

The Santa Clarita Valley Citizen



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Talk of the Town

by Mimi

A LOCAL LADY of uncertain age and throaty voice has been driven to distraction by phone calls between 1 and 3 o'clock in the morning, involving heavy words and heavier breathing. She found an answer. The whispery voice on the line said, "And how are youuuu tonight?" "Not so well," sighed the lady. "The doctor just told me I have AIDS." **CLICK!**

* * *

FRIDAY'S DEBATE between Supervisor Mike Antonovich and his challenger, former Supervisor Baxter Ward, is described elsewhere in this issue by reporter Gary Johanson. Very touching, by the way, the three-page letter supposedly written by Mike's father, sent out to several thousand people, begging for money (It ends: "Please help me help my son!") The Antonovich staffer who REALLY wrote it reportedly has been dumped because he was ill-advised enough to call Baxter Ward 'a nitwit'. . . The impassioned plea for money is a laugh when one looks at the last (end-of-June) financial reports of both candidates: Mike had spent \$91,407 since May 5, and was left with \$134,426 cash on hand. Baxter spent \$1,552 and had remaining in his bank account \$4,590.

* * *

BY SLOW CAMEL from Indio comes the sad news that Dr. Carroll Word, formerly of the SCV, has died of cancer at 62. At the time of his death he was pastor of the First United Methodist church of Indio. He was pastor at the Santa Clarita Methodist church on Bouquet Canyon Road during that church's early growing years — from '68 to '74. He was more than a churchman; he was elected to the Hart high school district board of trustees during the district's most trying times in recent memory. It was the Vietnam era, and a group of students asked Don Jerry, then the new principal of new Canyon High, for permission to wear black armbands and sign an anti-war book during home-room period. They promised there would be no demonstration, and there wasn't. However, the Hart Board of Trustees got wind of the affair and the chairman improperly went over the head of the superintendent and ordered Principal Jerry to cancel his permission. Jerry refused, and Superintendent C.T. Haan stepped in to defend his principal's principles. The board fired the superintendent by a 3-2 vote. Results: Haan went to court and got a substantial financial award, then left to teach in Stockton. In a bitter recall election, the voters ousted the board members who had fired Haan. One of the recalled board members was replaced by pastor Carroll Word. He was a fresh wind blowing through the school district. Ah, memories. . .

* * *

TRIUMPH FOR FRONTIER DAYS: The October 1 parade will feature not one, not two, but TEN Shrine marching units, coming all the way from Moreno Valley on the east and Santa Paula on the west. With them will come the national award-winning Al Malaikah band, and their drum and bugle corps. Music, color, novelty — who could ask for anything more?

* * *

IT'S TICKET TIME in Santa Clarita: Money-money for the city and harassment-harassment for the citizens. One of those trapped by the diligent cops is City Council Member Jan Heidt, who also owns a book store. Jan had five boxes of books to mail after hours one day, so she drove to a parcel mailbox in Canyon Country. It was fronted by a red curb, so she left her engine running while she unloaded the books and hoisted them into the mailbox. Along came a Sheriff's car and, ignoring her protests, promptly ticketed her. She paid the \$50 and THEN called Capt. Bob Spierer at the SCV Sheriff's station to suggest that enforcement was a little unreasonable. He said, "Sorry, lady, we don't make the laws, we just enforce 'em." Gave Jan, who DOES make laws, an idea: Why shouldn't there be green zones next to parcel mailboxes?

Flying In the Breeze



Team Lieutenant Jim Elvington of the Sheriff's Sylmar Search and Rescue team appears to be flying through the air as he rappels off the 100-foot-high ladder of the new fire truck now stationed in Newhall. The exhibition was part of a show sponsored by the American Red Cross at the Kmart center at Bouquet Junction yesterday.

Photo By Gary Thornhill

Drug Arrests Up: A Gaudy Incident

By Emory Holmes II
Citizen Staff Writer

Narcotics arrests can lead to some wild encounters.

As Sergeant Bob Wachsmuth of the SCV Sheriff's station reported that drug arrests in the SCV are up 30 per cent since Santa Clarita became a city last December, he reflected on some details.

Wachsmuth said that the jump in the percentage of arrests "probably doesn't mean that there are more drugs in the SCV."

There are more police on the streets since the city became incorporated; and with more police officers they have been able to observe more crime activity than before."

One of the most harrowing scenes involving drug abuse that the additional officers have observed in the past weeks involved two SCV Sheriff's deputies during a night patrol of Magic Mountain.

After a long evening pounding the beat through the high-tech neon

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Fragile Cargo Choppers Rattle Neighborhood

By Gary Johanson
Citizen Staff Writer

Susan Olmstead said they make her headboard vibrate at night.

Patty Rogus said they violently rattle her windows.

Defying schedules, they howl over the horizon and drop from the sky, shattering the suburban stillness with rotor wash and their distinctive pop-pop-pop exhaust note.

Tonight their fragile cargo is a mother in her early 20s who was pried from the wreckage of a head-on collision on the Golden State Freeway near Gorman.

Swathed in blood-soaked bandages and braced with splints, this unconscious casualty of a drunken driver is bundled into the emergency room and into the waiting arms of the doctors and nurses at Henry

Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital. Their life-saving mission finished, the helicopter crew lifts off and soon the chopper's eggbeater rattle and running lights fade into the night.

But for Olmstead and Rogus, whose neighborhood is across McBean Parkway from the hospital, the helicopter, and others like it, represent a recurring attack on domestic tranquility and a threat to their safety.

They charge that some of the helicopters fly in at unnecessarily low altitudes during arrivals and takeoffs, and that some chopper pilots needlessly endanger neighborhood residents by flying low over their homes.

Olmstead, who serves as president of the Valencia Glen Homeowners Association, said she has received numerous complaints from neighbors.

The agreement Newhall Land reached with the Saugus district was for \$5 million.

The schools and the money to build them are needed to lessen, the impact of 1800 new residences which the company intends to build in the in the northwest portion of the school district, directly north of the industrial park and east of I-5.

That development is known as the Northbridge project.

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San Francisco Hits SCV With Fees

By Kaine Thompson
Citizen Staff Writer

H.P. Alexander of Canyon County was really steamed when he received a delinquency notice this week that he had not paid his parking ticket. The delinquency notice demanded a \$25 payment by the 15th.

Alexander refused to pay.

The parking ticket was issued in San Francisco. Alexander has never been to San Francisco.

Calling the local DMV, Alexander found he was not the only one to have received a citation from the Bay city. Nearly 50 people from Santa Clarita have also received such notices. One of them is an employee of the DMV.

Upon investigation into the labyrinthine DMV system, Alexander

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Men Who Would Be Supervisor

By Gary Johanson
Citizen Staff Writer

A handful of SCV residents weaved through 30 miles of congested traffic Friday morning and plunked down \$13 for a 7:30 a.m. breakfast at the Calabasas Inn.

The tariff was steep, but the Santa Claritans hadn't come for the food.

The main attraction, which is unavailable at an SCV venue, was a debate between two politicians who have each reigned for eight years as County Supervisor in charge of the SCV fiefdom.

Like anxious fans at a title fight, the crowd, an unlikely mix of plaid-shirted environmentalists and silk-suited developers, eyeballed the combatants.

At one table sat incumbent Mike Antonovich, 49, a large, soft-spoken fellow with a mild demeanor, a bulging campaign treasury, and

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Part 2

There's a lot of Gold in Those Tracts

By Emory Holmes II
Citizen Staff Writer

(In Part 1 of this article, in Wednesday's Citizen, it was reported how the current sellers' market in SCV homes had led prospective home buyers to try to outwit the lottery system whereby names of buyers are chosen by lot.

A Mrs. Geller claimed that she had sent gifts of value to salesman Dick Pins to obtain a favored position, and her efforts had produced nothing. The house she had sought to buy and resell at a profit was drawn by someone else.

"Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned," she said.)

Part 2

"Just to give you some indication of what the demand is for housing in the Santa Clarita Valley," says Dale Poe salesman Dick Pins. "I've been offered bribes like new cars, cash (over \$20,000) and other things. And I've never taken a one."

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Visitors Enjoy Red Cross Life-Saving Display



Ellie Kane, general services manager for the city of Santa Clarita, donated blood.



"Buddy Blood Drop" was on hand to show children the Sheriff's helicopters.



Heather Heitzman, 5, of Saugus gets a lift up to see by Deputy John Arthur. Photos By Gary Thornhill

Placerita Canyon Neighbors Try to Legalize their Horses

By Gary Johanson
Citizen Staff Writer

Horse-owning residents of Newhall's Alderbrook Drive are passing the collection plate around in hopes of legalizing their equestrian activities.

Simply put, the problem is that the average lot on Alderbrook Drive (the lower Placerita Canyon neighborhood is affectionately known by its residents as Alderbrook Acres), is too small to legally board horses.

The lots average 10,000 square feet (50 feet wide by 200 feet deep),

while the county requires that a property must be at least 15,000 square feet if horses are to be stabled there.

The 50-foot-wide lots were once big enough to legally accommodate horses, said Alderbrook resident Ann Irvine, but they were reduced in the late 1960s when the Metropolitan Water District bought the western end of the lots in order to bury an underground pipe which runs from Castaic Lake to Los Angeles.

"Fortunately for us, the county has closed their eyes to the fact that

our lots are legally too small for horses," said Irvine, who is leading the drive to form the equestrian district.

Mike Skophammer, a spokesman for the county's Regional Planning Dept., said the street can be designated as an equestrian district provided that 75 percent of the street's approximately 40 homeowners agree and pay a \$2135 application fee.

"It's not a real zone change. It's known as an overlaid district," said Skophammer.

The formation of the equestrian district must then be approved by the county Planning Commission, but opposition is not anticipated.

The equestrian district could not be abolished unless 75 percent or more of the street's residents vote for its repeal.

Noting that about one-half of the street's residents have horses, Irvine said that an equestrian district will ultimately benefit all of Alderbrook Drive's residents.

"Even the person who doesn't have horses can advertise it as horse

property, and horse property means more value," said Irvine.

Irvine said that about one-half of the street's property owners are expected to contribute toward paying the \$2135 fee, and she is therefore asking \$120 from each of those residents.

To date, over one-half of the money has been pledged or collected and more than three-quarters of the street's homeowners have signed the petition requesting the equestrian district.

Should the equestrian district be

approved, it will be the county's seventh equestrian district and the first new district to be formed in 10 years.

However, the equestrian district comes too late for Alderbrook Drive resident Debbie Wade, who is moving herself and her horse to a new home on a three-acre lot in Lancaster.

"There's now an equipment storage yard behind my house in the area we used for an arena and turnout area," said Wade. "This doesn't look much like horse country anymore. It's time to move on."



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FASHION FABRICS FROM LOCAL MANUFACTURERS

Supervisor Candidates Challenge Each Others' Records

Continued from Page 1

labeled as a "born-again environmentalist" by his opponent.

Across the room, Baxter Ward, 68, a short man with penetrating eyes, a zinging verbal delivery, and a pauper's war chest, whom Antonovich once called a "demagogue," dabbled with his fruit cocktail.

"Some of these people complain that the only time they get to talk to Mr. Antonovich is when they pay for a meal," said Ward.

Once the debate began, the audience found plenty to clap about.

Ward lashed out at Antonovich's eight-year-long record as Supervisor (1980-1988), while Antonovich responded by attacking Ward's tenure (1972-1980) in the same office. (Antonovich defeated Ward in 1980.)

Antonovich initiated the skirmish,

saying Ward undermined the criminal justice system while he was Supervisor.

A reserve police officer, Antonovich said he favors stiff prison sentences for drug sellers, and credited himself with the establishment of "Just Say No" (anti-drug) clubs in county libraries and parks.

"My opponent, Baxter, spent his eight years attacking our Sheriff, our District Attorney, and not meeting face to face with our judges on serious issues."

Ward responded that he fully supports law enforcement, saying he incurred the dislike of former Sheriff Peter J. Pitchess because he was instrumental in getting 144 deputies transferred from duties as file clerks to street patrol.

Ward also claimed Pitchess's nickname among other law enforce-

ment officers was "the Godfather."

Antonovich also rapped Ward for advocating that syringes should be given to known intravenous drug users to stem the spread of AIDS, saying that money should instead be spent on rehabilitation programs and education.

"It's a myth, Mr. Ward, to say that giving alcohol to alcoholics is going to make a safer community," said Antonovich. "You don't start AA meetings with a cocktail hour."

Ward, who maintains that the use of dirty needles is a major contributor to the spread of AIDS, replied, "I support distributing clean needles because if it's possible to save one life through the giving of needles, it's worth it."

Ward used the needle issue to lead into his two major criticisms of Antonovich: "runaway develop-

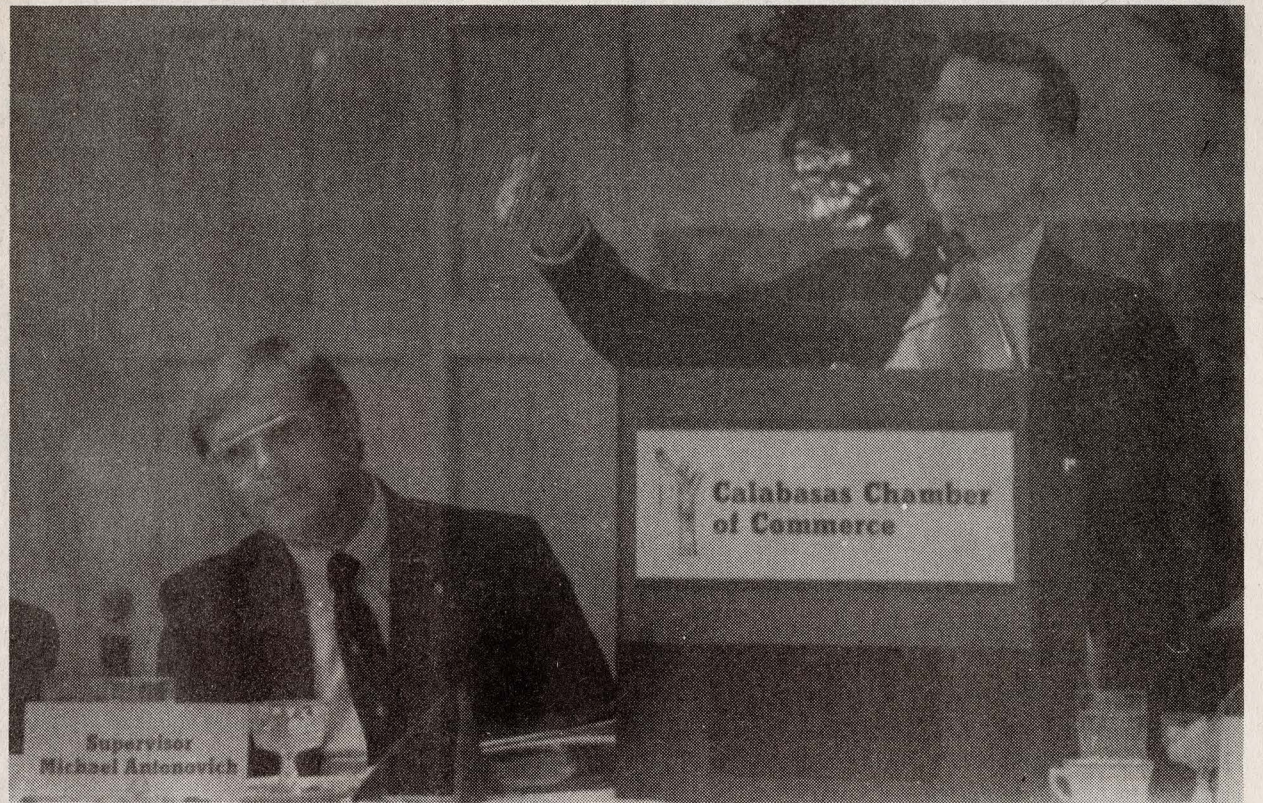


Photo By Wayne Fitzgerald

Ward (right) makes a point while Antonovich listens.

Drug Busts Involve Unexpected Collisions

Continued from Page 1

pavilions and backstreets of that exhausting tumult of amusements, the two officers decided to take a restroom break.

When they walked wearily into the restroom, they heard a distinctive sound coming from the stall reserved for the handicapped.

It was: "Sniiiiiff...sniiiiiff!"

Then, there was this dialogue:

"Damn! This is good 'cain. Thanks."

"No problem, man. We're here to have a good time. Here...have some more."

"Hey — be careful. There are people in here."

"They can't tell we're doing cocaine."

The two deputies looked at each other, then bent over to observe the two sets of feet visible beneath the door of the stall.

In the words of Sergeant Wachsmuth, the two officers determined that a crime was afoot and that "two individuals were ingesting cocaine."

One of the officers peered through the crack in the stall and saw a powerful young fellow holding one of two large baggies full of a white powdery substance into

which the man had inserted a straw made out of a rolled-up \$5 bill.

The man, Jeffrey Prock, 25, and his erstwhile associate, Norman Hill, also 25, are the two fellows involved in the alleged drug activity.

Prock took a healthy snort and passed the goods over to Hill.

The two officers then knocked on the door of the stall and politely announced: "Sheriff's deputy."

The powerfully built Prock immediately pushed his surprised companion out of the way and attempted to dump the cocaine into the toilet.

Hill bounced back against Prock and he missed the bowl, dumping the expensive stuff onto the floor as one of the officers clambered over the door and hurled himself into the stall.

The airborne deputy dove for the bag.

Flailing and grappling with his uniformed foe, Prock managed to reach over to the wide-eyed Hill and snatch the baggie out of his hands.

The deputy wrestled with the truculent Prock and attempted to subdue him.

It didn't work.

Prock began a fitful battle as the

second officer dropped into the melee.

Using his head as a battering ram, Prock butted the two deputies while Hill was pressed against the wall of the stall attempting to appear inconspicuous.

While the chaotic battle boiled against the walls and floors, Prock managed to loose a fist and grab the bags of dope and in one motion hurled them down the toilet and flushed it.

Then he gave up.

The officers cuffed him.

As they opened the door and the battered, exhausted quartet emerged from the watercloset, the "alleged" desperado, hand-cuffed and defiant, attempted to escape.

The list of charges against Prock includes assorted felonies like resisting arrest, possession of cocaine, destroying evidence, assault on a peace officer, drug intoxication, interference with a peace officer in the performance of his duty and, of course, attempted

escape.

Prock and Hill are not the sort of fellows, however, that the 30 percent increase in drug arrests usually reflects, Wachsmuth asserted.

The increased city traffic, the increased number of officers, and their increased efficiency of observation and arrest has produced the swell in numbers arrested.

Wachsmuth noted that as more people are arrested for traffic violations, the chance of discovering such illegal drugs as cocaine and marijuana in their possession increases; these individuals have added to the abnormal bulge in statistics.

As an example Wachsmuth pointed out that in 1987, in the months of July and August before the City of Santa Clarita was incorporated, there were 80 and 40 drug-related arrests respectively; and this year the new city has recorded 99 arrests for July, and 102 arrests for the month of August.

A Torrent of Traffic Tags Flow in from the North

Continued from Page 1

inth known as the San Francisco police department, transferred and put on hold for the better part of a morning, this reporter found no answers to question: how did this happen?

Woody Davis, of the San Francisco Records Dept. said, "we have this all time. Sometimes when the officer issues tickets, they don't write too clearly, and the clerks put it into the computers wrong."

But for 50 people in Santa Clarita to receive the same notice?

Davis had no answer for that.

His supervisor, Harry Wong, thought it might be Us mistaken for Vs, or Ls mistaken for Cs.

"I can't explain it," he finally said.

Wong advised anyone who has received a notice not to pay but write a letter and send the ticket, or a copy, back with a copy of their registration to Rosalie Vasquez, supervisor of traffic tickets, San Francisco Police Dept., San Francisco, CA 941--

The best answer came from H.P. Alexander, who suggested the possibility that an over-zealous San Francisco police officer may be trying to earn a day off.

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On the Road

with Jerry Reynolds

Perhaps the most renowned tree in this valley, aside from the Oak of the Golden Dream, is one in Pico Canyon forming a nearly perfect living arch. It has been written about in scholarly reports and featured in Ripley's "Believe It Or Not" series. For that reason, it is known far and wide as "The Ripley Oak."

In the magnificent rock-rimmed valley where trees and even the very earth we live on are treated as callously as dirty disposable diapers, the word "Developer" has come to be tantamount to calling someone Genseric the Vandal or Attila the Hun. They seem to revel in destroying our collective heritage; replacing woodlands and historic structures with mono-



The famous oak's branches make a graph against the sky.

tonously dull rows upon rows of tract home, which, in time, will become instant slums. Then they have the colossal audacity to name their projects "The Oaks" or "River Oaks", "Oak Plaza" or some other meaningless epithet after decimating the oaks and replacing them with eucalyptus from Australia, European poplar and cedars of Lebanon.

Recently, news floated down from Pico that another native grove has been destroyed because the developer feared a harsh new edict from the newly formed City of Santa Clarita might still the chainsaws. Baloney! The parcel is not even within the city limits, which end at Interstate 5.

However, this particular builder may, after all, have something of a social conscience, for the unique Ripley Oak and a companion tree have been enclosed behind a towering chain-link fence, which extends well beyond their



The Ripley Oak (right) and its more prosaic companion are protected from bulldozers by a chain-link fence.

driplines, preserving them from the mindless wrath of bulldozers and skip loaders. A drip-line, by the way, is a band extending down from a tree's farthest spreading branches to the ground.

Within this boundary, an oak has developed a complex system for keeping itself alive. Acorns and leaves provide food and cover for a variety of animals which repay their host by fertilizing the soil.

Within this valley, eight varieties of oak exist, under the general species of Quercus, which have managed to change and adapt to lessening rainfall and lowered water tables over the ages. While they might be considered survivors, oaks have never adopted a defense against rip-saws or tractor blades. For the first time in a million or so years, they are entirely dependant upon the whim of mankind. It would seem that the Ripley Oak has been spared by a corporate whim.

Who knows how long ago the sapling sprung from this piece of ground beginning to grow straight and tall as an oak should? It would have to be at least 200 years ago, and probably a lot longer than that. The seasons came and went - summer heat, winter floods, and, no doubt, a few earthquakes. A band of Tataviam Indians discovered oil deep in the canyon. This was valuable for waterproofing baskets and rubbing arthritic joints.

To mark the way, they bent the tree into a horseshoe, attaching the top to the earth. Most oaks did not survive this treatment, yet somehow this one did, continuing to flourish in this odd inverted U-shape while sending branches upward. Across the land, in time came Spanish padres, Mexican dons on dark prancing stallion, Yankee soldiers with sabres clattering, oil men seeking riches at Mentryville, sweating farmers, cattlemen chewing dust, automobiles, freeways, smog and tract homes.

The Ripley Oak has stood a silent witness to the whole pageant of life in this valley. Let us hope that it will continue its silent vigil, undisturbed and respected.

The Ripley Oak is located a quarter of a mile west of Interstate 5 on Pico Canyon Road, which is the continuation of Lyons Avenue in Newhall. It is on the left side behind two fences, one protecting the property and the other protecting the tree. Stevenson Ranch Development is across the way.

For a look at how this monarch might have grown had it not been tied down, drive around the corner on Chiquella Lane to the end of the street. Where Sage Crest intersects, there stands a truly stately Quercus agrifolia, looming 50 or 60 feet into the sky with wide-branching limbs that must shade a quarter of an acre. May it be that no one begins calculating how many board-feet are contained in its arrow-straight trunk.

Pinetree School Nearly Finished, Opens to First Four Grades

The new Pinetree school in the Sulphur Springs district is expected to be completed the end of this month, says district superintendent Robert Nolet.

The district opened the primary grades, kindergarten through 4, September 7.

"We have not taken full occupancy of the site as yet," Nolet said, "presently there are 450 students housed on the site and the remaining 150 students are being housed off-site (at the Mitchell elementary school)."

The remaining students (grades 5 through 6), will be moved into the new school this Wednesday, when school principal Nick Teeter will conduct a "walk-through".

Teeter said he hopes the entire student body will be housed in the new school by September 26.

Consistent with the problem of overcrowding facing district schools throughout the SCV, the new school will open at capacity.

"The school was built for about 590," Nolet said, "and we will open with an enrollment of about 585."

The new school, in the farthest eastern corner of Canyon Country, sits at the top of Lotusgarden and Flowerpark Drive at the back of a broad, deep green grassy lot and resembles a breezy green oasis or park in the center of a stretch of jutting sunbaked hills.

The district and board are very excited about the design of the school and Dr. Nolet is transformed into a veritable poet when reflecting on the gradual development and construction of the building.

"It is a very uniquely designed building," Nolet began. "The design is such that there is an interior courtyard and a library placed in the center of the courtyard."

"I believe it is the only library in the valley which has a bell tower."

Principal Teeter said that the residents of the Pinetree neighborhood were promised a new school when they moved into their homes, and it in fact had been one of the reasons they purchased their homes.

For 20 years they looked at a vacant lot where the new school now stands.

The school is encircled with shrubbery (around \$230,000 in landscaping) and subtly emerges from the dry, brown hills, with a series of earthtones, mauve, red, tan, purple, ocher, grey, which themselves are composed as dramatic elements of a suite of towers, classrooms, offices, and passageways, lit up by windows, skylights, and breezeways, each repeating the earthy theme or echoing the classic tower design in a kind of visual refrain.

Remarkably, the unique design of

the school was achieved not by the labors of an individual mind, but by committee.

"We had a design committee made up of parents, administrators, interested neighbors from the Pinetree tract, teachers, classified people, local businessmen, support-service personnel (such as custodians, special education instructors and others).

About 20 individuals in all," Nolet boasted. "They were able to stay together for over a year, meeting at least once a month with the architect to develop the design of the school.

"The board wanted to see as many people involved in the design as possible. And I guess the reason I'm so excited is because of this extraordinary group. I just can't help but feel a sense of ownership with them."

Museum Friends to Stage 'Powwow in the Park'

A "Pow-wow in the Park" has been planned by The Friends of Hart Park Museum as part of their annual membership drive.

The event is scheduled for 5 p.m. Saturday, September 24, at Hart Park, at Newhall Avenue and San Fernando Road.

The evening will include a barbecue by Angel's Catering, no-host bar with beer and wine, and western music.

Western attire will be welcomed, though not required. The cost is \$15 per person, and everyone is invited.

Membership in the Friends of Hart Park Museum is an opportunity to be an active supporter of one of

SCV's greatest treasures. The silent western film star, William S. Hart, left to the people of Los Angeles County his stately retirement home and 360-acre ranch, as well as a priceless collection of western art and American Indian artifacts.

The Friends play a vital role in the day-to-day operations of the Museum. The Friends also serve as the Museum's fundraising organization.

For more information about the Friends and the upcoming barbecue, call 255-7261 or 259-0855. Tickets may be purchased the day of the Pow-wow or by writing to Friends of Hart Park, PO Box 418, Newhall, CA 91322.

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Agua Dulce Fair Festivities

The fun and festivities at the Agua Dulce Fair continued over the weekend at Lang Arena in Agua Dulce. The annual parade brought out the best in everyone.



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Agua Dulce Fair
 photos by
 Wayne Fitzpatrick

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Firemen used two sets of "jaws of life" to remove the victim, Antonio Gutierrez Ramirez, from the burned shell of his El Camino.

Fiery Crash Causes Death

A driver that drives while intoxicated, even if driving slowly and carefully, is still a drunken driver.

That's what Debra Anne Beard, 31, of Redondo Beach found out just after midnight, last Wednesday.

Beard was intoxicated but carefully driving her '78 Cadillac 30-40 mph on Hwy 126 heading east when

a Chevy El Camino roared up beside her and swerved into her lane at a high rate of speed to make the I-5 southbound exit.

The El Camino, driven by Antonio Gutierrez Ramirez, 48, of Mission Hills clipped Beard's car and careened out of control across the

roadway, crashing into a guardrail. The car was immediately engulfed in flames, trapping Ramirez inside, killing him.

Although Beard was not at fault for the accident and death of Ramirez, she was arrested for drunken driving.

PR Group to Hear New Resource

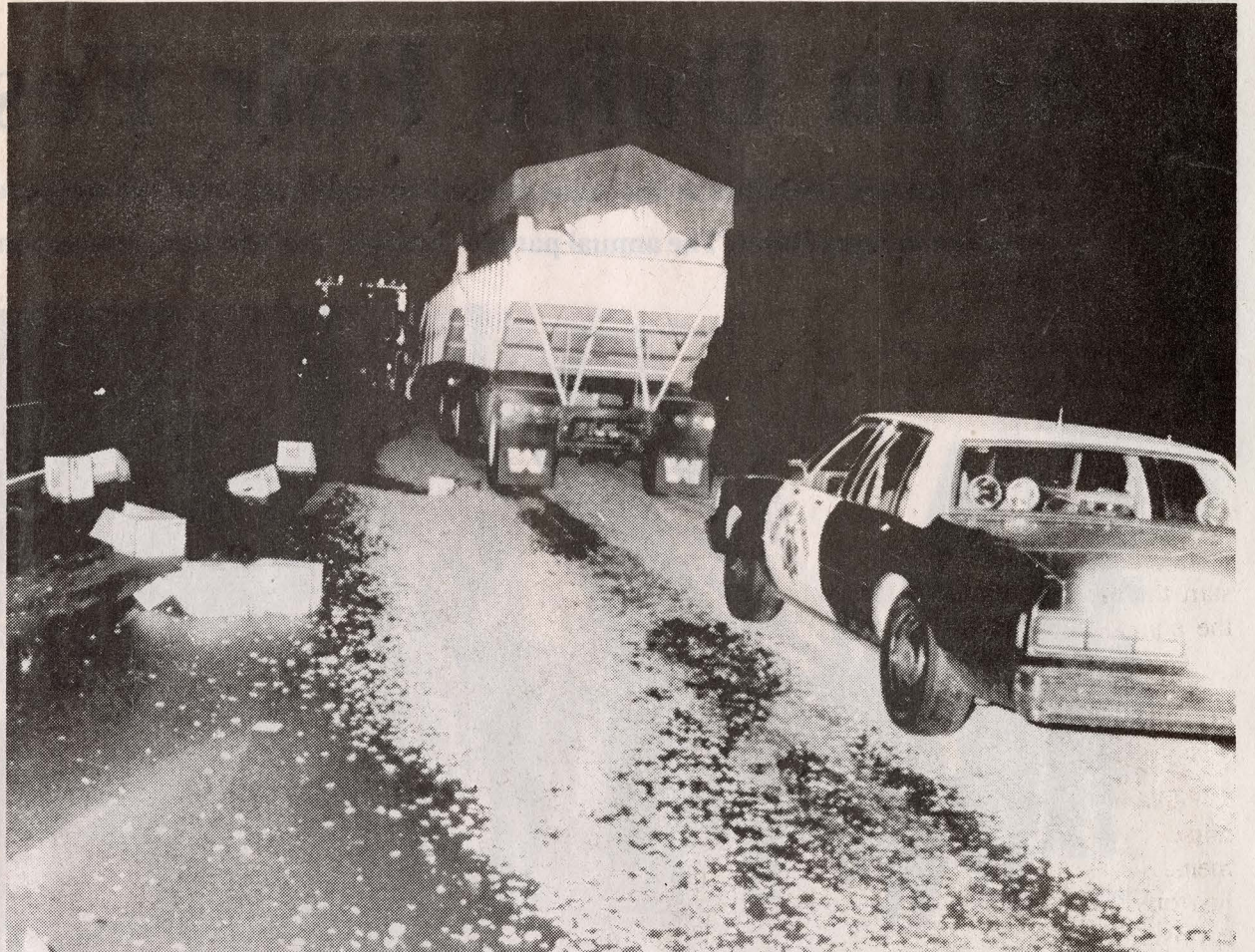
"Desktop Publishing Affordable Power — An Efficient Communications Tool for Public Relations

Managers," will be presented by Christopher Meeks at the P.R. Contacts monthly meeting at 6 p.m. tomorrow at CalArts.

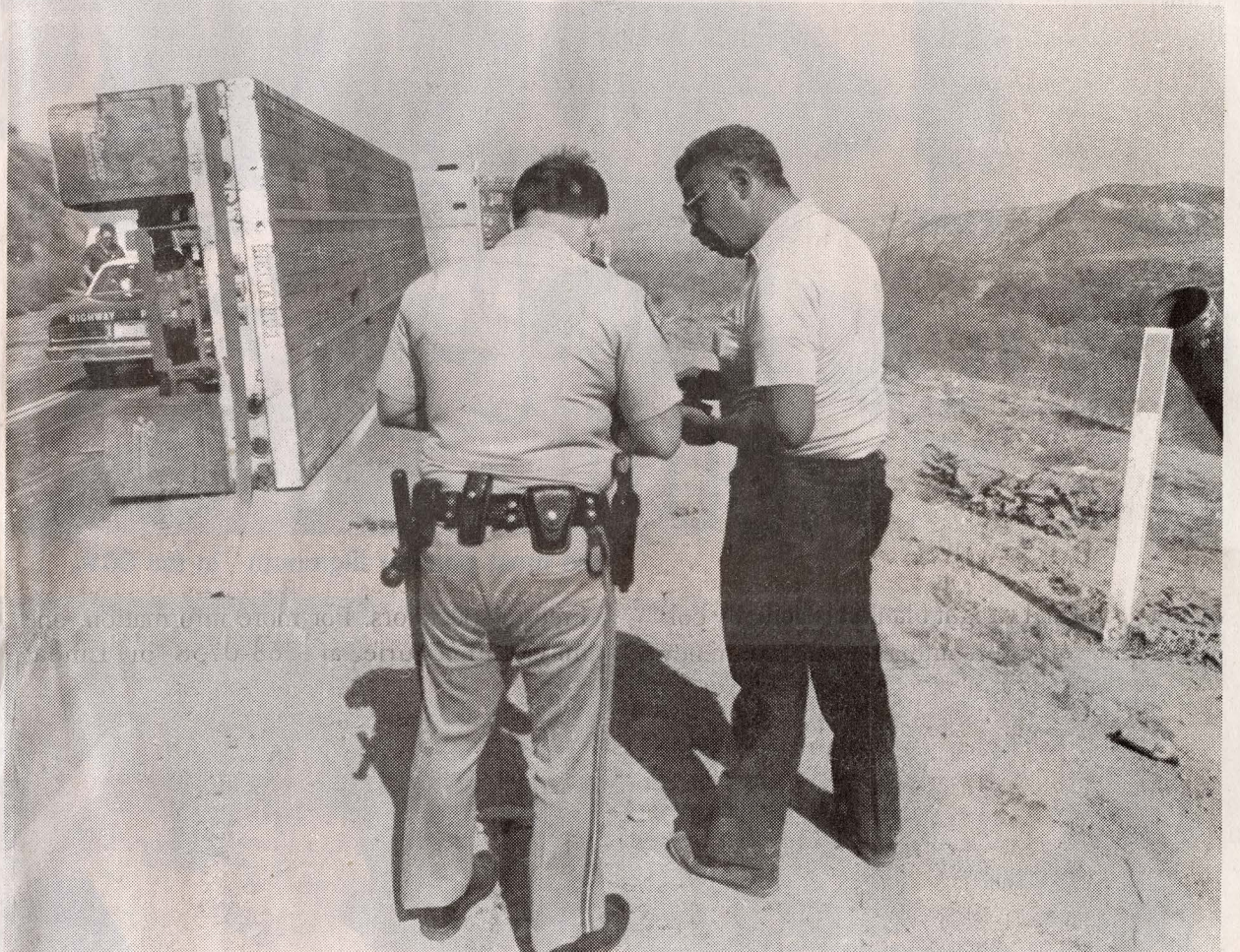
P.R. Contacts serves as a networking and resource group for those involved in the fields of public relations, publicity, communications, advertising and marketing, living or working in the Santa Clarita Valley.

The annual membership fee is \$25. For information and reservations, one may call Anita Bonnell, 255-1050 or Stephanie Weiss, 296-0860.

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Two tractor-trailers with double loads collided Wednesday evening on the southbound Golden State Freeway, south of Templin Hwy., spilling Gallo wine and almond hulls over the third and fourth lanes. The accident caused lane closures for six hours. The truck hauling almond hulls rear-ended the truck carrying the wine, sending the rear trailer halfway up onto the trailer in front. The almond hull truck was crushed in, sending the almond hulls skittering across the freeway, mixing with the wine in a bartender's nightmare. The driver of the almond hull tractor, Edgar Wilson, received minor injuries. The accident is still under investigation.



Photos By Gary Thornhill

Ronald Taylor, 53, was driving his big rig loaded with 40-foot pipes, eastbound on Hwy. 126, Wednesday afternoon, when he came to the 40 mph curve. He approached the curve at approximately 40 mph, when he drifted to the right shoulder of the sharp curve. He tried to correct his steering when the pipes shifted, overturning his big rig. Eight of the 40-foot-long pipes, weighing 5000 lbs. each, were thrown over a steep embankment on the side of the road. The end of one of the pipes can be seen at right. CHP Officer Dave Pokorny takes a statement from Taylor, who was not injured.

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Possible Fraud

A 57-year-old man complained to Sheriff's deputies recently that he paid \$700 for a dog of questionable pedigree.

The man said that when he purchased the dog, a rare Chinese Shar-Pei, from a 27-year-old Saugus man in May, he was told the dog was a registered pedigree and that the registration papers would be mailed to him within 30 days.

However, the papers never came, and the dogs seller, who has reportedly bilked at least seven other local Shar-Pei purchasers, does not have any Shar-Peis registered in the United States.

"Shine it on or do what you have to do," said the seller when he was told the Sheriff's Dept. was being asked to investigate the problem.

Attempted Grand Theft

Deputies zeroed in from several directions on two men who were behaving suspiciously in the 28000 block of Eagle Crest Drive in Canyon Country shortly before midnight Thursday.

One man, Carlos Magana, 18, of Inglewood, pretended to be asleep on the front seat of his car when the

lawmen arrived.

The deputies ordered Magana to sit up, revealing burglars tools and a wire loop used to open car doors on the seat where he had been lying.

An acquaintance of Magana's, Manuel Flores, 19, of Inglewood, was then spotted nearby in the vicinity of a pickup truck.

A search of the truck revealed that a metal cap on the truck's ignition switch was missing, and a knife was found. When the truck's owner was summoned, he was surprised to find the knife and the tampered ignition switch.

Deputies then arrested the men for attempted grand theft.

Frying Pan Attack

A 50-year-old Castaic man was struck on the head with a frying pan by his daughter early Thursday morning.

The woman told deputies that her father had been drinking and harassing her that night, preventing her from sleeping.

At one point, he demanded she open her car trunk and remove a vacuum cleaner.

When she refused, the father attempted to open the trunk with a screwdriver.

When the daughter ran outside to stop her father, he hurled the screwdriver at the girl, cutting her leg.

The daughter retaliated by cracking her father on the head with the frying pan.

Broken Nose

A 20-year-old Canyon Country woman was entertaining a man in an office building in the 23000 block of Lyons Ave. late Wednesday night when she heard a loud knock on the door.

Fearing that the knocker was Christopher Lambert, 24, of Lake View Terrace, the father of the woman's infant daughter, the lady and her companion attempted to hide.

The strategy failed, with Lambert reportedly splintering the door frame and forcing his way in.

He then grabbed the woman by the throat and punched her in the face, according to witnesses.

The woman was diagnosed as possibly having a broken nose, but her male friend escaped injury.

Lady on Horseback

by Patty Charrow

Brisk fall evenings equal fuzzy horses.

Yup, it's that time of the year, again. Remember the blankets we all sent off to be laundered and mended? Well, pick them up and start the daily trek to the corrals to bundle up the equine babies.

But, wait a minute. Is this REALLY necessary?

Personally, I don't much care to blanket my horse. Despite the strictest of blanketing regimens, he defies me anyway, growing long, lustrous locks that frustrate me well past spring.

What irks me most is seeing occasional weekend mounts standing in hot, noontime sun, blanket cocked to one side, exposing a belly drenched in perspiration.

Because Santa Clarita Valley weather fluctuates dramatically inside of 12 hours, it is mandatory that blankets be removed during the daytime. If this can't be done, don't even start blanketing at all.

Of course, some horses with show arena careers are covered in their stalls all day, but they are usually out of the sun and have well-educated trainers exercising them daily.

According to Lancaster veterinarian Wayne Marteney, our weather is actually harder for horses because of the dramatic temperature changes. "If a horse stands outside blanketed all day, its akin to being in a ski parka."

"A couple of years ago there was a study released in a veterinary magazine that stated that a normal horse with normal hair dispersement in a normal weight blanket is actually colder than a horse left unblanketed," Marteney said, adding, "The blanket depresses the hair

and eliminates the body's natural insulation ability."

"To get this blanketed horse back to the same state of warmth he would have had with his normal coat alone, you would have to use a heavy New Zealand-type blanket," Marteney explained.

The only exceptions would be body clipped horses or those with no winter hair growth. Ultimately, the normal blanketed horse in reality needs an extra-heavy weight blanket to actually keep warm, Marteney concluded.

Dr. Dyck, another local equine veterinarian, agrees with Marteney, adding, "Leaving horses blanketed not only makes them more susceptible to respiratory infection, but also to skin disease. It's just not necessary. I used to work in Nebraska and we didn't blanket horses there! While show horses may be a different ball game, across the board, I still feel horses don't need to be blanketed."

Okay, now you have the expert opinion. Sure, it's nice to have a sleek, glossy coat, but at what cost? The bottom line may very well be — blanketer beware!

Upcoming Events:

Today: Agua Dulce Country Fair presents a "speed horse spectacular," with 9 a.m. signups and the first race at 10 a.m. Location: Lang arena behind fair activities, Agua Dulce Canyon Road and Darling Road. For information, call George, 268-1173.

October 2: Playday and Gymkhana, Lang arena, Agua Dulce, sponsored by ETI Corral 86. Free to spectators. For more information, one may call Laurie at 268-0758 or Linda, 251-4467. Begins at 8 a.m.

Golden Oak Adult School to Hold Classes

For further information on the classes listed below, one may call Golden Oak school, 259-5441 afternoons Monday through Thursday, and Fridays 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The fall quarter of Golden Oak adult school begins September 26 at 14 campuses in the Santa Clarita Valley.

No fee course topics include English as a second language, life skills for the adult handicapped, elementary and secondary subjects review, high school diploma and GED equivalency preparations.

A variety of recreational and self-improvement classes running the gamut from aviation ground school and boating safety to foreign language and the arts are also offered for a small fee.

To assist registering new high school diploma students, a counselor will be available the week of September 12 at Golden Oak adult school offices, Placerita junior high campus.

Auto Repair

Basic auto repair will be offered through Golden Oak adult school evenings at Saugus high starting Wednesday, September 28.

The 10-week course features a "hands-on" form of instruction in which participants will work on their own cars in small groups.

Class fee is \$30.

Aviation

Aviation ground school will be offered through the Golden Oak adult school at Saugus high beginning Wednesday, September 28.

The ten-week course includes airplane operation and performance, meteorology, communications and publications, navigation and flight computer, radio navigation and pre-flight planning, attitude instrument flying, and emergency procedures.

Students should be able to pass the Federal Aviation Administration private license test upon course completion.

Ceramics

Ceramics will begin Wednesday, September 28 through the Golden Oak adult school at Saugus high from 7 to 10 p.m., room B-4.

The fundamental course covers hand building and throwing on the potter's wheel as well as decorative glazing processes.

Class fee is \$30.

Doll Making

Porcelain doll making begins Thursday, September 29 through the Golden Oaks adult school at Saugus high, room B-4 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

The ten-week class covers the art of face painting, construction, and costume design.

Class fee is \$30 plus materials. Register at first meeting.

French

Conversational French will be offered through Golden Oak adult school at Arroyo Seco junior high Tuesday nights beginning September 27 from 7 to 9:30 p.m.

In a relaxed atmosphere, students will learn about French music, movies, and food, while focusing on grammar, vocabulary, travel and business needs.

Knitting

Knitting, crocheting and needlepoint will be taught through the Golden Oak adult school at the Learning Post beginning Wednesday, September 28 from 7 to 10 p.m.

The six-week course is designed for beginners and needlework enthusiasts. Course fee is \$30.

Landscaping

Home landscaping will be taught through Golden Oak adult school at Placerita junior high, room 501, beginning Wednesday, September

28 from 7 to 10 p.m.

The 10-week course fee is \$30 and topics include basic landscape planning, soil preparation, lawns, ground covers, planting for quick effect, fall bulb planting hydroponics, vines and Christmas plant care.

Painting

Oil painting and watercolor classes for all levels will begin the week of September 26 through Golden Oak adult school at various times and locations throughout the Santa Clarita Valley.

The 10-week course costs \$34. Registration takes place during the first class meeting.

Portrait Drawing

Portrait drawing offered through Golden Oak adult school begins Tuesday, September 27 at Arroyo Seco junior high, room 404, from 7 to 10 p.m.

The 10-week course is open to all levels. Registration takes place during first meeting. Course fee \$30.

Sewing

Sewing classes will be offered through Golden Oak adult school at Arroyo Seco junior high room 101, beginning Wednesday, September 28, 7 to 10 p.m.

The 10-week course covers selection and use of commercial patterns, fitting, design and wardrobe planning and time-saving methods.

Course fee \$30. Registration will be held during the first class meeting.

Wood Carving

Whittling and wood carving classes offered through Golden Oak adult school at Sierra Vista junior high begin Tuesday, September 27 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. in the school woodshop.

The ten-week course lab fee is \$2.

Thar She Blows!

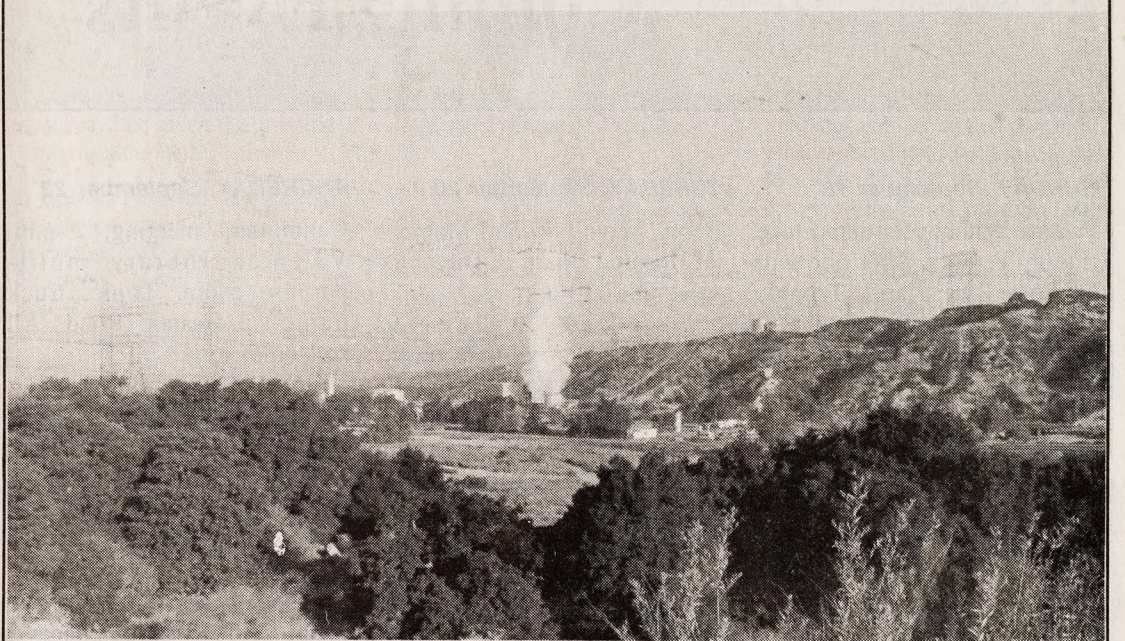


Photo By Gary Thornhill

A combination of changing weather and relative humidity occasionally causes this steam plume at the AES Placerita Inc. cogeneration plant in lower Placerita Canyon. The 98-mega-watt cogeneration plant became fully operational Aug. 31. Placerita Canyon residents are battling Tenneco Oil Co.'s proposal to build another cogeneration plant on a hill south of the AES plant.

Shopping Class

An exciting new course is being offered at College of the Canyons, called Discount Shopping. Those who enroll will learn where to put their dollars and how to increase their "yield". Tips will be given on the best buys and how to conserve time, energy and gas while shopping.

Instructor Beverly Ann Hurd has located the best buys from the Santa Clarita and San Fernando Valleys, Los Angeles and some outlying areas.

The 2 hour class will be held from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. on Wednesday, September 21. The fee for the course is \$12, and a materials fee of \$3 will be payable in the class. Please call 259-7800, extension 421 to enroll.

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Barbara in Wonderland

by Barbara Falconer

Center of the World

Up in Siskiyou mountain country, in the northwest corner of California, there is a spot know to Karuk tribe as Kota-Mein.

In the Karuk language, Kota-Mein means "center of the world."

Like their ancestors before them, the Karuk people hike up to sacred spots like Kota-Mein, Chimney Rock and Doctor Rock to talk to the Great Spirit and to receive power.

I have never been to Kota-Mein, but I have been to Bass Lake, Michigan.

If I were drawing a map of the world, its center would be at Bass Lake, just where its outlet flows into the great, blue Lake Michigan.

I have lived in California for nearly two decades, but like my forebears - my mother, her mother Toto, her mother Nana, and her Grandma Harlow - I return to Bass Lake every chance I get.

I am drawn there as surely as a Michigan mosquito is drawn to the juicy ankles of anyone foolish enough to venture outdoors after dark in a Michigan summer.

Chimney Rock and Doctor Rock have been compared by their devotees to black holes in space, vortexes, whirlwinds of energy. Those spots on Earth have, it is said, the power to give the worthy pilgrim a vision of transcendence.

Last month, I left my husband behind in California with a freezer full of spaghetti sauce and meatloaf.

The children and I boarded a Boeing 767 for a pilgrimage to Michigan. I wanted to show them my secret spots. Peter, 6, and Christina, 3, were enthusiastic.

They donned hats and mosquito netting to pick raspberries in the woods with their grandfather.

They watched the cherries being harvested. They caught a toad and inspected a patch of poison ivy.

They learned to soothe their mosquito bites by wiping them with spit.

They met their great-aunt Ruth and made friends with a half-dozen second cousins, some of whom were drawn here, as we were, all the way from the West Coast.

They chased minnows in the warm, brown water of the Bass Lake outlet.

They took wet fistfuls of the creamy, miraculously clean, Lake Michigan sand and let it drip off the ends of their fingers to make dainty

drip castles.

They heard the story of the drip castle party their Uncle David and Aunt Alice once threw on the shores of the Pacific.

My brother and his wife, also a Midwesterner, once invited some California friends to a beach party, promising to initiate them in the intricacies of drip castle building.

They discovered, to their chagrin, that California sand does not drip. The project was a flop.

When they grew sweaty, my children waded down the outlet into the Big Lake. They threw their bellies onto the breaking waves and dove for the smooth rocks buried in the sand.

Again and again, they climbed aboard a much-patched inner tube and drifted down the outlet into the Big Lake.

The hours passed.

My mother sat on a beach towel spread on the sand, watching her daughter and grandchildren. "This is life," she sighed.

Behind her, Lake Michigan's waves crashed noisily on the beach, just as they had crashed when I was a girl and when she was a girl and when our great-grandmothers were girls.

When I was a seventh-grader, I painted a picture of this beach in art class. Sand, grass and lake blended together in a misty and - I thought - very successful portrait of my beach.

My art teacher was displeased. "It doesn't look real," she said. "Too sweet."

Before we left, I showed Peter and Christina one last secret spot - the view of the Big Lake and outlet from a high sand bluff to the north.

From this bluff, there is nothing to see but beauty. Even the human bathers, many of them grown fat on too much cherry pie and sweet corn, take on a certain grace when seen from up here.

I had my Nikkormat along and, as always, took a picture of the outlet.

The Siskiyou Indians forbid photographs of their "power sites". When my pictures returned, I saw that, sure enough, it had happened again.

My magical spot was gone. What I held in my hands was a 3 1/2 by 5-inch glossy of - just another beautiful beach.

I'll have to go back and try again.

Letters to the Editor

...continued

Dear Sir,

With regard to your contest concerning your motto - while not being a Latin scholar, but being from the same country as the Iron Duke you refer to, I believe that an appropriate translation would be:

"Let not those who know not their fathers impede your progress or in other ways grind you down."

Good luck with your project.

Yours sincerely,
Keith Paul
Newhall

Dear Sir,

In response to your request for an immediate translation to Illegitimi Non Carborundum, an American idiomatic common translation is: "Don't let the bastards grind you down."

Knowing the circumstances involved per your inaugural editorial and similar ones, albeit representing the Signal, I couldn't agree more. Best of luck in your new endeavor!

Sincerely,
Richard K. Edell, Ph.D. (Oceanography not Latin)
Saugus

Lecture on Drug Dependency How to Find Scheduled for Tonight Loved Ones

A public lecture on drug dependency will be given this evening at Congregation Beth Shalom.

Speaker will be Jay R. Cavanaugh, corporate director for the Inter-Agency Drug Abuse Recovery Programs. He will speak on "Chemical Dependency: Recognition, Intervention and Referral".

Congregation Beth Shalom is at 23045 Lyons Avenue, Newhall. The talk will be given at 7 o'clock.

Cavanaugh has been a member of the California Board of Pharmacy since 1980. In addition, he has been active on the Santa Clarita Valley Health Council and in the San Fernando/Antelope Valley Regional Drug Abuse Consortium.

His published articles include "Cocaine--The New Tyranny," "New Hope for Impaired Profes-

sionals," and "The California Impaired Pharmacist Program."

The City of Santa Clarita is attempting to become "drug-free". All members of the community are invited to hear Cavanaugh speak about how to recognize chemical dependency in the family and what to do about it.

For further information, one may call 254-2411.

Missing Persons International will hold a no-fee community information meeting from 1 to 3 p.m. today in the Greeley Educational Rooms of the Henry Mayo Hospital on the 2nd floor.

Search techniques and problems related to searching will be discussed. Beverages will be served with a very informal atmosphere.

For more information call 251-4477, or write: P.O. Box 1337, Canyon Country 91351.

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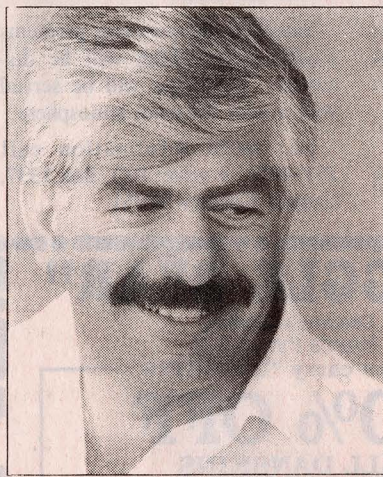
The Citizen's Kaine

by Kaine Thompson

QUESTION: Would you object to your son or daughter marrying someone from Valencia?

(Asked at Solemint Junction, Canyon Country)

Photo By Gary Thornhill



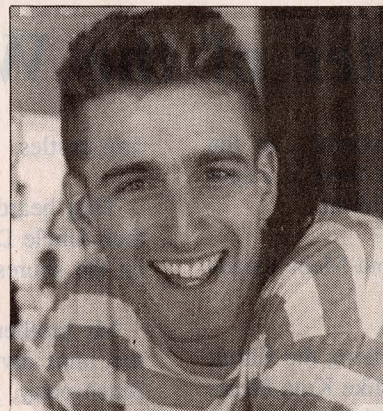
**ALBERT NADER,
CANYON COUNTRY**

Not at all. What difference does it make as long as they like each other?.



**MARIA MYER,
CANYON COUNTRY**

No, because they already married someone from Valencia. No problem with that, they've been married 14 years. There's no difference between the two, we are one community!



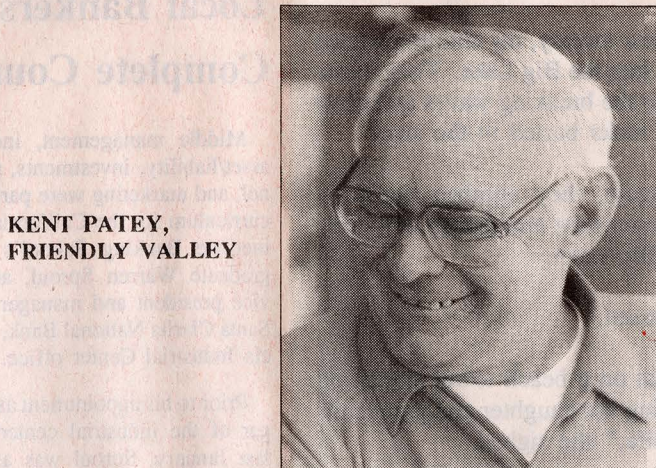
**PATRICK DENE,
CANYON COUNTRY**

From Valencia? I don't know. I just moved down from Seattle three weeks ago, is Valencia a bad place? If I had a daughter, I don't think I would mind, it would be okay. I know I would, if she's the right girl.



**ANITA STROBUT,
CANYON COUNTRY**

I would really like it if they did. Most of my friends live there. There's a big difference between the two communities. Valencia is enclosed and has all those extra little goodies. It's a little late for Canyon Country. As a matter of fact, we're not Canyon Country any more. When are we going to call ourselves Santa Clarita?



**KENT PATEY,
FRIENDLY VALLEY**

Marrying someone from Valencia? No. Certainly not. They're just as good a people as everybody else. I think they're stuck with a little more housing rules over there than anywhere else around, but other than that it's a pretty nice place. My son married a girl from Valencia and they have two beautiful children.



**TRUDY TURNBAUGH,
CANYON COUNTRY**

Well, no. Why would I object? I'd rather have them marry someone from Valencia. From what I know about Valencia, it's a more affluent area and of course I want the best for my children. I don't want to sound materialistic, or anything, but you always want the best for your children. If someone from Valencia is going to have more money or be a doctor or something and give my daughter a better life, that's what I'd rather have.



**RICK VAUGHN,
CANYON COUNTRY**

Of course not. I think there's a slight difference, economically, between Canyon Country and Valencia, but I don't see a problem with a daughter of mine marrying someone from Valencia.

One-Mile Train Ride to Launch Campaign

Historic transportation will be provided by a vintage locomotive for more than 200 Newhall Land and Farming Company employees as they make their way to The Blue Moon restaurant by rail for a special United Way campaign kick-off.

The rail journey, a little over a

mile in length, will be aboard the train used in many films made at the site.

Newhall Land's unique fundraising program is expected to set the pace for other industries in the local area. United Way officials dubbed the Santa Clarita Valley the "valley

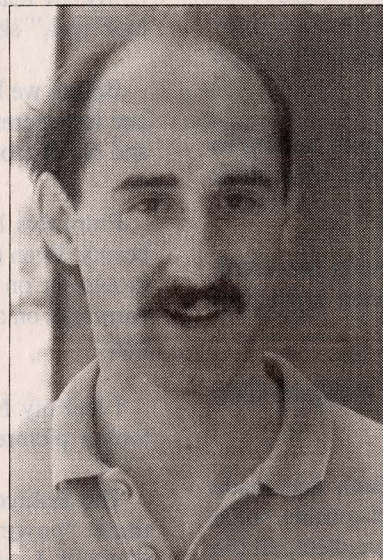
with a heart" at the conclusion of last year's campaign.

United Way officials and representatives of some of the organizations whose services are made possible through United funding will be on hand at the kick-off to thank company employees for their

generous giving.

Employee chairman for the 1988 campaign is Jeff Rhoads, company architect. He hopes to reach a 100 percent employee participation level in the year's program. "The most important thing to remember is that this is something our employees are doing for the community," Rhoads said. "Our employees are very committed to the areas in which they live and work. Many have had members of their families or friends who have been helped by United Way agencies; we do this to give something back to the community."

In a pre-campaign letter to employees, Newhall Land president Tom Lee commended employees for their caring. "If the local area is the valley with a heart, then Newhall Land can truly be called the "company with a heart."



**RICK VAUGHN,
CANYON COUNTRY**

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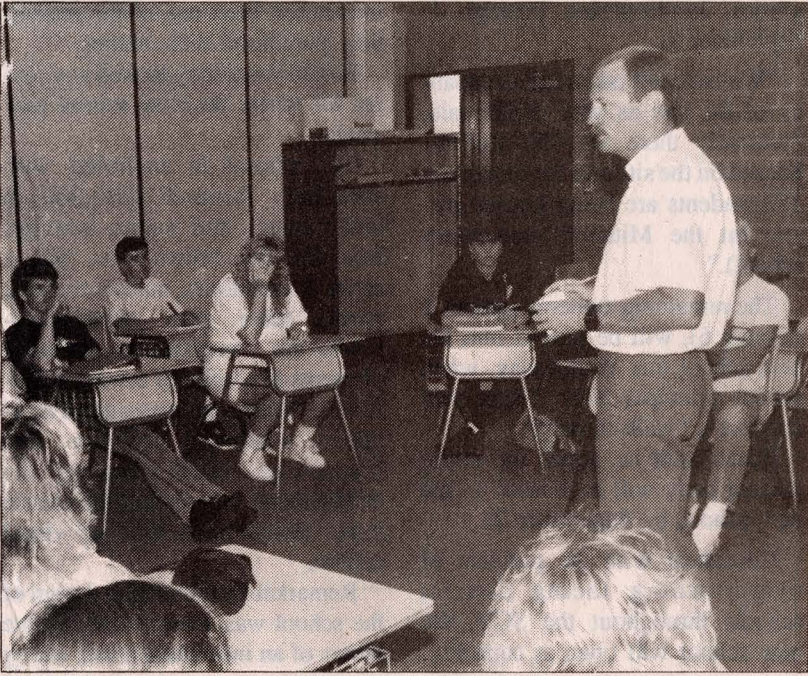
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Coaches in the Classroom: Shakespeare, History, Anatomy

By Emory Holmes II
Citizen Staff Writer

Canyon's Welch

There was a problem with the pit. Harry Welch, English teacher extraordinaire glanced back at the drawing he had made of it on the



Harry Welch discusses drama.

Photo By Gary Thornhill

board then back at the perplexed stares of his first-period students at Canyon.

"How can I illustrate?" he asked himself aloud, absorbed by the question and growing more animated.

His eyes searched the classroom: there were 20 or so students, all wide-eyed and watchful; stacks of textbooks on Shakespeare, world literature, and the novel were piled high on a nearby table; a number of green and gold Canyon football duffelbags laid in a corner; an old football trophy stood in the distance perched atop a high cabinet.

Suddenly Welch moved to the center of the room.

The students of his Shakespeare class were seated in a semicircle around him.

He pulled two empty desks and pushed them together to form a precarious table.

Then he jumped on top of it and, towering over his students he said in triumph, "This is what the actors on a Shakesperian stage looked like to the people in the pit."

Harry Welch is as driven by the plays of Elizabethan England as he is by the offensive and defensive plays of his Canyon football team.

Today, however, the bard's the thing.

Welch is discussing the design of the theater in Shakespeare's time, "Have you ever been to England?" he asks.

He returns to the board and around his drawing of the stage and pit area he chalks in a series of concentric arcs indicating the area where the noblemen sat, above the rude and merrymaking peasants in the pit.

Welch described Shakespeare's England as an island forever brooding under foggy mists and stormclouds.

He describes the advantages the noblemen had in escaping occasional bad weather but asserts that Shakespeare was acutely aware of the foibles, distinctions and interests of "the classes".

"Shakespeare had the common touch," Welch says, still towering

boys is someone quite familiar with various types of pressure, too.

Cowboy football, Welch says, means three things: sportsmanship; caring for one another; and keeping things in perspective, whether that is winning or losing.

Welch, like Dick Flaherty and Dave Carson, the two other SCV high school football coaches, was hired as a coach because of his abilities as a teacher.

In the words of Canyon High principal Dr. William White, who is an avid sports fan, and former athlete and coach, "Welch is a class act all the way. We hired him because he's a teacher. We want to turn out good students, and that is what our program is all about."

Saugus's Flaherty

On the other side of the hill, at Saugus High, history teacher Dick Flaherty sits at his desk in a brightly lit relocatable classroom on the outer fringe of the Centurion practice field.

His class is packed. Flaherty, who was a double-major at CSUN, his alma mater, now teaches the classes he majored in there: physical education and U.S. history.

An outstanding athlete in high school and college, Flaherty is comfortable and assured in his role as teacher-coach.

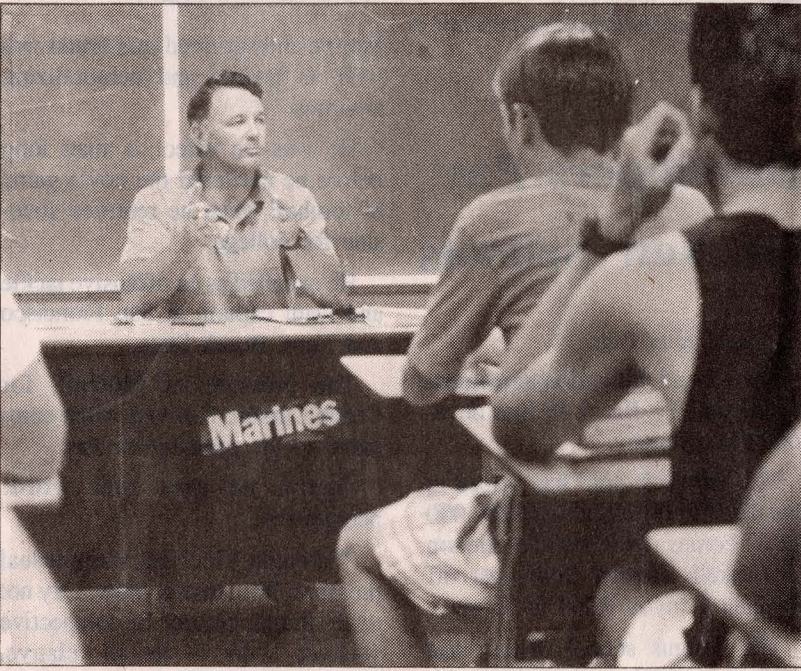
Since he is seated, one cannot see that he is wearing short pants; and his muscular forearms and booming voice belie his casual and occasionally sunny demeanor.

Right now he is all business. He is discussing the Japanese destruction of the Russian fleet in 1904 and '05.

"If you can't place an issue in its historical context then it really won't mean anything to you," Flaherty tells his class.

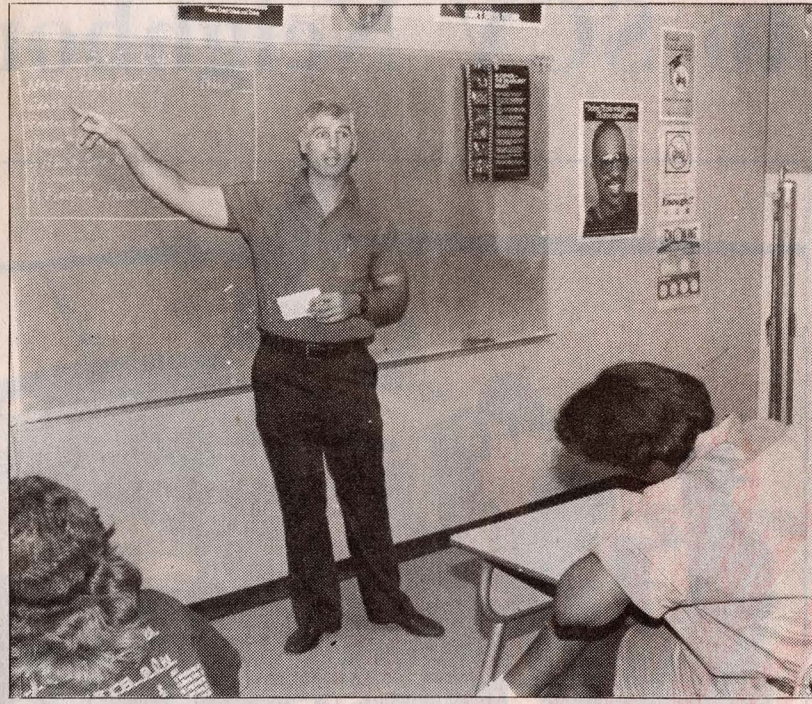
"The Japanese destruction of the Russian fleet was the model for their attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. History has a context."

Flaherty's class is decorated with safety and anti-drug posters, and a prominently displayed world globe.



Dick Flaherty talks about Asia.

Photo By Steve Baum



Dave Carson lectures on muscle structure.

Flaherty is an intense competitor, and is impossible to miss him on the football field among his fellow coaches and players.

Flaherty is in his second year at Saugus.

After turning around the losing program in his first year (from 0-10 to 4-6) Flaherty must not only teach his players the fundamentals of playing, but the fundamentals of winning as well: they're just not used to it, he says.

Still, Flaherty's squad had to settle for a 13-13 tie in its season opener with Hoover.

"I realized we have good kids here but we're just not used to winning. If Hart and Canyon are in a tight game, they expect to win it; our kids don't yet. We haven't developed that winning tradition."

Flaherty is a former assistant

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War to the present.

Everyone thinks Viet Nam is a hot topic, Coach Flaherty tells them. But in this class students will be expected to know more about Viet Nam than what is contained in a few movies.

They'll have to know about the long history of struggle in Southeast Asia; and of the French, the Chinese and the English involvement in Viet Nam, and how and why the U.S. got involved in the conflict in the first place.

That's what history is, says the teacher-coach:

All those entwining threads of time, event, personality and place that give life its startling and enduring relevance.

History, he says, has a context.

Hart's Carson

Crosstown in Newhall, Hart High's first year coach Dave Carson picks up his lesson plans and strides out of his office in the gym to greet his body conditioning class.

Carson is dressed in new black slacks and shoes, and a bloodred Hart High coaching shirt.

He moves with the quiet assurance of an athlete.

A victorious athlete.

Carson is a man who knows very well about the contexts of history. Viet Nam is no abstraction to him.

He lived it. Carson was stationed there as a

Continued on Page 12

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Letters to the Editor

Editor:

While we greatly appreciate the publicity given our group by the SCV Citizen's write up in the inaugural edition last Sunday, we feel that use of the word "swinging" used in the title of your article to describe our social group is one we consider to have an unflattering connotation.

In future articles regarding our group, we would appreciate omission of that adjective to describe us.

Thank you again for promoting our group.

Lisa Hill
Santa Clarita Singles Network

Flavor of Bile

Editor:

I have just read through, and enjoyed, the first edition of The Citizen. I can say this with "pureness of heart", having no previously-embittered feelings about The Signal. With that foundation set, however, I would like to offer an opinion.

It seems apparent that The Citizen is "cliff-hanging". The arms that hold it, dangling, on the edge of that cliff are free enterprise and freedom of the press. It also appears that there are one or more forces at work which are concertedly stomping the fingers at the ends of those arms. I find the situation appalling. Its flavor is that of bile.

This is no new situation. It's not even rare enough to be morbidly amusing. It's part of the rot that is beginning to chew away at the fabric of our wonderful coun-

try. It's the "I-want-what-I-want and I-don't-care-if-it's-fair and the-hell-with-you" attitude that is being held over, by popular demand, for the umpteenth week... like some diabolical Broadway play. But this isn't a play... it's real life. It's the ugly twin to the "it's your problem now attitude" that seems to also be attracting record crowds . . .

Whether The Citizen rises or falls should be based on its own merit or faults; its reflection of the community, the quality of its writing, and a score of other checkpoints that belong in a performance review and not an editorial.

No person, corporate entity, or government agency should be able to limit its longevity or potential, providing that it operates according to the laws of our great land. But laws are only as good as the spirit and pureness-of-intention that are the true threads in the woven fabric.

Perhaps our attentions should be turned to motivations. What motivates attempts at binding-and-gagging The Citizen? Can any pureness-of-intention be found there?

Somewhere in our Constitution it should state:

"WARNING: YOU WILL NOT BECOME TALLER BY DIGGING A HOLE FOR SOMEBODY ELSE TO STAND IN!"

My hope is that, with this lesson before it, The Citizen will never stoop to "shovel journalism". I wish it luck in its evolution and survival.

Bob Spelleri
Canyon Country

Editor:

Last week I read approximately five stories about the Hart/Canyon football game. This includes pre- and post-game articles. I was looking for something I didn't find--an emphasis on participation.

Coach Welch may have been "disappointed" with his team, but I was disgusted with him. Nowhere did he mention how hard these young men train. Nowhere did he mention the time students spend attending practice, studying game plays, etc. Nowhere did he mention how our schools benefit from the students' involvement in this extra-curricular activity.

"Disappointed?" Not me. Not with the students. I'm sorry they don't all get to play. They should. They've all been told the same thing--school sports teach cooperation, encourage involvement, promote health, etc. The reality is, school sports are teaching that only winning matters; that involvement and participation don't mean much unless you come out on top. Many students show up faithfully to practice only to sit on the bench all season because the school won't "win" or be the "best" unless the "stars" play.

Few sports scholarships are awarded. Fewer professional contracts are awarded. Therefore, on a strictly statistical basis, they may as well all play. On a particular day, a particular team will win. But nobody loses when commitment is emphasized over scoring.

Yours truly,

Sally Chase Clark
Canyon Country

Illegitimate Answers to the Great Illegitimi Contest

The letters below were sent in answer to last Wednesday's editorial. They are all winners, but were selected for publication because they represent a variety of responses.

The correct answer is in the first letter.

Winners will be announced a week from today. Losers will be enrolled in a Romantic Language class at the community college of their choice.

Editor:

Congratulations to the staff of the new Citizen -

I noted with great interest this morning that there were two papers on my driveway, as usual ... I was surprised to find that one of them was The Citizen. I guess that the carrier for another local paper had slept in today!

A loose translation may be "don't let the bastards grind you down."

Gene Taylor

Editor:

The translation of The Citizen's motto 'Illegitimi Non Carborundum' is - Don't let the bastards wear you down.

We received the first issue of The Citizen last night, and it was very enjoyable reading. It's high time we get a paper which presents the news of our valley without a bias opinion.

Congratulations and good luck!

Thomas R. Doemland

Saugus

Editor:

My Jesuit professors at Loyola probably would believe it, I have confused my Latin phrases once again. In the words of Ronald Ziegler, my letter of yesterday is now inoperative. "Sue the Bastard" is Inus Vocus Spurious, not Illegitimi Non Carborundum. Frankly, as embarrassing as it is, I now have a lapse as to the correct meaning. A thousand pardons.

All my best wishes for success in your endeavor.

Very truly yours,
Bruce A. Nahin

P.S. After dictating above, new inspiration hit me. Could it be "Do not let the bastards wear you down?"

The Citizen:

The translation of your motto, as I have always used it, is:

Don't let the bastards wear you down.

Congratulations on the new paper!

Lloyd Heeger

Saugus

Dear Citizen:

Looking for a nice, palatable, accurate translation of "Illegitimi Non Carborundum?"

Might I offer "Ad Infinitum Nauseum Aeternum?"

Wouldn't you say that sums it all up, much the same as "Cogito Ergo Dumb" applies most quaintly to the war chant of the clown - "All for one, and yo is one, and has won, and so forth?" Maybe?

Anyway, I have now won your promised reward. Give it to me.

Ed Dorsey

Newhall

Dear Sir:

"Illegitimi Non Carborundum" was a favorite exhortation in my family when I was growing up in London, England, many years ago. Our translation (and I come from a family of renowned classical scholars) was "don't let the bastards grind you down" - a perfect slogan for your beleaguered newspaper. However, if you want a bowdlerized version for publication that won't shock the local citizenry, I would suggest replacing "bastards" with "those of dubious ancestry".

May The Citizen go from strength to strength - the Santa Clarita Valley needs you.

Sincerely,
Jenni Gainsborough

P.S. If I win the prize - I do, of course, already own the complete works of Ovid so I'll take the whiskey.



Editor:

Illegitimi Non Carborundum succinctly translated reads: Don't let the bastards grind you down. Though I am not a graduate of West Point, I do believe that school long ago adopted this Latin phrase as their motto.

Good luck with your fledgling publication.

Kevin Gillogly
Santa Monica

Dear Citizen:

I think that your illustrious motto "Illegitimi Non Carborundum" loosely translates to "don't let the bastards grind you down" - to which I add, in English, "Amen!"

Keep up the good work!

Jeanne Sisson
Saugus

Dear Editor:

How fitting the new Stars and Stripes and the new Citizen both launched in the same summer. Congrats to Dennis Connor and his crew and lawyers. Also, best wishes to the Newhalls for providing a witty and local paper.

As for the meaning of your motto, "Illegitimi Non Carborundum," how about "Genuine not Counterfeit."

Bob Ginn
Santa Clarita

P.S. I know not Latin, but this is what I feel you'd want your paper to be.

Dear Editor:

We were surprised to find our family motto on the ribbon above the phoenix's wing tips. For over 32 years of marriage my scholarly spouse, the presiding judge of the Newhall Municipal Court, has claimed that "illegitimi non carborundum" translated to "don't let the bastards grind you down." Tell me he hasn't been putting me on!

Virginia Byram

Editor:

While I am sure this is too late to win either the collected works of Ovid or my favorite Kentucky corn whiskey, I do want you to know there are some of us who can recognize a famous battle cry when we see one.

Don't let the bastards get you down!

So right! So fitting! Fight on!

I don't want to miss a single issue of the Citizen. Enclosed is my paid in advance subscription for one year!

By the way, the literal translation for illegitimi non carborundum is "There must be no grinding down by the bastards," although to be perfectly correct, I believe "illegitimi" should have a "s" at the end of it. Picky, picky.

Good luck!

Yours,
Michele Buttelman
Canyon Country

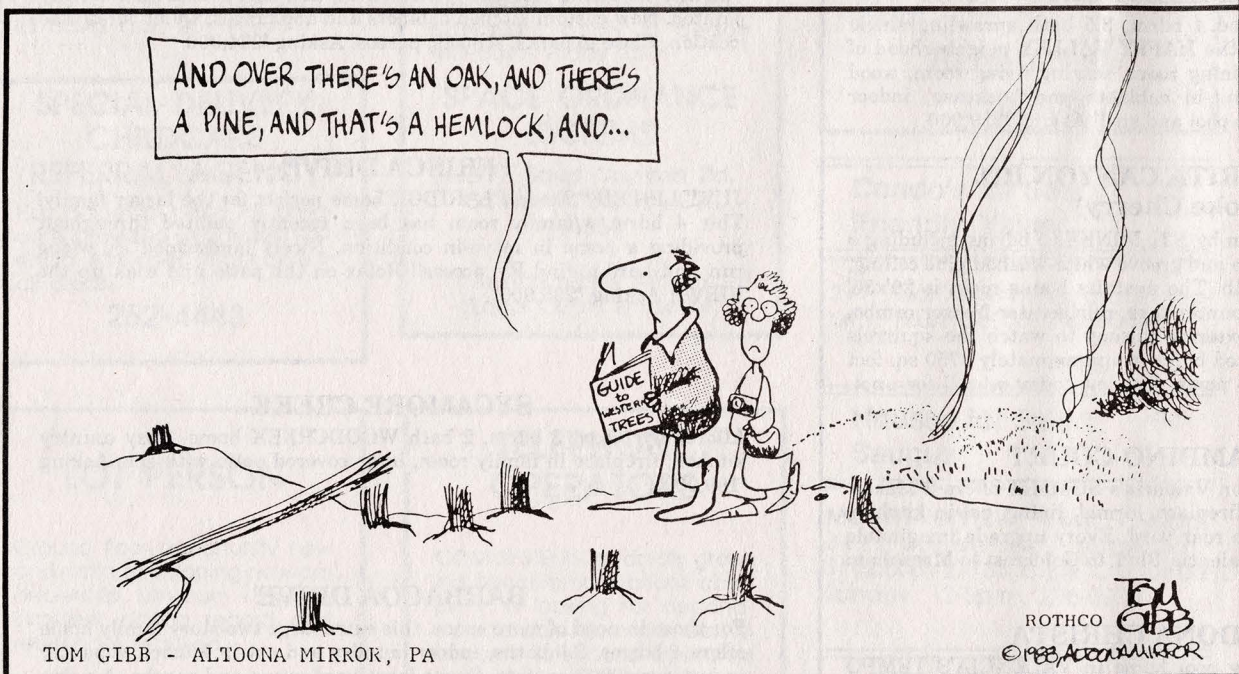
Greetings:

My dear Watson, the elementary solution of Illegitimi Non Carborundum — Don't Let The Bastards Grind You Down.

Thank you,
Harold Grant
Newhall

More Letters to the Editor on page 9.

International Graffiti from Here and There



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