

Palo
Alto

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Weekly

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**Water prices
to double in
next decade**

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Rick Walker was wrongfully
imprisoned for 12 years.

Now he says it made
him a **better
man.**

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Upfront

Local news, information and analysis

Water prices may double in next decade

With costly seismic improvements ahead for system, city plans to increase conservation

by Arden Pennell

A snowflake in the high Sierras melts into a stream, flows down hundreds of miles of gravity-driven rivers and pipes and

finally pours out a tap in Palo Alto. If only it were that simple. The poetic, school-child narrative is true, but water is also in a precari-

ous position. And in the future, it could also be far pricier, pending enactment of a new plan from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC).

The agency that supplies pristine water from Yosemite National Park to many Bay Area cities — including Palo Alto — released last week its latest plan to protect water sup-

plies from a major earthquake.

The plan includes 37 renovations or flat-out rebuilds of pipes and reservoirs by 2015 for a total of \$4.4 billion.

Who will pay? The drinkers.

To fund upgrades to the 70-year-old water system, household water rates in Bay Area cities served by the utilities commission are likely

to double between now and 2018, officials say.

For Palo Alto, that may mean a household increase from about \$69 to \$127 per month, according to Jane Ratchye, the assistant director for resource management in the city's utilities department. It could

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SCHOOLS

High school bike riders on the rise

Jammed bike racks facing issues of safety, security

by Allen Clapp

It could be the surging tide of freshmen flooding into Palo Alto's high schools or it could be the greening of the local student body. But whatever the reason, a record number of students at Paly and Gunn are getting to school on two wheels these days, causing crowds at the bike racks.

Recent counts by PTA members and city program managers show 632 students biking to Gunn and 520 cycling to Paly on a regular basis, up from last year's numbers of 495 and 433 respectively.

The sudden 25 percent increase at Gunn and nearly 20 percent increase at Paly over last year has taken students and authorities by surprise, jamming bike racks to overflow capacity, according to Paly PTA traffic safety representative Rich Swent.

"It's a good problem to have," Swent said.

But the unexpected volume is creating issues of capacity, safety and security, Swent said.

President of the Paly Bike Club, Julian Pitt, concurs. "It's definitely noticeable. The racks are so over-filled the bikes won't all fit. They're spilling out into other areas of the campus.

"It makes you wonder why the school district isn't investing in more bicycle parking," the Paly junior said.

Over at Gunn, a new bike parking cage was installed last year.

"It's full now," according to Christine Fawcett, a Gunn PTSA traffic safety representative.

According to Swent, the school district is working on a solution, but "not fast enough for the students," he said.

Swent's daughter, a student at

(continued on page 9)



Dan Sullivan

Father George Aranha of Our Lady of the Rosary blesses Miguel Cardenas and his dog during a blessing of the animals Oct. 5.

COMMUNITY

Blessed are the furry and feathered

Palo Alto churches celebrate the spirit of St. Francis

by Karla Kane

When young Miguel Cardenas held up his two pet turtles, Crash and Squirt, to be drizzled with holy water Sunday, he was emulating a tradition dating back to St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals and the environment.

Blessing pets is a common practice in many Catholic dioceses, including Palo Alto's Our Lady of the Rosary, where Cardenas brought his turtles. Catholic churches generally hold pet blessings near the feast day of St. Francis, Oct. 4. Our Lady of the Rosary has held its an-

nual event for the past four years and intermittently for years before, according to the church staff.

"We've had all kinds of animals; it's so much fun and so cute," said Jean Ramacciotti, who is on Our Lady of the Rosary's pastoral staff.

In addition to the turtles, Sunday's 45-minute event drew about 20 dogs, three cats, three guinea pigs, two goldfish (in water bottles), photographs of a recently deceased cat, and one rat, named Thing Two. The owner of the rat, Ramacciotti said, also brought the remains of the rodent's sibling in

a wooden casket with the late rat's name, Thing One, engraved on it.

At Our Lady of the Rosary and elsewhere, the spirit of St. Francis is alive and well in Palo Alto this autumn. Unity Church and the Evangelical Lutheran Campus Ministry of Stanford University held their ceremonies last weekend. The First Christian Church of Palo Alto is planning its first pet blessing this Saturday.

According to Ramacciotti, the blessing celebrates St. Francis and the special bond between humans and animals.

"St. Francis was ahead of his time by hundreds of years in protesting cruelty to animals," she said.

The Our Lady event has been open to the community at large, and the pets, she joked, do not have to be Catholic or even Christian to participate.

Reverend Karyn Bradley of Unity Church has seen everything from lizards to dwarf hamsters.

The ceremony, she said, shows

"appreciation for the love of the animals in our lives and an acknowledgement of their beauty."

Bradley said she's found Palo Alto to be very pet friendly.

The Evangelical Lutheran pet-blessing event Sunday — which included 30 stuffed animals in addition to 20 live ones — included the singing of a hymn written by St. Francis.

"So often, public policy and church polity are focused on people only. This is a chance for us to say, 'We are in a sibling relationship with all of creation' and to remind ourselves of what that means for us and for creation," Pastor Greg Schaefer said.

First Christian Church of Palo Alto's event Saturday will be both a community service as well as a celebration for church members, said Wanda Smith, the church pastor's wife. She is planning to have a fair with several animal-rescue

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Our Town

by Don Kazak

American dreams

Isabel Aguirre and her four children were faced with a gut-wrenching decision last year.

They lived in Palo Alto. Her kids, who were born in the United States and hence are American citizens, went to Palo Alto schools. But Aguirre was "undocumented," not a U.S. citizen. Her husband, Pedro Ramirez, already had been deported back to Mexico.

"There was very intense terror and grief on this woman's face," remembers Weekly reporter Sue Dremann, who wrote several stories last year about the plight of Aguirre and her family.

Dremann recounted the episode last week at a forum on immigration at First Congregational Church in Palo Alto, sponsored by Multifaith Voices for Peace and Justice.

The dilemma Aguirre faced was whether to split up her family.

"She was torn between keeping her family together and staying to fight," Dremann said.

Eventually, she went back to Mexico with her American-born children.

There they faced a new problem: As American citizens, her kids couldn't enroll in Mexican schools. So her children have returned to the Bay Area.

The dilemma Aguirre and her family faced is being shared by thousands of families across the country. The parents may have entered the country illegally years ago but the children are American citizens.

ICE (the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement) has deported more than 20,000 people since May 2006, according to the Rev. Anthony McGuire, pastor of St. Matthew Catholic Church in San Mateo.

"Thousands of spouses and children are U.S. citizens," he said. "This is happening all over the country."

He told of a long-time youth-group leader at St. Athanasius Catholic Church in Mountain View who was recently deported despite the 600 people who came out in support of him and his work at the church.

Miriam Torres of East Palo Alto hopes someday to deal with these issues as an immigration lawyer. As a student at the University of California, Santa Cruz, Torres knows first-hand the difficulty of being undocumented. Her family entered

the country when she was 3. She has legal-resident status now, but she told about how difficult it was to get a college scholarship because she wasn't an American citizen.

Maria Sanchez lives with her family in Concord. She has been in America since 1992, and three of her five children were born here.

"We did not know what is was to have papers or not have papers," she told the audience last week (with Torres translating for her).

She went to an immigration lawyer and paid the lawyer \$11,000 to help her become a citizen. She didn't find out until after she paid the money that she was "actually paying for an order of deportation," she recounted.

Now, another lawyer is helping her.

"I came to this country with a lot of dreams for a better life for my children," she said.

"A lot of folks have been here a long time, they have homes and jobs," the Rev. William McGarvey, pastor of the Community Presbyterian Church of Pittsburg, Calif., said. "We were created as a place of immigrants, where people came to live out the American dream."

Community Legal Services, a nonprofit agency in East Palo Alto, has opened about 850 immigration cases for clients so far this year, according to interim Executive Director Victor Ramirez. That number has increased incrementally over the last two years, he said.

There haven't been any large-scale ICE raids in East Palo Alto over the last year or so, although individual families may have been arrested and deported, Ramirez said.

Many people who ask for help at the non-profit law agency opt to stay in the United States quietly. There is a huge disincentive to returning to Mexico, because they then cannot re-enter the United States for 10 years, Ramirez said.

Immigration is an emotional and political hot-button issue, seemingly without easy answers.

"Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free" doesn't seem to be the working message anymore. Maybe the Statue of Liberty needs a new inscription. ■

Senior Staff Writer Don Kazak can be e-mailed at dkazak@paweekly.com.

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Obama campaign energizes Palo Alto volunteers

Thousands flock to local headquarters to offer funds, time

by Sue Dremann

Palo Alto's biggest turnout of election volunteers — perhaps ever — is coming out for Barack Obama, according to Silicon Valley for Obama organizers and veterans of past elections.

More than 4,000 Palo Alto residents have flocked to the Palo Alto office of Silicon Valley for Obama, donated money or held phone-bank gatherings in homes throughout the city. Hundreds have flown to battleground states, helping locals in Nevada, New Mexico and Colorado canvass neighborhoods. And they pay their own airfare, according to local Obama organizers.

The Obama phenomenon, which has ignited a resurgence of voter interest throughout the entire spectrum of eligible voters, is as much about strategy as it is about the ideals of the candidate, organizers said.

And in Palo Alto, the heart of Silicon Valley, technology has turned grass-roots organizing into a well-oiled machine.

On Tuesday, the Palo Alto office of Silicon Valley for Obama resonated with the voices of 30 volunteers working the phones. Dialing through phone-bank lists, they tallied voters in New Mexico who say they will vote for the Democratic candidate for president Nov. 4. Each desk is equipped with a computer, phone and desk bell.

Linda Schuman hit the bell when she found a voter for Obama.

From the other side of the room, another desk bell went off, followed by a round of applause. Every bell ring is met with clapping, feeding the positive energy.

John Jacobs, a phone-bank coordinator, has come out for presidential elections since George McGovern ran in 1972.

"This same office was Northern California Democratic-party headquarters in 2004 when Kerry ran. But only a half-dozen or so people came out at any time, and there was no energy," he said.

But Obama's grass-roots approach has given volunteers a sense of empowerment — a sense that they are more than cogs in the machine, that their skills and creativity are wel-



Linda Schuman, left, and Harlan Crowder make calls to residents of New Mexico for Barack Obama's campaign from their office on El Camino Real Wednesday afternoon.

comed, he said. There is even an "Obama scribes" group of writers, which pens articles and press releases, he said.

"People put in 70 to 80 hours a week," he added.

Last Saturday, the office made a big push toward reaching New Mexico's voters, with close to 100 phone bankers.

"We made more than 9,000 calls on Saturday and broke our previous high on Sunday with more than 10,000 calls," Jacobs said. A tech team keeps the donated and borrowed computers humming.

The heart of the effort is the group's neighbor-to-neighbor network, where residents host home gatherings. Armed with personal computers and cell phones, they can go online and find the day's phone-bank lists and start dialing. A script and instructions outline how to approach potential voters. The goal isn't to sway voters, but to tally those who have decided to vote for Obama and to inform on-the-fence voters, Jacobs said.

Resident Jane Stern is a Downtown North team leader.

"It's so neat. You can be creative," Stern, who arrived to volunteer in August 2007, said. "We can go where our interests lie and suggest things."

Stern began by sending an e-mail blast to her neighbors, inviting them to come to her house. Seven initial responses have turned into 10 to 20 phone-bankers on some nights.

Stern has also traveled to battleground states. In Reno last weekend, more than 400 people stood in line to volunteer canvassing neigh-

borhoods.

Stern expects the relationships will continue to build even after the campaign.

"We'll never let each other go. We'll always stay connected based on the relationships built here," she said.

Owen Byrd, a longtime political activist in Palo Alto, co-manages Silicon Valley for Obama and was highly involved in the Kerry campaign.

"Everything is different. The level of interest and enthusiasm is the highest I've ever seen for anything — ever. There are more volunteers, more donors, more interested voters.

"Obama chose to run for president using the tools of a school-board race. That's either the craziest idea or the most brilliant," he said.

Out of Palo Alto's approximately 60,000 people, perhaps 35,000 are registered voters, or which 10,000 to 15,000 regularly vote, Byrd added.

"Five hundred to 1,000 are the most civically active. We have 4,000 volunteers in Palo Alto alone who have attended an event, given contributions or signed up online. That's a stunning number," he said.

The campaign has hit upon a yearning in the population for connectedness and the desire to build bonds around a common cause, he said.

"Civic engagement is one of the cornerstone principles of the Obama campaign. ... It's a very different way of thinking about our relationships. To each other, there's accountability and a common cause. It builds bonds between us that glue our civic life together. It's part of the fabric," he said. ■

Blessed pets

(continued from page 3)

and education organizations, in addition to the ceremony in the church courtyard.

Each animal will be blessed individually, with the pastor asking God to care for the pets and allow them to "fulfill their role on this earth," she said. Smith said the church is asking that all pets be on leash or contained for the safety of members of all species.

"We don't want any unintended sacrifices," she said.

Smith, who moved from Kansas in January, said she became familiar with the practice after studying ancient traditions and learning that farm animals were blessed to thank God for the help they offered and to ask for their continued service. In modern times, she said, pets fulfill an important role as companions.

She said excitement is high among pet-loving church members for the inaugural blessing. Though it is un-

known whether the pets feel the benefits of their blessings, it's a chance for people to show gratitude for the joys of pet ownership, she added.

"Honestly, it's as much to thank God for the blessings pets are to us as it is for them," she said.

First Christian, located on Middlefield Road in Midtown, will hold its pet-blessing event Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. ■

Editorial Assistant Karla Kane can be e-mailed at kkane@paweekly.com.

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QUOTE OF THE WEEK



People felt a sense of, 'How can this happen here?'

—David Schrom, Evergreen Park leader, on a fatal car crash that occurred despite the neighborhood's numerous road-safety devices. See story on page 9.

Around Town

BIRD-BRAINED ENCOUNTER

... Got turkey? A large white bird was seen running around Crescent Park yards on Monday evening in the vicinity of Hamilton Avenue between Lincoln and Chaucer streets. Resident **Katherine Pompili** e-mailed neighbors that the large white bird was "not of the fat-breasted Butterball variety" — but a strangely white wild bird. Some neighbors thought the bird could be a guinea hen. "I weighed the consequences of being ridiculed like those crazy residents of Atherton who make reading the police blotter the best part of the morning, but I decided if the bird was someone's escaped pet I thought I'd better call the police before someone decides to avoid the turkey-buying lines at Safeway. I had to preface my call to the laughing, non-emergency dispatcher with a promise that I hadn't been drinking Wild Turkey," she wrote.

Cantor Arts Center and the Main Quad, is now slated for demolition. In its place will rise a \$200 million Art and Art History Department, uniting the departments under one roof. The new building will be named in honor of longtime Stanford supporters **Deedee and Burt McMurty**, a former chairman of the Board of Trustees, who gave \$30 million for the effort. The university says the current Cummings Art Building is cramped for space and doesn't house the whole department. Simultaneously, interest in studio art courses has increased. The funding for arts came through the Arts Initiative, part of the five-year Stanford Challenge which is also earmarking funds for major initiatives in the environment, human health, international affairs, K-12 education and graduate and undergraduate education. No word on whether the new structure — for which planning has just begun — will be suitable for flashlight shenanigans.

ONCE MORE, UP FOR DEBATE

... So who "won" Tuesday's presidential debate? Don't look to the Weekly's online Town Square forum for a clear pick. Some claimed **Barack Obama** was a clear shoo-in, citing a CNN panel that gave the Illinois senator more A's than Arizona senator and rival **John McCain**. Others turned to a Fox News poll to trumpet that McCain had a clear lead, with 65 percent of viewers handing him victory. Others cited Time magazine and debated the merits of the blog Daily Kos. It seems the only clear extrapolation is that Town Square readers are news junkies. And that's a message we at the Weekly can believe in.

NUNS TALK LOVE AND SEX

... Torn between their vows and their heartstrings, Roman Catholic priests and nuns discuss choosing celibacy — or romance — in a documentary by **Marita Grudzen**, co-director of the Stanford Geriatric Education Center (SGEC) at Stanford Medical School. The film, "Immaculate Confession," is debuting at the United Nations Association Film Festival in Annenberg Auditorium in Cummings Art Building at Stanford University Oct. 26 at 3:30 p.m. The Stanford-affiliated filmmaker is one of the nuns who left the church to follow love. She describes other cases the film explores: "Father Tom Durkin, a priest turned sex guru, fled to California and Hawaii, where he explored sex, communal living and Eastern religion. Father John Dee, a conservative priest in Minneapolis, continued to wear the priestly collar and practice traditional Catholic mass in his home even after he broke his vow of celibacy with Sister Louise." Catch the preview at Immaculateconfession.com. ■

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Marian Sadoughi

Neighborhood residents and mourners visit the tree in Peers Park where a memorial has sprung up for the two victims of a fatal crash there last week.

COMMUNITY

Neighbors reviewing street safety after fatal crash

Park Boulevard still a street for speeders, despite traffic controls

by Sue Dremann

On the heels of last week's crash on Park Boulevard that killed two young men, residents are rethinking traffic controls that were put in place more than 15 years ago.

The high-speed accident took place at about 3:39 a.m. Oct. 2, when a minivan ended up wrapped around a tree at Alexander Peers Park, killing Tyler Larsen, 24, and David Colin Barge, 20.

Park Boulevard has been much safer since 1991, when access restrictions and traffic islands were put in, according to residents. The meandering road was more like a speedway before then, when drivers used Park as a cut-through from El Camino Real to California Avenue.

More recently, changing neighborhood demographics, including an influx of children and bicyclists along the boulevard, have some residents calling for new traffic surveys to assess how speeders could be slowed down.

At a neighborhood picnic last Sunday, residents discussed the necessity for a traffic-pattern study. Some were adamant that change is necessary, while others were satisfied with the road as it is. Neighborhood leaders called for an approach somewhere in the middle, according to David Schrom, Evergreen Park Neighborhood Association president, who attended the event.

"People still drive too fast, and there are people who drive under the influence," he said.

A 32-year resident, Schrom recalled what traffic was like before speed and access restrictions were added in 1991.

"It was hellacious. Seventy-five percent of the drivers were short-cutters [racking up] close to 90 percent of the vehicle miles. The speeds were outrageous," he said.

Larsen's and Barge's deaths stunned the neighborhood, according to Schrom.

"People felt a sense of, 'How can this happen here — now?' We thought we had this fixed. We need to be alert if this was an isolated incident or part of a larger phe-

nomenon," he said.

The twisted metal and shattered glass are gone from the street, but residents are still haunted by the accident. Many watched as emergency crews chopped the roof off the mini-van to extract the men inside, according to Schrom.

A memorial has been set up at the site where Larsen and Barge died. Spent candles, their wax spattered over the curb, mingled with wilted flowers and empty bottles of vodka and cognac left as offerings at the base of the tree. Messages are written and scratched into the tree where the crash had sheared off large patches of bark.

Paul Jones, a neighborhood resident, bicycled up to the memorial and sighed. Returning home from a night in San Francisco, he happened upon the accident that night.

"There is definitely a problem with speeding. Even after coming through here [where the accident occurred], I still see people speeding. Sometimes I yell at them.

"This is a major bike thoroughfare. There are mostly children. People drive terribly fast," he said, as a dozen cyclists pedaled past.

Jones said speed bumps should be added along the street, particularly along the north end of the park.

Michael Eager, who lives across from the accident scene, said residents have asked the city for a stop sign near the traffic island at the north side of the park.

One traffic-calming barricade at the south end of the street also causes confusion for motorists, he said. Park Boulevard is blocked to north-bound traffic coming from California Avenue.

"I see a number of people who don't know what to do when they come to the barricade. A fair number of people go around [it]," he said.

Eager gazed somberly at the accident site across the street from his home.

"I had the unfortunate privilege to be the first person on the site of the accident," he said, recalling

(continued on page 9)

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 \$32 members / \$42 non-members before Oct. 10.
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28th PAYS Last Tuesdays at Noon
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NOVEMBER

6th Employee Handbook Training from The California Employers Association at the Chamber.
 Learn the essentials of writing a successful employee handbook. Taught by Dennis Pufpaf, CEA Regional Director. This event will also include a continental breakfast.
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7th PACE Networking Breakfast at Westin Palo Alto.
 675 El Camino Real, Palo Alto, CA. 7 - 8:30 a.m.
 ABC Foreign Correspondent Mike Lee will discuss the outlook of the rest of the world on our new president.
 Price before Oct. 24: \$20 members / \$30 non-members.
 Price after Oct. 24: \$25 members / \$35 non-members.

Chamber Monthly Committee Meetings

Membership *	Wed., Nov. 5th 8:30 a.m.
Ambassador *	Tues., Oct. 14th, 8:30 a.m.
Events *	Tues., Oct., 14th, Noon
Parking *	Tues., Oct., 7th, Noon
Government Action	Tues., Oct. 21th, Noon
BRN* Every Monday, 7:30 a.m.	
BRN* Every Friday, 7:30 a.m.	

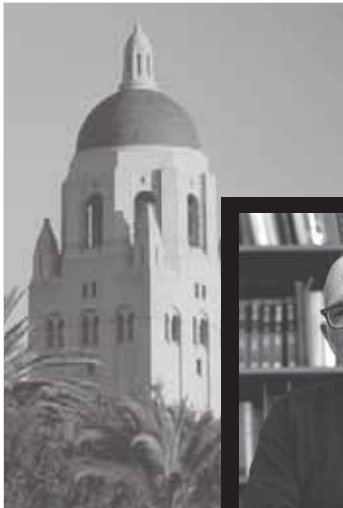
* Limited to Chamber Members, check website for details:
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 Nov. 25 - PAYS Last Tuesdays
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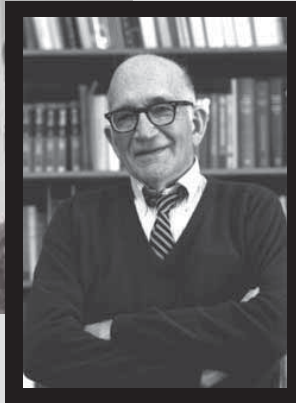


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Stanford Continuing Studies, Stanford Historical Society, Hoover Institution, and the Stanford School of Medicine Present

Stanford Pioneers in Science



Please join us this Fall for a new series featuring the lives and accomplishments of the University's scientists who have been awarded Nobel Prizes, National Medals of Science of Technology, and MacArthur Fellowships.

Our first event celebrates **Sidney Drell**, *Professor of Physics, Emeritus, Stanford Linear Accelerator Center; and Hoover Institution Senior Fellow* who won a MacArthur Fellowship in 1984 for his work in theoretical physics and international arms control. Drell has pioneered development of vital space-based intelligence technologies and has played crucial roles advising U.S. Presidents, CIA Directors, and Congressional leaders about nuclear threats and disarmament from the beginning of the Cold War to the present.

Drell's professional accomplishments and their significance will be presented by Philip Taubman, former Deputy Editor of the *NY Times*. Following Mr. Taubman's talk, Professor Drell will be interviewed on stage about his life, values, and reflections with a question and answer to follow.

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LET'S DISCUSS:
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News Digest

Judge denies motion in EPA rent case

For the second time in two days, East Palo Alto suffered a defeat Thursday in its continuing legal battle with Woodland Management Co. over rent increases the company is charging to its tenants.

San Mateo County Superior Court Judge Carol Mittlesteadt denied a motion by the city Thursday morning to issue a preliminary injunction to protect Woodland tenants from being retaliated against for not paying scheduled rent increases.

A temporary restraining order on the same issue was overturned on Wednesday.

"There is no relief for tenants facing rent increases," Rick Jarvis, an attorney representing the city, said. "We need to consult" with the city to determine what happens next.

A temporary restraining order issued last Friday that protected tenants from retaliation for not paying scheduled rent increases was overturned Wednesday.

San Mateo County Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert Foiles overturned the decision by Judge Joseph Bergeron last Friday to issue the temporary restraining order.

Woodland Park, formerly known as Page Mill Properties, has been in a legal dispute with the city since early this year over the amount of rent increases it is allowed.

The city claims that the rent increases violate the increases allowed by the city's Rent Stabilization Board, while the company won an earlier court ruling that the city's attempt to limit rent increases violated state law.

The company owns about 1,750 apartments in East Palo Alto. ■

—Don Kazak

EPA manhunt ends, investigation continues

The efforts of San Jose police to find two men in East Palo Alto who allegedly robbed a liquor store in San Jose Tuesday afternoon and then led a high-speed chase that ended in East Palo Alto are over, according to San Jose Officer Enrique Garcia.

He said the investigation continues, however.

The 3:15 p.m. robbery triggered the freeway chase, with San Jose and other police pursuing a minivan used in the robbery. The van got a half-mile lead on its pursuers because of freeway congestion and then exited at University Avenue in East Palo Alto and crashed into a parked car, with the two men — one reportedly armed with a handgun — fleeing on foot.

Some 95 units of the San Jose Police Department, along with officers from other departments, sealed off a multi-block area of the city and did a yard-to-yard search for about five hours without locating the two men.

A woman originally driving the van got out on the freeway when the van was slowed by traffic and was quickly detained. ■

—Don Kazak

Police step up patrols after latest robbery

Palo Alto police have increased foot and car patrols this week after the latest street robbery Sunday night, when a woman walking home alone was knocked down and robbed on Loma Verde Avenue near Alma Street.

That follows at least five similar street robberies in September.

Police now believe "four or five" of the street robberies, including Sunday night's and at least two last month across Alma Street from the California Avenue train station, may have been committed by the same man, Police Agent Dan Ryan said. All three robberies were late at night by a black man, 5-feet, 10-inches to 6-feet tall and weighing about 180 pounds.

Other recent street robberies include a Sunday morning incident in September of a woman walking home from church on Newell Road and a woman robbed at lunchtime while walking in the Stanford Research Park.

Ryan has advised women to not walk alone, especially at night.

"We are focusing our patrols where these incidents have occurred," he said. There have been 14 street robberies over the last three months, he added. In several robberies, women walking alone were knocked down from behind.

One older Palo Alto woman reacted to the robberies in an e-mail to the Weekly.

"I'm going back to sit in the yard to read with phone nearby and my cane to defend myself," she wrote. "Scared? You betcha ... Am afraid to go to church services alone at night. Won't walk home. This is no way to live."

Meanwhile, residential and auto burglaries in Palo Alto have increased sharply this year over 2007.

There were 121 residential burglaries through Aug. 31 compared to 79 through the same period in 2007, an increase of 53 percent. There were 205 car burglaries through Aug. 31 compared to 145 through the same period last year, an increase of 41 percent. Arrests of two juveniles in East Palo Alto earlier this summer may have solved 23 of the 2008 auto burglaries, however. ■

—Don Kazak

Veterans LTC Benefits: What You Should Know

Free Presentation for Seniors & Caregivers
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Bikes on the rise

(continued from page 3)

Paly, had a bike stolen, and she's not alone.

Besides sheer numbers, one of the issues is the old "comb" style bike racks, which both schools have had on campus for years.

"The old-style bike racks are great for an old Schwinn but not so good for modern bikes with quick-release wheels. It's really hard to lock your bike frame to a comb rack without taking up several spaces," Swent said.

Since many high school cyclists ride "reasonably expensive" bikes, the racks are targets for thieves, according to Swent.

So he's working with district officials to buy new, more appropriate racks for the high schools, and redistribute the comb-style racks to the middle and elementary schools, where students typically ride less-valuable bikes and thefts are relatively low.

"We don't want to rush out and buy a bunch of inexpensive racks. The comb-style racks are a really good way to get pedals stuck in spokes. When you have equipment damage, then you have safety issues," Swent said.

New "inverted U" shaped racks allow riders to lock their frames to the rack, not just the front wheel, which Swent said is better for security and safety. But they take up more space than conventional racks.

Swent said he is optimistic he can work with district officials to go for quality, not just quantity.

Pitt has his own ideas. "I was looking at an aerial photo of the Paly parking lot on Google Earth, and counted 400 student parking spots. With permits at \$100 each, why can't we put that \$40,000 towards new bike racks?"

The last time bike ridership was at these levels was the mid-1980s, when 33 percent of Paly students and 20 percent of Gunn students cycled to school.

Numbers declined steadily during

the 1990s, coming to a nadir in the new millennium with 10 percent of Paly students biking in 2001 and 9 percent of Gunn students biking in 2002.

This year's percentages are following an upward trajectory since those lean years with Gunn above 33 percent and Paly at more than 30 percent, according to numbers from the city's bicycle and pedestrian safety education coordinator, Kathy Durham.

As for the influx, there doesn't seem to be a clear cause, but speculation abounds.

Swent credits ongoing education, among other factors.

"I had a friend in the Mountain View district ask me how we got so many high school students riding bikes, and I told him, 'You have to start in the third grade.' He didn't like that answer very much," Swent said.

Associate Editor Allen Clapp can be e-mailed at aclapp@paweekly.com.

Fatal crash

(continued from page 7)

that he ran out of the house without a flashlight and in his bare feet, realizing he was stepping on shattered glass.

He doesn't think Park Boulevard is a particularly unsafe street, but he understands the concern of parents who feel there is too much traffic for the number of children who play at

the park, he said.

"It's certainly unfortunate. I don't know that the accident is a good argument for a general solution," he said.

But people speeding are an ongoing problem, he added.

He pointed out that a stop sign is situated a few dozen feet from the crash site. Larsen and Barge would certainly have passed it. He wondered if they tried to stop but then lost control of the vehicle.

Speed, ultimately, was the reason

for their demise — not the road, he said.

"If the road was blocked off, would it have prevented the accident, or would they have had the accident somewhere else? Would they have had the accident in another neighborhood or on El Camino Real? ... The crash was caused by two kids speeding and driving recklessly," he said. ■

Staff Writer Sue Dremann can be e-mailed at sdremann@paweekly.com.

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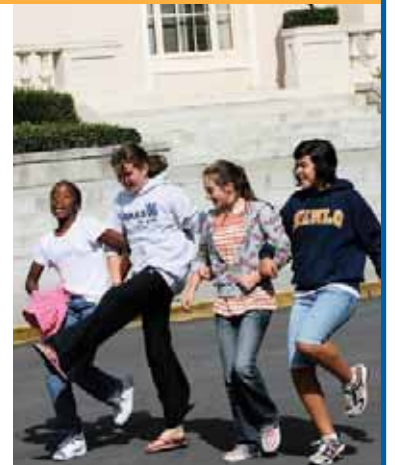


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CityView

A round-up of government action this week

Architectural Review Board (Oct. 2)

VMware During its offsite retreat, board members discussed their own projects, then took a tour of VMware at 3401 Hillview Ave. to observe its environmentally friendly features and practices. All board members were present.

City Council (Oct. 6)

Measure B, BART Sales Tax A motion to oppose Measure B on the November ballot, which would levy a one-eighth-cent sales tax for the next 30 years to help fund a BART extension down to San Jose, failed to pass with a 4-4 vote. Those opposed to argued it would take money from other worthy public transit, such as Caltrain.

Yes: Drekmeier, Kishimoto, Klein, Schmid **No:** Barton, Burt, Espinosa, Morton
A substitute motion to endorse Measure B also failed to pass with a 3-5 vote.

Yes: Barton, Espinosa, Morton; **No:** Burt, Drekmeier, Kishimoto, Klein, Schmid
Absent: Yeh;

Baylands Master Plan The council approved a negative declaration (a finding of no environmental damage) from the plan that includes closing the landfill and restoring the marsh. **Yes:** Unanimous; **Absent:** Yeh

San Antonio Child Care Center The council approved the environmental review of a new child care facility for Google at 1129-1137 San Antonio Road near the Palo Alto Baylands. **Recused:** Klein; **Absent:** Yeh

Destination Palo Alto tourism plan The council approved a tourism plan to spend \$480,000 during the next two years to bolster hotel occupancy and tourism in Palo Alto. Of the funds, \$455,000 will go to a partnership between the city and San Mateo County Convention and Visitors Bureau, and \$25,000 will go to the Palo Alto Weekly. Drekmeier was skeptical the city would recoup its investment in increased visitor taxes. **Yes:** Burt, Espinosa, Kishimoto, Klein, Morton, Schmid; **No:** Drekmeier; **Absent:** Barton, Yeh



LET'S DISCUSS: Read the latest local news headlines and talk about the issues at Town Square at www.PaloAltoOnline.com

The Public Agenda

PALO ALTO BOARD OF EDUCATION ... The board plans to discuss a Memorandum of Understanding between the district and Palo Alto Management Association to provide a framework for establishing clear expectations and support for the management staff. It will also discuss school calendars for the next two years, the district's school size and enrollment policy, a petition by some residents to transfer districts, a contract for a consultant for student nutrition services, bids for the renovation of Gunn High School's Industrial Arts building, student-teaching agreements and a resolution on the appropriation limit. The board will hear an update on the Strategic Plan's academic goals and the state budget for the current fiscal year. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 14, in the Council Chambers at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave.).

HISTORIC RESOURCES BOARD ... The board plans to discuss demolition of a single-family home at 310 Addison Ave. and potential topics for a joint board-City Council meeting. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 8 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 15, in the Council Chambers at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave.).

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD ... The board plans to review three, two-story detached residential townhomes and landscaping at 653 Homer Ave., as well as a facade renovation at 2675 El Camino Real. The board will hold study sessions on plans for an emergency water well and other landscape improvements at the Community Garden adjacent to the Main Library and on designs for an emergency water well and landscape improvements in Eleanor Pardee Park at 801 Center Drive.

PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION ... The commission plans to discuss a zone change from Community Commercial 2 district to California Avenue Pedestrian-Transit-Oriented-Development Combining District (PTOD) at 420 Cambridge Ave. It will hold a comment-gathering scoping session for development planned for Edgewood Plaza. It plans to select a commission representative to for the technical advisory group for the Comprehensive Plan's Housing Element. The commission may also initiate a rezoning of 441 Page Mill Road, on which there will be a future public hearing. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 15, in Council Chambers at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave.).

PUBLIC ART COMMISSION ... The commission plans to consider a request by the subcommittee to proceed with the proposed Bill Bliss Memorial Art Project; a request to approve dates and budget for an artist speaker series, and a request to fund the repair of brickwork on California Avenue. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 16, in the conference room at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave.).

Water prices

(continued from page 3)

be more — if the seismic upgrades end up over-budget, she added — or less, if the city expands its growing recycled-water program.

The water plan also includes a proposed goal of decreasing water use by nearly 10 percent in the next decade. Saving water would postpone — until 2018 — an earlier, controversial consideration of diverting more water from the federally protected Tuolumne River.

While some cities may be alarmed by looming conservation requirements, Palo Alto shouldn't be much affected, since the city currently uses less water than allotted, officials say.

The proposed plan, called the Water System Improvement Program (WSIP) — often referred to by the nickname “We-sip” — will likely be enacted once its environmental review is approved by San Francisco's Planning Commission on Oct. 30.

The projected water-price increases come on the heels of already-rising water rates for the area. In Palo Alto, average water costs per household have risen roughly 40 percent since 2004.

The money is worth it, officials say.

Included in the water plan are improvements to ensure the Peninsula wouldn't be completely stranded if a major earthquake hit, according to Tony Winnicker, director of communication for the San Francisco utilities agency.

Pipelines that run near the Dumbarton Bridge would be replaced by seismically safe — and environmentally sound — underground tunnels, he said.

There's no way around the need to prepare for the worst case, he added.

“If there is an earthquake tomorrow, we lose our water system. We're all in dire straits.”

The Bay Area is about 63 percent likely to experience a major earthquake in the next 30 years, according to a United States Geological Survey prediction, he noted.

Ratchye said the city supports earthquake-proofing the water system and has anticipated resultant rate hikes in its budgetary planning for the last couple years.

The commission's call for water conservation should leave Palo Alto in a better shape than some of its neighbors, Ratchye and others predicted.

The city is a member of the Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency (BAWSCA), a 27-member coalition of cities and agencies that buys water wholesale from San Francisco.

Under the proposed plan, the coalition would need to cut its water use by 9 percent until 2018 — conserving 25 million gallons per day (MGD) out of the current 265 MGD.

Palo Alto, a city of roughly 60,000, has an allotment of about 17 million daily gallons, but only uses about 13 million, Ratchye said.

The under-use is not because the city is particularly good at conserving water but rather due to having a high allocation relative to population,

according to Mayor Larry Klein, also a BAWSCA board member.

In fact, Palo Alto has one of the highest per-capita water uses in the water coalition due to its water-intensive landscaping, Klein said. The numbers were decided in 1984 and will be up for re-negotiation in 2009.

Because Palo Alto uses less than its allotment, future BAWSCA conservation efforts shouldn't squeeze the city's supply, Vice Mayor Peter Drekmeyer and Ratchye predicted.

The city already recycles water and is looking to do more.

About one million gallons daily of recycled water — or about 7 percent of the city's total water use — comes from the Regional Water Quality Control Plant in Palo Alto's Baylands, which also serves neighboring cities including Mountain View and Los Altos. After passing through a multi-step treatment process — the plant works like an enormous stomach, digesting waste in huge bacteria-filled tanks before water undergoes additional filtration and disinfection — water is sprinkled on Palo Alto's golf course and Greer Park. The plant releases the rest to the Bay, and a pipeline to Mountain View's office parks to provide for landscaping is under construction.

In April, Palo Alto's city council passed an ordinance requiring new construction greater than 10,000 square feet to be dual-plumbed to accept recycled water. The utilities department is examining a plan to pump recycled water to Stanford Research Park, which could save another million gallons daily, Ratchye said.

The city also participates in and partially funds a water-saving program led by the Santa Clara Valley Water District, which pays homeowners to install efficient plumbing and replace thirsty lawns with native plants.

When 2018 rolls around, however, that may not be enough. Pending approval of the current plan, seismic improvements will be finished in a decade but the question of where to get more water remains open.

Because of conservation measures, Palo Alto's demand for water until 2030 is flat, Ratchye said. Other cities may need more.

Drekmeyer is hoping that cities will conserve rather than take from the Tuolumne River.

“It's really some of the best water in the world, and we're wasting so much of it on landscaping or broken sprinklers that are leaking into the ground,” said, Drekmeyer, who is the Bay Area Program director for the nonprofit Tuolumne River Trust.

Winnicker, the utilities-commission representative, is optimistic. The decision on the river was delayed to get more time to study demand and conservation, he said. And by 2018, perhaps a solution will be found that doesn't require more diversions.

“This is the Bay Area. We're the technological center of the world. We're innovative. ... We believe that if we apply our expertise and our will, we can absolutely conserve more water than were conserving today.” ■

Staff Writer Arden Pennell can be e-mailed at apennell@paweekly.com.

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Online This Week

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

Stanford gets \$75M for stem cell research center

Stanford University's School of Medicine will receive \$75 million from Atherton businessman and Business Wire founder Lorry Lokey to help build what university officials say will be the nation's largest center for stem cell research, it was announced Monday. (Posted Oct. 6 at 10:06 a.m.)

Fire prevention to be highlighted in Palo Alto

The Palo Alto Fire Department is opening up its eight fire stations to the public on Saturday, Oct. 11, so residents can visit them and learn more about preventing home fires. The effort is part of a national fire prevention week. (Posted Oct. 7 at 9:33 a.m.)

CHP issues 20,000-plus 'cell-phone citations'

More than 20,000 drivers statewide have been cited for talking on their hand-held cell phones — about 3,500 in the Bay Area — since a new law by Sen. Joe Simitian went into effect July 1, the California Highway Patrol reports. (Posted Oct. 8 at 12:34 a.m.)

San Antonio's bumpy road, trees to be replaced

The jarringly bumpy stretch of San Antonio Road between Middlefield Road and Alma Street will be rebuilt starting in mid-October — and huge over-arching pine trees will be replaced — as part of a \$1.1 million project approved by the Palo Alto City Council Monday. (Posted Oct. 8 at 2:31 p.m.)

Girls in Palo Alto followed by man in truck

Police are searching for a man in a white pickup truck who separately followed three young girls as they walked home from school Monday, a Palo Alto police spokesman said Wednesday. (Posted Oct. 8 at 3:05 p.m.)

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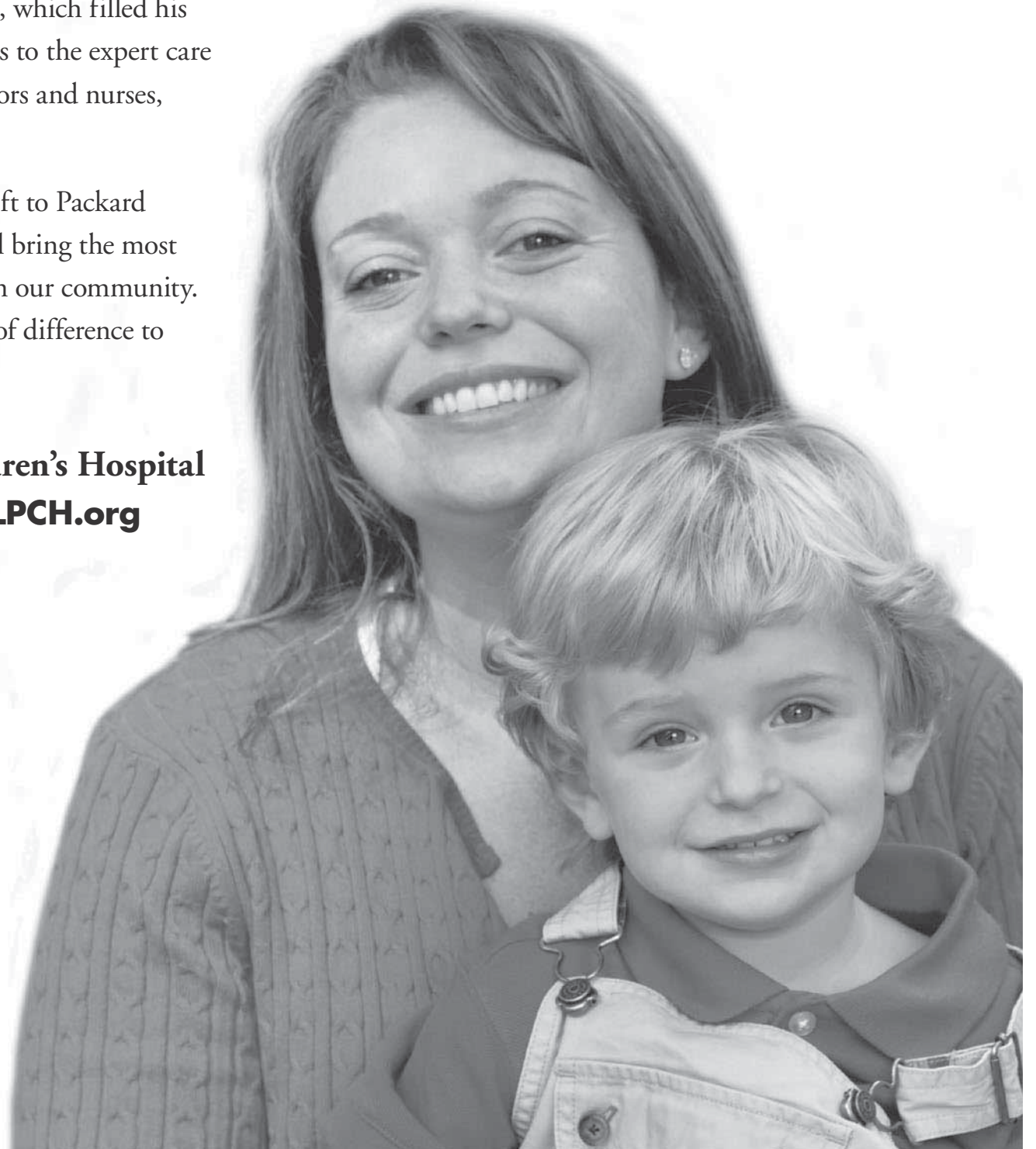
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JESSE ZIFF COOL
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Speak with Jesse and have her sign her newest book, Simply Organic

OCT 11 9a-12p
BOB GILBERTSON
Executive Chef, California Cafe
Shop with Bob at 9a and watch him demo a farmers market special at 10a

SATURDAYS 8a-12p, GILMAN ST @ HAMILTON
Market proceeds benefit Avenidas Senior Center
<http://www.pafarmersmarket.org>



Pulse

A weekly compendium of vital statistics

POLICE CALLS

Palo Alto

Sept. 27- Oct. 6

Violence related

Arson	1
Assault with a deadly weapon	1
Battery	4
Robbery	2
Theft related	
Checks forgery	1
Commercial burglaries	5
Counterfeiting	1
Credit-card forgery	1
Forgery	1
Grand theft	5
Identity theft	3
Petty theft	9
Residential burglaries	5

Vehicle related

Abandoned auto	1
Abandoned bicycle	1
Bicycle theft	1
Driving with suspended license	7
Hit and run	9
Stolen vehicle	1
Theft from auto	6
Vehicle accident/injury	1
Vehicle accident/minor injury	5
Vehicle accident/non-injury	3
Vehicle accident/property damage	9
Vehicle impound	7
Vehicle tow	15

Alcohol or drug related

Drunken in public	3
Drunken driving	2
Possession of drugs	3
Possession of paraphernalia	2
Under influence of drugs	3

Miscellaneous

Animal call	2
Brandishing	1

Casualty/fall	1
Disobey court order	1
Firearms disposal request	1
Found property	6
Lost property	6
Misc. penal code violation	1
Missing adult	1
Noise ordinance violation	4
Possession of stolen property	1
Psychiatric hold	3
Resist arrest	1
Sex crime	1
Suspicious circumstances	5
Unattended death	1
Vandalism	4
Warrant/other agency	9

Menlo Park

Sept. 30- Oct. 6

Violence related

Robbery	1
Theft related	
Commercial burglaries	1
Fraud	3
Grand theft	2
Petty theft	6
Residential burglaries	8

Vehicle related

Auto theft	4
Bicycle theft	1
Driving with suspended license	1
Stolen vehicle	1
Vehicle accident/minor injury	1
Vehicle accident/no injury	2
Drug activity	1
Drunken driving	2
Narcotics Registrant	2
Possession of drugs	1
Under influence of drugs	1
Coroner case	1
CPS Referral	1
Info case	1

Juvenile problem	2
Lost property	1
Resist arrest	1
Threats	1
Vandalism	2
Warrant arrest	3

Atherton

Oct. 1-7

Violence related

Assault & battery	1
-------------------	---

Theft related

Commercial burglaries	1
Grand theft	1
Petty theft	1

Vehicle related

Parking problem	1
Suspicious vehicle	6
Traffic details	20
Vehicle accident/no injury	1
Vehicle code violation	3
Vehicle tow	1
Vehicle/traffic hazard	3

Miscellaneous

Citizen assist	3
Civil matter	1
Construction complaint	1
Construction site checks	1
Foot patrol	1
Found property	1
Juvenile problem	1
Medical aid	2
Meet citizen	1
Outside assistance	1
Public works call	1
Special detail	1
Suspicious circumstances	1
Suspicious person	4
Trespassing	1
Vandalism	2
Watermain break	1
Weapons charge /violation	1

Answers to this week's puzzles, which can be found on page 60

K	V	O	S	S	D	L	N	O	S	E	E					
V	I	L	E	N	T	E	E	N	E	S	C	E				
L	C	N	G	V	S	W	E	N	A	V	H	N	I			
A	C	N	O	O	S	W	E	N	A	V	H	N	I			
Y	C	A	G	A	L	E	N	E	X	M	E	X	A	S	T	Y
P	D	I	D	O	D	E	O	N	T	O	N	E				
S	A	R	S	E	K	E	V	A	K	E	R	E				
L	E	Y														
L	L	O	L	L												
P	A	T	H	O	A	T	H	O	A	T	H	O	A	T	H	O
E	R	O	G	R	A	V	A	P	H	Y	P	E	N	N	E	
L	L	O	S	I	T	G	A	T	K	R	O	C	K	R	O	C
T	I	V	E	R	S	I	T	L	I	V	E	R	S	I	T	L
R	I	E	U	D	N	I	N	I	N	I	N	I	N	I	N	I
C	O	C	O	A	S											




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A Guide to the Spiritual Community



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Rev. David Howell preaching

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Stanford Memorial Church
University Public Worship
Sunday, October 12, 10:00 am
Welcome Stanford Alums!
Reunion Homecoming Multi-faith Service
"Revisiting Dreams"
Rabbi Patricia Karlin-Neumann
Senior Associate Dean for Religious Life

Music featuring University Organist, Dr. Robert Huw Morgan,
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Also in Memorial Church: Compline - an evening service of song. Presented Sunday
nights during the academic year, 9:00 - 9:30pm. This week, Compline features Peninsula-
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To inquire about or make space reservations for Inspirations, please contact Blanca Yoc at 326-8210 x221 or email byoc@pawekly.com

Palo Alto Weekly



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Transitions

Births, marriages and deaths

Weddings



Jennifer Michelle Briggs and Andrew Neil Saul

Jennifer Michelle Briggs and Andrew Neil Saul were married Aug. 24 in Rancho Palos Verdes, Calif.

The bride is the daughter of Geneva and Michael Briggs of Palo Alto. A graduate of Gunn High

School and the University of Arizona, she is a brand and marketing manager at Freeman Beauty.

The groom is the son of Fiby and Sumner Saul of Beverly Hills. A graduate of the University of Arizona, he is a senior production finance executive at the Walt Disney Company.

The couple will live in Los Angeles.

José Arzate and Ben Griebé

José Arzate and Ben Griebé of Palo Alto were married July 15 at City Hall in San Francisco.

The couple's respective parents, their surrogate mother Nancy Rosman and David Tsai were present at the ceremony.

David Tsai introduced the couple on June 15, 2002, and they were honored to have him act as best man.

The couple has one son, William Antonio, and resides in Palo Alto with their son and dog Tito.

Births

Jose Arzate and Ben Griebé of Palo Alto, a son, Sept. 15.

Graciela and Gregory Tully of Menlo Park, a daughter, Sept. 18.

Angela and Robert Bruen of Palo Alto, a daughter, Sept. 22.

Noemmy Barron and Eduardo Ruiz Jauregui of Atherton, a daughter, Sept. 26.

MEMORIALSERVICE

A memorial service for **Thurza Starbuck McClintock** will be held Saturday, Oct. 11, at 1 p.m. at Alta Mesa Cemetery, Palo Alto.

Submitting Transitions announcements

Obituaries for local residents are a free editorial service. Send information to Obituaries, Palo Alto Weekly, P.O. Box 1610, Palo Alto, CA 94302, or fax to 326-3928, or e-mail to editor@pawebly.com. Please include the name and telephone number of a person who might provide additional information about the deceased. The Weekly reserves the right to edit obituaries for space and format considerations.

Palo Alto Historical Association

presents a public program



Juana Briones house, Old Adobe Road

Juana Briones: A Life Across Eras

Presenter:
Jeanne Farr McDonnell

Sunday, October 12,
2008, 2:00 p.m.

Lucie Stern
Community Center
1305 Middlefield Road,
Palo Alto

Refreshments
No admission charge

The Jonathan King Lectureship 2008



Featuring:

Danielle Ofri, Md, PhD

Author:

Incidental Findings and Singular Intimacies

“Tools of the Trade:

Old and New Technologies in Medicine”

Tuesday, October 14th, 2008 • 5pm

Stanford University School of Medicine

Clark Center Auditorium

Sponsored by the Stanford Center for Biomedical Ethics

Complimentary wine & food reception to follow @ 6pm, Clark Center Lobby

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ROBERT LEE BONIFACE

Robert Lee Boniface, 83, passed away Wednesday September 17, 2008. Robert Boniface was born November 25, 1924 in San Diego, Ca. He lived in Southern Ca. until 1970 when he moved to Atherton, Ca. He served in the US Army and was passionate about his work and family.

His career in electronics began at Neely Enterprises in North Hollywood, Ca. and continued as Executive Vice-President of Hewlett-Packard Company in Palo Alto, Ca. Other affiliations included president of the Sensory Access Foundation, president of the Palo Alto Club and president of the Menlo Circus Club. He was a very active participant in tennis and golf and was a

strong supporter of Stanford Athletics. He was involved with Quarter Horses racing and served as president of the AQHA and the PCQHRA as well as owner of the Double C Ranch in Lakeview, CA.

His loving wife of 56 years, Sue, passed away last year. He is survived by his daughter Christine (Jeanne); son Craig (Vicki); five grandchildren, Tory (Megan), David (Michelle), Robert, Ryan, Justin; sister Donna; niece Julie; and nephew Robert.

Bob was respected and loved by many and will be greatly missed. No services will be held. Donations in Robert Boniface's memory may be made to Dick Gould at Stanford Athletics.

PAID OBITUARY

GEORGE GIOUMOUSIS

MARCH 2, 1929-SEPTEMBER 23, 2008

George Gioumousis died peacefully at age 79 on September 23 in Palo Alto, California, where he had lived for most of his adult life. He was born March 2, 1929 in Brooklyn, New York to his parents Katherine and Emanuel, both of whom had come from Greece to the United States. He received a BS in Chemistry from Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute in 1951, a MS in Mathematics and PhD in Theoretical Chemistry in 1954 and 1955 from University of Wisconsin in Madison, Wisconsin.

He is survived by his wife, Ellie Gioumousis, two sons, Andrew of Menlo Park, CA and Peter of Palo Alto, daughter Martha and her partner Hilary Greenberger of Newfield, NY, daughter Elizabeth and her husband Henry Hazebrouck and their daughter Allison of Sunnyvale, CA,

sister GG Farber and her husband David of Pennsylvania, sister Theodosia Zalantis and her husband George of Staten Island, NY, and several nieces and nephews.

George was an avid photographer, documenting the growth of his family as well as many nature studies. Most recently, he was fascinated by stereo photography. He and Ellie and the family took many camping and rock climbing trips together. He also enjoyed mystifying his family with sleight of hand tricks, science fiction, beekeeping, astronomy, woodworking, electronics and anything having to do with computers.

He was buried at Greensprings Natural Cemetery in Newfield, NY on Sunday September 28.

PAID OBITUARY

Express

Today's news, sports & hot picks

**Fresh news
delivered daily**

Editorial

EPA City Council needs new approach

As a still-young city struggles with crime, development, traffic, jobs, health and pollution issues, the City Council needs cohesive leadership

It has been said for many years – decades even – that East Palo Alto is a community of much potential but one that is teetering on the brink of its future. Never has that perception been more apt than in the current City Council race, when there will be two vacant seats and one member seeking reelection Nov. 4.

While there have been major strides in economic development, the demographically diverse community of about 19,000 people is still plagued by high crime, shootings, drugs, gangs and leadership problems at many levels. Real progress has been made in attacking the multifaceted problem of crime and gangs under new Police Chief Ron Davis.

But much remains to be accomplished, and there appears to be a need to bolster the city's top management, beset with vacancies of key positions and in need of stronger policy backup and direction from the council.

Two longtime community leaders, Pat Foster and Donna Rutherford, are leaving from the council, making room for some new faces and perhaps a renewed commitment to fulfilling East Palo Alto's potential. A third longtime community leader, the often fiery and sometimes vitriolic Councilman Peter Evans, is seeking reelection — but his angry outbursts have been a divisive element on the council even though some of his criticisms may be on target.

Those seeking to fill the vacancies include Chester Palasoo, current chair and longtime member of the Ravenswood City School District board; David Tschang, who has a strong but hard-to-communicate opinions on leadership; Michael Francois, who is running primarily out of concern for community health and water contaminants; Laura Martinez, a youth-program director at the YMCA with a strong commitment to community betterment as part of a community-based "Coalition for Change"; returning candidate Bernardo Huerta, who narrowly missed election two years ago and who is a member of both the city's Planning Commission and Public Works and Transportation Commission; Carlos Romero, a longtime resident who is a developer/consultant in the field of below-market-rate housing, in addition to longtime community involvement in anti-violence and education; and Goro Mitchell, a former Planning Commission member.

There is a wide range of community involvement, experience and vision represented in the field, from the idealistic and committed Martinez to the deeply involved Huerta, Fort, Romero and Mitchell. Palasoo has a deep knowledge of the community, but his 12 years on the school board carries baggage that seems to reflect backwards rather than forward in terms of community leadership.

We believe there is one overriding necessity for voters to consider in this election: That it is time to move beyond the over-personalized politics of East Palo Alto's past and select candidates who not only speak of collaboration but who actively practice it.

The City Council needs to become a focused whole rather than a collection of individuals who may have their own visions of the community's future but who as a group fall short of providing needed direction to top city staff in terms of both policies and individual-performance goals.

Based on the above perception, we believe the best bets for the immediate future of East Palo Alto are:

- Doug Fort, a former drug dealer who has demonstrated personal commitment to helping those who have been in trouble salvage their lives. Fort has shown he can work with a wide range of people in achieving his goals. His lifelong residency and drug-dealing past enables him to reach elements of the community that are inaccessible to others.

- Carlos Romero, whose personal commitment to building affordable housing matches his vision of collaboratively strengthening both city management structures and community-involvement mechanisms. His educational background of Stanford and Harvard degrees provides a depth of knowledge that matches his feet-on-the-ground community efforts over many years.

- Goro Mitchell, who holds masters degrees in city planning and political science. He is executive director of the nonprofit Community Development Institute, and is a former member of the city Planning Commission. He has served on the EPA Sanitary District board, the County Commission on Aging, and other boards.

We recommend Douglas Fort, Carlos Romero and Goro Mitchell for East Palo Alto City Council.

Spectrum

Editorials, letters and opinions

What you need to know

Editor,

Here is what you need to know about Measure N:

The June poll of 600 voters provided two options: \$76 million for Mitchell Park, Main, and Downtown or \$71 million for Mitchell Park and Main only. Which one do you think was preferred? Respondents initially gave the \$76 million bond a 63 percent favorable rating. That plummeted to 53 percent for the cheaper alternative without Downtown.

People are willing to pay for our libraries.

Does it cost more to operate five libraries? Yes. Does it cost more to operate the 32 parks we have in comparison to what our neighbors pay? Yes. But neighborhood parks and libraries are part of what make living in Palo Alto a great and desirable experience.

And here's a fact: It costs \$554,000 per year to operate College Terrace and Downtown libraries. If the city closed them tomorrow, it would take 124 years to save enough money to pay for the new building at Mitchell Park and renovations at Main, our two 50-year-old libraries.

Trimming our operating budget will not meet our facilities' needs.

State law prohibits using bond money for staffing or technology. The city estimates only three new staff will be needed at the energy-efficient new Mitchell Park library. A comprehensive technology plan is underway and will be funded through private donations.

Voting no means we will continue to have the worst libraries in the area. Voting Yes on N is an investment in our community's future.

Alison Cormack
Ross Road
Palo Alto

Train tunnels essential

Editor,

The article about putting trains underground asks if this idea is visionary.

I would suggest that it is an obvious necessity if the proposed high-speed trains pass through Palo Alto. The councils of Menlo Park and Atherton have already advocated such a solution.

Worldwide, there are many examples of train tunnels under cities, e.g. the Chunnel train passes through more than 10 miles of tunnel in London.

Advocates for high-speed rail talk about the advantages, but fail to mention that cities along the Peninsula will experience a large increase in noise from passing trains (not to mention construction noise) and will lose properties where there isn't sufficient existing right-of-way.

The high-speed-rail proposal doesn't state how many tracks will be needed. If the high-speed train

runs at high speed along the Peninsula, it will need separate rails (as in Europe). If Caltrain changes to light-weight, fast-acceleration trains, it will need rails that are separate from the freight trains.

It is likely that either four or six tracks will be needed.

If the trains remain at ground level on the current right-of-way, most trees would be removed and some properties would be taken. Tunneling is the only solution that avoids a huge increase in noise and minimizes impact on residents. As for Union Pacific's need for ventilation for their diesel freight locomotives, I suggest (for the Peninsula segment) that they consider using electric locomotives, as in Europe.

It is imperative that the details of such a project be worked out soon.

Robert Herriot
Byron Street
Palo Alto

Pass Prop. 2 for animals

Editor,

The conditions for animals in factory farms, where almost all of our eggs, pork and veal come from, is shockingly inhumane. In order to

make basic improvements to the lives of the suffering animals we Californians must pass Proposition 2. Proposition 2 requires that the practice of overcrowding laying hens, pregnant pigs and baby cows in containers so small that they can't even turn around must end.

Under Proposition 2 factory farms will have to let the animals extend fully their limbs or wings, lie down, stand up and turn around.†

These simple movements are denied to millions of animals that furnish Americans with meat. Voting YES on Proposition 2 is the least we can do.

Kermit Cuff Jr.
Mariposa Avenue
Mountain View

Correction please

Editor,

Thank you for your "Places to Belong" article Oct. 3 on the 90th anniversary of the AME Zion Church in Palo Alto. However, correction, correction please.

The AME Zion Church on Ra-

(continued on page 18)

YOUR TURN

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

What do you think? Has the surge in high school bicyclists prompted you to get out your bike?

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

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

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

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



Check out Town Square!

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

Guest Opinion

BART extension will benefit Palo Alto and Peninsula

by Gary Fazzino

My parents had the good sense to move to Palo Alto when I was young. I'm a product of our Paly High, graduated from Stanford, went to work for Hewlett Packard, served several terms as mayor and City Council member. My wife, Annette, and I plan to remain in Palo Alto and raise our son and daughter here.



This is home.

And because this is home I want to do what I can to leave a legacy that insures a great quality of life, including a great local and regional transportation system that is interconnected, fast, safe, convenient and affordable.

That is why I strongly support Measure B on the November ballot.

Currently, Caltrain commuter rail service is our key transit connection. Measure B connects BART and Caltrain by extending the 104-mile BART system from the East Bay to Santa Clara County, with stations in Milpitas, San Jose and Santa Clara.

By connecting Caltrain with BART, first at the Santa Clara Caltrain Station right across from Santa Clara University and San Jose International Airport and then in downtown San Jose at the HP Arena, the connection between our Caltrain commuter rail system and the BART system builds a regional rail system that circles the entire Bay.

Measure B is clear and concise: It funds the operation and maintenance of a BART extension from Fremont to Santa Clara with two

Caltrain connections with a 1/8-cent sales tax increase.

We live in an interconnected region. Employers such as HP, Stanford and even the City of Palo Alto have employees from throughout the Bay Area and beyond.

And many residents of Palo Alto travel on a daily basis to education, employment and entertainment centers throughout the region. To support the success and creative work of Silicon Valley, we need to support the links that keep the Valley moving forward.

We've supported BART before. In 2000 we voted to pay to construct the 16-mile extension. Still, in order to secure the federal funds

We live in an interconnected region. Employers such as HP, Stanford and even the City of Palo Alto have employees from throughout the Bay Area and beyond. And many residents of Palo Alto travel on a daily basis ... throughout the region.

needed to complete the project, the Federal Transit Administration wants proof that we in Santa Clara County are willing to pay to operate and maintain the BART connection. It's a fair enough proposal.

Measure B shows them that we are ready to take local action against global warming and to integrate our transit systems; it shows

the feds that we are willing to pay to connect BART and Caltrain.

To safeguard taxpayers, though, Measure B won't allow the collection of the proposed 1/8-cent sales tax before the federal and state governments agree to pay their share of the construction costs. If they don't step forward to match our hard-earned local dollars, the tax never starts.

Opponents to Measure B will try to tell us that a BART extension makes it less likely that Caltrain service will be expanded or that the line will be electrified. This is entirely untrue. Protecting and improving Caltrain is important to all of us who live along the Peninsula. I am a stalwart supporter of improved Caltrain service. But trying to stop the BART expansion doesn't speed up improvements on Caltrain. In fact, extending BART and linking it to Caltrain makes both systems more useful to all of us who live, work, play or go to school in Palo Alto.

In 2006, Caltrain estimated that Caltrain from San Francisco to San Jose could be electrified by 2015, only seven years from now. Santa Clara County has the revenue stream identified for our share of the project; about \$200 million — from the 2000 ballot measure. San Mateo County has funds set aside as well. The project also requires money from San Francisco, which is working to identify a revenue stream for it.

By providing a much-needed link between Caltrain and BART, Measure B turns the Bay Area's commuter-rail systems into an integrated system the moves our region forward.

Many of us have reflected on the decisions made 50 years ago by San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties not to approve BART. We could have had a round-the-bay rail system

In 2006, Caltrain estimated that Caltrain from San Francisco to San Jose could be electrified by 2015, only seven years from now. Santa Clara County has the revenue stream identified. ... San Mateo County has funds set aside as well.

in place by the early 1970s — just in time for our first oil crisis.

A half century from now, I want our children to be able to celebrate our generation's foresight and actions in areas such as transportation systems that address global warming and energy dependency. A first-class transportation system that includes an improved Caltrain, high-speed rail connecting northern and southern California and a BART connection to Caltrain would be an extraordinary legacy.

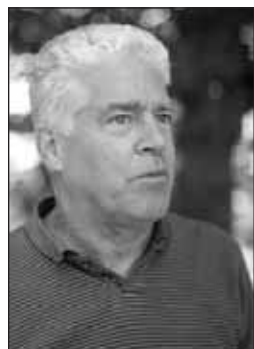
Join me in voting for a better, greener and more connected future through Measure B. ■

Gary Fazzino is a former mayor and City Council member, a student of local history and active in community organizations since the 1970s. He can be e-mailed at gary.fazzino@hp.com.

Streetwise

How is the current financial crisis affecting you?

Asked in downtown Palo Alto. Interviews by Kris Young. Photographs by Colleen Cummins.



Ed Murphy
High School Tennis Coach
Forrest Avenue, Palo Alto

"I'm not too anxious to look at our retirement funds. My wife and I let our professional investors take care of it. We recently took a lot of money out of stocks and put them in bonds and mutual funds."



Arthur Schaupp
Retiree
Emerson Street, Palo Alto

"I don't think it will affect me in any way. As for the nation, I'm against the \$700 billion giveaway."



Janet Owen
Mother
Ramona Street, Palo Alto

"As far as the whole bailout package, I don't really understand it and I don't think a lot of the professionals do either. Our stocks and savings have taken a plummet, luckily the property values are still up."



Elen Walter
Retiree
Park Boulevard, Palo Alto

"I'm living off of CDs and a pension. We don't know and there's nothing to do about it, and that's what's so hard."



Anita Stryker
Music Teacher
Byron Street, Palo Alto

"I have a lot of friends that are in difficult financial situations and I feel we have to team together."

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(continued from page 16)
mona Street was never torn down.
Through the years there were many
articles stating that the church was
about to be demolished but it never
actually happened.

As part of the SOFA I redevelopment
plan, Menlo Equities agreed to
rehabilitate the AME Zion Church
with a number of conditions to meet
the Secretary of Interior standards.

What you see today is the real
thing, not a replica. The church win-
dows are being restored and will be
returned to the church. This build-
ing does represent an important part
of Palo Alto's history as recounted in
your article.

Leta Beth Bunnberg
Ramona Street
Palo Alto

Stressed-out students

Editor,

Thank you for your story on Stan-
ford University's Student Mental
Health and Well-Being Task Force.
It is sobering to learn that of 2,200
Stanford students surveyed this
year, 12 percent — more than one
out of 10 students — had thought
of suicide.

Why is it that so many high-
achieving students who have ac-
complished so much just to get into
Stanford then struggle with anxiety
and depression, to the extreme
point of thinking of taking their
own lives?

Stanford is to be commended for
exploring meaningful ways to help.

On Sept. 26, Stanford hosted a
free "SOS Stressed Out Students"
keynote event with Stanford's De-
nise Clark Pope, Dr. Madeline
Levine and other nationally recog-
nized experts on adolescent mental
health issues. Their message was
clear: This type of stress doesn't
just start in college; it's also experi-
enced by far too many high school
students, who feel compelled to take
advanced-placement classes, even if
it means sacrificing sleep and fam-
ily time.

It's experienced by many middle
school and even elementary school-
aged children, who face calendars
so crowded with after-school ac-
tivities and lessons, that there are
few moments left to do nothing,
or anything, because everything is
scheduled.

As a community service, a DVD
of Stanford's SOS program is now
available, thanks to the video pro-
duction services and true generos-
ity of two great Palo Alto citizens,
Andrew and Carol Mellows, in
partnership with Stanford's Chal-
lenge Success project and the Palo
Alto PTA Council. This not-for-
profit DVD only costs \$4, including
shipping, and is available at www.paloaltopta.org.

Also, Wednesday, Oct. 15, 7 to 9
p.m. at JLS Middle School, the Palo
Alto PTA Council will show video
highlights from Stanford's SOS
event followed by a communit-
wide follow-up discussion on what
parents and educators can do to
help. Live Spanish translation will
be available, along with free child
care. Everyone is welcome.

Carrie Manley and Wendy Kan-
dasamy
Palo Alto PTA Council Parent
Education co-chairs
Palo Alto

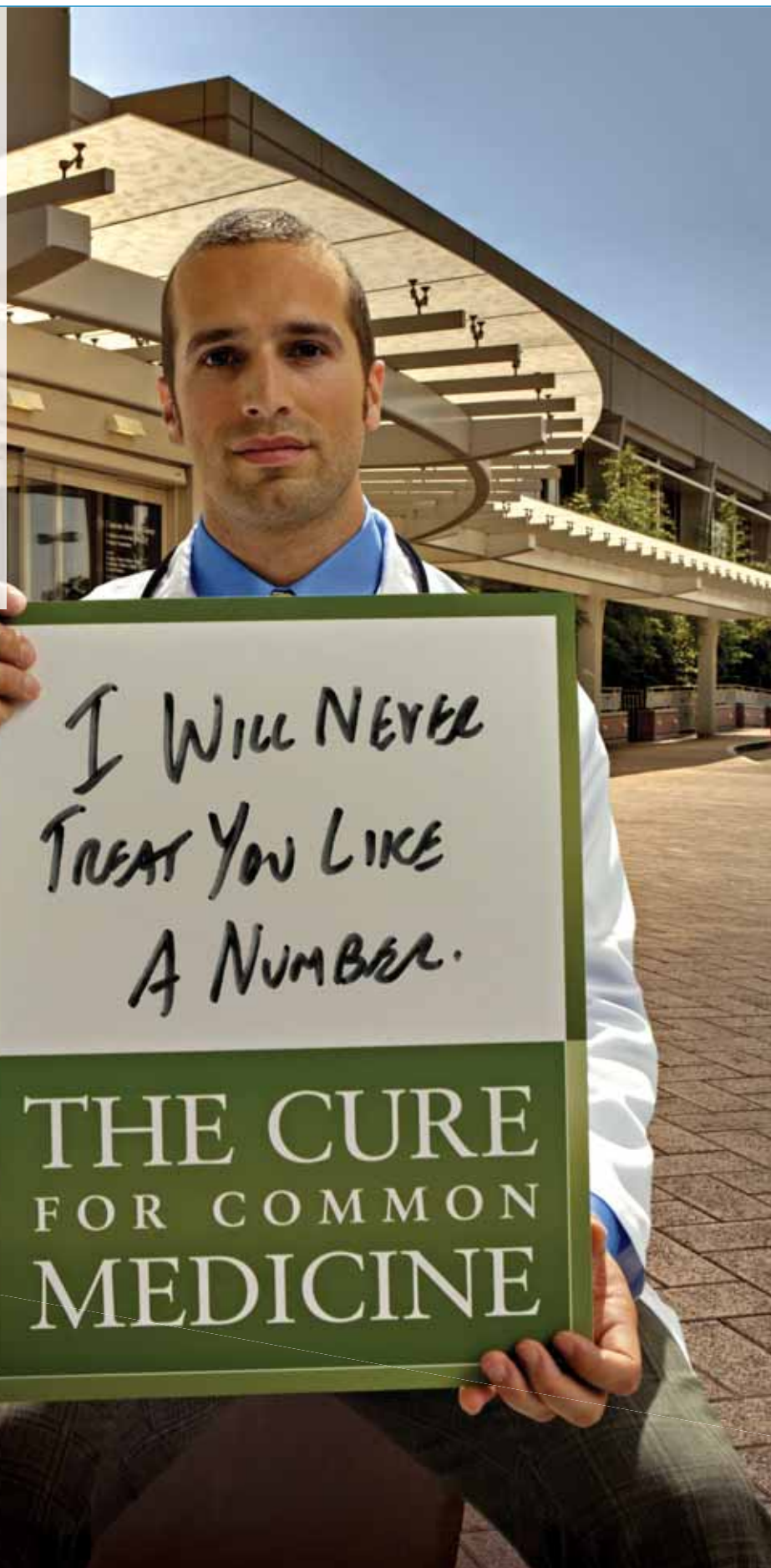
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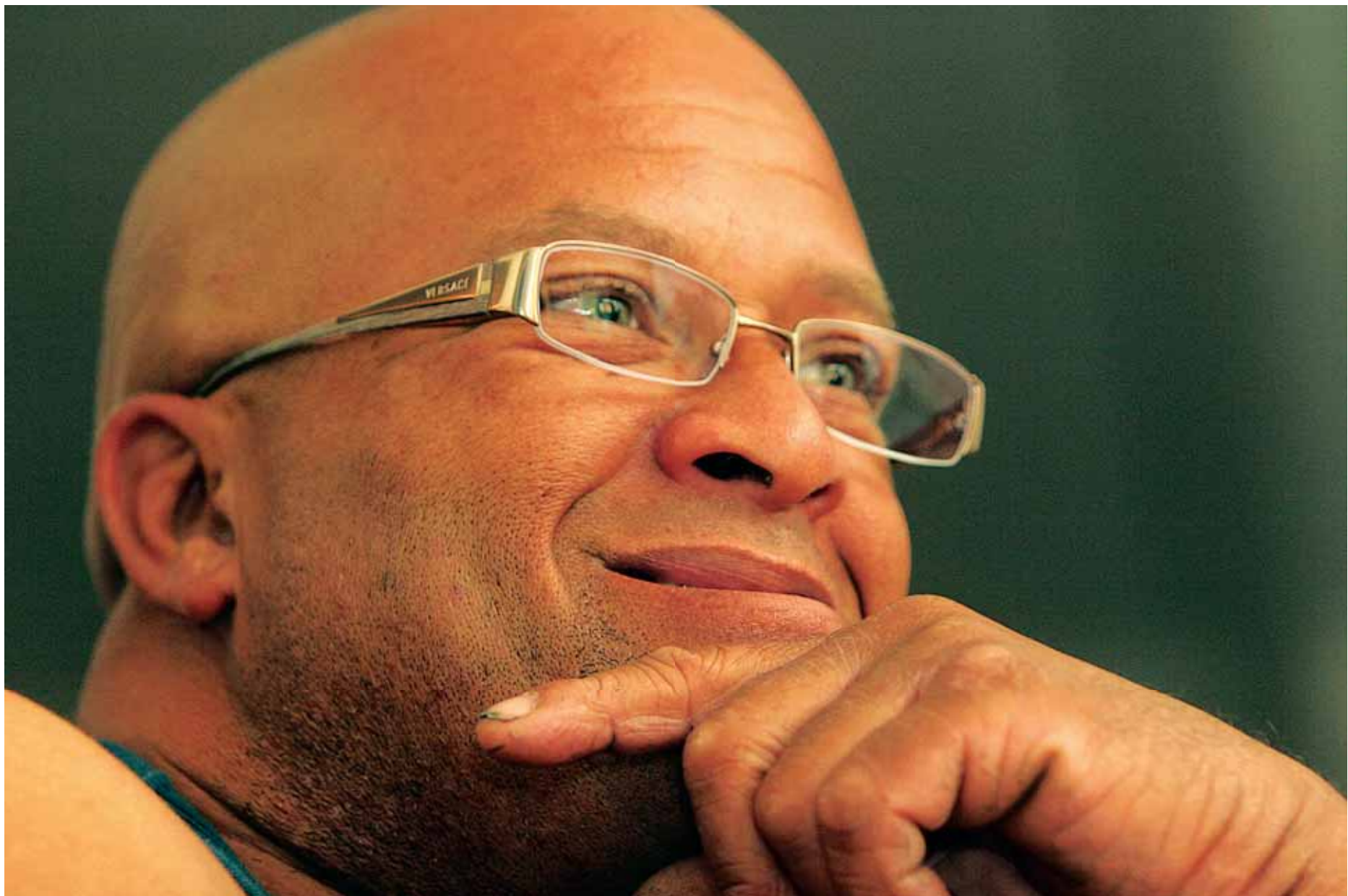
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Free at last

Convicted of a murder he didn't commit, imprisoned for 12 years, East Palo Alto's Rick Walker is finally free to enjoy life

Story by Becky Trout. Photographs by Veronica Weber

Though it sounds clichéd, Rick Walker considers himself a living lesson.

He is proof, he says, that the justice system is flawed — that white cops and prosecutors are not always the good guys and that black unemployed addicts from East Palo Alto are not always guilty. That bad choices and noxious relationships can trigger horrors beyond imagination. That humans are capable of wondrous generosity.

And, perhaps most importantly, his life shows that everyone, even those locked in prison or deluded by drugs, can take responsibility and change their lives.

In 1991, following a trial marred by lies, fear and apathy, Walker, then 35, was convicted of a murder he didn't commit.

Deemed a killer, he spent 12 years in some of California's roughest prisons while his family worked tirelessly for his release, with the help of attorney Alison Tucher, a Palo Alto native, her parents, Tony and Carolyn Tucher,

and several others. They knew he had not stabbed 34-year-old Lisa Hopewell and bound her in duct tape, leaving her bloody body in her Cupertino apartment on Jan. 10, 1991.

That had been done by Rahsson Bowers, a young East Palo Alto drug dealer, and Mark Swanson, who are both in prison today.

Walker's supporters accomplished the near-impossible: They convinced prosecutors and a judge that one man among thousands in California's prisons, convicted more than a decade earlier, was innocent.

And that the justice system had failed.

In June 2003, Walker was released, declared "factually innocent" by the court.

Two subsequent settlements have ensured he won't ever have to worry about money.

In September 2003, three months after his release, State Sen. Joe Simitian (D-Palo Alto) helped Walker secure more than

\$400,000 as compensation from the state, and just last year, Walker received \$2.75 million from a lawsuit against Santa Clara County.

'God has blessed me by surrounding me with great people and giving me a great adventure just going through life.'

— Rick Walker

After all that — enduring 12 years of prison, missing the growth of his son and the death of his father — he might be excused if he were furious and bent on revenge. Or if he were to return to a life of drugs, throw away the money and try to drink away the pain.

None of that has happened.

Today, Walker is a mechanic at Precision Automotive on Lambert

Street in Palo Alto and the owner of two houses, one in East Palo Alto and another in Clear Lake in Lake County. He's pouring some of his money into projects at the houses.

He's also a first-time grandfather of a month-old baby girl and engaged to marry his live-in love, Yvette "Niki" Washington.

He has braces, is preparing for surgery to align his congenitally mismatched jaws and remains health conscious, eating lean meats and downing plenty of Arizona iced tea.

"I've been blessed. God has blessed me by surrounding me with great people and giving me a great adventure just going through life. I'm really enjoying things. I really am," Walker said.

And he isn't angry — now.

It was a different story in 1991. After he received a 26 years-to-life sentence for the brutal murder of Hopewell, a Princeton graduate turned crack addict and a former girlfriend, Walker said he was

"mad as hell."

"I was pissed off at the world."

At the time, he was a freelance mechanic known as the "Trouble-shooter" for his skill with cars. He was also what he calls "the worst kind of addict, a functioning addict."

Snared by the crack and cocaine epidemic that had enveloped East Palo Alto, Walker would fix cars all day, then kill his nights with drugs.

It wasn't supposed to be that way.

He had grown up in a close, middle-class family in San Francisco, one of seven children.

His father, William, worked in a slaughterhouse and drove trucks, playing drums with jazz bands in the evening. William had taught Rick how to fix cars and instructed him in carpentry, plumbing, electricity and other practical skills.

"I was the kid in the family that was inquisitive enough to want to learn those things," Walker said.

(continued on next page)



Rick Walker and his fiancée, Yvette 'Niki' Washington, share a moment at their home in East Palo Alto last month.

(continued from previous page)

His mother, Myrtle Walker (a former East Palo Alto City Council member), had stressed the importance of education, yet Walker dropped out of high school just a few months before graduation.

"[My parents] were very disappointed," Walker said.

He went to work, earning enough money for his own apartment and a new car.

The years passed, and Walker followed his parents to East Palo Alto. He fathered a son, William, in 1979. He worked on cars, charmed ladies, did crack and got by.

And around 1990 — as drugs, violence and AIDS tore through East Palo Alto — he met Hopewell. He met her on Camellia Drive, then a drug hotbed. The East Coast native — frequently clad in classy pumps and cashmere jackets — stood out like a "pink fire hydrant."

Intrigued, Walker offered to fix her car. Hopewell asked him to lunch.

"She invited me to her place in Cupertino. I went there. One thing led to another and pretty soon we were an item."

Walker, who was also seeing several other women, realized that Hopewell was in over her head.

"She started hanging with some real shady characters," he said — men who carried guns and used them.

"They'll find you in the trunk of somebody's car. I just wasn't with that."

Despite his drug habit, Walker had until then steered clear of jail — by knowing how to avoid trouble, he said.

"I'm not going to be the one to die. That's just how I operate. [If] I see something, I'd rather leave than be a witness to it. Witnesses are just the next person to die, if you think about the culture and where we were."

Yet one night, while driving Hopewell's car in East Palo Alto, Walker was pulled over and arrested because Hopewell had reported the car stolen, Walker said. She wanted

to get her drugs that were stored in the vehicle, he said.

"When I was being booked in the police station, I said, 'I could just kill her for this, for putting me through this,'" Walker said. "A year later [after Hopewell was murdered] this officer remembered I had said that."

Bowers, who provided Hopewell with drugs, was arrested right away. His fingerprints were on the duct tape. Under pressure, he identified Walker from a photo and said that two white men were involved as well. Walker had occasionally worked on Bowers' car but didn't trust him, Walker said.

Hopewell "was playing him for the drugs. His friends knew and he didn't know it," Walker said. He theorizes that Bowers, a troubled boy who had become an angry, out-of-control man, fell for Hopewell but was rebuffed.

Swanson, the other murderer and an acquaintance of Bowers, left his DNA on a cigarette found at the crime scene. He was already in custody and was identified by other inmates, yet he wasn't charged until 2003.

In November 1991, pinned by Bowers' false testimony, Walker was convicted of first-degree murder. He was enraged.

He went to San Quentin, Folsom, Pelican Bay and Mule Creek prisons. He lost two appeals of his conviction and had to fight to have a letter labeling him a sexual predator removed from his record, a correction needed to remain unharmed by the other prisoners. And he was still mad.

"It was time for me to change my



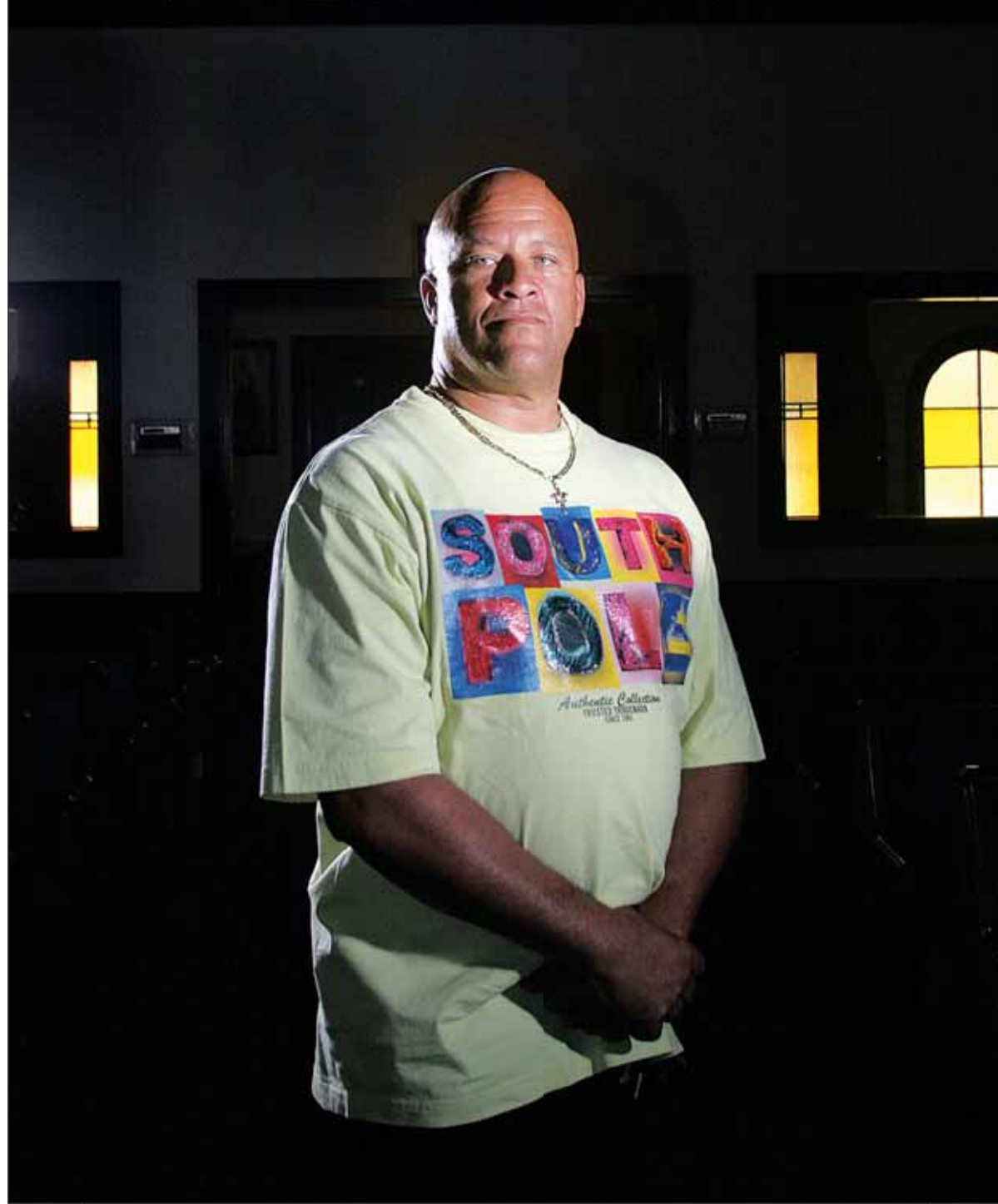
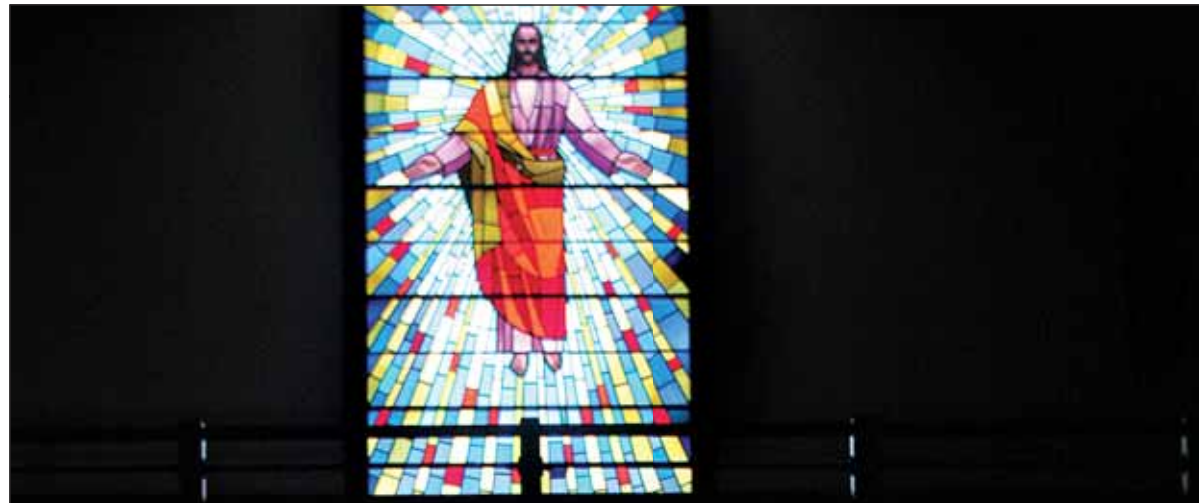
Rick Walker and Yvette 'Niki' Washington plan to move to Clear Lake, where Walker has a second home, after he retires.

life or become sicker and sicker," Walker said.

He asked God to help him heal. "I was just going to change my life, get in touch with who I am really and what my purpose is and what I'm supposed to do and not just go through life," he said.

For seven days, he ate nothing and drank only water.

"I said, 'God, why me?' and the answer I got was, 'Why not you? ... I



Rick Walker stands in the sanctuary of St. John Baptist Church in East Palo Alto, where he recently spoke to the community about his faith and his life. He credits God with transforming him while he was still wrongfully imprisoned.

"When I first went to visit, Rick was a very angry man," said Palo Alto resident Tony Tucher. Tucher befriended Walker after they met through Tucher's wife, Carolyn, a friend of Walker's mother, Myrtle. Tucher's daughter, Alison, became the lawyer who proved Walker's innocence. (See Tucher family sidebar).

By 1999, though, something inside Walker was starting to change.

"I was just going to change my life, get in touch with who I am really and what my purpose is and what I'm supposed to do and not just go through life," he said.

For seven days, he ate nothing and drank only water.

"I said, 'God, why me?' and the answer I got was, 'Why not you? ... I

know you are tough enough to handle this."

He began to realize the importance of teaching others about the justice system's failures and of the immense power within each individual.

And he recognized that anger only sears the person who is angry.

"I had a lot to give. I just didn't know how I was going to give it," Walker said.

He took self-help classes, learn-

ing how to control anger and boost his self-esteem. He practiced tai chi. He earned his GED and volunteered to tutor other inmates. (Nearly every prisoner can be inspired to read using either the Bible, a smut book or a Louis L'Amour Western novel, Walker said with a smile.)

And, he began giving away items — toothpaste, soap — that he had stashed to prepare for all-prison lock-downs.

"People who knew me in prison thought I was going crazy," Walker said. "In my faith, I had to believe that I was going home."

Through letters and visits, Tony Tucher watched Walker change.

"I witnessed this transformation. It was wonderful to see," Tucher said. "He's really put his life in order. In a way, he proved his freedom before he was released from prison."

'He's really put his life in order. In a way, he proved his freedom before he was released from prison.'

— Tony Tucher, a friend of Rick Walker

"I said, 'Rick, you are a freer man in prison than most of us are out of prison,'" Tucher said.

So when Walker was released on June 9, 2003, he was ready.

It is now one of his mottos, one Walker likes to repeat: "If you stay ready, you don't have to get ready."

Tucher helped him secure a job at Precision Automotive, where owner Dennis Quinn gave him a chance even though Walker had been away from cars for more than 12 years. Walker now considers Quinn and Tucher among his closest friends.

And soon after his release, he became a caretaker for two nieces and a nephew. One niece, Ramika Evans, left Walker's home just weeks ago to begin school at Columbia University after graduating from Eastside College Preparatory School this spring.

And as the months and years pass, he has become increasingly aware that his 12-year ordeal hadn't been all bad.

"I couldn't say this before, but prison was a great learning experience for me," Walker said. "I think it's made me a much better person."

It rescued him, in a way, from the madness of East Palo Alto in the early 1990s.

"I'm blessed all the way around. All the different women I was messing with, I never came up with any diseases. I never got caught up in any gun play," Walker said. "Very few people survived that era."

"People say, 'You sacrificed a lot,' and I'm, like, 'Yeah, I did.' I sacrificed, but a lot of people benefited from the sacrifice. A lot of people got a better understanding of the system."

Walker believes he has been called to share about his experience.

"I've been through the fire, and I don't want anybody else to go through the fire I went through."

He speaks to groups regularly, at churches, schools and prisons and

(continued on page 23)



Rick Walker and his friend Tony Tucher share a laugh at Precision Automotive Service in Palo Alto, where Tucher found work for Walker in 2003.

Good friends indeed — Palo Alto's Tucher family

Walker's case had lasting positive impact on people involved

Story by Becky Trout. Photographs by Veronica Weber

Rick Walker's journey toward freedom started, initially, with a friendship between two mothers — one from Palo Alto, one from East Palo Alto.

"I met her at a local school board function and really admired her," Palo Alto's Carolyn Tucher (pronounced "Too-ker"), a former school-board member, said of her longtime friend, Myrtle Walker, a former East Palo Alto mayor.

The two women met frequently for lunch and co-founded Cultural Kaleidoscope, a Palo Alto Art Center program that allows children and teachers from both communities to work together on an art project.

When Lisa Hopewell was murdered in January 1991, and Myrtle Walker's son, Rick, was arrested soon after, Myrtle met with Tucher, who had a daughter at Stanford Law School, Alison.

"As a law student, I learned enough about the evidence to believe that Rick had been wrongfully convicted," Alison Tucher, now a partner at San Francisco's Morrison and Foerster, wrote in a recent e-mail. "What motivated me to work hard on his case was my view ... that he had nothing to do with Lisa Hopewell's murder."

Alison, formerly with the Santa Clara County District Attorney's office, lobbied the prosecutors, eventually presenting, with the help of Walker's family, witnesses and evidence to show Walker was innocent.

By that time, Tony Tucher, a retired Palo Alto banker and Alison's father, was involved as well. He visited Walker in prison and helped him secure a job — within

two months of his release in 2003 — at Precision Automotive in Palo Alto's Ventura neighborhood. And Tony Tucher has helped Walker manage his now sizable portfolio, which he gained through two settlements with the county and state.

"It was the biggest case I've ever been involved with, the project I'm most proud of," Sinunu-Towery said. "It will always be the most important thing I've done as a prosecutor."

All three Tuchers remain humble, downplaying the importance of their help. They say the Walkers have played an important role in their lives.

"She's my friend," Carolyn Tucher said when asked why she reached out to assist Myrtle's family. "You help a friend just as a friend would help you."

Alison Tucher, a Gunn High School graduate, said she was grateful to be able to put her legal training to good use.

And Tony Tucher called his rela-

(continued on page 23)



Rick Walker, who used to be nicknamed 'The Troubleshooter' for his mechanical expertise, consults some transmission-repair documents at his job at Precision Automotive Service in September.

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Free at last

(continued from page 21)

through the Northern California Innocence Project, based at Santa Clara University.

He's especially proud of a speech he gave in Fallon, Nev., during the last school year. Students from Churchill County High School had raised money to bring Walker and his fiancée, Washington, to Fallon.

'I've been through the fire, and I don't want anybody else to go through the fire I went through.'

— Rick Walker

He told Washington to take photos. But although she lives with Walker and has spent hundreds of hours talking with him, she was so enthralled by his speech she didn't take a single photo, Walker said.

No presentation is quite the same, he said.

"I ask God to give me the words

to these specific people. Every single time it's a different speech," he said.

He returned to Mule Creek State Prison just months after he had been released.

"There are a lot of men in there in the same predicament that I was in. They just want to know what it took for me to overcome," Walker said.

"I want to go back to reassure them that with faith, with belief, with perseverance ... they, too, can have freedom. Maybe not outside of the prison that keeps them, but in their hearts and minds and soul they can have freedom. They can be at peace."

When he isn't speaking, Walker has plenty of other engagements.

"I almost have to have the arms of an octopus, but I'm managing," he said.

He plans to retire, marry Washington and move to Clear Lake, where he can fix cars to his heart's content — including his '55 Cadillac Fleetwood, '46 Chrysler Plymouth and '72 Oldsmobile Cutlass convertible.

"It's my turn. I get to enjoy life now." ■

Good friends

(continued from page 21)

relationship with Rick a "privilege."

"I have a friend we admire although we have very different backgrounds."

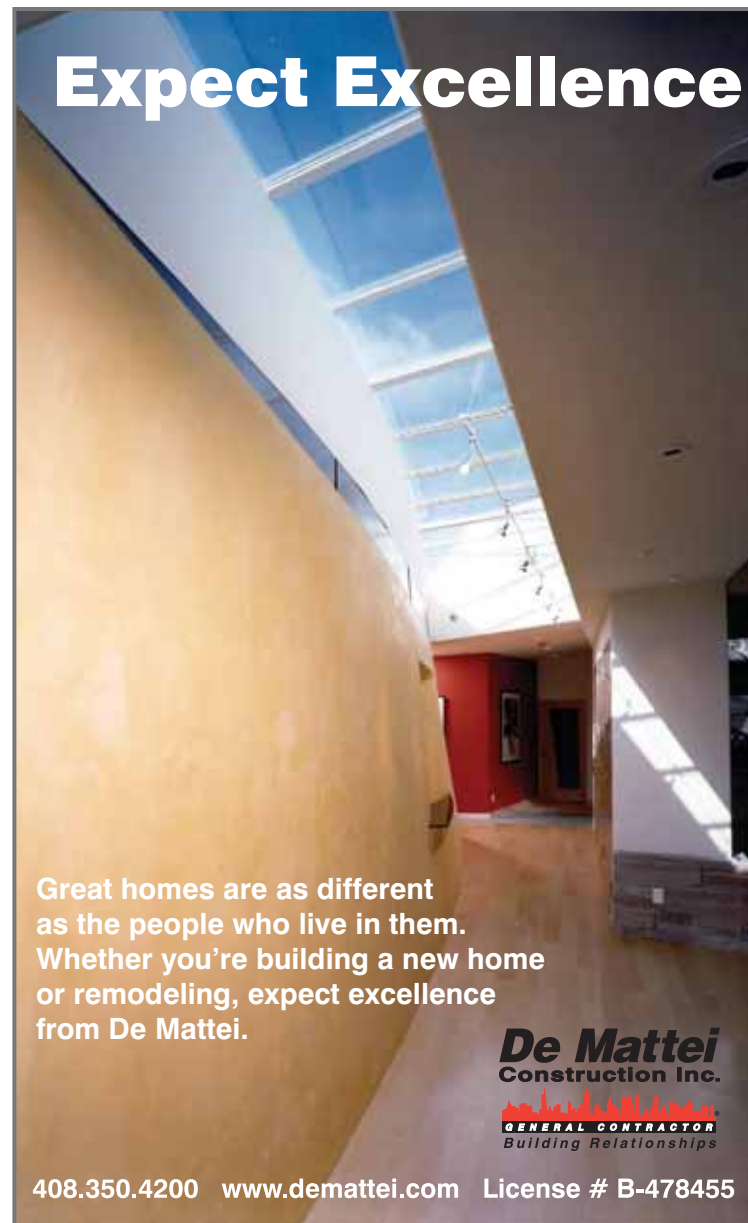
Tony has broadened his support to other prisoners, who are poorly prepared to reintegrate into society,

he said.

"It's amazing how many people have no contact with the outside at all," he said.

The experience has reinforced Carolyn's belief in the importance of building links between Palo Alto and East Palo Alto.

"If we knew each other better, we'd be so much wiser." ■



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Arts & Entertainment

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

ASCEENDING Theater



Meredith
Monk
premiers
abstract,
'unusual
concoction' at
Stanford

Interdisciplinary artist Meredith Monk combines evocative music with video imagery and inventive choreography.

Jessie Froman

by Karla Kane

Stanford Lively Arts has hosted dance pieces, string quartets and vocal concerts before, but Meredith Monk's new work, "Songs of Ascension," is all three and more.

The New York City artist, in collaboration with visual artist Ann Hamilton, has created a 70-minute work that interweaves evocations of ancient spiritual rituals, vocal harmonies and modal melodies, flickering video images and the metaphoric structures of towers into a cohesive whole. If it sounds mystifying and description-defying, Monk isn't surprised. "It's very abstract. It's not easy to talk about in words," she said. "But I hope it is moving to people."

The work, which will have its world premiere at Stanford University's Memorial Auditorium on Oct. 18, features Monk's own vocal ensemble as well as the Todd Reynolds Quartet and members of the Pacific Mozart Ensemble, in addition to visual imagery by Hamilton. Overall, "Songs of Ascension" is an interdisciplinary exploration of sound, movement and spirituality.

Monk, a 1995 recipient of the MacArthur "genius grant," has been on the arts scene since the 1960s. Some recent works include "a Vocal Offering," performed for the Dalai Lama in 1999; and 2005's "Stringsongs," her first composition for strings.

For "Songs of Ascension," Monk drew inspiration from a collection of Old Testament psalms — so-called "songs of ascent" — that were used in ancient harvest celebrations. She then became fascinated with the theme of ascent as a commonality across spiritual traditions, including the pyramids of the ancient Maya, Buddhist stupas and the idea of Heaven being above Earth.

In the meantime, Hamilton in 2007 constructed a double-helix-shaped tower in Geyserville, Calif., and invited Monk to perform in it. The 8-story concrete structure was modeled after a 16th-century Italian well, and the combination of its physical height and Monk's newfound interest in the theme of spiritual ascent proved a good fit. With the addition of Monk's music for voice and strings (inspired by her previous work with the Kronos Quartet), the groundwork for "Songs of Ascension" was laid.

When Stanford Lively Arts approached Monk with the request to premiere "Ascension" at the university, she faced the challenge of transforming the piece for a more conventional venue. "We had to consider, 'How do we do this as theater when it isn't really a theater piece?' We wanted to get away from the typical staging of theater and make it a more participatory experience for the audience," Monk said.

One of the biggest difficulties was shifting the focus to fit the Stanford audience's perspective. "The best way to see was from above, but at Stanford the audience is looking up at the stage. It's been incredibly challenging to make that work," she said.

Elaine Buckholtz, the show's lighting designer, is a local light-art expert who received her master of fine arts degree from Stanford and currently teaches a course there. Buckholtz has worked with Monk for a decade and said "Ascension" is "an unusual concoction, even for Meredith."

(continued on next page)

Meredith Monk

(continued from previous page)

Buckholtz's role is to create the appropriate ambiance to accompany Monk's music and choreography, and her goal is to make the audience

feel completely surrounded by the show. "Lighting designers treat the theater as an environment. I want to give the audience the feeling of space within the production, not that they're just watching it," she said.

To achieve the sense of audience



Meredith Monk and her vocal ensemble performed in Ann Hamilton's specially constructed tower.

immersion, Buckholtz will use several unusual tactics, including exposing the stage's back wall (rather than trying to disguise it, as with a traditional set), lighting the chorus located in the balcony, and projecting Hamilton's videos (including images of towers and similar structures) around the theater in a sweeping fashion. "We want to make it a more three-dimensional, spatial experience" than the average show, she said.

Though the lighting and images are important to the piece, "the music is the base," Monk said. The visual side, she said, "is kind of like weather; it doesn't require such a high level of attention. I don't want anything getting in the way of the music."

The music of "Ascension" is meant

to reflect the shape and acoustics of a spiraling tower. "It's continuous but it shifts; there are variations and recurrences, and it's really cyclical," Monk said. The physical restrictions of performing in a literal tower in Geyserville proved inspirational, as Monk was forced to work without her typical keyboard-based arrangements and those of other less portable instruments. "The limitations really became interesting," she said, forcing her to weave together string and vocal sections to form a full-fledged score.

Monk utilizes extended-vocal technique, which aims to use the voice as a true instrument, in "Ascension," leaving its voices unencumbered by lyrics. "The music is very tonal, very organic," she said, adding that the string players have

memorized the piece, leaving them free to move about the stage rather than be tied to music stands. And though the idea came from ancient songs of spirituality, "we're just doing my music," she said, rather than emulating the music of any particular religious tradition.

Monk hopes audiences will be able to experience her work purely, without preconceived ideas getting in the way. "I wish people could just drop their expectations and perceive the performance emotionally, spiritually and viscerally and just let go," she said.

In the modern world, Monk said: "We've lost some of our sense of ritual. There's a real spiritual longing. I hope that 'Ascension' is cleansing and refreshing for people." ■

What: "Songs of Ascension" by Meredith Monk and Ann Hamilton, presented by Stanford Lively Arts

Where: Memorial Auditorium, Stanford University

When: Saturday, Oct. 18, at 8 p.m.

Cost: General-admission tickets are \$25-60; Stanford students pay \$13-30.

Info: Go to livelyarts.stanford.edu or call 650-725-ARTS. For more about Monk, including a video preview of "Songs of Ascension," go to www.meredith-monk.org.

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"My Daughter the Terrorist" is a documentary made by a film crew that was given rare access to the world of the Tamil Tigers in Sri Lanka.

Worlds on film

United Nations Association festival focuses on a range of global issues

by Rebecca Wallace

Documentaries in the United Nations Association Film Festival focus on contemporary issues around the world — but not necessarily the ones you'd expect.

This year, there's "Disappearing Frogs," a film about Bay Area researchers working to address declining amphibian populations. "Sliding Liberia" follows four surfers on a quest for the perfect wave in Liberia. In addition, there's a rare cinematic offering from Sri Lanka, "My Daughter The Terrorist," made by a film crew given unusual access to the Tamil Tigers.

"We try to bring stories you've never seen before," festival director Jasmina Bojic said.

Bojic, a film critic who teaches at Stanford University, founded the film festival 11 years ago as a collaboration between the UNA's Midpeninsula chapter and the Stanford Film Society. Documentaries come from a broad range of countries and deal with numerous global issues.

This year, the festival's theme is "Blue Planet, Green Planet." The green reflects current ecological concerns — several films pose environmental questions — but Bojic also sees the color as a symbol of thriving in general.

"Blue is the planet where we live, in all its problems. ... We want the planet to be healed; that's why it's green," she said.

The festival opens on Sunday, Oct. 19, at the Aquarius Theatre at 430 Emerson St. in Palo Alto. It continues through Sunday, Oct. 29, with screenings in East Palo Alto, San Francisco and Stanford. Interspersed among the screenings are panel talks about the films and their issues. Filmmakers and other notables will sit on the panels, but Bojic also encourages audience members to lend their voices to the discussions. She'd like the festival to be a place where members of different Midpeninsula communities can



"Disappearing Frogs," by filmmaker Chris Bauer, tries to find answers to the declining frog population around the world.

connect, too.

This year, about 440 films were submitted to the festival; Bojic and the other members of the jury chose 41, both features and shorts. Here are some of the highlights:

Opening night, Oct. 19, begins with "Disappearing Frogs" at 7:15 p.m., followed by "Galapagos Evolving," a look at the modern world's impacts on the Galapagos Islands, at 7:30 p.m. "Flow: For Love Of Water," about the risks to the global water supply, is at 7:45 p.m.

After screenings at the Roxie Theater in San Francisco on Oct. 20, the festival moves to the Eastside Theater at 2101 Pulgas Ave. in East Palo Alto on Oct. 21. Themes of the day are children, health and immigration, with a panel titled "Why Do You Eat Junk Food?" set for 5:30 p.m. Films include "Two Angry Moms," an American film about school food programs, at 4 p.m.; and "Children In No Man's Land," a Mexican/American film about unaccompanied kids crossing the border, at 6:45 p.m.

Day four of the festival is at Stanford University's Annenberg Auditorium, featuring "Taxi To The Dark Side," which won the Academy Award for best documentary feature in February. Showing at 5:40 p.m., it's a mystery about the death of an Afghan taxi driver at Bagram Air Base, and also alleges abuse of power by the Bush Administration.

Screenings on Oct. 22 also in-

clude "The Linguists" at 9:30 p.m. The film follows two linguists hurrying to document languages in Siberia, India and Bolivia before they're lost.

Day five, also at the Annenberg Auditorium, highlights women's issues. Films include "Frontrunner," an Afghan/American look at Masouda Jalai, a woman who ran for president in Afghanistan, at 6:40 p.m. "My Daughter The Terrorist" looks at two 24-year-old female fighters in Sri Lanka at 9:50 p.m.

On Oct. 24, events at Encina Hall at 616 Serra St., Stanford, begin with a 4 p.m. panel discussion called "The Impact of Oil: China, USA, Sudan and Nigeria." Films include the short "This Time We Can't Say We Didn't Know," a movie from Croatia and Sudan that combines images from the Holocaust and the Rwanda and Darfur genocides, at 5:45 p.m.

Nobel Peace Prize-winner James Orbinski of Doctors Without Borders, who will be at the panel discussion, is also the focus of the 8:45 p.m. film, "Triage: Dr. James Orbinski's Humanitarian Dilemma."

Saturday's theme is the environment, with a panel set for 4:40 p.m. on "Waste = Food, From Awareness to Action." Film highlights at the Annenberg Auditorium include "Garbage! The Revolution Starts At Home," at 12:45 p.m. about a Canadian family keeping every piece of garbage it creates for three months and then following the trash to see where it goes.

"Trouble the Water," which won the Grand Jury Prize at this year's Sundance Film Festival, will be shown at 8 p.m. It follows a couple trapped in New Orleans by Hurricane Katrina's floodwaters.

The festival closes on Oct. 26 at Annenberg and Memorial auditoriums, with films including "A Promise to the Dead: The Exile Journey of Ariel Dorfman," about the playwright/author Dorfman, who was a member of Salvador Allende's ousted government in Argentina. It will be shown at 11:20 a.m.

A complete list of the festival's films and events is at www.unaff.org.

What: The 11th annual United Nations Association Film Festival, eight days of short films and features

Where: Various locations in Palo Alto, East Palo Alto, Stanford and San Francisco

When: Sunday, Oct. 19, through Sunday, Oct. 26

Cost: Admission per Peninsula film session (a two- to three-hour block of time) costs \$8 for the public and \$5 for non-Stanford students. San Francisco screenings are \$10 per film. Other ticket options include daily passes and festival passes. Panel discussions are free to everyone, and all screenings and events are free for Stanford students.

Info: Go to www.unaff.org or call 650-724-5544. Tickets can also be purchased through the Stanford Ticket Office at 650-725-ARTS.



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Marian Sedoughi

Maria Vaccaro loved the beauty of Stanford University when she moved from Belgium in 2005 with her husband, but truly feeling at home in a new country was another matter.

The accidental tourist

Film shows women coping with moving overseas — and giving up careers — for spouses' jobs

by Rebecca Wallace

Maria Vaccaro appears to have that enviable European ease with languages. Her dark eyes animated, she slips quickly from chatting with her husband in French to being interviewed in English about being born in Italy.

But when she came to Palo Alto in 2005, she could barely say hello in English. Vaccaro moved from Belgium when her husband came to work at Stanford University as a cancer biologist. In Europe, she had been a filmmaker working in national television. But because of the language barrier she found herself unable to work in the States.

So she decided to communicate in another language she knew: video.

Her movie "Women in a New Land," which tells the stories of four expatriates in the Stanford area, depicts the often difficult paths that women travel when they follow their partners to another country.

Aided by funding from the Bechtel International Center of Stanford (often called the I-Center) and from the Community Committee for International Students of Stanford, Vaccaro finished the film in June and has been showing it on campus. More screenings are planned for Oct. 14 and Nov. 5 at the I-Center.

Vaccaro's story has elements familiar to many expatriates. When she and her husband, Patrick, arrived in the Bay Area, it was a sunny June

and everything seemed exciting.

"The first month was magical; you feel like you're on holiday," Vaccaro said in an interview in Stanford's Main Quad. But after Patrick's work began, she was alone at home with nothing to do. She had gone from being a busy filmmaker to someone who struggled to fill her days and find a purpose.

"When you're here with your husband, people don't ask about you. They want to know what your husband does," she said. "You're no longer a professional woman."

Vaccaro took English classes and also worked for a while at Caffe del Doge in Palo Alto to help improve her English. She still looks troubled when she thinks about her transition, saying, "I took about two years to really feel comfortable."

Finding a project she could immerse herself in — the film — was a major step. Vaccaro began interviewing other expat women, many of whom she met at the I-Center.

Ultimately, her film focused on a quartet of women with a range of experiences.

There is Claire, from France, whose language and career skills have helped her thrive in a new job in California. But she's been in the United States for more than seven years, and early on she found it "really, really easy to be depressed."

Michelle, from South Africa, ended up going from being a bookkeeper to an artist here. Keiko, a Japanese orthopedic surgeon, was unable to pursue her career here and became a stay-at-home mom.

Svetlana, a Russian cellist, found places to perform but had to give up a job with a prestigious Berlin orchestra to follow her husband. Still, she said: "I have beautiful luck. I can play cello and I don't need another language."

Stories such as these are familiar to Gwyn Dukes, an advisor to international families at the I-Center. She is featured in the movie talking about the center's services, which include organizing social and cultural events for families, hosting workshops about adjusting emotionally to life overseas, and providing information about public transit — many expats do not have cars, and are surprised to find how difficult getting around can be in this area.

Perhaps most importantly, the center has information about productive ways to fill time when one cannot work. Dukes can suggest volunteer work, internships, classes and other activities.

Many people who come to this area with their partners are putting flourishing careers on hold. Expats who are regulars at the center have included architects, lawyers, doctors and an astrophysicist from Italy.

"It's a major challenge to their identity," Dukes said of moving abroad. "We try to create programs with information for people to build their own lives."

The Community Committee for International Students at Stanford,

a volunteer group that enlists local residents for English conversation hours and to host homestays, also has a Professional Liaison program. While not an employment service, the program allows international spouses of students and scholars to meet with locals of their occupation, to talk about common experiences and issues.

These days, the working partners in international couples are still typically men, Dukes said. But more couples are going overseas because of a woman's job. This year, the I-Center is holding its first social "meet-up" event for men.

Dukes got to know the filmmaker through several workshops and was delighted when Vaccaro decided to make "Women in a New Land." Many internationals who have seen the film told Dukes it struck a familiar chord, making them feel less alone and giving them ideas about how to ease their transitions.

In addition, Dukes said, the film has also been an excellent way for the working expat to understand what his or her partner is going through: the feelings of dependency, loneliness and anxiety.

That's fitting, because at its heart, the movie is really about relationships, about women choosing to accompany their partners to a strange new country because they can't bear to be apart.

"It's a love story," Vaccaro said. "You come here for love." ■

Info: "Women in a New Land" will be shown on Tuesday, Oct. 14, at 5 p.m. and Wednesday, Nov. 5, at 3:30 p.m., in the Bechtel International Center, 584 Capistrano Way, Stanford University. For more information, email Maria Vaccaro at mariavaccaro111@hotmail.com. Information on the I-Center is at www.stanford.edu/dept/icenter. The Community Committee for International Students of Stanford's site is at www.ccisstanfordu.org.

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Eating Out

RESTAURANT REVIEW

A historic eatery

MacArthur Park has landmark ambiance, but the menu needs attention

by Dale F. Bentson

The MacArthur Park restaurant occupies one of the loveliest buildings on the West Coast. Officially known as "Hostess House," the structure is a California historical landmark. Designed by regional architect Julia Morgan, the Arts and Crafts-era building was once a place where World War I soldiers from the former Camp Fremont in Menlo Park could meet with their families.

The spacious interior features exposed wood trusses, oversized fireplaces and a balcony at either end of the long main room with an impressive vaulted ceiling. The building was moved in 1919 to its present location at the end of University Avenue in Palo Alto after Camp Fremont was dismantled.

This past April, chef Faz Poursohi and business partner Chuck Frank acquired MacArthur Park from the bankrupt Spectrum Restaurant Group. Déjà vu. Frank had hired Poursohi as the original chef at MacArthur Park in 1981, when Frank was an executive with Spectrum. It was a happy reunion for the two restaurateurs.

The partners refocused the historic eatery, painted, installed new carpeting and lighting, and upgraded the aging kitchen. The decidedly American menu is still the culinary draw. The ingredients are fresher and feature more locally raised products than in the past. The food varies from good to very good, but a few missed details jarred several dishes.

For starters, baby artichokes (\$6) steamed, then grilled over mesquite, were served with an herb/yogurt/sour-cream sauce over a bed of watercress. While tasty, the chokes needed one or two more layers of spiny leaf peeled away; that first bite was extraordinarily chewy.

I enjoyed the delicate alder-smoked salmon (\$12). The house-smoked fish was presented paper-thin, carpaccio-style. Served with crispy wafers, chopped egg, ca-

pers, red onion and Dijon mustard sauce, the salmon was brilliant orange-red and melt-on-the-tongue delicious.

The pasilla pepper (\$8) was filled with cheddar, jack and blue cheeses, then grilled and served with salsa fresca, cilantro and lime. The cheese wasn't melted; it clotted rather than oozed. Cheddar is not a quick-melting cheese in any case, and the blue cheese overpowered everything else. The pepper was nicely charred and the salsa fresca was a triumph of fresh flavors.

MacArthur Park has a longstanding reputation for ribs. A full slab of baby back ribs is \$24. I opted for the ribs and chicken (\$22), a half slab of baby back ribs (eight ribs) and half a chicken. Both options came with great house-made fries and tempting, slightly piquant coleslaw.

So-called baby back ribs are really pork loin ribs and refer to the size of the bone rather than the age of the hog. Tender and lean, yes, but with little meat on the bones. They are cut from the upper part of the animal's back ribs. Nonetheless, they are a lot of fun to eat. Chef Poursohi brings his ribs in from Chicago. They are about as luscious as baby back ribs get.

The barbeque sauce was less viscous than most rib and chop house sauces. Although the recipe was not divulged, I discerned tomato, slightly sweet flavors with hints of garlic, chili pepper, lemon and perhaps Tabasco. I wouldn't call the flavors bold, yet there was a residual tang left on the tongue. The sauce proved delightful with the delicious tower of onion strings (\$6). I was surprised to learn the barbeque sauce was not house-made but imported, via Chef Poursohi's recipe, from Chicago.

The fabulous double-cut pork chop (\$24) spoke to me. House-smoked and grilled over mesquite, the chop had an outside that was charred black-gold while the in-



Smoked salmon with chopped egg, capers, red onion and Dijon mustard sauce at MacArthur Park.

terior was snowy-white, juicy and irresistible. Sautéed apples and a garnet yam added to the eloquence.

Ravioli of the day (\$22) was stuffed with spinach and cheese. Bathed in tomato cream sauce and dotted with bits of smoked trout, the ravioli had flavors that were sophisticated and rich. The salty fish added a degree of earthy depth to the plump, yielding pillows of pasta.

Jumbo diver scallops (\$22) were fleshy, fresh and perfectly cooked through while retaining their natural juices. The scallops were wrapped in apple-wood bacon,

which prettified the presentation, but imparted too much saltiness to the delicately flavored shellfish.

The salmon special (\$22), with garlicky mashed potatoes and a medley of green beans and red peppers, was suffocated by the off-tasting lemon-kiwi sauce. The sauce was more like an oversweet lemon curd and the kiwi had little flavor. I'm not sure what the point was.

Desserts had similar results. I was enthused by the rendition of warm apple tart (\$7). It was almost scalloped — that is, creamy — with slices of hot apple on a feather bed of airy pastry. Alas, the surround-

ing sauce was a head-scratcher: an awful cinnamon-coffee concoction that nearly ruined the dessert. A simple cinnamon sauce would have sufficed. I wondered if someone in the kitchen had made a mistake. In any case, I could manage only that part of the tart untouched by the dreadful sauce.

The crème brûlée trio (\$9) was three little ramekins of chocolate-, Grand Marnier- and coffee-flavored brûlées. Only the chocolate was edible, and it was more pudding than airy custard. The Grand Marnier brûlée tasted solely of alcohol; the liqueur must have been poured over at the last minute. The coffee was just inedible, smacking of burnt coffee grounds.

The turtle pie (\$8) was a moist chocolate brownie with dense fudgy topping and a dollop of whipped cream. It was the best dessert we tried, but all the desserts looked better than they tasted.

The wine menu lists about 80 California wines. Prices are heady and most California wines are overpriced anyway. The mark-up here runs about three times wholesale. Corkage is \$5.

The restaurant can accommodate up to 350 people, nearly double that for cocktails. Though more attention to detail in the kitchen is needed, MacArthur Park has all the right ingredients: all-American food and wine, excellent service and stylish ambiance. ■

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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.

Dittmer's Gourmet Meats and Wurst-Haus Inc., 400 San Antonio Road, Mountain View (650) 941-3800
This small shop is home to almost 50

types of sausage and more than 30 lunch meats, 40 smoked meats and assorted liverwursts, pats, poultry and smoked fish. Offers a lunch menu: sandwiches and drinks are available. Seating is only available outside on picnic-style benches. Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sat.: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. (Reviewed Nov. 29, 2002)

Douce France, 104 Town & Country Village, Palo Alto (650) 322-3601
Douce France ("sweet France") is chock-

full of decadent dessert and breakfast offerings. Try a two-bite mini tart with blackberries or blueberries and custard -- or anything else from a huge array of eclairs, cookies and cakes. Sandwiches are pricey but oh-so-French, featuring such ingredients as creamy mozzarella, smoked ham and oven-roasted turkey. And when it comes to salads, Douce France pays attention to the details. Mon.-Sat. 7 a.m.-7 p.m.; Sun. 8 a.m.-4 p.m. (Reviewed July

21, 2006)

Duck Club Restaurant, 100 El Camino Real in the Stanford Park Hotel, Menlo Park (650) 322-1234

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The menu at this classic sports bar and

(continued on page 31)

Food Places to Eat



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Eating Out

(continued from page 29)

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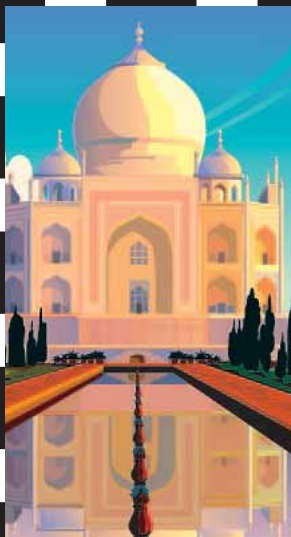
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Movies

Movie reviews by Jeanne Aufmuth, Tyler Hanley and Susan Tavernetti

OPENINGS

Rachel Getting Married

★★★★

(Guild) To say that Anne Hathaway ("The Princess Diaries") is a princess no more is one of 2008's most glaring understatement. As a recovering addict on the verge of imploding, she's the stuff that Oscar dreams of.

Jonathan Demme ("Silence of the Lambs," "Philadelphia") directs this wildly engaging journey into the underbelly of family dysfunction: the wedding, ranking slightly below the holidays as a toxic battleground for domestic damage.

Kym Buckman (Hathaway) has been sprung from rehab into the cozy custody of casa Buckman for her sister Rachel's (Rosemarie DeWitt) impending nuptials. Nine months clean but ever the narcissist, Kym stakes out the arcane rituals of matrimony as a breeding ground for her scathing wit and edgy indictments of family and friends.

Her sociopathic tendencies mean she's searching for unconditional love from Olive the poodle while wallowing in the proverbial co-dependent cocoon with guilt-ridden dad Paul (Bill Irwin). Father and daughter: the "double helix of crises" as labeled by the soon-to-be-bride.

One catastrophe leads to another, among them the pivotal rehearsal dinner that Kym chooses as a forum for her splashy amends speech stressing a litany of past transgressions: mattress fires, car wrecks and passing out in bathtubs among them.

Hathaway pervades Demme's gritty, hand-held docudrama with energetic strife, surrendering to Jenny Lumet's graceful and spontaneous scripting while pursuing approval from an enabling dad and distant mom (the excellent and beautifully mature Debra Winger) with the subtlety of a heat-seeking missile.

The spotlight stays firmly on Kym but her supporting players are pitch-perfect to a man: Irwin, Winger, and DeWitt as the beleaguered older sib who just wants one special day of her own. Kudos to the broad-minded groom and his recovering best man as played by Tunde Adebimpe and Mather Zickel.

Demme's low-budget style perfectly complements the aura of adoration and self-loathing. In the grand tradition of awkward hitch-pics ("Four Weddings and a Funeral," "Monsoon Wedding") the quips come fast and furious but never overshadow the foundation of friction that speaks to demons untamed.

Rated: R for language, drug use and adult situations. 1 hour, 54 minutes.

— Jeanne Aufmuth

The Express

(Century 16, Century 20) An inspirational crowd-pleaser, Gary Fleder's biopic of Ernie Davis — the first African American to win the coveted Heisman Trophy — depicts the white lines that the "Elmira Express" had to cross on and off the college gridiron. Laced with humor and traditional values, the sports film sustains a surprisingly upbeat tone while dealing with Davis' personal challenges and the civil rights issues that divided the country in the 1950s and 1960s.

Football becomes more than a game. Rob Brown ("Coach Carter") trades his basketball for a pigskin to portray Ernie Davis as an extremely likeable, upstanding All-American hero. Charles Leavitt's by-the-playbook script introduces Davis as a stuttering, swift-footed 10-year-old raised in a dirt-poor Pennsylvania coal-belt town.

His life is rich with family, particularly his wise, Bible-quoting grandfather (Charles S. Dutton of "Honeydripper"). But the color of the young boy's skin marks him as "The Other," whether he's vying with Uniontown toughs to collect bottles or moving with his newly remarried mother to Elmira, N.Y., where he initially plays Small Fry Football without a jersey.

"Don't worry," says the coach, "the other team won't have any trouble recognizing you." His extraordinary athletic talent brings him much more recognition.

Davis' rise from high school to Syracuse University stardom contains all the standard football clichés: being recruited by the best (Darrin Dewitt Henson of "Stomp the Yard" as the outspoken Jim Brown), butting helmets with a teammate (Geoff Stults of "Carjacking"), locker-room tension, taking cheap shots, coach confrontations, hamstring injuries. Three seasons of Syracuse Orange football unspool like a highlights reel. Two things sustain interest: the good-natured humor of fellow player Jack Buckley (Omar Benson Miller of "Miracle at St. Anna"), who notes the likelihood of spotting a Negro polar bear before a Negro co-ed on the New York campus, and the complex character of coach Ben Schwartzwalder (Dennis Quaid).

Schwartzwalder embodies the traits that make for a legendary coach and a "good man." In one of his most nuanced performances, Quaid shows great emotional range. His character displays quiet discomfort over having dinner with the Davis family in one scene, and he later explodes in furious indignation over the discrimination directed at his three African-American athletes. Seeing vicious bigotry surface inside the stadium, Schwartzwalder transforms from a coach who wants to keep politics out of the game and diffuse racial conflict on the field to an advocate for social justice.

Cotton Bowl. 1960. Dallas, Texas. The game is tagged "the North against the South." The civil rights movement hovering on the film's sidelines finally suits up with the Davis biopic in an electrifying climax. Brown brings steely determination and dignity to his character in the clutch, and Quaid delivers one of the most stirring half-time speeches in movie history. The scene blindsides you with emotional power.

Despite its predictability, "The Express" keeps your eyes on a prize greater than a trophy.

Rated: PG for thematic content, violence and language involving racism, and for brief sensuality. 2 hours, 9 minutes.

— Susan Tavernetti

Body of Lies

(Century 16, Century 20) This ferocious tale about the multi-faceted conflict in the Middle East unites three of the best in the cinematic biz: actors Leonardo DiCaprio and Russell Crowe, and director Ridley Scott. Both complicated and compelling, "Body of Lies" offers an audacious glimpse at the hypocrisy and religious furor fueling a struggle most Americans recognize only as a political catch phrase — a "war on terror."

The inferred U.S. policies at the heart of "Body" are reminiscent of trying to pat your head and rub your stomach at the same time. One hand often doesn't know what the other is doing. Entrenched CIA operative Roger Ferris (DiCaprio) travels from Iraq to Jordan in order to hunt down violent fundamentalist Al-Saleem (Alon Abutbul), a jihadist leader eager to punish infidels in the name of Allah. Ferris' superior in the U.S. is pompous family man Ed Hoffman (Crowe, sporting spectacles and a beer belly).

Ferris connects with Jordan security chief Hani (British actor Mark Strong) to help keep tabs on a terrorist safehouse. Hani, too, is anxious to bring down Al-Saleem, but his methods strike a deep contrast to those of Ferris: Torture is fair game in Hani's eyes and deceit is an unforgivable offense. Ferris falls for a beautiful Iranian nurse (Golshifteh Farahani) while in Jordan, but Hoffman's questionable approach to the Al-Saleem problem threatens to undermine Ferris' efforts.

(continued on next page)

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MOVIE TIMES

Note: Screenings are for Wednesday through Thursday only.

Appaloosa (R) (Not Reviewed)	Century 16: 1:20, 4:25, 7:10 & 9:55 p.m. Century 20: 1:40, 4:25, 7:25 & 10:10 p.m. Sat. & Sun. also at 11 a.m.
Beverly Hills Chihuahua (PG) (Not Reviewed)	Century 16: 12:40, 1:55, 3:05, 4:20, 5:30, 6:45, 7:50, 9:10 & 10:10 p.m. Sun. also at 10:55 a.m.
Blindness (R) ***	Century 16: 1:05, 4 & 6:55 p.m. Sun.-Thu. also at 9:50 p.m. Century 20: 4:10 & 10:30 p.m.
Body of Lies (R) ***	Century 16: 12:35, 2, 3:30, 5, 6:30, 8 & 9:25 p.m. Century 20: 1:15, 4:15, 7:15 & 10:15 p.m.
Bullitt (PG) (Not Reviewed)	Century 16: Sat. at 10 p.m.
Burn After Reading (R) ***1/2	Century 16: 1, 3:20, 5:45, 8:05 & 10:30 p.m. Century 20: 12:05, 2:25, 4:45, 7:10 & 9:35 p.m.
Call and Response (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)	Century 20: 12:45, 3 & 5:15 p.m. Sat. & Sun. also at 7:30 & 9:45 p.m.
Choke (R) ***1/2	Aquarius: 1:30 & 10 p.m.
City of Ember (PG) (Not Reviewed)	Century 16: 12:30, 3, 5:25, 7:50 & 10:10 p.m. Century 20: 12:25, 2:50, 5:15, 7:40 & 10:05 p.m.
Death Note 2: The Last Name (Not Rated) (Not Reviewed)	Century 16: Wed. & Thu. at 7:30 p.m. Century 20: Wed. & Thu. at 7:30 p.m.
The Duchess (PG-13) ***1/2	Century 20: 12:50, 3:55, 7 & 9:40 p.m. CinéArts at Palo Alto Square: 1:45, 4:30 & 7:15 p.m. Fri.-Mon. also at 10 p.m.
Eagle Eye (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)	Century 16: 1:45, 4:30, 7:15 & 10:25 p.m. Century 20: 12:20, 1:50, 3:10, 4:40, 6, 7:35, 8:50 & 10:20 p.m.
The Express (PG) ***	Century 16: 12:45, 3:40, 7 & 10 p.m. Century 20: 1, 4, 7 & 10 p.m.
Flash of Genius (PG-13) ***	Century 16: 1:35, 4:40 & 10:20 p.m. Fri. & Sun.-Thu. also at 7:30 p.m. Century 20: 1:30, 4:30 & 10:10 p.m. Sat. & Sun. also at 10:50 a.m. Fri. & Sun.-Thu. also at 7:25 p.m.
Ghost Town (PG-13) ***1/2	Century 16: 1:50 & 4:50 p.m. Fri.-Tue. also at 7:25 & 10:20 p.m. Century 20: 2:30 p.m. Fri.-Tue. also at 7:35 p.m.
How to Lose Friends and Alienate People (R) (Not Reviewed)	Century 16: 3:55 & 9 p.m. Century 20: Noon. Fri.-Tue. also at 5 & 10:05 p.m.
Igor (PG) (Not Reviewed)	Century 20: 12:05, 2:20, 4:35, 6:50 & 9:05 p.m.

Lakeview Terrace (PG-13) ***1/2	Century 20: 12:55, 4:05, 7:50 & 10:30 p.m.
The Metropolitan Opera: Salome (Not Rated) (Not Reviewed)	Century 16: Sat. at 10 a.m. Century 20: Sat. at 10 a.m.
Miracle at St. Anna (R) **	Century 20: 12:40 & 7:05 p.m.
Nick and Norah's Infinite Playlist (PG-13) ***1/2	Century 16: 12:40, 1:40, 3:10, 5:25, 6:35, 7:40 & 9:55 p.m. Century 20: 12:10, 1:05, 2:35, 4:55, 7:20 & 9:55 p.m.
Nights in Rodanthe (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)	Century 16: 12:30, 2:55, 5:20, 7:45 & 10:05 p.m. Century 20: 12:35, 3, 5:35, 8 & 10:25 p.m.
Quarantine (R) (Not Reviewed)	Century 16: 12:50, 3:15, 5:35, 7:55 & 10:15 p.m. Century 20: 3:20, 5:40, 8:05 & 10:20 p.m.
Rachel Getting Married (R) ****	Guild: 1:30, 4, 7 & 9:45 p.m.
Religulous (R) (Not Reviewed)	Century 20: 12:15, 2:45, 5:20, 7:55 & 10:25 p.m. CinéArts at Palo Alto Square: 2, 4:40 & 7:25 p.m. Mon.-Fri. also at 10:05 p.m.
Sex Drive (R) (Not Reviewed)	Century 16: Sat. at 7:30 p.m. Century 20: Sat. at 7:30 p.m.
The Shining (R) (Not Reviewed)	Century 16: Fri. at 10 p.m.
Tell No One (Not Rated) ***1/2	Aquarius: 4 & 7 p.m.

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

Aquarius: 430 Emerson St., Palo Alto (266-9260)

CinéArts at Palo Alto Square: 3000 El Camino Real, Palo Alto (493-3456)

Century Cinema 16: 1500 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View (800-326-3264)

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Century Park 12: 557 E. Bayshore Blvd., Redwood City (800-326-3264)

Stanford: 221 University Ave., Palo Alto (324-3700)

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

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

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OPENINGS
 (continued from previous page)

DiCaprio is — as always — in top form. This is a physically and emotionally demanding role, and DiCaprio doesn't hold back. Crowe plays it more subtly, slathering on a layer of arrogance while constantly peering over his glasses to look down on those he speaks to. Strong — who bears a resemblance to actor Andy Garcia — and newcomer Farahani are charismatic in their supporting roles.

The story itself leaps around the globe, from Jordan to Amsterdam to Washington, D.C. The constant change of setting is a bit confusing, leaving the viewer with no sense of home base. The film's gut-wrenching climax is more frightening than any horror flick about ghosts and goblins. Perhaps most chilling is the truthfulness at its core: Director Scott does not gloss over the brutal and unsettling human effects of this seemingly endless strife.

Ultimately, "Body" is evocative and thought-provoking — for those able to wade through the web.

Rated: R for strong violence including some torture, and for language throughout. 2 hours, 8 minutes.

— Tyler Hanley

To view the trailer for "Body of Lies," "The Express" and "Rachel Getting Married" go to Palo Alto Online at www.PaloAltoOnline.com

STANFORD THEATER

The Stanford Theatre is at 221 University Ave. in Palo Alto. Go to www.stanfordtheatre.org.

Prelude to Fame (1950)

While vacationing in Italy, Nick Morell becomes friendly with a boy with a phenomenal music memory. Fri. at 7:30 p.m.

The Kidnappers (1953)

Two children kidnap and care for a baby who turns out to have a connection to their family. Fri. at 5:45 & 9:10 p.m.

The Brothers (1947)

An orphan girl (Patricia Roc) is sent to be housekeeper for a fishing family. Sat. & Sun. at 4 & 7:30 p.m.

The Perfect Woman (1949)

A professor designs a robot woman, and a man-about-town and his butler agree to take "Olga" out for the evening. Sat. & Sun. at 5:50 & 9:20 p.m.

Vertigo (1958)

Alfred Hitchcock's classic thriller. Thu. at 7:30 p.m.

The Duchess ★★1/2

(Cinearts, Century 20) "Duchess" is classic Keira Knightley, the mostly true story of Georgiana Spencer, a charming extrovert who made an abysmal match to the wealthy and powerful 18th-century aristocrat the Duke of Devonshire (Ralph Fiennes). The success of "Duchess" relies on energetic chemistry between Knightley and Fiennes, but it's much ado about nothing. Rated: PG-13 for language, action violence and mature themes. 2 hours, 32 minutes. — J.A. (Reviewed July 18, 2008)

Flash of Genius ★★★

(Century 16, Century 20) Detroit, Michigan, circa early 1960s. Robert Kearns (Greg Kinnear) is burning the candle at both ends as a gifted MIT professor of electrical engineering and amateur inventor. During a rainstorm he hits on a great idea: intermittent windshield wipers that function much as the human eye does. With a great deal of enthusiasm and naivete, the nutty professor takes his idea to the Ford Motor Company with the proviso that he be allowed to manufacture the wipers himself. Eighteen months and endless stalling tactics later, Ford rolls out its Mustang, a flashy roadster with, you guessed it, intermittent windshield wipers. Refusing to let this patent infringement go without a fight, Kearns digs in, determined to stand for what's right. Rated: PG-13 for brief strong language. 1 hour, 59 minutes. — J.A. (Reviewed Oct. 3, 2008)

Lakeview Terrace ★★1/2

(Century 16, Century 12) Samuel Jackson is L.A. cop Abel Turner, an edgy single dad of two whose grip on sanity and the responsibilities of neighborhood watch is a tad tight. New neighbors Chris and Lisa Mattson (Patrick Wilson and Kerry Washington) find out the hard way. Abel doesn't take kindly to their biracial coupling and makes it known in a number of intimidating ways: security lights shining in windows, late-night parties and ethnic slurs. Rated: PG-13 for language, violence and mature themes. 1 hour, 46 minutes. J.A. (Reviewed Sept. 19, 2008)

Nick and Norah's Infinite Playlist ★★1/2

(Century 16, Century 20) Michael Cera is the titular Nick, a broken-hearted high school senior trying to recover from the dumping received at the hands (and heart) of Tris (Alexis Dziena), who's moved on to bigger and better things. About the time that Nick is burning Tris another volume of his agonizing break-up mix (aptly titled "Closures"), pals corral him into a night on the town to seek out elusive underground sensation band Where's Fluffy, whose members are dropping baffling clues all over Manhattan. At one such indie rock haunt Nick meets Norah (Kat Dennings), a brainy frenemy of Tris' and head squire in best friend Caroline's (Ari Graynor) quest for maximum attention. Rated: PG-13 for language and mature themes. 1 hour, 30 minutes. — J.A. (Reviewed Oct. 3, 2008)

NOW PLAYING

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

Blindness ★★★

(Century 16, Century 20) The resurrection of humanity is a touchy subject, uncomfortable on its surface and downright horrifying beneath. Such is the case for the residents of the edgy Anytown where an epidemic of blindness known as the "white sickness" descends. Psychosomatic or neurological? Scientists are at wits' end as the country falls into a state of crisis and victims are sent to camps housed in an abandoned mental asylum to fend for themselves. Among them is a brilliant eye doctor (Mark Ruffalo) whose 20/20 vision abandons him, and his seeing wife (Julianne Moore) who is inexplicably spared yet refuses to leave her husband behind. Rated: R for violence, sexuality and very mature themes. 1 hour, 59 minutes. — J.A. (Reviewed Oct. 3, 2008)

Choke ★★1/2

(Aquarius, Century 20) What's not to love about a twisted, sex-addicted "historical interpreter" (tour guide) with relentless wit and a big old damaged heart? That's Victor Mancini (Sam Rockwell), who spreads himself razor-thin among gigs at the colonial theme park, weekly addiction workshops and tending to his delusional, sociopathic mother Ida (Anjelica Houston). Raunchy sex and nudity accompany a witty, pattering voiceover that utilizes dialogue from Chuck Palahniuk's controversial novel of the same name. Rated: R for graphic language, nudity and sexuality. 1 hour, 35 minutes. — J.A. (Reviewed Sept. 26, 2008)

“★★★★★”
AN AMERICAN CLASSIC.
 — Shawn Edwards, FOX-TV

“‘APPALOOSA’ IS FULL OF THUNDEROUS ACTION AND NAIL-BITING SUSPENSE.”
 — Peter Travers, *Rolling Stone*

“ED HARRIS’ PERFORMANCE IS POWERFUL.”
 — Kenneth Turan, *Los Angeles Times*

“VIGGO MORTENSEN IS MAGNETIC.”
 — Leah Rozen, *People*

“SEDUCTIVE AND ABSORBING.”
 — Roger Ebert, *Chicago Sun-Times*

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Sports Shorts

STILL PERFECT . . . The Palo Alto Knights' Varsity team is two victories away from a perfect regular season, which continues this weekend when the squad travels to Brentwood to face the Delta Patriots West in a National Youth Football League game Saturday at 8 p.m. Palo Alto won its eighth straight game in as many outings with a 38-0 romp over the visiting San Jose Steelers last Sunday at Palo Alto High. The Knights posted their fifth shutout of the season as the defense continued to dominate. Palo Alto has allowed a league-low 32 points in eight games while scoring more than 200. Led again by standout running back **Eric Redwood**, the Knights scored early on a 24-yard run by Redwood, which was followed by a 32-yard circus catch by **E.J. Floreal** (from quarterback **Andre Guzman**) to take a 16-0 first-quarter lead. Redwood scored again on a 24-yard run and **Drew Rider** bulled seven yards through the middle for a Knights' touchdown seconds before halftime. **Justin Mouton** scored on an 87-yard run for his second straight game with a touchdown run over 60 yards. The Knights' defense was the story of the day as it kept an opponent under 100 yards of total offense for the fourth week in a row. Linebackers **Dominic Dawkins**, **Erik Anderson**, **Deonte Boyland** and Redwood led the way.

ON THE RUN . . . The Palo Alto Lightning cross-country squad opened its season last Sunday with a meet at Stevens Creek Park in Cupertino, racing over courses that ranged from 2,000 to 5,000 meters. **George Yoshinaga** of the Lightning won the Sub-Bantam boys' race and Palo Alto resident **Julia Bounds** won the Bantam girls' race. Palo Alto's **Claudia Denoue** finished second in the Sub-Bantam girls' event and **Kent Slaney** finished third in the Bantam boys. Registration for the club is on-going at Stanford's Cobb Track & Angell Field each day from 4-5:30 p.m.

COACHING CORNER . . . Menlo-Atherton is looking for the following coaches for the 2008-09 school year: boys' frosh-soph soccer, girls' JV lacrosse and assistant lacrosse coaches plus head track and field. Those interested should contact athletic director **Pam Wimberly** at pwimberl@seq.org.

ON THE AIR

Saturday

College football: Arizona at Stanford, 2 p.m., KTRB (860)

Sunday

Prep football: Jefferson at Sacred Heart Prep, 8 p.m.; Media Center (28) tape delayed

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Kyle Terada/Stanford Athletics

The blocking of Stanford sophomore fullback Owen Marecic (48) has been a big reason why Toby Gerhart (7) has rushed for 525 yards in his first six games this season. The Cardinal offensive line also has been a huge factor in the team's rushing attack, which is averaging 167.2 yards per game this season.

Stanford is in a rush to get better

Cardinal takes one of its best running games since 1980 into football homecoming game Saturday

by Rick Eymmer

Stanford football and the running game, sounds kind of strange for a program once known as "Quarterback U." But, everything is cyclical and even a pass-oriented team needs a good running game.

That pretty much describes the Cardinal, which is running the football better than it has for some time. Stanford, which hosts Arizona (2-0, 4-1) on Saturday at 2 p.m. in its homecoming contest in Stanford Stadium, is averaging 167.2 yards a

game through the first half of the season.

The Cardinal has averaged more than that only twice since 1980. The 2001 version averaged 201 yards while the 1980 team — with Darrin Nelson leading the way — rushed for an average of 167.9 yards a game.

Toby Gerhart and Anthony Kimble have given Stanford a 100-yard rusher in each of the past three games and in four of six.

Stanford had three games all of last year in which it had a 100-yard

rusher, and the team went over 200 yards on the ground once.

This year the Cardinal (2-1, 3-3) has gained more than 200 yards on the ground three times already.

Kimble led Stanford with 526 yards rushing last year. Gerhart has 525 yards in his first six games. Kimble and Jeremy Stewart combined for 879 yards for Stanford last year.

The running backs — finally healthy this season — deflect much of their success to the offensive line, in general, and to sophomore full-

back Owen Marecic, in particular.

Marecic and the offensive line have a couple of things in common: None of them has scored a touchdown during their college careers, and all of them like to hit people. Running the ball fits their personalities.

Marecic has played in all 18 games of his Stanford career, making 16 starts. He presents more of a receiving threat than a running threat (5 career rushes for 6 yards; 7 receptions for 47 yards) and may (continued on page 39)

Important prep showdowns will have title implications

Menlo-Atherton girls' tennis and water polo teams can wrap up PAL championships next week

by Keith Peters

That time of year has arrived when the impact of matches and games suddenly become that much more important.

A number of critical showdowns will take place next week, all having an impact on possible league championships.

On Tuesday, the Palo Alto girls' volleyball team is expected to put a 5-0 league record on the line against unbeaten Los Gatos in a match that will leave the winner alone in first place in the SCVAL De Anza Division.

The Vikings (21-3 overall) first had to risk their nine-match winning streak against visiting Sara-

toga on Thursday night. That result, however, should have been a formality for Palo Alto, which went 7-0 a week ago and capped the weekend with a championship in the Cupertino Tournament.

Earlier on Tuesday, the Menlo-Atherton girls' tennis team will take a big step toward wrapping up first place in the PAL Bay Division by hosting second-place Burlingame at 3:30 p.m.

The Bears (10-0, 11-1) first had to play at Woodside on Thursday. Menlo-Atherton already has beaten the Wildcats once this season. The Bears tuned up with a big 6-1 triumph over visiting Aragon on Tuesday.

Menlo-Atherton had to reschedule Wednesday's nonleague match with Westmoor.

"I'm pretty sure Burlingame has only lost to us," said M-A coach Carlos Aguilar. "Tuesday is HUGE!"

Wednesday also finds a couple of huge matches in girls' water polo and tennis.

In the pool, the PAL Bay Division regular-season title will be decided when Castilleja (3-0, 10-4) takes on host Menlo-Atherton (3-0, 9-2) at 3 p.m. The Bears hope to defend their league crown as a step toward winning a second straight Central Coast Section title — something no Menlo-Atherton water polo team (boys or girls) has ever accomplished.

Before the teams meet, they'll both be in Modesto this weekend at the annual Western States Invitational. They'll be joined by the Sacred Heart Prep girls (7-2). All three teams competed very well in last season's tournament, with the Gators going 4-1 (losing in the semifinals) while Castilleja and Menlo-Atherton both went 3-2.

While it's still early in the prep football season, Menlo School (4-0) faces a tough task on Friday night (7 p.m.) in a PAL Bay Division opener at Terra Nova in Pacifica. The Knights are coming off a bye week, which gave coach Mark Newton a chance to get a handful of injured players healthy again. ■

Schedule just got tougher

Nationally No. 6-ranked women's soccer team opens Pac-10 season at home

by Rick Eyrer

The Stanford women's soccer team finished a difficult pre-season schedule just in time to begin its, well, more difficult Pac-10 season.

The sixth-ranked Cardinal (10-0-1) meets visiting Oregon (7-3-1) in the conference opener tonight at 7 p.m., as the second half of a men's and women's doubleheader. Stanford and Oregon State (5-4-1) meet at noon on Sunday.

Of the 11 nonconference opponents Stanford played over the past seven weeks, nine of them have overall winning records and all 11 have a composite .589 winning percentage. Four of them reside somewhere among the various national polls.

As it turns out, the nonconference season was a walk in the park.

The 10 Pac-10 teams open conference play with a combined winning percentage of .784, and all can point to winning records. The Beavers carry the 'burden' of a .555 winning percentage, the lowest among conference members.

Half of the Pac-10 rank among the top 25 in the nation, with defending national champions USC (No. 5) and the reigning national runner-up UCLA (No. 4) near the top.

"It's going to be a battle," Stanford coach Paul Ratcliffe said. "It's a whole new season and we have to prepare for each game."

In the Pac-10's single round-robin schedule, Stanford plays the other four ranked teams on the road.

"Sure we have a tough schedule when you look at it," Ratcliffe said. "We're going to miss our crowd support but for me the soccer field is still green wherever we play."

The Cardinal has been ranked as high as fourth, but the tie with the perennial powerhouse Tar Heels didn't seem to sit well with voters. North Carolina rose to No. 2 and Stanford tumbled into sixth followed that weekend's play.

All eyes are focused on conference play, though, and even those eight shutouts, all credited to Kira Maker, are outdated.

Maker ranks third in the country with her 0.271 GAA, and the Cardinal ranks ninth as a team (at 0.267).

Castilleja grad Lindsay Taylor and sophomore Christen Press are among the top 25 in scoring, while junior preseason All-American pick Kelley O'Hara ranks among the top 20 in assists.

Press and Taylor have each received National Player of the Week honors, while Palo Alto grad Teresa Noyola joins Taylor as a Pac-10 Player of the Week.

Press, Noyola, Taylor, O'Hara, Camille Levin and Marissa Abegg have each been named to various National Teams of the Week.



Bob Drebin/Stanford Athletics

Stanford freshman Lindsay Taylor (right) from Castilleja is among the top 25 scorers in the nation in her first season.

"It's really exciting to go into Pac-10 on a high note," O'Hara said. "Hopefully that translates into a Pac-10 championship. We want to not just live up to expectations but to exceed expectations."

Men's tennis

Stanford freshman Bradley Klahn continued his unlikely run at the D'Novo Men's All-American Championship at the University of Tulsa on Thursday with a win in the first round of the main draw.

Klahn has won four matches in as many days to reach the second round of the main draw against USC's Robert Farrah.

Sophomore Alex Clayton won his first match, defeating Auburn's Alexey Tsyrenov, 6-1, 6-3.

Richard Wire, who won three matches to reach the main draw, dropped a tough 5-7, 7-6, 6-1 decision to Notre Dame's Brett Helgeson in the first round of the main draw.

Men's water polo

Stanford will play four games in the two-day SoCal Tournament, which begins on Saturday at Loyola Marymount's Burns Aquatic Center.

The third-ranked Cardinal (10-1) opens against No. 19 Princeton (6-4) and will play either LMU or Pacific later on Saturday.

Princeton sophomore goalkeeper Mike Merlone, a Menlo School grad, earned CWPA Southern Division Player of the Week honors earlier in the week after he made 40 saves in Princeton's three wins over Johns Hopkins, Navy and George Washington. He has a .547 save percentage.

Stanford also boasts a Menlo School grad in the net with senior Jimmie Sandman, who leads the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation with a 3.50 GAA.

Sacred Heart Prep grad Doug Wigley has 14 goals for the Tigers, while Menlo School grad Matt Hale has nine goals and 19 steals. Palo Alto grad Gregor Horstmeyer has five goals and six assists, while Menlo grad Matt Hudnall has seen limited action.

Women's volleyball

Fourth-ranked Stanford (4-0, 13-2) looks to remain at the top of the Pac-10 with home matches against Arizona (2-1, 12-3) today at 7 p.m. and on Sunday at 2 p.m. against Arizona State (1-2, 10-6).

The Cardinal and California are tied for the first place following two weekends of play. The schools meet at Maples Pavilion on Oct. 19 at 12:30 p.m.

Sophomore outside hitter Alix Klineman hit a combined .538 last weekend while senior Cynthia Barboza became the seventh Stanford member of the 1,000 dig-1,000 kill club.

Men's soccer

Stanford (0-1-1, 2-5-2) hosts a pair of Pac-10 opponents this weekend as part of a doubleheader with the women's team.

The Cardinal starts with San Diego (0-0-1) today at 4:30 p.m. and then hosts UCLA (0-0-1, 2-3-5) on Sunday at 2:30 p.m.

Stanford is winless in its last five matches despite allowing only six goals combined in those contests. The Cardinal has been outscored 9-6 thus far. ■

HIGH SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

Cross country

Gunn junior **Paul Summers** has spent his career trailing talents like Palo Alto's **Philip MacQuitty** and Mountain View's Garrett Rowe. Summers, however, ran to the front for the first time against those two rivals while finishing second in the Junior boys' race at the SCVAL Scrimmage last week at Crystal Springs in Belmont. Summers toured the 2.95-mile course in 16:22. Rowe was fifth in 16:33 while MacQuitty was sixth in 16:35 with Gunn's **Alex Johann** seventh in 16:39. In the Sophomore boys' race, Gunn's **Rory Runser** was fourth in 17:30 . . . Gunn senior **Allegra Mayer** and junior **Lisa Fawcett** won their respective races during the SCVAL Scrimmage. Mayer ran 18:48 to win the Senior girls' race while clocking the fastest overall time in the four divisions. Fawcett won the Junior girls' race in 18:54, the second-fastest overall time of the day. Palo Alto senior **Elizabeth Scott** was second in the Senior girls' race in 19:15. At the first West Bay Athletic League meet of the season on the 2.8-mile courts at San Bruno Mountain Park, **Devon Errington** of Woodside Priory ran fourth in 18:27.

Football

The preliminaries are out of the way for Palo Alto, which opens its SCVAL De Anza Division season on Saturday by visiting winless Los Altos at 1:30 p.m. The Vikings improved to 3-1 in the preseason with an easy 43-0 thumping of rival Gunn last Friday night. The tone of the game was set early as Paly junior **Sam Tompkins** ripped through a gaping hole and romped for 43 yards on his third carry of the game. On his very next haul, Tompkins went another 33 yards through the porous Gunn defense to set up **Will Brandin's** one-yard touchdown quarterback sneak. Tompkins ran for three touchdowns, sparking an offense whose momentum grew from quarter to quarter. Tompkins carried the ball 18 times for 152 yards, averaging an eye-catching 8.4 yards per carry. The Viking' offense accumulated 375 yards as Brandin completed six of 12 passes for 166 yards and two scores. The Titans (0-4), meanwhile, struggled against a persistent pass rush, mustering only 89 yards of total offense while suffering five turnovers and four sacks . . . Sacred Heart Prep (1-0, 4-0) hopes to keep its perfect season intact when it plays host to Jefferson in a PAL Ocean B Division game on Friday at 3 p.m. The Gators barreled their way into the new league with a resounding 42-19 victory over host Capuchino last week. SHP won its first-ever PAL contest by rushing for 484 yards on 37 attempts. Three ballcarriers gained more than 100 yards for SHP — **Matt Walter** had 132 yards, **Matt Bocci** had 125 and **Alex Konopnicki** chipped in 110. Remarkably, none of Sacred

Heart's six rushers had more than nine carries. "The kids knew the meaning of this game," said SHP coach Pete Lavorato. "It was our first PAL game and it's a big deal. We knew if we could beat Cap that would be our first big step. The kids are excited about being here and playing against schools they know about and kids they know." The biggest step came on the first play of the game when Walter sprinted 80 yards for a touchdown.

Girls' volleyball

Menlo remained unbeaten in the West Bay Athletic League (Foothill Division) with a home victory over Harker on Tuesday night. In a rematch of last year's CCS Division IV championship match, the Knights once again won in four games, this time a 12-25, 25-19, 25-21, 25-20 victory. Menlo (2-0, 17-6) was led by senior **Lizzie Hale**, who hit .385 with a career-high-tying (and team season-best) 19 kills and five digs. As she did last November, Hale recorded a kill to end the match. Menlo senior **Abby Whelan** had 14 kills and 13 digs and senior **Alexis Schwartz** had a career-best (and team season-high) 25 digs. Senior **Molly Bagshaw** recorded 49 assists. Menlo returns to action at the Menlo Invitational, this Saturday. Play starts at 8:30 and is expected to run until about 5:30. Menlo and Harker will meet up again, with Harbor, Mountain View, San Benito and Woodside also in the six-team round-robin event. . . . In a battle between the Gators, Sacred Heart Prep emerged with a 25-14, 25-22, 24-26, 25-21 triumph in Atherton. SHP (1-0, 12-4) made its debut in the WBAL (Foothill Division) a successful one as senior setter **Marissa Alvarez** produced 36 assists, nine kills and six digs. **Kelly Halamek** added 17 kills and seven digs while Margot Roux contributed 11 digs and five aces. Castilleja senior **Erin McLaughlin** led her team with 15 kills and 12 digs while senior **Taylor Docter** added 11 kills and 10 digs while getting back closer to 100 percent healthy. Docter has been in and out of the lineup with a bad back, but played solidly in a nonleague win over University last week. Castilleja, however, hurt itself with service errors while SHP helped itself with solid serving. Castilleja fell to 0-2, 8-8). In the PAL Bay Division, Menlo-Atherton fell back in the race following a 27-25, 25-23, 25-15 loss to host Burlingame on Tuesday. The Bears (4-2, 13-6) got 19 kills from sophomore **Diane Seely** and 13 kills from senior **Kelli Branning**, but missed the presence of **Regina Mullen**, still sidelined with a broken finger. . . . Palo Alto took a 4-0 league record (21-3 overall) into Thursday night's home match against Saratoga. The Vikings were riding a nine-match win streak, that continued Monday with a sweep of host Los Altos as Paly senior **Ally Whitson** produced 22 kills.

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK



Allie Coleman
Palo Alto High

The senior volleyball setter had 40 assists in a win over Gunn, 50 assists in a victory over Homestead and produced 77 assists with 15 aces as the Vikings went 5-0 and won the Gold Division of the Cupertino Tournament.



Ben Dearborn
Sacred Heart Prep

The junior water polo goalie had 15 saves in a big 10-1 WCAL win over Bellarmine and had 51 saves while allowing only 23 goals as the Gators went 4-1 against elite competition while taking third in the Villa Park Tournament.

Honorable mention

Marissa Florant

Palo Alto volleyball

Shameen Jamil

Palo Alto water polo

Allegra Mayer

Gunn cross country

Brenna Nelsen

Castilleja golf

Diane Seely

Menlo-Atherton volleyball

Ally Whitson*

Palo Alto volleyball

Matt Bocci

Sacred Heart Prep football

Matt Dawes

Pinewood football

Paul Rudolph

Sacred Heart Prep water polo

Sam Tompkins

Palo Alto football

Matt Walter

Sacred Heart Prep football

Conner Whitlock

Pinewood football

* previous winner

To see video interviews of the Athletes of the Week, go to www.PASportsOnline.com

COLLEGE SCOREBOARD

Men's Cross Country
Stanford 51, UC Davis 58 (Sat)

Women's Cross Country
Stanford 27, Sacramento State 30 (Sat)

Women's Field Hockey
Northeastern 3, Stanford 2 (Sat)
Holy Cross 2, Stanford 1 (Mon)

Football
Notre Dame 28, Stanford 21 (Sat)
Linfield 9, Menlo 0 (Sat)

Men's Golf
1, Holy Names 590, 6, Menlo 745 (Thu)

Women's Golf
Oregon 299, Stanford 303 (Mon)
Stanford 606, Oregon 608 (Tue)
Stanford 905, Oregon 921 (Wed)

Men's Soccer
Washington 1, Stanford 0 (Fri)
Holy Names 4, Menlo 2 (Sat)
Oregon State 1, Stanford 1 (Sun)
Menlo 4, Simpson 1 (Wed)

Women's Soccer
Stanford 5, Santa Clara 0 (Fri)
Menlo 2, Holy Names 1 (Sat)
Menlo 5, Simpson 2 (Wed)

Women's Swimming
Stanford 170, San Jose State 102 (Fri)

Women's Volleyball
Stanford 3, Washington State 0 (Fri)
Menlo 3, Bethany 0 (Fri)
Stanford 3, Washington 0 (Sun)
UC Santa Cruz 3, Menlo 1 (Tue)

Men's Water Polo
Stanford 10, Pacific 2 (Sun)

Arizona at Stanford, 2 p.m.

Women's Volleyball
Menlo at William Jessup, 7 p.m.

SUNDAY, OCT. 12

Men's Water Polo
Stanford at SoCal Tournament, 9 a.m.

Women's Soccer
Oregon State at Stanford, 12 p.m.

Women's Volleyball
Arizona State at Stanford, 2 p.m.

Men's Soccer
UCLA at Stanford, 2:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, OCT. 14

Women's Soccer
Menlo at Bethany, 11 a.m.

Men's Soccer
Menlo at Bethany, 1 p.m.

Women's Field Hockey
Davidson at Stanford, 3 p.m.

Menlo-Atherton 4, Carlmont 3 (Thu)
Saratoga 4, Palo Alto 3 (Thu)
Menlo 5, Harker 2 (Thu)
Pinewood 6, Woodside Priory 1 (Thu)
Burlingame 4, Sacred Heart Prep 3 (Mon)
Sacred Heart Prep 4, Pinewood 3 (Tue)
King's Academy 6, Castilleja 1 (Tue)
Menlo 7, Woodside Priory 0 (Tue)
Homestead 7, Gunn 0 (Tue)
Menlo 6, Notre Dame-San Jose 1 (Wed)

Girls' Volleyball
Castilleja 3, University (SF) 2 (Wed)
Palo Alto 3, Gunn 1 (Wed)
Palo Alto 3, Homestead 2 (Thu)
Mountain View 3, Gunn 0 (Thu)
Clovis West 3, Menlo 1 (Thu)
Menlo-Atherton 3, Aragon 0 (Thu)
Sacred Heart Prep 3, Valley Christian 0 (Thu)

Pinewood 3, King's Academy 2 (Fri)
Palo Alto 2, Valley Christian 0 (Sat)
Palo Alto 3, Los Altos 0 (Mon)
Menlo 3, Harker 1 (Tue)
Sacred Heart Prep 3, Castilleja 1 (Tue)
Burlingame 3, Menlo-Atherton 0 (Tue)
Homestead 3, Gunn 0 (Wed)

Boys' Water Polo
Menlo 21, Aragon 3 (Wed)
Menlo-Atherton 16, Half Moon Bay 1 (Wed)
Mountain View 12, Palo Alto 11 (Thu)
Menlo 9, De La Salle 8 (Thu)
Gunn 10, Monta Vista 9 (Thu)
Sacred Heart Prep 5, Carlsbad 4 (Fri)
Villa Park 9, Sacred Heart Prep 8 (OT) (Sat)
SH Prep 13, Santa Barbara 8 (Sat)
Palo Alto 11, Monta Vista 7 (Tue)
Gunn 11, Homestead 5 (Tue)

Girls' Water Polo
Menlo-Atherton 16, Half Moon Bay 1 (Wed)
Aragon 7, Menlo 6 (Wed)
Palo Alto 13, Mt. View 3 (Thu)
Gunn 8, Saratoga 6 (Thu)
Palo Alto 8, Saratoga 5 (Tue)
Homestead 7, Gunn 5 (Tue)
Castilleja 14, Woodside 2 (Wed)

HIGH SCHOOL SCOREBOARD

Football
Sacred Heart Prep 42, Capuchino 19 (Fri)
Palo Alto 43, Gunn 0 (Fri)
Seaside 42, Menlo-Atherton 21 (Sat)
Pinewood 70, Calvary Chapel 14 (Sat)

SCVAL De Anza: Los Gatos 1-0 (3-1), Saratoga 1-0 (2-2), Wilcox 1-0 (1-3), Palo Alto 0-0 (3-1), Milpitas 0-1 (3-0), Mountain View 0-1 (2-2), Los Altos 0-1 (0-4).

SCVAL El Camino: Homestead 1-0 (4-0), Monta Vista 1-0 (4-0), Fremont 1-0 (1-3), Santa Clara 0-1 (1-3), Cupertino 0-1 (1-3), Lynbrook 0-1 (1-3), Gunn 0-0 (0-4).

PAL Bay: Menlo 0-0 (4-0), Woodside 0-0 (4-1), Terra Nova 0-0 (3-1), Menlo-Atherton 0-0 (3-2), South San Francisco 0-0 (2-0), Aragon 0-0 (1-3-0).

Girls' Golf

Menlo 204, Mercy-Burlingame 245 (Wed)
Castilleja 191, Sacred Heart Prep 195 (Thu)
Menlo 189, Note Dame-SJ 209 (Mon)
Harker 202, Sacred Heart Prep 207 (Mon)
Castilleja 181, Notre Dame-SJ 212 (Wed)
Sacred Heart Prep 200, Menlo 203 (Wed)

Tennis

Palo Alto 4, Los Altos 3 (Tue)

Girls' Tennis

Mitty 7, Sacred Heart Prep 0 (Wed)

COLLEGE CALENDAR

FRIDAY, OCT. 10

Men's Cross Country

Menlo at SF State Invitational San Francisco, CA, 4:30 p.m.

Men's Soccer

San Diego State at Stanford, 4:30 p.m.

Women's Soccer

Oregon at Stanford, 7 p.m.

Women's Volleyball

Menlo at Simpson, 7 p.m.

Arizona at Stanford, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCT. 11

Men's Water Polo

Stanford at SoCal Tournament, 9 a.m.

Men's Football

Puget Sound at Menlo College (Homecoming game), 12 p.m.

HIGH SCHOOL CALENDAR

FRIDAY, OCT. 10

Girls' Tennis

Menlo at National Invitational (at Newport Beach), 12 p.m.

Football

Jefferson at Sacred Heart Prep, 3 p.m.

Girls' Water Polo

SHP, Castilleja at Western States (at Johansen, Tokay highs in Modesto), 3 p.m.

Girls' Tennis

Harker at Pinewood, 3:30 p.m.

Boys' Water Polo

Gunn at Sequoia Tournament, 3:30 p.m.

Girls' Volleyball

Sacred Heart Prep at Notre Dame-SJ, 5:45 p.m.

Pinewood at Woodside Priory, 5:45 p.m.

Boys' Football

Menlo at Terra Nova, 7 p.m.

Gunn at Monta Vista (at Cupertino High), 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCT. 11

Girls' Volleyball

Menlo at Menlo Invitational (round-robin at Menlo College), 8:30 a.m.

Boys' Water Polo

Gunn at Sequoia Tournament, 9 a.m.

Girls' Water Polo

Palo Alto at Presentation Round Robin Tournament, 9 a.m.

SHP, Castilleja at Western States (at Johansen, Tokay highs in Modesto), 9 a.m.

Girls' Tennis

Menlo at National Invitational (at Newport Beach), 12 p.m.

Boys' Football

Palo Alto at Los Altos, 1:30 p.m.

Pinewood at Anchorpoint Christian, 7 p.m.

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Stanford football

(continued from page 36)

be one of the most valuable players on offense and anything that would suggest otherwise will likely be met with derision from his teammates.

"He probably has the most respect of anyone on the team," Gerhart said. "He never complains. All he wants is to hit somebody. If he doesn't knock them down he gets upset. He's huge in our offense and huge in our success."

Neither the 2001 nor the 1980 team had a 1,000-yard rusher. Gerhart remains on a steady course to become the first Stanford player to rush for more than 1,000 yards since Tommy Vardell gained 1,084 (and scored 20 touchdowns) in 1991.

Gerhart and Kimble have combined for 834 of the team's 1,003 rushing yards and eight of the 10 rushing touchdowns.

"The line is doing a great job," Kimble said. "They are jelling up front. Owen is one of the best pure football players I've ever played with. He goes out there every week and does his job at 100 percent."

Stanford quarterback Tavita Pritchard enjoys taking a peak at Marecic in the huddle just after he calls a play that calls for him to be the lead blocker.

"He starts this rocking motion and gets this look in his eye that's deadly," Pritchard said.

"He's one of the toughest guys I've ever met. He doesn't say a whole bunch, he just hits people."

The offensive line gives Gerhart and Kimble a lot of credit to the rejuvenated rushing game.

"Having a healthy Toby Gerhart and Anthony Kimble is the biggest thing," Stanford senior center Alex Fletcher said. "We've been able to give these guys a cushion and no one (on the offensive line) is getting pushed back. They have two yards before getting hit and they go from there."

Kimble's career best 157 yards against Washington would have been better than all but three of the Cardinal's team rushing totals of last year.

"Staying healthy is a big deal for me," Kimble said. "(Blocking) is a stretch and cut scheme and the biggest thing for me is finding the lanes opened up."

Stanford has said it wants to be more physical. Marecic's presence lends credence to the philosophy.

"Owen Marecic is a tone setter for us," Stanford offensive coordinator David Shaw said. "He's made some blocks that I could hear from the press box. He's an outstanding football player who was built and crafted to play fullback."

Shaw called Pritchard's game against Notre Dame "a tale of two halves."

Pritchard entered the fourth quarter eight of 17 for 76 yards and Stanford trailing, 28-7.

In the final period, Pritchard completed all but one of his 11 attempts for 106 yards and the Cardinal scored twice to pull within 28-21 before losing.

"His fourth quarter was outstanding," Shaw said. "He knows that's our standard for him, and that's his standard for himself. We need him to maintain that for 60 minutes." ■



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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING of the City of Palo Alto Architectural Review Board (ARB)

Please be advised that Monday, October 20, 2008, the ARB shall conduct a special public hearing at 8:30 AM in the Council Chambers, 1st Floor, 250 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto, California. Any interested persons may appear and be heard.

Stanford University Medical Center Modernization and Expansion Project: Request by Stanford University Medical Center on behalf of The Board of Trustees of the Leland Stanford Junior University for a Study Session to review the proposed Stanford University Medical Center facilities. Zone District PF (Public Facilities).

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