

# THE MT. WILSON OBSERVER

WEEKLY NEWS FOR SIERRA MADRE AND NEIGHBORING COMMUNITIES

Friday, December 1 - December 7, 2006 Volume 1, No. 10

## TREASURES OF SIERRA MADRE Sierra Madre Woman's Club Holds Annual Wistaria Thrift Shop Holiday Sale This Weekend



"Our prices are totally ridiculous!" – Dixie Coutant, Chairperson

Photos by Jacqueline Truong

By Katina Dunn

Don't miss a visit to the Wistaria Trift Shop today and tomorrow from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Sierra Madre Woman's Club at 550 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.

This annual sale offers amazing value and finds for holiday decorations and gifts. All proceeds go to upkeep the historic house and to local charities - last year the club donated \$8,000 to local causes. The club has 135 members, and 45 regularly volunteer at the Wistaria Shop, including the "Crazy Tuesday Crew" of about 10 who volunteer every Tuesday year 'round.

Browse thousands of items that range from the wonderful to the wacky and remember these words from chairperson Dixie Coutant "Isn't that what you always wanted?" And "Our prices are totally ridiculous!"

Some of the finds include:  
A pink angora sweater with pink heart and satin trim for \$10 - its tag says \$208.  
Pink and black argyle lined sneakers, size 5 1/2 for \$4.  
Cloth napkins - four for \$1. There are punch bowls, glass sets, silver plated services, and tablecloths. Beautiful blue glass dessert plates. Baking pans, tart pans, a meat slicer, blenders, waffle irons, electric grills.  
Totally cool orange cat salt and pepper shakers for \$2.  
A splendid duck decoy carved out of wood. All kinds of



vases and lamps. There are hundreds of great picture frames. One in blue with carved calla lilies is \$4. Sixty two gorgeous purple ornaments in a basket for \$7.50. Mardi Gras beads 10 cents per foot. Hand crafted wreaths, garland, wrapping paper and holiday flags. Small table and two chairs for a teddy bear tea is \$15. Green Bay Packer football slippers, robes, parkas, a



Ruth Wolter with dozens of holiday bags to fill

London Fog coat, Victoria's Secret lingerie, children's clothes, women's shoes including red Ferragamo slingbacks in size 10.

A lavender leather flower pin, perfect for a hat or lapel - \$6.

The Wistaria Shop is open Monday, Thursday and Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and closed between Christmas and New Year's.

New members to the woman's club are welcome. To join, call (626) 355-3928.

Meetings are held the second Wednesday of the month at 11 a.m. (program and luncheon - please RSVP) and the 4th Wednesday of the month at 1 p.m.

The next meetings will be December 13 at 11 a.m. and then January 10 at 11 a.m. and January 24 at 1 p.m.



Annie Scalzo & Karlene Englert prepare for sale

### City Council in Traffic Jam

By Katina Dunn

Tuesday's council meeting ended earlier than usual (10:15 pm) despite the frequent disconnects of Council Member Don Watts' telephone from Las Vegas where he was attending an annual seminar on design technology. The 1st reading on Ordinance 1265 amending Articles 1 and 10 regarding traffic control devices was postponed until January 9 after a tug of war in which Council Member Joe Mosca voted to postpone the discussion indefinitely, and then voted to discuss it again at the first council meeting of 2007.

At issue was the transfer of

authority over traffic control devices from the Chief of Police to the City Manager.

City Manager John Gillison repeatedly said the amendment was about a "clean up process," "small clean up items," "typos," "old clean-up items," and "clean up."

City Attorney Michael Colantuono said that Ordinance 1265 "dates back to the 20s..." with "the constable on the beat..." and "carriages and horses."

Council member Kurt Zimmerman said such an amendment would give the city manager authority taken from the city council.

Colantuono said the council still has authority over the budget and general plan, and that "nobody should understand this as a back door to a traffic signal." Colantuono went on to say the amendment provides the city with "design immunity for everybody who travels through that intersection."

During public comment, resident Bill Tice said "just

put in - there should be no traffic signal. People don't want traffic signals in this city."

Resident Fay Angus read from a letter by Teryl Willis who wrote "Our Police Chief drives our streets personally and professionally... our City Manager does not."

After Willis' letter, Angus went on to say from her own thoughts that this is an "extremely inappropriate time" for such an amendment. "What's the hurry?" Angus also suggested the city get an Environmental Impact Report on traffic, which would offer more "researched and intelligent" input into the matter.

Mosca concurred at that time, saying "I also agree with Fay. This is not a timely measure at this point."

Mayor Pro Tem Enid Joffe disagreed. "I think we're making this into something bigger than it is," she said.

Zimmerman objected to the suggestion by Colantuono

(See COUNCIL Page 4)



Author Katrelya Angus with one of her furry friends. For more, read the story, Positive Thoughts On Possums Page 7

### This Edition

- 1 Eye Spy: Treasures of Sierra Madre
- 2 Weekly Highlights
- 3 Dunnagan Remembers
- 4 Neighbors All Lit Up
- 5 Welcome The Season
- 6 Growth?!
- 7 Special Promotion: Beauty Intelligence
- 8 Alverno Cross Country Champs



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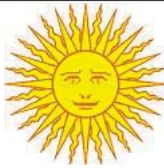
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# Weather Wise

5-Day Forecast for Sierra Madre, Ca.

Longitude W118.0, Latitude N34.2



Friday:	Clear	Hi 60s-70s	Lows 40s-50s	Windy
Saturday:	Clear	Hi 60s-70s	Lows 40s-50s	Windy
Sunday:	Clear	Hi 60s-70s	Lows 40s-50s	Windy
Monday:	Clear	Hi 60s-70s	Lows 40s-50s	Windy
Tuesday:	Clear	Hi 60s-70s	Lows 40s-50s	

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service

## Citizens' Datebook

Thursday, December 7	
Senior Commission	3:00 p.m.
Planning Commission	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, December 12	
City Council Meeting	6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, December 13	
Arts Commission	6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, December 20	
Tree Commission	7:00 p.m.

### BEST USED BOOK SALE

This Friday and Saturday  
December 1st and 2nd  
Fri 3-7 pm & Sat 10-2pm  
Sierra Madre Public Library  
440 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.

### SIERRA MADRE LIBRARY TO CLOSE FOR ONE DAY OF CLEANING

Sierra Madre Public Library will be closed  
Thursday, December 7th



## Roy Roams' 91024

**The Bob Quarnstrom** marshaled the cash register at *Taylor's Meat Market* on Wednesday before Thanksgiving. The former manager of Howie's said he just couldn't stay away one of the most festive days of the year – and festive places, as well. Quarnstrom says he's doing well despite his Multiple Sclerosis. And he'll be back at Taylor's on Christmas Eve. See you there!

### Grateful for Kim

A special canyon Thanksgiving at *Mary's Market* was hosted by **Kim Clymer**, who roasted a turkey duo and prepared all the sides for a complimentary dinner for friends & neighbors. Where else but the canyon of Sierra Madre?

### Zero Confidence in PUSD School Board?

So far, about 10 people have applied to run for three seats on the *Pasadena Unified School District Board of Education* election in March. Years ago, it seemed that few cared who ran for school board. Now this is one of the hottest elections going. This could be a sign of Zero Confidence in the present board.

### The Media Whisperer

Dear **Cesar Millan**: how do we get some local media types and an ad rep to behave? Apparently too many treats were fed them, now they are spoiled and barking out of control.

### Deep Sky

We sat next to columnist **Bob Eklund**

Sunday, breathless at the astrophotos taken by **Babak Tafreshi**, editor of *Nojium* magazine in Iran. Tafreshi's gorgeous photos can be viewed at [www.dreamview.net](http://www.dreamview.net).

Sierra Madre resident **John Stauffer** was also there watching – he heads the science staff at the Infrared Processing & Analysis Center at Cal Tech. Stauffer runs the Spitzer telescope program which is a joint JPL/Cal Tech venture.

**Mike Simmons** of the *Mt. Wilson Observatory Association* began the afternoon with photos of his trip to Iraq and its observatory, bombed numerous times in various wars. The rugged Simmons helped out the amateur astronomers there with equipment and inspiration, and is forming **Astronomers Without Borders**.

Next meeting of the *Mt. Wilson Observatory Association* is Sunday January 22 at 2:30 p.m. at Altadena Library at 600 E. Mariposa St.

### Deep Dish Pie

One coconut macadamia pie to **Grace and Artie Sanders** of Buford, Georgia, for taking photos at the famous *Ted's Pies* in Hawaii, so we could offer one of his great pie recipes published November 10. Find the recipe at [www.mtwilsonobserver.com](http://www.mtwilsonobserver.com).

### Mahalo, Steve

Kudos to Police Lt. Stephen Abernethy, for his 24 years of service. Abernethy is retiring. We don't know what his plans are yet – here's hoping they're warm and sunny.

**Trip Of A Lifetime: Rome, Amalfi, Florence, Venice & more**  
Italian Concerto Tour – a 12-day adventure with knowledgeable guides  
Visit Rome, Amalfi, Florence, Venice and Cruise to Isle of Capri  
First Class Hotel Accommodations & Many Meals  
LAX to Rome May 13  
Reserve Your Seat! \$200 per person due by Monday, December 4  
(\$3,499 per person double occupancy, \$4,069 single occupancy)  
For more info: Theresa Daley, Senior Community Commission  
(626) 355-7427

**Mark your calendars**  
December 11 is the  
**One Year Anniversary Of**  
**SIERRA MADRE'S FIRE SAFE COUNCIL**  
If you missed the last meeting, we had J. Lopez of the Los Angeles County Fire Department's Forestry Division on "Defensible Space" around your homes; Jackie Gibson, of the Big Santa Anita Canyon Fire Safe Council and Scott Lowden of the US Forest Service, Angeles National Forest San Gabriel River Ranger District.  
See you on for our Anniversary. We need to work together to make ours a Fire Safe Community and protect the lives of the fire fighters. Call Mike 355-1182 or Caroline 355-9350

**Cultural Arts Master Plan**  
Saturday, December 2 at 10 a.m.  
Sierra Madre Community Arts Commission is working on its first ever Cultural Arts Master Plan. Take part in making the Cultural Arts Master Plan a living document.  
Youth Activity Center, 611 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. For more info, call City of Sierra Madre Community and Personnel Services Department at 626-355-5278 or email: [city@ci.sierra-madre.ca.us](mailto:city@ci.sierra-madre.ca.us)

## WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

**Wistaria Thrift Shop**  
Holiday Extravaganza Sale  
Sierra Madre Woman's Club Essick House at 550 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.  
Friday December 1 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Saturday December 2 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Native Plant Sale**  
Saturday December 2 at 9 a.m.  
Eaton Canyon Nature Center  
1750 N. Altadena Dr., Pasadena  
San Gabriel Mountains Chapter of California Native Plant Society  
[www.cnps-sgm.org](http://www.cnps-sgm.org)

**Salsa Dancing**  
with Live Salsa Band!  
Sundays at **Vive Dining & Lounge**  
Free dance classes between 4 and 5 p.m.  
Dance until 10 p.m. Ages 21 and up  
61 N. Raymond Avenue Pasadena  
(626) 583-8483

Sing Along or Just Listen At **Café 322**  
Sundays Opera Greats from 6:30 p.m.  
Pianist Danny Guerrero and more.  
Free admission  
322 Sierra Madre Blvd.  
Sierra Madre (626) 836-5414

**Farmer's Market**  
Every Saturday  
8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
Grapes, apples, pears, nuts and Lily's Herbs & Greens. Local honey and fresh baked bread. Menudo & tamale stand.  
PHS parking lot  
2925 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.

**Beantown**  
45 N. Baldwin  
(626) 355-1596

**Save the Date!**  
**Tuesday, January 16 at 7:30 p.m.**  
*Trails, Tall Tales and Timber*  
By **Terry Terrell**, mountain historian  
Sierra Madre Historical Society  
Sierra Madre Woman's Club  
550 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.  
For more info, call Phyllis Chapman  
(626) 355-3928

**"TRAVELERS & COLLECTORS"** Friday, December 8 7:30 p.m.  
Rob and Wendy Stockly present "England and Denmark: Family Style"  
City Council Chambers at Sierra Madre City Hall.  
The event is free and open to the public through a donation by the Friends of the Sierra Madre Library. Seating is limited: first come, first served.  
Sierra Madre City Hall is located at 232 West Sierra Madre Boulevard in Sierra Madre. For additional info go to: [www.sierramadre.lib.ca.us](http://www.sierramadre.lib.ca.us) or call (626) 355-7186.

**'Tis the Season!**  
An amusing "behind-the-scenes" look at a Living Nativity production gone awry.

**Pasadena First Church of the Nazarene**  
December 8 & 9, 7:30 p.m.  
December 10, 6 p.m.  
Drama-Choir-Orchestra-Carol Singing-Live Animals!  
It's Free! All Are Welcome!  
Childcare 0-3 years  
Open Seating-Reception Following  
3700 E. Sierra Madre Blvd., Pasadena  
626-351-9631—[www.paznaz.org](http://www.paznaz.org)  
Invite friends! Family! Neighbors!

**Pasadena Jazz Institute PRESENTS:**  
Ellington / Tchaikovsky  
**THE Nutcracker SWINGS**  
Featuring: Pasadena Jazz Orchestra  
Conductor by: Dean Mora  
Guest Artist: Cheryl Conley  
"One of the Southlands elite big jazz ensembles..."  
LA TIMES  
**December 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>**  
Held at: Historic McKinley Auditorium  
325 South Oak Knoll, Pasadena 91101  
LIMITED SEATING / RESERVE YOUR TICKETS TODAY!  
Tickets: \$25.00 - \$35.00  
626.398.3344 [www.pasjazz.org](http://www.pasjazz.org)

## Seasons of Sierra Madre

A Memoir by James Dunnagan



A Happy Thanksgiving Survivor

You have heard of the Butterball Turkey Talk-Line. It's the one you call when you are not sure how or when or why to brine your turkey. Maybe you used it last week. Or maybe you'll use it in a few weeks when you are preparing your holiday winterfest gift-day meal.

Just know that the experts at 1-800-BUTTERBALL are there to support you during this season of poultry consumption, and that these home economists, and nutritionists can tell you everything you need to know about cooking a gigantic flightless bird with floppy red things hanging off of its face and neck (fun fact: those are the wattle, snood and caruncle) for consumption by your family and friends. If you are like nearly half of the people who call (46 percent), your primary concern will be that your turkey will dry out

while it is inside of your blazing hot oven. But have no fear, poultry cooking citizen, your bird will not dry out if you use your meat thermometer correctly. And, Sherleen Clausen is waiting right now to take your call and explain to you just how to wield that thermometer to ensure that you end up with a moist and appetizing hunk of genetically modified flesh (no bias folks; I only report the facts).

I called the hotline on Thanksgiving because I was really sweating about the status of my Tofurkey. My guests were arriving any minute, and I was sure that it was not even close to being ready, and I was like all "omigod, I am about to have an epic vegetarian Thanksgiving disaster!" But Astrid Volpert (R.D., bilingual holiday planner extraordinaire) did not think I was even a little bit funny. She did, though,

## LEFTOVERS

tell me where I could stick the meat thermometer. See, there I go again. I am fabricating. Do you honestly think I have the "stuffing" (whoa boy... that's a good one) to crank call a help-line staffed by home economics teachers? I have seen what they do to 14-year olds.

But if I did call, I might ask a series of pointed questions, and make many measured and compelling arguments that would immediately (but inadvertently) cause Astrid (resident of a square-shaped state off in the middle somewhere) to become vegan or at least lacto-ovo. She would throw down her headset and storm out of her cubicle shouting, "Stop the slaughter! 267 million turkeys raised and eaten in 2006! 45 million eaten on Thanksgiving! 22 million on Christmas! 19 million on Easter!" You know Astrid, she can get kind of carried away.

Astrid would start a campaign, probably involving vigils and lighted candles. She would hand out pamphlets on street corners. She would call upon experts like Donald Bell, Poultry Specialist at the University of California, Riverside, who would testify to massive

cheering (but slightly nauseated) crowds about the amount of waste produced by these birds. It is literally or figuratively (depending on where you are standing and which way the wind is blowing) staggering.

According to Donald, "one of the major by-products of the poultry business is mountainous volumes of manure." In 1990, (the fact that his data is a little old would be ignored by the enthusiastic throng) he estimates that California poultry produced over 3.3 million tons of poop. That's 9,000 tons per day. "And," Astrid would shout, grabbing the microphone away from Donald, "poultry manure contains high amounts of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium!" None of which, in 3.3 million ton chunks, are especially "good" for the "environment" or the people (like you) who need to drink the water that comes from there.

So, since we seem to be intent on growing such incomprehensibly huge populations of ugly, pooping, polluting birds, I guess it's a good thing we have these special holidays dedicated to killing them all. Otherwise we might be in real trouble.



After seeing this 1926 photo of his father and brother in The Mt. Wilson Observer, Mr. Dunnagan contacted the paper and shared his memories of early Sierra Madre.

Sierra Madre will always be enshrined in my heart as the greatest little town on the map, a great place to bring up a family.

My grandmother, Martha Elizabeth Johnson and my mother Helen came by train from Oklahoma stepping off at the depot on Lucky Baldwin's Estate on Foothill Blvd. Both my mother and grandmother became Charter Members of the old Bethany Church, a round church made of rock. Mother attended the old Sierra Madre School and later so did my older brother George. My father, Clare Dunnagan, drove a delivery truck for Mallard's Bakery on Windsor Lane.

We moved to Long Beach and returned a few years later in time for me to attend the New Sierra

Madre School built in 1931. The school was something to see with its Japanese Gardens and auditorium with the latest sound and lighting system.

I fondly remember the volunteer Fire Department whose members collected broken toys and repaired and painted them. They would load them in a stake truck with Santa Claus who distributed them to less fortunate children along with a box of groceries for their parents.

At Christmas the large fir tree in the park was decorated and lighted. The firefighters made stockings filled with candies, fruit, nuts and caramel popcorn. Then Santa Claus would arrive at the park in

(continued Page 5)

### Paid Advertisement

"THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE BEHIND THE LAND USE POLICY OF THE GENERAL PLAN IS TO MAINTAIN THE EXISTING LOW DENSITY VILLAGE CHARACTER OF SIERRA MADRE IN THE SAME URBAN DEVELOPMENT PATTERN THAT EXISTS TODAY."

Sierra Madre General Plan June 11, 1996

**SUPPORTERS OF THE SIERRA MADRE VOTERS EMPOWERMENT ACT also known as 2-30-13 COULDN'T AGREE MORE SO DON'T BE MISLED!**

Now that developers who seek to overbuild our downtown have discovered the overwhelming support from this community to require a citywide vote on all downtown development projects that exceed the existing limits, a campaign of MIS-INFORMATION has begun. Opponents of 2-30-13 are using distasteful, fear-mongering tactics and just not telling the truth about the initiative. So, we have decided to pay for this ad and set the record straight!

THE MAJORITY IN THE CITY COUNCIL ALONG WITH THE CITY MANAGER AND FORMER CITY ATTORNEY HAVE KEPT YOU IN THE DARK ABOUT THE MASSIVE SCOPE OF THE PROJECTS SLATED FOR CONSTRUCTION IN OUR DOWNTOWN ZONE.

THEY HAVE LED THE PUBLIC TO BELIEVE THAT THERE IS NO OTHER WAY FOR THE CITY TO GO IN ORDER TO INCREASE REVENUES AND MEET ALLEGED STATE REQUIRED MANDATES. HOWEVER, THE PROJECTS PROPOSED WILL NOT SAVE THIS TOWN. HERE IS WHAT'S ON THE AGENDA:

A 55 unit 3 story condominium development at the site of the old Skilled Nursing Facility on Sierra Madre Blvd. with lower level parking for about 140 cars. You will hear the development called, A "CHARMING CRAFTSMAN-STYLE PROJECT", but you will not see a picture of this block long behemoth, only a photo of the boarded up facility. The picture is intended to scare you into agreement with their point of view.

A 72 unit condominium project with retail space at the old Howie's Market site with subterranean parking. Negotiations are ongoing with the city of Sierra Madre right now regarding the purchase of the public parking lot to the south.

THE CITY, AT THIS TIME, IS ATTEMPTING TO GET THESE PROJECTS PUSHED THROUGH FOR CONSTRUCTION BEFORE THE PEOPLE OF SIERRA MADRE HAVE A CHANCE TO VOTE ON THE 2-30-13 VOTERS INITIATIVE. THEY'VE ALSO DENIED US THE RIGHT TO SEE THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE DOWNTOWN SPECIFIC PLAN, KNOWING HOW DAMAGING IT WOULD BE TO THEIR EFFORTS.

At the next few city council meetings, attempts will be made to change codes pertaining to the Downtown Area regarding parking and traffic in an effort to avoid the required Environmental Impact Statements. They will say they are 'cleaning up' the old codes. Citizens must let City Hall know that we are not to be ignored in order to appease developers. COUNCILMEN ZIMMERMAN AND WATTS ARE TRYING TO FIGHT THIS, BUT THE MAJORITY RULES.

THE VOTERS EMPOWERMENT ACT, 2-30-13, IS NOT AN ANTI-GROWTH MEASURE, AS PANIC PEDDLERS CLAIM. IT GIVES THE PEOPLE OF SIERRA MADRE A CHANCE TO VOTE ON PROJECTS THAT EXCEED FUNDAMENTAL LOW DENSITY REQUIREMENTS. ANY PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IS SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION AND APPROVAL BY THE CITY COUNCIL. THE VOTERS EMPOWERMENT ACT WON'T CHANGE THAT.

There are many other successful cities in Southern California that have adopted laws very similar to the 2-30-13 Initiative. Because of those laws, cities like SAN MARINO, LA CANADA-FLINTRIDGE, HERMOSA BEACH, BEVERLY HILLS, PALOS VERDES, MANHATTAN BEACH, AND MALIBU have kept their charm, maintained their high property values and have thriving downtown areas.

WE CAN HAVE IT ALL: SMART, SENSIBLE DEVELOPMENT- A THRIVING BUSINESS DISTRICT-PRESERVATION OF OUR SMALL TOWN WAY OF LIFE. THE VOTERS EMPOWERMENT ACT-2-30-13 WILL PROTECT US REGARDLESS OF WHO IS SITTING ON THE CITY COUNCIL. However, if you think that the current plans to tax our infrastructure, police and fire departments, and peace of mind are acceptable, then, PLEASE DISREGARD THIS AD.

**However, if you believe in our mission, we need your help. No developer funds are heading our way.**

**Contributions of any size will be greatly appreciated.**



P.O. Box 33, Sierra Madre, CA 91055. Call us at 626-388-2168, or visit us on line at [www.smrrd.org](http://www.smrrd.org).

# Ed Alverno, LASALLE, Pasadena High School, St. Francis, Sierra Mesa Middle School, The Barnhart School, The Gooden School, Sierra Madre Elementary School, Bethany Christian, St. Rita's, Wilson Middle School, Odyssey Charter School, Norma Coombs Alternative School, and the Pasadena Unified School District

## Neighbors All Lit Up Over New Stadium Lights

By Dean Lee

In a lawsuit filed earlier this month, Pasadena residents claim that La Salle High School and the Pasadena City Council did not take into account negative impacts when they voted in favor, unanimously, of new 80 ft. stadium lights. They claim the lights impact homes with light/glare, noise, and traffic/parking violations of CEQA Guidelines.

The suit filed by Pasadena Residents for a Healthy Environment also singles out Council Member Paul Little, claiming that his participation influenced an October meeting by

not recusing himself during a vote, showing biased and prejudice in favor of La Salle.

According to residents' attorney Robert Silverstein, Little showed that he had pre-judged the issue prior to the October 16 vote, and argued that an EIR was not required for the project, stating that the city's staff and the hearing officer believed that the lighting project did not meet the required EIR thresholds.

"While I can appreciate that there are impacts, I also appreciate that everybody has impacts of one kind or another. So I'm happy to support the school," Little said in October, according to Silverstein.

As part of approving the Conditional Use Permit for the project, the City Council imposed conditions on construction until the school submitted an application for a Master Plan, something Silverstein stated in the suit the city never did.

The lawsuit requests that action be taken immediately requiring La Salle to immediately cease all usage of the stadium lights and to

take down and remove them. It also asks that Little's vote and the decision of the council in favor of the project be set aside and require a new hearing.

Residents said they thought the project was rushing through so the Lancer football team could play this year's championship games on Friday nights going so far as to reject earlier findings by The Board of Zoning Appeals that ruled 3 to 1 in favor of overturning the school's Conditional Use Permit.

In their first game under the new lights, the Lancers defeated Fillmore High School for their sixth straight victory. This was also one of the Mid-Valley Division playoff games of the CIF Southern Section tournament, school officials said.

"This is an American tradition. Most schools have lights and play on Friday," said John Blackstock, La Salle's Director of Communications. "It is an unfortunate situation that a few residents are mad. We have done everything we were supposed to and aren't even mentioned in the lawsuit other than as an interested party."

## SCHOOL CALENDAR

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

Wednesday, December 13 at 7 p.m.  
Traditional Candlelight Celebration  
Holiday Procession  
Festive Holiday Concert will follow

The Gooden School  
192 N. Baldwin Ave.  
(626) 355-2410  
www.goodenschool.org

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

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

Wednesday December 13 at 7 p.m.  
Holiday Concert  
Monday, December 4 to  
Friday, December 15  
Open Enrollment

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

Saturday, December 2  
Campus Beautification Day  
Friday, December 15  
Holiday program K-3  
Wednesday December 20  
Holiday program 4 - 8

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

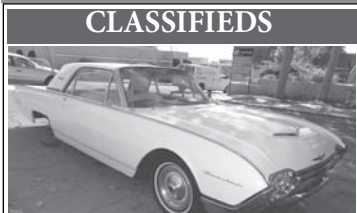
St. Rita's Catholic School  
322 N. Baldwin Ave.  
(626) 355-9028

Friday, December 1 at 7:30 p.m.  
Saturday, December 2 at 7:30 p.m.  
Sunday, December 3 at 2 p.m.  
St. Rita's Drama Club  
Romeo & Juliet  
Adults \$3 Children 8 and older \$1  
Sunday is a benefit performance

Bethany Christian School  
93 B. N. Baldwin Ave.  
(626) 355-3527  
Jim Lugenbuehl, Principal

Odyssey Charter School  
725 W. Altadena Dr.  
Altadena, CA  
(626) 229-0993  
www.odysseycharterschool.com

**BASKETBALL TRY-OUTS**  
Saturday, December 9th 10:00 am - Noon  
Ages 6-11  
**PASADENA FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE**  
3700 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. Pasadena  
626-351-9631



### CLASSIFIEDS

#### Classic 1961 Bullet-Nose T-Bird

1961 hard top/great shape/motor and trans rebuilt/heavy cruising car/really cool/could be amazing 72,000 miles/parts easy to find/fantastic interior. A steal at \$6,000  
Call Ernie @ Executive Auto Detail (626) 836-8625

#### COUNCIL (continued from Page 1)

that the city was exposing itself to more lawsuits if the amendment wasn't approved. "Historically, Police Chiefs have been responsible for enforcing traffic and parking ordinances," said Zimmerman.

Colantuono then said there was a lot of work put into the amendment, and "I'd like to see the benefit." Mayor Buchanan said "We're making a mountain out of a molehill... I don't think these concerns are legitimate... There comes a point when we have to act."

Gillison said "I didn't start this. This is a long time recommendation from a previous police chief." Zimmerman motioned it to be tabled "indefinitely" and Mosca seconded it.

Joffe said "We're throwing out the baby with the bathwater." That vote was 2 to 2, with Watts unavailable by telephone at that time.

"To just take it and push it off in the distance is a waste of money," Buchanan said.

"If we're paralyzed on the small decisions, how are we going to do the hard decisions," said Joffe.

"I think we should at least get something on the floor that allows us to move forward," said Buchanan. At that point, Gillison suggested taking the matter up again on January 9. Mosca made the motion, Joffe seconded it and the vote was 3 to 1, with Zimmerman voting against the postponement.

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Technology Science Business

## Looking Up

With Bob Eklund



Photo By Jean Boenisch

### Welcome to "The Season"

On December 20, 1903, George Ellery Hale stepped off the train in Pasadena under brilliant blue skies, ready to begin his work of creating what would become, for more than three decades, the world's foremost observatory. Four days later, he wrote to a friend in the frigid East: "Here I am sitting in the shade of the porch of our cottage with the sun too hot to sit in, the birds singing around me, and the flowers so numerous I can't begin to tell their names...I haven't been here long enough to be in the least blasé, and I can't say enough of the beauties of the place and climate."

Easterners coming to Southern California in Hale's day were so enamored of its winter climate that it was common to call this time of the year "The Season." Do we long-time residents appreciate our unique winters, or are we "blasé," to use Hale's word? I remember complaining to someone, when the temperature had fallen into the fifties, about how chilly I felt. The man, who had recently returned from a year in Alaska, said, "You've been too long in Paradise!" Southern California may not be Paradise, but it is one of the few places on earth possessing what is called a "Mediterranean climate." Other places include Spain, the coastal areas around the Mediterranean Sea, Chile, and a bit of western Australia—all of them on the west coasts of continents, roughly 30°-40° north or south of the equator (Los Angeles is about 34° north).

So let's enjoy our rare December. It's not only the month when "The Season" begins, it's the time when the brightest stars of the year come into view. Watch for bright stars in the coming months!

### A STAR BEYOND

When dry winds from the east blow down on us  
And beat our ocean's breath back out to sea,  
We know December's here: a sharp-edged month  
Of golden afternoon and sudden dusk.

This beach at evening wears a desert face—  
Deserted and forgotten by the crowd  
Whose distant rush goes silent at the boom  
And hush of water, working in the gloom.

We love these desert winds that shape our sky  
Into a polished lens for seeing through,  
And at some midnight hour bring into view  
A star beyond the stars we thought we knew.

**DONNAGAN** (continued from Page 3) fire truck with sirens blowing.

Easter, too, was a big thing for children with the firefighters hiding eggs throughout the park.

They also played games like rolling an egg with a spoon in their mouth.

Sierra Madre was indeed a place for parents to raise their children, a community that participated in all the special events. A place where you could leave your home or car unlocked, because we never had any crime to speak of.

The seniors sat at card tables under the large eucalyptus tree, playing checkers.

I always looked forward to New Year's time. Many of us helped decorate the Sierra Madre float in the old tin barn on Montecito. Usually the boys would put the glue on and the girls would stick the flowers on. Around midnight, we would go down in the basement of city hall where there was always coffee and most times a pot of beans to warm us up.

In the 1930s, there would be a band concert in the park. On Friday nights during the summer, movies were shown. I'll always remember the movie "Frank Buck's Bring 'Em Back Alive" about a hunter who collected animals for the zoos - really exciting.

Sierra Madre was great for hiking, especially the Mt. Wilson Trail, Bailey's Canyon and Sturdivant Trail.

Many people came to Sierra Madre on weekends on the Big Red Car just to hike the trails. Orchard Camp on the Mt. Wilson Trail was a popular spot until the flood of 1938, which washed it out. I remember when the flood waters came down Lima Street, bringing large boulders from the mountains. They even detailed the Big Red Car on the corner of Lima and Sierra Madre Blvd. Incidentally, Sierra Madre Blvd. when I was growing up was called Central Avenue.

My buddy Lyle Stewart and I would sometimes decide to take in a movie at La Manda Park Junction, Pasadena. When the Big Red Car stopped at the corner of Sierra Madre Blvd. and Michillinda, we would jump

on the rear cow catcher and ride to Pasadena.

I moved from Sierra Madre to Long Beach in 1939, joined the navy in 1941 and after the war, married and brought my bride Barbara to live in Sierra Madre for the next 37 years. We raised our three children, Vickie, Michael and Laurie in Sierra Madre.

We were very active in the community, especially Blue Birds, Camp Fire Girls, Indian Guides, Little League, PTA, Chairman of the Rose Float Association for one year, Lions Club.

My wife Barbara, Jane Buchan, and Mert Waite billed themselves as the Bulging Bells. Each year they were always spotlighted last at the PTA Extravaganza show. Their dance and comedy routines always brought down the house with laughter.

This is my memory of a Sleepy Little Bedroom Town nestled next to the San Gabriel Mountains. The town which I will always call my home. A town where we made many loyal friends, a town which will always be enshrined within our hearts.

## 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 Miller at [comtype2@aol.com](mailto:comtype2@aol.com) or 888-489-8372 (8 AM - 6 PM, M - F).

**Q:** I'm a physical therapist by profession and am returning to work after being at home for three years caring for my sick mother. How should I address this issue in my résumé?

**A:** Your résumé is not the place for explanations on personal matters. Just be straightforward with job descriptions, education, and other relevant information. However, be sure to provide a cover letter stating that you are returning to work after caring for a sick relative for three years. You definitely need to mention the reason for your gap in employment. Also, if applicable, note that you have remained current in procedures and advances through perhaps reading journal articles, talking with others in the field, and even observing first-hand therapies. If you are not up-to-date in your job knowledge, make sure you take the time now to brush up on your skills.

**Q:** Three months ago, I had a first and second interview for the same job. I have not heard back yet with a definite yes or no answer. I'm tired of making phone calls and hearing vague responses. My inside sources tell me that the recruiters liked me but are waiting for someone even better to come along. What should I do?

**A:** You've been put off long enough! I would tell the hiring manager that you need an answer by such and such date. You might say that although you are interested in this particular position, you have been offered another which also appeals to you. The other company is waiting for your response. This should move them along in making a decision. If you are not hired, it's probably all for the best. These people sound a bit unprofessional to me.

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# THE MT. WILSON OBSERVER

A DEUXAMIS PUBLICATION



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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.

## OPINION

### In a Flap Over Flap Jacks

By Stefan Bund

On November 14, the City Council spent the day in retreat, figuring out the City's mission. Then they convened a Closed Session to discuss how to handle parking. The Agenda for this meeting hasn't been posted on the City website as of the writing of this article, but it was broadcast on TV. It's an example of how our town's government should not provide "low cost" city services.

During the Closed Session an amendment to the City Municipal Code was proposed that would remove power from local police to regulate traffic signals, and determine how traffic signs should work. This might not hit the public's radar for strangeness, but it hits my radar for economics. The amendment proposes that new restaurants that come to Sierra Madre must pay \$25,000 for each table they plan to serve. This means that if you planned to start a restaurant downtown, with 10 tables, you would pony up \$250,000 to open

your doors.

The proposed 'in-lieu' fee goes to pay for a parking structure that will go up behind the downtown area, in back of the Washington Mutual bank.

In order to afford Sierra Madre's proposed low-cost service to new business downtown, you would have to be The International House of Pancakes.

Funding a new parking garage is clearly very important to this administration, to the point that they are willing to rewrite city law such that the police no longer control the way cars move around the city.

People are still calling me, asking for a recall on Mosca, which I think should be on the agenda, sometime next year. But I fear that this city government may attempt to pass the DSP ahead of their proposed timeline, which is November of 2007.

Despite the fact that many of you have successfully petitioned the government here,



Photo by Jacqueline Truong

and will likely vote on the 2-30-13 measure next March, we've still got to be ready to offer a referendum on the DSP if it's passed in City Council. You'll meet this author at your doorstep, asking for a signature, if it comes to it. The 2-30-13 will make new development above two stories accountable to a public vote, so it controls construction on tall buildings. This means that members of this City Council will rally to pass it before 2-30-13 gets to a vote.

So in the meantime, I am going to keep the email account at virtual. [recall@gmail.com](mailto:recall@gmail.com) open. Beam me your thoughts.

But for now, we've got to find good people in town who would seriously consider running for City Council in 2008, when up to three seats on the council will be open.

## GROWTH

By Susan Henderson

*growth (n): an abnormal proliferation*

Growth can be a good thing. Then again, sometimes it is terribly unwanted. My sons were happy when they finally grew facial hair. My gardener is unhappy when he sees new growth among the weeds. When your bank balance grows you are always happy, but when that growth is reflected in your taxes, you are not. The same holds true when we talk about growth in our communities. In some communities it is a good thing. In others, it is not. When new towns are built and you see the houses fill with families, that's a good thing. But in a town like Sierra Madre, limited in space and resources, growth is an abnormal proliferation.

Who is it that moved here because they wanted the town to grow? Where are we going to grow to? And, why? If you want to live in a growing community, there are plenty in California. A few years back, there were hundreds of empty homes in Fontana and Rancho Cucamonga. Desert communities near Palm Springs still keep popping up. So if you want to be in an area that is rapidly developing, go there and stop trying to create an overcrowded city out of your village.

Our town is perfect in every way. Low crime rates, little traffic, peaceful atmosphere, friendly people and good schools. Everything that we say we want when looking for a place to call home. I love having no stop signs, very few sirens blaring, great schools and high property values. I am not ashamed to say it, I am not interested in the growth of this community. I am interested in maintaining and upgrading where necessary what we already have.

When I read the article on Page 3 by Mr. Dunnagan, my convictions about growth in Sierra Madre were reaffirmed. Technology and societal advances are welcome, but they are not an excuse to destroy the ambience of this magnificent town.

### SIERRA MADRE POLICE BLOTTER

During the week of Sunday, November 19th, to Saturday November 25th, the Sierra Madre Police Department responded to approximately 186 calls for service.

**Sunday, November 19th:**

10:57 AM - Tampering with vehicle, 200 block Michillinda Ave. A resident reported her car's glove box was open and her car ransacked. The car's owner said her car was unlocked and parked in the driveway Saturday, 11/18 at 5:30 PM. The tampering was discovered Sunday, 11/19 at 7:30 AM.

9:00 AM - Auto burglary report, 100 block East Esperanza Ave. A resident reported her front passenger car window smashed and her RCA CD player stolen. The car was parked in front of her home Saturday, 11/18 at 9:00 AM and she discovered the loss two and a half hours later at 11:30 AM. The stolen CD player was valued at \$100.00.

5:00 PM - Tampering with a vehicle, 00 block South Hermosa Ave. A resident reported his car was egged last week. The damage occurred between Monday, 11/13 and Friday 11/17.

**Monday, November 20th:**

9:40 AM - Petty theft, 200 block Adams St. A resident reported her son's Samsung cellular telephone was stolen from the front seat of her unlocked car. The theft occurred between Sunday 8:15 PM, and Monday morning, 8:15 AM. The cellular telephone was valued at \$200.00.

2:51 PM - Petty theft, 00 block West Grandview Ave. A resident reported the glove box open and her car ransacked. She reported her car was unlocked and parked in the driveway Sunday, 11:19 at 11:30 PM. The loss was discovered Monday, 11/20 at 7:00 AM and consisted of a Mag light flashlight, a silver ring and two packs of cigarettes. Total reported loss \$70.00.

**Wednesday, November 22nd:**

12:18 PM - Suspicious vehicle, Grandview Ave and Sycamore Place. A resident reported a suspicious vehicle, white Chevrolet van possibly casing the neighborhood. Officers stopped the van. The driver and occupants were interviewed and subsequently arrested for a variety of charges: Unlicensed driver, under the influence of a controlled substance, false identification to a peace officer, outstanding traffic warrant and receiving stolen property.

**Thursday, November 23rd:**

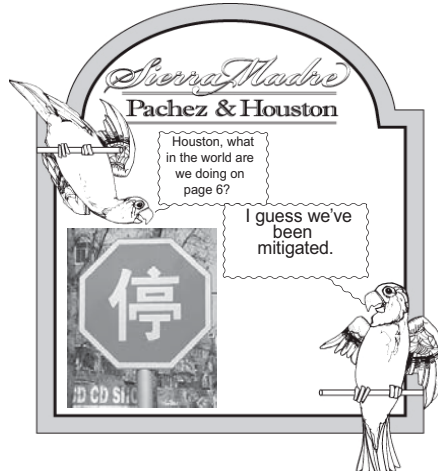
2:12 PM - Residential burglary, 2000 block Vista Ave. A resident reported his father's home was broken into and ransacked. The burglary occurred between Saturday, 11/18 and Thursday, 11/23. The reported loss: E-Machine computer and Fusonic monitor totaling \$750.00.

**Friday, November 24th:**

3:19 PM - Hit and run traffic collision, Mount Wilson Trail and Mira Monte Ave. A parked car was hit by a car that fled without stopping. Witnesses left a note on the windshield of the damage car with the license plate number to the fleeing car. The note was discovered this afternoon, 11/24 at 3:19PM upon the owner's return. The case is currently under investigation.

**Saturday, November 25th:**

10:40 AM - Vandalism, 500 block North Michillinda Ave. Patrol officers reported a vandalized parked car. The rear window was smashed with a pumpkin. The car's owner was apprised of the damage. The owner told officers that his car was parked Saturday at 4:00 AM and he discovered it at 6:30 AM.



### BIRD'S EYE VIEW

By Pat Birdsall

#### Missing: Customer Service Last Seen: Somewhere in the 1950s

For those of you too young to remember, I don't know if you are better off than those of us who do...

Been shopping for clothing lately? You select the items that you want to try on and go to a fitting room. You undress, try them on and realize that something is wrong - size, design or color. You must then redress, go back to the racks and begin your search anew. Flashback to the 50s...you don't have to take the clothing to the fitting room, because a very energetic salesperson has already done that for you. Don't like the color? Wrong size? "I'll get another one or two for you to try," she says - and she does.

Just returned from the supermarket? After you have selected all of the pre-wrapped meats, pre-wrapped salad ingredients, bottled water, microwave able everything, you go to the checkout. When your turn comes, it's "Paper or plastic?" That is, if the checker and bagger are finished with their personal conversation.

Flashback to the 50s...You select the meat the butcher personally recommends and cuts for you and the produce department is stocked with fresh, locally grown fruits and vegetables. Microwave??? When it's time to check out, it's "Nice to see you Mr. or Mrs. Jones. How's the family?"

And, finally...car need gas? You drive to your local gas station or to the major chain multi-pump set up. You get out of your car and try to figure out how to use the machinery. If you are paying cash you must go inside; if you are using cards, follow the directions that the pump gives you. Then, good grief...figure out how to pump your own gas, check the fluids and the tire pressure? Forget it. Okay, I'm a woman...

Flashback to the 50s...You never exit your car. A service station attendant rushes out to assist you. Even if you only purchased a dollar's worth of gas, the windshield was washed, the fluids checked, as well as the amount of air in the tires. A free road map was always available, and more importantly a sincere smile and wave followed your transaction. Hard to believe, isn't it? "You're welcome" has been replaced with "No problem." Progress; I think it is a problem.



# SPORTS

## Alverno's Cross Country Champions

By Candace Siegle  
Photos by Ken Barry



Alverno's cross country team finished the 2006 Horizon League season as champions in both Varsity and the Junior Varsity divisions. "This year's team had the best balance of power of any cross country team Alverno has seen," says coach Ken Barry. "With ten Varsity and nine Junior Varsity runners, we had not only the strongest team in our league but the largest."

In cross country, the top five runners are the scoring team and the top seven are the Varsity team for that particular race. Instead of one runner running at a given position in a race, there were pairs of runners. The top finishers, Kimberly Coates and Megan Weber, battled for the top spot on the team in every race. Daniele Yturvide and

Katarina Glamuzina were next, with Olivia Uranga and Elisa Hernandez-Guerrero close behind with Katie Bailey, Maggie Mazur, Chanel Mucci, and MJ Troconis all fighting for the next place. The JV team was delighted to have Jenny Song, Monique Ascarrunz and Lauren Hogue all placing first in races with support from Rose Radford, Cristina Hernandez-Guerrero, Paige Hunter, Grecia Lacayo, Bianca Paraguya and Lily Buckner.

Seniors Cristina Hernandez-Guerrero, Bianca Paraguya, and Katie Bailey worked hard work and supported the team throughout the season. They will be missed next year.

For the first time Alverno will be competing in track and field this spring.

## Lady Bulldog Volleyball



By Larry Bortstein  
Photos by Mark Lansdown

Ronnie Joseph, the coach of Pasadena High's girls' volleyball team, wasn't saddened by the Bulldogs' loss to Los Alamitos in the first round of the CIF state playoffs.

It was the lack of respect shown for his team by Griffins' coach Jimmy Munoz that drew Joseph's ire after the Bulldogs' 25-11, 25-16, 26-24 loss at their home court, "Dog House," on Nov. 21.

"He took out his starters in the third game," Joseph said of Munoz after Pasadena fell for the first time this season after 30 consecutive victories and the championship of CIF Southern Section Division II-A. "That didn't show much respect for us and for what we did all year."

Los Alamitos, one of the powerhouse programs in the volleyball hotbed that is Orange County, plays in a league that is three divisions higher than that of PHS. The Griffins were making the latest in what has become an annual trip to the state playoffs, whereas the Bulldogs were making their first ever.

Los Alamitos dominated most of the match until the Griffins led, 18-13, in the third game. At that time Munoz replaced stars Geena Urango and Riley Cropper.

The move nearly backfired, as the Bulldogs rallied from 24-20 down to tie the game on two Kimmee Rolerder kills and two service errors by Los Alamitos. At that point Urango re-entered the game and

delivered a kill and a block on the next two Griffin possessions to give Los Alamitos the victory.

Ironically, Urango is headed for USC on a volleyball scholarship and will battle for playing time as an outside hitter next year with fellow freshman...PHS' Rolerder.

"Kimmie's the best player in the CIF, no doubt about it," Joseph said after the Bulldogs' most successful volleyball season ended.

"What she and these other girls have done to give Pasadena High School



a boost for the future is unbelievable. The school has always been known for its basketball teams. Now they'll have to take our volleyball program seriously. That's what I was brought in here to do last year and that's what I've tried to do."

The outlook is good for the Bulldogs. They return five juniors and one sophomore from this year's 11-player roster. The returning juniors will be Casey Klein, Julie Thompson, Kristine Schoeltzer, Melody Salvador and Kaela Campbell. The sophomore is Erin Lansdown.

## BATTER UP: Sierra Madre T-Ball and Little League Sign Ups and Try Outs



Sign ups for the 2007 Little League baseball season start the week of December 6th. The season opener will be on Feb. 24, 2007 and the season ends June 2, 2007.

Sign ups will be as follows:

Session #1 Wednesday, Dec. 6 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.  
Session #2 Saturday, Dec. 9 from 9 a.m. to noon.

at

Sierra Madre Recreation Center  
611 E. Sierra Madre Boulevard  
Sierra Madre.

Tryouts will be held at

Hesley Field in Sierra Vista Park  
611 E. Sierra Madre Boulevard.

11 and 12 Year Olds

Wednesday Jan. 3 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Make-ups Saturday Jan. 6 from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m.

7 to 10 Year Olds

Saturday, Jan. 6 from 9 a.m. to noon

Make-ups Tuesday, Jan. 9 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The 5-6 Year-old T Ball players do not need to try out.

Hesley's T-Ball Field will be completely renovated with a new and improved playing field, just in time for the 2007 season, thanks to generous donation by the Corvino Family according to little league officials.



## View From The Couch

By Stanley J. Forrester

### The Really Big Game

The Trojan contingency (USC if you just arrived on the planet), is still hopeful however this week has been hard for that group. Even though they had a convincing win over Notre Dame, USC is worried about that 'nothing-to-lose and everything-to-prove' cross-town-bragging-rights-hungry UCLA Bruins bunch. But everyone will have to wait until Saturday. That will be the day. That is the really big game. If USC wins then our divided house will be ready for the showdown - Ohio State vs. USC in Glendale, Arizona on January 8, 2007 for the national title. Now if your family is anything like ours, then you know that the trash talking has already begun.

When you consider what Pete Carroll has done while at USC it is pretty remarkable. Five straight Pac Ten titles and for three of the last four years they have played for a share of the national championship despite the BCS. That is amazing, but to the Buckeyes it is the equivalent of winning the batting contest on your block. As one member of the family told me they don't see what all the hoopla is about - there is no comparison. The Trojan faction is hearing a lot of blah blah blah from those Buckeyes.

I wonder if Pete and the boys are feeling a little like Mike Tyson before the Buster Douglas fight. Remember when the underdog - never heard of before - from Columbus, Ohio, Buster Douglas knocked the

powerhouse Tyson out? In case yours is not a trash talking family UCLA is Buster Douglas to USC's Mike Tyson and USC is not supposed to lose.

Another thing to worry about is that the underdog has to win on at least one occasion. How about when those Boston Red Sox broke the curse and beat the Yankees and won a World Series. But I'm not worried. Somewhere this season, some underdog has won and taken care of that curse. But, who knows this just may be the year for the big upset. I see blue and gold in the stars. They are heartless.

Buckeyes are really good at talking trash. As if things weren't bad enough...do you know who is rated number one in college basketball? Yep, Ohio State. This is the first time in history that a team has been number one in football and in basketball, according to the Buckeye fans. The Trojans must get in and beat Ohio State or it's going to be a long and dreadful winter in our house.

We have been trying to come up with a bet that is appropriate for the magnitude of this contest. The fan of the losing team will have to be humiliated in a good-natured way. The young people of the house are not alumnus of either institution, so their response to the situation is to abandon ship whenever it is convenient.

Here's From The Couch, musing on what will be the proper bet, something really terrible for those Buckeyes. (Did you know that a Buckeye is a nut, which has absolutely no value?)

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