

**READY FOR THE RAIN**



The Tet Festival in Garden Grove over the weekend brought throngs out to celebrate the lunar new year at Garden Grove Park. Many guests dressed in traditional dress. Above, two celebrants pose with oar in replica boat, perhaps in anticipation of the forecasted rain showers expected to hit West Orange County toward the weekend (Tribune photo).

**Garden Grove man is killed in Santa Ana motorcycle crash**

A 58-year-old Garden Grove man died after being struck by a motorcycle in Santa Ana on Saturday.

According to the SAPD, the deceased was identi-

fied as Hoang Mai Phan.

The incident occurred around 7 p.m when police received a call regarding a traffic collision in the area of 1000 N. Euclid St. Responding officers and

the Orange County Fire Authority found that there had been an incident between a pedestrian and a motorcycle.

The pedestrian appeared to be walking eastbound through Euclid Street when he was struck by a motorcycle traveling southbound. The pedestrian was treated at the scene but died from his injuries.

Police say the driver of the motorcycle remained at the scene, cooperated with the investigation and didn't appear to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

County as well, with protests held in Santa Ana and Garden Grove.

On Monday, at Fifth and Ross streets in Santa Ana, an estimated 150 people – some of them waving flags of Mexico –demonstrated near the Federal building in the city's downtown.

Continued on page 2

Continued on page 2

**Protests in OC cities**

President Donald Trump's plans for mass deportations of migrants illegally in the United States – accompanied by widespread arrests by the federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency – sparked many protests across the country.

Those demonstrations reached into Orange

**HUNTINGTON BEACH CITY COUNCIL**

**Surf City May Face A Wave of Red Ink**

**Deficits projected until 2033**

By **Jim Tortolano**  
Orange County Tribune

cities are facing a similar situation."

The City of Huntington Beach, famous for its surf culture and dazzling sea coast, can expect to face some rough weather financially into the next decade.

That's the evaluation of the consulting firm Urban Futures, which told the city council on Tuesday night that Surf City will likely be running deficits until the fiscal year 2033.

Jim Morris of UFI briefed the council on the challenges facing the community. "You're not alone in this," he said. "Many

Rising pension obligations, the pressure of inflation and property tax revenue that is "less aggressive" than in past years have all contributed to annual deficits that will peak at \$12 million in fiscal year 2029, gradually narrowing until the city is back in the black four years later.

Some possible strategies to reduce the red ink include pre-paying pension obligations in hopes that the state pension fund will perform better in the near future and thereby reduce

Continued on page 2

**Inside The Tribune**



**The team you love to hate**

SPORTS Page 6



**Who is Iris in 'Companion'?**

ARTS & LIVING Page 6

# Traffic fatal

Continued from page 1

Anyone with information about the incident is asked to call Detective Catlin at (714) 245-8224 or the SAPD Traffic Division at (714) 245-8200.

# Protests

Continued from page 1

against Trump's plans. In Garden Grove, a crowd estimated at 200 people, rallied at the corner of Chapman Avenue and Brookhurst Street to express their opposition to the announced policies over the weekend.

# HB deficit

Continued from page 1

the amount to be paid then, as well as cutting expenses and attracting sources of new revenue. "We're an old city," said Councilman Casey McKeon. "Every city council that came before us has made decisions to led us to this point." He added, "we've kicked the can down the road." He added that the present council has been criticized for allegedly not paying attention to "nuts and bolts" of city operation, but "we do. We do every day." The next meeting of the council is scheduled for Feb. 18.

## The★Tribune

**Jim Tortolano**  
Editor and Publisher  
**Marilyn Lewis Tortolano**  
General Manager

The Orange County Tribune is published on Wednesdays and Saturdays with some exceptions. Address is 9402 Luders Ave., Garden Grove, 92844.

E-mail : [orangecountytribune@gmail.com](mailto:orangecountytribune@gmail.com)

[www.orangecountytribune.com](http://www.orangecountytribune.com).  
Phone: (714) 458-1860.

Established Aug. 6, 2016. All opinions expressed in The Tribune, unless otherwise stated, are those of the individual writer or artist and not necessarily those of The Tribune.

The Tribune is a member of The Associated Press, the Garden Grove Downtown Business Association and Garden Grove Chamber of Commerce.



**AZTECA MEXICAN RESTAURANT**  
12814

**Great Food & Atmosphere for the Whole Family!**  
Enjoy our crazy Elvis-themed restaurant serving Awesome Mexican Food!



*In the mood to sing?* Join us for Family Karaoke on Friday & Saturday nights.

**Azteca Restaurant & Lounge**  
www.AztecaOC.com  
HISTORIC MAIN STREET • GARDEN GROVE

## Get your free e-news paper

Want a free subscription to the e-paper version of The Orange County Tribune? Send us an e-mail at [orangecountytribune@gmail.com](mailto:orangecountytribune@gmail.com) and request a subscription.

The Orange County Tribune covers Garden Grove, Huntington Beach, Stanton and Westminster.

Our twice-weekly e-newspaper offers coverage of national and local news coverage, as well as that of area professional and high school sports..



**AZTECA MEXICAN RESTAURANT**  
12814

**Great Food & Atmosphere for the Whole Family!**  
Enjoy our crazy Elvis-themed restaurant serving Awesome Mexican Food!



*In the mood to sing?* Join us for Family Karaoke on Friday & Saturday nights.

**Azteca Restaurant & Lounge**  
www.AztecaOC.com  
HISTORIC MAIN STREET • GARDEN GROVE




**Phuc Long Coffee & Tea**  
Authentic Vietnamese Coffee & Boba Tea

Start your happy day with a cup of coffee  
Start your fun day with a boba milk tea



**10% off**  
When Mention O.C. TRIBUNE

phuclongusa  
(933) TEA+BOBA | (933) 932-2822  
12936 Main Street  
Garden Grove, CA 92840



DOGS AND CATS AGREE:  
**"We love Dr. Leung!"**

Looking for a veterinarian who is:  
• compassionate? • experienced?  
• fair-priced? • conveniently-located?

Alamitos Animal Hospital is a full-service facility and will treat urgent and routine medical, surgical, and dental issues. Albert Leung is experienced in all types of conditions and treatments. Beyond first-rate pet care, we make our clinic comfortable, kid-friendly, and a very calm environment so your pet – and you – can relax in the waiting room.

**ALAMITOS ANIMAL HOSPITAL**  
7122 Garden Grove Blvd., Westminster  
(just west of Knott and Goldenwest)  
Call (714) 893-3591 or go to:  
[Alamitosanimalhospital.com](http://Alamitosanimalhospital.com)  
Open Monday through Saturday

READ THE ORANGE COUNTY TRIBUNE every day online and the Wednesday and Saturday e-newspaper.

READ THE ORANGE COUNTY TRIBUNE every day online and the Wednesday and Saturday e-newspaper.

# You have friends in Real Estate



The team of Scott and Rebecca Weimer will put their 74 years of combined experience and expertise to work for you. They are caring, honest, knowledgeable, hard-working and ethical. They've put the client's best interests first since 1978.

They offer diversified real estate sales and services with the personal touch.



## Weimer & Associates

AN INDEPENDENT REAL ESTATE BROKERAGE

714-534-0992

12866 Main St,  
Suite 100, Garden Grove  
Garden Grove CA 92840

# News & Views

## There's a tariffic cost of living to be paid off

The term "tariff" has been in the news lately, and there's a lot of people who either aren't familiar with the term or think it's an informal abbreviation of the word "terrific."

"Gee, hon, you look tariff tonight."

What a tariff is, when you think about it, is an extra fee you pay for either something you want or to make up for some way you have given offense.



**Retorts**  
Jim Tortolano

In that context, we pay tariffs all the time. Want to go to that good night club ... you pay a cover charge. Want to make a good impression for a first date .. you pay for an expensive dinner at a top-notch restaurant.

On the other hand, if you forget your wife's birthday or your wedding anniversary, you may have to drop a bundle at the jewelry store or florist shop.

(Conversely, if a woman forgets her wedding anniversary, it's usually "no harm, no foul" because chances are pretty good he did, too).

Women are more likely to give offense by disrespecting some hobby or treasured possession of her man. "Are you going to wear that to dinner?" Or, "I can't believe you were up until 2 a.m. playing that silly video game."

Widen the lens and you'll see how many other tariffs you pay. One of the most galling is the "loan origination fee." You have to pay cash just for the privilege of begging to borrow money which you will probably end up paying off at three or four times the value of the loan.

College parking permits. Toll

Continued on page 8

## Traffic stops in Westminster yield arrests for drugs, weapons

Criminal genius' are fictional. In two incidents earlier this week, suspects were arrested in Westminster after calling attention to themselves through vehicle code violations.

According to the WPD, on Thursday at 11:35 p.m. officers conducted a vehicle stop for multiple infractions in the area of Tilden Street and Hazard Avenue.

A search of the vehicle showed officers that the driver was in possession of 8 grams of methamphetamine and over 35 grams of fentanyl, digital scales and other items "indicative of drug sales."

The driver was taken into custody and taken to Orange County Jail in Santa Ana for booking on charges of selling narcotics.

On Friday morning at 11:29 a.m., Westminster police were patrolling in the area of Garden



**TRAFFIC STOPS** for vehicle code violations led to the arrest of two men and the confiscation of drugs and firearms (WPD photo).

Grove Boulevard and Goldenwest Street when they made a stop of a car for vehicle code violations.

After contacting the driver, the officers learned he was on Post Release Community Supervision (PRCS) from Bakersfield for weapons-related charges. A search of the subject and his ve-

hicle showed he was in possession of an unserialized firearm, high capacity magazines, multiple rounds of ammunition and a switchblade knife.

He was taken into custody and booked at OCJ for multiple felonies including being a felon in possession of a firearm and ammunition.

## Chief honored for support of soldiers

Garden Grove Police Chief Amir El-Farra was awarded the Patriot Award by the Department of Defense for his support – as an employer – of the California National Guard and the federal military reserve.

El-Farra was nominated by a GGPD officer for his leadership and continued backing of the military in a program known as

### ■ AREA NEWS BRIEFS

Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve.

Members of the military who serve in public employment are usually entitled to extensive leave and job security when deployed to an active duty status, especially when serving overseas or in a combat zone.



**GGPD CHIEF** Amir El-Farra and Sgt. 1st Class David Chang.



**LEFT TO RIGHT** are Joanna Succar (Boys & Girls Club of Stanton United Director), Adam Barrientos (Youth of the Year) and Michael Borack (Stanton Teen Center)

### Youth of the Year in Stanton named

The Boys & Girls Club of Stanton held its annual Youth of the Year ceremony recently with Adam Barrientos winning the honor.

The Youth of the Year programs has been the premier recognition platform for Boys & Girls Club members, celebrating their achievements and the values they embody.

# NewsUpdate

## Trump: 'Palestinans Leave Gaza'

### Netanyahu says U.S. could take control of area

All the Palestinians in Gaza should leave and relocate to other places, President Donald Trump said Tuesday in a news conference in Washington.

According to The New York Times, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu – who joined Trump at the event, said the United States might, as an alternative, “take over the Gaza Strip.” Trump agreed.

Before the press conference, Trump suggested that Jordan and Egypt offer a home to the



**PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP** suggested Palestinians leave Gaza (Shutterstock).

Palestinians. “They have no alternative now,” said Trump. “What do they have? It’s a big pile of rubble

right now.” There are about 2 million Palestinians native to Gaza. Hamas, the group that has held

power in Gaza in recent years immediately rejected the proposals.

## Education Dept. could face elimination, but Congress must agree

When he ran for president, Donald Trump vowed to dismantle the federal Department of Education.

According to United Press International, he is poised to do that.

Trump is reportedly drafting an executive order to eliminate the department.

“We will drain the government education swamp and stop the abuse of your taxpayer dollars

to indoctrinate America’s youth with all sorts of things that you don’t want to have our youth hearing,” Trump said while campaigning for a second term.

The department was created by President Jimmy Carter Congress in 1979 and could not be ended by executive order, but he could call on Congress to eliminate it and start placing Education staff members on paid leave.

### Great Thoughts

“Security is mostly a superstition. It does not exist in nature. Life is either a daring adventure or nothing.”

— Helen Keller, writer

“Don’t handicap your children by making their lives too easy.”

— Robert Heinlein, author

## All 67 bodies from collision of Army helicopter with jet airliner are recovered

The bodies of all 67 people who died in the collision of an Army helicopter and a civilian jetliner near Washington, D.C. have been recovered.

USA Today is reporting that 66 of the 67 have been identified and salvage of pieces of the wreckage – which fell into the Potomac River – are being retrieved, although high wind

gusts are slowing the process.

Data collected by the National Traffic Safety Board indicate that the Blackhawk helicopter was flying above its 200-foot maximum ceiling at the time of the collision, but that nothing can be confirmed until the aircraft is recovered from the river and investigated., according to the newspaper.

### Weather: Some rain is likely

Forecasts for our West Orange County cities call for a strong chance of rain showers toward the rest of the workweek and into the weekend. Wednesday’s daytime high is predicted to be 65 with an overnight low of 56 with a chance of showers. Thursday will be similar but cooler at 61 (56). The chance of rain goes up to 25 percent on Friday with temps of 65 (50) and to 39 percent on Saturday and 63 (50) on the thermometer.

# Arts & Living

## What Does Humanity Mean with AI?

An interesting inquiry into new tech's role

By Jocelyn Noveck  
AP Writer

"Iris, wake up!"

Early in "Companion," lovely Iris and her nerdy-nice boyfriend Josh are driving to a secluded lake house for a stay with friends. Iris wakes from a nap and lovingly tells Josh she was dreaming about him. They reminisce about how they first met at the supermarket. All those oranges tumbling onto the floor! Ha ha.

In 20 minutes, absolutely everything about this sweet scene will be turned on its head in a terrifying and sinister manner. You will be surprised and shocked. Unless you saw the trailer, which reveals the whole thing.

And so we begin with a dilemma, dear moviegoer. "Companion," an exceedingly clever and entertaining sci-fi-horror-thriller-comedy by Drew Hancock in his feature debut, has more twists and turns than a corkscrew.

But it's utterly impossible to write about the film without revealing the first of those twists. So if you like coming in totally cold to a movie, then we're sorry to see you go, but stop reading! Otherwise, stay with us — we promise there'll be more surprises to come.

Moving on: Iris (Sophie Thatcher) and Josh (Jack Quaid) arrive at the estate. A nervous Iris stops at the door, worried that Josh's friends won't like her. He urges her to simply brighten up and act happy.

Kat (Megan Suri), Josh's ex, greets them. She is gorgeous, and frosty to Iris. Eli (Harvey Guillén) and his handsome boyfriend Patrick (Lukas Gage) are nicer. Then there's Sergey (Rupert Friend), Kat's aloof Russian



SOPHIE THATCHER is Iris, who is not quite she seems in "Companion" (New Line Cinema).

### Movie Review

boyfriend — sugar daddy, really — and owner of the house. The password to his devices is Stalin's birthday, which tells you something.

Things get dark, quickly. The next morning, someone dies. They will not be the first — this is a horror movie. And suddenly Iris, caked in blood, finds out what everyone else knows about her, but she did not: She's a robot. Well, a sex bot. A custom "companion" programmed by Josh to be as docile as he wants. He can even control the level of her intelligence.

Iris doesn't understand. "I feel things," she protests. Just the programming, Josh replies. Her tears? They come from a refillable reservoir in her body. But she has memories, she says — like when they met! Oh, that scenario was chosen from a drop-down menu, she's told.

But now that we're all on the same page, the action can really

begin. For reasons we won't detail here, Iris ends up on the run. What are the odds of a sex bot escaping her pre-programmed limitations? Suffice it to say that whatever you expect to happen, does not.

The supporting cast is excellent — especially Gage, as a Patrick chock full of surprises — but the leads are especially well cast. Thatcher manages to be, while, like, not actually human, way more relatable than the actual humans.

And she's able to convey subtle changes in programming, too — like becoming 60% more intelligent, a neat trick.

And Quaid, with his full-cheeked Quaid-ian good looks, is an ideal choice for a "nice guy" who grows more odious by the minute. One of his lower points comes when he explains to Iris how the world seems to be "rigged against people like me."

"I don't even own you," he rails — "you're a (expletive) rental! I deserve so much more than this." Hancock is obviously exploring

### Good: ★★ ★

the fertile area of artificial intelligence — the movie is set in a "not-too-distant future" where bots are an acceptable relationship choice and cars drive themselves, but most everything else looks the same. Like it could be us, just a few years from now.

Yikes.

The irony, though, is that it's not the cool futuristic flourishes but good old-fashioned human intelligence that makes the movie work. The humor and tone could have gone so wrong, but they didn't. Kudos to Hancock for making the film crackle along wittily, drawing in even those of us prone to shudder at movies with a fast-rising body count.

"Companion," a New Line Cinema release, has been rated R by the Motion Picture Association "for strong violence, sexual content, and language throughout." Running time: 97 minutes.

# TheSportsPages

## Farewell to Davis, Kupp and loyalty

And here it is, the latest installment in the continuing drama, "What Have You Done for Me Lately?"

Cooper Kupp, the great Rams' wide receiver and Anthony Davis, the great Lakers' inside man, have both been shown the door somewhat unceremoniously.

Davis was traded to the Dallas Mavericks for Luka Doncic and Kupp has been told that he was going to be traded to a team unnamed.

Here's your hat, what's your hurry?



**Sports Retorts**  
Jim Tortolano

There are many ironies here. Davis has an abdominal strain and Doncic has a strained left calf, so this "blockbuster" trade has been an exchange of injured players who may or may not be the big talent upgrades these teams think they need for the final push for the playoffs.

Reportedly, neither Davis nor coach JJ Redick knew about this swap in advance. And this trade comes just as the Lakers are playing their best ball of the season, winning eight of 10 games and rising into first place in the NBA Pacific Division.

One is reminded of the big push the Angels tried in 2023, when they were in contention for a playoff spot and brought in a bunch of "new talent" who promptly swooned and dropped the team to an inglorious 73-89 finish.

As for Kupp, this guy was a star for the most glorious stretch of Ram history since they returned to LA. He was the MVP of the Super Bowl game — which the Rams won — but was also the Offensive Player of the Year.

Kupp was not only the best

Continued on page 8

## Team You Love to Hate



**CHIEFS DEFENSE** forces a fumble in Kansas City's American Football Conference championship game against the Buffalo Bills (Chiefs photo/Steve Standers).

## Let's face it, we enjoy bringing the mighty down

By Dave Skretta  
AP Sports Writer

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — The Kansas City Chiefs were once the loveable NFL underdogs, led by the good-natured

coach who couldn't win the big one, the plucky quarterback with the Kermit the Frog-like voice, and the superstar tight end with charisma to spare. Five years after their first trip to the Super Bowl in five decades, though, things have changed.

As the Chiefs prepare to face the Eagles on Sunday in New Orleans with an opportunity to win their record third consecutive Lombardi Trophy, football fans are seeing Andy Reid's

bushy mustache popping up on TV commercials. They are hearing Patrick Mahomes' voice seemingly everywhere. And Travis Kelce? He's only dating the biggest pop star on the planet.

All of that and more has contributed to a profound sense of Chiefs fatigue that has turned many NFL fans against them.

"Chiefs fatigue was inevitable," explained Mike Lewis, author of

Continued on page 8

## Lakers win the 'Battle of Los Angeles'

If Tuesday night's game between the Lakers and the Clippers was really the "Battle of Los Angeles," the royal blue and gold drove the Clips all the way out to Catalina.

With five players — led by LeBron James' 26 points — scoring in double figures, the Lakers jumped out to an early lead and swamped the Clippers 112-97 at the Intuit Dome in Inglewood.

Not only did the victory give

the Lake Show bragging rights, it defended their spot at the top of the NBA Pacific Division over the Clippers.

The Lakers are now 29-19 and the Clips 28-22, two games back in second.

Norman Powell scored 20 for LAC.

It was the LAL's first game without Anthony Davis, who was traded to Dallas for Luka Doncic.

## Ducks over Stars

The surging Anaheim Ducks beat the Dallas Stars 2-1 Tuesday night at Honda Center, and are one win from (23-24-6) from squaring their record at .500.

Cutter Gauthier and Trevor Zebrowski scored for the Ducks.

# Vikes best Chargers; M's fall in overtime

By Miles Gaskin  
Orange County Tribune

Despite jeers and negative chants from the crowd directed at Marina senior point guard Barak Simon all game long, it was Simon and the Vikings who got the last laugh, as Marina escaped Edison with a narrow 68-66 win in a thriller of a game on Monday night.

Edison led for most of the first half, and led by as many as nine early on, but Marina remained within striking distance for the entire game, and by the start of the fourth quarter, Edison's advantage had dwindled down to a two point lead.

In the last minute of the game Marina possessed the ball with a three point lead, 68-65, but Edison came up with a big defensive stop.

Then during the final possession of the game, with less than four seconds on the clock, Edison senior shooting guard Jayden Oei was fouled shooting a three-point shot.

He missed the first of three free throws, made the second, and then was forced to miss the third on purpose in hopes of a rebound, but Marina was able to secure both the board and the victory.

Marina's season will end with them finishing at 17-11 overall and 5-7 in the Sunset League. With the loss, Edison drops to 17-11 overall and 7-5 in the Sunset League headed into the playoffs.

Continued on page 8

By Miles Gaskin  
Orange County Tribune

The Brea-Olinda Wildcats boys basketball team knocked off the Pacifica Mariners in gut-wrenching, heart-breaking fashion on Tuesday night. The 'win or go home' game turned into a defensive slug fest, as both teams didn't reach double digits until the second quarter.

The game was neck and neck the entire way, no team held more than a six point lead at any point. Brea Olinda was finally able to create some separation in the overtime period, leading to a 54-49 victory to secure a playoff berth.

Pacifica's season will end with them finishing at 18-10 overall, and 4-4 in North Hills League action. Brea Olinda will move on to the playoffs with a record of 14-14 overall and 5-3 in league.

The Wildcats were led by junior shooting guard and sharp shooter Logan Severson, and sophomore center Nathaniel Ford. Severson finished with 20 points, five made threes, nine rebounds and an assist. Ford was dominant defensively on the interior, finishing with seven points, 11 rebounds, two steals, and a mind-boggling eight blocks.

The Wildcats also received key contributions from junior point guard Tyson Tayag, who finished with 12 points, five assists, two rebounds,

Continued on page 8

## Prep Sport Spotlight

### Basketball Scores

#### TUESDAY

##### Boys

Orange 51, Santa Ana Valley 26  
Brea Olinda 54, Pacifica 49 (OT)  
Savanna 70, Ran. Alamitos 53  
La Quinta 72, Century 32  
Bolsa Grande 69, Magnolia 50  
Vakencia 82, Westminster 43  
Seegerstrom 57, Ocean View 51

##### Girls

La Quinta 32, Los Amigos 28  
Orange 39, Santa Ana Valley 31  
Brea-Olinda 58, Pacifica 19  
Century 41, Western 36  
Savanna 55, Magnolia 35

#### MONDAY

##### Boys

Marina 68, Edison 66

##### Girls

Marina 50, Edison 40  
Westminster 69, Garden Grove 30  
Hunt. Beach 64, La Habra 58



## GARDEN GROVE'S BEST KEPT SECRET

What is behind that big old house and windmill  
on Euclid Street south of Chapman Avenue?

Stop by any 1<sup>st</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of every month at  
1:30pm and let us show you the history of  
Garden Grove

Private tours are available by appointment

Stanley Ranch Historic Village  
12174 Euclid Street, Garden Grove 92840  
714-530-8871  
[gardengrovehistsoc@att.net](mailto:gardengrovehistsoc@att.net)

Your loved ones are safe with us, Always

# DONNINGTON HOMECARE

a division of Donnington Corporation

The Finest Care at Home!



California License # 304700137

All of our Staff are :

Covered by Workers' Compensation

W-2 Employees (no 1099s)

Finger printed and screened through LiveScan (FBI)

English speaking Citizens or Legal Residents

Licensed in California

TB tested

Tel : (714) 530-7946

Fax : (714) 530-7947

e-mail : [donningn@att.net](mailto:donningn@att.net) [www.donningtoncorp.com](http://www.donningtoncorp.com)

11752 Garden Grove Blvd., Suite 121  
Garden Grove, CA 92843-1442

# When mighty fall, rivals applaud

Continued from page 6

“Fandom Analytics” and a professor of marketing at Emory University. “Pre-Mahomes, the Chiefs were an afterthought of a team; a small-market team was never a consistent winner. As the Chiefs grew into a dynasty, they became rivals to multiple teams, adversaries to overcome.

“In 2025, the Chiefs are perhaps the main rivals for the Ravens, Steelers, Eagles, Chargers

and any other team that aspires to championships. Now, the Chiefs are the team that prevents other fandoms from reaching the promised land.”

Indeed, the Chiefs have long been the rivals of the Raiders and Broncos, who play in the same division.

But that team tucked away in Middle America also has become the biggest thorn in the side of the Bengals, whom they’ve played in consecutive AFC title games, and the Bills, whose season they have ended in four of the past five years.

Including this one. Kansas City once again denied a Buffalo a spot in the Super Bowl with a 32-29 win in the AFC title game.

“Fandom, at a fundamental level, is about identity. Being a fan is being part of community,” Lewis said.

“When an NFL fan’s team wins, he wins. Likewise, when his team loses, he loses. All dynasties inspire fatigue and good-natured hate because it is tiring to lose to the same guys over and over.”

In that respect, Lewis said, the Chiefs have taken on the role that the Patriots of Bill Belichick and Tom Brady held for more two decades — another once-floundering franchise that found the right mix of coach and quarterback and became a dynasty.

“If you’re a Pittsburgh fan and it’s 10 years ago, and the Chiefs are floundering and they have a good year here or there, it’s easy to be like, ‘I kind of like the Chiefs too,’ because they don’t threaten your team,” said Dr. Dan Wann, who teaches psychology and studies fandom at Murray State University.

“When that team gets successful and passes you,” Wann said, “it goes from, ‘Oh, isn’t that cute?’ to ‘They beat our (butt) again.’ It changes the perspective. Think of the Cubs; they were the loveable losers. And then they started winning.”

Mahomes and Kelce are the most visible members of the most successful franchise in the NFL, so of course they hear what fans say about them, especially when the quarterback and tight end team up for celebrity golf tournaments and other events.

# Vikes win

Continued from page 7

Simon led the way for the Vikings stuffing the stat sheet, finishing with 18 points, eight assists, four rebounds, and two steals. Marina also received key contributions from senior small forward Luke Pratali who finished with 12 points and seven rebounds, and freshman shooting guard Shane Gloger, who had a 10-point third quarter.

Edison junior point guard Derick Johnson led all scorers with 20 points and finished with two assists and two rebounds. Senior power forward Connor McNally also had a big game for the Chargers, finishing with 15 points, eight rebounds, and an assist.

# M’s lose in OT

Continued from page 7

and a steal.

Despite the loss, the Mariners got a huge boost from junior shooting guard Myles Salas, who finished with 18 points, including five three-pointers, five rebounds and an assist. Junior combo guard Maxon Tjhatra had a near double-double with nine points and eight rebounds, and junior 5 ‘9” center Kevin Ho helped the offense flow with five assists.

Pacifica Coach David Friedman was proud of the way his team battled hard, despite the tough loss.

“I was pretty pleased with our effort tonight, it was not an easy environment to come here and play in, and we gave everything we had and gave them one hell of a game.”

# Sports ReTorts

Continued from page 6

wide receiver in the league but he was also the rarity of a wide-out who blocked downfield with more than a cursory effort.

Yes, he’s suffered some injuries, but the biggest hit his career has taken is from the emergence of Puka Nacua, also a wide receiver.

It may all come down to money ... the salary cap and all that. Pro sports (college, too, when you come right down to it) is a business and loyalty is something you can’t cash.

# Retorts: Paid your tariffs?

Continued from page 3

roads. That quarter at Aldi’s.

A tab of \$8.95 for a small soda at the cinema where the actual cost of the product is 99 cents (10 cents of syrup, nine cents of carbonated water and 80 cents for the plastic cup).

Oh, well, somebody has to pay for the date. But keep the sarcasm out of your voice when you say, “Gee, hon, isn’t this a terrific movie?”



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.**

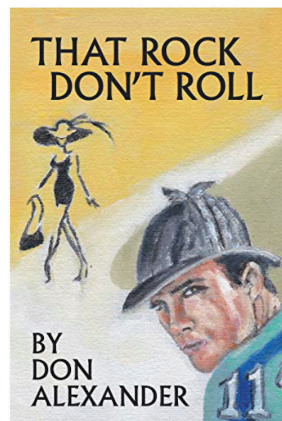
The **Garden Grove Rotary Club** has been serving the community since 1953. The modern club is part of a worldwide service organization of over 1 million men and women.

Interested in doing good work in your town and enjoying fellowship and fun with like-minded leaders in Garden Grove?

Contact us for meeting times and more information. E-mail: [journaldon@aol.com](mailto:journaldon@aol.com). Website: [gardengroverotary.com](http://gardengroverotary.com).

## Some serious fun

Murder, corruption, sex, humor, sports and lottery



## That Rock Don't Roll

“A fun story set in the OC that is sometimes tongue-in-cheek and sometimes deadly serious.”

– The Orange County Tribune

Available through Amazon.com and Barnes & Noble for \$19.99. Special offer: For a signed copy, including the cost of shipping and handling, send a check for \$15 payable to Don Alexander, 9814 Bird. Ct, Fountain Valley, CA 92708. Include your name and return address.



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