

Palo
Alto

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Weekly

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Graduation '09

Palo Alto seniors celebrate graduation

Songs, bubbles and bullhorns punctuate ceremonies at Gunn and Palo Alto high schools Wednesday

by Chris Kenrick and Emily James

With bubbles, bullhorns, balloons, leis, banners, bouquets and cheers, Palo Alto's two public high schools graduated 873 students Wednesday night.

At Gunn High School, Principal Noreen Likins presented 452 seniors. Accepting them and awarding diplomas were school board Vice President Barbara Klausner, board members Dana Tom and Melissa Baten Caswell, assistant superintendents Virginia Davis and Scott Laurence and Chief Business Official Robert Golton.

At Palo Alto High School, Principal Jacqueline McEvoy presented 421 seniors to school board President Barbara Mitchell. The students shook hands with and received diplomas from school district Superintendent Kevin Skelly, Assistant Superintendent Scott Bowers, Chief Business Officer Cathy Mak and school board member Camille Townsend.

The entire Paly senior class spontaneously broke out singing, "Hey Now, You're a Rock Star," by Smash Mouth early in the ceremony.

"No matter what you do, please make sure you love it," Paly commencement speaker Christian Joshua Guerrero advised his classmates.

"Make every single breath of yours count. You've got one life — live it with a smile," he said.

Paly student speaker Jess Brooks said she will miss "our stressed-out, intellectual and thoroughly incredible student body." This past year "I realized how quietly amazing so many of my classmates are," Brooks said.

"As the children of the Baby Boom, the most prosperous generation in history, we've received many benefits, but also have seen the les-



Gunn High School Principal Noreen Likins shakes a graduate's hand during commencement ceremonies on June 10.

son that follows from unbridled growth and consumption," Paly student body President Erik Klingbeil told graduates and their families.

"We, the echo boomers, can learn

from this legacy and now we have the chance to make changes for the benefit of others, and the responsibility to do so."

McEvoy said more than 90 per-

cent of Paly's graduates will attend college this fall, "including many of the leading colleges and universities in the nation.

"Over the next four years, schol-

arships for the class of 2009 will total in the millions of dollars. We have students who have overcome extraordinary personal obstacles to be on stage today, and students who will be the first in their families to attend college.

"We celebrate their success. Today, we honor each and every student for their achievements over the last four years," McEvoy said.

At Gunn, three graduating seniors addressed their classmates in an outdoor ceremony. Meghna Dholakia, Justin Kahn and Tenny Zhang shared memories of Gunn, worries about what comes after graduation and plans for the future.

Dholakia encouraged her peers to take a chance and discover something new.

"The paths to success aren't as straight or as narrow as you might think," she said. "It doesn't matter where you end up, because in the end it is the journey that counts."

(continued on page 5)



On the Web

The following special graduation features are available at the Weekly's website, www.PaloAltoOnline.com:

Videos of the ceremony at Palo Alto High School, plus additional photographs from Castilleja School and Gunn High School.

Lists of graduates from: Castilleja, Eastside Prep, Gunn, Palo Alto, Kellilah, Menlo School, Menlo-Atherton, Mid-Peninsula, Palo Alto Preparatory, Sacred Heart and Woodside Priory.

On the cover: Kimberli Reed walks back to her seat after receiving her diploma from Palo Alto High School on June 10. Photo by Clifford Pham.

Voices of '09

Plugged in, globalized and ready to take on the world

by Chris Kenrick

The plugged-in generation. The globalized generation. The competitive generation.

Local high school seniors graduating this week used these phrases and more to describe themselves as they discussed their hopes and dreams for the future and challenges they face.

Several dozen graduating seniors from 10 public and private high schools — in interviews with the Weekly — sought ways to define their generation and speculated

on how their lives will differ from those of their parents.

Technology is the dominant theme. The graduates mused on how they are the first generation to grow up entirely with both technology's unprecedented opportunities for solving problems and its downsides.

"We are the first generation that is in constant communication with one another through Facebook, MySpace, AIM, cell phones and more," said Atherton resident Con-

stance "Consi" Hiller, who is heading from Woodside Priory School in Woodside to the Engineering School of the University of Southern California in Los Angeles.

"The speed in which we can communicate and the availability of constant interruption is unique to our generation, and we need to learn to cope with all of these distractions," Hiller said in an e-mail — between interruptions.

"I have to set my devices aside in order to have a meaningful train of thought. While just answering these questions, I have been contacted in three different ways at least five times."

The biggest challenge is "how to filter our means of communication and stream it into something positive," Hiller said.

An example of "positive" was added by Menlo School graduate Amy Wipfler of Menlo Park: "People our age have so much information at their fingertips. Our generation has the opportunity to apply this vast amount of information to the ever-mounting number of social, political and economic problems the world faces."

In East Palo Alto, many graduates of both public and private high schools look to college next year with a special kind of excitement: They'll be the first in their families to have the opportunity to attend.

"We will be known for closing the achievement gap," senior Shayla Bunch of Eastside Preparatory School said, when asked what de-

fines her generation.

Bunch said her mother, who did not finish high school, began in the fast-food industry and now works two jobs — checking groceries at Safeway and filing at Stanford University — to give her two daughters a better chance. Bunch will attend Emory University in Atlanta this fall and her older sister, Samantha, just finished her freshman year at Temple University in Philadelphia.

"My mother is working to give my sister and me more options in life," Bunch said. "She didn't have very many. If she had the choice, she probably would go back to school."

Bunch's story was echoed by

(continued on page 6)

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“

I'm going to the East Coast for college because I feel like once Palo Alto sucks you in, you end up living here for 20 years.

”

— **Grace LaPier**, Palo Alto High School graduate, on her thoughts about the future. See story on page 3.

Around Town

BRIDGE OVER TROUBLED WATER ... Ever since the 1998 flood, residents in Palo Alto's Crescent Park neighborhood have viewed the Chaucer Street bridge as a silent menace. The bridge, which spans the volatile San Francisquito Creek, acted like a dam during the 1998 storm, trapping water that otherwise would've traveled downstream and spilling it over local basements and living rooms.

Now that a regional plan to calm the creek is accelerating, neighborhood residents are renewing their push to get Palo Alto to renovate the bridge to improve flood control. On Monday, the City Council heard a presentation from **Len Materman**, executive director of the San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority. Shortly after Materman outlined the various options for flood-control improvement, several residents asked the council to keep the bridge in mind. **Norm Beamer**, president of the Crescent Park Neighborhood Association, asked the council not to let the progress instill a sense of complacency when it comes to fixing the bridge. **Art Kraemer**, who also lives in the neighborhood, said the proposed solutions wouldn't eliminate the need for a better bridge. The Crescent Park Neighborhood Association will host a public hearing to discuss flood control around the creek. The meeting will take place at 7 p.m. on June 23 at the Palo Alto Art Center, 1313 Newell Road.


ALL APOLOGIES ... A few hours after the Palo Alto City Council apologized to the Children's Theatre staff for the botched police investigation into theater operations, Councilman **Yiaway Yeh** issued his own apology to his council colleagues. His crime? Not driving fast enough. On June 6, Yeh participated in the Silicon Valley Soap Box Derby, a competition organized by Palo Alto Elks and featuring mayors and councilmen from seven cities in the region. Saratoga Mayor **Chuck Page** took the first place in the race, while Yeh, who was making his soap box derby debut, finished fifth. The problem? "I didn't dip my head down low enough to cut

through the air," Yeh told the council. "I just wanted to send my regrets." After a few moments of sorrowful and shameful silence (interrupted by snickers from the dais and the audience), Mayor **Peter Dreke** offered Yeh a few wise words of consolation. "These things happen," Dreke said. "We will carry on as a city."

HIGHER RANKING ... Palo Alto High School and Gunn High School may never resolve their cross-town rivalry, but according to one recent study, both schools have something to be proud of. The city's two public high schools both made the list of top 1,500 public high schools in America and, in doing so, placed in the top 6 percent nationwide. Newsweek's high-school rankings are based on the number of Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate and Cambridge tests each school administers and the number of students it has. Gunn High finished 114th in the nation. Paly was ranked 544th. But while the scores reaffirm each school's elite status, they also represent a slight drop from last year's rankings. In 2008, Gunn ranked 83rd on the Newsweek list while Paly ranked 337th.

MOVING ON ... Among the notable retirements from the Palo Alto schools this month are **Sombat Lucia**, **Marie Scigliano** and **Norma Street**. You may recognize Lucia as the lady holding up the stop sign at the corner of Middlefield and Embarcadero roads as children, parents and dogs cross to and from Walter Hays School. With her bright orange vest and cheerful morning greetings, Lucia has guarded the intersection for the past 24 years. Scigliano retires as the school district's director of education and information technology after 38 years in public education, the last 11 in Palo Alto. Street, office supervisor at Gunn High School who has served for 23 years under four principals, plans to travel with her husband of 50 years and spend more time with their grandchildren. She also wants to volunteer with some nonprofit organizations. ■

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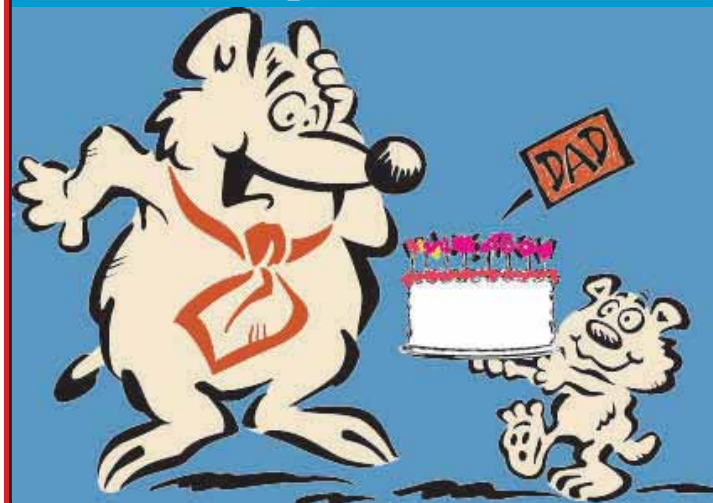


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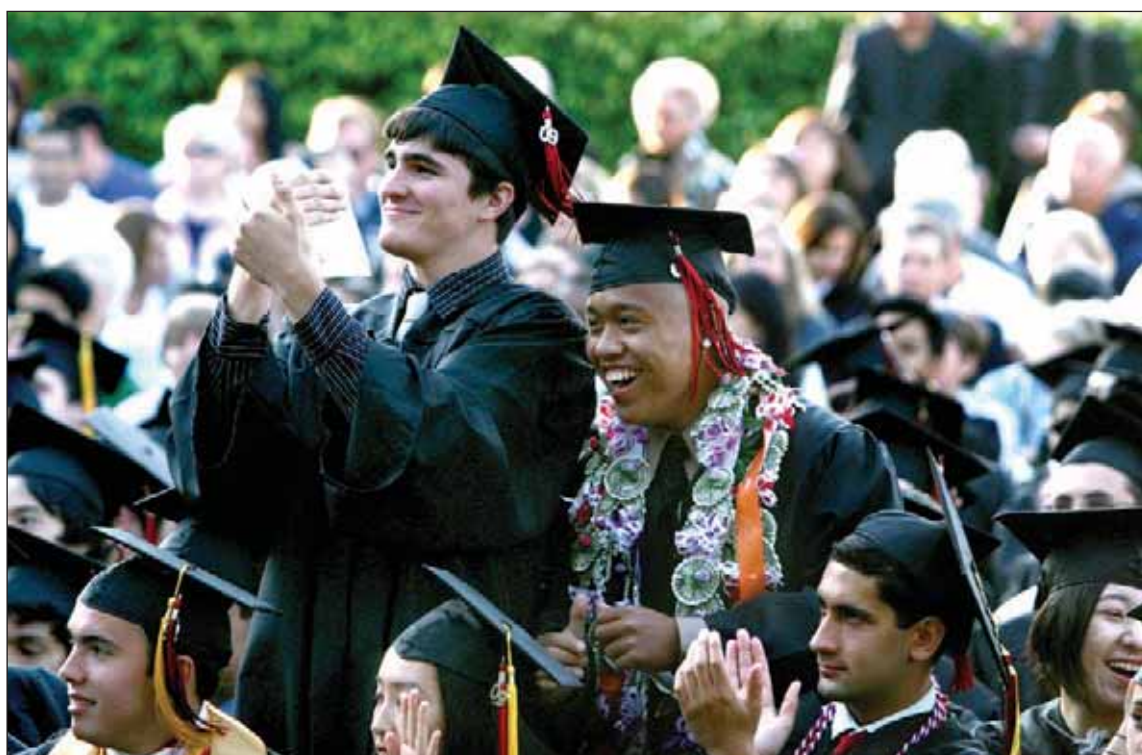
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Pamela Wong, left, and Thomas Cho eagerly await the beginning of the ceremony for Palo Alto High School's graduating class of 2009.

Clifford Phan



Gunn High School football players (Scott Kennan, left, and AJ Tabalno) applaud their classmates during commencement exercises on June 10.

Veronica Weber

Graduation

(continued from page 3)

Kahn compared the support students offer one another to the support redwood tree roots provide in their grove.

"It takes an entire grove of redwoods for the trees to stand tall," Kahn said.

Growing tall has not been easy, but his peers have built a community that has made the experience a much easier and more enjoyable one, he said.

Zhang shared her fear of the future and the possibilities of failure.

"Despite the obstacles ahead, I do believe in our readiness," Zhang said. "Here, friends are like family and teachers are like friends." It is because of this closeness that Zhang believes she has been prepared for her future.

Guest speaker Julie Lythcott-Haims, dean of freshmen at Stanford University, introduced popular lingo into her speech, filling the amphitheatre with laughs from students and parents alike as she explained how "hoot" means "lame"

to students, but parents define it as a funny happening.

Despite their etymological differences, this generation of students has a closer relationship with their parents than any other generation,

she said. She encouraged students to maintain those relationships as they leave home on new adventures, and she advised parents to support their kids. If they have the courage to come to you and share their hopes and dreams, support them, Lythcott-Haims said.

At both ceremonies, references to the recent suicides of two Gunn students were brief and indirect.

Gunn student speaker Zhang mentioned "a brilliant costume designer and activist" as one of the many

impressive people she had come to know in school.

"We've struggled with multiple tragedies both at Paly and at Gunn," Paly Principal McEvoy said.

"When all is said and done it's our strong sense of community and the relationships we have with one another that help us get through." ■

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Eric Brandt



Left, Menlo School graduates acknowledge their fellow students during commencement on June 9. Above, Gunn High School graduate Fololina Latu, center, receives leis and a kiss from her aunt, Lucia Toa, right, and cousin, Marybeth Savou after commencement.

Veronica Weber



Castilleja School graduates laugh during the speech by fellow student Xanthia Tucker (not pictured) during commencement on June 6.

Veronica Weber

Castilleja graduates 61 students in white, with red flowers

Students and Google's Mayer ponder originality, poetry and life lessons

by Chris Kenrick

Carrying red and white bouquets, 61 students at Castilleja School graduated Saturday.

Each girl wore a white dress — one, a white kimono — of her own choosing.

Looking back on her Castilleja education, valedictorian Amy Lanctot mused on a quotation from the writer Dorothy L. Sayers: "A facility for quotation covers an absence of original thought."

"Castilleja is a school that revels in quotation," Lanctot said. "Implicit in quotation is deference to

the past, a feeling that precedence lends legitimacy.

"Have our highly honed skills of research, rote learning and lecture absorption stifled our abilities to think for ourselves?" Lanctot asked.

"Of course not," she said. "Castilleja itself excels at fostering original thinking.

"With all due respect to Ms. Sayers, (our) facility for quotation hides no absence of original thought, but rather is the foundation of our own ideas. It is this extensive list of my sources that has allowed me to produce my own quotations, to present

my own thoughts to the world."

Salutatorian Xanthia Tucker reflected on poetry — her love of reading it, and writing it, from a young age. "My classmates, you have been my muses for the past four or six years; you are my poetry," she said.

Castilleja graduates and their families also heard from Marissa Mayer, Google's vice president for search, products and user experience, who spoke to the girls about her life lessons. ■

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Voices

(continued from page 3)

many others.

At the public charter school East Palo Alto Academy High School, senior Kiara Gaytan, the daughter of Mexican immigrants, plans to go to Notre Dame de Namur University in Belmont.

"My parents and many of my friends' parents came from Mexico to pursue the American dream. We know what they went through and we don't want to go through the same thing," Gaytan said, adding that her mother works for a dry cleaner and her father is unemployed.

Those students — from Eastside Prep, the private Mid-Peninsula High School in Menlo Park and East Palo Alto Academy High School, as well as some schools on the west side of Highway 101 — credited their teachers for believing in their potential and sticking with them through thick and thin.

"My teachers were more than just my path to knowledge — they were my best friends," said Deepak Charan, who is heading from East Palo Alto Academy High School to study business and computer science at California State University, East Bay, in Hayward.

A global perspective — from Latin America to Asia to the Middle East and Africa — also defines the Class of 2009.

Menlo's Wipfler will attend this summer's G8 Summit in Italy on a Rotary Club scholarship before heading to Tufts University in Massachusetts this fall.

Gunn High School graduates Danielle Aspitz and Emmiliese von Clemm each will take a "gap year" — Aspitz in Israel and von Clemm in India, Indonesia and South America — before heading, respectively, to Washington University in St. Louis and Princeton University in New Jersey in the fall of 2010.

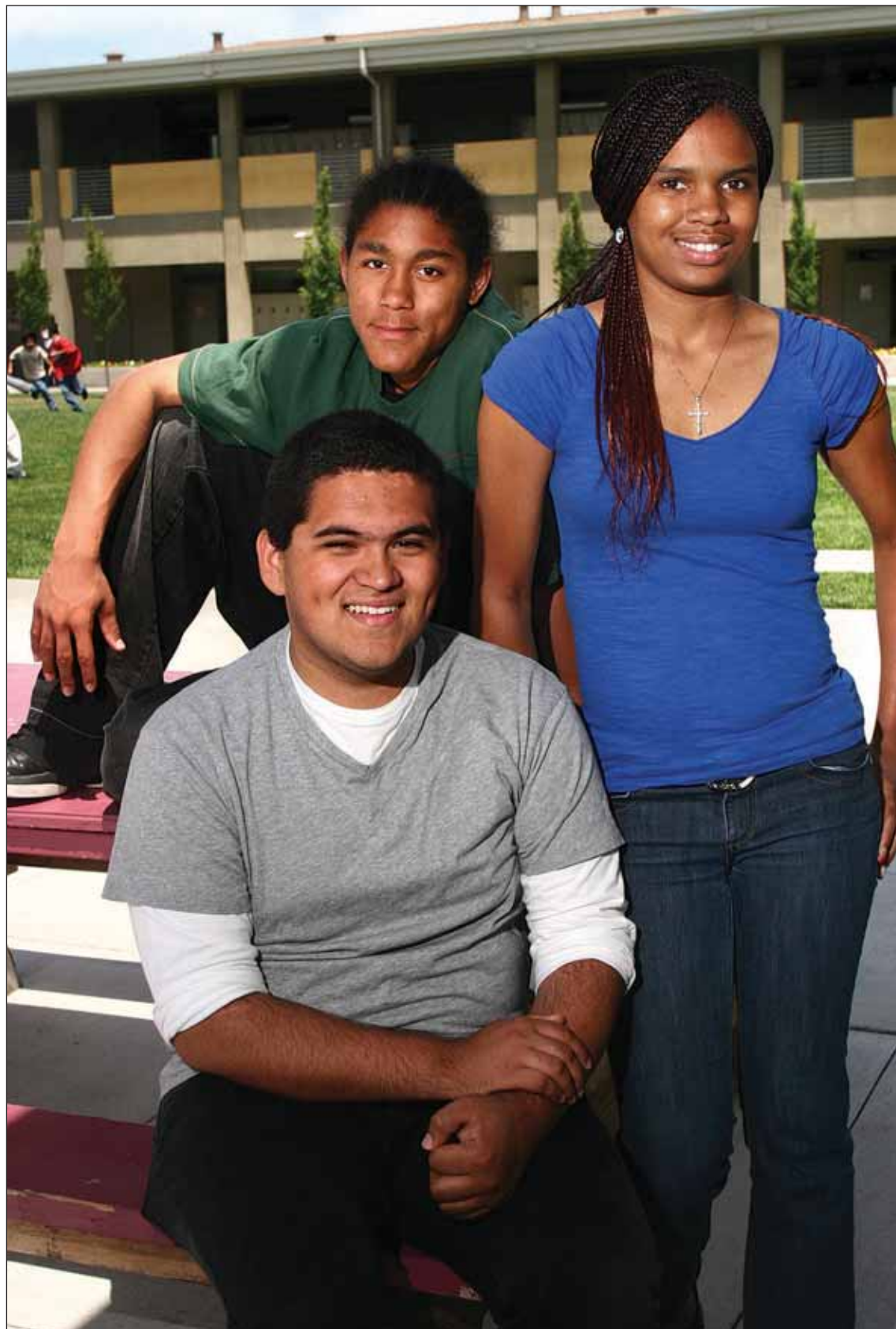
With an array of college options, Palo Alto High School graduate Becky Byler said she finally settled on Georgia Tech in Atlanta because it offers an "international plan" option with any major and will put a global spin on her planned study of biomedical engineering and pre-med, including substantial time abroad.

Byler, who has spent summers in Panama and Nicaragua with the international nonprofit organization Amigos, said she hopes to minor in Spanish and International Relations and eventually serve in the Peace Corps.

"I'm studying biomedical engineering and pre-med so I can bring that knowledge over to the Americas and find ways to bring basic health care to these communities for them to use on their own," she said.

Observing the shifting balances of power in the world, several graduates said they are planning their futures accordingly.

"It seems as though the United States is becoming less of a global power and foreign governments are having increasing influence on the global community," said Erik Klingbeil, who served as student body president at Paly. "With that happening, I think it's important that



Dwayne Williams, left, Francisco Tamayo and Shayla Bunch, of Eastside Preparatory School in East Palo Alto, will head for Gonzaga University, Yale University and Emory University, respectively.

people have at least a background in international relations.

Klingbeil, whose Eagle Scout project was raising \$45,000 and assembling 1,500 medical kits for African and South American hospitals through the nonprofit organization World Vision, has earned a full scholarship to Rhodes College in Memphis.

There he hopes to study international relations, which he views as a good foundation for a career in law or finance.

For Beijing-born Gunn graduate Tenny Zhang, the increasing international influence of China has been a significant factor in her family's life.

"For my generation, we've grown up in the United States so I feel more American than Chinese while my parents definitely feel more Chinese than American," said Zhang,

whose family moved to the United States when she was 4.

"When they were growing up, China was kind of behind in terms of its economy and status in the world. Now China is gaining a lot of respect, getting more capitalistic and adapting to this new way of operating.

"For my generation, the two countries are more the same because China has become more globalized. For my parents, to go from when they were in China and to see it now, it's a huge change for them and they definitely feel very proud about how far China has come."

Late in May Zhang was still trying to choose between Brown University in Rhode Island or the University of California at Berkeley. She expects to pursue a career in medicine, but may choose a major in the social sciences despite the preferences of

her parents, both physicists.

"They're really open to whatever I want to do, but I definitely feel they prefer I went into biology over history," Zhang said. "They tend to think science is basically the best thing ever."

Jessica Lee, a graduate of Pinewood School in Los Altos Hills, is considering a psychology major at Boston University.

"I believe my generation will be known for and will be set apart by competition," Lee said. "From what I have experienced, this year is one of the most competitive years to get into college — and in the future, when we are looking for jobs, it will again be filled with competition."

Paly grad Paul Brown is heading to Cuesta Community College in San Luis Obispo with an eye on a career that, despite global competition, cannot be outsourced — con-

struction management.

After two years at Cuesta, Brown said he hopes to transfer into the construction-management program at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo.

Like generations before them, the Class of '09 has no easy answers to the timeless dilemma of career/family balance.

"From what I've heard, there's no good time to have a kid if you want to be a doctor," said Paly's Grace LaPier, who is heading for pre-med studies at Williams College in Massachusetts.

"I think if I do end up wanting children I will adopt them, and hopefully my partner will be willing to help a lot in taking care of them. Otherwise, I might be in trouble."

Gaytan of East Palo Alto Academy said she intends to establish a career in health care and become an anesthesiologist before having children. She wants to avoid the situation of many parents she knows, who work by the hour and rarely if ever visit their children's schools because they cannot afford to take time off.

"I'll be able to be more involved in my children's education and help them out," Gaytan said.

East Palo Alto resident Manuel "Manny" Salvador Andrade of Mid-Peninsula High already knows he wants to have five children.

"I come from a big family — I'm the oldest of six — and I love caring for my little brothers, helping them out, being someone who's older and wiser," said the Mexican-born Andrade, who was sworn in as a United States citizen on April 15.

Andrade spends weekends performing at baptisms, weddings and *quinceaneras* with his band "El Mysterio de Michoacan" (he plays accordion). He said he plans to study nursing at California State University, East Bay and hopes eventually to become a doctor.

Several graduates expressed an interest in staying home full-time with children, but not all.

Gunn's Amarelle-Natalie Hanyecz spoke for many when she said: "I could never be a stay-at-home mom because I wouldn't be able to pursue my dreams and passions. On the other hand, I couldn't be happy without a family of my own and I love kids. Ideally, I'll be able to have the type of job which will allow me to be flexible with my time so I can always be there for my family."

Hanyecz, who plans to study communications at the University of Southern California and eventually earn an MBA, hopes to open her own business.

With only a few exceptions, graduates expressed admiration for their parents, but differed on whether they expect their lives to be like those of their moms and dads.

Servando Barriga, who is heading from Woodside Priory to the University of California at Santa Barbara, said he hopes his life will be different.

"My parents are immigrants to the United States and have had to fight and work hard for everything

Veronica Weber

that they have received in life, which is not much, especially in terms of monetary status," he said. They came to the U.S. for him and his two sisters, he said.

"My older sister recently graduated from UCLA, I am attending UCSB and my little sister is in sixth grade, so their mission is working thus far."

Mid-Peninsula's Andrade echoed Barriga's sentiments: "My parents don't speak a lot of English, so my life's going to be different in that way," he said of his father, who owns a tire shop, and his mother, a homemaker.

"My mom, she knows how to cook — maybe I could open her up a restaurant in the future."

"My life will be really different because neither of my parents went to a four-year college, so they just have jobs, not necessarily careers," Erica Wilson of East Palo Alto, a Mid-Peninsula graduate who plans to train as a math teacher at Dominican University, said.

"I know for a fact I will have a career, not a job — something I like and have a passion for, not something I dread doing every day."

Pinewood graduate Ethan Lalakea Alter, heading to the University of Pennsylvania, said his parents, a lawyer and a doctor, "took the path of getting as much education as they could and then getting a job with that education."

"My path is looking like it's going to be fairly similar unless I have some visionary roommate at Penn who encourages me to step off the beaten path and start a company, and that's possible."

Paly's Byler said of her parents, both scientists and engineers: "I hope my life is similar to theirs. I think they live a good life. They're both very happy and that's what I'm striving for, too — having all the people I love around me."

Atherton resident Christian "Chipper" Montalvo, heading east to Boston College after Woodside Priory, said: "I can only wish that I will live as gifted of a life as my parents."

One East Palo Alto graduate, who said his mother kicked him out of the house the day after his 16th birthday, takes daily inspiration from a letter she wrote.

"It says I'm no good and will never amount to anything, and I carry it everywhere I go as inspiration to prove her wrong," said the student, who will be the first in his family to attend college, a private university where he will study engineering.

"I'm not looking to gloat — just holding onto that letter to make sure I keep pushing as hard as I can push."

"At first the letter hurt me, but I know I can't dwell on certain things that have happened. I realized it's better to take it, make it kind of positive and go from there."

Teachers, friends and his school community have been his family since he is estranged from his biological parents and siblings, the student said.

The class of '09 is ready for adventure, but the lure of settling eventually in the Bay Area is powerful.

"It would be great living elsewhere,



Graduating seniors Manuel Salvador Andrade, left, Katy McGlynn Gilbert, Anthony Souffront and Erica Wilson take a break at Mid-Peninsula High School in Menlo Park. Andrade will study nursing and hopes eventually to become a doctor. Gilbert wants to become a sex therapist. Wilson will study to become a math teacher and Souffront is undecided.

Veronica Weber

but even stronger is my desire to come back and help other people like myself who come from at-risk backgrounds," said Yale-bound Eastside Prep graduate Francisco Tamayo of East Palo Alto. "I would like to check out the East Coast, but this is my roots, this is where I'm from."

Gaytan said she wants to establish her career and then move back to East Palo Alto so that "people will know it's not just druggers with no education who live here."

Michal David, who is heading to Emory University from Palo Alto's Kehillah Jewish High School, said she wants to travel and start a school in a Third World country, but eventually may come back.

The Palo Alto area "is unique in that it provides both the opportunity for engagement in the high-tech business world, but it also provides an escape from all the hustle and bustle of daily life with its beautiful landscape. It is unique in that it is very 'intellectually affluent' and I think that this characteristic allows for real innovation and contemplation of critical issues of the world."

David added that she also appreciates the environmentalism and political activism of the Bay Area.

"Earning enough money to afford living in Palo Alto is not one of my current top priorities," Gunn's von Clemm said. "I have no idea where I will end up living. ... I will feel very lucky if I can provide my kids with the same standard of living that my parents have provided me with, but that's a lot of pressure!"

"I love Palo Alto but I'm not sure if I could live here," Paly's Grace LaPier added. "I'm going to the East Coast for college because I feel like once Palo Alto sucks you in, you end up living here for 20 years and getting a bit of a fixed perspective

on life, which I don't want."

With a few exceptions, the graduates said the election of Barack Obama as president increases their optimism toward the future.

"For me, the election of President Obama re-established a personal sense of pride in our nation," said Tali Azenkot, a graduate of Kehil-

lah who is going on to Barnard College in New York.

"I don't want to seem too idealistic, but I do think America will be a better place for my generation right now than at least a couple of generations before us," Gunn's Tenny Zhang said. "I worked on the Barack Obama campaign and really got to witness so many people finally getting involved in their community

and in politics.

"I think we have a great ability to just believe we can actually do something different. Our generation — I think we believe we have the capacity to actually change something. We have more confidence in ourselves." ■

Staff Writer Chris Kenrick can be e-mailed at ckenrick@paweekly.com.



Palo Alto High School seniors Becky Byler, left, Erik Klingbeil, Jenna Lose and Paul Brown will scatter next year to colleges in Atlanta, Memphis, Tempe, Arizona and San Luis Obispo.

Veronica Weber

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Upfront

BUDGET

Workers' union publicly protests city takebacks

SEIU cries foul over city proposal to amend employee contracts, reduce benefits

by Gennady Sheyner

The closed-doors negotiations between Palo Alto and its largest workers' union turned public and testy Monday night when hundreds of workers packed into the City Council meeting to protest the city's latest proposal.

Members of the Service Employees International Union Local 521, which represents about 600 Palo Alto employees, lashed out against the city's proposal to take away benefits such as utilities discounts to retirees who were hired before 1977.

The comments came shortly after an hour-long negotiation session between city management and union officials and before the City Council was scheduled to discuss the budget for fiscal year 2010.

"We are willing to do our share, but we do not want to include permanent changes to our contracts that would not have anything to do with the general fund," local President Lynn Krug said.

The union's current contract, which was negotiated in 2006, expires June 30. The employees' salaries are drawn from both the city's operating budget and its enterprise budget, which funds the Utilities Department.

The council wound up tentatively backing the \$141.2 million operating budget proposed by City Manager James Keene and reviewed by the council's Finance Committee. The council is scheduled to adopt the budget officially on June 15.

Krug said union members offered to forgo salary increases in 2010,

much as the firefighters union and the police officers union have previously pledged to do. But SEIU members objected to city proposals to cut existing benefits in the workers' contracts, she said.

Greg Schulz, who negotiated on behalf of the union, said city officials asked the union to revise numerous sections of their contract, including those pertaining to health care. It would be difficult, he said, for the union to give up some of the benefits it has worked hard to achieve over the years. He declined to go into the specifics of the city's proposal.

"Our slogan is, 'No takeaways!'" Schulz told the council while about 300 workers in purple T-shirts looked on.

But with the city facing a projected \$10 million budget gap, council members have repeatedly indicated that they would be asking workers for some concessions. Councilman Larry Klein said previously that even asking workers to defer raises might not be enough.

The council did not directly address the union's remarks at Monday's meeting. But longtime council observer Bob Moss said retirees currently enjoy excessive benefits and said the union's opposition to compromising on these benefits could only lead to layoffs.

"If the union won't give anything back there's a very simple answer — we're going to have a lot fewer workers in Palo Alto because we can't afford them," Moss said. "There's

going to have to be a real push in how the city is organized and how we're going to run things and how we're going to fund things," Moss said.

The budget proposes to cut 2.5 positions from the police department, eliminate the assistant planning director position and reduce the city's contribution to its infrastructure funds. It proposes department and service cuts totaling about \$2.8 million.

Staff and the Finance Committee also recommended a new parking fee for Foothill College students who park at the Cubberley Community Center. But the council decided to postpone making any decisions on the new parking fee because of community opposition.

Keene said staff will engage the community in the coming months and return to the council with a proposal on the parking fee at the end of the summer.

Councilman Sid Espinosa praised the Finance Committee's work, but suggested that deeper cuts still may need to be made.

"My fear, more than anything else, is that we haven't cut deeply enough," Espinosa said. "I think this is the time to have tough conversations in terms of programs and services we provide and how our city and city staff are thinking about the work they do." ■

Staff Writer Gennady Sheyner can be e-mailed at gsheyner@paweekly.com.

LAND USE

Alma Plaza homebuilder backs out of deal

Greenbriar Homes cancels its option agreement; developer says pullout was expected

by Gennady Sheyner

The homebuilder who was slated to construct 37 homes at Alma Plaza has pulled out of the controversial development.

Fremont-based homebuilder Greenbriar Homes informed the city and Alma Plaza developer John McNellis that it would not proceed with the project, McNellis told the Weekly. The project was approved by the City Council in January, after 15 contentious public hearings.

The future of Alma Plaza has

been before the city in one form or another since the 1990s.

It is unclear what the pullout means for the future of the project.

Greenbriar's short letter to the city, dated April 21, states that Greenbriar "hereby withdraws from the development of the Alma Plaza property." It said it had terminated its agreement with Trestle, a limited liability partnership technically listed as the developer.

The approved development in-

cludes a grocery store, 37 homes, 14 below-market-rate apartments, a community room and a two-story retail building. It would be located at the 3400 block of Alma Street, near East Meadow Drive.

McNellis said he wasn't surprised by the pull-out, which he attributed to the dismal economic climate.

"We're in the worst economic times since the 1930s," McNellis

(continued on page 9)

CITY COUNCIL

Holman joins council race

Planning commissioner said she will focus on 'transparency and accountability'

by Gennady Sheyner

Planning and Transportation Commission member Karen Holman will be seeking a seat on the City Council in November.

Holman, who is in her eighth year on the commission, told the Weekly Thursday morning that she will run for the nine-member council. Holman, who also ran for council in

2005, announced her candidacy in a letter to a core group of supporters earlier this week.

"This will be a challenging time to serve on the City Council given the sagging economy and strained city budget, significant projects proposed, and high-speed rail, but I believe my experiences and in-

terests, most especially my eight years serving on the Planning and Transportation Commission, have prepared me to address many of the issues," the letter stated.

Holman served as the planning commission's chair in 2007 and was heavily involved in the city's

(continued on page 13)



Karen Holman

City 'repudiates' Children's Theatre probe

Official letter acknowledges 'errors and injustices' during police investigation, asks theater employees for forgiveness

by Gennady Sheyner

An official city letter containing a full-blown public apology and "repudiation" of "errors and injustices" in the Palo Alto police investigation of the Children's Theatre was unanimously approved by the City Council Monday night.

There was little discussion, as most council members had personally apologized a week earlier.

The apology came a little more than a week after independent Police Auditor Michael Gennaco released his report cataloguing errors committed by the Palo Alto Police Department over the 11-month course of the investigation.

Gennaco said errors by investigators included ignoring exculpatory evidence and loading the police report with conjectures and biases.

Council members also apologized to former theater Director Pat Briggs and other targets of the investigation at its June 1 meeting. At that time, council members agreed to draft an official letter of apology, which Councilman Pat Burt read into the record Monday night:

"We, the City Council of Palo Alto, on behalf of the City of Palo Alto, formally apologize to Pat Briggs, Richard Curtis, Allison Williams, the family of Michael Litfin and the Friends of the Children's Theatre for the errors and injustices committed during the Palo Alto Police Department's investigation of the Palo Alto Children's Theatre," the letter stated.

"At the direction of City Council, the independent Palo Alto Police Auditor made a thorough review of

police accusations and the claims made in the police investigation. The Auditor concluded that the investigation seriously violated proper police protocols and ignored extensive exonerating evidence. The auditor also noted that a number of financial management and reporting practices previously cited as symptomatic evidence of wrongdoing or ineffectiveness by the Children's Theatre staff and Friends of the Children's Theatre had received approvals or authorization by the city administration."

"With the Auditor's report as evidence, the Palo Alto City Council hereby repudiates the police investigation report. We direct staff to

(continued on page 11)

Alma Plaza

(continued from page 8)

said. "It would be crazy to build this next year.

"The fact that they walked away from the option is totally expected."

Len Filppu, whose group Friends of Alma Plaza has been vocally opposing the plaza's approved design, said the pullout will not change the

group's position, which calls for more retail and less density.

"A number of us in Friends of Alma Plaza firmly believe that Alma Plaza is probably the most poorly designed development approved by the City Council in recent memory," Filppu said. "Maybe (Greenbriar) is getting wise to the situation."

Filppu said the group is strongly supporting an initiative by resident Bob Moss that would require wider streets at the plaza. Moss is

also challenging the council's January project approval with a petition to require more parking spaces at Alma Plaza and the removal of some planned residences to achieve that goal.

McNellis said he has been approached by other homebuyers, but he plans on waiting until the prices pick up before making any deals. ■

Staff Writer Gennady Sheyner can be e-mailed at gsheyner@paweekly.com.

News Digest

Kennedy to speak at Stanford

Stanford University's newest class of graduates will be ushered into the "real world" this weekend by U.S. Supreme Court Justice Anthony M. Kennedy, who graduated from Stanford just over a half century ago.

Kennedy will speak at Stanford's 118th commencement ceremony, Sunday, June 14, beginning at 9:30 a.m.

The university expects to award about 1,750 bachelor's degrees, 2,000 master's degrees and nearly 1,000 doctorates.

Kennedy, a Sacramento native, earned a political science degree in 1958, Stanford officials noted.

The formal, dignified ceremony at Stanford Stadium will begin with Stanford's notoriously undignified preamble. Students will participate in the "wacky walk," a Stanford tradition involving costumes, balloons and signs intended to thank parents before the solemnity of commencement begins. ■

— Bay City News Service

New hotel approved by commission

An ambitious proposal to replace Palo Alto Bowl with a four-story hotel and 26 new houses received tentative support from area residents and planning commissioners Wednesday night, though both parties agreed some kinks still need to be worked out.

The development, which drew mostly rave reviews from the Architectural Review Board a year ago, would be located at on El Camino Real, next to Mountain View and Los Altos city limits. It would feature 26 three-story and duplex-style condominium units, a 167-room hotel and a bike path winding along the northern edge of the site.

The Planning and Transportation Commission, much like the neighbors who spoke at Wednesday night's meeting, agreed that the project skillfully and reasonably accommodates multiple land uses on the

3.6-acre site. The commission voted 5-1 (with Susan Fineberg absent) to approve the project, though members asked the developers to consider ways to reduce traffic around the site.

Karen Holman was the only commissioner who voted against the development, arguing that it will not fit in with the surrounding neighborhood. The project is too inward looking and doesn't do enough to interact with the public, she said.

The commission's vote came after several neighborhood residents called for traffic measures to make the busy intersections around the site safer.

Linnea Wickstrom, president of the Monroe Park Neighborhood Association, said the 26 new houses would have a "fairly large impact" on the neighborhood. But she praised the developers for meeting with residents and revising the application to meet neighbors' concerns.

The neighborhood's main issue is traffic from the new hotel and houses.

The proposal represents a major reduction from the developer's initial plans, which proposed 80 new houses. The project was scaled down to 28 homes last year.

The latest proposal eliminates two more houses and trims 11 units off the proposed hotel.

The applicant projects that the hotel would bring the city about \$850,000 annually in transient-occupancy taxes.

Architect Rob Zirkle of Steinberg Architects said the development team adopted a code of ethics that called for an open, collaborative process.

The project is scheduled to undergo another review by the Architectural Review Board in August. The City Council will then consider approving it in September or October.

"This is a great project being proposed," commission Chair Daniel Garber said just before the final vote. "It's a highly collaborative effort, which is great to see in the community and which is rarely celebrated or exercised."

"When it does happen, thank you." ■

— Gennady Sheyner

Palo Alto World Music Day June 21st, 5:00 - 8:00 pm



The Palo Alto City Council has declared Sunday June 21st as World Music Day. The celebration will take place downtown Palo Alto, from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm, on University Avenue, King Plaza (City Hall), and surrounding streets.

World Music Day is a free music festival that takes place in cities around the world every year on June 21st (the longest day of the year). In Palo Alto, professional and amateur musicians will perform a wide variety of musical genres on street corners: jazz, classical, pop, rock, world music, choirs, etc. All performances will be FREE and open to the public.

It will be a fun and unique event, so book the date now! For more information, to perform or to volunteer, visit: www.pamusicday.org.



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Children's Theatre

(continued from page 9)

correct all public records related to the investigation to reflect the independent police auditor's finding that the conclusions of the police investi-

gation report were without merit."

"We are sincerely sorry that you had to endure this investigation and all that accompanied it. We are working hard to ensure that nothing like this ever happens again. And while we recognize that this apology will not be able to erase the emotional toll

this has taken on you, it is our hope that it will begin to heal wounds and restore your well deserved reputation as dedicated servants of Palo Alto's children and our community."

Mayor Peter Drekmeier also praised Briggs for the way she handled the investigation, which was triggered by a

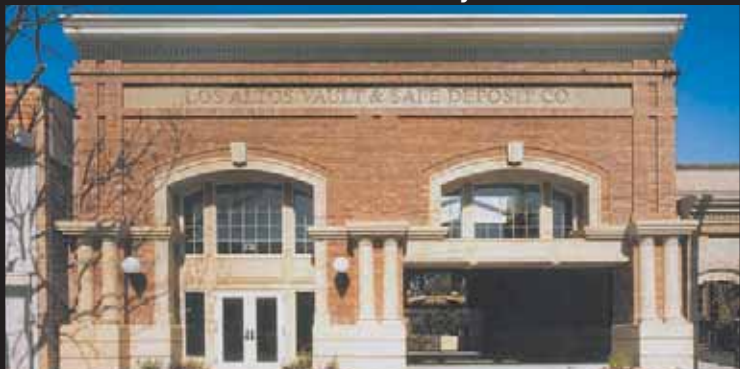
robbery and a subsequent discovery of traveler's checks made out to theater employees. Briggs, who was in attendance, received a standing ovation from dozens of audience members inside the City Council Chambers.

"Perhaps this apology comes a little too late, but we really appreci-

ate all you've done for our community," Drekmeier told Briggs. "And you've been a model of graciousness through the whole process and I think we learned a lot from you." ■

Staff Writer Gennady Sheyner can be e-mailed at gsheyner@paweekly.com.

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Online This Week

These and other news stories were posted on Palo Alto Online throughout the week. For longer versions, go to www.PaloAltoOnline.com/news or click on "News" in the left, green column.

Man pleads no contest in death of EPA toddler

A 34-year-old man pleaded no contest in San Mateo County Superior Court Wednesday to illegally storing a firearm a 12-year-old boy used to accidentally kill a toddler in East Palo Alto earlier this year. (Posted June 11 at 9:34 a.m.)

2.7-magnitude quake hits Santa Clara County

The U.S. Geological Survey is reporting an earthquake with a preliminary magnitude of 2.7 struck this morning in Santa Clara County. (Posted June 11 at 9:27 a.m.)

State parks pay for themselves, study shows

State parks more than pay for themselves by generating tourism

dollars and sales tax revenue, according to a new study by researchers at Sacramento State University, casting doubt on the wisdom of closing state parks and beaches to save money. (Posted June 10 at 9:52 a.m.)

Stanford Hospital to try 'drive-through' testing

Stanford Hospital is about to test a new "drive-through" approach to processing large numbers of medical patients during a pandemic. (Posted June 9 at 1:41 p.m.)

Three-alarm fire hits Mountain View building

A three-alarm fire damaged all four units in a single-story residential building in Mountain View this morning, a fire spokesman said. (Posted June 9 at 12:24 p.m.)

Police investigate arson at auto body shop

Police are looking for a suspect or suspects who they say lit two cars on fire in a Mountain View auto body shop lot last week. (Posted June 9 at 8:54 a.m.)

Pipe-wielding teens fight with Palo Alto police

Two 16-year-old boys brandishing large plastic pipes threatened to "beat up" a construction worker on University Avenue Saturday before getting into a fight with Palo Alto police, leading to their arrests, along with the brother of one of the boys. (Posted June 8 at 4:11 p.m.)

Stanford professor Motwani found dead

Rajeev Motwani, 47, the Stanford University computer-science professor renowned for assisting Silicon Valley start-ups and advising Google founders, was found dead at about 12:30 p.m. Friday in the swimming pool of his Atherton home. The apparent drowning is under investigation. (Posted June 8 at 12:04 p.m.)

Grass fire threatens Arastradero Preserve

A small grass fire Saturday in Palo Alto's Pearson Arastradero Preserve stayed small; it was quelled because city fire crews were nearby conducting off-road training and responded immediately. (Posted June 7 at 2:16 p.m.)

Palo Alto Weekly earns seven Press Club awards

Karla Kane of the Palo Alto Weekly staff picked up a first-place award Saturday night for an entertainment review of "The Good Game," and a second-place award in the "best headline" category for "Telling tales to wagging tails." Seven awards were shared by Weekly staff members. (Posted June 6 at 9:14 p.m.)

Need someone to talk to about your reactions?

A short-term program to make psychiatric counselors available to talk with persons affected deeply by two recent suicides and a suicide attempt involving Gunn High School students has been set up by two local medical institutions. (Posted June 6 at 6:40 a.m.)

Rabbi cites 'grief, dread, confusion' of suicides

With loving memories of Gunn senior Sonya Raymakers, who died at the Caltrain tracks Tuesday, clergy members and friends at her funeral urged parents and children to consider anti-suicide pledges. (Posted June 5 at 7:41 p.m.)

Students, cops mobilize to guard rail tracks

More than 100 Gunn High School students are mobilizing to patrol rail crossings in Palo Alto after the recent suicides of two students and an attempt by a third on Thursday night. (Posted June 5 at 4:34 p.m.)

Read the latest local news headlines at www.PaloAltoOnline.com

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NOTICE OF A SPECIAL PUBLIC HEARING of the Palo Alto Planning & Transportation Commission

Please be advised the Planning and Transportation Commission shall conduct a **special meeting at 6:00 PM and a regular meeting at 7:00 PM, Wednesday, June 24, 2009** in the Civic Center, Council Chambers, 1st Floor, 250 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto, California. Any interested persons may appear and be heard on these items.

Staff reports for agenda items are available via the City's main website at www.cityofpaloalto.org and also at the Planning Division Front Desk, 5th Floor, City Hall, after 2:00 PM on the Friday preceding the meeting date. Copies will be made available at the Development Center should City Hall be closed on the 9/80 Friday.

AT 6:00 PM – SPECIAL MEETING

Study Session:

1. Housing Element Schedule, Status and P&TC Review Process.

AT 7:00 PM – REGULAR MEETING

Consent:

2. **Historic Covenants/Subdivision and Zoning Ordinance Amendments:** Review and recommendation of an ordinance amending subdivision (Title 21) and zoning (Title 18) codes to allow subdivision for ownership purposes where covenants are provided to protect historic properties.

Report of Officials:

3. **Charleston/Arastradero Road Corridor Project – Arastradero Road Trial Improvements:** Recommendation to City Council regarding proposed Arastradero Road trial improvements for the Charleston-Arastradero Road Corridor project.

Public Hearing:

4. **4243 Manuela Avenue:** Request for a hearing on an approved Conditional Use Permit application by AT&T on behalf of Aldersgate Methodist Church for a 45-foot mono-pine with concealed antennas and associated at-grade equipment cabinets. Zone District: R-1 (20,000). Environmental Assessment: Exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act per section 15301.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting of May 27, 2009

NEXT MEETING: Special and Regular Meeting of July 8, 2009

Questions. Any questions regarding the above applications, please contact the Planning Department at (650) 329-2440. The files relating to these items are available for inspection weekdays between the hours of 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. This public meeting is televised live on Government Access Channel 26.

ADA. The City of Palo Alto does not discriminate against individuals with disabilities. To request accommodations to access City facilities, services or programs, to participate at public meetings, or to learn more about the City's compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), please contact the City's ADA Coordinator at 650.329.2550 (voice) or by e-mailing ada@cityofpaloalto.org.

Curtis Williams, Interim Planning Director



City of Palo Alto ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Draft Negative Declaration has been prepared by the Palo Alto Department of Planning and Community Environment for the project listed below. In accordance with A.B. 886, this document will be available for review and comment during a minimum 20-day inspection period beginning June 12, 2009 through July 2, 2009 during the hours of 8:00 A.M. to 12:00 noon and 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. at the Planning Division, Civic Center, 250 Hamilton Avenue, fifth floor, Palo Alto, California and at the Development Center, 285 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto, California.

This item will be considered at a **public hearing** by the City Council meeting **on Monday July 6, 2009 at 7:00 P.M.** in the Palo Alto City Council Chambers on the first floor of the Civic Center, located at 250 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto, California.

College Terrace Residential Parking Permit Program: The City of Palo Alto is proposing to implement a Residential Parking Permit Program in portions of the College Terrace Neighborhood. The proposed program has been presented and discussed at two outreach meetings in the community and the program details and postcard survey has been sent to all households in the neighborhood to ascertain the level of support for the program. The proposed program is as follows:

Vehicles displaying a resident permit, guest permit, or day permit are permitted to use on-street parking, Monday through Friday from 8 am to 5 pm. In addition, all vehicles not displaying a permit may park up to a two (2) hour limit during these specified time periods. Vehicles not displaying a permit during these specified time periods and exceeding the two hour maximum parking allowance will be cited by the Police Department.

An Initial Study has been completed and a Draft Negative Declaration has been prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements. Zone District: R-1, RMD (NP), PF and CN.

###

Curtis Williams, Interim Director of Planning and Community Environment

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, listening assistive devices are available in the Council Chambers and Council Conference Room. Sign language interpreters will be provided upon request with 72 hours advance notice.

Holman

(continued from page 8)

adoption of SOFA I and SOFA II land-use plans for the South of Forest Avenue neighborhood. She also serves on the board of the Palo Alto Historical Association and Palo Alto Stanford Heritage.

Holman said her campaign's main focus would be "transparency and accountability." She said the city could do a better job keeping the public informed by making council and commission agendas, as well as supporting documents, available earlier.

"I think we've made improvements over the last year, particularly

with the work on the city's website, but I think there are things we can do to improve transparency," Holman told the Weekly.

Holman is the second non-incumbent to announce her council candidacy. Former Board of Education member Gail Price also said she will be seeking a seat.

The City Council could have as many as five new members after the Nov. 3 election. Vice Mayor Jack Morton and Councilwoman Yoriko Kishimoto will both be termed out, while councilmen Larry Klein and John Barton and Mayor Peter Dreke-meier are all up for re-election. Klein is the only incumbent who said he will be seeking another term. ■

CityView

A round-up of Palo Alto government action this week

City Council (June 8)

Children's Theatre: The council unanimously approved an official letter apologizing to the Children Theatre staff for a botched police investigation and repudiating the police report from that investigation. **Yes:** Unanimous

2010 Budget: The council discussed the proposed budget for fiscal year 2010. The council will continue its discussion and adopt the budget on June 15. **Action:** None

Council-appointed officers: The council voted to approve an agreement with Sherry Lund Associates for \$27,250 to complete annual performance reviews for the four council-appointed officers: city manager, city attorney, city auditor and city clerk. **Action:** None

Planning & Transportation Commission (June 10)

Palo Alto Bowl: The commission voted to approve the site design for 4301 and 4329 El Camino Real, a proposal to build a four-story hotel and 26 homes at the site of Palo Alto Bowl. **Yes:** Garber, Tuma, Keller, Lippert, Rosati **No:** Holman **Absent:** Fineberg

Public Agenda

PALO ALTO CITY COUNCIL FINANCE COMMITTEE ... The committee is scheduled to continue its discussion on the proposed business license tax, which would raise about \$3 million in annual revenue and would have to be approved by voters in November. The meeting is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Monday, June 15, in the Council Chambers at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave.).

PALO ALTO CITY COUNCIL ... The City Council is scheduled to adopt the budget for fiscal year 2010. The council is also scheduled to discuss changes to the city's electric, gas, water, wastewater and refuse rates for fiscal year 2010 and consider adopting the capital budget and the municipal fee schedule for fiscal year 2010. The meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. on Monday, June 15, in the Council Chambers at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave.).

PALO ALTO HISTORIC RESOURCES BOARD ... The board is scheduled to hold a public hearing on 265 Lytton Ave., an application by Michael King to rehabilitate the front two-story section of the Tinney Building. The meeting is scheduled for 8 a.m. on Wednesday, June 17, in the Council Chambers at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave.).

PALO ALTO ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD ... The board plans to hold a public hearing on 4243 Manuela Drive, a request by AT&T on behalf of Aldersgate Methodist Church for an architectural review of a 45-foot mono-pine with concealed antennas and associated at-grade equipment cabinets. The board is also scheduled to hold a public hearing on 687 Cowper St., a request by Karan Sui for preliminary review of a four-story, mixed-use building with two floors of office and three residential units built over two levels of parking. The board will also hold a study session on the proposed new Mitchell Park Library and Community Center. The meeting is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, June 18, in the Council Chambers at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave.).

PALO ALTO HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION ... The commission plans to discuss an initiative to designate Palo Alto as an "inclusive community." The commission also plans to discuss a communication plan to landlords regarding the mandatory-response ordinance and hear an update on the planned World Music Day. The meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. on Thursday, June 18, in the Council Conference Room at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave.).

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Transitions

Births, marriages and deaths

Deaths

Betty Carpenter

Betty Carpenter, 75, a resident of Palo Alto since 1956, died in her home June 3.

Born in Redwood City, she grew up in Chowchilla, Calif., and attended Fresno State University. She later worked as a stewardess for United Airlines. She met her future husband, Don, in 1956.

She loved to garden and to share walks with friends on the streets of Palo Alto and on trails in foothill parks, family members recall. She was also an enthusiastic runner, participating in races with her husband and completing a marathon at age 50.

She extended her enthusiasm for fitness to other seniors in the community. She was a board member of

the Palo Alto-based Fifty-Plus Lifelong Fitness organization and taught exercise classes at the YMCA for several years.

As an employee of the City of Palo Alto Recreation Department, she supervised programs for seniors, including a group called the "Walk-about Club." She also contributed to weekly Senior Friendship Day gatherings and the Stanford Hospital's "Strong for Life" program.

She touched the lives of many and will be equally missed, family members said.

She is survived by her husband, Don Carpenter; sons, Frederic Carpenter (his wife Rose) of Petaluma, Calif., and Jesse Carpenter (fiancé Erika Spencer) of San Juan Bautista, Calif.; and three nieces.

Family and friends are invited to a "celebration of life" memorial June 30 at 4 p.m. at the Lucie Stern

Community, 1305 Middlefield road, Palo Alto.

Memorial donations may be made to the Epilepsy Foundation on their website at www.epilepsyfoundation.org/howtohelp or PO Box 96546, Washington, D.C., 20077.

Births

Lisa and Yehiel Biton of Atherton, a daughter, May 22.

Christine Choi and David Butt of Los Altos, a son, May 23.

Lara and Roderick Cardamone of East Palo Alto, a daughter, May 27.

Alicia Rubio and Francisco Ruiz of Palo Alto, a daughter, May 29.

Andrea Chacon and Adolfo Ordaz of East Palo Alto, a son, June 1.

PAID OBITUARY

DOROTHY DI MARIA



June 3, 2009
Long time Bay Area resident and Community Volunteer

Dorothy Di Maria passed away peacefully on May 24, 2009 at the age of 97. A long time resident of Menlo Park, she enjoyed gardening, bridge with friends, and social events.

Earlier in life, she was an event planner for Palo Alto Savings and Loan, orchestrating some of their bank openings using her keen eye for decorating. She was a quintessential 'lady' whose class and style impressed all who knew her.

Making her final residence Crane Place in Menlo Park, Ms. Di Maria will be remembered for her

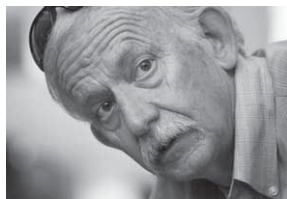
warm, friendly spirit. As a 'pink lady' volunteer at Stanford Medical Center, patients drew comfort in her kindness and love.

The family matriarch, she was a devoted mother to her surviving daughters Stephanie Cherin and Gayle Turner (Tom). She had four granddaughters, Debbie, Tracey, Shaunti and Suzanne and five great grandchildren. Her long time devoted friend was Joe Santos.

At our mothers' request, no services will be held. Respecting her wishes, the family will gather privately to celebrate her full and wonderful life. In remembrance of her, donations are welcome and appreciated to Peninsula Volunteers, 800 Middle Ave, Menlo Park, CA 94025 or Pathways Hospice Foundation, 585 N. Mary Ave. Sunnyvale, CA 94085.

PAID OBITUARY

STEPHEN JAMES CAROTHERS



Stephen Carothers lived life fully. When he peacefully passed on May 5th he left behind a legacy of love, good humor, compassion, spontaneity and ever-present joy.

He was a California boy through and through. From childhood he had a passion for the outdoors. An adventurous spirit, he loved hiking in the mountains, playing in the ocean, canoeing in rivers, swimming in lakes, skiing and sledding down mountains and sharing these adventures with friends, family and students.

Most of Stephen's life was spent in service to others. He began his career as a social worker in Chicago running various inner-city programs including a Settlement House for the Salvation Army, a Head Start program, and a literacy program for the elderly. He soon discovered his great love was education and he spent the next 30 years as an innovative teacher touching the lives of his students—encouraging, developing and opening

their minds to infinite possibilities. He made history come alive through hands-on projects, re-enactments, cooperative and student-centered learning. For the last 18 years he taught at JLS Middle School in Palo Alto and was instrumental in developing the Connections Program—a project-based learning community of students, teachers and parents.

His wife Dulce, daughter Megan, son Gavin, daughter-in-law Kindli, and grandson Oliver are so blessed to have been Stephen's family. But his family also extended to his students and their parents, his colleagues, his fellow church members, friends and neighbors. Stephen spent a lifetime enlarging his tent and he will be dearly missed by many.

A Celebration of his life will be held Friday, June 12th at Mitchell Park Bowl at 4:30 pm.

Donations in Stephen's honor can be made to:
JLS Connecting with History Fund
c/o Marianne Wilson, JLS Middle School
480 East Meadow Drive, Palo Alto, CA 94306
or
Megan Carothers Education Fund
c/o Janet Greig, Administrator
1969 Barbara Drive, Palo Alto, CA 94303

PAID OBITUARY

ALTA L. CLARK

Alta L. Clark, a resident of Palo Alto, died Sunday, May 31, 2009. She was a member of the Palo Alto Chapter Order of the Eastern Star as well as Islam Temple, Daughters of the Nile. Mrs. Clark is survived by her daughter, Trish Sliter and friend, Barbara VanderPutten; granddaughter, Dawn Tumelty and husband David; great grandson Connor Tumelty; stepdaughters Alaire Smith, Christine King, Barbara Clark and stepson Doug Clark and their families; and many nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, June 20, 2009 at the Palo Alto Masonic Temple located at 461 Florence Street in Palo Alto at 11:00AM. Flowers may be sent directly to the Masonic Temple for the service on June 20th or, in lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to Grand Chapter of California, Order of the Eastern Star, 16960 Bastanchury Road, Suite E, Yorba Linda, CA, 92886-1711 (notation-Jonnason Cancer Fund), or Islam Temple, Daughters of the Nile, c/o Karen Kuklin, 2 El Bonita Way, Millbrae, CA, 94030, (notation-Shriner's Hospital Crippled Children's Fund) or to a charity of your choice.

PAID OBITUARY

JAMES LALLY

James William Lally, a 1971 graduate of Palo Alto High School, died on May 6th, 2009 in Springfield, Oregon after a brief illness. He was born in South Weymouth, Massachusetts on May 7th, 1953 to Mary Ann and Philip M. Lally. The family lived on Long Island in New York until 1957 and in Gainesville, Florida until 1968, when they moved to Palo Alto.

James attended the University of California at Santa Cruz. In the mid 1970's he moved to Eugene, Oregon. He was a partner in Four & Six Automotive in Eugene and Century Cycle in Bend, Oregon. His partners were all classmates from Palo Alto High. For the past 20 years, he was active in real estate in the Eugene/Springfield area.

James was a skilled chef, who delighted in hosting memorable dinners for family and friends. He was an excellent mechanic and a self-taught computer expert, who assembled customized computer systems for friends and business associates. James was fond of purebred German Shepherd dogs and there was always one in residence.

Survivors include his father and brother Stephen, of Palo Alto, his brother Jeff of Fremont, California, and his son, Evan M. Lally of Eugene. His mother passed away in 2005.

There will be a memorial service on Tuesday, June 23rd at 5:00 PM in St. Mark's Chapel of St Mark's Episcopal Church, 600 Colorado Ave., Palo Alto.

Memorial Contributions to the Second Harvest Food Bank are suggested.

PAID OBITUARY



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Editorial

It's time at last for a business tax

After decades of toying with the idea from time to time, Palo Alto is moving toward a 'business license tax' to generate extra revenues

Palo Alto is one of the few cities in the Bay Area without some type of business license tax — as if that alone were a good reason to enact one. It isn't.

But that fact does take the sting out of the classic warning — threat? — that “businesses will leave town” if such a tax is enacted. It also bolsters the notion that businesses might contribute a bit more to the city that has provided so many of them start-up opportunities and a healthy economic base of customers and clients, renters, diners and users of services.

A staff analysis of the cost of doing business in Palo Alto shows that city fees and costs are about the same as in comparable cities, especially after the savings in utilities are factored in: Palo Alto's city-owned utilities overall are still lower than PG&E bills in neighboring cities, the June 2 report stated.

Palo Alto vacancy rates also are lower than in other communities despite higher rents, the report said — “a high indicator that Palo Alto continues to be an extremely desirable place to do business.”

And we're not talking about huge amounts of additional tax burden on most businesses, divided among the 8,232 businesses in Palo Alto.

The city's established goal is to raise about \$3 million annually to offset a \$10 million-plus shortfall in the city's budget for the next fiscal year, starting July 1. The shortfall could be greater, depending on state actions on closing its own gap of billions of dollars and depending in part on city negotiations with its major employees' union.

The City Council on June 22 will again discuss placing such a tax on the Nov. 3 election ballot for the required majority voter approval. The council must decide officially by July 20 on the details, so materials can be prepared in time for an Aug. 7 deadline set by Santa Clara County election officials.

So far the city staff's approach has been deliberate and thoughtful, and that has elicited, thus far, a measured response by the Chamber of Commerce and business interests.

Most businesses would rather the whole license-tax thing would fade away, as it has in past years.

But some business leaders seem resigned to the idea that the time may at last have come when such a license is inevitable. One longtime business leader predicted that if the proposed tax goes to a citywide vote it would be a shoo-in for the majority approval needed, as the tax would only affect businesses.

What businesses really don't like, however, is the proposal by the city staff to base such a tax on a business's gross receipts rather than on the number of employees or other basis. The gross-receipts model is one of the most common forms of business taxation statewide, and does have some advantages over employee head-counts.

Yet it also has disadvantages, as outlined in a thorough, 20-page city staff report released June 2 (available on the city's website, www.CityofPaloAlto.org).

The report outlines several alternatives to raise the targeted \$3 million, including increasing an existing utilities users' tax, boosting the sales tax and increasing a documentary transfer tax when properties sell — all of which were rejected for solid reasons.

The staff also looked at a payroll-based tax such as San Francisco's, but determined that the scores of staff San Francisco needs to monitor, calculate and enforce the ordinance is completely unrealistic for Palo Alto.

The best alternative to the gross-receipts model seems to be the employee-head-count. It would be the simplest to administer, and is the approach favored unanimously by business leaders after a series of detailed “outreach” meetings with city staff during May.

Our primary concern with the gross-receipts model is that major firms that have branches in Palo Alto have several ways they could calculate their earnings, whereas reporting how many employees work in town would be a relatively fixed accounting method.

Given that the revenue projections are roughly equal, the city should go with the businesses' clear preference and perhaps build on the potential support that might generate for the big challenge: getting the majority voter approval next November.

Spectrum

Editorials, letters and opinions

Kudos to Susan Charles

Editor,

I am compelled to write a letter expounding the profound positive impact that retiring Ohlone principal Susan Charles has had on my life.

She was my Palo Alto High School counselor back in 1986-1990. Her tireless effort, kind demeanor and inspirational character helped to usher me through the sometimes challenging years of Paly. She and my parents were able to drive me to pursue my educational endeavors such that I was able to graduate valedictorian.

Her personal dedication to her students amazes me to this day. She went out of her way to help me decide on a university — going as far as to have me stay with her daughter at Berkeley (and that has to be tough, convincing a college student to let a snot-nosed, uncool high school student tag along).

She cheered me on even though I ended up deciding to go across the street to Stanford where I was able to graduate Phi Beta Kappa.

She inspired me to “fight the good fight,” to face challenges head on, and to try to build consensus in difficult situations.

I see that she continues to do this with her leadership over the controversial topic of Mandarin immersion.

In no small part, the professional, personal and community impact I have had over the years as a physician are at the very least attributable to her early imprinting.

Like many things in life, I have gotten busy throughout these years and had not had contact with Mrs. Charles since graduating high school. Now nearly 20 years later I want to just personally thank this wonderful woman for all her help.

Thank you, Susan, for your guidance.

Jonathan Chow
Manuela Avenue
Palo Alto

Suicide patrol

Editor,

We are parents of Gunn students. After two suicide deaths and one non-fatal attempt by Gunn students within a month, the presence of Palo Alto police at the railroad crossing that is the site of these incidents is welcome and extremely important.

The factors contributing to suicide are complex but the act is often an impulsive one. Research has shown that simply increasing the difficulty of attempting suicide makes attempts less likely. For example, constructing barriers on the Ellington Bridge in Washington, D.C., has decreased overall suicide rates in the area. This is because people who are prevented from using one method are unlikely to try another

method — it is simply untrue that “they'll just find another way.”

Any obstacles we can place in the way of acting on such impulsive ideas could save lives.

While erecting barriers does not treat the underlying causes of suicide, it is quicker and less expensive at this time of acute crisis. ...

Anat Admati, Linda and Jon Bender, Madhav Rajan and Marci Reichelstein

Gunn Community
Palo Alto

Progressive taxes

Editor,

Taxing businesses based on the number of employees a business has is the absolute worst sort of tax possible because it punishes small business owners (i.e. the lifeblood of the local economy) by depriving them of the money they would otherwise invest in their companies while also discouraging the employment of unskilled labor (i.e. the people that are the most desperate of all and most likely to spend their earnings quickly and locally as opposed to just sticking it in a taxpayer bailed-out bank to collect dust and interest and make the rich richer).

San Francisco converted from a gross-receipts tax model to a per-employee tax system several years ago and the consequences were disastrous. It resulted in significantly less tax revenue, more unemployment and less purchasing power for workers and small businesses.

Palo Alto should tax only profits because it is dispensable income. Larry Klein's simplistic argument that it is cheaper and less complicated to implement a regressive tax just doesn't cut it — especially since he isn't sure yet if it is in fact cheaper and less complicated than administering a gross-receipts tax.

Also, it is very unfortunate that the committee rejected the property-transfer tax proposal because, if engineered intelligently, it discourages the type of behavior that got us into this recession in the first place: the irrational exuberance and greed of people speculating/gambling on property that they can't afford. ...

I hope that the council keeps an open mind and reconsiders on this one.

Matt Stewart
Downtown North
Palo Alto

YOUR TURN

The Palo Alto Weekly encourages comments on our coverage or on issues of local interest.

What do you think? What priorities should this year's graduates adopt in their lives?

Submit letters to the editor of up to 250 words to letters@paweekly.com or shorter comments to readerwire@paweekly.com. Include your name, address and daytime phone number so we can reach you. We reserve the right to edit contributions for length, objectionable content, libel and factual errors known to us. Anonymous letters will generally not be accepted.

You can also participate in our popular interactive online forum, **Town Square**, at our community website at www.PaloAltoOnline.com. Read blogs, discuss issues, ask questions or express opinions with you neighbors any time, day or night.

Submitting a letter to the editor or guest opinion constitutes a granting of permission to the Palo Alto Weekly and Embarcadero Publishing Co. to also publish it online, including in our online archives and as a post on Town Square.

For more information contact Editor Jay Thorwaldson or Assistant to the Editor Tyler Hanley at editor@paweekly.com or 650-326-8210.



Check out Town Square!

Hundreds of local topics are being discussed by local residents on Town Square, a reader forum sponsored by the Weekly on our community website at www.PaloAltoOnline.com. Post your own comments, ask questions, read the Editor's blog or just stay up on what people are talking about around town!

Guest Opinion

If you're not running for Palo Alto's City Council, why not?

by Sid Espinosa

Even though it seems to many of us that we just had an election, "election season" in Palo Alto is quickly approaching — for some early starters it's already upon us.

In November, five Palo Alto City Council seats are up for election, but only two people have so far entered the race. And while two eligible incumbents could still decide to run, the open field at this late date is causing many to wonder: Where are the candidates?

As a carryover council member who will be working with those elected in November, I am particularly interested in finding smart, thoughtful, hard-working citizens who want to serve.

I'm writing to make a pitch to you: Run!

While public service can be frustrating and thankless at times, most people find it overwhelmingly rewarding and educational — and frankly a lot of fun. If you are considering running, now's the time to get organized, and here are a few things to consider.

Let's start with the bad news. Running for the council is hard work, and serving on the council is even harder. Community challenges seem endless. The hours are long (last month one meeting lasted from 4 p.m. until midnight). And you will likely have a couple of meetings each week.

For this commitment you get paid lavishly: about \$500 a month. There's no glory in this gig.

The good news is that the rewards far outweigh any negatives. As a council member,



you have the tools to address Palo Alto's problems and opportunities.

In the coming year our city faces many critical decisions — decisions that will fundamentally shape the type of community we'll be living in next year and perhaps for many years to come, even until the city's bicentennial, maybe.

From the current economic crisis to creek flooding and urban planning to utilities, as a council member, you can be at the table for these debates and decisions, and your kids and grandkids will be better for it.

Moreover, as a council member, nearly every day Palo Altans will approach you with their own community concerns and you'll be able to help resolve many of them. You will truly be able to impact their lives for the better.

Assuredly, in this role you will be intellectually challenged while doing important community work, and you'll have fun doing it.

The council is made up of everyday citizens, not professional politicians. Currently our professions include accountant, architect/lecturer, conservationist/environmental educator, city auditor, lawyer, corporate philanthropist, management consultant, economist, and a chief executive officer.

Everyone is busy with work, family commitments, involvement in nonprofit organizations, volunteerism, hobbies, and many other activities. But we can still find time to run for office and serve on the council. You can, too.

Getting back to this November's election, it's a great year to run. The council has a total of nine seats, and five of these are up for election this year. Of these five seats, two (those currently held by Yoriko Kishimoto and Jack Morton who are termed out) will be completely open, and the three other seats may (or may not) have incumbents running for them. Those

incumbents are council members John Barton and Larry Klein and Mayor Peter Drekmeier.

But only Klein has announced that he will definitely run again, while both Drekmeier and Barton are wrestling with other commitments for their time. Thus far there is only one other person who has publicly entered the race, former school board member Gail Price, while Karen Holman is edging in.

Your odds are good.

From the current economic crisis to creek flooding and urban planning to utilities, as a council member, you can be at the table for these debates and decisions, and your kids and grandkids will be better for it.

If you're considering a run, where should you start? There are, of course, many books and articles detailing how to run for local office. I would encourage you to pick up a few of these. They cover the basics on forming a campaign committee, developing an issue platform, walking precincts, fundraising, debating, posting lawn signs, working with the press, and other guidelines.

Initially, we all had to do these things without first-hand experience, so don't be intimidated. You might also consider volunteering

on someone else's campaign this year so that you're exposed to all of the workings of a campaign. This way, you'll be well prepared for the elections in two years. I took this approach.

Within the next month or two you'll want to pull together a campaign team who will help you develop a strategic plan, budget and calendar. Start letting people know why you're running and you'll be surprised who steps forward to help.

I had people working on my team whom I hadn't known when I launched my campaign — and some of these folks ended-up volunteering 10 to 15 hours a week.

Here are a few other important points: In Palo Alto this year, council candidates must be registered voters within the city by July 8. You can get the necessary forms from the city clerk (7th Floor of City Hall, 250 Hamilton Ave.), though you'll need to call first to make an appointment.

These forms will be available July 13 and they are due by Aug. 7. You must get 25 registered voters to sign your forms.

The city is not divided into districts — all council members are elected to at-large seats. Council members are elected to four-year terms.

On a personal note, I hope that November's election puts several smart and talented women on the council. For the past two years, we have only had one woman on the council. An imbalance of this magnitude hasn't existed since 1964. It's appalling and frankly it weakens our discourse and the diversity of perspectives.

Now, with Kishimoto being termed out, we

(continued on next page)

Streetwise

What advice would you give to a recent graduate?

Asked on University Avenue in Palo Alto.. Interviews by Daniela Reichelstein. Photographs by Clifford Pham.



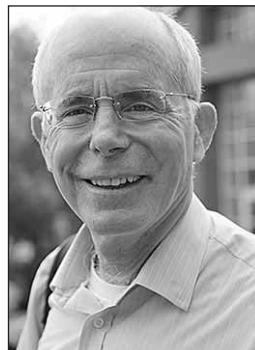
Jana Tuschman
Artist
Santa Monica Boulevard, Menlo Park

"Have a good sense of humor and a lot of patience. Realize these are hard times. Also, think outside of the box."



Daniel Hobe
Information Technology
Mountain View Avenue, Mountain View

"Stay in school."



Jim Boettcher
Venture capitalist
University Avenue, Palo Alto

"Study hard and be opportunistic. Network."



Cristie Callaghan
Marketing
Santa Rita Avenue, Palo Alto

"Do what you love. Travel. Be curious."



Latoya Baldwin-Clark
Graduate student
Stanford University

"Follow your passions."



**CITY OF PALO ALTO
NOTICE TO CANDIDATES FOR
FIVE COUNCIL SEATS**

**To be voted on at the November 3, 2009
General Municipal Election**

Individuals who plan to be candidates for local office in Palo Alto California and intend to solicit or receive campaign contributions for any purpose, or who intend to spend funds for campaign purposes **MUST:**

(1) File with the City Clerk a Candidate Intention Statement (Form 501), before soliciting or receiving any contributions (including loans) or expending any funds (including personal funds); and

(2) Establish a campaign bank account at a financial institution in California and file a Statement of Organization Recipient Committee (Form 410) with the Secretary of State and the City Clerk within 10 days of receiving \$1,000 in contributions.

Note: Forms 501 and 410 which are postmarked no later than the filing deadline are deemed to have been filed on time.

To obtain the forms or additional information, please contact the City Clerk's office at (650) 329-2571.

DONNA J. GRIDER,
CITY CLERK

Board of Contributors:

**Some therapist (and mom) thoughts
on adolescent depression**

by
**Elizabeth
Lee**



Since my kids have been in Palo Alto schools, four teens have committed suicide on the train tracks, and one more attempted it. Suicide nationally is the third leading cause of death among adolescents.

Suicide is frequently caused by depression, which in young persons can be especially acute. Symptoms are feelings of sadness or emptiness for most of the day nearly every day, (or a persistent irritable mood in children or adolescents). Symptoms can include loss of pleasure, increased or decreased appetite, disruptions in sleep patterns, restlessness or sluggishness, fatigue, feelings of worthlessness, and excessive or inappropriate guilt.

Depression can contribute to lack of concentration (resulting in bad grades) or indecisiveness, thoughts of death, or suicidal ideation — with or without a plan.

All symptoms may be either subjective and internal or observable by others. The depressed young person may confide in some friends or family members but hide the depression from the rest of the world. Some hide it from everyone.

Clues that someone is depressed or suicidal may be subtle. Some young persons may make comments such as, "I don't see how I can go on. ..." or more obvious comments such as, "If this happens again I'll kill myself." Such comments can easily be dismissed as adolescent angst, the kind of things kids say but don't really mean. But they should be taken seriously.

If you know a teen who either exhibits depressive symptoms or makes such comments, the following "risk assessment" tips may save a life: Ask if the young person feels like killing himself or herself. Contrary to what some people fear, asking that won't make a non-suicidal person suicidal. If the response is affirmative, ask if they have a plan. If they don't have a plan, they are at low risk. If they have a plan but lack the means to carry it out, they are at moderate risk. If they have a plan and the means to carry it out, they are at high risk and must be helped immediately.

At-risk teens can be helped in the

following ways. If they are at high risk, it is safest to call 911 and have them hospitalized immediately. They must be supervised at all times.

For teens at any risk level, write up a "no suicide" contract for a specific time period and have them and anyone else in the family sign it. Check in with the teen and renew the contract regularly. If they are at moderate or high risk and refuse to sign it, their suicide risk is greater. If they have a history of past attempts or gestures, their risk is increased.

Mobilize their coping strategies and support systems. Include on the contract specific people whom they agree to call if they have the impulse to hurt themselves. Contacts can be family, friends, a therapist, a school counselor, clergy or even a suicide hotline, or any other resources. The more "cared about" young people feel the safer they are.

Teens are often "present" rather than future oriented and are less able to understand that what seems horrible now will pass and likely will not ruin their lives. Academic or family problems, breaking up with a romantic partner or close friend, bullying, sexual assault, or sexual-orientation or gender identity issues can put kids at risk.

The signs can be subtle. People who decide to kill themselves may feel relieved that their pain will soon be over. They may give away special possessions.

They may seem full of life. I worked in a halfway house for severely emotionally disturbed adults, and a depressed teen often laughed hilariously with the other residents during dinner. She doesn't seem depressed, I thought. Yet the same young woman was grounded to the house for being a high suicide risk and refusing to sign a no-suicide contract.

Suicidal impulses for teens can be triggered suddenly. Teens are often "present" rather than future oriented and are less able to understand that what seems horrible now will pass

and likely will not ruin their lives. Academic or family problems, breaking up with a romantic partner or close friend, bullying, sexual assault, or sexual-orientation or gender identity issues can put kids at risk.

For years I've kept a list of crisis and suicide hotline numbers on our fridge.

"If you ever feel liked hurting yourself and don't feel you can come to me or anyone else, call these numbers and get help," I told my son.

Try to be someone to whom the kids in your life can talk. All it takes is being a compassionate, non-judgmental listener. Can your kids confide in you if they're bullied or sexually harassed, or if they get a bad grade? How about if they're having sex, or if they're gay? If they can confide in you about other things, they're more likely to confide if they're feeling depressed, or suicidal.

I share the concerns of many parents that our kids are under too much academic stress. I was the parent-network coordinator when my son was in 10th grade at Paly. The parents at network meetings fell into two categories. One group talked about their kids' success in academics, sports and music. The rest of us who had kids with special needs, myself included, became quiet during those discussions.

One day a dad with a special-needs kid showed up, and he and I talked.

"What does it matter if they don't do well in high school anyway?" he asked. "I mean, it's not the end of the world. We've just got to realize that there are more important things in life than school." Of everything said in those meetings, I remember his words the most.

Whatever the reason(s) for a teen suicide, it's usually useless to assign blame. If people knew, of course they would have helped. By knowing the signs for depression and risk, we're better equipped to intervene. Otherwise, the best we can do is to help our kids be happy with who they are.

Here are some numbers from my fridge: National Crisis Hotline: 1-800-SUICIDE; National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-TALK, TTY Number 1-800-799-4TTY; Suicide and Crisis Service Hotline, Palo Alto: 494-8420. ■

Elizabeth Lee is a licensed marriage and family therapist, writer, and is on the Weekly's Board of Contributors. She lives in Palo Alto with her husband, two children, and a dog and can be emailed at liz@funghi.com.

ward to participate actively in civic life. Some of us consider this an obligation. We are lucky and blessed to live in this country, with all of its freedoms and opportunities. But we must remember that it is a system founded on (and successful because of) citizen involvement.

Locally, our city is facing tough times, but we are relatively strong and vibrant because of the hard work of average citizens over the years — citizens who stepped forward to serve.

The Palo Alto City Council work

is hard, important, challenging, interesting, a great educational experience, and a lot of fun. I hope that you will consider it and perhaps join me and my holdover colleagues, council members Pat Burt, Greg Schmid and Yeh, behind the council dais. ■

City Councilman Sid Espinosa is halfway through his first term on the council. He serves on several non-profit, business and university boards, and is presently working for Microsoft in corporate citizenship and philanthropy. He can be e-mailed at sid.espinosa@cityofpaloalto.org.

City Council

(continued from previous page)

will have no women on the council unless a woman runs and wins.

I also hope that we will see several Asian-Americans run this year. The quickly burgeoning Asian community (now at 25 percent of Palo Altans) is an important voice in our city, but as of November we will only have one Asian council member, Yiaway Yeh.

Our country has a long history of average citizens deciding to step for-



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Arts & Entertainment

A weekly guide to music, theater, art, movies and more, edited by Rebecca Wallace

The 3 Martins will play classic rock and blues on the corner of University Avenue and High Street from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on June 21.



Hawaiian-born pop singer Melissa Rapp performs from 6:30 to 8 at University Avenue and Ramona Street.



Above: Late Notice brings on the jazz and funk from 5 to 6:30 at 171 University. Above right: Traditional French musician Alan Keith, photographed in his Mountain View home, plays with his band Les Campagnards at Lytton Plaza from 5 to 6:30 (with Mad Molly doing molly dancing around 6:20).



Veronica Weber

French bagpipes, acoustic guitars, harps and horns will serenade downtown for Palo Alto World Music Day

by Rebecca Wallace

Bagpipes are big with Alan Keith, who has about 30 of the instruments in his Mountain View home. Some hang on the walls; some are under the bed. Even an instrument that shrinks when you let the air out of it takes up space.

Keith plays in a Celtic band, so when he breaks out the bagpipes a visitor could be forgiven for expecting something, well, plaid.

But today Keith is thinking about World Music Day, a multi-country musical festival that's happening in Palo Alto for the first time this year. The festival originated in France, so it's fitting that Keith will play there in a Gallic guise. He'll perform on June 21 with another one of his bands, the traditional French music and dance group Les Campagnards.

And the bagpipes he's now displaying in his living room are French. One has a tapestry bagcover and pipes of African

blackwood, and a carved ivory scrimshaw picture of a rooster, the symbol of the republic of France. Another has a sculpted Statue of Liberty head, which is fitting for an American musician with a penchant for French music.

Yes, Virginie, there are bagpipes in France. (Keith also has bagpipes from England, Sweden, Belgium, the Netherlands, Spain and Turkey.) One of the reasons Keith enjoys performing traditional French music is getting to educate people about it. Contrary to stereotype, it's not just Parisian café-style songs by Edith Piaf and Maurice Chevalier.

"That's like people around the world thinking of American music as (just) jazz and rock," Keith said.

France is a big country, and the countryside tunes favored by Les Campagnards reflect a diversity of influences. Regional rondo and bourrée dances combine with ballroom's waltzes, mazurkas and schottisches. Accordions and violins add to the spirited sound.



Los Altos native Cello Joe, a hip-hop cellist recently profiled in the Weekly, will perform at World Music Day from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at 301 University Ave.

Dana Ullman

Strike up the bands

These tunes will be swirled into quite a bouillabaisse on June 21, when Palo Alto's World Music Day, a free outdoor festival, hosts 42 musical acts downtown from 5 to 8 p.m.

Les Campagnards — whose other core members are Gary Breitbard, Jena Rauti and Peter Tommerup — will play at Lytton Plaza on University Avenue. They may wear costumes, and they'll definitely share the space with Mad Molly, who will show off the English seasonal dance form molly dancing around 6:20 p.m.

Another lively location will be King Plaza in front of City Hall at 250 Hamilton Ave. That's where four big choral groups will perform: M'EarthTones, World Harmony Chorus, Peninsula Harmony Chorus and The Peninsulaires barbershop-harmony group.

Meanwhile, a broad array of other artists will play on street corners and in other plazas (University Avenue will not be closed to car traffic). A sampling of the 5-6:30 p.m. lineup: Palo Alto-based Celtic/American folk duo Four Shillings Short; Palo Alto blues/folk/bluegrass band John Henry's

Farm; klezmer band Hot Kugel; Wobbly World, which plays flamenco/Arabic/Bulgarian music; the indie rock band Jackie Joyner; and the Palo Alto blues/folk group Sugaree & the Shakedown.

Between 6:30 and 8, some of the acts are: hip-hop cellist Cello Joe, Chinese folk group Sounds of China; Eire Firths, who plays Irish, Scottish and Tasmanian folk; the Melissa Dinwiddie Jazz Combo, classic rock & blues band The 3 Martins; and the Balkan vocal group Born to Drone.

Much of the music will be acoustic, with some performers bringing battery-operated amplifiers. Organizer Claude Ezran said one of his biggest projects was planning out performer locations to minimize music overlap.

"I tried to put louder musicians more on the periphery," he said.

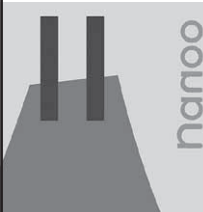
Ezran has been leading the evening's organization with fellow Palo Alto resident and Human Relations Commission member Olana Hirsch Khan. He's pleased with the lineup, although he'd like to see more young musicians on the bill next year.

(continued on next page 24)

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Steve Lucky and the Rhumba Bums play jump blues, swing and jazz at the Mitchell Park Bowl on June 16.



David Brock sings with his Doors tribute band Wild Child on California Avenue on June 30.

Flambeau, July 16; Celtic and early-music quintet Broceliande, July 23; and Parisian-music band Baguette Quartette, July 30.

For more about the series, go to www.cityofpaloalto.org and click on "Arts, Parks & Recreation."

Meanwhile, free summer jazz continues at Stanford Shopping Center, on Thursdays from 6 to 7:30 p.m. near Neiman Marcus through Aug. 6. The next scheduled performers are the cabaret musicians of Vagabond Opera, on June 18. Go to stanfordshop.com.

Other nearby cities holding free outdoor shows include Menlo Park, which holds its series downtown in Fremont Park at University Drive and Santa Cruz Avenue, Wednesdays from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Johnny Cash tribute band Rusty Evans & Ring of Fire starts things off on June 24; the series runs through Aug. 12. Call 650-330-2200.

In Mountain View, summer concerts go from July 9 through Aug. 20 from 6:30 to 8 p.m., on Castro Street in Cuesta or Rengstorff parks. The first act is the Joe Sharino Band on Castro at Dana Street, with pop, rock, Motown and other styles. For more about the series, go to www.ci.mtnview.ca.us and click on "Community Events" under Library, Arts, Parks & Rec." ■

More music alfresco

Cities kick off free summer concerts

by Rebecca Wallace

After the sun sets on World Music Day, there's still a summer-full of free outdoor concerts on the Midpeninsula.

Barring any last-minute budget cutting, the City of Palo Alto's two annual series will be starting soon. The Twilight Concert Series takes place from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on Tuesdays, June 16 through Aug. 4, while the Brown Bag concerts are off and running on July 9, from noon to 1 p.m. on Thursdays through July 30.

(Palo Alto's City Council is set to adopt the new city budget June 15. There's often talk about shortening the concert series to save money, but the council is expected to keep the events in the budget.)

Steve Lucky and the Rhumba Bums start up the Twilight series with jump blues, swing and jazz on June 16 at Mitchell Park Bowl, 600 E. Meadow Drive. The next

week, the Jessie Turner Band plays pop rock at Peers Park, 1899 Park Blvd.

On June 30, Doors tribute band Wild Child performs on California Avenue between Ash and Birch streets. Native Elements plays reggae and R&B on July 7 at Mitchell Park Bowl, with Steely Dan tribute band Aja Vu on July 14 at Rinconada Park Bowl, 777 Embarcadero Road.

The three remaining Twilight acts are: rock band Luce, July 21, Mitchell Park Bowl; Latin dance band Los Pinguos, July 28, Rinconada Park Bowl; and R&B's Lydia Pense and Cold Blood, Aug. 4, Mitchell Park Bowl.

Four bands are slated for the Brown Bag shows, which are in Cogswell Plaza at Lytton Avenue and Ramona Street: male a cappella group Hookslide, July 9; Cajun-music act Tom Rigney and

World music

(continued from page 21)

World Music Day performers are playing for free, and the city has also waived permitting and policing costs for the event, Ezran said. "I've had incredible support from the city."

A host of volunteers are also keeping things rolling. Ezran says he could use some more to help welcome musicians, monitor pedestrian safety, and survey spectators to see how things could go better next

year.

If World Music Day takes off in Palo Alto, it'll join a long-running tradition. The French Ministry of Culture started World Music Day in France 27 years ago; the event now happens on the day of the summer solstice in about 100 countries each year.

According to the official French website, fetedelamusique.culture.fr, the day "allows the expression of all styles of music in a cheerful atmosphere. ... It gives an opportunity to

communicate and share a very special moment through music."

For Alan Keith, who has been to France a number of times for music festivals, the country's vibrant festival scene is a welcome sign of government support for the arts. He's clearly pleased that World Music Day is coming here.

And he says his band's lively festive rural music will fit right in outdoors. Bagpipes and accordions aren't exactly sedate parlor pieces, he says. "These are rough and ready peasant instruments. One instrument could carry a whole dance." ■

What: The first Palo Alto World Music Day festival features 42 musical acts, including rock, folk, blues, choral, classical, klezmer, harmonica, gospel, French, Celtic, Chinese and Eastern European music.

Where: Various outdoor locations in downtown Palo Alto: University Avenue, King Plaza at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave.) and other nearby streets

When: Sunday, June 21, from 5 to 8 p.m.

Cost: Free

Info: For more about the Palo Alto festival, including details about volunteering, go to www.pamusicday.org. Other Bay Area locations for World Music Day include San Jose, which hosts its own free festival on June 20. Go to www.sanjosejazz.org.

It's hard to complain about an evening of Balkan-Yiddish-gospel-postmodern music. But where's the big free outdoor theater festival? For a call to bring on the Beckett in Palo Alto, read arts editor Rebecca Wallace's blog, **Ad Libs**, at blog.paloaltoonline.com/adlibs/.

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Still poignant after all these years

Set in 1991, Terrence McNally play surprises with attitudes and prejudices that are alive today

by Jeanie Forte

THEATER REVIEW

The Dragon Theatre in downtown Palo Alto is also the frequent home of theatre Q, which is taking us down memory lane with a play by Terrence McNally set in 1991. One of his most affecting plays, capturing the angst of the times with charm and humor, "Lips Together, Teeth Apart" proves all too relevant for us in 2009.

The play focuses on two mid-life couples spending the Fourth of July at a beach house on Fire Island, because one of the wives inherited the house from her recently deceased brother. Although both couples are heterosexual, gay neighbors live on either side, and the brother's death from AIDS haunts them. In bits of dialogue and asides to the audience, we hear of their various fears and prejudices regarding homosexuality, including their dread of the swimming pool as a possible AIDS transmitter.

Sally (Meredith Hagedorn), the sister and heir, tries to paint and broods about her brother's death, while dealing with a series of miscarriages and her newest, secret pregnancy. Her husband, Sam

(Jeffrey Hoffman), is the most glaringly "middle class" of the lot, a hard-working contractor with stereotypical class and homophobic prejudices who nevertheless wins our sympathies with his fears of losing his wife to a love affair.

They're joined by Sam's sister, Chloe (Mary Lou Torre), a perky upper-middle-class housewife with three children who likes to perform in community-theater musicals and whose relentless enthusiasm stands in marked contrast to the melancholy around her. Her husband, John (Dale Albright), bares his contempt for his wife's hyperactivity, but later reveals a more tender regard for her. His gruff aloofness hides his own fear as he faces cancer, and his desire for continuing a covert relationship with Sally.

All of this is illuminated in the first few scenes of the play, so I'm not giving away major plot turns. What we learn about each of the characters in the opening scenes and monologues prepares the canvas for a day's worth of arguing,

jockeying, worrying, cajoling and even fisticuffs. Along the way we become more sympathetic to each character, seeing their frailty and vulnerability as well as their attempts to deal with fear and loss.

McNally brings home relevance without hitting us too hard on the head with it, and does so with heart and liberal doses of humor. The play feels somewhat historical in nature, a glimpse back to the AIDS panic of the late '80s and early '90s, but surprises with attitudes and prejudices that are alive and well today.

When Sam expresses his distaste for gays and their lifestyles, he could just as easily be speaking in 2009 as 1991. He experiences an epiphany of sorts that begins to alter his perception of gays — would that it were that simple. Perhaps it was wishful thinking on McNally's part, or an attempt to raise consciousness in his audience, although it feels like preaching to the choir, given the unlikelihood that someone with deep anti-gay prejudice would find their way into this audience.

Still, McNally represents a broad spectrum of belief and prejudice with his small cast of four, inviting us to examine our own hearts for stereotypes we may harbor. The play bogs down somewhat in Act Three, suddenly introducing new issues and problems that won't be resolved or even explored, and feels like it has a hard time finding its conclusion, but the theatre Q production is redeemed by superb acting.

A small cast requires four strong actors, and thankfully there is no weak link in this one. Torre threatens to drive us crazy with Chloe's chirpiness, appropriately as the character is written, but later tugs at our heartstrings with just the right measure of wistfulness and an iron core of strength when needed. Albright feigns boredom and intellectual malaise in beautiful counterpoint to his fear of his cancer and a desperate reach for life.

Hagedorn does a lovely turn as Sally, arguably the protagonist of the play, who moves from anxiety and immobility to a kind of bravado in the face of death, a railing against anonymity and numbness. Hoffman, as her hapless husband, manages to capture a clear type and yet show us a real person under it, breathing real life into what otherwise could be a caricature.

Ron Gasparinetti's set evokes the tony digs of Fire Island in the small space of the Dragon, including a small pool that proves necessary to some of the action. The box-office attendant warns that the first row

may experience some splashing, but that didn't happen on opening night.

"Lips together, teeth apart" is the litany Sam is taught by his dentist to prevent teeth-grinding, but it begs to be read as metaphor. Keeping silent with secrets? Or perhaps the preparation for a kiss, as in "Make love, not war"? However you choose to interpret it, you'll appreciate the fine acting and thoughtful script in this not-so-dated play. ■

What: "Lips Together, Teeth Apart," by Terrence McNally, presented by theatre Q

Where: Dragon Theatre, 535 Alma St., Palo Alto

When: Through June 28 with 8 p.m. shows Thursday through Saturday and 2 p.m. matinees on Sundays

Cost: Tickets are \$20 general and \$15 for seniors, youth and Theatre Bay Area members.

Info: Go to www.theatreq.org or call 415-433-1235.

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Movies

Movie reviews by *Jeanne Aufmuth, Peter Canavese, Tyler Hanley and Susan Tavernetti*

OPENINGS

The Taking of Pelham

1 2 3 ★★

(Century 16, Century 20) Denzel Washington and John Travolta face off in Tony Scott's taut, ticking-clock reboot of the 1974 subway thriller set in New York City. Their star power adds human interest to the adaptation of John Godey's novel about hijackers holding passengers hostage for a huge sum of money that must be delivered within an hour. The "late fee" is pricey: one hostage executed per minute. Scott's edgy direction relentlessly ramps up the tension to Code Red.

Unlike his role in "Inside Man," Washington's character is subway dispatcher Walter Garber, a regular guy with no training in hostage negotiation. He has worked his way through the ranks of the Metropolitan Transit Authority, including years spent as a motorman, only to end up demoted at a desk job while under investigation for accepting a bribe. His ordinary day at the Midtown Rail Control Center gets derailed when criminal mastermind Ryder (Travolta) — armed with machine guns, a hair-trigger temper and a three-thug team — takes over the 6 Lexington Avenue train filled with terrified commuters.

When one is dealing with a formula film, the challenge is in the details. Screenwriter Brian Koppelman ("L.A. Confidential" and "Mystic River") created main characters that are flip sides of the same coin. Garber is a laid-back family man, while the man-



Denzel Washington

ic Ryder spits out expletives and violence with equal abandon. But the two men have a tenuous kinship: differing degrees of alleged criminality and the resentment of being treated unfairly by Gotham City authorities. The personal tie adds a twist to the usual criminal-negotiator relationship — one that intensifies when a professional negotiator (John Turturro) enters the picture. As in "Phone Booth," claustrophobic spaces serve as confessionals where Garber and Ryder admit their guilt. The religious subtext also raises questions about one's debt to God and whether events occur due to coincidence or fate, adding another layer to the suspense-film

framework.

Thirty-five years have passed since director Joseph Sargent's version. The current release reflects the post-9/11 world. Scott ("Top Gun" and "Crimson Tide") wallpapers his *mise en scène* with iconic American flags, a high-tech command center and ubiquitous computer and television screens. Repeatedly the mayor (James Gandolfini) reinforces the importance of heroic service, of fighting for New York City — a city that "does not have acceptable casualty rates." and an African-American hostage wearing an "Airborne" military ring puts himself in harm's way to protect a mother and child. "Pelham" functions as a flag-waving recruitment film for New Yorkers, urging individuals to take action against all types of terrorism and find the hero within.

Typical of most action movies, Travolta sometimes slips into a cartoonish, over-the-top villain, and Washington's attempt to save the day strains credulity. Regardless, "Pelham" satisfies as a summer popcorn movie.

Rated: R for violence and pervasive language. 1 hour, 44 minutes.

— Susan Tavernetti

To view the trailer for "The Taking of Pelham 1 2 3," go to Palo Alto Online at www.PaloAltoOnline.com

NOW PLAYING

The following is a sampling of movies recently reviewed in the Weekly:

Angels and Demons ★★1/2

(Century 16, Century 20) Tom Hanks reprises his role as ace Harvard symbologist Robert Langdon, whose knowledge of ancient Catholic history makes him suited to the latest Vatican conflict. Then the narrative kicks off a roundelay of hidden catacombs, anxious cardinals in the throes of Conclave, a perky Pope's assistant (Ewan McGregor) and the uber-conventional Swiss Guard. Director Ron Howard does not disappoint when it comes to nine-lives scenarios that make for head-scratching contingencies. But not surprisingly, the plot is a one-dimensional affair loaded with commonplace distractions. *Rated: PG-13 for violence, bloodshed and mature themes. 2 hours, 20 minutes.* — J.A. (Reviewed May 15, 2009)

Easy Virtue ★★

(Guild) In sepia-toned footage, fast cars breeze around the French Riviera, and a platinum blonde first crosses the finish line of the Monte Carlo Grand Prix. Her eyes lock with a young Englishman, and soon she's crooning "Mad About the Boy." Both the whirlwind romance and the movie become staid once the impetuous John Whittaker (Ben Barnes) announces his marriage to Larita (Jessica Biel) to his upper-crust family. Mrs. Whittaker (Kristin Scott Thomas) takes an immediate dislike

to her American daughter-in-law, whom she labels a gold-digging "floozy." Her disdain escalates for Larita, whose fascination with modern machines, progress and fun conflict with the stultifying British traditions that govern life at the grand English country estate. *Rated: PG-13 for sexual content, brief partial nudity, and smoking throughout. 1 hour, 33 minutes.* — P.C. (Reviewed June 5, 2009)

The Hangover ★★1/2

(Century 16, Century 20) Soon-to-be-married Doug Billings (Justin Bartha) wants simply to have fun with his friends before tying the knot. Schoolteacher Phil Wenneck (Bradley) is a smart rabble-rouser. Goofy Alan Garner (Zach Galifianakis) is a well-meaning misfit. And dentist Stu Price (Ed Helms) has allowed an abusive girlfriend to quash his sense of excitement. Doug, Phil, Alan and Stu drive to Las Vegas for the bachelor party and an evening of alcohol-fueled debauchery. Stu, Phil and Alan wake up the next morning in a trashed hotel room with no memory of the previous night. They also discover two unusual guests in the room: a crying baby boy and a Bengal tiger. Plus, Doug is nowhere to be found. Panic sets in as the trio tries to piece together the night's events, meeting an array of unusual characters along the way. *Rated: R for some drug material, pervasive language, sexual content and nudity. 1 hour, 40 minutes.* — T.H. (Reviewed June 5, 2009)

Smithsonian ★★

(Century 16, Century 20) The sequel to the 2006 hit "Night at the Museum" begins with a cursory change: Former Museum of Natural History night guard Larry Daley (Ben Stiller) got rich selling his products on infomercials. Upon visiting his old stomping grounds, Larry learns the old exhibits will be stored in Washington, D.C., to make way for holographic replacements. The venue change to the Smithsonian provides novelty as Larry tries to protect his friends from pharaoh Kahmunrah (Hank Azaria). The Smithsonian gives Levy a new set of toys, including Amelia Earhart (Amy Adams) and Rodin's "The Thinker" (voiced by "Simpsons" vet Azaria). The story feels mechanically engineered for special effect after special effect, all of them derivations of ideas we've seen before. But the movie has a trump card: It's a kid-friendly, PG film that celebrates museums. *Rated PG for mild action and brief language. One hour, 45 minutes.* — P.C. (Reviewed May 22, 2009)

Rudo y Cursi ★★1/2

(Cinearts) Diego Luna and Gael Garcia Bernal rekindle their chemistry in this charming cautionary fable of futbol-playing brothers. Beto and Tato Verduco are living life on the edge in rural Mexico. Beto (Luna) keeps making promises to his fed-up wife and kids. Tato (Bernal) is a gad-about living one day at a time in obscurity. In fairy-tale fashion a scout (Guillermo

Night at the Museum: Battle of the

(continued on next page)

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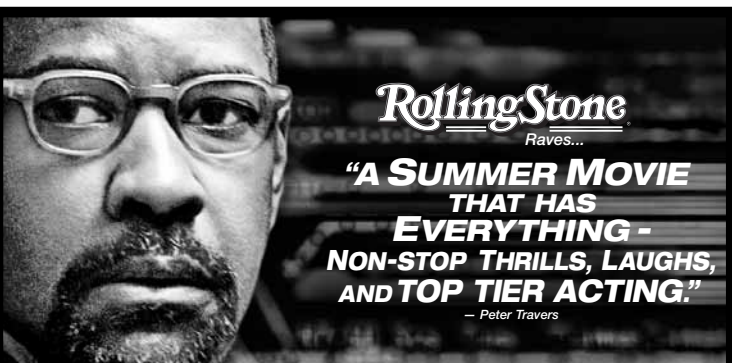
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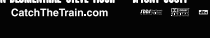
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Movies

MOVIE TIMES

Angels & Demons (PG-13) ★★1/2	Century 16: 12:10, 3:20, 6:50 & 10:05 p.m. Century 20: 1, 4:10, 7:20 & 10:25 p.m.
The Brothers Bloom (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)	Aquarius: 4:15, 7 & 9:30 p.m. Fri.-Sun. also at 1:30 p.m.
Dance Flick (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)	Century 20: 9:50 p.m.
Departures (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)	Guild: 2, 5 & 8 p.m.
Drag Me to Hell (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)	Century 16: 9:45 p.m. Century 20: 12:40, 3:05, 5:35, 8:05 & 10:40 p.m.
Earth (G) ★★★	Palo Alto Square: 2:20 & 4:40 p.m.
Easy Virtue (PG-13) ★★	Aquarius: 3:30, 6 & 8:30 p.m. Fri.-Sun. also at 1 p.m.
The Hangover (R) ★★★1/2	Century 16: 11:15 a.m.; 12, 1, 1:45, 2:30, 3:30, 4:15, 5, 6, 6:45, 7:30, 8:40, 9:20 & 10 p.m. Century 20: 11:30 a.m.; 12:30, 1:15, 2, 2:55, 3:40, 4:30, 5:25, 6:15, 7:05, 7:55, 8:45, 9:40 & 10:30 p.m. Fri.-Sun. also at 10:45 a.m.
Imagine That (PG) (Not Reviewed)	Century 16: 11:55 a.m.; 2:35, 5:10, 7:40 & 10:10 p.m. Century 20: 11:45 a.m.; 2:15, 4:50, 7:30 & 10:05 p.m.
Land of the Lost (PG-13) ★★	Century 16: 11 & 11:45 a.m.; 1:30, 2:15, 4, 4:45, 6:20, 6:30, 7:15, 8:50 & 9 p.m. Century 20: 11:15 a.m.; 12:05, 12:55, 1:50, 2:40, 3:30, 4:25, 5:15, 6, 6:55, 7:50, 8:40, 9:30 & 10:20 p.m. Fri.-Sun. also at 10:25 a.m.
My Life in Ruins (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)	Century 16: 12:25, 3, 5:30, 7:55 & 10:20 p.m.
Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian (PG) ★★	Century 16: 11:05 a.m.; 1:40, 4:20, 7:05 & 9:50 p.m. Century 20: 11:55 a.m.; 2:30, 5:05, 7:40 & 10:15 p.m.
The Proposal (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)	Century 16: Sat. at 7 p.m. Century 20: Sat. at 7 p.m.
Rudo Y Cursi (R) ★★★1/2	Palo Alto Square: 7:25 p.m. Fri.-Sat. also at 9:50 p.m.
Star Trek (PG-13) ★★★1/2	Century 16: 1:10, 4:10, 7:20 & 10:30 p.m. Century 20: 1:30, 4:30, 7:30 & 10:30 p.m. Fri.-Sun. also at 10:40 a.m.
State of Play (PG-13) ★★★	Palo Alto Square: 1:15, 4:15 & 7:15 p.m. Fri.-Sat. also at 10 p.m.
The Taking of Pelham 123 (R) ★★★	Century 16: 11:10 a.m.; 12:30, 1:50, 3:05, 4:25, 5:40, 7:10, 8:15 & 9:55 p.m. Century 20: 11:25 a.m.; 12:15, 1:05, 2, 2:50, 3:40, 4:35, 5:25, 6:15, 7:10, 8, 8:50, 9:45 & 10:35 p.m. Fri.-Sun. also at 10:30 a.m.
Terminator Salvation (PG-13) ★★	Century 16: 11:20 a.m.; 2:20, 5:05, 7:50 & 10:25 p.m. Century 20: 11:40 a.m.; 2:25, 5:10, 7:55 & 10:40 p.m.
Up (PG) ★★★★★	Century 16: Fri. & Sun.-Thu. at 12:15, 1:20, 2:45, 3:50, 5:15, 7:45 & 10:15 p.m. Sat. at 11:30 a.m.; 1:20, 2, 3:50, 4:30 & 9:30 p.m. In digital 3D Fri. & Sun.-Thu. at 11:30 a.m.; 2, 4:30, 7 & 9:30 p.m. Sat. at 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45 & 10:15 p.m. Century 20: 11 & 11:45 a.m.; 1:10, 1:40, 2:20, 3:45, 4:20, 4:55, 6:20, 7, 7:35, 8:55, 9:35 & 10:10 p.m. In digital 3D at 12:35, 3:10, 5:45, 8:15 & 10:45 p.m.
X-Men Origins: Wolverine (PG-13) ★★★	Century 20: 11:20 a.m.; 1:55, 4:40 & 7:15 p.m.

★ Skip it ★★ Some redeeming qualities ★★★ A good bet ★★★★★ Outstanding

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Internet address: For show times, plot synopses, trailers and more information about films playing, go to Palo Alto Online at <http://www.PaloAltoOnline.com/>

Century 20 Downtown: 825 Middlefield Road, Redwood City (800-326-3264)



ON THE WEB: The most up-to-date movie listings at www.PaloAltoOnline.com

(continued from previous page)

Francela) turns up at the dirt pitch where the boys take out their frustrations on the futbol-frenzied locals. He offers Tato a tryout with a professional team and somehow Tato makes the cut. Beto, consumed with jealousy, leaves his family to make the rival team's starting lineup. Rated: R for profanity, brief violence and nudity. 1 hour, 43 minutes. In Spanish with English subtitles. — J.A. (Reviewed May 15, 2009)

Up ★★★★★
(Century 16, Century 20) Senior citizen Carl Fredrickson (voice of Edward Asner) wasn't always a gruff and standoffish. He was a boy eager for adventure. He was a loyal husband to his wife, Ellie. He was happy. Following Ellie's death, crews demolished the familiar neighborhood around Carl. Now he sits on his porch, and even exuberant young wilderness explorer Russell (voice of Jordan Nagai) can't lift him from his mood. When the threat of being placed in a nursing home confronts Carl, he decides to do something drastic. He attaches vibrant balloons to the house's chimney and sets off for Paradise Falls, a mysterious locale in South America that Ellie longed to visit. When Carl realizes he has an accidental stowaway in Russell, his plans for a quiet escape are thrown askew. Hilarious, heartwarming and beautifully animated, "Up" is one of the year's first truly exceptional films. Rated: PG for some peril and action. 1 hour, 36 minutes. — T.H. (Reviewed May 29, 2009)

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The Stanford Theatre is at 221 University Ave. in Palo Alto. Go to www.stanfordtheatre.org or call 650-324-3700.

Citizen Kane (1941) Orson Welles plays a newspaper baron who just might have been William Randolph Hearst. Fri.-Mon. at 7:30 p.m. Sat.-Sun. also at 3:25 p.m.

Singin' in the Rain (1952) Silent-film star Gene Kelly must make the jump to "talkies" with the help of Debbie Reynolds in this puddle-splashing musical. Fri.- Mon. at 5:35 & 9:40 p.m.

American Madness (1942) A Frank Capra film about a Depression-era bank robbery. Tue.-Thu. at 7:30 p.m.

The Devil and Daniel Webster (1941) A farmer makes a deal with the devil for seven years of prosperity. When the devil comes to collect, orator Daniel Webster comes to the rescue. Tue.-Thu. at 5:30 & 9 p.m.

X-Men Origins: Wolverine ★★★
(Century 16, Century 20) The story focuses on the relationship between brothers Wolverine (aka Logan) and Sabretooth (aka Victor Creed), from their adolescence to wartime heroics to involvement in the controversial Weapon X program. After being sacrificed to a firing squad, Wolverine and Sabretooth are approached by General William Stryker (Danny Huston). Stryker convinces the men to join a team of mutants that includes sharp-shooter

Agent Zero (Daniel Henney), brawler Fred Dukes (Kevin Durand) and mercenary Wade Wilson (Ryan Reynolds). It turns out Stryker has sinister intentions. As Wolverine tries to dismantle Stryker's nefarious program, he turns to fellow mutants for help. Overall, the movie is like the character himself: rough but memorable. Rated: PG-13 for violence, intense sequences of action and some partial nudity. 1 hour, 47 minutes. — T.H.

Eating Out

RESTAURANT REVIEW



Bartender Alan Hayes mixes a Cubano Sun cocktail: passion-fruit puree, passion-fruit vodka and a splash of lime.

Giving fusion a good name

Three Seasons: contemporary Vietnamese cuisine with California accents plus sushi

by Sheila Himmel

This is the season for Three Seasons, a downtown Palo Alto restaurant with lots of open-air dining opportunities, now including a raw seafood bar. Another plus is that you sit in an alley rather than trafficky University Avenue or Castro Street.

Back in 2002, this contemporary Vietnamese restaurant transformed a soaring space that had housed a couple of clunkers after the legendary 42nd Street Bar & Grill closed. Luckily, 42nd Street's now-octogenarian wooden bar, whose top meets the mezzanine floor, remains intact, except for the bullet holes it acquired in New York City.

If you sit inside, enjoy the large Italian glass dome. Venue choices include high tables, low tables, upstairs tables and lounges.

The Bay Area and Vietnamese food were made for each other, whether it's pho, banh mi sandwiches, seven-course beef dinners

or spring rolls. We have access to fresh ingredients and the taste for variety.

Three Seasons has carved out a niche that once may have been derided as fusion, starting with a smaller restaurant in San Francisco's trendy Marina district. They do it pretty well, at a reasonable price for very pleasant surroundings.

Need a pick-me-up after work? Happy Hour (5 to 7 p.m. weeknights) provides half-price on oysters and refreshing cocktails, such as the cucumber martini.

Need a quick lunch with a picky eater? Three Seasons' menu encourages sharing, but you don't have to, especially at lunch with the three-item bento box.

Our dinner kickoff was played by miyagi oyster shooters (\$3.50 each with quail egg), dotted with fish roe and shredded chives and a smidgen of yuzu gelee.

Then there was a fumble. I or-

dered honey quail satay (\$12), a dish I remembered fondly, the first listed among five satays. But the kitchen was out of quail — early on a Saturday night. We punted with sea scallop satay (\$11), three sticks each with two very lightly grilled, plump scallops.

Less good, a small plate of pork ribs (\$13) drowned in cloying, sticky sauce.

The maki dragon roll (\$13) features slabs of avocado and eel resting across nori-wrapped sushi rice, sweet-tart ponzu sauce and pickled ginger. Like the oyster shooters, the dragon roll is a dance of textures and flavors.

If every dish were so multidimensional, a meal at Three Seasons would require too much attention. You'd get tired. Better to mix in some straightforward items such as sea bass (\$26), stingy-looking at first but satisfying in the end, steamed with ginger, lily buds and mushrooms. Access to produce like mushrooms is a fine example of the Bay Area-Vietnam coalition.

We finished with the signature banana spring roll (\$8), six crisply fried wrappers keeping the banana warm inside and the chocolate melting outside. A



The Red Dragon Roll (in the foreground) features shrimp tempura, spicy tuna, tuna sashimi avocado and spicy sauce. In the background are Dragon Rolls, a mojito and a Cubano Sun cocktail.

small scoop of Tahitian vanilla ice cream accompanies.

Service can be sketchy. Pacing is not part of the regimen, but replacing the paper atop the tablecloth is, so be thankful for that. As mentioned, this food is meant to be shared. The table gets messy.

In case you wonder why the name is Three Seasons instead of four, chef-owner John Le Hung had three reasons the last time I asked. That was shortly after opening in Palo Alto, when he explained the homage to Bay Area filmmaker Tony Bui's movie "Three Seasons."

Also, Le said in Saigon, where he was born, they really didn't have winter. So there went one season. Finally, he had a fantasy of being open three seasons and

taking the other season off. Not gonna happen. ■

Three Seasons

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ShopTalk

LOOKING TO PARTNER ... Palo Alto's own vintage shop, **Trappings of Time**, is looking for a new home. Shop owner Katherine Manzini says the vintage clothing and costume shop, which has been in its current location on Hamilton Avenue for 14 years, is being forced out by raised rent. A huge sale including vintage clothing, purses, jewelry, shoes, wigs and costumes will take place Saturday through Monday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Manzini said she is hoping to raise money at the sale to continue her business. She said she cannot pay the newly doubled rent, and that every other location in downtown Palo Alto she has looked at is too expensive to rent. "Don't let Palo Alto turn into a faceless, boring shopping town," Manzini said. "We're colorful and fun and people love us." Manzini hopes to find either a good start-up rate until the economy rebounds or a designer to partner with and share the rent in a new location. She is looking to partner with a designer using recycled fabrics, a hat maker, a children's designer or someone else who has a similar style.

SHOP CLOSING DOWNTOWN ... The Palo Alto jewelry store **Gleim Jewelers** is closing its doors on its downtown location on University Avenue this summer. President Georgie Gleim said the store is expected to close at the end of June or beginning of July; until then it is holding an inventory-reduction sale with merchandise from all three of the Gleim locations. Gleim's will open an office in downtown Palo Alto at an undecided location to accommodate the accounting department, ap-

praiser, estate buying and repairs. Shop locations at Stanford Shopping Center and in downtown Los Altos will remain open.

PIZZA DELIVERY ... Construction is underway on **Howie's Artisan Pizza** with hopes of a September opening. The pizzeria will occupy the currently empty location on the El Camino Real side of Town & Country Village in Palo Alto between **Sur La Table** and the **Paper Source**. Howard Bulka, former chef at Marche in Menlo Park, who is heading up the project, said the restaurant will serve pizza, salads, sandwiches, house-made ice cream, beer and wine. He intends to reinvent the pizza, though. "We're using all the good stuff," Bulka said. "Like organic, naturally raised products." Bulka said he favors the East Coast-style of pizza, with a thin crust.

MOVING NEXT DOOR ... The **AT&T Store** at El Camino Real and Page Mill Road in Palo Alto is moving next door on El Camino Real on July 15. Their current building will be torn down, along with the buildings that formerly housed **Auto Nav 2000 Plus** and **Ken's Bonsai**. Auto Nav 2000 Plus moved to a new location in San Jose. A larger building that will occupy the current location of all three buildings will be constructed.

Items for ShopTalk can be e-mailed to Editorial Intern Emily James at ejames@paweekly.com; Daryl Savage, the longtime writer of ShopTalk, will resume the column in the fall.



City of Palo Alto

Resolution No. 8930

Resolution of the Council of the City Of Palo Alto Calling a General Municipal Election of Council Members, Requesting the Services of the Registrar of Voters, and Ordering the Consolidation of Said Election

WHEREAS, Article III, Section 3, of the Palo Alto City Charter requires that a general municipal election for election of council members be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of each odd-numbered year, that is, November 3, 2009; and

WHEREAS, elections are scheduled to be held on November 3, 2009, in certain school districts and certain special districts in Santa Clara County; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Education Code Section 5342 and Part 3 of Division 10 of the Elections Code, commencing at Section 10400, such elections may be partially or completely consolidated.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Council of the City of Palo Alto does RESOLVE as follows:

SECTION 1. Call of Election. A general municipal election is hereby called for the City of Palo Alto to be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2009, for the purpose of electing five (5) council members for full terms (four years).

SECTION 2. Request to Consolidate. The Council of the City of Palo Alto requests the governing body of any other political subdivision, or any officers otherwise authorized by law, to partially or completely consolidate such elections and the City Council consents to such consolidation.

SECTION 3. Request for County Services. Pursuant to Section 10002 of the California Elections Code, the Council of the City of Palo Alto hereby requests the Board of Supervisors of Santa Clara County to permit the Registrar of Voters to render services to the City of Palo Alto relating to the conduct of Palo Alto's General Municipal and Special Elections which are called to be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2009. The services shall be of the type normally performed by the Registrar of Voters in assisting the clerks of municipalities in the conduct of elections including, but not limited to, checking registrations, mailing ballots, hiring election officers and arranging for polling places, receiving absentee voter ballot applications, mailing and receiving absent voter ballots and opening and counting same, providing and distributing election supplies, and furnishing voting machines.

SECTION 4. Consolidation of Measures. The Board of Supervisors of Santa Clara County is requested to include on the ballots and sample ballots, all qualified measures submitted by the City Council to be ratified by the qualified electors of the City of Palo Alto.

SECTION 5. Duties of City Clerk. The City Clerk is directed to do all things required by law to effectuate such general municipal election, including but not limited to causing the posting, publication and printing of all notices or other election materials pursuant to the requirements of the Charter of the City of Palo Alto and the California Elections and Government Codes.

SECTION 6. Contract Authority. Subject to approval of the Board of Supervisors of Santa Clara County of the foregoing request, the City Clerk is hereby authorized to engage the services of the Registrar of Voters of the County of Santa Clara to aid in the conduct of said elections including canvassing the returns of said elections. Further, the Director of Administrative Services is authorized and directed to pay the cost of said services provided that no payment shall be made for services which the Registrar of Voters is otherwise required by law to perform.

SECTION 7. Transmittal of Resolution. The City Clerk is directed to submit a certified copy of this resolution to the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Clara.

SECTION 8. CEQA. The Council finds that this resolution does not constitute a project subject to the California Environmental Quality Act under Public Resources Code section 21065 or CEQA Guidelines section 15378.

INTRODUCED AND PASSED: JUNE 1, 2009

AYES: BARTON, BURT, DREKMEIER, ESPINOSA, KISHIMOTO, KLEIN, MORTON, SCHMID, YEH

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

ATTEST:

/s/ Donna J. Grider

APPROVED:

/s/ Peter Drekmeier

City Clerk
APPROVED AS TO FORM:

/s/ Gary Baum

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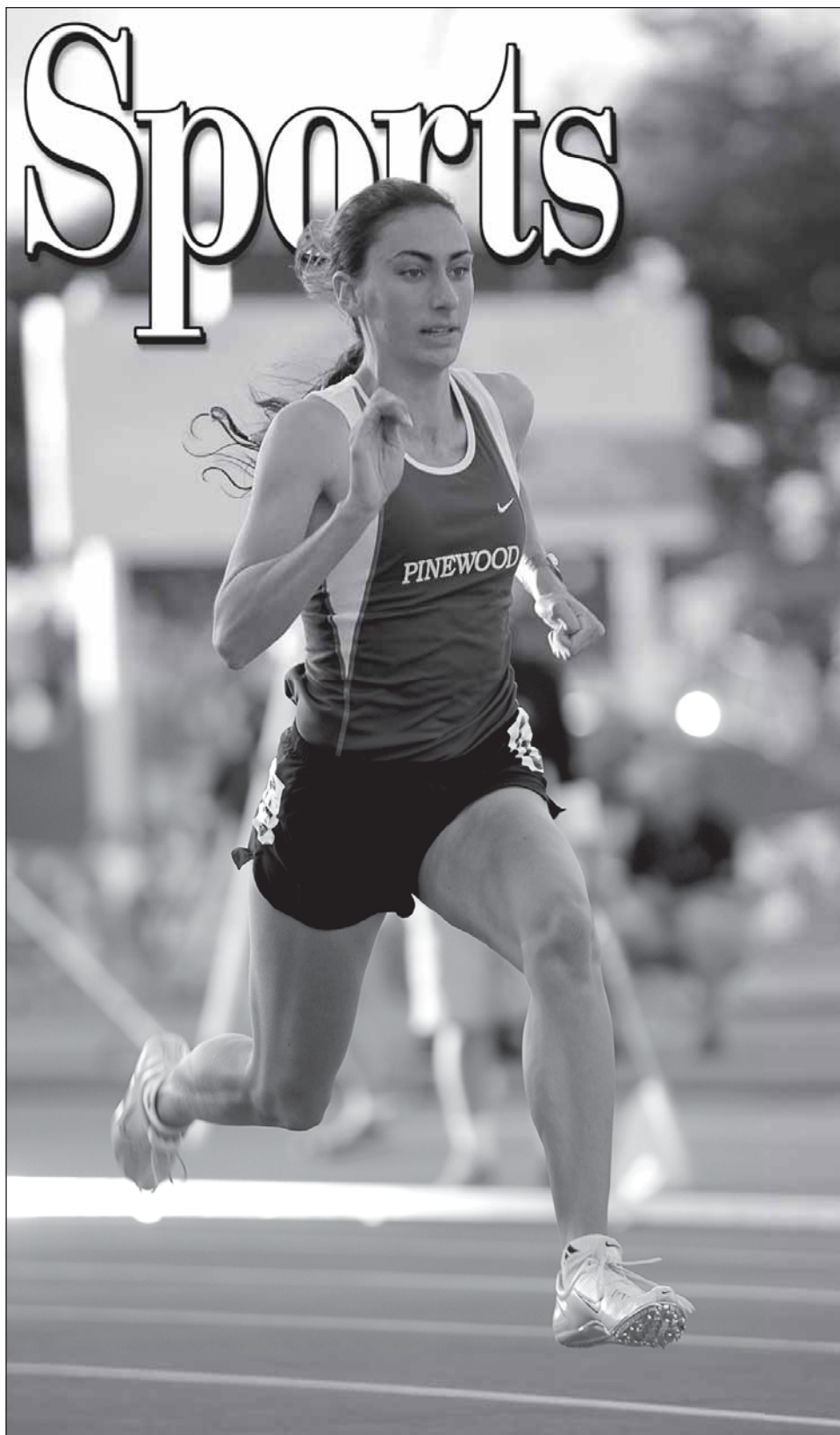
Sports Shorts

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED . . . Two big events this summer at Stanford University are looking for volunteer help. First up is the 39th annual Bank of the West Classic women's pro tennis tournament, July 27-Aug. 2 at the Taube Family Tennis Stadium. Volunteers need to be at least 18 years of age and can earn free tickets to the event. Volunteer positions are currently available in several areas including transportation, ushers, guest services, hospitality and tournament administration.† For more information please contact Mary Ann Cochrane at macocgrabe@imgworld.com or call her at (408) 316-2880. You may also go to www.bankofthewestclassic.com and click on "Volunteers" to apply online. Volunteers receive complimentary tickets to the tournament, a parking pass, and an official tournament shirt. They will be asked to work a minimum of four shifts during the event in order to qualify for these tournament benefits . . . Volunteers also are needed when the Summer National Senior Games makes its California debut Aug. 1-15 at Stanford and throughout the Bay Area. The Senior Games is the largest multi-sport event in the world for men and women athletes age 50 and over. An estimated 10,000 athletes will be competing in 25 sports at this event, which is dedicated to motivating adults to achieve a greater quality of life through fitness and sport. Volunteers are crucial to the success of an event of this magnitude and some 4,000 are needed to successfully produce the event. Online volunteer registration is at www.2009seniorgames.org/become-a-volunteer.

TENNIS TICKETS . . . Single-session tickets for the 2009 Bank of the West Classic, featuring four of the top five ranked players in the world, are on sale now for the annual tournament at Stanford University, scheduled for July 27-Aug. 2. This summer's player field is shaping up to be the best in the 39-year history of the event with 10-time Grand Slam champion **Serena Williams**, seven-time Grand Slam champion **Venus Williams**, three-time Grand Slam champion **Maria Sharapova**, 2008 Olympic gold medalist **Elena Dementieva** and 2008 ITF world champion **Jelena Jankovic** already committed to play. With a new 32-player singles draw, fans will have the opportunity to see the top players compete during the early rounds. Tickets for the event, which will be held at the Taube Family Tennis Stadium, can be purchased by calling the box office at 866-WTA-TIXS (866-982-8497) or by logging on to www.BankoftheWestClassic.com.

SPORTS ONLINE

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Pinewood junior Angela Gradiska will forgo a potentially busy summer of track and field despite moving among the nation's elite sprinters following a second and fourth place at the CIF State Meet last weekend.

Storen is signed, sealed and delivered but Diekroeger still has baseball decisions

by Rick Eyrer

Menlo School grad Kenny Diekroeger knows he'll be playing baseball this summer once he gets medical clearance for a strained posterior cruciate ligament in his left knee sustained while competing for the Knights.

Stanford sophomore Drew Storen also knows he'll be playing summer baseball, and getting paid for doing so. Diekroeger, who committed to play at Stanford in the fall, has to decide if he's playing for free or cashing a paycheck.

Both local players were drafted in the first two rounds on Tuesday. Storen went to the Washington Nationals as the 10th overall pick, and Diekroeger went to the Tampa Bay Rays as the 78th overall pick.

After a long, drawn out bargaining session, likely somewhere in the neighborhood of several minutes, Storen signed with the Nationals on Wednesday. He received a \$1.6 million dollar signing bonus and threw out the first pitch that night.

Storen reports to Class A Hagerstown and will begin his career with the Nationals as a closer.

"I'm ready to get started pitching," Storen said. "I have a whole lot going on in my mind. This is exactly what I wanted. I'm sure some day I will wake up from this dream."

Storen impressed Nationals' officials in a recent workout.

"He was the next guy on the board. We took the best player available," Washington acting general manager Mike Rizzo said. "It just so happens that we spoke at length after we drafted him. His goals and aspirations matched up with our time frame. He wanted to sign right away and start his career. It had nothing to do with strategy or planning. He was next on our list and we plucked him."

No matter which way Diekroeger chooses, it will be a good choice. After all, it's Stanford and all the education and athletics any student could absorb, or it's pro baseball and the real-

(continued on page 40)

STATE TRACK & FIELD

She's racing to next level in a hurry

Pinewood junior Angela Gradiska has plenty of opportunities after sizzling state meet performance

by Keith Peters

Summer has arrived for Pinewood junior Angela Gradiska. On the surface, it could be like any other summer before it. She plans on relaxing, playing some tennis and taking a family vacation to Maui.

This summer also can be looked at as something very special and unique at this point of her career. She will be graduating a year from now, for one thing, and she has plenty of decisions ahead to which college she'll be attending.

The number of colleges who would like to have a student-athlete like Gradiska has grown as quickly as Gradiska ran the 100 and 200 meters at last weekend's CIF State Track and Field Championships at Buchanan High in Clovis.

"As of June 1, all the college coaches can call me," Gradiska explained. "I've gotten a bunch of letters since my freshman year, but now I can talk to them and make plans to visit their schools . . . it is kind of a different summer."

In less than 36 seconds at last weekend's meet, Gradiska went from being just another good runner to a whole lot different.

"It's funny how I jumped into that next level so quickly," Gradiska said.

Gradiska ran personal bests of 11.67 in the 100 and 23.64 in the 200 in the prelims on Friday to qualify for her first finals in the state meet. On Saturday, she ran 11.74 to finish fourth in the 100 and clocked 23.85 for second in the 200.

With those races run, suddenly all kinds of doors opened for Gradiska for a potentially busy summer. The USA Junior National Championships will be held June 25-28 in Eugene, Ore., with the top two finishers earning berths for the Junior Pan Am Games in Port of Spain, Trinidad, from July 31-Aug. 2.

"It would be such a great experience to go to Eugene and Trinidad," Gradiska said, "but I talked it over with (coaches) Joy (Margerum), Mische (Hoffer) and my parents and we came to the conclusion — why not end on a high note?"

"I don't think I can hold my peak that long and I don't want to get injured," she said. "I'm just going to

(continued on page 38)



Stanford's Drew Storen already has been signed by the Washington Nationals.

SWIMMING

Swimming loses true legend

Former Stanford women's coach Richard Quick leaves behind a rich legacy

by Keith Peters

The legacy that Richard Quick leaves behind solidifies his place in history. One only needs to read the long list of Olympians he has coached and what they achieved under his guidance.

Jenny Thompson. Summer Sanders. Janet Evans. Lea (Loveless) Maurer. Janel Jorgenson. Jill Johnson. Misty Hyman. Catherine Fox. Caroline Bruce. Kristen Caverly. Lisa Jacob. Dana and Tara Kirk. Those are just the U.S. Olympians from Stanford that he coached during his 17-year career on The Farm.

Quick, one of the most prominent figures in the sport of swimming and diving, passed away Wednesday night at the age of 66 in Austin, Texas. Quick was diagnosed with an inoperable cancerous brain tumor this past December.

The most decorated swimming coach in American history, Quick was a six-time United States Olympic coach who directed his collegiate teams to 13 NCAA titles — the most in the history of the sport.

Current Stanford head women's swimming coach Lea Maurer, who took over when Quick left following the 2004-05 season, was coached by Quick both collegiately on The Farm and on the United States team at the 1992 Olympic Games.

"All associated with Stanford Swimming are deeply saddened by Richard's passing," said Maurer. "He leaves an indelible legacy on the sport of swimming, one that will live on through the many people whose lives he enriched. Beyond the tremendous swimming accolades, I will always celebrate the stories, the life victories, the laughter and the friendships he helped to create. Our sincerest condolences and prayers go out to the Quick family."

Quick won seven of his NCAA ti-



Former Stanford women's swim coach Richard Quick coached five of his own swimmers, including Dana Kirk, in the '04 Olympics.

ties at Stanford after winning an unprecedented eight straight at Texas. He guided his first Cardinal team to a national championship in 1989 before winning five in a row from 1992-96 and one more in 1998.

He started his Stanford career by winning his first 57 dual meets, while his teams on The Farm sported an all-time record of 123-10 (.925). He coached 41 NCAA champions who captured a combined 63 national individual titles and 29 NCAA relay crowns during his 17 seasons at Stanford.

"The swimming world has suffered a great loss," said Stanford senior associate athletic director Earl Koberlein, the longtime sport administrator for Stanford swimming. "Richard's successes on the collegiate and international levels speak for themselves, and he helped to create a tradition of world-class

swimming at Stanford that continues to this day."

A four-time Pacific-10 Coach of the Year (1989, '92, '95 and 2001), Quick earned two of his five NCAA Coach of the Year awards while at Stanford (1989 and '92).

Renowned throughout the sport, Quick was the head coach of the United States team at the 1988, '96 and 2000 Olympic Games while serving as an assistant at the 1984, '92 and 2004 Olympics. His men's and women's swimmers combined for 26 medals in Atlanta — the most by any team at the 1996 Olympics.

Quick is survived by his wife June, and children, Michael, Kathy, Tiffany and Benjamin, and grandchildren, Blake and Emily. ■

Matt Hodson of the Stanford Sports Information Department contributed to this story.

Olympic swimmers in Santa Clara

With the nation's top swimmers all pointing toward next month's 2009 ConocoPhillips USA National Championships, this week's annual Santa Clara International Grand Prix takes on a greater importance as the final tuneup before nationals.

That's why more than 20 U.S. Olympians, including Olympic gold medalists Michael Phelps and Ryan Lochte will be on hand in Santa Clara for the final stop of the USA Swimming Grand Prix Series. Action began Thursday night and continues through Sunday at the George F. Haines International Swim Center.

Other top U.S. swimmers ex-

pected to compete in Santa Clara include Stanford's Julia Smit and Elaine Breeden plus fellow Olympians Katie Hoff, Margaret Hoelzer, Scott Spann, Kara Lynn Joyce, Matt Grevers, Allison Schmitt, Elizabeth Beisel, Lacy Nymeyer, Dana Vollmer, Nathan Adrian and Kathleen Hersey.

The local area will be well-represented by numerous swimmers from Palo Alto Stanford Aquatics (PASA) like Palo Alto grads Peter Davis, Liv Jensen and Colleen Fotsch plus current Paly swimmers Jasmine Tosky, Abby Duckett and Sarah Liang, in addition to Menlo grad Haley Read and Sacred Heart Prep's Tom Kremer. ■



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YOUTH BASEBALL

Title games are on tap in Babe Ruth, Little League

ATV advances to Babe Ruth 13s city tourney finale; Palo Alto Little League city finale set for Saturday

by Keith Peters

It's not quite a summer vacation, but players on Advanced Technology Ventures (ATV) will have a considerable break before playing for the championship of the Palo Alto Babe Ruth 13s City Tournament next Wednesday at Baylands Athletic Center.

Top-seeded ATV earned the trip to the finals with an 8-1 victory over No. 2 seed Wells Fargo on Wednesday at Baylands. Both teams came into the game after first-round victories on Saturday.

Casey McDonald pitched a no-hitter through 5 2/3 innings (facing only 19 batters) for ATV and had a two-run double during a four-run fifth inning that blew the game open. He struck out three, walked only one and was very efficient by getting more than half the batters he faced out with three pitches or less.

McDonald lost his no-hitter in the sixth when Robert Larson of Wells Fargo doubled to left field with two out. James Foug followed with another double to produce his team's only run.

ATV built a comfortable lead over the first three innings. Nick Sullivan singled in the first inning and ended up scoring on a passed ball for a 1-0 lead in the first. In the second, McDonald reached first on a walk and Daniel Tachna-Fram reached on an error. Sullivan hit a liner to third that was mishandled, with McDonald and Tachna-Fram scoring on the error. In the third, Michael Tinsley singled and Johnathan Corvello was hit by a pitch. Joe Farham laid down a sacrifice bunt to move the runners along before Chris Lee got an RBI fielder's choice to score Tinsley.

ATV took a 4-0 lead into the fifth before Tinsley had an RBI double, Lee added an RBI single and then McDonald produced his two-run two-bagger to put the game out of reach for Wells Fargo.

The defense behind McDonald was solid, too, with no errors. Second baseman Ryan Galvin and shortstop Corvello made plays look routine while Lee, in centerfield, caught everything hit his way.

Wells Fargo, meanwhile, drops into the consolation bracket and will lay Mathews-Carlsen in an elimination game Saturday at Baylands at 4 p.m.

Little League

The No. 1- and 2-seeded teams in the Palo Alto Little League City Tournament needed rallies to pull out victories on Tuesday and advance to the semifinals in the annual baseball event.

Top-seeded Alhouse King Realty became the only unbeaten team left in the tournament after battling back from a three-run deficit to pull out a 6-3 triumph over previously unbeaten Palo Alto Venture Partners at Middlefield Ballpark. Earlier on the same field, second-seeded LPM responded to a one-run deficit by

scoring three runs in the bottom of the fifth to eliminate No. 4 Hengehold, 3-1, in a battle between the top two teams from the American League.

In the other game of the day, No. 5 seed Old Pro bounced No. 7 All Out Baseball, 5-0, at Hoover Park.

The semifinals were played Thursday, with Alhouse taking on Old Pro at Middlefield and Palo Alto VP facing LPM at Hoover Park. The winners will advance to Saturday's championship game at Middlefield, starting at 3 p.m. Should Alhouse reach Saturday's game and lose, a challenge game will be played Sunday at 1 p.m. ■

(For results of Thursday's semifinals, go to www.PASportsOnline.com for coverage of both games.)

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Palo Alto's Groetsema advances in U.S. Women's Open golf qualifying

by Keith Peters

Palo Alto High senior-to-be Alexandra Groetsema probably isn't making any summer vacation plans any time soon, unless there's a trip next month to Bethlehem, Pa. That's the site of the U.S. Women's Open, where Groetsema hopes to be playing.

Groetsema, however, first must get past the next round of qualifying for the national golf event. That will take place Monday at Stockton Country Club, where Groetsema advanced past the opening round on June 1 by shooting a 75.

Groetsema and five other players all tied, which forced a playoff for the final three qualifying spots. One player made birdie on the first hole while the other five made par. Groetsema had to make an eight-foot putt to stay in, and did. On the second hole, a par 3, five players were competing for the two remaining spots. Four players reached the green but Groetsema hit into a greenside bunker. She blasted out to 25 feet away, but made the lengthy putt. One other woman made par, but the other three missed for bogeys to allow Groetsema to advance.

While Groetsema continues her quest for a berth in the U.S. Women's Open, set for July 9-12 at Saucun Valley Country Club, recent Gunn graduate Martin Trainer and Menlo-Atherton grad Nick Sako will be heading out for their summer golf seasons after wrapping up their prep careers at the CIF State Boys' Championship on Wednesday at Poppy Hills Golf Course.

It was not the kind of finish either player envisioned as Trainer shot a 5-over-par 77 to finish in a six-way tie for 20th while Sako shot a 78 and ended in a three-way tie for 26th.

Trainer, who had to hustle back to Palo Alto for his graduation ceremony at Gunn at 6 p.m., couldn't replicate his effort that won him the NorCal title a few weeks ago. He was 4-over after his front nine and 5-over after a bogey 4 on the 196-yard par-3 11th hole. Trainer gained a stroke with a birdie on the 509-yard par-5 12th.

A birdie 3 on the 16th hole, a 429-yard par-4 had him back to a possible 75 had he parred out, but back-to-back bogeys to finish the round left him at 77. Kevin Dougherty of Vista Murrieta shot 70 and won a

three-man playoff for the state title.

Sako wrapped up his standout prep career with his 6-over showing at the par-72 Poppy Hills course. Sako bogeyed three of his first four holes before righting himself with a birdie 3 on the 419-yard par-4 fifth hole. He shot a 2-over-par 38 on the front nine. Sako was still in good shape until he bogeyed four of the final four holes.

Awards

Palo Alto High seniors Tim Wenzlau, Allie Coleman, Will Holder and Ally Whitson were the top award winners at the school's annual spring awards ceremony recently.

Wenzlau (water polo, swimming) was named Boy Athlete of the Year while Coleman (volleyball, basketball, softball) was the Girl Athlete of the Year. Holder (football, baseball) won the Hamilton Award while Whitson (volleyball, swimming) won the Williams Award.

At Sacred Heart Prep, senior Yvonne Dunlevie (water polo, swimming) was the school's Female Athlete of the Year while senior Paul Rudolph (water polo, swimming) was the Male Athlete of the Year.

At Menlo School, the top senior female athlete was Madi Shove (soccer, lacrosse) while Will Tashman (water polo, basketball), Kenny Diekroeger (baseball), Jerry Rice Jr. (football, basketball) and Daniel Hoffman (basketball, tennis) shared the senior boys' award. ■



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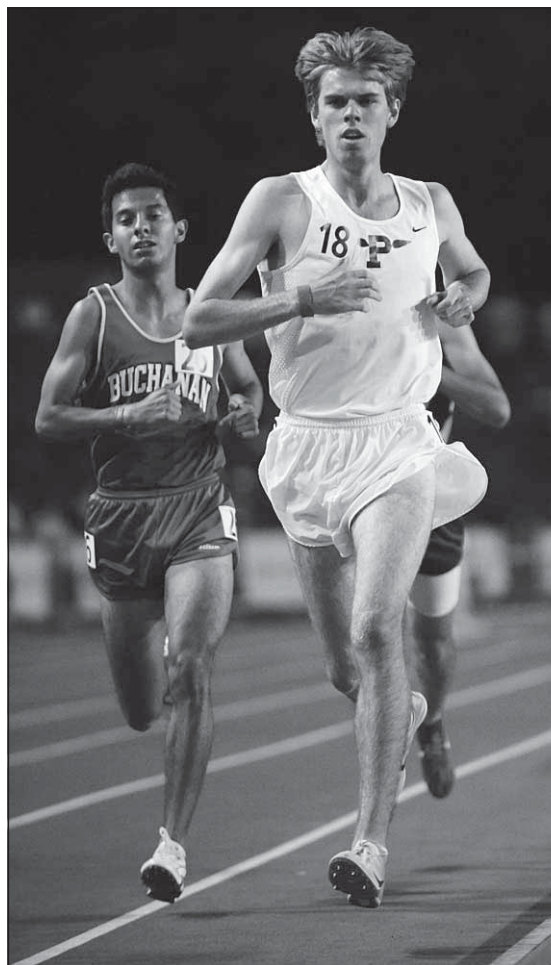
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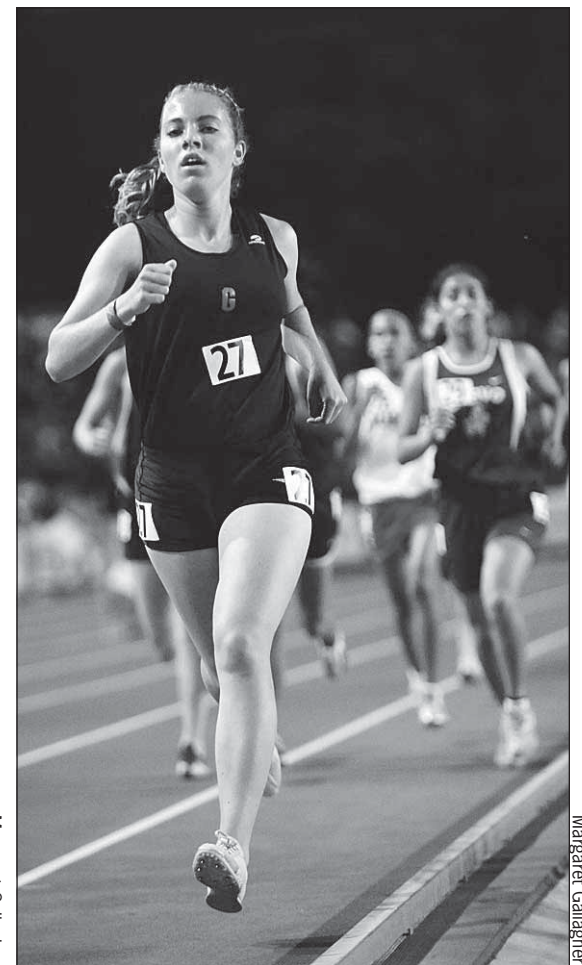


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Sports



Palo Alto junior ran a personal best of 9:07.23 in the 3200 but finished 18th in a very fast field.



Gunn senior Allegra Mayer, who finished 24th in the girls' 3200, will run for Northwestern this fall.

State track

(continued from page 32)

play some tennis, keep active and have a relaxing summer.

"I've never had to make this decision before because the past two years my season just stopped. But, I'm pretty confident I made the right decision."

"She just wanted to finish it (the season) with a bang and it definitely was a bang," said Margerum, who has been Gradiska's technical and speed coach with Hoffer concentrating on Gradiska's strength. "She was awesome. She made her mark."

While a lot of athletes who competed at the state meet will be running at the Golden West Championships this weekend in Folsom and then going on to the Junior Olympics, Junior Nationals or various other meets, Gradiska decided not to get greedy. The CIF State Meet was more than enough.

"The state meet was such a great

meet," she said. "I PR'd at state and did so well."

The Friday-Saturday schedule was the first time that Gradiska ever ran on back-to-back days.

"I had the same adrenaline and excitement (on Saturday)," she explained, "but my legs and times were just not as sharp."

Gradiska's 11.67 in the 100 prelim ranks No. 4 in the state this season while her 23.64 in the 200 prelim ranks her No. 2. Both times also make her among the fastest in the nation this season. Gradiska is now No. 5 all-time in the 200 in Central Coast Section history and No. 6 all-time in the 100.

While dealing with the consecutive days of running was important, so too was Gradiska's improved mental approach.

"I learned to be more confident," she said. "Last year I was kind of in awe of the other girls. This year I came in with a different mindset — I can compete with them."

Valexia Droughn of Rio Mesa

won the girls' 100 in 11.54 and Ashton Purvis of St. Elizabeth (Oakland) won the 200 in a state-leading 23.46, faster than her 23.51 prelim time.

Gradiska beat defending state champion Jessica Davis (Highland/Palmdale) in the 200 finale. Gradiska, Davis and Purvis are all juniors while Droughn is a sophomore.

Gradiska said she was more than pleased to come away with a second and fourth place last weekend.

"I came into the state meet just trying to get PRs and have an end to a great season," she said. "I'm not disappointed at all. It was just great to experience that atmosphere and get to the finals . . . I was so happy after the 200 — beating the defending state champion."

The finishes by Gradiska, who has been running track for only three years, more than made up for her first appearance in the state

(continued on next page)

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Margaret Gallagher

Castilleja senior Libby Cooper was fifth in her heat of the 300 hurdles.

(continued from previous page)

meet last season when she failed to reach the finals in either event.

Now, all kinds of doors are opening for Gradiska, who has been contacted by LSU, Stanford and Cal just to name a few.

“She won’t be hurting for opportunities from now on,” said Gunn coach Ernie Lee, who welcomed Gradiska to work out with his team since Pinewood doesn’t have a track and field facility.

Gradiska was one of seven local athletes who qualified for the state meet and one of three who reached the finals — joining 3200 runners Philip MacQuitty of Palo Alto and Allegra Mayer of Gunn.

Perhaps one of the best races of the finals was the boys’ 3200 meters, where MacQuitty ran the race of his life while clocking a personal record of 9:07.23. Despite improving his PR by more than three seconds, the Paly junior finished only 18th in the huge field that saw 19 runners race across the finish line in under 9:07.34.

“I’m pretty happy with my time, but 18th was not gratifying,” MacQuitty told the Paly Voice. “I was expecting to beat my season-best time, which I did, but I also thought I’d finish in the top 10 or 12.”

The amazing race was won by Chris Schwartz of Foothill in 8:51.60. Mountain View junior Garrett Rowe ran a personal best of 8:55.71 while finishing fourth. Rowe now ranks No. 6 all-time in CCS history in the event.

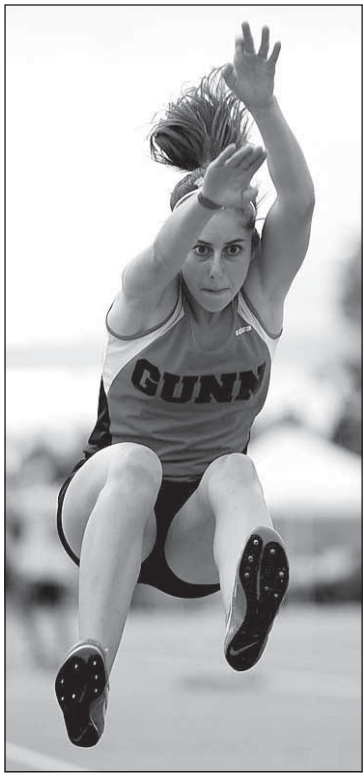
In the girls’ 3200, Mayer finished 24th in 11:06.62. Jordan Hasay of Mission Prep finished her prep career by winning her fourth straight state title in the event, clocking 10:05.29.

In Friday’s prelims, Gunn junior Sunny Margerum finished a dismal 23rd in the girls’ long jump with a best of 17-0. She came into the meet following a season best of 18-1 1/4. Her personal best of 18-10 was set last year. Margerum, however, rolled her ankle a bit on her first attempt and never got on the board correctly in the other two.

Castilleja senior Libby Cooper ran 44.84 in the girls’ 300 hurdles to finish fifth in her heat.

Gunn sophomore Erin Robinson ran 5:03.60 in her heat of the girls’ 1,600 to finish 11th. Only the top seven runners in her heat advanced.

Gunn sophomore Alison Ang was supposed to compete in the girls’ pole vault, but was ill. ■



Margaret Gallagher

Gunn junior Sunny Margerum didn’t make finals in the LJ.



Margaret Gallagher

Gunn sophomore Erin Robinson was 11th in her 1600 heat.

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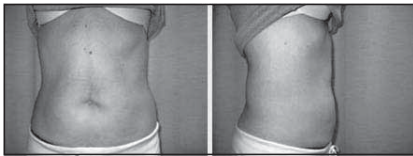
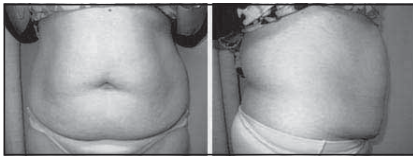
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Baseball draft

(continued from page 32)

ization of a dream.

"I have two amazing options," Diekroeger said. "It's too early to really say one way or the other. It's a day I will always remember, graduating and getting drafted."

Stanford junior right-handers Jeffrey Inman and Brandt Walker, and outfielders Joey August and Wande Olabisi were chosen on Wednesday's second day of the Major League Baseball First-Year Player Draft.

Menlo School grads Andy Suiter and Ryan Cavan also were drafted on the second day.

Diekroeger, who went through graduation ceremonies on Tuesday, became the highest Menlo player ever drafted. He was in the middle of grad night when he heard the news.

Menlo's grad night was held at several different venues. Diekroeger got the call while at an ice skating rink in San Francisco.

"I wasn't doing any ice skating," he said. "I was answering phone calls and text messages the rest of the night."

He'll be advised by his father, Kenny Sr., on all things business related.



Kenny Diekroeger

"In terms of a decision, I know my parents will be behind me whatever I choose," Diekroeger said. "It's unbelievable to be blessed by such a great honor."

Until further notice, Diekroeger plans to play with the Redwood City Blues' American Legion team along with his younger brother, Danny, a smooth, left-hander who many observers think has the best swing in the family.

"It will be fun playing with him because he is a great player," Diekroeger said. "I'm sure we'll be competitive with each other."

Cavan, who played third base and batted cleanup for UC Santa Barbara this season, was tabbed by the San Francisco Giants as the 477th overall pick, while Suiter, a junior at UC Davis, was taken by the Los Angeles Dodgers with the 307th overall pick.

"When they were seniors I was in the eighth grade," Diekroeger said. "They were great players so I got to know them. I just talked to Ryan a few days ago about the draft."

Cavan hit .341 with four home runs in his only season with the Gauchos. He sat out last year after transferring from Chapman University.

Suiter, a left-handed pitcher, was limited this season with the Aggies, who suffered through a dismal year. Suiter was 0-2 with a save and an ERA of 8.89.

As a sophomore, Suiter set school record with 30 appearances. He had a 6-2 record with 2 saves and a 4.61 ERA. He struck out 46 in 41 in-

nings.

"I can't tell you how great I feel for Ryan and Andy," Menlo School baseball coach Craig Schoof said. "They both really want to play pro ball and for them to be drafted that high means they will both get a good shot to play for a while."

Schoof called Diekroeger one of the best shortstops he's ever seen. Diekroeger said Schoof deserves a little credit too.

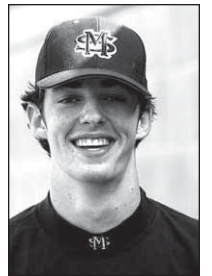
"All three of us getting drafted together is very special," Diekroeger said. "Craig Schoof helped me make it to where I am today, and I know he helped the other guys to get there too."

Storen hopes one day to add an authentic licensed Major League Baseball Storen bobblehead to his already bulging collection. He'd put it right next to the one he created of himself as an art student in junior high school.

In the meantime he's ready to hit the road at the Single-A level.

His advisor is Brodie Van Wagenen, the same person who represents Nationals third baseman Ryan Zimmerman and left-hander Jack McGeary, one of Storen's best friends who attended Stanford but signed with Washington instead

(continued on next page)



Andy Suiter



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(continued from previous page)

of playing with the Cardinal. Van Wagenen, by the way, played for Stanford in 1993-94.

Storen was surrounded by friends and family at his parents' home in Indiana watching the draft when he heard Commissioner Bud Selig call out his name.

"There were at least 30 people sitting in the basement," Storen recalled. "When the commissioner came out everything got quiet. When I heard my name I just dropped my head and everybody exploded. It was so loud I couldn't tell who was loudest. Since then I haven't been off the phone."

Walker went first on day two, getting word from the Houston Astros that he was the 251st overall pick.

Walker made 27 collegiate appearances, including four starts, during his three years with Stanford. He was 0-2 with a 6.75 ERA and recorded 29 strikeouts in 37 innings.

Inman went to the Pittsburgh Pirates as the 355th player selected. He was 13-12 with a 5.31 ERA in 42 games, including 37 starts.

August was drafted by the New York Mets as the 614th player. He's a career .314 (219-for-698) hitter with 34 doubles, four triples, nine home runs and 92 RBI in 197 games.

Olabisi went to the San Diego Padres in the 30th round, and 894th pick overall. He played in 35 games, scoring 13 runs and stealing four bases in five attempts. ■



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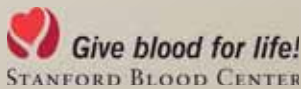
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