

■ WESTMINSTER CITY COUNCIL

Sanctions and Censures Top The Agenda

West, Namquan battle back vs. council majority

Count on a long and loud meeting of the Westminster City Council on Wednesday night.

On the agenda is a proposed resolution “determining sanctions and remedial actions” against Councilmember Amy Phan West based on alleged “unacceptable conduct.”

West has already been censured by the council, with sanctions held as a possible future reproach.

On the other side, West

and Councilmember Nam Quan Nguyen are requesting resolutions of censure against Mayor Chi Charlie Nguyen and Vice Mayor Kimberly Ho.

Additionally, there’s a request by West and NamQuan Nguyen to consider placing a measure on the ballot which would change the office of mayor from direct election to a system in which the office would rotate among members.

Additionally, Mayor Nguyen has requested review of the process for placement of items on the agenda to limit “to a reasonable amount” the amount of time each council member has for discussion of an agenda item.

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■ STANTON CITY COUNCIL

Nuisance building to be demolished soon

A vacant building that’s been the cause of numerous complaints was ordered demolished by the Stanton City Council on Tuesday night.

The council voted 5-0 to knock down one of two detached garages at 8930 Pacific Ave. It had been seriously damaged by a

fire believed to have been started by transients.

Those who were trespassing and breaking into that structure have now begun doing the same at 8940 Pacific Ave., a neighboring vacant fourplex building.

The cost of the demoli-

Continued on page 2



GARDEN GROVE will be getting more resources to battle graffiti on a more timely fashion after action Tuesday night by the city council (Orange County Tribune photo).

Anti-graffiti efforts will get more muscle for cleanups

By Jim Tortolano
Orange County Tribune

■ GARDEN GROVE CITY COUNCIL

More muscle will be added to the city’s efforts to combat graffiti as a result of the Garden Grove City Council’s actions on Tuesday night.

The council voted 7-0 in favor of an amendment with Graffiti Protective Coatings, Inc., to upgrade the contract to provide two manned trucks to paint over graffiti to seven days a week, at a cost of \$225,000.

The city will get two operating graffiti removal trucks seven days a week for not just public property but also private property facing public streets.

Typically the program has had two such trucks, one on duty six days a

week and one three days a week, focusing on the public right-of-way.

The entire annual program costs \$482,427.

This comes after a pilot program earlier this year showed that 98 percent of all reported graffiti was cleaned within 24 hours.

Also on Tuesday night,

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In The Tribune



How high can Ohtani soar?

SPORTS 6



‘Crow’ stylish but clunky

ARTS & LIVING 5

Westminster City Council

Continued from page 1

There are some agenda items related directly to governance. Included are:

- construction bids for the Cherry Street Community Garden Project;
- construction bids for baseball infield renovation projects at Buckingham and Westminster parks;
- construction bids for the Blakey Park Restoration Project;
- construction bids for play-

ground renovation projects for Bolsa Chica, Westminster Village, Bowling Green, College and Russell C. Paris parks;

- award of a contract for the Mendez Historic Trail and Green Street Bikeway Project;
- award of a contract for playground renovation at Tony Lam Park.

The council will meet in closed session at 4 p.m. and regular session at 6 p.m. in its chambers at 8200 Westminster Blvd.

Garden Grove City Council

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the council approved the second reading and adoption of an ordinance which will clear the

way for eight pool tables to be installed at The Wharf restaurant on Main Street.

Stanton council votes to demolish nuisance bldg.

Continued from page 1

tion is set at \$96,000 and the work will be done by Interior Demolition Inc.

Also on Tuesday night, the council approved the lease of three-additional solar-powered camera trailers to discourage prostitution and the illegal sale of sex.

The rental cost is \$13,950.

The Tribune

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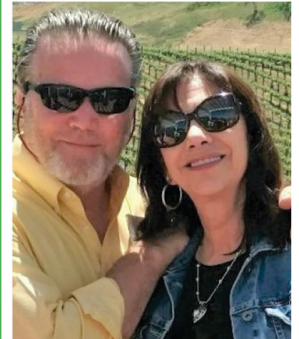
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News & Views

Does a fear of living come from too much caring?

What are they afraid of? A recent article in the Los Angeles Times reported that young people were delaying – or resisting – learning to drive and/or getting a driver’s license because they were “afraid” of it.

Afraid? (Here comes the Grumpy Old Man ...) There was once a time when young people counted the days when we could turn 16, get a CDL and declare partial independence from The Old Folks and start some serious dating.

Is driving more dangerous now than it was for baby boomers? Unlikely. Cars are much more safe today and drunk driving has been reduced dramatically because of strict laws (and punishments) and social pressure.

An Associated Press article reports that young people are afraid of speaking up in class lest they find themselves “cancelled” in cell phone conversations by others anxious to elevate themselves by ostracizing others.

Cracking down on cell phone use in classrooms may be backfiring. Some child psychologists claim that today’s kids are so connected to their parents that they suffer from a fear they won’t be able to reach them whenever they “need” to.

Are these the descendants of the pioneers who tamed a continent or crossed a stormy ocean for a better life?

I understand the present parenting fashion of being involved in every phase of a kid’s life from driving them two blocks to school to doing much of their homework. It’s caring, but

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Retorts
Jim Tortolano



A WAHOO BOWL

A different kind of a chain fast food eatery

It has been said that not all chain restaurants are created equal: there are some that are mediocre at best (we’re looking at you, Applebee’s), others that are okay at specific times (Denny’s after 2 a.m.), and several that are just plain wonderful.

Wahoo’s falls into the final category.

Wahoo’s has been serving up tasty Mexican fare (with some Asian and Brazilian flavors tossed into the mix) in a fast-casual setting since 1988. They are sort of a “mini-chain,” with 28 locations in Southern California and others in parts of Colorado and Nevada.

We recently visited the location near Beach Boulevard and Warner Avenue in Huntington Beach for an early dinner. Wahoo’s specialties include burritos, tacos, enchiladas, salads, and bowls, with various types of protein available: chicken breast (mild or spicy), carnitas, grilled steak, wild-caught fish or salmon, sautéed shrimp, tofu, and veggies.

They are perhaps best known for their fish tacos and unlike most of their competitors, their fish is grilled rather than fried. (In keeping with that healthy theme, Wahoo’s cooks their beans without lard or bacon fat, and the menu includes several vegetarian and vegan options.)

One of the great things about

Chow Lines

Wahoo’s is their consistency: the quality of the grub is high no matter which restaurant you visit and it never varies from location to location.

I opted for “the usual” on my latest visit — a Wahoo’s Bowl with spicy grilled fish, steamed white rice, and spicy Cajun white beans. (Note that neither the fish nor the beans are super spicy; they’re perfectly seasoned with tons of flavor. If you prefer, black beans and brown rice are alternate options.)

Make sure to belly up to the salsa bar and load up on the green sauce; it’s creamy, tasty, and it complements the white rice and the grilled fish. Another item that is a surprising “don’t miss” at Wahoo’s is the Maui onion rings — they’re not too greasy and the sweet batter is very flavorful. I alternate between dunking them in the green sauce and some ranch dressing. With a varied, extensive menu and a relaxed, beach-oriented vibe with surfing, snowboarding and extreme sports videos on their TVs, Wahoo’s is an excellent, affordably-priced restaurant with something for everyone in the family.

— John Borack

HBPD plans DUI check on Sept. 5-6

The Huntington Beach Police Department will hold a DUI Checkpoint on Thursday, Sept. 5 from 6 p.m. to 2 a.m. on Friday, Sept 6 at an undisclosed location within the city limits.

Checkpoint locations are chosen based on the history of DUI crashes and arrests. The primary purpose of checkpoints is not to make arrests but to promote public safety by deterring drivers from driving impaired.

During the checkpoint, officers will look for signs that drivers are under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.

The Huntington Beach Police Department reminds the public that impaired driving is not just from alcohol. Some prescription medications or over-the-counter drugs may interfere with driving.

Always follow directions for use and read warning labels about driving or “operating heavy machinery,” which includes driving a car. While medicinal and recreational marijuana are legal, driving under the influence of marijuana is illegal.

If you plan on drinking or taking medications that may impact your ability to drive safely, plan on staying at home.

Drivers charged with a first-time DUI face an average of \$13,500 in fines and penalties, as well as a suspended license.

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The OCT covers the cities of Garden Grove, Huntington Beach, Stanton and Westminster.

NewsUpdate

New Jan. 6 Charges Against Trump

Special counsel shifts approach in new indictment

A new indictment was filed Tuesday against former president Donald Trump by special counsel Jack Smith over Trump's alleged attempts to overturn the results of the 2020 presidential election.

The new indictment narrows the scope of the prosecution in light of the Supreme Court's ruling that a sitting president had "absolute immunity" from prosecution for his acts as president.

Under the new criminal case, the original allegations that Trump sought – in his official capacity – to replace Justice Department officials with others to comply with this actions have



FORMER PRESIDENT Donald Trump (File photo)

been shelved.

Instead the new case focuses on Trump's alleged efforts to help

create slates of false electors in battleground states and his pressuring of Vice President Mike

Pence to reject electoral votes that made Joe Biden the next president.

53 months in prison for a Jan. 6 rioter

The first rioter to successfully breach the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021 has received a prison sentence of 53 months.

On Tuesday, U.S. District of Columbia Judge Timothy Kelly handed down the sentence on Michael Sparks, 46, of Kentucky.

He had been convicted in March of felony obstruction of an official proceeding and civil disorder,

He had also been convicted of several misdemeanors related to

the incident.

In reply, Sparks told the judge, "I am an American citizen who believes to this day that we are in tyranny."

He added that he believed that the 2020 election had been stolen from former President and Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump.

Judge Kelly said the sentence reflected Sparks not accepting the seriousness of his offenses.

Great Thoughts

"Only those who dare to fail greatly can ever achieve greatly ..."

– Robert F. Kennedy.

Debate rules decided? Trump campaign says yes; Harris uncertain

After some uncertainty, former president Donald Trump's campaign announced on Tuesday that he would be participating in the debate with Vice President Kamala Harris on ABC on Sept. 10.

The campaign also indicated that the issue of whether microphones should be "open" – or muted – when the other candidate was speaking has been settled.

But The New York Times is re-

porting that the Harris campaign hasn't made an agreement on that issue.

The Trump campaign reportedly wants a muted microphone because their candidate sometimes interrupts the other debater, a look which may not appeal to viewers.

The Harris campaign could be inviting such an outburst, hoping it would benefit their candidate.

Weather: Down and then up

For the next few days, our West Orange County area will see a slight variation in temperatures, with partly cloudy conditions, go to a daytime high of 80 to 78.

Overnight lows will range from 63 to 64.

Arts & Living

New 'Crow' Is Stylish But ...

Doesn't match or improve over 1994 original

By Mark Kennedy
AP Entertainment Writer

One of the first things you see in the reimagined "The Crow" is the sight of a fallen white horse in a muddy field, bleeding badly after becoming entangled in barbed wire. It's a metaphor, of course, and a clunky one at that — a powerful image that doesn't really fit well and is never explained.

That's a hint that director Rupert Sanders will have a tendency to consistently pick the stylish option over the honest one in this film. In his attempt to give new life to the cult hero of comics and film, he's given us plenty of beauty at the expense of depth or coherence.

The filmmakers have set their tale in a modern, generic Europe and made it very clear that this movie is based on the graphic novel by James O'Barr, but the 1994 film adaptation starring Brandon Lee hovers over it like, well, a stubborn crow.

Brandon, son of legendary actor and martial artist Bruce Lee, was just 28 when he died after being shot while filming a scene for "The Crow." History seems always to repeat: The new adaptation lands as another on-set death remains in the headlines.

Lee's "The Crow" was finished without him and he never got to see it enter Gen X memory in all its rain-drenched, gothic glory, influencing everything from alternative fashion to "Blade" to Christopher Nolan's "Dark Knight" trilogy.

Bill Skarsgård seizes Lee's role of Eric Draven, a man so in love that he returns from the dead to revenge his and his sweetheart's slayings in what can be best called a sort of supernatural, romantic murderfest. (The tagline, "True



BILL SKARSGÅRD stars in "The Crow" (Lionsgate.)

Movie Review

love never dies," clumsily rips off Andrew Lloyd Webber's "The Phantom of the Opera.")

William Schneider, who co-wrote the screenplay with Zach Baylin, has given the story a near-operatic facelift, by introducing a devil, a Faustian bargain, blood-on-blood oaths and a godlike guide who monitors the limbo between heaven and hell, which looks like a disused, weed-covered railway station. "Kill the ones who killed you and you'll get her back," our hero is told.

The first half drags at it sets the table for the steady beat of limbs and necks being detached at the end. Eric and his love, Shelly (played by an uneven FKA Twigs), meet in a rehab prison for wayward youth that is so well lit and appointed that it looks more like an airport lounge where the cappuccinos are \$19 but the Wi-Fi is complimentary.

Eric is a gentle loner — tortured by a past the writers don't bother filling in, who likes to sketch in a book (universal cinema code signaling a sensitive soul) and is heavily tattooed (he's often shirtless). His apartment has rows of

mannequins with their heads covered in plastic and his new love calls him "brilliantly broken." He's like a Blink-182 lyric come to life.

Shelly is more complex, but that's because the writers maybe gave up on giving her a real backstory. She has a tattoo that says "Laugh now, cry later," reads serious literature and loves dancing in her underwear. She clearly comes from wealth and has had a falling out with her mom, but has also done an unimaginably horrible thing, which viewers will learn about at the end.

Part of the trouble is that the lead couple cast off very little electricity, offering a love affair that's more teen-like than all-consuming. And this is a story that needs a love capable of transcending death.

There are lots of cool-looking moments — mostly Skarsgård in a trench coat, stomping around the desolate concrete jungle in the rain at night — until "The Crow" builds to one of the better action sequences this year, albeit another one of those heightened show-downs at the opera.

By this time, Eric has donned the Crow's heavy eye and cheek makeup. He adds to this ensemble a katana and an inability to die. As

Good: ★★★

he closes in on his target, mowing down tuxedoed bad guys as arias soar, the group movements on stage are echoed by the furious fighting backstage. A few severed heads might be considered over the top at curtain call, but subtlety isn't being applauded here.

If the original was plot-light but visually delicious, the new one has a better story but suffers from ideas in the films built on its predecessor, stealing a little from "The Matrix," "Joker" and "Kill Bill." Why not create something entirely new?

"The Crow" isn't bad — and it gets better as it goes — but it's an exercise in folly. It cannot escape Lee and the 1994 original even as it builds a more allegorical scaffolding for the smartphone generation. To use that very first metaphor, it's like the trapped white horse — held down by its own painful past, never free to gallop on its own.

"The Crow," a Lionsgate release that hits theaters Friday, is rated R for "strong bloody violence, gore, language, sexuality/nudity and drug use." Running time: 111 minutes.

TheSportsPages

Setting some records that no one really wants

There's a Southern California MLB team that's getting near to some all-time records. Unfortunately, they aren't the kind of records you want to put on a plaque to put in the parlor.

If you look at the American League West standings you'll find that our own Los Angeles Angels are located at the very bottom of the division.

As of this writing, the Halos have lost five straight games and 10 of 12 contests. But that's not the bad news. The Angels,



Sports Retorts
Jim Tortolano

bless their swing-and-a-miss hearts, have been in last place before – most recently in 1991.

But that was no real disgrace because the ALW was exceptionally strong that season, and last place meant a break-even 81-81 season. Today's Halo fans would break into hosannas for an 81-win campaign.

However, the Angels – now with a .421 winning percentage – are on track to post a team-record ninth consecutive losing season.

Ron Washington is the team's fourth field manager in five seasons. The team's record has declined from .468 under Joe Maddon to .444 under Phil Nevin to .421 under the present "skipper."

Statistics don't tell the whole story, of course. Every sports team is subjected to injuries, free agent flight and just plain bad luck. I like Ron. I like his approach. He's the right man to instill winning habits in a young team. That's the theory.

But how long can Angels' fans keep mumbling "wait until next year"? Fans haven't given up yet ... attendance is still above

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SHOHEI OHTANI rounds third after hitting his walkoff grand slam Friday (AP photo).

What's the Limit for Sho?

No one has ever gone 50-50 in a single season

By Beth Harris
AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Shohei Ohtani has time to make more history this season.

The Japanese superstar hit a two-out grand slam in the ninth inning for his 40th homer after

earlier stealing his 40th base, lifting the Los Angeles Dodgers to a 7-3 win over the Tampa Bay Rays on Friday night.

Ohtani achieved the feat in his 126th game and the team's 129th, the quickest in major league history and the sixth player ever to reach 40 homers and 40 stolen bases in a season. He also is the first Dodgers player to do so.

"It's really more about the winning," Ohtani said through an interpreter. "Obviously the record is part of the process, but

I think the most important thing is about winning the game."

No player has ever hit 50 homers and stolen 50 bases in a season.

With just over a month remaining in the regular season and the Dodgers leading the NL West, Ohtani could add to his lore.

"I think it's possible," manager Dave Roberts said. "I hope he continues to play to win baseball games and take good at-bats and take the walks when they're given to him. But yeah,

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Angels continue to spiral down, lose sixth straight

By Pete Zarustica
Orange County Tribune

Just how bad can it get? The Los Angeles Angels lost 6-2 to the Tigers in Detroit on Tuesday night. It was the team's sixth consecutive defeat.

It was their ninth loss in 10 games. It was their 11th loss in 13 games. At this pace, the 2024 Halos may finish with the worst

record in team history.

The Angels managed just five hits and were 1-for-7 with runners in scoring position. Taylor Ward, now batting leadoff, doubled in one run for the Halos and Nolan Schanuel knocked in another with a single.

Starting pitcher Johnny Cueto (0-2) struck out five batters but was touched for six hits and six earned runs in five innings.

AL West Standings

	W-L	Pct.	GB	L10
Houston	70-62	.530	—	4-6
Seattle	67-65	.508	3	4-6
Texas	60-71	.458	9.5	4-6
Oakland	57-75	.432	13	5-5
ANGELS	54-78	.409	16	1-9

NL West Standings

	W-L	Pct.	GB	L10
DODGERS	78-53	.595	—	7-3
Arizona	75-56	.573	3	7-3
San Diego	76-58	.567	3.5	6-4
San Fran	67-66	.504	12.5	6-4
Colorado	49-84	.368	30	4-6

Week One brings everyone onto the field

Our High 5 for West OC makes its 2024 debut

Most of our West Orange County high school football teams opened the 2024 campaign with Week Zero games. Now the other two teams – La Quinta and Rancho Alamitos –

■ Prep Sports SPOTLIGHT

will begin the season with Week One games, both on Thursday evening.

The Aztecs will visit Godinez Fundamental of Santa Ana. The Grizzlies are 1-0 after defeating Loara 1-3.

The Vaqueros will host Savanna on Thursday at Bolsa Stadium. The Rebels are 1-0, having defeated Bolsa Grande 34-28 last week.

Here's the schedule for Week One games. All games – unless otherwise stated – are scheduled for 7 p.m.

As always, times, dates, opponents and locations are subject to change without notice, so check with the host school if you're planning on going.

THURSDAY, AUG. 29

La Quinta (0-0) at Godinez (1-0); Savanna (1-0) at Rancho Alamitos (0-0) at Bolsa Stadium.; Huntington Beach (1-0)

hosts Trabuco Hills (0-0).

FRIDAY, AUG. 30

Bolsa Grande (0-1) at Artesia (1-0); Garden Grove (1-0) at Pacifica (0-1). *Note: The Pacifica score last week was incorrectly reported. The M's lost 21-20 to Kennedy.* Silver Valley (0-0) at Los Amigos (1-0) at Monsoor Stadium/Garden Grove High, 6 p.m.; La Quinta (0-0) at Godinez (1-0); Santiago (0-1) at Westminster (0-1); Western (0-1) at La Mirada (0-1); Orange (0-1) hosts Villa Park (0-1) at Fred Kelly Stadium; Ocean View (0-1) hosts Anaheim (0-0); Marina (1-0) at Wilson/Long Beach (1-0); Edison (0-1) at Yorba Linda (1-0).

High Five makes its debut

Our traditional (on and off) High Five for local prep football debuts this week. A little early admittedly, but it's all just speculation, right?

Topping the list as number one is Edison High of Huntington Beach, which lost a close one, 29-28 to state powerhouse Clo-

The High Five

High school football rankings for our West OC

1. Edison (0-1)
 2. Huntington Beach (1-0)
 3. Orange (0-1)
 4. Garden Grove (1-0)
 5. Marina (1-0)
- On the bubble: Pacifica (0-1), Los Amigos (1-0).

vis West of Fresno.

Right behind is Huntington Beach (1-0) with star quarterback Brady Edmunds, which opened with a 56-42 win over Orange, with its own star QB, freshman Starlone Thomas. That close loss puts the Panthers at number three.

Garden Grove has a new coach but an old approach – running – and was impressive in defeating Bellflower 42-0 and placing fourth.

Fifth is Marina, which blanked district rival Westminster. On the bubble is Pacifica, which lost by one point to a good Kennedy team.

Also, Los Amigos, which showed impressive balance in

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Who helped eradicate the plague of polio?
Garden Grove Rotary

Who sponsors a defibrillator program to save lives when heart attacks strike?
Garden Grove Rotary

Who recognizes 6th grade students for achievement in academics and scholarship?
Garden Grove Rotary

Who sponsors and contributes to training high school students on leadership and citizenship?
Garden Grove Rotary.

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How much higher can Ohtani soar?

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if they throw him strikes, anything's possible with Shohei."

Ohtani broke the previous mark set by Alfonso Soriano in Game 148 for the Washington Nationals in 2006. Soriano had 46 homers — the most of anyone in the exclusive club — and 41 stolen bases that year.

Besides Soriano, Ohtani joins Ronald Acuña Jr., Alex Rodriguez, Barry Bonds and Jose Canseco in the 40-40 club.

Acuña owns the stolen base record with 73 last year, when he also hit 41 homers.

It was the first walk-off homer and third grand slam of Ohtani's career.

"It's just storybook — 40-40 on

the same night," Roberts said. "I don't know if that's ever been done and then he wins it with a grand slam. He's definitely known for the dramatics and this was something I'll remember for a long time."

It's Ohtani's third season with 40 or more homers, having achieved the mark with the Los Angeles Angels in 2021 and 2023.

New York Yankees star Aaron Judge leads the majors with 49 homers. He is favored to win AL MVP honors, with Ohtani predicted to do the same in the NL.

Ohtani's 389-foot shot snapped a 3-3 tie. Rays center fielder Jose Siri gave chase and the ball bounced back onto the field.

He then threw it into the stands, so Ohtani didn't end up with the keepsake, according to Ohtani's interpreter, Will Ireton.

Ohtani took a curtain call as the crowd of 45,556 cheered. Teammates Miguel Rojas and Teoscar Hernández soaked him with water.

"It means a tremendous amount for me to be able to do this in front of the home crowd," Ohtani said.

In the fourth, he reached on an infield single leading off and stole second during Freddie Freeman's at-bat. He's the first Dodgers player since Dee Gordon in 2014 to swipe that many bases in a season. Gordon finished with 64.

Ohtani never made the postseason in six years with the Angels, but he finds himself in a pennant race with the Dodgers, who held a four-game lead in the NL West over the Diamondback.

"The No. 1 goal is to get to the postseason and win the World Series," he said.

Retorts: What are they afraid of?

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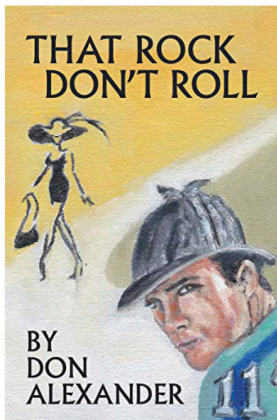
Isn't there something to be said for allowing kids to be self-reliant? Walk to school? Do their own schoolwork? De-

velop their own interests?

Today's parenting is full of good intentions. Based on what we're seeing, are we getting matching good results?

Some serious fun

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That Rock Don't Roll

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— The Orange County Tribune

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Don Alexander has been a sports columnist, a sports broadcaster, talk show host and a college instructor. This is his first novel.

Prep Sport

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its big win over Santiago.

Olympic afterwards ...

At the recent Paris Summer Olympics, the Huntington Beach Union High School District was well-represented, as five of its alumni took part.

Lilia Vu (Fountain Valley High) competed for USA in women's golf. TJ Falco (Huntington Beach High) competed in men's volleyball. Chase Dodd (Huntington Beach High) competed in men's water polo. Jenna Nighswonger (Huntington Beach High) completed women's soccer. Kevin Nguyễn (Westminster High) competed in Paralympic para shooting.

Sports Retorts

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the league average. But one more season like this ... playing in the shadow of baseball's most charismatic team up the freeway and the fans who used to spin the turnstiles in Anaheim may eventually be content to instead watch the Blue Crew on TV.

HELP WANTED

Activity Coordinator: BS psych +6 months exp. in the position or in an admin related occup. Mail resume to employer: Violet Residential Care, Inc., 12141 Ora Drive, Garden Grove CA 92840.