JUST ANOTHER REMARKABLE DAY IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD.

Kaelyn was a resilient 12-year-old when she was diagnosed with Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia (ALL). At her community hospital, she began a difficult 26-month treatment with very good odds. But, 20 months into treatment, Kaelyn’s cancer returned and wasn’t backing down.

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Almost nine years later, Kaelyn is fully recovered, working on a bachelor’s degree and building on her dreams of interior design. Her battle with leukemia long behind her, Kaelyn is free to focus on the promise of her future. Visit www.lpch.org for more information.
Three firms vie to recruit next Palo Alto city manager

Council committee emphasizes local knowledge, experience with similar communities

by Becky Trout

Palo Alto’s hunt for a new city manager kicked off Wednesday as a City Council committee whittled the number of recruiting firms down from six to three.

The four-member Council Appointed Officers (CAO) Committee unanimously agreed to interview Bob Murray & Associates, based in Roseville, Calif.; Alliance Resource Consulting of Long Beach; and The Waters Consulting Group from Dallas, Texas.

The three finalists are scheduled for interviews with the City Council Monday, Feb. 4.

Six companies bid for the contract to create a job description and find a new city manager for Palo Alto. City Manager Frank Benest announced plans last fall to retire at the end of June 2008.

The bids ranged from $23,000 to $30,000.

Executive recruiting firms draw on a network of “associates” who only receive money if they assist with a search, Committee Chair John Barton said. Barton said he is an associate for school-superintendent searches with a firm in Chicago, which did not apply for the city-manager recruitment.

The council members’ comments about the recruiting firms revealed their priorities in the search.

“What we’re looking for here is a group that’s specially suited for Palo Alto,” Vice Mayor Peter Drummier said.

Barton said he was particularly interested in finding a firm with extensive experience in California, because that would indicate a large associate network.

For Councilwoman Yoriko Kushimoto, a firm with national experience as well would be best, she said.

It is also very important to select a recruiter that “clicks” with the council, several committee members said.

(continued on page 8)

Police search homes of Children’s Theatre staff

‘The Tales of Beatrix Potter’ delayed as ‘complex’ financial-crimes investigation continues

by Becky Trout

Although the curtain will rise on the Palo Alto Children’s Theatre production of the “The Giver” this weekend, the fate of future productions remained up in the air Thursday, one week after the theater’s abrupt closure for a financial-crimes investigation.

Also this week, the Weekly learned that Palo Alto police officers have searched the residences of the four Children’s Theatre employees presently on administrative leave, reportedly confiscating computers, according to several sources.

“We conducted search warrants, and I cannot comment on what we confiscated at this time,” Police Chief Lynne Johnson replied in an e-mail to a query from the Weekly Tuesday afternoon.

But Phil Plymale, president of the City of Palo Alto chapter of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU), said Tuesday the homes of Assistant Director Michael Litfin, Costume Supervisor Alison Williams and Box Office Assistant Richard Curtis — all union members — had been searched and computers were taken last week.

The employees, who were put on paid leave following the abrupt closure of the theater Jan. 24 due to a “financial crimes” investigation, were also instructed to stop talking to Plymale, he said.

The home of theater Director Patricia Briggs was also searched.

The case is linked to thefts from (continued on page 8)

Amy Imai prepares an exhibit for the “Journey into the Unknown” event this Friday through Sunday at the Palo Alto Buddhist Temple.

COMMUNITY

Taking a journey through the unknown

Weekend exhibit on WWII Japanese-American history features talks by former internees

by Alexander Papoulias

Amy Imai was 11 when the Imperial Japanese Navy attacked Pearl Harbor.

“We were American citizens, but we were far from integrated. We had our own little community [in Mountain View] and we kept to ourselves,” she recalled. “When Pearl Harbor was attacked we knew instinctively that we were in trouble and nothing would ever be the same.”

Two months later, in February 1942, President Franklin Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066, which allowed the armed forces to designate “military” or “exclusion” zones from which “any and all persons may be prohibited.”

Everyone of Japanese descent was prohibited from living on the entire West Coast and up to 100 miles inland.

“We were given one month to settle all of our affairs before we were forced to leave our home. All we were allowed to bring was what we could carry with us. We left everything we knew behind, and we had no idea where we were going,” Imai said.

That sense of being uprooted and heading toward an uncertain future is the theme of a three-day event this weekend at the Buddhist Temple of Palo Alto, “Journey Through the Unknown.”

The event begins Friday and features artwork, photographs, memoralabilia and guest speakers on the internment of Japanese Americans more than 60 years ago.

A full-scale re-creation of a typical camp barrack — complete with folding cots, a potbelly stove and a single bare light bulb hanging from the ceiling is on exhibit. Similar 14-by-20-foot shacks were standard housing for small families, four men or four women. A miniature replica of one of the armed-guard towers Chicago, which lined the camp’s perimeters stands nearby.

Ann Okamura and her family (continued on page 7)
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Countermeasures are being taken. The Palo Alto Weekly is pleased to announce that it is now free of juvenile, Palo Alto, Menlo Park, Atherton, Portola Valley, East Palo Alto, to faculty and staff undergrads on the Stanford campus and its students. If you are not currently receiving the paper, you may request fresh paper by calling 328-600, (707) 324-600, Information technology: Questions or express your opinions any time day or night. For more information, contact Editor Jay Thorwaldson at editor@paweekly.com.

THIS WEEK ON TownSquare
Comments from the community forum on the Web site's weekly Web

Time for a reckoning
Posted Jan. 25 at 12:11 a.m. by Alum, a resident of another Palo Alto community:
"The Palo Alto Children’s Theatre has always been an outstanding asset to the community and its children for 80 years. I’ve known Pat Briggs for over 40 years, since she was first hired as director, and there is no more dedicated employee in any city in this nation. No one from the Children’s Theatre staff has been out playing golf on city time. Instead, they spend endless hours guiding and challenging Palo Alto’s young people to value themselves and others, and I’m confident that the newly hired Pat Briggs will only make the whole institution that is the Palo Alto Children’s Theatre."" Should state funding guarantees for Mountain View Library
Posted Jan. 30, 4 p.m. by Alum, a resident of the South of Midtown neighborhood:
"Many of these changes (like RFID integration) will be incorpo- rated into the Palo Alto Library. Please note that due to the fact that Mountain View does not have branches, Mountain View citizens will effectively be without library service. Yes, indeed, our branches are starting to look even better, now that this additional advantage has been discovered."
Mansion, left in limbo, may be completed

Cisco CEO is new owner of property left by late Web TV cofounder

by Becky Trout

A mega-mansion with a troubled history is slated for a makeover under new owner John Chambers, the chairman and chief executive officer of Cisco Systems.

During its second consideration of the proposal, the Planning and Transportation Commission approved changes Wednesday night to the landscaping and exterior of a 13,400-square-foot house at the end of Alexis Drive, a property surrounded on three sides by open space.

With a 4-1 vote, the commission approved plans to add about 359 trees, two spas, a new pool, a circular driveway and a seven-foot iron fence surrounding the perimeter of the 5.5-acre site.

“The intent is to make this as natural and as rustic as we can make it,” said Scott Design Associates’ Ken Alsman, who represented Chambers.

The partially completed estate was originally developed by Phillip Goldman, cofounder of WebTV, who died of a heart attack at age 39 in 2003 before the project was completed, according to Alsman.

The giant home sat unfinished and on-the-market for several years until the property was purchased by Chambers a year ago, Alsman said.

Commissioner Lee Lippert voted against the project because of the fence.

“I wouldn’t want the property to impose itself upon the open space,” Lippert said. “I would want this fence to work with the landscape, not the property line.”

The fence would be screened by trees and shrubs and does not block animals’ paths, Alsman said.

The changes would generally improve the property by increasing the landscaping, reducing the number of windows and making it fit better with the surroundings, commissioners agreed.

“You are taking a project that’s already there and not quite palatable and improving it,” Commissioner Paula Sandas said. “I’m appreciative of that.”

Yet there’s no way to completely conceal a 13,400-square-foot structure accompanied by a 3,360-square-foot guest house, Alsman and Planning Arborist Dave Dockter pointed out.

The Architectural Review Board is scheduled to discuss the project Feb. 7, followed by the City Council’s review on March 24, according to Senior Planner Elena Lee.

Staff Writer Becky Trout can be e-mailed at btrout@paweekly.com.
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News Digest
New high school, upgrades for EPA on ballot
Two options to improve schools in East Palo Alto and East Menlo Park — including a new, permanent high school for East Palo Alto — are on the Feb. 5 ballot.
Measure M would extend the current $98 parcel tax in the Ravenswood City School District by five years, from July 2009 through June 2014.
The money would improve reading, writing, math and science instruction by paying for staff and special programs, according to the ballot statement.
Parcels owned by citizens 65 and older and parcels otherwise exempt from property taxes would be exempt from the tax, which requires a two-thirds majority vote for approval.
Measure J would provide $165 million in bonds to the Sequoia Union High School District to fund a variety of improvements and build a permanent high school in East Palo Alto, Superintendent Pat Gemma said.
The bonds would tax $9.73 per $100,000 in valuation per property. They would fund technology construction and green energy in schools, as well as more vocational-education space, Gemma said.
About $15-$20 million of the bonds would pay for construction of a permanent public high school in East Palo Alto, which currently has none, he said. The district would own the building and East Palo Alto Academy, a charter school run by Stanford New Schools, would occupy it, he said.
The district and charter school would have a facility-use agreement, under which the school does not pay rent but does pay operational costs such as utilities, he said.
Measure J needs 55 percent approval to pass and an August survey showed high local support, he said.

Anna Eshoo endorses Obama for president
Calling him “a true son of America,” Congresswoman Anna Eshoo (D-Palo Alto) warmly endorsed Sen. Barack Obama (D-Illinois) for U.S. president in a statement released late Wednesday afternoon.
In a surprise one-page endorsement statement, Eshoo lavished praise on Obama.
“Barack Obama inspires me. He gives me hope,” Eshoo said. “He appeals to the best in us and in doing so he restores the sense of idealism that brought me to public service.”
“He challenges us to dream bigger and reach farther,” she said.
She made no reference to Obama’s opponent for the Democratic presidential nomination, Sen. Hillary Clinton (D-New York), or to former President Bill Clinton. There was no immediate response from the Clinton campaign.
Eshoo’s endorsement of Obama follows that of Sen. Ted Kennedy. But Clinton has picked up some significant support from black and other minority political leaders in California, where polls have shown she is leading in the race for the state’s 370 delegates in the Feb. 5 primary (an additional 71 will be unpledged as of the first ballot at the nominating convention).
Clinton was endorsed by Congresswoman Maxine Waters of Los Angeles, a member of the Congressional Black Caucus; Oakland Mayor Ron Dellums, a longtime black political leader; and Hispanic Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa of Los Angeles.
Eshoo’s endorsement of Obama is unreserved.
“Senator Obama’s candidacy is historic, and so is the reaction to it,” she said. “He has brought thousands of disaffected and skeptical people back into the political process, and he has struck a chord with thousands of young voters. Still more are poised to participate in the days ahead.”
Eshoo was elected to Congress in 1992, along with U.S. Senators Barbara Boxer, Diane Feinstein and three other women in what was termed “The Year of the Woman.”

Highway opens again, following gasoline spill
U.S. Highway 101 reopened Thursday following a big-rig accident that spilled more than 2,400 gallons of gasoline on U.S. Highway 101 near Maple Street Tuesday afternoon.
The accident wreaked havoc on Peninsula traffic for two days due to lane closures and repair work.
California Department of Transportation crews were called in to remove about 200 feet of the highway, which was disintegrating and potentially flammable due to the fuel.
The accident happened when a van clipped a big-rig, knocking over one of its fuel tankers, according to the California Highway Patrol.

ON THE WEB: The latest local news headlines at www.PaloAltoOnline.com
Japanese
(continued from page 3)
were housed at the Heart Moun-
tain Detention Center in Northern
Wyoming, where most Japanese-
American families from the Bay
Area and surrounding communities
were sent.
“As a kid, I grew up knowing
the word ‘camp’ to mean a fun place
where American kids went during
the summer. We came to understand,
though, that they weren’t camps —
they were prisons,” said Okamura,
now a Redwood City resident.
“Most of us would prefer if they
were called what they really were,
which is ‘concentration camps,’”
she said.
Palo Alto resident Lois Takaoka
remembers the day-long ride in a
cramped and filthy train car to the
Santa Anita Racetrack in Southern
California. The racetrack served as
a makeshift assembly center and
sorting area for Japanese Americans
while the last of the detainment cen-
ters were being hastily constructed.
“I had never seen so many other
Japanese people before the train
ride and the assembly center. I
remember that every time we passed through a
town, the guards forced us to shut
the curtains on the windows and get
out of sight,” Takaoka said.
Imai recalled the scene: “When
we got off the train there were
these big piles of straw everywhere. It
was a racetrack, so I figured they were
to feed the horses. Then the guards gave
us each a canvas bag and instructed
us to fill it with straw. I didn’t under-
stand why at first, but I eventually
figured out that these were going to
be our beds.”
The centerpiece of the weekend
exhibit is “The 120,000 Tasseled Tap-
estry,” which was crafted by 503
eighth-grade students from Lafay-
ette, Ind., as a tribute to all those
involved in the internment. The
students created the tapestry to co-
incide with the dedication of the Na-
tional Japanese American Memorial
to Patriotism in Washington D.C. in
November 2000.
The 120,000 tassels represent
the estimated number of Japanese
Americans interned during the war,
according to Vernon Hayashida of
San Jose.
“What’s so amazing is that this
credible tribute was made by
Caucasian school kids from Indi-
ana. They were just so moved by
the story of our wartime experience
that they wanted to commemorate
the struggle,” he said.
The hanging tapestry is made up of
12 quilted panels featuring art-
work, photographs, news clippings,
wartime memorabilia and poetry.
Among the work’s major themes
are the patriotism and dedication
that Japanese Americans showed to
their country.
Kats Hikido, a veteran of the seg-
regated 442nd U.S. Army unit, will
speak at the event. He served first in
Southern France and then in Italy,
where he was wounded in action by
a landmine blast that killed two of
his fellow soldiers.
The 442nd Regimental Combat
Team had been activated by Presi-
dent Roosevelt on Feb. 1, 1943.
About 4,500 volunteers from Ha-
waii and the mainland U.S. were
expected to enlist; the Army instead
got approximately 11,250 Nisei, or
first-generation Japanese-American
volunteers. Many Nisei from the
mainland went directly from intern-
ment camps to basic training.
“Being part of a segregated unit
was good and bad,” Hikido said. “If
we had been integrated with the rest
of the military it’s hard to imagine
many of us surviving combat. There
was a lot of resentment towards
Japanese Americans at the time —
regardless of your citizenship or your
patriotism.”
The 442nd went on to be one of
the most highly decorated units
in the history of the United States
Armed Forces.
The Japanese Americans affected
by wartime internment have never
forgotten those who came to their
aid during the crisis. An exhibit in
the temple’s Dharma School class-
rooms called “Friends of the Japa-
inese American Community” honor-
ors those who helped the Japanese
Americans at the onset of, during
and after the war.
“We have a duty to remind people,
I think. People shouldn’t
forget, because really,
this is recent history.
It’s America’s history.”
—Kats Hikido, veteran of the
442nd Army unit

“At Christmas, there was a party
for the kids at Heart Mountain,
and each of us got a present. I found out
much later that the gifts were donat-
ed by the Quakers, who were one of
the biggest supporters of Japanese-
American internees,” Okamura said.
After Takaoka and her family
were released, they received help
from Frank and Josephine Duve-
neck, who founded Hidden Villa
Ranch in Los Altos Hills.
“The Duveneck family played a
huge part in helping families reestab-
lishe after the war. You have to under-
stand that when we left the camps
we had nothing, and in a lot of ways,
life after the internment was harder
than the camps themselves. We were
starting over from scratch,” Takaoka
said.
The Duveneck family helped the
Takaokas find a home and re estab-
lish themselves. Those fortunate
enough to have connections in their
communities were sometimes spared
the loss of homes and businesses by
generous patrons who paid property
taxes maintained the internee’s
homes in their absence.
“We have a duty to remind people,
I think,” Hikido said of mounting
the exhibit. “People shouldn’t forget
because really, this is recent history.
It’s America’s history.”

“Journey Through the Unknown”
will take place at the Palo Alto
Buddhist Temple, 2751 Louis Road,
Palo Alto, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Friday through Sunday. The event
is free. For information, visit www.
pabt.org.
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Recuriter

(continued from page 3)

members said. “The difference is the (personal) connection,” Barton said. “It is the substance, and it is the content (of the firm’s answers) but it’s as much their bearing and approach and confidence and connection.”

The Waters Consulting Group has good national experience, several council members said, but its size could have a downside. The firm has three other offices and has conducted hundreds of searches in the private and public sector.

“My first thought was ‘Wow, this is a big company; we might get a little lost,’” Drekmeier said.

Bob Murray & Associates has experience in Palo Alto, a qualification several council members found attractive. It recruited Benest, a city attorney, a building official and a planning director, according to a city-prepared chart.

“I just felt (Murray’s application) was balanced,” Drekmeier said. “They had familiarity with the area; they’re not too small; and they seem to really put extra effort in — it’s not just formulaic.”

Alliance Resource Consulting has experience with cities similar to Palo Alto, Councilman Greg Schmid said. It has worked with San Jose, Hesperia, Long Beach, Compton, Carlsbad, Concord and other cities.

“If they’re plan of emphasizing outreach in the community,” Schmid said. The committee agreed to ask the finalists to be prepared to answer questions such as:

How would you work with nine council members?
What do you know about Palo Alto?
How do you plan to involve the community in the recruitment process?
What are the challenges you foresee?

Barton said he plans to conduct reference checks on the three firms before Monday.

The council will interview the three finalists and select the winning consultant at its Feb. 4 meeting between 5 and 7 p.m.

Then, on Feb. 18 the consultant and the council would work with community members to develop a job description for the city manager, Barton said.

Staff Writer Becky Trout can be e-mailed at btrout@paweekly.com.

Children’s Theatre

(continued from page 3)

the theater last summer, Johnson has said. Theater staff reported a printer, cash, coins and checks were missing on June 18, but later discovered other losses, including video equipment that was hard to find, according to sources.

About two weeks ago, theater staff again contacted police to inquire about progress on the theft investigation, Plymale said.

A week later, the theater was closed. It was reopened Monday for a rehearsal for the play, “The Giver,” due to open Friday — but city officials locked the theater doors, allowing only cast members and parents in or out.

Johnson said Tuesday she did not know when the investigation, which is currently being conducted by one primary investigator, would be completed.

“We’re working on it as fast as we can,” she said. “It’s so complex.”

“The Tales of Beatrix Potter,” scheduled to open Feb. 29, will be delayed, Community Services Director Richard James said Thursday.

He said more information about the theater’s other programs will be available early next week.

“We’re working through the situation right now,” newly appointed Arts and Sciences Manager Linda Craighead said. “We’re going to have it together by next week, and we’re going to send out a press release so everybody knows.”

“The staff are doing a great job,” she added.

Auditions for “The Tales of Beatrix Potter” were held Jan. 22 and 23, just before the theater’s Jan. 24 closure.

New auditions may be needed, James said.

“The difficulty here is the people who actually saw the auditions, they’re the ones who are no longer available to us,” James said.

Laurel Watson, whose 8-year-old daughter was selected for a callback audition, said she was informed by theater staff the show had been delayed until April and that new auditions would be held. James said the city hasn’t decided when to hold the production, but that it will go on.

Watson said she had been very hopeful her daughter would be able to continue with the production, because she had auditioned before unsuccessfully.

“We’ve just been waiting and reading these very confusing what’s going on,” Watson said. She said she thinks her daughter will audition again.

“Right now, it’s scary for the kids. They feel weird things,” Watson said. “If everything clears up, yes (she’ll audition).”

Craighead said Friday’s production of “The Giver” is already sold out but that tickets remain for other productions.

Additional reporting by Senior Staff Writer Don Kazak. Staff Writer Becky Trout can be e-mailed at btrout@paweekly.com.
City auditor to leave for job in San Jose

Erickson widely lauded for audit work, professionalism

by Becky Trout

Palo Alto’s popular city auditor, Sharon Erickson, announced Tuesday she is leaving to serve as San Jose’s top auditor. “It’s a great opportunity for me, and it was too big to pass up,” Erickson said. She will begin her new position March 10.

Erickson said she plans to spend her remaining time in Palo Alto, her hometown, where she has received nearly universal praise and support. “Sharon’s been terrific in the position of auditor, and we will miss her,” Mayor Larry Klein said Tuesday.

“How hard is it to be an effective critic, but to do it in such a nice, professional way?” Councilman John Barton asked.

He said he was also impressed with the amount of work she accomplished with a staff of four, which includes herself.

Erickson’s work was so “stunningly professional” that the targets of her reform usually didn’t take offense, Barton said.

“I think she’s done a superb job. Many of her audits have had a big effect on city policies, and she’ll be very, very hard to replace,” Klein said. He said the council suspected Erickson might return to San Jose after longtime San Jose Auditor Gerald Silva was fired following a sexual harassment scandal last summer.

Erickson said her hire was finalized Tuesday. She will earn approximately $189,000, up from her current salary of $164,000.

“I only applied for the position after some thought because I really have enjoyed working for Palo Alto,” Erickson said. She said she will also regret leaving before seeing all the reforms completed that have been sparked by her audits.

The San Jose Auditor’s office has 18 employees.

“They do many of the same things we do in Palo Alto. It’s just bigger and more complicated,” Erickson said.

Erickson will commute south from her childhood Barron Park home she now shares with her husband, Lei.

The search for a new auditor might be tricky, according to Barton, chair of the appointing committee.

Few Palo Alto-size cities have auditors, Barton said Wednesday. Barton said he will recommend the city hire a recruiting consultant to help find the right replacement, although the council will decide the process.

“There are a small number of audit shops in the Bay Area that do the kind of work we do, and there are many others nationwide,” Erickson said. “Palo Alto is a very desirable place to live and work, and our office has a good reputation nationwide. I’m optimistic.”

Erickson said she is most proud of “building a strong team of auditors” and as being the first woman to receive a top audit award in the city.

Erickson said she plans to spend her remaining time working with Old Trace Middlefield, had asked the commission to approve a zoning change from a “gas-station only” designation to one that allows office and retail buildings.

Corrigan said he would like to construct an approximately 7,000-square-foot, two-story building with retail on the first floor and offices on the second. He doesn’t plan to include any residences in the project.

But by considering the Winter Lodge and gas station as a single unit, the retail space could be increased, the parking-lot design could be improved and the new building could be integrated with the Winter Lodge, rather than having its rear toward it, Garber said.

“It presents an opportunity to better utilize the property,” Garber said.

Corrigan said he would be willing to discuss alternative plans for the property with his business partners.

The commission approved the rezoning on a 3-2 vote, with Garber and Commissioner Arthur Keller voting no.

“I think that we’ve had a blight-ed empty gas station there long enough,” Commissioner Paula Sandusky said. “It’s a spot along Middlefield Road that sort of stitches the seam between Midtown and (shops off Loma Verde).”

The BP/ARCO gas station closed in 2004, and part of Corrigan’s purchase agreement was that the site not be used for a gas station, planning documents state.

BP West Coast Products, LLC, remains responsible for the site’s environmental clean-up, Corrigan and city staff said.

For a former gas station, the property is in fairly good shape, Corrigan’s environmental consultant Tin Larsen said.

BP pumped out groundwater and removed underground tanks. A few oily patches remain, however, Larsen said.

The City Council will consider the project at an uncertain date.

Staff Writer Becky Trout can be e-mailed at btrout@paweekly.com.
If you saw the movie “Poseidon,” you probably remember lots of heaving ocean waves. With “Evan Almighty,” you might think about the flood. Ron Fedkiw remembers the math. These computer-generated special effects all have their roots in equations, Fedkiw says. During an interview, he points to the numbers scribbled on a whiteboard in his office at Stanford University, where he’s associate professor of computer science. The numbers make up equations that model fluids, something he might know a little bit about. In fact, Fedkiw is set to receive an Academy Award on Feb. 9 for his work on a fluid-simulation system that fueled the seas in “Poseidon,” “Evan Almighty” and the two most recent “Pirates of the Caribbean” films. He’s being honored with collaborators Nick Rasmussen and Frank Losasso Petterson from Industrial Light and Magic (ILM) in...
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Reel world
(continued from previous page)

Marin County, where Fedkiw is a consultant.

“At Stanford, we write papers and develop equations, but we don’t make movies,” Fedkiw said. The award recognizes the work the trio has done at ILM to take the technology from academic research to the silver screen.

The three will receive plaques at the Scientific & Technical Academy Awards presentation in Beverly Hills, assuming the ceremonies aren’t derailed by the current writers’ strike. (The Academy bestows certificates, plaques and statues; statues are the only awards that can be called “Oscars.”) Ten scientific and technical awards are being given this year.

In the CGI world, fluids have traditionally been seen as difficult to simulate. Water often came out looking very viscous, “like tree sap,” Fedkiw said. A lazy body of water also can require lots of realistic-looking waves, churning areas, bubbles and foam. The trio’s fluid-simulation system takes into account the many facets of water: its smooth surface in some areas, its spray and bubbles in others. Douglas Enright, a former doctoral student of Fedkiw’s, is not mentioned in the award, but was important in helping create the system, Fedkiw said.

The system can also be used to simulate fire; it was behind a dragon’s flaming breath in “Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire” and explosions in “Star Wars: Episode III — Revenge of the Sith.”

Fedkiw, who has a Ph.D. in mathematics from the University of California at Los Angeles, had never anticipated working in films. But in 1998 he attended a talk at UCLA by a man who had created the computer-generated soda bottle that polar bears drank out of in Coke commercials, and the concept piqued his interest.

He worked at a few visual-effects companies in Southern California, and after he came north to Stanford he started consulting at ILM in 2001. Interestingly, Doug Roble, the man who gave that UCLA talk, is also a receiving a plaque from the Academy for his work in fluid simulation.

Fedkiw and his ILM colleagues first developed their system a few years back, designing it to make the female liquid terminator in “Terminator 3.”

In Fedkiw’s Stanford office, he brings up a demonstration of the system on his laptop. Waves crash around a lighthouse, flinging spray. “The waves break and generate other waves,” Fedkiw points out.

As an avid scuba diver, he is familiar with how the ocean behaves. While he’s mostly serious in an interview, Fedkiw beams when talking about “Poseidon.”

“That was the first time we were starting to use lots of bubbles. One scene shows the lifeboats bobbing around, the bubbles rising,” he says, with an appreciative smile as though he’s admiring a fine painting.

Though his demonstrations are visually engaging and the film scenes that stem from his ILM efforts can be works of art, Fedkiw doesn’t consider himself an artist. “I make tools,” he says.

Fedkiw doesn’t get to hang out with the stars while working for the movies, but there are other perks. A bulletin board in his office is stuffed with movie-logo pins that ILM gives out after work on each film wraps up. On the opposite wall, “Star Wars” figurines fill two big shelves. One stormtrooper has the face of George Lucas.

“One day, George Lucas was getting rid of a lot of old toys, and filled up the ILM parking lot,” Fedkiw says. “ILM employees could take as many as they could carry.”

Fedkiw’s work has also contributed to other materials besides water and fire, such as a leather jacket for Arnold Schwarzenegger in “Terminator 3.” ILM was called upon to make the jacket for scenes that a real-actor couldn’t in, including one where the female terminator does a number on Schwarzenegger’s character, smashing his face into a mirror.

To help guide the ILM team, Schwarzenegger’s real leather jacket was brought in. Even Fedkiw, himself a former competitive weight lifter, was impressed. “It weighs like 50 pounds. Arnold’s really strong.”

Fedkiw and his collaborators are also working on building a better “virtual human” that would look realistic in close-ups. To create a body — muscles and bones and all — the team is using MRIs, anatomical photos of a convicted murderer who left his body to science, and a plastic face model of one particularly obliging Stanford grad student.

There are other uses for this technology beyond films, Fedkiw says: He also works with Symbios, a National Institutes of Health center at Stanford that focuses on building biological models and simulations. He’s especially interested in cardiosimulation, he says: “Lots of fluids.”

Info: To watch samples of Ron Fedkiw’s work, go to his Web site at physbam.stanford.edu/~fedkiw/.

About the cover:
Jubilant Sykes brings his multifaceted songbook to the Peninsula
by Rebecca Wallace

Jubilant Sykes’ program for his Feb. 9 concert at Stanford University includes “Cry Me A River” and “Ol’ Man River.”

In what category do you file the music of Jubilant Sykes? He’s classically trained, but also thinks Bob Dylan’s a classic. Jazz, gospel and Broadway tunes peacefully coexist with Schubert and Brahms in his repertoire. He doesn’t even turn up his nose at country-western.

“I never have sung it, but I love the storytelling,” he said. “You think: ‘How clever,’ or ‘How sweet’ or ‘How naïve.’”

Sykes’ voice is billed as a baritone, but it’s even hard to settle on that, once you hear him floating a falsetto that recalls his days as a boy soprano. On the other end of his range, Sykes lets out a rumbling, open bass with a mysterious quality that can send shivers.

Coincidentally, three of the songs on Sykes’ program for his Feb. 9 concert at Stanford University have the word “river” in the title. Perhaps not so coincidentally, together they epitomize his notable range.

An amanuensis of Arthur Copland includes “At the River,” Copland’s arrangement of the folk song. “You can’t get more American than that,” Sykes said admiringly of the late modern composer. Later comes Arthur Hamilton’s “Cry Me A River,” a timeless torch song from 1953. The third song, a dream for singers with a mighty lower register, is “Ol’ Man River” from the musical and film “Show Boat,” with music by Jerome Kern and lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II.

The program also includes American classical pieces by Charles Ives, spirituals, and songs in Spanish and Portuguese. One piece, “Lamento” by Sykes’ Brazilian friend Rique Pantajo, has no words; it’s all vocalise, sung in falsetto over an arpeggios played by pianist Mark Rice, who will be performing with Sykes.

Sykes has certainly established his credentials as a classical singer. His résumé includes performing with the Metropolitan Opera, the Deutsche Oper Berlin (he also speaks German), the Boston Pops, the London Symphony Orchestra and the Los Angeles Philharmonic. Still, he doesn’t find his musical versatility unusual. American singers absorb a particularly wide range of influences, from Springsteen to Run-D.M.C., he said.

“There are moments when I can’t get enough of Coltrane, but there are moments when I want to hear that Mahler again,” he said.

Perhaps Sykes’ most powerful influence is Linda Anderson. She’s the seventh-grade teacher who helped set him on his musical path and is still a friend.

Back at John Adams Junior High School in Southern California, Sykes was a shy kid who liked music and theater and was just realizing that “no one made fun of me when I sang.” Anderson introduced him to her favorite composers, Brahms and Mahler, and also helped him learn to appreciate Schubert, Bach and others.

She also taught him that singing isn’t just good technique; it’s communication. Singers have to know whom they’re singing to and what they’re saying. To this day, when Sykes begins learning a new song, he looks at the lyrics first.

“When you look at Bob Dylan, there’s not a great voice; it’s about storytelling, the message,” Sykes said. “Sometimes classical music is just a glorious voice with nothing underneath.”

Sykes’ flair for storytelling means he hasn’t given up the role-playing that he loved as a child. During the 2006-07 season, for example, he played the dope peddler Sportin’ Life in the Michigan Opera Theatre’s production of “Porgy and Bess.”

A writer for the Detroit Free Press said Sykes “nearly stole the show... strutting and twirling across the stage in his snazzy white suit with oily charisma and singing... with full-throated ardor, rhythmic looseness and inspired gestures.”

These days, Sykes balances performing and touring with time at home in Southern California with his wife and children. He says he doesn’t have any special tricks or warm-ups to keep his voice healthy; instead, he goes running and drinks lots of water to stay generally fit.

While on tour, he’s hardly the rowdy guitar-smasher. Instead, when he has a busy schedule, he focuses on giving his voice a reprieve between gigs. There’s a lot of resting and meditating alone in hotel rooms. “It’s a lonely life,” he said. “You can’t really put your voice in a box and go out and walk and talk.”

But songwriting is another way to communicate, and Sykes has been doing more of that lately. He recently recorded an original song called “Captured,” a love song about a guy who’s doing more of that lately. He recently recorded an original song called “Captured,” a love song about a guy who’ll do anything for his girl, even stopping the sun.

Sykes is not sure when he’ll release the song, but he knows just how to describe it. It’s a folk song, he says, that’s also “a cross between jazz and R&B.”

What: Baritone Jubilant Sykes performs a varied program of music, including classical and folk music and spirituals, presented by Stanford Lively Arts.

Where: Dinkelspiel Auditorium, Stanford University

When: 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 9

Cost: Tickets are $38/$42 for adults and $19/$21 for Stanford students, with other discounts available.

Info: Go to livelyarts.stanford.edu or call 650-725-ARTS.

To hear clips of Jubilant Sykes singing two songs — one by Bruce Springsteen and one traditional gospel/blues number — go to arts editor Rebecca Wallace’s blog, Head for www.Palo AltoOnline.com and scroll down to Ad Libs.

Le Petit Trianon Theater  •  72 North Fifth St., San Jose

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Friday, February 8, 2008, 8pm

Ludwig van Beethoven - Quartet in F, Op.59, No.1

Franz Joseph Haydn - Quartet in C, Op.20, No.2

Winter Concert Series - Composing in Isolation

Tickets are $38/$42 for adults and $19/$21 for Stanford students, with other discounts available.

Info: Go to livelyarts.stanford.edu or call 650-725-ARTS.

What: Wintertime Quartet presents

Franz Joseph Haydn - Quartet in C, Op.20, No.2

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St. Mark’s Episcopal Church  • 600 Colorado Ave., Palo Alto

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Jodi Levitz, Viola - Bettina Mussumeli, Violin - Susan Freier, Violin - Stephen Harrison, Cello

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Franz Joseph Haydn - Quartet in C, Op.20, No.2

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Ludwig van Beethoven - Quartet in F, Op.59, No.1

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Behind the Iron Curtain

Ukrainian native Henry Landa draws on life experiences in ‘Emil Bontash’

By Andrea Pyka

Henry Landa stands out from the business workers filing into Starbucks on a recent afternoon. The 77-year-old Ukrainian émigré, retired engineer and first-time novelist looks unassuming in a green jacket with a software logo, newspaper tucked under his arm. As the place fills, he decides to shift outside to one of the sidewalk tables on Castro Street.

Landa, a Mountain View resident for 16 years, retired three years ago and found himself with plenty of energy and a lifetime of stories. So he dedicated his time to reaching out to the community in a variety of ways — by volunteering, for example, at City Hall and the Computer History Museum. Also, by bringing his stories to an American audience.

To that end, Landa recently released the English version of his novel, “Emil Bontash: The Soviet Chronicle” — the quasi-autobiographical tale of one man living in the Soviet Union in the mid-1900s.

The book was originally published in 2001 in Russian under the title “Bontash.” Landa has since translated the text into English, and released it through Lulu, an online self-publishing company. I want people to read about me here and not only in Russia,” he said.

The tale, told in diary form, relates Emil Bontash’s innermost thoughts as he lives an everyman sort of existence. The character’s musings are often philosophical — “Music intensifies comprehension and sensitivity only, and, being in unison with mood, converts the hard into the unbearable” — and the pace of the story is unhurried.

Landa says many books about the Soviet Union exploit Russian murders and horror stories of the time. In contrast, his novel focuses on the real-life stories and struggles of everyday people in the Soviet regime.

“I want to show that people like Emil fail in life, but that failing in one way can be better than prospering in another,” Landa said. He went on to explain that his book centrally deals with questions of love, profession and ethnic relations in the Soviet Union.

“Similar to a picture, (my) book creates its own color and mood,” Landa said. In fact, the author also produced the black-and-white drawings that separate the chapters in “Bontash.”

Both versions of the novel are divided into two parts. The first, “The Diary of the Careless Youth,” is composed of seven notebooks written by Emil Bontash. The second, “The Glance from the Height,” is a series of short stories from 1954 through 1989. Throughout, Emil Bontash tries to uncover the mystery of human relationships and to maintain his beliefs and ideals in a Soviet society.

Like Bontash, Landa began his career as a mechanical engineer after graduating from the Kiev Polytechnic Institute in Ukraine, and went on to earn a Ph.D. in machine tools in Moscow. In 1989, he moved to the United States and continued to work as an engineer.

Today, Landa lives a quiet, thoughtful life on Oaktree Drive in Mountain View. With more than 40 scientific papers and one novel under his belt, he says his writing is currently on hold. “People always ask me what else I want to write,” he said, “but I simply answer: I have written everything that I wanted.”

Andrea Pyka writes for the Mountain View Voice, one of the Weekly’s sister papers.

Info: To order or download “Emil Bontash: The Soviet Chronicle” written by Henry Landa, go to www.lulu.com and search under the key word “Bontash.”

Call for Entries

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Palo Alto Weekly • Friday, February 1, 2008 • Page 15
The Emerson String Quartet performs at Stanford University next Wednesday.
Eating Out

Executive chef Ryan Fillhardt prepares a dish in the Cantankerous Fish kitchen.

Hankering for Cantankerous
Revitalized Castro Street fish house is bigger, better
by Andrew MacLeod Doschuk

Frankly, I still don't get it. After enjoying many memorable evenings at the Cantankerous Fish since it debuted in 2003, I have yet to discover the orneryentrée or annoying appetizer that inspired the restaurant's name. Admittedly, a waiter was a tad aloof, but that's no reason to blame the fish, which happens to be the focus of one of my favorite menus on Castro Street.

Last July the restaurant expanded into the adjacent retail space vacated by the Napoleon At Home gallery, and underwent a major overhaul, nearly doubling in size. The owners added tables, expanded the bar, created a lounge, built new bathrooms, erected a freestanding host station, and created an overflow/private party dining room. The menu also underwent a face-lift, with new chef Ryan Fillhardt offering a satisfying range of dishes without overwhelming diners with choices.

Our first meal started with a bang when the maître d' recommended the Firecracker ahi tuna tempura roll ($7). Served on a long, rectangular plate, the roll was cut into eight seaweed-wrapped rice rounds that had been fried in a delicate batter. These were propped between two squiggles of aioli (Srirachi chili and green wasabi sauces), and garnished with a mango-pepper-onion ratatouille, which offered a nice cool-down after the spicy zig of the roll.

We also sampled a pair of bay shrimp and mango spring rolls ($9), which arrived similarly plated. They were cut into thin wedges whose extreme angles exposed a well-brimming with sautéed shrimp, mango, pepper jack cheese and poblano chilies. It looked sumptuous. The deep-fried crust was dry to the touch, and the rolls were served at room temperature with sprinkled hoisin sauce and more mango ratatouille.

For the next course, we split a Caesar salad ($8), a simple preparation with just a few crisp leaves of young lettuce, thin Parmesan shavings, and an anchovy balanced on top. It was refreshing without blur, although we loved the spinach salad ($8): a cooled pool of balsamic vinagrette, sprinkled with candied pecans and peppery green apple juliennes, topped with mild, warm goat cheese, and dressed in a honey tarragon Dijon mixture that delivered a nice kick.

Our entrees included the andouille sausage and shrimp penne pasta ($16), served steaming in a deep, white bowl. Mild, bite-sized sausage slices were tossed with plump shrimp, penne, savoury mushroom chunks and fennel leaves in a tomatony cream sauce. Flavors were fresh and explosive, but the sauce dominated the palette. No matter — you'll want to sop it up with a piece of bread.

While the Cantankerous Fish's seafood jambalaya ($20) is hardly traditional, it's satisfying none-the-less. Fillhardt de'emphasized the "dirty" rice — which is fluffy and dampened with a tomato broth — and loaded the plate with scallops, prawns, clams, mussels and andouille sausage. The seafood was perfectly steamed to render it meaty rather than cloy or soft. The Southwestern snapper ($19) was a pleasant surprise. Broiled and served atop a hash featuring chorizo, potobello mushroom and red peppers, the snapper was slathered with a generous portion of tomatony guacamole. With all three layers on a forkful, the juxtaposed tastes and textures are fantastic: from firm and fleshy snapper to smooth and refreshing guacamole, to the snap of chorizo and peppers. I'll definitely order this again.

I wasn't nearly as enthused about the crab-stuffed baked Idaho trout ($21), which arrived wearing its "dirty" rice — which is fluffy and refreshing guacamole, to the nap of chorizo and peppers. I'll definitely order this again.

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We finished with bananas Foster ($9), a mound of banana nutty bread, slightly crusty outside and chewy inside, with occasional macadamia crunches. A creamy, rich soufflé melted seductively into warm chocolate goo in the mouth, while a scoop of tart raspberry gelato provided the perfect complement. A Grand Marnier anglaise was dribbled over the top just to make it as indulgent as possible.

And speaking of indulgence, every dish we ordered came in more than an ample portion. All ingredients were uniformly fresh, the wine list offered a good selection, the re-decorated ambience was elegant — even the live music was cool. The Cantankerous Fish has always been a great dinner destination, and it's only gotten better.

Restaurant Review
The Cantankerous Fish
420 Castro St., Mountain View
(650) 965-6124
www.thecantankerousfish.com

Hours: Mon. 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m., Tues.-Wed. 11:30 a.m.-11 p.m., Thurs.-Sat. 11:30 a.m.-11 p.m., Monday-Sunday. 5:30-10 p.m.

ON THE WEB: Hundreds of restaurant reviews at www.PaloAltoOnline.com

NOW SERVING
Following are condensed versions, in alphabetical order, of longer restaurant reviews published in the Weekly over the past several years. This week's reviews begin where the list ended one week ago.

Juban, 712 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park
(650) 473-6458
Grills are built into each tabletop and the waitstaff is more than happy to let you know how long to grill the chicken and waitstaff is more than happy to let you know how long to grill the chicken and where best to place the scallops on the heat. Mon.-Thu., 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. and 5:30-9:30 p.m.; Fri.-Sun., 5-9:30 p.m. (Reviewed June 19, 1998)

Junnon, 50 University Ave., Palo Alto
(650) 329-9401
Junnon serves contemporary Indian cuisine, with highlights including the flat-iron steak. Its garlic-infused pomegranate molasses may be one of the year's best glazes. Also try the tandori halibut in coconut sauce. Desserts, though, lack spark, and the service is often less than knowledgeable. Lunch: Mon.-Fri. 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; Sat. noon-3 p.m. Dinner: Mon.-Thu., Sun. 5-10 p.m.; Fri.-Sat. 5:30-10:30 p.m. (Closed Monday for dinner). (Reviewed Feb. 14, 2004)

Kamei, 255 University Ave., Palo Alto
(650) 329-9401
Kan Zeman, 274 University Ave., Palo Alto
(650) 328-6245
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(650) 328-6245
The menu runs the gamut from teriyaki chicken to kalua pork to lumpia rolls. The menu runs the gamut from teriyaki chicken to kalua pork to lumpia rolls. The Southwestern snapper ($19) was a pleasant surprise. Broiled and served atop a hash featuring chorizo, potobello mushroom and red peppers, the snapper was slathered with a generous portion of tomatony guacamole. With all three layers on a forkful, the juxtaposed tastes and textures are fantastic: from firm and fleshy snapper to smooth and refreshing guacamole, to the snap of chorizo and peppers. I'll definitely order this again.

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King of Krung Siam, 194 Castro St., Mountain View
(650) 254-1788
Mountain View (650) 965-1059

Kirk's is reminiscent of an old '50s diner and considered by many to be the best burger in town. Kirk's is reminiscent of an old '50s diner and considered by many to be the best burger in town. Don't go without trying the fries and the "munch-

restauranteur Kosuke Kamei has a large menu that goes beyond Asian specialties. Daily 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sat. 11:30 a.m.-11 p.m. (Closed Monday for dinner). (Reviewed Feb. 14, 2004)

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2:30-4:30 pm or 6:30-8:30 pm

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Eating Out

[continued from page 19]

8226  Every neighborhood needs a taqueria. The food is quick, cheap and basic, and while it's not haute cuisine it rarely disappoints. The expansive menu includes chicken mole, tamales, enchiladas and flatbread pizzas as well as tacos, burritos, chips and salsa, salads and kids' meals. Sun.-Wed. 11 a.m. to 9 p.m; Thurs.-Sat. 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. (Reviewed Aug. 26, 2005)  MacArthur Park, 27 University Ave., Palo Alto (650) 322-9920

MacArthur Park offers traditional American fare in a sunlit Julia Morgan-designed building. Signature dishes include mesquite-grilled barbecued chicken and ribs, accompanied by great fries and cole slaw. Interesting appetizers include ahi tuna poke and sautéed mussels with garlic sautéed greens. The appealing, all- mood California wine list features many boutique wineries. Hearty prices abound. Mon.-Fri. 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; dinner menu only after 2:30 p.m.; Sat. dinner only 5-10 p.m.; Sun. buffet 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; then open until 10 p.m. (Reviewed Jan. 30, 2004)  Madison & Fith, 367 University Ave., Palo Alto (650) 323-3900

Another upscale, wood-burning Italian restaurant for Pal Alto. This one is over-priced and lacks substance, although some of the desserts are standouts and the seared tuna carpaccio is well recommended. For sweets, try the fried ravioli: a delicious crispy hot coat with a creamy spinach filling. Open daily; lunch 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m.; dinner 5-11 p.m. (Reviewed Sept. 15, 2006)  Main Street Cafe & Books, 134 Main St., Los Altos (650) 948-9040

Along with a selection of taste-Testing hardback and paperback books, the cafe offers breakfast, soups and salads, sandwiches, cakes and beverages (including a wine list). Options include French toast, Belgian waffles, garden burgers and smoothies. Mon.-Sat. 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun. 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m. (Reviewed May 24, 2002)  Maltby's, 301 Plaza North, Los Altos (650) 947-8777

A family-friendly, moderately priced restaurant. Maltby's is a welcome addition to Los Altos's casual dining scene. The beer list is long and inviting, the sandwiches are big and filling. Lunch Mon.-Sat. 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.; dinner daily 5:30-8:30 p.m. (Reviewed May 24, 2002)  Mandarin Classic, 397 Main St., Los Altos (650) 948-8996

Mandarin Classic, which serves Shanghai, Szechwan and Hunan specialties, is lavishly decorated with bouquets of silk flowers and a grand piano. Daily. Lunch 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m.; Mon.-Fri. Dinner 4:30-9:30 p.m.; Sat.-Sun. 4:30-9:30 p.m. (Reviewed Oct. 13, 2006)  Mandarin Gourmet, 420 Ramona St., Palo Alto (650) 328-8899

Mandarin kitchen featuring excellent pot stickers, tasty won tons in hot oil, great tangerine chicken and beautifully prepared fresh vegetables. Small but serviceable wine list. Attractive, contemporary dining room is decorated with Chinese artifacts. Full bar. Comfortable. Great for families. Lunch Mon.-Sat. 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; Dinner Mon.-Sat. 5:10 p.m.; Sun. 5-9:30 p.m. (Reviewed Nov. 14, 2002)  Mango Caribbean Restaurant, 435 Hamilton Ave., Palo Alto (650) 324-9443

Mango Caribbean Restaurant serves dishes including curried goat, BBQ shrimp on mango salsa, fried plantains and jerked chicken. Blended island drinks and sangria are part of the beverage fare. Sun.-Wed. 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Thurs.-Sat. 11 a.m.-11 p.m. (Reviewed Oct. 13, 2006)  Mantra, 623 Emerson St., Palo Alto (650) 323-3900

Mantra serves California-Indian fusion cuisine in a well-appointed, contemporary dining room. Konkani mussels and Shrimp Vihalakku are great starters. Suzi Nadir-gadh. Chicken Molee and the mixed grill are excellent. House-made ice cream is dreamy. Chic bar area, excellent wine list. Dinner: Sun.-Wed. 5-10 p.m; Thurs.-Sat. 5-11 p.m.; Lunch; Thurs.-Fri. 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. (Reviewed Dec. 8, 2006)  Marche, 898 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park (650) 324-9322

The French-fashioned menu here has recently been revamped, adding more of the restaurant's popular steaks, and dishes with Asian and South American nuances. Stylish but pricey. Marche offers excellent main courses such as New York steak and pan-roasted halibut. You may want to add a side dish, as main dishes don't come with a lot of frills. Expense-account wine list. Tues.-Sat. 5:30-10 p.m. (Reviewed May 11, 2007)  Mario's Pizza and Italian Restaurant, 851 Los Altos Drive, Mountain View (650) 988-0400

Mario's may be hard to find, but it's well worth it. You'll be well taken care of (recent visitors got a surprise dessert) and served such hearty Italian food as buttter nut squash ravioli and ricotta-stuffed shells with tomato cream sauce. The vegetable soup is a revelation, with mellow, rich flavors. Lunch Mon.-Fri. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Dinner Thurs.-Fri. 5-9 p.m. (Reviewed Oct. 13, 2006)  Maru Ichi Japanese Noodle House, 368 Castro St., Mountain View (650) 964-9931

Hot and flavorful soups, efficient service and good prices keep this no-frills noodle house full at lunchtime. Highlights include tonkotsu ramen and the hot udon noodle soup. Mon.-Fri. 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m. and 5-10 p.m.; Sat. 11:30 a.m.-11 p.m.; Sun. 11:30 a.m.-9 p.m. (Reviewed April 16, 2004)  Mario’s Pizza and Italian Restaurant, 851 Los Altos Drive, Mountain View (650) 988-0400

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Movies

Movie reviews by Jeanne Aufmuth, Tyler Hanley and Susan Tavernetti

The Diving Bell and the Butterfly ★★★★★
(CinéArts) Painter-turned-filmmaker Julian Schnabel has transformed a seemingly unfilmable subject into a daringly imaginative and life-affirming film. In English and French with English subtitles. 1 hour. 37 minutes.

Over Her Dead Body ★★½
(Century, Century 20) “Ghost” gets a romantic-comedy redo with two of the hits among teen female fanatics, “Desperate Housewives” seductress Eva Longoria Parker. Writer/director Jeff Lowell borrows liberally from the 1990 Patrick Swayze tear-jerker, turning “Over Her Dead Body” into little more than a pale imitation. But a charming cast and some witty humor help rescue the otherwise lackluster flick.

The Bucket List ★★★★
(Century, Century 20) Even A-list heavyweights Jack Nicholson and Morgan Freeman can’t save this terminal tearjerker from itself. Edward Cole (Nicholson) is a cantankerous health-care mogul who owns the hospital where he’s being treated for inoperable cancer. Cole is brokered to share a room with dying auto mechanic Carter Chambers (Freeman). Their treatments and close quarters offer the pair of grumpy old men plenty of opportunity to share their disappointments and their dreams. As fate would have it, both men are left to face their final days. The relationship dynamics often feel unrealistically perfect, especially between Henry and Kate, but slapstick humor and contrived plot points often dilute that interest. And Kate ultimately draws the most empathy, despite her incessant and unfair badgering of Ashley.

Rudd deserves better material than a comedic retread, but “Over Her Dead Body” isn’t bereft of soul.

Rated: PG-13 for sexual content and language. 1 hour, 35 minutes.

— Tyler Hanley

OPENINGS

27 Dresses ••• ½
(Century, Century 20) Perpetual bridesmaid Jane Nichols (Katherine Heigl) eats, sleeps and breathes the elusive enchantment of weddings. Jane is such a fan that friends and acquaintances look to her for all manner of arduous nuptial planning. To make matters worse, this sincere singleton toils in the toga-filled ghetto while nurturing an unhealthy crush on her clueless but hunky boss George (Edward Burns). Salvation arrives in the form of Jane’s sister Tess (Mallary Axamian), a flighty supermodel who’s just what the doctor ordered for support and distraction. At least that was the plan. Tess and George fall head over heels on sight, leaving Jane with a clunky flash to her fan- tasees and yet another invitation to duty as a not-so-merry maid. Enter Kevin (James Marsden), a cynical journalist who meets Jane at a friend’s wedding and considers her plight perfect fodder for his “Commitments” column. There’s nothing new to his Cinderella story that telegraphs its routine complications with little enough to its formulaic forerunners. Fortunately the conventional elements are cobbled together with perky panache. And then there are the dresses — 27, to be exact. They’re truly testaments to the romantic secondary and homage to the girls who don’t always finish last. Rated: PG-13 for language and mature themes. 1 hour, 47 minutes. — J.A. (Reviewed Jan. 18, 2008)

Alvin and the Chipmunks •••••
(Century, Century 20) The phrase “pleas- ant surprise” fits perfectly for this charming film about three harmonic chipmunks and their reluctant caretaker. “Alvin and the Chipmunks” have been musical anomalies since the 1950s, with their helium-infused tunes. Here they get the modern big-screen treatment — impressive computer graphics, a likeable lead man (Jason Lee as Dave Seville) and even a smart script. Dave aspires to be a songwriter while suffering through a dull job. His production line (David Cross) is looking for something fresh while Dave keeps bringing cheesy ballads. Enter the chipmunks. When their forest-tree home gets chopped down and turned into a Christmas prop, the chipmunks hitch a ride with Dave. Once Dave hears the trio’s har- mony, he sees the answer to his songwriting woes. Ian, however, sees the adolescent chipmunks as an opportunity for merchandising dollars. The producer exhausts the singers through endless performances while Dave faces his own commitment and grows fond of the chipmunks. A family film with even clever dialogue to please adults is a gift indeed. Rated: PG for some mild language. 1 hour, 30 minutes. — T.H. (Reviewed Dec. 14, 2007)

Atonement •••• ½
(Century 16, Century 20) Pre-World War I England has never looked as lush as in this Wright’s intensely romantic drama. Based on Ian McEwan’s exceptional novel of the same name, “Atonement” reflects a simpler, easier time. Glamorous Cecilia Tombs (Keira Knightley) lives in the lap of luxury on her family’s country estate, feigning casual indifference to the attentions of the housekeeper’s handsome son, Robbie (James McAvoy). The vivid imagination of Cecilia’s younger sister, Briony (Sophia Rooney), sets narrative elements in motion. Briony, a willful sprite who spends hours at her typewriter churning out historic theater, discovers Robbie and Cecilia in a compromising position and, feeling slightly by a discovery far beyond her ken, tells a shocking lie with devastating consequences for all. In the grand tradition of such epic historical romances as “The English Patient,” “Atonement” is one of the year’s finest films. Rated: R for war violence, language and mature themes. 2 hours, 2 minutes. — J.A. (Reviewed Dec. 14, 2007)

The Bucket List ★★★★
(Century, Century 20) Even A-list heavyweights Jack Nicholson and Morgan Freeman can’t save this terminal tearjerker from itself. Edward Cole (Nicholson) is a cantankerous health-care mogul who owns the hospital where he’s being treated for inoperable cancer. Cole is brokered to share a room with dying auto mechanic Carter Chambers (Freeman). Their treatments and close quarters offer the pair of grumpy old men plenty of opportunity to share their disappointments and their dreams. As fate would have it, both men are left to face their final days. The relationship dynamics often feel unrealistically perfect, especially between Henry and Kate, but slapstick humor and contrived plot points often dilute that interest. And Kate ultimately draws the most empathy, despite her incessant and unfair badgering of Ashley.

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— Tyler Hanley

To view the trailers for “The Diving Bell and the Butterfly” and “Over Her Dead Body” go to Palo Alto Online at http://www.paloaltoonline.com/
Zekeria Ebrahimi lives a life of luxury as grace. Kabul circa 1978 is a cultural haven.

Marc Forester (“Finding Neverland” reviewed Dec. 21, 2007) Juno’s best-laid plans. Sweet, sassy and developing an awkward crush on Mark that progresses, an expanding Juno handles the terms of an “open” adoption. As the months nut.” The eager adoptees (Jennifer Garner of desperately seeking “baby-starved wing


The most up-to-date movie listings at www.PaloAltoOnline.com
finds himself wrong place, wrong time: In Loveable loser Llewelyn Moss taking. Rated: PG-13 for some violence and enriching tapestry. But a formulaic blueprint faithful to its source material, weaving an Abdalla) back to his shattered homeland urgent phone call from an old family friend dreams of becoming a writer. Years later an Amir and his father to relocate to Fremont, proud political scene makes it necessary for cowardice. The decay of Afghanistan’s is short-lived, tainted by a haunting act of a startling triumph. But the thrill of victory Kabul kite-flying ceremony, culminating in Hassan (Ahmad Khan Mahmidzada), the Ershadi). He pals around with best friend with Princep) is chattering on about an imaginary playmate and his clever, insidious games. philosophizing as Laura straddles both worlds between the form of a homicidal psychopath sport- who slowly, laconically, puts the pieces together, a step behind but progressively gaining ground. Mature, brilliant filmmaking at its finest. Rated: R for language and very intense violence. 2 hours, 2 minutes. — J.A. (Reviewed Jan. 4, 2008)

Persepolis ++/2 (The Iranian-bom Marjane Satrapi partners with underground comic artist Vincent Centarou to illustrate her eventful life in cinematic form. The film offers the unique perspective of growing up female in Iran, during the Islamic revolution and suffering through the war with Iraq. Daily life is a litany of contradictions. Marjane (voiced by Gabrielle Lopes), the only child of loving Marxist parents (voiced by Catherine Deneuve and Simon Abkarian), quickly learns that one can speak and behave differently at home than in public. A sausage grandmother (voiced by Julie Marjane Tai), a starting point for her own good, a treasure hunt gone sorely awry, and, after an angry exchange in which Simon discovers he has adopted, his disappearance. Laura will not accept the loss of her son and determines to locate him by delving into the realm of the supernatural, loss of her son and determines to locate him by delving into the realm of the supernatural, much to the consternation of her anxious husband (Fernando Cayo) who's convinced that position her as an outsider. Edifying and entertaining. “Persepolis” paints the personal within a political framework. The one-of-a-kind animated feature shouldn’t be missed. Rated: PG-13 for mature thematic references, language and brief drug content. 1 hour, 35 minutes. — S.T. (Reviewed Jan. 18, 2008)

Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street ++ (Century 16, Century 12) Todd (Johnny Depp), formerly known as 19th-century London niceman-guy Benjamin Barker, has revenge in the heart and soul. The sinister Judge Turpin (Alan Rickman) imprisons him and steals his wife and child in a vicious emotional coup. Years later Barker returns as alter ego Todd, barber and serial killer extraordinary, who’s hell-bent on destroying Turpin and recovering the affections of his daughter, now Turpin’s ward. Joining forces with Todd’s diabolical scheme is Nellie Lovett (Helena Bonham Carter), a trampy tavern owner renowned for her unappetizing meat pies. Lovett turns tragedy into big business, turning a fly-by-night profit by making minced meat of Todd’s unfortunate victims and packaging them as pies. Depp and Bonham Carter tumble their way through songs meant for those who can carry a tune, the rear is brought up by some genuine young talent (Jayne Wisener as the love-struck suitor, Anthony, and the extraordinary Edward Stansfield as raga- biker’s assistant Top). And it doesn’t stop there: the sicko’s next victim is seen bound and shackled with ropes serve only to exaggerate the chasm that will ultimately make him a millionaire. The townsfolk ultimately rally round the plan, hoping for a giant strike that will see them reeling in in dough. But the land rent is its own kind of hell. Visceral, volatile and epic. Rickman is a force of nature. He’s fantastic. 1 hour, 56 minutes. — J.A. (Reviewed Dec. 21, 2007)

There Will Be Blood ++ (Based on Paul Thomas Anderson playfully true to form in this raw, original work loosely based on Upton Sinclair’s 1927 novel “Oil” Dan Day-Lewis, and only Day-Lewis, possesses the essential gravitas to pull off what is sure to be an award-winning turn as Daniel Plainview, a wily wildcard in the turn-of-the-century west. As a crude of hustler, Plainview travels from town to town playing on the back of the rich black pitch that will ultimately make him a millionaire. Plainview pips big hopes on Sunday Ranch, a parcel of land that and that can be had for $6 an acre by virtue of a cunning snow job on the Sundays themselves, not to mention an entire community of skeptics and the Sunday’s semiretired son, El (Paul Dano). The townfolk ultimately rally round the plan, hoping for a giant strike that will see them reeling in in dough. But the rent is its own kind of hell. Visceral, volatile and epic. Rickman is a force of nature. He’s fantastic. 1 hour, 56 minutes. — J.A. (Reviewed Jan. 4, 2008)

Untraceable ++ (Century 16, Century 20) Diane Lane plays the role of Mandy Eskanazi, a brilliant profiler and FBI agent who slowly, laconically, puts the pieces together, a step behind but progressively gaining ground. Mature, brilliant filmmaking at its finest. Rated: R for language and very intense violence. 2 hours, 38 minutes. — J.A. (Reviewed Jan. 18, 2008)
The best of what’s happening on the Midpeninsula

**Goings On**

By black-and-white photographer Alan McGee. The exhibit will run through Feb. 28, 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Portola Art Gallery, 7 Arbor Road, Menlo Park. www.portolaartgallery.com


Winter 2008 Exhibitions “From Fire to the Forefront: Vessels from the Forrest L. Merrill Collection” and “Interwined: Contemporary Baskets from the Sara and David Lieberman Collection.” Through April 27, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. Palo Alto Art Center, 1311 Newell Road, Palo Alto. Call 650-929-2366. www.paaac.org

**Benefits**

**Classical Guitar Benefit Concert** Joseph Bacon will play works of Dowland, Bach, Legnani, Sor, Albeniz and Piazzolla at a concert benefiting the WORLD Food Program of the LFN in Darfur and the Church World Service Emergency Food Aid program in Zimbabwe. Sat., Feb. 9, 8-10 p.m. Free. Willows offering. Ladera Community Church, 3300 Alpine Road, Portola Valley. www.ladera.org

LA/MV Bridge Benefit Lunch included in fee. Monies used for scholarships for girls ages 10-18 who live in temporary emergency camps at Stanford. Sat., Feb. 2, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. $35 per person. Call 650-487-6874.

Mimi Blais Performers Montreal pianist/multi-instrumentalist Mimi Blais performs ragtime, waltzes and more to help benefit the ABC California Fire Victim’s Fund. Thu., Feb. 14, 7-10 p.m. $25 general; $20 seniors; 16 and under free. First Baptist Church, 100 Middle Rd. Arbour, Menlo Park. Call 650-323-8544. www.firstbaptist.org

**Courses/Workshops**

Animal Communication Using Flower Essences Flower essences can be tools to help us access our inner wisdom in important ways. As taught by Lila Devi Stone, topics will include: OCD, rescue animals, excessive barking and more. Sat., Feb. 2, 1-3 p.m. $39 in advance, $45 day of event. East West Bookstore, 324 Castro St., Mountain View.

Cash For College Day Financial aid professionals will be on hand to answer individual questions and there will be workshops to help complete the Free Application For Federal Student Aid. This event geared for anyone planning to attend college. Sat., Feb. 2, 9-10 a.m.-noon Free. Cubberley Community Center, 4000 Middlefield Road, Room J-2, Palo Alto. Call 650-949-6987. www.fothill.edu/cld

Creating a School Garden Workshop on creating or sustaining a school garden. Sat., Feb. 9, 9:30-4 p.m. $30 includes lunch and book. EPA Charter School, 1285 Runnymede St., East Palo Alto. Call 650-938-9000 ext. 11. www.conexions.org/vnd/cooking

Ease Low Back Pain This class on the Alexander Technique will focus on becoming aware of habits of pattern movement that may be at the root of low back pain. Taught by Michelle McVicar, certified Alexander teacher, M.A.MSAT, Tue., Feb. 5, 7:10-8:30 p.m. Free. Elephant Pharm, 4470 El Camino Real, Los Altos. Call 650-964-4308. www.elephantpharm.com/los-altos/info/3409964-4308.html

Easy Drip Irrigation Learn how to set up a drip irrigation system for your home or garden near an ornamental or vegetable garden. Instructor Bob Weissman, Sat., Feb. 2, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. $35 per couple. UCCE Master Gardener Palo Alto Demonstration Garden, 851 Center Drive, Palo Alto. Call 650-326-3105, mastergardeners.org/events

Folk-dance Class Folk-dance Club Marcel Vinokur, teacher. Tuesdays through March 25. Beginning class at 7 p.m.; intermediate at 7:30 p.m. New students accepted for both classes. $35 drop-ins. Burgess Recreation Center, 1431 Waverley St., Palo Alto. Call 650-329-1356 x201.

Fruit Tree Varieties Learn about variet- ies of peaches, nectarines, plums, plu- otos, apples, pears and pears. Sat., Feb. 10, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. $26. Common Ground Garden Supply and Education Center, 559 College Ave., Palo Alto. www.commongroundpaloalto.org


Soap Made Simple Melt-and-pour soap making. Students must bring a two-cup measuring cup, a dish towel and a snack. Sat., Feb. 2, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. $35. Palo Alto High School, 50 Embarcadero Road, Room 103, Palo Alto. Call 650-329-3725. www.paalds.org

Supportive Lighting Workshop on effective support through listening. Space is limited, advance registration required. Sat., Feb. 9, 9:30-12:30 p.m. Free. Bechtel International Center, Stanford University, 220 Mayfield Ave., Stanford. Call 650-714-3818. supportivelistening.org

**Community Events**


Cardiac Therapy Foundation Heart Health, Learning Fair Refreshments, exhibits and music by La Dolce Vita. Dr. Edward Liebman, MD will present “Cardio- logic 2008: New Insights and Treatments.” Sat., Feb. 2, 2-3 p.m. Free. Cubberley Community Center, 4000 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. www.cardiactherapy.org


Dawin Day Celebration All Darwin and evolution enthusiasts are invited to join in the Darwin Day Celebration. The title is “199 Years and Going Strong” in rec- ognition of the coming bicentennial of Darwin’s birthday. Presentations will be made by students and faculty. Sun., Feb. 10, 1-4:30 p.m. Free. Geology Community, Building 320 Room 105, On Stanford Campus. Main Quad, corner of Escon- dido Mall and Lomita Mall, Stanford. Call 650-723-9200.

Juana Run Palo Alto’s 12th Annual Juana Run in Barron Park, a family event for seri- ous and fun runners of all ages. Includes a certified 4K competitive race, kids races for elementary school participants and a one-mile race for everyone. Benefits the Tama PTA and Gunn Sports Boosters. Sat., Feb. 9, 8-10 a.m. $6; $5; $4; Kids Races: $10. Juana Briones Elementary School, 4100 Oriole St., Palo Alto. www.juanarun.org

Lunar New Year Celebration Emerson School in Palo Alto will be having their Lunar New Year celebration, immediately following will be an open house/parent forum for prospective parents and students. Tue., Feb. 12, 4-7 p.m. Free. Emerson School, 2200 W. Bayshore Road, Palo Alto. Call 650-424-1267. www.headsup.org

**CALENDAR LISTINGS**

e-mail editor@paweekly. com; fax (650) 326-3592. Attn: Editor or mail to Palo Alto Weekly, 705 High St., Palo Alto, CA 94301.

**QUESTIONS?**

If you have questions, call the reception desk at the Palo Alto Weekly between 8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. weekdays, (650) 326-8210. After hours, you may press zero and leave a message in the general mailbox.

**For complete Calendar listings, go to www.PaloAltoOnline.com and click on “Master Community Calendar.”**

**CALENAR.** Information for Weekly and Master Community Calendar listings must now be submitted online. Please go to www.PaloAltoOnline. com, click on “Master Community Calendar,” and then click on “Submit a listing.” Listings are published in the paper only if they are available online.

**NEWS.** The online form is for Calendar listings only. To submit information for possible use elsewhere in the paper, send it the usual way.
El Camino Youth Symphony
Alto. Call 650-856-8432.
Berg Theater, 780 Arastradero Road, Palo Alto. Palo Alto City Lib.

Crosspulse Rhythm Duo at Atherton Li-
brary. Picnics, box lunches and sidewalks are all in order for the late-June "Cross-
pulse Rhythm Duo at Atherton Li-
brary." Featuring Leo Ostmi's "Cross-
pulse Rhythm Duo" and Joseph "Quartet in O. No. 2," 8 and 2". Thursday, June 27, at 7 p.m. Free.
Atherton Library, 1200 El Camino Real, Ath-
erton. Call 628-3242.

Singing in Isolation:
The Pacifica Singers. Family and
Parents Nursery School will be holding an open house for enrollment for the fall 2008 school year. The school is
cooperatively operated by parents, with
pre-kindergarteners ages 3 and up attend-
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The loss dropped Paly (5-3, 13-78) to join the rest of the SCVAL De Anza Division title race. For the first time since the end of the 2002-03 season, the Vikings are no longer unbeaten at home. And for the first time since ‘02, it now seems, Palo Alto will not win the SCVAL De Anza Division title.

It all came down to Wednesday night when the Vikings competed in their biggest game of the season, facing division-leading Cupertino while hoping to pull into a first-place tie. Unfortunately for Palo Alto, the Pioneers were hungrier, executed better and came away with a critical 47-29 victory.

The loss dropped Paly (5-3, 13-78) two games back of Cupertino (7-1) in the De Anza Division race with four league games remaining. If the Vikings hope to claim a sixth-straight league crown, it must win out and receive a lot of help.

It was Cupertino’s second win over Paly since Jan. 11. In their first meeting at Cupertino, the Pioneers also held Paly to 29 points in a 35-29 triumph.

“It’s hard to explain,” said Paly coach Peter Dignenbrook. “I’m not sure what happened.”

What happened was that Paly simply wasn’t focused for such a vital game and possibly believed it couldn’t lose at home. The Vikings last home loss was to Sacramento High (54-41) in the first round of the NorCal playoffs on March 11, 2003.

Now, Paly must somehow regroup, figure out all the things that went wrong on Wednesday and try to gain some measure of momentum heading into the Central Coast Section playoffs, which commence in a few weeks. Paly’s final league games are against Milpitas, Los Gatos and Menlo-Atherton.

**BOYS’ BASKETBALL**

**Paly’s streaks are over**

**Vikings suffer first home loss since ’03; title hopes nearly gone**

by Craig Wentz

Perhaps the toughest thing about streaks is protecting them. No one wants to be on the team that loses it. But, all streaks end eventually as members of the Palo Alto boys’ basketball team know all too well.

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(continued on page 29)

**Paly’s Noyola is more than a face in the crowd**

Senior soccer standout is recognized by Sports Illustrated this week

by Keith Peters

Teresa Noyola has been reading Sports Illustrated for as long as she can remember. While the Palo Alto girls’ soccer team midfielder never quite pictured herself in the magazine, she can now.

In fact, the 17-year-old Noyola is the featured athlete in this week’s “Faces in the Crowd” section of SI, which hits newstands Wednesday.

“I’ve seen ‘Faces in the Crowd’ and I’ve always known Sports Illustrated (continued on page 30)
Sports Shorts

BILL SIGNING . . . Former Stanford wide receiver/tight end Teyo Johnson never did catch a pass from Trent Edwards during a football game at Stanford. That’s bound to change next NFL season when the two join forces with the Buffalo Bills. Edwards earned the starting quarterback job as a rookie with the Bills this past season. Johnson, originally drafted by the Oakland Raiders after spending two years at Stanford, signed with the Bills on Tuesday and hopes to play pro ball for the first time since his release by the Arizona Cardinals during the 2005 season. “It’s a great opportunity and it’s a top drawer organization,” Johnson told Buffalobills.com. “I’m just looking forward to a chance to hopefully earn a spot on this team. I’ve been around the block so I know what I need to do to show that I’m ready to play and willing to do whatever it takes.” Johnson, who sat out last season after sustaining a calf injury with the Denver Broncos during training camp, has 26 catches for 288 yards and three touchdowns in 30 games. Johnson’s older brother, Stanford grad Riall Johnson, was a defensive end with the CFL’s Toronto Argonauts. Johnson’s final season on The Farm was during Edwards’ redshirt year. Both former Cardinal players will be working with yet another Stanford grad in Turk Schonert, who begins his first season as Buffalo’s offensive coordinator after spending two years as the team’s quarterbacks coach, his college position. As a senior at Stanford, Schonert led the nation in passing efficiency (164.5) and the Pac 10 in touchdown passes (19). He also set a school record for completion percentage at 67.1.

HOT STOVE BANQUET . . . Stanford grad and current Baltimore Orioles pitcher Jeremy Guthrie was named the Santa Clara County Hot Stove Pitcher of the Year during ceremonies on Tuesday night at the San Jose Elks Club. Stanford senior Brendan Domaracki and Cardinal freshman Kellen McColl were also among those honored. Domaracki shared the Lloyd Christopher Award, and McColl earned Frank Bettencourt High School Academic Achievement Award, named after the late long-time Menlo-Atherton High baseball coach.

SPORTS ONLINE
For expanded daily coverage of college and prep sports, please see our new site at www.PaloAltoOnline.com

Boys’ Basketball
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(continued on page 30)
Ales Clayton decided to wait a year before attending college; Carolyn McVeigh rushed through high school and arrived at Stanford a year ahead of schedule.

As far as Cardinal tennis coaches John Whitlinger and Lele Forood are concerned, both freshmen arrived on time.

The 20-year-old Clayton and the 17-year-old McVeigh (she turns 18 in April) have already established their potential in the world of college tennis, each gaining nine singles victories during the fall season and reaching at least the quarterfinals in two of the three tournaments entered.

Both are expected to infuse new life into their respective programs. Clayton, a star player in the junior circuit while attending school in New Haven, Connecticut, has carved a 9-3 record against some of the top collegiate players in the nation. She’s one of them now, ranked 58th entering the dual meet season.

A win in the quarterfinals of the NCTC Classic over sixth-ranked Maya Johansson of Georgia Tech led to a semifinal meeting with the Olympic selection camp.

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Boys’ hoops
(continued from page 27)

tos, Fremont and Gunn — schools that Paly beat up earlier in the year by the average score of 55-46.
The Vikings look to get back on track at Milpitas on Friday at 7:45
p.m.
“...The challenge of sports is dealing with tough times,” said Diepenbrock.
“If Cupertino slips, fine. If not, there are things we can work on.”
Paly attempted to press and trap the Pioneers early, but Cupertino had little
trouble getting across midcourt and setting up its offense. Cupertino led
20-14 at the half by connecting on nine of 21 shots, while the Vik-
ing could muster little rhythm by making five of 18 shots and miss-
ing numerous short attempts within seven feet.
Cupertino seized full control in the third quarter by producing a
13-5 run in the first 4:02 for a commanding 33-19 advantage. Paly scored
just 10 points in the game’s final 12:50.
Cupertino hit an efficient 17 of
36 shots (47 percent) for the game, including 4 of 9 three-pointers.
Paly made 10 of 41 (24 percent) field-goal attempts, was 2 of 11 (18
percent) from three-point range and connected on only 7 of 19 (36 per-
cent) free-throw attempts.
In the January 11 matchup, Paly held Cupertino scoreless for 10
minutes on 0-18 shooting en route to a seemingly comfortable 24-14 lead.
Yet, Cupertino made the big shots at the end and clamped down on
defense for the win. In that game, Paly was 12 of 34 from the field. In
the two games versus Cupertino, the Vikings made only 22 of 74 (33 per-
cent) field-goal attempts and its press had little effect on the Pioneers.
Paly senior guard Mike Scott suf-
f ered an ankle sprain in the first
quarter and a 14-0 run bridging the third
and fourth periods.
Powell. He scored 12 points, but was
the focus of Cupertino’s defensive
attention along with Scott. Every
time either had the ball inside, the
Pioneers collapsed on them with
three or four players.
Rarely was the case either had an
open shot, which reflects what kind
of shot the Vikings have at defend-
ing their title — not a good one.
PSAL
Woodside Priory swept aside
another big hurdle in the way of a
second straight Private Schools Ath-
tletic League title with a 46-28 vic-
tory over visiting King’s Academy
on Wednesday.
King’s nearly upset Priory last
Friday after the Panthers put on a
furious rally to force overtime and
then win it.
The rematch was not nearly as
close as the Panthers (10-0, 16-4)
held a 27-15 halftime advantage and
cruised from there despite having
7-2 Greg Somogyi in foul trouble.
He eventually fouled out with six
points, but 6-9 Dinko Marshavelski
produced 12 points and Ignas Pa-
vilonis added 10 as Priory won its
30th straight PSAL game — start-
ing with the final four games of the
2005-06 season and including a
16-0 mark last year.
On Tuesday, Priory topped visit-
ing Fremont Christian, 66-23, as ju-
nior Kyle Berka tossed in 14 points and
Somogyi added 12.
Priory will host Pinewood on Fri-
day at 5 p.m. and then play host to
Harker on Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.
PAL South
Tuning up for Friday’s big show-
down at Carlmont, Menlo rolled
over host Sequoia on Wednesday,
61-16, as 12 Knights scored. Juniors
Will Tashman and Jerry Rice Jr.
combined for 19 points for Menlo
(6-1), which visits Carlmont
(6-1) on Friday (7:45 p.m.) to battle
for sole possession of first place in
the PAL South Division.
After two straight sub-50-point
games that resulted in losses, Men-
lo-Atherton exploded for an 80-30
victory over host Half Moon Bay on
Wednesday.
Brendan McGrath scored a sea-
son-high 24 points and Rich Bran-
ning added 22 as the Bears improved
to 5-2 in the division (13-9 overall)
and remained alive for a possible
co-title should Carlmont and Menlo
fal...
BOYS BASKETBALL
SCVAL De Anza Division
Cupertino 11 13 14 16 — 47
Palo Alto 7 7 9 10 — 25
Menlo-Atherton 5 3 5 3 — 16
St. Ignatius 0 0 1 1 — 2
Redwood Christian 1 4 8 10 — 23
Menlo 13 15 16 20 — 54
San Mateo 8 8 8 9 — 33

games, the only loss coming in four overtimes where he scored 19 points and tied the ball games, the only loss coming in four overtimes where he scored 19 points and tied

PHS — Chris Tam (A) by forfeit; 147 — Bliss (MA) p. Stocker; 142 — Al Basha (MA) by forfeit; 137 — M. Langi (MA) p. Stocker; 135 — T. Tam (A) by forfeit; 132 — Post by decision; 127 — Adham (MA) by forfeit; 126 — Byce (MA) p. Stocker; 123 — Adham (MA) by forfeit; 122 — Bigalke (unassisted).

Today's scores:

Paly — Casillas (MA) by forfeit; 162 — Graczyk by forfeit; 159 — Ludquist (MA) p. Stanton; 157 — Iwashita 10 0-1 21, Hayes 10 0-1 21, Stovall 6 0-2 15, Sontag 1 0-0 2, Shirey 4 0-0 8. Totals: 25 1-6 54.

Paly — Dumas (MA) by forfeit; 162 — Graczyk by forfeit; 159 — Ludquist (MA) p. Stanton; 157 — Iwashita 10 0-1 21, Hayes 10 0-1 21, Sontag 1 0-0 2, Shirey 4 0-0 8. Totals: 25 1-6 54.

Paly — Dumas (MA) by forfeit; 162 — Graczyk by forfeit; 159 — Ludquist (MA) p. Stanton; 157 — Iwashita 10 0-1 21, Hayes 10 0-1 21, Sontag 1 0-0 2, Shirey 4 0-0 8. Totals: 25 1-6 54.

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Prep roundup

(continued from page 29)

one for Gunn because of the physical play. "That was rough out there," Stapp said. "But we rose to the challenge and did what we needed to do to win."

It was a game the Titans got out to early lead and were never challenged, but never were able to completely get into their free-flowing style that has been in common in many of their victories.

Gunn led 19-5 after one period and 28-13 at half. The biggest lead of the game came at 54-23 with three minutes to go before Los Gatos made some late baskets to close the margin.

Elsewhere in nonleague action:

Given a preference, Castillo freshman Natasha von Kaeppler would rather set up her teammates than score herself. When the Gators had only six players available Monday night, being unselfish was not an option.

"With only six players available, she knew that she had to step up and contribute more offensively," said Castillo basketball coach Jez McIntosh. The 5-foot-11 von Kaeppler responded to the call with career highs of 19 points and 19 rebounds plus six assists and seven steals while helping Castillo post a 67-48 victory over visiting Marin Academy.

"She's always been an incredible defender and rebounder," McIntosh explained. "She's been more tentative offensively."

Being tentative was not an option Monday and von Kaeppler played a big role along with her sister, junior Ericka, and sophomore Eve Zelingar. Those three combined for 59 points.

Readies, a sharpshooting 6-foot guard, tallied 26 points with four steals, four assists and four blocks. Ericka von Kaeppler, a 6-foot post, added 14 points and 15 rebounds plus five blocks. Freshman Laura Rose, who scored the only other points, also had a career-high eight rebounds.

Castilleja (12-5) got off to a slow start as Marin Academy took an 11-4 lead after the first quarter. The Vikings (3-4, 6-11) moved into the lead at 19-15 with 5:22 left to play. The biggest lead of the game came at 27-22 with 3:22 left to play.

In the SCVAL De Anza Division, senior Liz Slater scored a game-high 17 points and grabbed a career-high 12 rebounds to lead Palo Alto to a 48-41 victory over visiting Mountain View on Tuesday night.

The Vikings (3-4, 6-11) moved into the lead at 19-15 with 5:22 left to play. The biggest lead of the game came at 27-22 with 3:22 left to play.

The Vikings finished the game with an 11-3 run to get the win. After leading by 14 at the break, Castilleja (12-5) got off to a slow start and was outscored 17-9 in the fourth quarter, but hung on for the 59 points.

"That was rough out there," Stapp said. "But we rose to the challenge and did what we needed to do to win."

It was a game the Titans got out to early lead and were never challenged, but never were able to completely get into their free-flowing style that has been in common in many of their victories.

Gunn led 19-5 after one period and 28-13 at half. The biggest lead of the game came at 54-23 with three minutes to go before Los Gatos made some late baskets to close the margin.

More sports on page 36

Sports

NOTICE OF VACANCY
ON THE ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD FOR ONE UNEXPIRED TERM ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2009
(Term of Grossman)

AND ONE TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT
MARCH 20-JUNE 19, 2008 (Term of Lee)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council is seeking applications for the Architectural Review Board from persons interested in serving an unexpired term ending September 30, 2009, and a temporary term from March 20-June 19, 2008.

The Architectural Review Board is composed of five members appointed by the City Council who serve without pay. Its goals and purposes are to: a) Promote orderly and harmonious development of the City; b) Enhance the desirability of residential investment in the City; c) Encourage the attainment of the most desirable use of land and improvements; d) Enhance the desirability of living conditions upon the immediate site or in adjacent areas; and e) Promote visual environments which are of high aesthetic quality and variety and which, at the same time, are considerate of each other. 

The Architectural Review Board is charged with design review of all new construction and additions to commercial, industrial and multiple-family projects.

Application forms and appointment information are available in the City Clerk's Office, 250 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto (Phone: 650-329-2571).

Deadline for receipt of applications in the City Clerk's Office is 5:30 p.m., Thursday, February 14, 2008.

Palo Alto Residency is not required.

DONNA J. ROGERS
City Clerk

Palo Alto Weekly • Friday, February 1, 2008 • Page 31
235 Wanted to Buy
Antique dollhouse $400

237 Barter
Call Smoking Today

240 Furnishings_HDR-Itemized _Household items
2 Suitcases and Laptop case
Aromatherapy home blend: free
BUFFET PECAN WOOD $150.00
towel warmer $40.00

500 Help Wanted
500 Help Wanted
500 Help Wanted

540 Home Help Needed
Housekeeper Seasonal Housekeeper Needed F/T for busy, multi-staffed home in Woodside. Mon - Fri, exp. working in a fine home with references is a must. Must be comfortable with large family. Walk-ins are not possible as there are both in the home. Top Salary. T&C required.

550 Business Opportunities
Anti-aging Opportunities Market at local pharmacy & home. 2005 Winter & decades of research in epigenetics to protect your DNA. Contact Dean 408-250-2580

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604 Adult Care
604 Adult Care
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620 Domestic Help
620 Domestic Help
620 Domestic Help

648 Horses-Boarding/Training
Learn To Rope With Ed Cohn
648 Horses-Boarding/Training

650 Architecture/Design
650 Architecture/Design
650 Architecture/Design

673 Fences & Gates
673 Fences & Gates
673 Fences & Gates

743 Tiling
743 Tiling
743 Tiling

748 Gardening/Landscaping
748 Gardening/Landscaping
748 Gardening/Landscaping

754 Gutters
754 Gutters
754 Gutters

757 Handyman
757 Handyman
757 Handyman

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CARPET
• Commercial

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CONSTRUCTION

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Geraldine Brooks
People of the Book
Tuesday, February 5, 7:30 p.m.
From the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of March, the journey of a rare, illuminated prayer book through centuries of war, destruction, theft, loss, and love.

Don’t miss these other exciting author events!

Dominique Rendo and Brooks Anderson
Swimming in Open Water
Monday, February 4, 7:30 p.m.

Bill Hayes
The Dream Weaver: One Boy’s Journey of a Rare Condition
Wednesday, February 6, 7:30 p.m.

Rafiq Dossani
India Arriving: How This Economic Powerhouse Is Redefining Global Business
Thursday, February 7, 7:30 p.m.

Richard Thompson Ford
Business Powerhouse Is Redefining Global India Arriving: How This Economic Powerhouse Is Redefining Global Business
Thursday, February 7, 7:30 p.m.

Irvin D. Yalom
Old Friend from Far Away: The Story of a Psychiatrist and His Patient
Wednesday, February 15, 7:30 p.m.

Bill Hayes
Swimming in Open Water
Wednesday, February 20, 7:30 p.m.

Jack Bowen
ADHD and Me: What I Learned from Lighting that Tutu!
Wednesday, February 20, 7:30 p.m.

Kelly Corrigan
You’ll Be Dead Before I Ever Let You Go
Monday, February 25, 7:30 p.m.

Don’t miss these other exciting author events!

Special Family Event!
Blake E. Taylor
ADHD and Me: What I Learned from Lighting the Dinner Table
Monday, February 25, 7:30 p.m.

Residents of the San Francisco Ballet
with Starry Night in the sky
Saturday, February 16, 7:30 p.m.

Kepler’s Story Time every Sunday at 11:30 a.m.

Before we build anything...