooklyn. Not realizing this was a kosher joint, I asked for Italian salami. The guy behind the counter called into the back, "Murray! What's Italian salami?" From the wings offstage came the reply, "It's the same as kosher only it's got hairs in it." For dinner it was often spaghetti (before it was called pasta) or my aunt Louise's neighborhood-famous ravioli. I'm sure we ate other things in that house with my two aunts, grandmother, and two uncles, but I can't remember anything else except stuffed peppers...maybe pot roast.

If this sounds idyllic, cornball, ethnic, I suppose it was, but I never played stickball (didn't know what it was) and we never had to play in sandlots, whatever they were. We had vacant lots, but they were for target practice on rats with my uncle's .22 when we couldn't get to the range or the dumps.

I remember my Uncle Lenny's police service .38 wheel gun lying out on the kitchen counter whenever he was home. We never messed with it because there was no mystery. We loaded 12-gauge shotgun shells for him (and us sometimes) in the basement with a lever device like a one-armed bandit. I remember motorcycle rides on Lenny's police cycle through the alleys of the West Side. I don't know if Leonard Kozlowski is still alive. I hope so. He was a good man who helped my family after my father's death in 1968.

It must have been humid, but that's not what I remember. I recall fireworks set off by my dad and uncle and the "punks" used to touch them off (Jimmy and I were allowed those and sparklers), most of which had to have been confiscated as police evidence. Cherry bombs and M80s. Those were the summers of Riverview Amusement Park, the coolest place in the world, where Paul Newman and Robert Redford would be filmed in scenes from *The Sting* just a few years later, before the whole place was demolished.

On Sundays, Jimmy would serve Mass at St. Robert's. Very serious he was about this, and I could never crack him up. After Mass it was a daylong feast of antipasto, sandwiches, sodas, Carling Black Label beer and Chianti, cold-cuts and sausage, and the ever-present vat of marinara sauce. In the attic, Jimmy and I would eat off of TV trays piled with food. My aunts thought we were skinny, and we were, and I remember Jimmy's mom, Aunt Ruth, telling me repeatedly, "Johnny, you got such a nice head of hair. Get it cut, for crissakes." We watched *Flash Gordon, Captain Blood*, and WWII movies all in black-and-white but somehow full of more Technicolor than the real thing.

When it rained, that's all we did, watch movies: Henry Aldrich was a recurring character, now long forgotten, from 1940s films; *The Sea Hawk*, with Errol Flynn (it was his long hair I wanted ever since, not the Beatles'); even Jack Benny and Bob Hope and Bing Crosby in road movies. Tarzan, too.

Or we read. Jimmy read Tom Swift books and adult war novels (which I also liked), while I read the Hardy Boys and H.G. Wells. We read each other imitation sports articles we had written on his typewriter about our own games or the Cubs or Sox if we'd been taken to Comiskey or Wrigley that Saturday.

Puberty put an end to all that. And if this past summer was a pretty good one, it can't compare. None of them can, except maybe the summer of 1977 in New York. It's been called the Summer of Sam, at least in the movie by that name, but I think of it as the Summer of Geoff. My son was born on August 27 of that year. Happy birthday, son.

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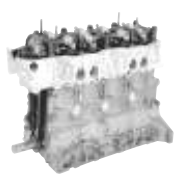

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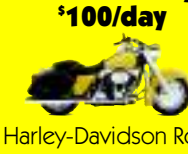

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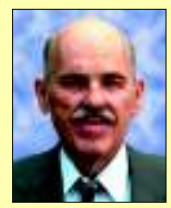

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