



THE MT. WILSON OBSERVER

WEEKLY NEWS FOR SIERRA MADRE AND NEIGHBORING COMMUNITIES

Friday, October 6 - October 12, 2006 Volume 1, No. 2

Pony League Action



Photo by Paul Hill

Teens build skills and character in Sierra Madre's Pony League. See story on back page

Research Firm Polls The City

by Susan Henderson

Sierra Madre has recently been the subject of an extensive telephone survey conducted by Braun Research of Princeton, New Jersey. The intent of the survey, based upon the questions presented to participants, is to sway public opinion regarding development in this town.

The interview, according to various accounts, takes anywhere from 35 to 54 minutes to complete. Most residents spoken with however admitted that they were not inclined to finish the survey after the first few questions. Although caller identification indicates Braun research, the pollsters identified themselves as being from First Media Services.

This newspaper attempted to contact Braun Research and initially

received a recording which included the statement, "American commerce depends on valid market research". On the second and third attempts we did speak with an operator who indicated we would receive a return call answering all of our questions. As of press time, no such call has been received. The woman did state, however, that calls were being made at random. However, the survey contacted three different phone lines at one residence.

Concerns have been expressed over two issues. Namely, the manner in which the questions are posed and secondly the request for demographic information. "I felt as though the minute I indicated my political party, my answers would be discarded," said Gary Hood (continued Page 3)

HMZ First Reading Progresses New Changes Emphasize Undeveloped Areas

By Dean Lee

The Sierra Madre City Council unanimously agreed on the embattled Hillside Management Zone Ordinance during a "first reading" on Sunday. But not without first going through a roller coaster ride of opposition, leading up to a complete change in the boundary line that now excludes 900 homes that otherwise would have had their properties down-zoned according to City Attorney Michael Colantuono. As indicated in a previous meeting, the pale green area on the map that extends north of the blue 15% slope "transition line" will become the new HMZ.

Representatives of Stonehouse Properties as well as the One Carter property said they thought the ordinance was aimed directly at them. At one point one asked the council to just place a bull's-eye on the map where their developments were and leave everyone else alone. Other residents said that is what the council did.

The new HMZ line restricts the area to most undeveloped lots with a building limit of 30,000 square feet or more with a two-acre minimum for subdivisions.

Mt. Wilson Observer Mission Statement

We honor the traditions of the community newspaper and place our readers above all other concerns. We deliver local, state and national news every week. We support a prosperous community of well-informed citizens. We hold in high regard the values of the exceptional quality of life in our community, including the magnificence of our natural resources. Integrity will be our guide.

"With public input I think this has substantially improved," Councilman Kurt Zimmerman said. "In its current form I think the HMZ balances property rights with community interests."

Zimmerman voted in favor of the new changes. He proposed a stricter five-acre minimum but other council members disagreed. He also thought, as well as did others, that the ordinance needed more review. Zimmerman also said that he had been taking public comment for weeks, right up to the day of the council meeting as people came up to him with the ordinance in hand.

"I was disappointed that other council members would not increase the minimum size for subdivisions," Zimmerman said. "This would have had a substantial impact on open land. Decreasing the density to one house per five acres opens space and encourages preservation."

After City Manager John Gillison gave a brief presentation explaining some of the changes in the new HMZ, Council Member Don Watts asked for a motion tabling the item for another special meeting either the following Friday or at the next regular council meeting. "I just don't think anybody

here knows what changes are being made," Watts said. "I think they're all hearing this for the first time."

The council unanimously agreed that they should listen to public comment and then vote on a motion to postpone their discussion.

Watts' motion to postpone later died due to a lack of a second. Colantuono's concern was that HMZ action should be taken before Proposition 90 is voted on in November. If passed, Prop 90 would take effect immediately.

The "Protect Our Homes" Initiative (Prop 90) requires city governments to pay for any regulatory takings for reasons other than health and safety, and compensates homeowners for any down zoning of their property.

Residents voiced two primary concerns - some said they wanted to move the line back down to Grandview Avenue while others said they thought the council was moving too fast.

The council also adopted a negative declaration for the HMZ and some residents questioned why an Environmental Impact Report was not done.

The City Council meets Friday, October 6 at 5:30 p.m. for the second reading. The new map is expected at that time.



Photo by Tim Shaffer - Reuters News Service

Students confer with Pennsylvania State Trooper in Nickel Mines, near Lancaster site of the Georgetown School Shooting. Ten girls were shot and five have died.

U.S. School Shootings Raise Fresh Questions

By Matthew Bigg

ATLANTA (Reuters) - A rash of deadly shootings at U.S. schools has raised fresh questions about the causes of classroom rampages.

On Monday a gunman attacked a one-room Amish school in rural Pennsylvania,

shooting dead three girls before killing himself, police said.

Last week an armed 15-year-old at a Wisconsin school killed the school's principal and in Colorado a drifter took six female high school students hostage, molested them, fatally shot one and killed himself.

School shootings have prompted changes to school safety rules, sparked debate over the availability of guns and prompted a string of academic studies on the causes of stress,

depression and violence in young people.

"You need to examine in detail what's going on. Quite apart from the children who are exposed to school violence, the teachers and families are really traumatized and they need a lot of help," said Nadine Kaslow, professor and chief psychologist at Emory School of Medicine in Atlanta.

Advocates of wider gun controls argue that the availability of guns has made it easier for people

This Edition

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Chicken Pie Dinner

Sunday, October 8
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tickets \$15 adult \$9 child

Sierra Madre Women's Club

550 Sierra Madre Blvd. Sierra Madre

RSVP (626) 355-6225

Weather Wise



5-Day Forecast for Sierra Madre, Ca.

Longitude W118.0, Latitude N34.2

Full Moon - October 6, 2006 8:12 pm



Friday: PARTLY CLOUDY HIGHS IN THE 60S TO LOWER 70S. LOWS IN THE UPPER 40S AND 50

Saturday MOSTLY CLEAR. HIGHS IN THE 70S TO LOWER 80S. LOWS IN THE UPPER 40S AND 50S.

Sunday: MOSTLY CLEAR. LOCALLY BREEZY. HIGHS IN THE 70S TO MID 80S. LOWS IN THE 50S TO LOWER 60S.

Monday: MOSTLY CLEAR. LOCALLY BREEZY. HIGHS IN THE 70S TO MID 80S. LOWS IN THE 50S TO LOWER 60S.

Tuesday: MOSTLY CLEAR. LOCALLY BREEZY. HIGHS IN THE 70S TO MID 80S. LOWS IN THE 50S TO LOWER 60S.

Citizens' Datebook

Friday, October 6

Second Reading
Hillside Management Zone Ordinance
5:30 pm
Sierra Madre City Hall

Monday, October 9

7 p.m.
Sierra Madre Fire Safe Council
Guest Speaker is April Kely, owner of Earthquake Solutions
Topic is "Multi-Hazard Preparedness: One Homeowner At A Time"
For more information call Mike Kinney at (626) 355-1182 or Caroline Brown at (626) 355-9350

Tuesday, October 10

6:30 p.m.
Sierra Madre City Council Meeting
(626) 355-7135

Board of Education, Pasadena Unified School District
Education Center at 351 S. Hudson
(626) 795-6981

Wednesday, October 11

6:30 p.m.
Sierra Madre Community Arts Commission Meeting

(Deadline) Princess Applications for the Sierra Madre Rose Float Applicants must be 15 to 18 years old, possess a GPA of 3.0, and be residents of Sierra Madre. Applications available at Sierra Madre City Hall, Pasadena High School D-101, LaSalle High School and Alverno High School.

Saturday, October 28 - Entry Deadline October 20, 2006

Oktoberfest Golf and Tennis Tournament benefiting the Youth of Sierra Madre. Contact Alexis Braun at abraun@ci.sierra-madre.ca.us

The Pasadena League of Women Voters Presents..

Ballot Measures on a Roll

Novel and Impartial Analysis
Saturday, October 14, 2006
Women's City Club
160 N. Oakland Ave. Pasadena
parking at rear; enter off N. Madison
9:00 a.m.

Ongoing

Bright Idea founder Kim Clymer promotes the use of compact fluorescent bulbs via free distribution. Clymer's organization aims to distribute more than 110 million bulbs nation-wide. "If every household replaced one 60-watt bulb with one compact fluorescent bulb of the same brightness... reduction of greenhouse gases emitted into the air would be equivalent to removing 1.3 million cars from the road," according to Bright Idea's flyer. For more information, call (626) 355-1629.

Correction: In last week's issue regarding the SMRRD 2-30-13 Initiative an error was made. The initiative supports 2 Stories - 30 Feet in Height and 13 Units per Acre.

The Sierra Madre Playhouse
Presents
THE MIRACLE WORKER
BY WILLIAM GIBSON
DIRECTED BY LINDA L. BARD
Opens October 6th, 2006
Playing Every Friday & Saturday Evening at 8pm, through November 11th.
Playing Every Sunday Afternoon at 2:30pm, through November 5th.
The Sierra Madre Playhouse
87 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre, CA 91024 • 626-355-4218

Moon Wise

The Harvest Moon is the full moon that appears nearest to the autumnal equinox, which occurs on or about 23 September. This moon is also known as the Wine Moon, the Singing Moon and the Elk Call Moon. About once every four years it occurs in October, depending on the cycles of the moon. Currently, the latest the Harvest Moon can occur is on October 7 or 8. Between 1900 and 2050 the Harvest Moon fell on October 7 in 1930, 1949, 1987 and 2025 and on October 8 in 1911.

The appearance of the Harvest Moon begins the first of the harvesting months in the Northern Hemisphere. Many cultures celebrate the harvests with gatherings, festivals, and rituals that are intricately attuned to the Harvest Moon.

At this time, the moon rises at a point which is opposite to the sun, and is situated close to the eastern point of the horizon.

It is claimed by some that the harvest moon seems to be somehow "larger" than other full moons. The human eye sees a low hanging moon as being larger than one that rides high in the sky. This is known as a Moon illusion, because the image of the moon in the sky is always the same size. A similar type of lunar effect is seen at the time of the spring equinox, which occurs on or about 21 March.

The harvest moon gets its name from the fact that farmers who were harvesting their crops at this time of year were able to use the extra light of the harvest moon to continue the work in the fields. In October, the full moon for that month can exhibit a similar effect, and is called the hunter's moon.



Roy Roams' 91024

Bart's World

Former Sierra Madre Mayor Bart Doyle can be found these days in the world of local government committees. He presently sits on The San Gabriel Valley MTA Service Sector Governance Council.

Doyle stated at a recent MTA meeting Sept 26 - to the surprise of many Sierra Madre residents - that he sits on the Governance Council appointed by Michael Antonovich, Mayor of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. Doyle said he represents Antonovich's local office.

At the same meeting, all governance council members were informed they needed to comply with state mandated AB 1234 training. Doyle then asked when the next training would be held. "I think I need that," Doyle said.

AB 1234 training includes conflict of interest laws, the political reform act of 1974 and other constitutional issues. These laws were written specifically to give the public full access to city business according to Californians Aware, a nonprofit first amendment organization.

Almost there...

Recent requests that the City Council put meeting minutes on the website have been ignored BUT we now have a

synopsis of action items to go along with the agenda.

Deep Pockets

What Big Bank Hank doled out the cash for the telephone survey? Better save those coins for the parking meters we're sure to have if the DSP passes!

They know everything

One of the best things about Sierra Madre are all the wonderful dogs. Daily you can see them walking with their owners throughout the city. They walk in the mornings, afternoons and evenings. They probably know more about what really goes on in this city than anyone. *Where's Duke when you need him?*

By the way

Did you know that the Sierra Madre Police Department contracted with the Pasadena Police Department for Forensic and Violent Crime Investigation? That's a good thing for us.

Do you have a scoop? Contact Roy at deuxamispub@aol.com

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Lindy Hop

Every Thursday at 7:30 p.m.
All Ages - Teens to 90s
200 S. Euclid free parking & free dance lessons from 7:30 to 8:15 p.m.
\$7 admission
www.lindygroove.com

Sing-A-Long Opera & Broadway

Every Sunday at 6:30 p.m.

Cafe 322

322 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.
Pianist Danny Guerrero with world class singers Domenico Zangeri, Norma Guerrero, Mario Storace, Mark Almy, Diana Briscoe, Mario and Edalyn Lalli and many more, including you!
Free admission

Beantown

45 N. Baldwin (626) 355-1596
Friday, October 6, evening
Michael Quest, urbane contemporary music

Saturday, October 7
"Circa 68" Americana, bluegrass

Sunday, October 8 evening
PCC Guitar Ensemble

Farmer's Market

Saturday, October 7
8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
PHS Parking Lot
2925 E. Sierra Madre Blvd.

Rare & Vintage

Drum Show
Recording Artists, Surprise Guests and Rare Drums
Saturday, October 7, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Sunday, October 8, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Tickets \$15 at the door
Pasadena Conference Center, 300 E. Green St.
www.vintagedrumshow.com or call (323) 461-0640

SAVE THE DATE

Chamber of Commerce

Chili Cook-Off
Thursday, October 12 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
\$5 members
\$6 non-members
Sample 20 different recipes with star tasters
Peter Dills and Mama Rosa Johnson
Mary's Market
561 Woodland in Sierra Madre Canyon
(626) 355-5111

Pancake Breakfast

Saturday, October 14
7:30 to 10:30 a.m.
\$7 adults, \$3 children
Sierra Madre Community Nursery School
701 E. Sierra Madre Blvd.

Wine & Jazz Walk to Benefit City of Hope

Saturday, October 14
4 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Visit the shops of Sierra Madre, experiencing different music and food in each one.
Sponsored by Harmony Day Spa, Pauli Morin & Patricia Dmytrow of Coldwell Banker, The Bottle Shop, Riboli Family Estates, San Antonio Winery and Angel Throop.
(626) 355-0024
Tickets are \$30 Pre-Sale

Organist Bob Mitchell accompanies silent film "The Temptress" starring

Greta Garbo
Sunday, October 15
6:30 p.m.

Tickets \$20 each to benefit Sierra Madre Historic Preservation Society and its work on a comprehensive history book on Sierra Madre for the city's Centennial.
Masonic Temple at 33 E. Sierra Madre Blvd.
RSVP (626) 355-8129 or visit www.SMHPS.org

Friday, October 13 - Travelers and Collectors Series
Sponsored by the Friends of the Sierra Madre Library
"Route Of The Vikings" by Laurie Cooper at SM City Hall 7:30 pm
For additional information call (626) 355-7186

The Wild West

with Kyle McClure

The "Global Warming Solutions Act"

On Wednesday, September 27, 2006, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed Assembly Bill 32 into law. There was a fancy ceremony with dignitaries and luminaries and satellite feeds. Even though this bill was written by Fabian Nunez, Los Angeles Democrat and Assembly Speaker (whatever that is), I think it's pretty obvious to all of us what is going on here.

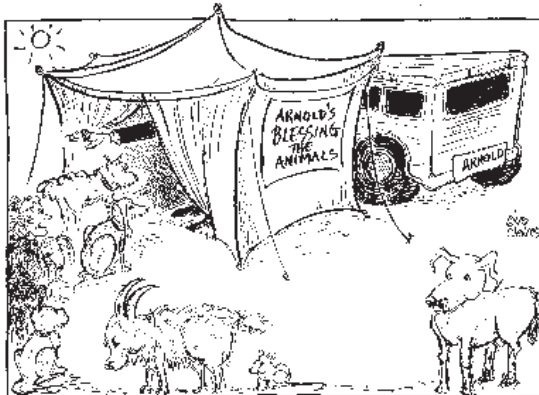
Sure sure, the bill is called the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, and it will use market-based incentives to reduce carbon emissions. It will create new mandatory reporting rules and an Environmental Justice Committee, and will ensure public participation in California Air Resource Board decisions. And, it impressed rich people with sexy accents, like Richard Branson (that's Sir Richard Branson, to you), and some other fellow called Tony Blair, who joined in the festivities via satellite....

But still, you can't fool us. We can see right through your insidious plot Arnold Alois Schwarzenegger. We notice things. Like for example the bill's requirement that carbon levels be reduced to those of 1990. Hmmm. I wonder why the carbon level emissions of 1990 are so special and desirable? I mean, apart from the fact that they were 25 percent lower than today's.

Well, in 1990 apartheid ended in South Africa. The captain of the Exxon Valdez went on a bender and accidentally spilled some oil. The 49ers destroyed the Denver Broncos in Superbowl XXIV. The Royal Navy of New Zealand discontinued its rum ration (too bad Exxon didn't). Gorbachev was elected president (of the Soviet Union, calm down), and Romania had a whole civil war. (What else? Oh yeah. Arnold Schwarzenegger mattered.)

Total Recall, then the most expensive film ever made in the history of everything, was released. So was the charming and disarming *Kindergarten Cop* (which, along with *Goonies* helped fuel the Astoria, Oregon real estate frenzy). Then, just a year later, came *Terminator 2: Judgement Day*, which took us to a whole new level of cyborg- time travel-action fantasticalness. It was then that all of those famous Schwarzenegger sayings were cemented into our popular culture vernacular. "Hasta la vista, baby" and "I'll be back" became stand alone, independent, English language entities, and Arnold was at the peak of his black leather popularity.

In the rest of the 1990s he just turned goofy. *Last Action Hero*, *True Lies*, *Junior*, *Batman and Robin* (remember, he was Mr. Freeze?) and that was pretty much it. Some may argue that he redeemed himself with *Terminator 3*, but it's pathetically obvious that this whole AB 32 thing is nothing more than a sad attempt at turning back the clock. Arnold wants us to peg our jeans, play some Roxette on the radio, and go back to wishing we could be as cool as he was - back to when carbon emissions were (apparently) right where they should have been.



Poll (continued from page 1)

who participated in the complete survey. Hood also said, "The questions were slanted to the point that either answer validates the statement."

Another question that was repeatedly mentioned was as follows: "Do you prefer no development downtown but allowing hillside development?" or "Do you prefer no hillside development but allowing downtown development?"

Sierra Madre Mayor Pro Tem Enid Joffe was contacted regarding the survey. She indicated that she was not aware of the survey, nor had she been contacted by the opinion firm. Joffe also stated that as far as she was aware, "The city did not commission this current survey." According to Joffe, "I can only remember the city doing a customer satisfaction survey which deals with resident's opinions of the services offered by the city. In years

past, there have been other surveys - one for Measure F and one for the Library, however those surveys were done before Measure F was written and the library poll was simply an opinion poll." Joffe added that the results of both Measure F and the Library polls were given to the city council.

Councilman Kurt Zimmerman was concerned about the questions in the survey regarding the Sierra Madre Voter's Empowerment Initiative, commonly known as the 2-30-13 Initiative.

Of particular concern were the statements within the survey that imply that passage of the initiative will cost taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars. The initiative specifically says, "Voter approval would be obtained only at City General Elections held in April of even numbered years." Based upon the language in the initiative, the costs to taxpayers will be minimal, say supporters of 2-30-13.

SIERRA MADRE POLICE BLOTTER

During the week of Sunday, September 24th to Saturday September 30th, the Sierra Madre Police Department responded to approximately 170 calls for service.

Sunday, September 24th:

7:55 AM - Found property, 400 block East Grandview Ave. Five computer monitors were found in the roadway. A witness heard a crashing noise and vehicles speeding away at 2:00 AM.

Monday, September 25th:

9:54 AM - Identity theft, 800 block Woodland Drive. A resident received a statement from a creditor with unauthorized charges. Additional investigation revealed unauthorized charges posted in his account.

5:36 PM - Identity theft, 100 block Sufolk Ave. A resident received two credit card statements from accounts with unauthorized purchases.

Tuesday, September 26th:

10:55 AM - Theft from vehicle, 00 block West Alegria Ave. A resident reported property stolen from her unlocked parked car. The car was parked at 8:30 AM. The resident returned to her car at 10:30 AM and discovered items missing.

8:41PM - Residential burglary, 00 East Mira Monte Ave. A resident reported property missing from her home.

Thursday, September 28th:

12:30 AM - 300 block West Grandview Ave. Two residents came to the police department to file a domestic violence complaint. One resident was arrested.

Friday, September, 29th:

2:01 PM - Attempt residential burglary, 00 block West Carter Ave. The suspects rang the front door bell and when the resident did not respond, suspects walked to the backyard. The resident saw them in the rear yard placing gloves their hands. The suspects left after seeing the resident.

Saturday, September 30th

5:49 PM - Theft of Mail, 200 block Liliانو Drive. An empty mailing envelope was found by a postal carrier and returned to the resident. The mailing envelope had contained items ordered thru mail order.



Number times around Kersting Court to park = 3

E-tailers Launching Holiday Season Earlier

LOS ANGELES (Reuters) - Retailers are starting their holiday Internet marketing campaigns earlier this year, rolling out promotions as much as two months before Christmas, according to a study to be released Wednesday.

Nearly 40 percent of merchants planned an earlier start this holiday season than last year, with over 62 percent saying that they'd begin before November 5, according to the survey or the eHoliday Mood Survey by Shop.org and BizRate Research for Shopzilla.

Joan Broughton, Shop.org's vice president of content and education, said holiday shopping starts earlier online because activity slows in the days before Christmas due to fears that shipped gifts won't arrive in time for the holiday.

"(Online retailers) are trying to have their season even out with the rest of retail," Broughton said.

More and more consumers are gravitating online for their gift-giving as familiarity with the Internet grows and as retailers design Web sites that are easier to navigate and look more interesting.

Online sales generally make up between 5 percent and 8 percent of total retail sales, which the National Retail Federation estimates will increase about 5 percent this holiday season to \$457.4 billion.

Expectations for the online holiday shopping season appear rosy, according to the survey, with half of retail respondents estimating growth of over 30 percent. That includes over 20 percent that anticipate a jump of 75 percent or higher.

Free shipping will be more widespread this year, the study found, with 83 percent of retailers saying they planned to offer that with conditions this holiday, compared to 64 percent two years ago.

Three-quarters of shoppers surveyed cited free shipping as one of the most important factors that determine where to shop online. "In terms of the promotions, much of what the e-retail people are thinking of doing revolves around free shipping," Broughton said. "That's a good choice considering most consumers say that that's what they're looking for."

Other popular marketing strategies include free gifts with purchases and online-only sales. Retailers pointed to gift idea centers, suggested items areas and bestsellers lists as the most effective features for driving holiday sales.

The survey polled 80 online retailers and 2,914 shoppers between September 18 and September 21.

Got News?

Contact The Mt. Wilson Observer. This is a community newspaper and your news is important to us.

Phone: 626-355-2737
 Fax: 626-604-4548
 email: deuxamispub@aol.com

coming soon: mtwilsonobserver.com

Politicians, Celebrities Seek Rehab After Scandals

(Reuters) - Mark Foley, a Florida Republican who resigned from his congressional seat, entered an alcohol rehabilitation program this week after the disclosure that he sent sexual messages via computer to teenage boys working as congressional pages.

Following are politicians and celebrities who have recently entered rehabilitation programs after damaging scandals:

September 2006

U.S. Rep. Bob Ney, an Ohio Republican, checked into an alcohol treatment facility several days before agreeing to plead guilty to illegally accepting tens of thousands of dollars in trips, meals, drinks and tickets. "I have come to recognize that a dependence on alcohol has been a problem for me," Ney said in a statement, that added he was "not making any excuses." Ney is not seeking re-election.

August 2006

Actor Mel Gibson agreed to attend Alcoholics Anonymous meetings and enroll in an alcohol abuse program in pleading no contest to a drunken driving charge. Gibson earlier apologized for an anti-Semitic tirade when he was stopped for speeding in Malibu, saying "please know from my heart that I am not an anti-Semitic ... Hatred of any kind goes against my faith."

May 2006

U.S. Rep. Patrick Kennedy, a Rhode Island Democrat and member of the famous political family, sought treatment for an addiction to prescription painkillers after his late-night car crash into a Capitol Hill barricade. Kennedy said he had a long-term struggle with depression and addiction.

April 2006

Conservative radio talk show host Rush Limbaugh was charged with fraudulently concealing information to obtain prescription drugs. Prosecutors agreed to drop the charge in exchange for his remaining in treatment for drug addiction and paying \$30,000 to help cover costs of the investigation into his drug-buying activities.

Ed ALVERNO, LaSalle, Pasadena High, St. Francis, SIERRA MESA MIDDLE SCHOOL, The Barnhart School, The Gooden School, SIERRA MADRE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, Bethany Christian, St. Rita's, Wilson Middle School, Don Benito Fundamental, Norma Coombs Alternative School, and the Pasadena Unified School District

Excerpts from President Peter Soelter's PUSD State of the Schools Address



I'd like to welcome all of you here tonight. It is because of the dedication of people like you that PUSD has enjoyed the success we have had during this past year. I would like to thank all of you for your involvement with our schools. And I want to thank Marshall Fundamental Secondary School and Principal Steve Miller for hosting us tonight. Marshall has enjoyed many successes this year. In addition to raising test scores, in Newsweek magazine's listing of America's Best High Schools, Marshall ranked 286th nationally, and 34th in the state of California. Using Newsweek's analysis, if you were to compare schools similar to Marshall in socio-economic make up, Marshall is #36 in the nation and #5 in California.

I am proud of Marshall's success, and all their accomplishments. But Marshall isn't the only school that has excelled this past year.

This is evidenced in the significant increase in our 2005-2006 California StandardstestandAcademic Performance Index, better known as our API scores. At the elementary level, 21 of our schools have had double digit increases in the percentage of students scoring at or above proficient in English Language Arts since 2001, while 17 had double digit increases in

Math. For the second year in a row, our gains are the largest of any medium to large district in Los Angeles County and they are well above the California state gains. Overall, our district's API score reached 706, representing a 17 point gain from 2005 to 2006.

First, our most significant district-wide goal is to have 80% of our students scoring proficient or advanced on the California Standards Tests by 2009. We have been, and continue to be, confronted with challenges and tough decisions, but please know that we intend to measure all of them against this goal. And, many of those decisions have been difficult.

The second challenge is our need to continue to increase our partnerships and connections with all parts of our community.

We have quite a number of partners who have supported our programs, and I would like to acknowledge a few of those partners

We are very excited that we have begun and are continuing a dialogue with the Pasadena City Council and that we are now working together to create a true collaborative so all children will benefit. We will be meeting together again next Tuesday night at 7:30pm at the Pasadena Conference Center and I encourage anyone with an interest to attend.

Pasadena City College has worked very closely with PUSD, offering courses and dual enrollment for our students. We are extraordinarily grateful to the Pasadena Police

Department and Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department for the additional support and security they are providing to our school campuses.

Then there are community organizations like PEN, the Parent Educational Network, Invest in Kids and APPLE, who work within our community to advocate for parents, families, and public schools. Because of their diligence and commitment, more families are exploring our schools, and supporting our efforts to focus on the needs of the children in our community.

And, of course, we are appreciative of the efforts of the Pasadena Educational Foundation, which promotes community and financial support of our programs. They provide grants to our teachers and schools, and informational programs to our community to enhance our mission.

We are also thankful for partners like the Pasadena Symphony, Armory Center for the Arts, The Norton Simon Museum, and The Huntington Library and Gardens. They help us to effectively integrate the arts into our academic curriculum. The third challenge I would like to highlight is our need to be financially secure. As our community has become less affordable, we have seen some of our neediest students move away to less expensive communities. This has resulted in reduced resources to serve our remaining students. The problem is simple - the money we lose from the

state for each student who leaves our district is greater than the amount we save. In other words, our expenses do not drop at the same rate that our revenue drops. The Management Audit that we are currently undergoing will help us with this process.

Whether you are parent or a community member, we encourage you to get involved with our schools. At this time I would also like to thank all the administrators at the District Office for their hard work and efforts, especially our superintendent Dr. Percy Clark. You have been a dynamic leader and have made changes that none of us could have imagined in just five years. You have taken us down a path towards academic success that we know will continue. You were faced with challenges and handled them with aplomb. Your legacy here will be one of a man who put children first. For that we will always be grateful.

I would like to leave you with this final thought, and that is Go Public! You may have heard our new slogan or you may have seen it on posters, bumper stickers and other items. Our message to you is simple and clear...Join all of us at Pasadena Unified School District and be a part of our family. And if you have any questions about going public, you can contact me directly by email at psoelter@earthlink.net. or by phone at 578-1127

Thank you and goodnight. AND: GO PUBLIC!

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Alverno High School
200 N. Michillinda
(626) 355-3463

Saturday, October 7
Venetian Holiday
Annual Gala Fundraiser - Dinner, Live
& Silent Auction from 5 p.m.
For tickets, call Wendy Finch
(626) 355-3463 ext. 227

Saturday October 28
Festival of Haunts
4 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Sierra Madre's Premier Spooky House
Costume contests: Ages 3 to 6 at 5 p.m.
Ages 7 to 11 at 6 p.m.

Creepy Attic for older kids only.
Tickets \$2 for kids 1 to 9,
\$3 ages 10 to 99.

LaSalle High School
3880 E. Sierra Madre Blvd.
Pasadena
(626) 351-8951

Thursday, October 19
Homecoming Liturgy
Memorial for Nation's Students Felled
by Violence

Saturday, October 21
Homecoming Football Game
Honoring David Taylor '98 and
Brook Zaffina '98
Sunday, November 5
Open House

Pasadena High School
2925 E. Sierra Madre Blvd.
Pasadena
(626) 798-8901

Wednesday, October 11
PUSD All Star Band Boosters
Band Room at 7:15 p.m.

Tuesday, October 17
PHS Instrumental Music Club
Fundraiser at Red Brick Pizza
345 S. Lake Ave.
(Upstairs next to Trader Joe's)
20% proceeds donated
Eat in or Take out
4 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Order pizza at (626) 585-1600
Saturday, October 21
PSAT Testing at 8 a.m.

Sierra Madre Elementary School
141 W. Highland Ave.
(626) 355-1428

Thursday, Oct. 12 & Friday, Oct. 13
Spotlight Assembly at 8:30 a.m.
Thursday grades 3, 4, 5;
Friday, grades K, 1, 2

Sierra Madre Middle School
160 N. Canon
(626) 836-2947

Saturday, October 7
Rummage Sale
8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

St. Rita's Catholic School
322 N. Baldwin
(626) 355-9028

Tuesday, October 17
Matt Denny's Fundraiser
20% of proceeds donated
Eat in or Take out!
11 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Matt Denny's at
145 E. Huntington Dr. in Arcadia
Order take-out (626) 446-1077

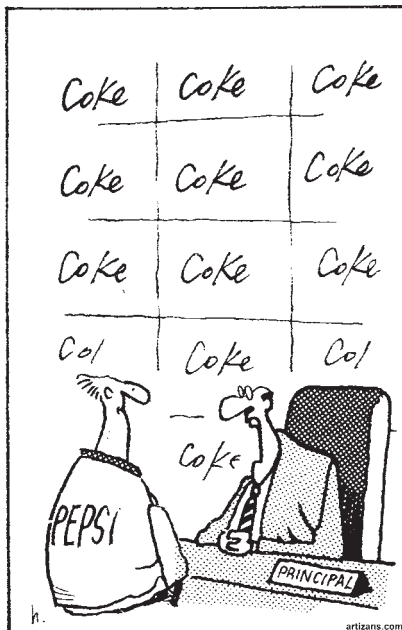
Saturday, October 21
Harvest Festival & Carnival
Family fun for all ages - rides, games
and tasty food including chicken and
ribs from Newport Rib Company.
Free admission - rides 50 cents each,
wristband for all-day-rides \$30.
West Campus, Noon to 10 p.m.

Questions, call Christen McKiernan
(626) 355-4208

The Barnhart School
240 W. Colorado in Arcadia
(626) 446-5588

Wednesday, October 25
Admissions Tour, K through 8

Interim Principal Gayle Bluemel welcomed crowds of families at the Open House festivities at Sierra Madre Elementary & Middle Schools.



"Frankly, Hudson, I don't think you belong here at this school."

TechKnowledge

Technology Science Business

YOU BE THE BOSS

Your Child and The Internet

by Paul the Cyberian

Our column will return to the regularly scheduled topics next week.

According to the Consumer Electronics Association, 43 Million US households have High-Speed Internet Access compared to just 2 Million households in 1999. The availability of such access coupled with the increasing sophistication of personal computers available in the marketplace has placed an incredible wealth of information at the fingertips of the average citizen.

Sadly this access also comes with a dark side and this was brought into sharp focus this week with two well-publicized incidents that should serve as a wake-up call for parents of children with home computers and Internet access.

In the first incident, an unbalanced drifter used information found on a social networking site popular with young people today. Although these sites are a great way for people to meet they are often used by people who may have less than honorable intentions.

In the second incident a well-respected public official used Instant Messaging and E-mails to contact a minor for what has been speculated to be solicitation for sexual purposes.

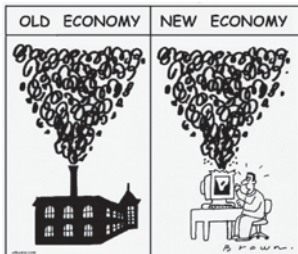
The youths involved in both cases did not

appear to be remiss in their computing habits but were the targets of calculating individuals using information that was found on the Internet.

Parents must be sure that they do not abandon their responsibility to protect their children where the Internet is concerned. You can help keep your family safer by following these common-sense guidelines:

1. Under no circumstance should a minor have Internet access behind closed doors. It will be nearly impossible to monitor the activity that goes on if you don't have physical access to the computer. Having the family computer in a public area of the house will send the message that you care about your child's Internet activities.

2. Know the kind of information your child may have published on the Internet. Social Networking sites are basically public advertising for the subscriber. Users publish information about themselves in order to meet people with similar interests and tastes. While most activity on these sites is designed for people with legitimate intentions and is used for those purposes it does have the potential for abuse as highlighted by the events described earlier. You want to ensure that no information that could be used to contact your child (telephone numbers, addresses, etc.) is published on the Internet.



ASK MADELINE

A question and answer column on résumé preparation, cover letters, interview skills, and everything having to do with the job search procedure. Please direct your concerns to Madeline at compyte2@aol.com or 888-489-8372

(8 AM - 6 PM, Monday - Friday).

Q: I've worked as a mechanical engineer for the past 12 years and am now considering changing companies. In looking at my résumé, I've decided that it's too technical and boring. I would like to show that I'm a "people" person, but I'm not quite sure how to portray these skills. What would you advise?

A: You're right to want to present your interpersonal skills in the best possible light since these are a critical part of the work environment. Instead of saying that you worked on the F82 project, change your words to read, "Collaborated with a team to..." or "Worked in a team-oriented environment to..." If you led the team, make sure to mention that you conducted effective brainstorming meetings and "guided" project members in the successful completion of... Note also that you interacted with customers and representatives of other departments including manufacturing and business. Include presentations that you've given and in-service self-help courses. Certainly, no one works in a vacuum, so illustrating that you're able to combine technical skills with "people" skills could possibly set your resume apart from all those others.

Q: I've been invited back for a second interview consisting of going out to dinner with several executives. I generally order steak which is the most expensive item on the menu. I'm concerned that this might make me seem a bit "greedy."

A: Order whatever you like as your entrée. The company pays for your dinner and really isn't concerned whether you order a meal for \$10 or \$30. However, I would not order 2 appetizers and 3 desserts unless the others at your table are doing the same. That would definitely make you seem a bit excessive. But, by all means, go for the steak.

With Dow at New High, What's Changed Since 2000?

NEW YORK (Reuters) - The Dow Jones industrial average, the index that has tracked the performance of blue-chip stocks for almost 110 years, hit an all-time high in intraday trading Tuesday as crude oil prices fell. The last time the Dow hit a record close was on Jan. 14, 2000, when the stock market was at the height of the dot-com boom. Intel Corp. <INTC.O> had just reported positive earnings and gave an upbeat forecast, but then-Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan just warned the stock market could be another of history's "euphoric speculative bubbles." What's changed? The following shows different measures of the market on Jan. 14, 2000 and early afternoon Tuesday.

JANUARY 14, 2000

PRICES

Dow record - 11,750.28
S&P 500 close - 1,465.20
Nasdaq Composite close - 4,064.27
10-Yr Treasury Yield - 6.69 pct
Crude oil futures - \$28.02/barrel
Dollar vs. Yen - 105.78 yen
Phila. Semiconductor Index - 804

LEADING SECTORS

Technology
Financial Services

THE FEDERAL RESERVE

Speaking to the Economic Club of New York, then-Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan just warned a retrospective of the market could show, "what we are currently experiencing was just one of the euphoric speculative bubbles that have dotted human history."

The Fed's benchmark overnight lending rate was at 5.5 percent.

Data showed mild inflation.

OCTOBER 3, 2006

Dow record - 11,755.35
S&P 500 - 1,337.11
Nasdaq Composite - 2,246.23
10-Yr Treasury Yield - 4.63 pct
Crude oil futures - \$59.27/barrel
Dollar vs. Yen - 117.80 yen
Phila. Semiconductor Index - 449.75

Telecommunications
Financial Services

Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke, who is due to speak on Wednesday, said in an August speech that productivity gains and stable energy prices should help price pressures moderate.

The Fed's benchmark overnight lending rate is at 5.25 percent.

Data shows mild inflation.

New NASA Study on Smog Concludes:

'We're All in This Together from North America to Asia'



By Dean Lee

Instruments aboard the Aura spacecraft launched in 2004 have allowed JPL researchers in Pasadena along with others to study global atmospheric pollutants and conclude in a new study published late September that smog, once thought to be a local, can circumnavigate the globe.

"The Air that you take in now, a part of that may have come from Asia," said Kevin Bowman an Aura science project engineer and member of the team responsible for the new study.

Bowman and other researchers used simultaneous observations of carbon monoxide and ozone from space to differentiate between ozone produced from human activity and ozone produced from other natural sources.

"There are not too many sources of human activity over the Atlantic Ocean," Bowman said. "So when we looked at areas of human activity, let's say on the Eastern Seaboard, then we could conclude that pollutants found there would make it over to Europe and vice versa."

The study published by the American Geophysical Union, Sept. 21, in Geophysical Research Letters used the Tropospheric Emission Spectrometer (TES) aboard the Aura satellite to provide information on correlations between ozone and carbon monoxide to better understand global atmospheric pollutants.

The team led by Dr. Daniel Jacob and Lin Zhang both of Harvard University examined the global distribution of TES ozone/carbon monoxide data.

"The principal goal of TES is to understand the processes that control the distribution of tropospheric ozone," Bowman said. The troposphere is part of the atmosphere from the ground to about 20,000 feet or about the height at which a jetliner flies.

The study also looked at the relationship of ozone to altitude he said. Ozone tends not to break down at high level allowing it to travel for thousands miles if downwind from the source.

Satellite observations from Aura showed regional sources of pollution such as from eastern China, northeastern United States and South America NASA scientists said. The team then studied how ozone created from those sources was transported around the planet.

"Global measurements of ozone and carbon monoxide are critical to understanding how air pollution impacts atmospheric chemistry, especially in the troposphere," Zhang said in a press release. "We're gaining a new understanding of how these chemicals flow out from continents and are transported around the globe. Plus, our study provides a critical test of the atmospheric models used to understand and predict how pollution is transported on intercontinental scales."

The TES observations showed that ozone pollution can drift from Asia to western

North America and from eastern North America to Europe. The observations and model results can reliably predict the impact of pollution produced in one country on another, Bowman said.

He also said that their study did not test ozone in relation to the hole over the south pole that led to the Montreal protocol and the banning of things like spray cans.

"Ozone in the stratosphere, the layer right above it behaves very different, with relation to human beings," Bowman said.

According to NASA Aura is the third and final major Earth Observing System satellite and carries four instruments, an Ozone Monitoring Instrument, built by the Netherlands and Finland in collaboration with NASA, a High Resolution Dynamics Limb Sounder, built by the United Kingdom and the United States; and a Microwave Limb Sounder and

Tropospheric Emission Spectrometer, both built by JPL. Aura is managed by NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center.

CLASSIFIEDS

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THE MT. WILSON OBSERVER

A DEUXAMIS PUBLICATION



Photo by Jacqueline Truong
By Stefan Bund, Columnist

Stefan is a software engineer who lives in Sierra Madre

Attendees of the Tuesday HMZ hearing, agitating for rebuild privileges after a disaster, finally found a break. The Mayor adopted this concern personally, and spoke out in favor of resolving the issue. What the Mayor did was speak on behalf of the criticism specifically; the residents came up to the microphone, one by one. They wanted the ability to rebuild after a disaster, even though the HMZ may alter the conditions under which they could. The Mayor stepped in and personally sounded off on how the issue should be resolved: the residents should be able to rebuild, absolutely.

You see how much power a person has when they submit a specific item to the Council? If they can criticize pending legislation on the basis of an item in the document, the officials can

The Importance of OPINION Being Specific

pay it some mind, and do the work of leadership. The Mayor exhibited a key skill in leadership: judiciously incorporating multiple concerns into one opinion that grants benefits to all the parties at the table. One party is the owners, who must hold on to their property and its value. The other is the city, and it must hold onto residents, and their taxes.

The way that the residents got the Mayor to weigh in, politically, with their concern, was by being specific. They specified the item in the HMZ to amend, and branch into new provisions. The problematic item had to do with where buildings can be situated: the draft HMZ wouldn't allow houses within 100 feet of the hillside boundary. So if your house was dilapidated during an earthquake, fire, or accident, a future commission might now allow you to rebuild, based on the language in the provision.

This sounded the alarm. People spoke out, one after another on this point. What could be more important than

solidifying your ability to survive a fire? This basic point had to be made clear, then it had to be written in stone. There couldn't be a delay in rebuilding after a crisis within the Sierra Madre permit process.

The Mayor, or any elected official, really can't process very general complaints against a new piece of legislation. It would be similar to telling someone they were a generally bad person; they'd wonder what they did wrong. But if you said someone was wrong in doing a certain thing, that person could reasonably change the choices they made.

This isn't very different than getting performance out of people you work with.

You don't engage in character assassination at the office. When you want somebody to conform to your wishes, you tell them exactly what you want them to do. And the more specific, the better.

Excuses

By Susan Henderson

excuse (n): a ; something offered as justification with the expectation of absolution

I would think that we have had enough. Enough of the excuses offered up to explain outrageous behavior. If we stop accepting them, maybe people will stop offering them. Perhaps, the knowledge that lame excuses will fall on deaf ears will be a deterrent. We will never know, however, until we stop accepting them.

I speak today of the horrendous chain of events that have happened over the last seven days. Most of them involved the abuse and/or murder of children. At least 9 children were murdered that I can count, several others shot and wounded and untold numbers irreparably damaged from sexual abuse. And, in every instance, the perpetrator offered a bunch of excuses as to why he did what he did. There is no excuse for harming innocent children. Absolutely none. Don't blame it on the devil, your mother or your priest. Only the individual responsible is at fault. The way excuses are offered today reminds me of the book, "Catch 22". Remember the premise? If you were sane enough to recognize that you were crazy, then you weren't crazy? Well, that's exactly my feeling toward these sick individuals who destroy our children's lives and then offer up excuses. Crazy people don't know they have done anything wrong. So, to say you shot the children because you were crazed from what you did as a child, or to say that you attempted to abuse young men because your priest did it to you indicates that you had sense enough to stop yourself from committing the crime. You know that and I know that, so why do we keep allowing these lame excuses to exonerate?

What message are we sending to our children? That our society protects these maniacs who are full of excuses? That our society does nothing to protect our innocent children? Why do we continue to tolerate this kind of behavior? Remember, all children come into this world as perfect human beings. They evolve into adults based upon the environment in which we allow them to live. If that is true, what can we expect tomorrow from today's five year olds who hear the news over and over again about the horrors levied against children?

While we are busy scratching each other's eyes out about lifeless things, do you think we can set our differences aside long enough to re-evaluate the dangers facing our children and figure out how to protect them?

As many of you know, I have a lot of children. Five. All grown except one teenager. I also have four grandchildren, the youngest of which is two. When I kissed her and her sister good bye in Hawaii last week, my thoughts were on how soon I would see them again. I look forward to the Christmas holidays and their adorable faces. However, all that has changed because I must face the reality that every day when they go off to day care, every day when they go off to school, every day when they play on a playground, they face life threatening and/or life altering danger. That is intolerable.

So the question must be asked – how long are we going to keep letting these people make excuses for their behavior. And, more importantly, how much longer are we going to make excuses for our inaction?

We welcome your participation in these pages. Please fax or email your contributions to: The Mt. Wilson Observer 626-604-4548 Fax or deuxamispub@aol.com

What Shade is Your Green?

It is astonishing to behold a City Council Meeting wherein environmental destruction is coolly discussed for hours in the context of "Hillside Preservation."

The meeting began with nary a warning about fire hazards in the hills, with an important announcement of the next meeting time of the city's "Fire Safe" Council.

Topics advanced to "subterranean" building in the mountains. "To encourage subterranean would be a good thing," said Council Member Joe Mosca, "to relax the grading." Mayor John Buchanan chimed in with "We'd probably want to encourage some level of subterranean." The discussion descended further into... wine cellars. (It is not known if mud improves the taste of a vintage's *terroir*.)

Basements, therefore, will not be included in square footage. The Mayor calls this "incentivizing."

Then, there was the earnest discussion about "slough walls" – which as Council Member Don Watts explained – should be built at 5 feet the county standard. These partial retaining walls are built above the highest point grade "to catch mud" from mudslides and "reroute it."

For a breath of fresh air, Council Member Enid Joffe poetically described a large "mega deck" around a house as "quasi-open space."

Do you need to hear how two-acre parcels are just the same as five-acre parcels? Well, they are. So there.

To top it all off, there is mention of the sincere hopes of "green building" methods used on these new homes.

If a home built into the excavated hillsides is topped off with solar paneling, does that make it green? If its foundations and retaining walls are built with Insulating Concrete Forms (ICFs), does that make it green?

Council Member Kurt Zimmerman spoke and nobody listened. "We have a golden opportunity to preserve our hillsides and I don't think we should let this pass us by," he said.

Now that we are all so very greenful, let us address the issue of incentivizing.

In a city where the average price of a home is \$800,000, good schools abound, the streets are safe, dogs frolic in the parks, and beautiful mountainous wilderness surrounds – what other incentives should there be?

DEUXAMIS PUBLISHING

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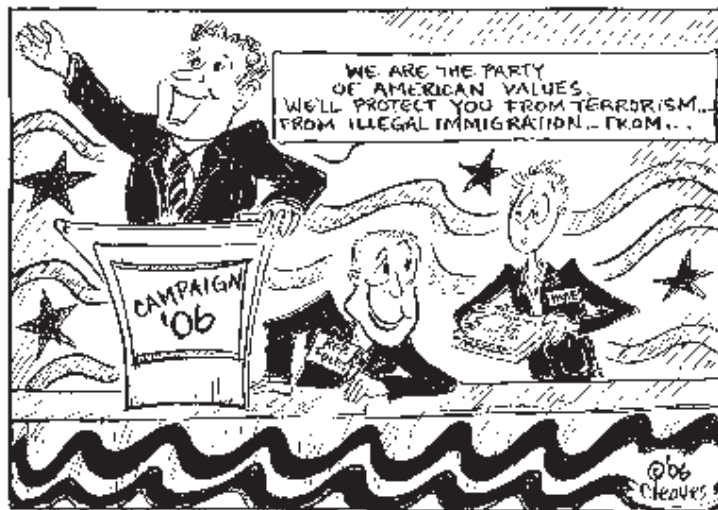
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Member



The Funnies



Escargots, Go, Go

Courtesy of Stephanie Antypas

After carousing with his buddies the night before, a man decides to make it up to his wife by preparing her favorite dish, escargots with garlic and melted butter.

“You stay right here dear and rest,” he told his wife. “I will do the shopping and cooking tonight.”

Determined to do right by his wife, the man goes out to the store and buys the snails. As he passes by The Buccaneer, his buddy hails him in for a “quick one.” One thing led to another and before you know it, it was 3 a.m.!

Fearing his wife has had it with him, the man grabs his bag of snails and rushes home.

As he turns the corner, he sees the light on... his wife’s shadow in the window. As he approaches the front steps he hears the door unlock and begin to open.

Thinking quickly, he rips opens the bag of snails, tosses them on the sidewalk, and as his wife appears at the door he shouts: “COME ON GUYS HURRY UP, WE’RE ALMOST THERE.”

Manual of Style

PLAID ABOUT YOU

Fedora by O'Neill \$29

Women's Shoes by Roxy \$34

Train Case for makeup by Billabong \$32

Men's shoes by Gravis \$64.99

Military Cap by Billabong \$28

Men's shirt by I. Regan \$69

Photos By Buddy Windsor

Clothes and Accessories available at
CHICK'S SPORTING GOODS at
 Hastings Ranch Village
 3359 E. Foothill Blvd.
 Pasadena, Ca. 626-351-1843

SHOP AROUND TOWN



355-1180

Karen Keegan of *Savor the Flavor* can barely keep her hottest item in stock – *Ina Garten's* “barefoot contessa” mixes for cupcakes, muffins, pancakes, cakes and pie crust. The Food Network’s simplest and most elegant cook created this line of pastry mixes, sauces and salad dressings with the help of Stonewall Kitchen in Maine. The “foolproof pie crust mix” is \$5.99 and the raspberry corn muffin mix is \$9.99. Keegan offers a wide variety... plus the fun concept of the **Private Shopping Party**. Her after-hours soirees provide refreshments while you and your family or friends shop privately for family or business associates. Book a date, and bring your shopping list and shipping addresses. The first available Holiday Party Date is November 6. 11 Kersting Court Monday – Saturday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (626) 355-5153 and visit www.savortheflavor.net

EEUW! Who knew there were squishy heads with pop-out eyeballs at *Iris Intrigue*? The gross factor is 100 percent for just \$3.50. Owners and sisters **Susan Howell** and **Pat Mangione** possess the oddest collection of Halloween entertainments. A favorite is the stuffed cow with a moo that segues to a booo (\$10.95). Other surprises include a wooden coffin treasure box (\$19.50), witch socks (\$7.50) and the ever popular light-up mini pumpkin necklace (\$7). “We really make an effort to always have different items in different price ranges,” said Howell. Truly eerie items include cat or dog clocks that meow or bark on the hour (\$28 each). You can always run away in kitty cat slippers (\$16).

Did you know **Best Buy Drugs** delivers? Did you know **Pharmacist Paul Mansour** is a certified clinical nutritionist (CCN)? Mansour can find you the right holistic remedies and vitamins for arthritis, hypertension and immune system boosts. Do you have a cold or a cough? Call Paul – he also sells the usual assortment of cough syrups and aspirins.

29 N. Baldwin Ave. Monday - Thursday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Fridays 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturdays 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. (626) 355-3456.

Where do you find a leaf spirit? Nowhere else but **Leonora Moss**. The sprightly leaves made by Nana from Washington State (from \$26 to \$56) are just part of a vast collection of artful things to have around the house, along with beautifully designed floral wreaths and arrangements. **Lorie Westmoreland** has an eye for the unusual, the folk art and the natural. Check out the electric gourd creatures (\$88) and Frankenstein heads (\$46). Frighten siblings with the three-foot tall standing pumpkin head (\$84).

9 Kersting Court Monday – Friday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (626)



Sports



Photo by Jacqueline Truong

For Alex Jimenez : It's How You Play The Game

By Larry Bortstein

La Salle High's football team is having its troubles this year. The Lancers were 0-5 going into a home game Saturday (Oct. 7) against a 4-0 Temple City team that is one of the elite teams in the Rio Hondo League.

Alex Jimenez, a three-year La Salle starter, isn't used to the losing after 9-3 and 8-4 seasons. But he knows he has to help his teammates deal with it, if not overcome it.

"That's my role, as a senior," said the 6-foot-3, 250-pound defensive end who also plays tight end on offense.

"We lost a lot of good players to graduation and we've had some injuries. I missed one game myself with a foot injury. But that's football."

La Salle head coach Ealar Gallagher is counting on Jimenez to help provide senior leadership—and maybe a victory or two in the upcoming Camino Real League season against Cantwell-Sacred Heart, Verbum Dei, Mary Star of the Sea and St. Monica.

"We had a very tough non-league schedule, but we think we can still do well in our league games," Gallagher said.

Jimenez thinks so too as he nears the end of his high school football career. But he is also thinking about college football.

"I think I can play at the next level, maybe at linebacker," he said. "I was only 5-11 and weighed 180 pounds my sophomore year here, but I'm a lot bigger and stronger now."

Gallagher said the University of Miami, one of the nation's most prominent major college football programs, is among the schools that has expressed an interest in Jimenez, known as a staunch defender against the run.

Andres Jimenez, Alex's older brother, also played football at La Salle and went on to the University of Redlands. He now runs a tutoring service.

La Salle lost at Monrovia High, 52-19, last Friday night, a game in which the Lancers trailed only 21-12 after three quarters before the Wildcats went on a rampage.

Monrovia scored 21 quick points in the first quarter, cashing in their first three possessions.

"But we made some adjustments on defense and we started throwing the ball on offense," Gallagher recalled. "For a while we were competitive."

The Lancers aren't giving up on the season, nor is Jimenez.

"I'd like to go out with some wins as a senior," he said.



Photo by Paul Hill

Support Excellence:

The Sierra Madre Pony/Colt League

For more than 40 years, the Sierra Madre Pony League has given students the chance to become great athletes. "Our coaching is very deep," said President Jeff DiPane. "We offer a well-rounded program for kids," he said. Players 13 and 14-years old experience baseball like the pros with lead-offs, steals, and run-on-the-drop 3rd strikes while the bases stretch from Little League's 60 feet to a grown-up 80 feet. The pitchers' mound moves back 6 feet.

The coaches are dedicated volunteers: Dave Arden, Mark Kennedy, Joe Miranda, Dave Crain, Tom Cook and Len Berglund.

Right now the teams are practicing just for fun until the end of November. In early December, try-outs begin for 72 League members in six teams of 12 players each.

High Schools want Sierra Madre Pony Leaguers for their baseball teams. Once in high school, they play year-round for their schools, in demanding schedules, said DiPane. That's why the Colt League of 15 and 16-year olds is less jammed with players.

Whether you're a teenager or a coach, the lessons are valuable and the camaraderie long-lived. Players come from Sierra Madre, Pasadena and Altadena.

To join, call Jeff at (626) 253-8908.

To donate funds for fence repair at Dapper Field, mail a check to SM Pony/Colt, P.O. Box 232, Sierra Madre, 91024. The entire chain link fence needs replacing at a total cost of about \$40,000.

Advertisers can also purchase signs for the field. For \$350, your message will be placed at a spot around the field, on a 4' X 4' metal sign.

Pigskin Stats

MUIR MUSTANGS

League: Pacific
Coach: Ken Howard
Final 2005 record: 8-2

The defense, which posted five shutout victories last season, still is solid. Quarterback Lance Mitchell, tailback Willie Youngblood and wide receiver Wendell Jackson are the headliners for an offense that is emerging as a force as the season unfolds. The Bulldogs rate as the Pacific League favorite.

PASADENA BULLDOGS

League: Pacific
Coach: Kevin Mills
Final 2005 record: 3-7

A high-powered passing game featuring quarterback Tyrone Crockom throwing to receivers Armon Binns and Michael Harrison is the signature of this team. The defense remains undersized. Improvement over last year's record seems assured, with late-season improvement possibly carrying the Bulldogs into the playoffs.

MARSHALL EAGLES

League: Alpha
Coach: Jason Taylor
Final 2005 record: 2-7

Taylor replaced Johnny Lopez as coach Monday after the Eagles had fallen to an 0-4 record. The change on the sidelines doesn't figure to bring about a change in the results, though. The Eagles are undermanned on both sides of the ball. Quarterback Julian Ota is passing-running threat and tight end Shawn Bean is a force.

LA SALLE LANCERS

League: Camino Real
Coach: Ealar Gallagher
Final 2005 record: 8-4

Injuries and graduation losses have decimated the squad. Defense is a major concern, with opponents piling up points galore as the Lancers lost their first five games. The passing game has been effective with quarterback Matt Kohorst throwing to Jared McCray and Tyson Lisboa.

ST. FRANCIS GOLDEN KNIGHTS

League: Mission
Coach: Jim Bonds
Final 2005 record: 9-2

The Golden Knights could be the best team in the San Gabriel Valley, capable of dominating games on offense or defense. They won their first four games, including a victory over previously unbeaten Los Altos and a drubbing of Arcadia. Quarterback Luke Collis and running back Kyle Morgan are the linchpins of the offensive unit.

BLAIR VIKINGS

League: Rio Hondo
Coach: Tip Sanders
Final 2005 record: 0-10

The Vikings had nowhere to go but up after a winless 2005 season and Sanders, in his first year as coach, already has guided them to a couple of victories. The squad is led by quarterback Steve Austin and fullback Grant Morales. They won't make the playoffs this year, but at least they're headed in the right direction.



View From The Couch

By Stanley J. Forrester

not be beaten and therefore they were content to be second.

Have you recovered from the beat down in Ireland? I tell you the couch was a very unhappy place during the Ryder Cup. You see, I had gone against conventional wisdom and guaranteed victory for the American team. Look, we had the three best golfers in the world and Chris De Marco. How could we lose? Plus, our guys really wanted to win, as evidenced by the fact that Tiger had become the elder statesman and assumed the leadership role. Think about it. In the middle of another tournament that he was trying to win, winned and dined the four rookies presumably to talk about the Ryder Cup. Tiger was going to be partnered with Jim Furyk, Phil and De Marco were playing together, Stewart Cink, one of the best putters on the PGA was on the team.

The entire team had gone to Ireland for a practice round, Lehman the captain had analyzed everyone's game and knew what they could do. All differences had been set aside. We were ready. Bring on the Europeans.

The results were the same as they have been for five out of the last six Ryder Cups - we lost by a convincing margin. Why?? Well, many of the sports commentators have suggested that the Europeans are better players. They also said that the Americans do not have any young hot hungry players, and our selection progress is flawed.

One European commentator caused quite a rumble in our house when he stated that in his opinion American Players have accepted that Tiger could

Hogwash!! These guys are professional they have pride, they desire to win, they simply did not win. And when Tiger is winning he is not just winning against Americans, he is beating those same Europeans.

I did some Ryder Cup Research. From 1927 to 1977 the matches were between the USA and Great Britain. During that span a total of 22 matches were held, the USA won 18, Great Britain won 3 and there was one tie. There was a stretch from 1959 to 1977 where out of the ten matches the USA won ninetwenty one tie. During that span the cup was so one sided Jack Nicklaus suggested it would be better if Great Britain increased their pool of players to include all of Europe. Bet you didn't hear that last weekend.

The format currently played has been in existence since 1979. Since that time, the total number of matches played is 14. The Europeans have won 7, the USA 6, with one tie. So much for British dominance.

Looking at the matches from a strictly golfer's point of view, the American got what we wanted, a more competitive match. Now it's time to get back on track and win a few. You can bet that they will.

The entire argument that there are no young American hotshots is premature. After all, fifteen years ago, who knew that a kid named Tiger would change the game forever. What the state of American golf will be in two years cannot be stated today, so to all the worrywarts stop! We will win.