Locals lukewarm to coastal school district proposal

With local schools seeking more autonomy from the San Diego Unified School District (SDUSD), many options are on the table. One of those options is district trustee John de Beck’s Coastal School District idea, which would break schools in coastal communities away from SDUSD.

“It’s a group of people who have common interests that want to make their schools better and believe that the kids should be in a school system that has equity,” de Beck said.

De Beck has presented the idea to the Point Loma Cluster Schools Foundation (PLCSF) on two separate occasions, most recently last fall. PLCSF President Chrissy Scadden said the Peninsula community is lukewarm to the idea so far.

“We’re not currently looking at this one solution,” Scadden said. “This isn’t where all of our effort is going. We’re looking at some different styles of governance.”

Scadden said the PLCSF is doing outreach with schools in the cluster to get their input into the process.

Final three PCPB seats to be decided in runoff

Gott, MacCulloch claim spots so far

The second election for the final three open seats in the Peninsula Community Planning Board (PCPB) will determine the remaining three open seats.

The Peninsula Community Planning Board (PCPB) election ended with mixed results March 18, netting only John Gott and Robert MacCulloch seats with a necessary 51 percent—or better vote.

The remaining three open seats are yet undecided because of a lack of simple majority vote, forcing a runoff election tonight, March 25.

The second election for the final spots will be held from 4 to 8 p.m. at Harbor Point Loma Branch Library, 1701 Voltaire St. Gott and MacCulloch shared their thoughts on their new roles.

“My goals are first to learn more about the issues and opportunities that confront the Peninsula community and to contribute to thoughtful, balanced and respectful decisions that benefit the long-term interests of the community,” Gott said. “I’m interested in opportunities for renewal of the community but retention of the historic feel of the Point.”

De Beck said the Peninsula community but retention of the historic feel of the Point is important. Gott and MacCulloch are interested in opportunities for renewal of the community but retention of the historic feel of the Point.

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Unique Harbor Point project in the mix

With strong but unfulfilled demand among smaller tenants for a well-located office and retail building in Point Loma, Harbor Point is slated to open at 5555 N. Harbor Drive in August.

A rendering shows what the unique-looking Harbor Point mixed-use commercial building should look like on North Harbor Drive when completed in August.

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NEW DEVELOPMENT

Despite dismal economic times for the construction industry and businesses in general, construction has begun on the new 24,000-square-foot Harbor Point mixed-use complex on Harbor Drive. Work is scheduled to be completed in August.

HARBOR POINT
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

one possible restaurant and several possible office ten-ants. As the discussion process is still early, Arthur was unable to provide names of prospective tenants.

The building should be a great fit for local individuals who want to stay close to home and the water,” Arthur said. “We envision tenants who can ride their bike to work in the morning or take a run around the bay at lunch — all while enjoying bay views and fresh air dur-ing the course of everyday business.”
Teachers give awaited contract a thumbs-up

By ANTHONY GENTILE | THE BEACON

After almost two years of negotiations and increasingly difficult budget times for the San Diego Unified School District (SDUSD), members of the San Diego Education Association (SDEA) voted nearly unanimously last week to ratify a three-year contract with district officials.

“We’re pleased with the outcome,” said SDEA President Camille Zombo. “This allows us to move on and focus on the kids and what we do best.”

The teachers’ previous contract with the district expired in 2008. Since then, both the teachers and SDUSD officials have been working toward a contract that would benefit both sides.

“The district had an incentive to settle the contract because they needed something,” Zombo said. “They needed us to take an economic hit so they could balance their budget.”

With nearly half of SDEA members voting on the contract, 97 percent voted to approve the agreement. Zombo said the new contract has been a long time coming.

“We’ve been ready all along,” Zombo said. “We’ve been wanting to settle this contact for two years.”

One of the most significant sacrifices by teachers in the new contract is the implementation of five furlough days for each of the 2010-11 and 2011-12 school years. On the traditional school calendar, the furlough dates for next year will be June 14-17 and June 20—ending the school year one week early.

“It was a hard pill to swallow, but if we could get things that demonstrate to us that the money is going to be used appropriately, that’s why teachers were willing to step up,” Zombo said of the mandatory days off.

According to Zombo, the contract’s key element for the teachers was the adjustment of language involving class sizes, nurses and counselors. The new contract states that schools are going to be staffed with nurses and counselors without spending flexibility and keeps the pupil-to-teacher average at 16 students for the next three years. The contract also protects educators who retire within the next two years.

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New dino exhibit brings ancient world back to life

Dr. SEBASTIAN RUIZ | THE BEACON

Technological advancements during the past two decades have unearthed a greater comprehension of mam- mals that roamed the continents more than 80 million years ago — including fossils uncovered in Point Loma.

These microscopic new discoveries will be featured in a traveling exhibit called “Dinosaurs: Ancient Fossils, New Discoveries,” opening Saturday, March 27 at the San Diego Natural History Museum.

This exhibit will be curated by Dr. Thomas Demere, a Joshua L. Bailey Jr. chair of paleontology at the museum since 1993. His research has focused on the evolutionary history and paleobiology of bird-like reptiles and crocodylians.

There are many new sophisticated techniques in the last 20 years, like medical scanners to look inside the body, said Demere. “More paleontologists are searching for dinosaurs and to determine the many ways to analyze data. Even developing countries are supporting paleontology with training procedures."

“In our area, we’re collected the remains of dinosaurs from the [time period] of 75 million years. Armorosaurus, Hadrosaurus and Theropod dinosaurs are only fossilized in Carlsbad, La Jolla, Point Loma and southern Orange County,” Demere said.

SEE DINO, Page 6

Environmental groups score decisions by city officials

Dr. JOHN BOSCH | THE BEACON

The new San Diego Natural History Museum’s exhibit includes a six-foot-long mechanical T.rex skeleton that walks in place, a full-size cast skeleton of a T.rex bearing down on visitors, a stunning 60-foot-long model of an Apatosaurus, 35 different species of dinosaurs, reptiles, early birds, insects, plants and mammals, many on display for the first time.

“Of the 94 people that evaluated the City Council, Ferguson rates as excellent with respect to his score. That’s mainly because of his vote on the Carlsbad Water Treatment Facility,” said Colin Lightner, a campaign director. “The votes we listed are an opportunity for the council to redeem itself.”

The report card paints Faulconer as somewhat the final say on the human/marine mammal issue, Frye said she still cares deeply about the environment. "I’ve never gotten a bad report card," Frye said.

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The report also pointed out council votes on La Jolla’s Children’s Pool. The city has been given a political appointment of a candidate to the San Diego Board of Port Commissioners. Environmental group representatives said the City Council should appoint someone with a strong background of environmental advocacy.

"The City Council appointed land-use attorney Lee Burdick to the Port Commissioners in 2009, passing over several nominees, including Diane Takvorian, executive director of the Environmental Health Coalition (EHC). The EHC also supported Tavornak and is named as one of the groups behind the report card," said Manolatos.

Other groups listed on the report card include the San Diego Chapter of the Surfrider Foundation, San Diego Countykeeper, the League of Conservation Voters, The Sierra Club and various other environmental organizations. Strategic Community Consulting from the University of California, San Diego compiled and released the report card.

"We were really disappointed with the results of the report card, but I’ve never got a bad report card," Frye said.

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offenders, by lowering it somehow. Radical, but complicated lives.

and let us simply live normal, safe, unadjusted their lives, instead of US having to

 Having to always be conscious, wary of

 Buying expensive home security-alarm

 Keeping our doors and windows constantly

 Keeping children within constant eyesight;

 Accompanying children to and from school;

 Never walking or jogging alone;

lifestyles by doing some of the following:

the main cause of violent attacks by man.

yet another guy raping and killing an innocent
innocent on the defense

Sexual predators put the

This means addressing the high testo-

I was so upset after hearing the result of

Now we find out that $20 million is being

After a meeting with the SDUSD Capital

improvement Department it became clear:

Why is the SDUSD Board of Trustees allowing

20 million of Prop S dollars to be diverted to a
downtown “new” charter school in a pro-
posed, and not yet funded, downtown library?

Prop S required a long and detailed account of

how the funds would be used should the
voters approve the bond sale. A team was
formed, existing schools in SDUSD were vis-
ited and a detailed list of improvements were
identified. The voters were presented with this
and the people spoke — fix the existing schools.

P.E. going to take place downtown! Will the
homeless population be asked to leave the
area because there are students about?

Where are we getting these students? Are we
taking on too much — is it a burden that can
be divided up to fund a new charter school
downtown. We didn’t vote for that. Where’s

Pat Hem
Pacific Beach
Dial said she expects between 1,500 and 2,000 people to attend. Among the fine entertainment and activities are photos with the Easter Bunny, inflatable slides, face painting and lawn games, in addition to performances and demonstrations from the merchants at Liberty Station.

“It will be a great way for people to get around the community and see what we have to offer,” Dial said. “We’ll have lots of fun activities and everything is free.”

A free concert featuring local classic rock cover band Rockola starts at 2 p.m. Rockola describes itself as “America’s premier classic rock experience.”

“They are all over San Diego,” Dial said. “They’re really fun and they make it really exciting for the kids.”

During the Spring Fling, most of the events will be held at Ingram Plaza at the corner of Rosecrans Street and Roosevelt Road. Old Town Trolleys will provide shuttles to transport people throughout Liberty Station. For more information, visit www.libertystation.com.

Organizers of this year’s Spring Fling and Easter Egg Hunt say the event will be bigger and better than last year. The event takes place at Liberty Station on Saturday, April 3.
Grooming young leaders through volunteerism

By MICHELLE HACKNEY | THE BEACON

In Point Loma, there is a group of dedicated elementary- and middle-school-age children trying to embody and heighten awareness of community service and voluntarism. They are part of the Kids Korps Liberty Station chapter.

Group members focus on environmental and social issues of the day. They look at how life is impacted by and can be enhanced by lending a hand. They initiate, park/garden cleanups and volunteer their time serving elders and the underprivileged on weekends when their peers are at play.

To further children’s self-awareness, Kelly Moore, Liberty Station Kids Korps chapter leader, realized it is equally important that children are taught to give back. She established the Explorer Elementary School Kids Korps chapter in 2007 and this year, with the help of chapter leader Jana Fortune, Moore has created a Liberty Station Kids Korps chapter to promote membership throughout the Point Loma/Liberty Station community.

“My family were active Kids Korps members from the time my daughter was seven but were not affiliated with any particular chapter,” Moore said. “So when my daughter was attending Explorer Elementary, I realized that it was the perfect place to establish one.”

“I approached Kids Korps USA and our school principal for support at school when we were perfect fit and we had an overwhelming response from our first year,” she said.

The Liberty Station chapter falls under the umbrella of Kids Korps USA, a national 501(c)(3) nonprofit youth volunteer organization that engages young people ages five through 25 in community service.

Members of the Kids Korps Liberty Station chapter participate in a cleanup in 2009. The program helps foster community service and voluntarism in children.

The mission is to instill in America’s youth the spirit of giving, while providing valuable education in leadership and responsibility. Kids Korps USA partners with more than 250 national and local nonprofit organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, Special Olympics, Head Start Preschool, children’s hospitals, homeless shelters, senior centers, animal shelters and environmental agencies.

The Liberty Station Kids Korps chapter has more than 50 members. Some of the agencies and projects they have supported are the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Three-Day Walk, San Diego Food Bank, San Diego Downtown Senior Center, San Diego River Foundation, UC San Diego Medical Center Bannister House, San Diego Humane Society and the Helen Woodward Animal Center.

In addition, the chapter has also created its own projects by establishing Liberty Station Clean Up Day, garden preservation at Explorer Elementary, Souls 4 Soles with Point Loma Sports Chalet, and Toc letries for Troops with Pacific Beach Middle School ROTC.

“It is truly amazing to watch kids serve needs to seniors, clean up local nature areas and collect needed items for disaster victims,” Moore said. “Kids can do so much more than we often give them credit for. Our parent members join in and supervise efforts when needed, but truly, it is the children that do the work.”

While the chapter receives administrative/project support from Kids Korps USA, the goal is to work in a grassroots way with more local, less-supported agencies in central and downtown San Diego that understand just how much children can contribute, according to organizers.

“To me, Kids Korps means helping the environment and making it better,” said Liberty Station Kids Korps member Emma Moore. “It means working together to put smiles on seniors’ faces. It means helping out around town to make it the best it can be. It’s writing letters to the soldiers and putting together toiletries so they can have the typical things that we have every day. It is going to a river and pitching in to clean it for visitors. Kids Korps is friends helping others out. It’s things most people don’t think of doing on their weekend, but we do.”

For more information, visit www.KidsKorps.org. To join the Liberty Station chapter or to discuss how they can help your group or organization, e-mail Kelly Moore at KellyMoore@KidsKorpsLibertyStation@gmail.com.
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*In stock merchandise only. First come, serve. Prior sales excluded. See store for details. Furniture purchases only.

Water-wise home beautification recognized

Ron Patterson of Point Loma was recognized by the city’s Water Department during last year’s landscape contest designed to encourage attractive, but water-wise landscaping. The home seen here, at the corner of Sunset Cliffs Boulevard and Hill Street, was professionally-designed by Environ Landscape Architecture, Inc., Martin Schmidt, ASLA. Water usage dropped at the home by nearly 50 percent once the conservation-minded landscaping was installed, Patterson said.

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Easy Kitchen Updates, M&M Construction

For many homeowners the solution to an older looking kitchen is to replace the flat plastic panels and fluorescent light fixtures in the kitchen ceiling. John Murillo and Arthur Miller, of M&M Construction, offer a solution that can update your kitchen in just 2 days. In many households recessed lighting can change the look of the entire kitchen while adding ambiance to your home without performing a major remodel.

M&M Construction specializes in kitchen and bath remodeling solutions, we are problem solvers, providing personalized service that the big box stores cannot offer. With over 30 years of experience and projects from Point Loma to Mount Soledad, we offer both the artisans eye and practical overview, no job too large or small. Have a great deal that you found on the net? Let us install that treasured fixture or appliance or take care of that "Honey Do" list! M&M Construction, John (619) 414-3727. Bonded and Insured. License # 859351.
My goal is to bring my aviation experience to issues concerning Lindbergh Field and the community. Lindbergh is obviously too small for an international airport, and both the region and the community need to find a solution to find an alternative site for an international airport,” MacCulloch said.

“The current plans for build out at Lindbergh aren’t realistic and as it is it’s an inadequate airport.”

Meanwhile, March 18 candidate Jim Kleyweg has scratched his name from the next ballot.

Here is a quick recap of the six remaining candidates fighting for those final three slots (more complete profiles are available in the March 12 Peninsula Beacon):

- **NORMAN ALLENBY**

  Allenby has owned property in Point Loma since 1980 and has lived in the area for the last six years. He is currently a lawyer and a mediator, and owner of Orotie Water Treatment. He is an environmentalist who said he is focused on water and energy conservation.

- **PATRICIA CLARK**

  Clark has lived in Point Loma for five years and is a retired accountant and educator. She currently participates in the Neighborhood Watch program, and is a member of the Point Loma People for Progress and the Liberty Station Tenants Association. In her application, Clark said it is her priority to consider the needs and concerns of the average resident or business within the community.

- **SUHAIL KHALIL**

  Khalil is an incumbent of the PCPB and has served as chair of the board’s Airport Committee for the last three years. Khalil is a commercial real estate broker and has a background in finance and investment capital ventures. His work involving the airport can be seen at www.pcpb.net/airport.html.

- **KIRK MATHER**

  Mather is a 12-year Point Loma resident and works as a substitute teacher. He has volunteered as a member of the Point Loma Little League board for the more than three years. Prior to becoming a substitute teacher, Mather worked for 17 years in local and state government in the offices of former Mayor Susan Golding and former City Councilman Byron West.

- **GEOFF PAGE**

  Page has lived in Point Loma since 1980 and has owned and operated Obcean Builders, Inc for the past eight years. He previously served on the PCPB for two years, including spending six months as chair. According to his application, Page is concerned with overdevelopment in the Peninsula.

- **JAY SHUMAKER**

  Shumaker is an incumbent and has been a local architect for the last 40 years. During his time on the board, Shumaker said he has been involved with numerous projects around the community and is a supporter of form-based code heading into the future. His ideas for airport relocation can be found at www.moveairport.com.

She said the foundation is focusing on what can be improved if local schools had more power.

“The temperature of the community is that nobody is content with the way things are happening now.” Scadden said. “It’s kind of a one-size-fits-all. We’re looking for more relevant, meaningful capacity in the community and hope that the budget and governance structure would support that.”

De Beck’s presentation includes three options for a proposed district, all of which include schools in Point Loma, La Jolla and Pacific Beach. One scenario included just those three areas, one included schools in the Kearny Mesa area and another included schools in the Mira Mesa and Scripps Ranch areas.

“It’s not like we’re rebelling against the school district,” de Beck said. “It’s like we’re creating a positive and well thought out subset of the district.”

Other ideas for increased autonomy among Point Loma cluster schools are creating charter schools and simply gaining more of a voice within SDUSD. Scadden said any solution the PLCP came up with would need to be beneficial in the short and long term.

“Nothing is off the table at this point,” Scadden said. “We’re in the middle of our work, so I don’t know where we’ll be at the end of this.”

Signatures from 25 percent of the registered voters in the proposed district would be required in order to put the measure on the city ballot, de Beck said.

For more information, e-mail de Beck at jdebeck1@san.rr.com.
According to police reports, Virginia Ortega of Glendale, Ariz., stepped into the street where there was no pedestrian crossing and into the path of the bus. She was struck at about 4:40 p.m.

According to the county’s Office of the Medical Examiner, Ortega was taken to the University of California Medical Center for treatment, where she died hours later despite medical intervention.

Rock ‘n’ roll academy opens doors in OB

Electric Music Studios has opened for business inside Ocean Beach’s famed Electric Chair Salon. The new rock ‘n’ roll academy, designed for children ages 6-18, will be performance-based with private lessons and weekend band rehearsals with students who will also perform live concerts.

“With the economy the way it is, our message, facial and wedding business is not what it used to be, so we decided to convert our Suite D into an affordable rock music academy for kids,” said owner Paul Bolton. “We’re also very fortunate to have some extremely talented teachers on board.”

The list of teachers includes Ocean Beach resident Mike Handforth, music director from High Tech High International. When not teaching, Handforth plays bass in The Queen’s Guard, Ocean Jazz Ensemble, the Brothers Gunderson and Barefoot Hockey Goalie.

Another teacher is Omar Lopez, who is currently studying music at San Diego State University and is a member of the B-side Players.

Ocean Beach resident Israel Maldonado is also an ISUSU graduate who volunteers his time teaching music at Ocean Beach Elementary School. Maldonado is also a 2009 Point Loma Association Board recipient, and former guitarist with Sol E Mar and Aqua Dulce. He now fronts his own band, The Israel Maldonado Band.

Teaching keyboards is Kris Korsgaden, another ISUSU student who is in the ISUSU jazz studies program. Korsgaden is a pianist who has been playing piano since the age of 3.

The vocal teacher for the new rock ‘n’ roll academy is Eijay Jones, who has just returned from the national touring band Shaking Light. Jones has toured with Evanscence, 3 Doors Down, Hootie & the Blowfish, Fall Out Boy, The Violent Femmes and Jimmy Eat World.

For more information, call (619) 222-0836, or visit electricmusicstudios.com.

Rose garden dedicated to tireless volunteer

On March 19, Mayor Jerry Sanders, District 2 City Councilman Kevin Faulconer, and San Diego County Supervisor Greg Cox joined community and family members to celebrate the dedication of the Hugh Story Memorial Rose Garden.

Known as “Point Loma’s Johnny Appleseed,” Story worked tirelessly to bring trees and flowers to the Point Loma community. Through the Point Loma Association’s Beautification Committee and “Mean Green Team,” which he created, Hugh took city properties that were often trash-filled and weedy, and planted more than 700 trees.

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For more information, call (619) 222-0836, or visit electricmusicstudios.com.

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San Diego sailors win NOOD Regatta on hometown waters

More than 1,000 sailors from throughout the United States set sail last weekend to race in the Sperry Top-Sider National Offshore One Design (NOOD) Regatta series in San Diego. As it turns out, however, the overall winner didn’t have to travel far to win the regatta along San Diego Bay.

After taking first place in the J/105 fleet — the largest boat class of the event with 18 vessels — Doug and Pam Werner were named the overall winners. The San Diego couple co-skipped the Javelin to four first-place finishes and a second-place finish to end the regatta with six points — a 14-point differential from the next-closest competitors, Dennis and Sharon Case, who were the 2009 San Diego NOOD champions.

As the overall winners in San Diego, the Werners are invited to participate in the NOOD Championship Regatta in the British Virgin Islands in November to compete aboard SunSail 39s against the overall winners from each of the eight other stops along the Sperry Top-Sider NOOD regatta series.

In addition to the Werners, the San Diego NOOD regatta crowned 19 other fleet champions this weekend, including six other San Diego sailors. All fleet winners were awarded with trophies.

The Sperry Top-Sider NOOD regatta will now sail on to its next stop in the series at Annapolis, Md., from April 29-May 2. Other venues for 2010 include St. Petersburg, Fla., Seattle, Detroit, Chicago, San Francisco, Marblehead, Mass. and Larchmont, N.Y.

Created by Sailing World in 1986, the NOODs attract nearly 2,000 boats and more than 30,000 competitors and spectators annually. Each event in the series features multiple days of sailboat racing for one-design models from 20 to 70 feet in length. In addition to local sailors, sailing’s top stars — including America’s Cup and Olympic champions — are well-represented at the NOODs. Competitive sailors rate the NOODs as the top national event in each region of the country.

For more information, visit www.sailingworld.com.

BRIEFS

CONTINUED FROM Page 10

their short-term employment and soil conservation project, they are providing 70,000 pounds of seed for the 2,700 farmers just west of the earthquake epicenter. As the seeds grow, it is estimated to provide food supply for 20,000 individuals.

Each month, PLNU’s sustainability department hosts a “Bike the (Traffic) Jam” event for which commuters are encouraged by bicycle, rather than car. University officials said the Bike the (Traffic) Jam was inspired by San Diego’s Bike to Work Day.

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San Diego was used to support a nonprofit which is held each May.

Bibliography:

For more information, call the Opera-

tion Bigs Hotline at (619) 218-3512.

Library supporters honor student essay winners

Ocean Beach Friends of the Library recently honored student essay contest winners during awards assemblies at three area schools.

Ocean Beach Elementary School winners were honored Feb. 19. First place went to Skylar Kurth, second place to Aislyn Ramire and third place to Isabel Clark. The students are fourth-graders in Mrs. Quinn’s class.

Sacred Heart Academy winners were honored on Feb. 26. The fourth-graders from Mrs. O’Bich’s class were: Rose Turn-er (first place), Irwin Lam (second place) and Nicholas Fitten (third). Eighth-grade winners from Ms. Valenti-Turskey’s class were: Meghan McKenzie (first place), Karlie Burford (second place) and Veronica Wilson (third). At Sunset View, the fourth-grade winners from Ms. Reid’s class were: Devon Donlon (first place), Jonathan Omens (second place) and Jonathan Omens (third). Don- lon and McKenzie will now advance to the citywide contest with other winners announced in April.

The Peninsula Chamber of Commerce invites you to join the 21st Annual....

A Taste of Shelter Island

The Best Tastes of the Island!

Ticket Available at:

• Seaport Realors
• Stars & Stripes Mart
• Carefree Vacations, Point Loma
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For PLHS baseball squad, slow and steady might win the race

By JOEL RACICOT | THE BEACON

During the 2009 regular season, the Point Loma High School varsity baseball team played the role of the hare. An electric 17-3 start had a confidant and senior-laden bunch on the fast track to a top seed in the Division II playoffs. But the Pointers’ 2-9 finish, while not exactly the fabled nap taken by history’s most intrepid rabbit, was darn close to it. A slow start this season isn’t by design. But for all intents and purposes, head coach Jon Posternack doesn’t mind if his team plays the role of the tortoise in 2010. “We’d rather start slow than end slow.”

Jon Posternack PLHS baseball head coach role of the tortoise in 2010. “We’d rather start slow than end slow.”

Posternack said after an early season home win against Murrieta Valley that brought his team to 2-1 overall. “That’s one thing that we’ve been preaching. We’re running a marathon, rather than a sprint.”

A young and talented group leads the Pointers, with pitching and defense being Point Loma’s forte for the year. The staff’s top three consists of junior Kellen Urbon, sophomore Connor Baits and junior Tyler Majofis. Wear, a team captain, echoes Posternack’s urgency for consistency in all aspects of the game. “Our pitching has been a challenge,” Wear said. “Our pitching is really strong this year. The defense always comes around. We just have to keep that consistent. But if we hit well this year, we’ll go far.”

Fellow captain, senior Zach Skarbic, is a returning all-Western League second-team player at shortstop. Skarbic and senior catcher Sean Stepina are the only two senior starters on the squad. Both would like to end their high school careers with the Pointers taking their first CIF title since 1982.

“Our goals are winning the Western League and winning a CIF championship,” Skarbic said. “We have a lot of confidence in each other. Like I said, we have a lot of young guys but we trust each other and pick each other up.”

That type of attitude is what Posternack wants from his baseball team. In his sixth season at the helm. “Coach P” is fostering a hungry, energized and competitive program. Early season impacts from sophomore Jackson Leslie and freshman Tyler Majofis showcase Point Loma’s ability to produce top talent.

In the coming weeks, Point Loma will compete in the City Tournament — culminating tomorrow, March 26, against Saint Augustine — and the Lions Tournament. Both tourneys will get the Pointers ready for the start of the Western League schedule.

“Our message has been consistency and focus,” Posternack said. “Ultimately, our kids put in a lot of time and energy in practice. When it comes time to play in the games, we want them to be loose, relaxed and confident. Just trust in their skills and enjoy the game.”

Loose, relaxed and confident. And a belief that slow and steady really does win the race.
OB’s Magers aims for U.S. team win in Mexico City

OB’s Magers aims for U.S. team win in Mexico City

By STAFF AND CONTRIBUTION | THE BEACON

Ocean Beach women’s tennis champion Gretchen Magers has been tapped by the United States Tennis Association (USTA) to join the 2010 Margaret Court Cup team (women’s 45+) that will compete at the inaugural Pan American Games. The competition will be held in Mexico City, Mexico.

Magers, who returns to last year’s defending champion Margaret Court Cup team, holds the No. 1 spot in the country for women’s senior players, she adds valuable singles and doubles tournament experience to the team. The other members of the team are Frances Chandler (Jackson, Tenn.), Mariana Hollman (Winston-Salem, N.C.), and Renata Marcinikowska (Rock Hill, S.C.).

The Pan American Games will be held in Mexico City, Mexico.

On land, Shumaker said, the SDCC “is really among the first well-run events with lots of amenities for the public to enjoy,” Shumakher added. “You can stand in the water and watch the boats racing 10 feet away. We are going to have microphones on a couple of the courses, which is very special and very unusual.

The championship will be played from Monday, March 1 to March 10. The main gate opens at 6 a.m. both days.

For more information, visit www.crewclassic.org.

Crew Classic rows into town
Athletes will flock to Mission Bay for 37th year

BY AMBERLY DRESSLER | THE BEACON

The 37th annual San Diego Crew Classic (SDCC) rows into Mission Bay March 27 and 28, and organizers say the two-day event offers as much appeal to locals as it does to the top rowers in the country.

On water, the SDCC holds three categories of competition. There’s the junior level for high school-age athletes; the collegiate level, which boats local competitors from the University of San Diego, University of California, San Diego and San Diego State University; as well as national powerhouse teams such as Stanford, Boston University and others; and the masters level for rowers age 21 and older.

Martha Shumaker, the regatta’s executive director, has been involved with the SDCC since its inception in 1971. Shumaker has witnessed SDCC grow from a dozen events in its first year to more than 90 in 2010.

“The consistent thing throughout has been the quality of the competition, particularly at the collegiate level,” Shumaker said. “It was envisioned as an event for the top collegiate programs in the country to come and meet each other for the first time in the early spring season.”

Crew offers a fall and spring season while the SDCC serves as a jumpstart to the year.

“It is really among the first regattas of the season,” Shumaker said. “There may be some small, two-team meets, where two colleges will get together and race each other, but there is nothing like this.”

On land, Shumaker said the SDCC is a real spring festival for the community, as well as for those interested in the sport. Not only do spectators have the opportunity to sample local beers at the beer garden, but they can also bring their own picnics or sample the various concession stands. Shumaker believes the atmosphere is unparalleled.

“It’s the opportunity to enjoy a sport practiced at the highest level at a very fun event with lots of amenities for the public to enjoy,” Shumaker said. “You can stand in the water and watch the boats racing 10 feet away. We are going to have microphones on a couple of the courses, which is very special and very unusual.

The SDCC offers a fall and spring season.
Coastal Dining

Daddy-O’s

Daddy-O’s is a fun, early 50’s old-themed, hot rod, honky tonk, rockabilly, retro diner with great food, music and more. Eat big juicy burger grilled and charbroiled burgers, along with a variety of other big sandwiches, salads and healthy stuff. Check out our shakes and desserts along with your favorite draft beers and quality wines. Bring in your team or group! www.daddydoozexul.com

The Venetian

Try our new happy hour menu, 4–6 p.m. daily. Featuring food & drink specials. If visuals get your Italian appetite in gear, The Venetian is your restaurant for more. The food has best been described as California-Italian, which simply means you can expect great fare without too heavy and way some other places think Italian should be done. The pastas and chicken entrees will command your serious attention, as will the tdy bar and the family-style menu. Anything else you could ask for probably doesn’t exist. And did we mention the great service?

The Broken Yolk Café

The Broken Yolk Café offers a large selection of home cooked meals in a comfortable and casual atmosphere. There are over 20 different omelets to choose from as well as a wide variety of other breakfast favorites which include pancakes, waffles and French toast. Feel more like lunch? Try one of our juicy ‘pound burgers or one of our large sandwiches. Our generous portions will leave you full and satisfied.

MONDAY

Happy Hour 4pm–7pm

$3 food, wine, well drinks, 1/2 price pitchers.

TUESDAY

NEW: 45 HDTVs

Happy Hour 5–6pm $2 HAP Pitchers all night

WEDNESDAY

Happy Hour 5–6pm $2 HAP Pitchers all night

THURSDAY

Happy Hour 5–6pm $2.75 Sunshine Lemonade all night

FRIDAY

Happy Hour 5–6pm $3 Appetizers

SATURDAY

Happy Hour 5–6pm 1/2 Price Pitchers Super Pub Night

SUNDAY

Happy Hour 5–6pm

WATCH THE NBA & MARCH MADNESS HERE!

Open Bar for Breakfast and Drink Specials

Food & drink specials. If visuals get your Italian appetite in gear, The Venetian is your restaurant for more. The food has best been described as California-Italian, which simply means you can expect great fare without too heavy and way some other places think Italian should be done. The pastas and chicken entrees will command your serious attention, as will the tdy bar and the family-style menu. Anything else you could ask for probably doesn’t exist. And did we mention the great service?

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SATURDAY

Happy Hour 5–6pm

WATCH THE NBA & MARCH MADNESS HERE!

Open Bar for Breakfast and Drink Specials
While there have been many changes in the musical landscape over the past 20 years, possibly the most important shift hasn’t been in the way music is delivered to a listener. Instead, the shift has been that age is no longer a barrier to getting music heard or to building an all-ages fan base.

For a growing number of artists, it’s never too late to get on stage. Such is the case with guitarist Alan Land, who performs at Winston’s on April 1.

A long-time resident of the Bay Area, Land arrived in San Diego circa 1998. Though he now considers music to be a major part of his life, his introduction to performing was less than serious. “I played in a talent show at 10 years old, mostly as a joke,” Land said of his 1961 public debut. “My only ‘repertoire’ was two Kingston Trio songs, but I was hooked on the stage.”

His first instrument wasn’t guitar, but he switched quickly at age 10. “My first instrument was symphonic bass,” Land said. “The guitar was down to portability and individuality. I had been singing from a very early age, so it was a natural accompaniment to my voice.”

His reason for playing solo was just as pragmatic. “Bands take more organization than I normally have the patience for,” he said. “That said, I really enjoy collaboration with other players who can improvise.”

Land played music at venues throughout the Western States, but only released a pair of tracks, “Tent City” and “Calif. I.O.U.” on a 1983 compilation album. “They are political folk songs, which, interestingly enough, are appropriate once again today,” he said. “I am playing them again.”

Meanwhile, Land gave up performing until a road trip to Arizona last year. “I went to Phoenix for Major League Baseball spring training last season,” Land explained. “My host, a long time friend, had digitized an old demo tape of mine from my days entertaining in Lake Tahoe 25 years ago. He asked if I was still playing.”

Land replied no, having not performed in nearly a decade. “My friend responded something about ‘retirement being the last chance to do something you really love,’” Land said. The offhand remark sparked Land back into action. “I took that recording home, taught myself how to record and edit with computer software, found some open mics and have been playing every day since,” Land said. “My friend will remain nameless, but is singularly responsible for my deciding to sing again.” He also credits “the great young people I have met at those open mics who have also inspired me to ‘keep going.’”

Though Land performs his own material, he’s become known for a large and eclectic set of hundreds of cover tunes. He said the songs of the ’60s and ’70s in particular still resonate heavily with area music fans.

“The purity of the message, as in the ’60s, combined with stronger musicianship, is a good combination for durability,” Land said.

His repertoire actually goes back to the 1940s for folk standards, with touches of jazz and country. “I know about half of Jim Croce’s portfolio and about three dozen Paul Simon tunes, but what I play depends on the crowd,” Land said. “I usually mix it up pretty well unless an audience steers me into a certain genre.”

While Land said he enjoys all aspects of the local music scene, he “likes open mics, but I think there are just too many of them run by people who do not understand sound engineering. They’re starting to be like Karaoke bars and the level of quality is suffering from that.”

He prefers showcase events like this event, featuring six artists playing short sets. “Two or three songs is just not enough for a really good player,” Land said. “They need to take some time to develop the audience’s imagination.”

For more information, visit www.listenlocalsd.com

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**Alan Land**

Thursday, April 1

7:30 p.m.

Winston’s, 1921 Bacon St.

No cover charge
Don’t miss it!

FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF CALENDAR EVENTS VISIT, ThePeninsulaBeacon.com

In the neighborhood

Discovery Thrift slate spring preview sale

The San Diego Cancer Society’s Point Loma Discovery Shop will host its annual spring preview on April 2-1, featuring shoes, purses, hats and other spring wardrobe items.

The event runs from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday.

The store is located at 1609 “C” Midway Drive. All proceeds go to support cancer research and education.

For more information, call (619) 224-4316.

Community Calendar

Arts & Entertainment

Through March 28, Vanguard Ministries of Westminster Presbyterian Church presents three weekends of “You Can’t Take It With You” by playwrights Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman. Performances take place on Friday, March 26 at 8 p.m., Saturday, March 27 at 8 p.m., and Sunday, March 28 at 3 p.m. For tickets, call the box office at (619) 224-6263. The shows take place at the church theater, 3035 Talbot St.

Saturday, March 27, 7:30 p.m., Coronado lyric soprano Diane Alexander performs a recital at Point Loma Nazarene University’s Grill Performance Hall, 3900 Lamondale Drive. Alexander has performed with the Washington National Opera, the Houston Grand Opera and the San Francisco and New York City opera companies. Tickets are $15 for adults, $12 for seniors and military. For tickets or information, call (619) 494-2095, or visit www.pontolma.edu/musiccal.

Through March 27, the San Diego Watercolor Society hosts a month-long exhibit called “At Face Value.” About 75 original water-media paintings will be on display Wednesdays through Sundays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the gallery, 2825 Dewey Road #105 at Liberty Station. Admission is free. For more information, call (619) 876-4550, or visit www.sdsws.org.

March 29-April 2, 1 to 4 p.m., the Point Loma Actors Junior Theatre presents a weeklong Theatre Camp. Children will explore acting and learn singing and dancing, stage vocabulary, audition preparation, teamwork, discipline and other skills. The camp takes place at the Point Loma Assembly, 3035 Talbot St. Memberships are $160 per child; daily campers pay $70 per day, based on space availability. Early registration encouraged. To register or for more information, call (619) 721-2439.

Saturday, April 3, noon to 4 p.m., Liberty Station hosts its Spring Fling and Easter Egg Hunt at Ingram Plaza at the corner of Rosecrans Street and Roosevelt Road. Varying time for age groups. Entertainment provided by Rockola at 2 p.m. For more information, visit www.libertystation.com.

April 1-30, the San Diego Watercolor Society hosts a month-long exhibit called “Show Me the Green!” About 75 original water-media paintings will be on display Wednesdays through Sundays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the gallery, 2825 Dewey Road #105 at Liberty Station. Admission is free. For more information, call (619) 876-4550, or visit www.sdsws.org.

Community/Civic

AARP Tax-Aide will conduct free tax preparation and filing services for seniors and low-to moderate-income residents on a walk-in basis. The sessions take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Fridays from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Harney/Point Loma Branch Library, 3001 Voltaire St. For more information, call (619) 758-1745, or e-mail dcoxon68@gmail.com.

Religious

Westminster Presbyterian Church, 3598 Talbot St, (619) 223-3193

Sunday, March 28 (Palm Sunday), 10 a.m., music featuring church children and youth.

Thursday, April 1 (Maundy Thursday), 7:30 p.m., service featuring readings and reflections on Jesus’ last hours with music, dance and communion.

Sunday, April 4 (Easter Sunday), 10 a.m., worship service featuring drama, special music and a community Easter egg hunt following the services.

Just part of the family

On Friday, April 1 at 8:30 a.m., Warren-Walker School students will host their 78th annual Pet Day Parade on the Point Loma campus. Students will bring in their pets of all shapes and sizes— from hamsters to geckos. The dogs make their official showing at 8:30 a.m. Pet Day has been held at Warren-Walker School since the first year of operation in 1932, when pets included llamas, goats and other animals.
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