

'King Tides' Slamming Beach Areas

Highest surf is expected Thursday through Saturday

By a staff writer

The high water levels of the "king tides" have closed parts of America's most famous highway and threatened to flood parts of coastal Huntington Beach.

On Tuesday, Pacific Coast Highway was shut down in Seal Beach from Seal Beach Boulevard all the way to Warner Avenue in Surf City.

The northbound lanes of PCH were also closed be-

tween Seapoint Street and Warner Avenue, according to CalTrans. The City of Huntington Beach reports that PCH was also closed between Warner and Anderson Street until noon.

Motorists were cautioned not to drive through flooded roads.

According to the Huntington Beach Fire Department, its Marine Rescue staff have had to rescue several drivers whose cars stalled in rising waters.

Travelers are advised to use alternate routes.

The highest tides are expected on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, according to the National Ocean and Atmospheric Admin-



MARINE SAFETY staff helped rescue motorists who drove in flooded areas of Huntington Beach. Highest tides are yet to come, NOAA predicts (HBFD photo).

istration

High tide on Thursday – at 11:07 a.m. – is expected to reach 6.5 feet. On Friday, high tide is expected to reach 6.07 feet at 12:02 p.m. and on Saturday, the

high tide should be at 1:14 p.m. with waves up to 5.54 feet.

King tides are the result of the gravitational pull of the moon when it aligns with the pull of the sun,

creating ocean tides higher than usual.

The resulting surf affects beaches and low-lying areas and can be affected by onshore winds.

It's MAGA quartet vs. the 'Surf City Four'

By Jim Tortolano
Orange County Tribune

Every election is important to the people affected by it, but one local contest is attracting attention across the United States.

MSNow, a left-leaning cable TV news network, and the Walt Street Journal, a right-leaning newspaper, have given coverage to the race,

**LOCAL ELECTION
2026**

which puts four conservative MAGA candidates – including three incumbents – against four Democrats who call themselves the "Surf City Four."

Of course, Huntington Beach was in the national news before the

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In The Trib



Rams are back after a key win

SPORTS Page 6

'Clayface' a good revenge movie

ARTS & LIVING Page 5

Memorial planned for 1st Vietnamese president

A memorial will be held on Sunday, Nov. 1 for Ngo Dinh Diem, the first president of the Republic of (South) Vietnam, at Sid Goldstein Memorial Freedom Park in Westminster. Diem was a controversial figure during his presidency (1955-1963), praised for his nationalism and opposition to communism, but also criticized by opposition groups who claimed he

**Westminster
City Council**

avored Catholics over Buddhists.

He was deposed by a "junta" of the Military Revolutionary Council on Nov. 1, 1963 in a coup d'etat believed to have been supported by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency.

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HB election

Continued from page 1

2024 election gave supporters of President Donald Trump all seven seats on the council.

While Huntington Beach voters is mostly Republican, it's not an overwhelming edge, about 52 percent to 48 percent (among supporters of the two major parties) with a strong history of nonpartisan environmentalism.

The council has raised eyebrows over several controversial actions, including a flag display policy that resulted in eliminating gay pride banners on city property – along with other examples of what was called "identity politics."

Also raising a howl from some was an effort to restrict access of minors to library materials on sexual themes and a proposal to consider privatizing the city's library system.

Observers have credited the backlash against mask-wearing and vaccination requirements during the COVID-19 pandemic with crystallizing what's now could be called the "Make Huntington Beach Great Again" sentiment.

Tito Ortiz, the former professional wrestler, may be considered the pioneer of HB's MAGA move.

Elected in 2020, he openly doubted whether the coronavirus was real and refused to wear a mask in restaurants and even – for a while – at council meetings.

Frustrated among a mildly liberal council, he resigned his council seat and moved out of state after less than six months in office.

One might wonder what Mr. Ortiz thinks of what followed his departure.

Westminster

Continued from page 1

Diem and his brother, Nhu, escaped at first but were recaptured quickly and assassinated.

An item about the event is on the agenda for Wednesday's meeting of the Westminster City Council, in which a request has been made to extend the previously approved operating hours to conclude at 10 p.m.

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The★Tribune

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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.

The★Tribune

Covering Garden
Grove, Huntington
Beach, Stanton and
Westminster

News&Views

The 'good old days' of battling newspapers

I recently read Teri Sforza's final column for The Orange County Register and enjoyed it a lot. It was full of nostalgia over her 33 years with the paper, especially focusing on the competition with the Los Angeles Times, which — once upon a time — had a robust OC operation.

It reminds me of my years with the old Orange County Evening News where we ran our own less-visible rivalry with the Big Paper from Santa Ana. In fact, I'm not even sure if those folks over on Grand Avenue even knew we regarded them that way, except, perhaps on the softball field.

Up until the late 70s, the OCR was owned by the libertarian Hoiles family, who abhorred labor unions, were in horror of public schools and regarded Ralph Nader as the second coming of Caligula.

Over on Century Boulevard in Garden Grove was the News. It was a union operation, had even endorsed John Kennedy for president in 1960 and generally paid its employees a lot more.

When I started with the News in 1976, my weekly salary as a reporter was \$166.45, plus overtime and car allowance. The Register paid \$120 a week, no overtime (you got "compensatory time off") and if anybody got car allowances there, I never heard of it.

We tried mightily to match their coverage, outgunned as it were. But our people ran into theirs at Press Club events, city council meetings, high school football games and bars.

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Retorts
Jim Tortolano



EMPLOYEES OF the Month were honored at last week's Garden Grove Unified School District Board of Education meeting (GGUSD photo).

GGUSD Employees of Month Honored

Three women were honored as Employees of the Month at last week's meeting of the Garden Grove Unified School District Board of Education.

From Stanley Elementary School were two sixth-grade teachers, Danielle Martinez and Carrie Marquez, the certificated Employees of the Month.

They received this accolade for having "warm, engaging classrooms where students are motivated to learn and prepared for success in intermediate school and beyond."

Selected as Classified Employee of the Month was Jean Wasinger of Hare High School. Known as "Mama Jean," she served the school community for over 27 years.

She was recognized for her "caring spirit, exceptional work ethic and willingness to go above and beyond for students, staff and families."

The GGUSD is a K-12 district which serves most of the cities of Garden Grove as well as parts of Anaheim, Cypress, Fountain Valley, Santa Ana, Stanton and Westminster.

News Briefs

Shape the economic development of Westminster

The City of Westminster is in the process of creating its first Economic Development Strategic Plan and the public is invited to have its say.

This year's efforts are an update of the 2016 plan and comes at a time of "growth and transition" especially with the development of the Bolsa Pacific project — replacing the old Westminster Mall — and increasing interest in broadening the prospects for the Little Saigon district.

Those interested in having input are directed to the city's website — www.westminster-ca.gov — where they can navigate to the Community and Business Surveys page.

Separate survey forms can be completed and submitted in English, Vietnamese and Spanish for community and business.

For more information, send your questions to EconDev@westminster-CA.gov.

A pedestrian is killed by motorist in hit-and-run

A 69-year-old woman was fatally injured when struck by a car in an intersection in Garden Grove late Friday night.

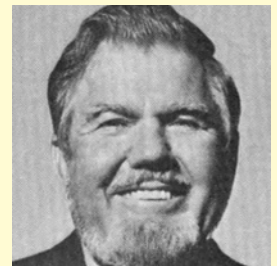
According to the GGPD, the incident was reported at around 11:16 p.m. A witness saw a collision between a pedestrian and a white 2014 Cadillac SRX at Harbor Boulevard and Palm Avenue.

The Cadillac didn't stop at the scene of the accident but was followed by the witness until it was stopped by GGPD officers.

Orange County Fire Authority personnel assumed medical care of the woman, who was taken to UCI Medical Center in Orange with "life-threatening injuries." She was later pronounced deceased.

The driver of the Cadillac — identified only as a male — was arrested on suspicion of a felony hit-and-run and police believe impairment is a factor in the incident.

History Minute



RICHARD T. HANNA

Hanna: political pioneer to prison

Orange County is now politically "purple," but for nearly eight decades it was almost completely Republican and conservative.

The change began in 1962, when Richard T. Hanna, who folks said resembled a leprechaun, was elected to the newly-redrawn 34th

Continued on page 8

NewsUpdate

Will Netanyahu Survive This Election?

Exit polls say opposition may have a majority

Long-time Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu may find it difficult to continue as the leader of his nation.

The Associated Press is reporting that exit polls Tuesday are indicating what was described as “a sharp rebuke.” The polls, taken via questions asked of voters after they cast their ballots, indicate that opposition parties will have a “solid majority” in the Israeli parliament.

In Israel, the head of government is not elected directly by the voters through the states – as in the U.S. – but as in the mod-



ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER Benjamin Netanyahu with President Donald Trump (Wikipedia)

el of Great Britain, where the party which wins the most seats in Parliament picks the winner from among its number.

Opposition parties – the polls suggest – will win “about 52” seats to “about 50” for Netanyahu’s block. Arab parties will

win 18.

Preliminary results are expected on Wednesday, but the selection could take weeks.

Supreme Court allows change in U.S. immigration courts

The U.S. Supreme Court on Tuesday ruled that it will support an agreement between the State of Texas and the Trump Administration on immigration courts.

According to United Press International, the one-sentence order will allow Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton’s lawsuit to remove judge’s discretion to end immigration cases.

Under the Biden Administra-

tion, there was a policy that allowed immigration judges the choice to end cases to help clear the backlog of pending matters.

Paxton is the Republican candidate for a U.S. Senate seat. Polling indicates that he is locked in a near-dead heat with Democrat James Talarico.

The latest polls show Talarico with a 2.5-point lead, within the margin of error.

Cooler with some showers

The outlook for our West Orange County cities is for cooling temperatures as we move toward the weekend with a chance of showers. Wednesday is forecast to have morning clouds and afternoon sun with a daytime high of 77 and an overnight low of 59. Thursday should cool to 74 (63) with cloudy skies.

Friday is expected to see temps drop to 74 (60) with clouds in the morning and sun in the afternoon, and an 11 percent chance of showers.

Saturday may bring afternoon showers (33 percent chance) and temps of 72 (60).

Will Arch Manning leave Texas for another team?

Speculation is growing that Texas quarterback Arch Manning might be entering the transfer portal to play for another college football team next season.

USA Today reports that Manning has come under considerable criticism for an underwhelming fall after beginning the year as being touted as the top QB in the nation.

So far in 2026, the Longhorns (5-2) have tumbled from the number one ranking to 11th.

He now ranks 56th in his quarterback rating with nine turnovers this season, including six in his last three games.

Where might he go? USA Today names Ole Miss, Georgia, Tennessee, Indiana and LSU as possible landing spots.

Great Thoughts

“Sleep is the best meditation.”
– Dalai Lama

“A good laugh and a long sleep are the best cures in the doctor’s book.”
– Irish proverb

“You know you’re in love when you can’t fall asleep because reality is finally better than your dreams.”
– Dr. Seuss

Arts&Living

'Clayface': Pretty Good Revenge Film

Part of the first wave of DC Studios super-power folks

By Mark Kennedy
AP Entertainment Writer

Someone rather bluntly popped up on X recently to ask Hollywood writer-producer James Gunn a pointed — and here sanitized — question: “Who asked for a ‘Clayface’ movie?”

Gunn, the guy behind the seriously weird “Guardians of the Galaxy” franchise, clapped back, asking who called for “Back to the Future,” “Casablanca” or “Weapons,” among others. “Clayface” may have no right belonging at that exalted level, but after seeing it, the score is Random Internet Hater, 0; Gunn, 1.

“Clayface” is a surprisingly good revenge thriller-romance, body-horror origin story for a lesser-known villain from the Batman comics. We may not have asked for it, but it’s a crowd-pleaser, mimicking its title character’s ability to be a little something for everyone.

James Watkins directs from a screenplay by Mike Flanagan and Hossein Amini, part of Gunn and Peter Safran’s first wave of DC Studios films, following “Superman” and “Supergirl.”

Tom Rhys Harries stars as Matt Hagen, a pretty-boy rising actor whose long road from poverty finally nets him an Oscar nomination and industry respect. Cue celebratory drinks at a nightclub.

Except that night he gets involved with a mobster’s girlfriend and the mobster isn’t happy, using a switchblade to carve open our hero’s face. And without those cheekbones and perky nose, he’s finished. “My life is over,” he wails. Harries brings a sweet hand-dog defiance to the role.

He soon thinks he’s found salvation in Dr. Caitlyn Corr, a rebel scientist on the cutting edge of nanotechnology, played with real soul by Naomi Ackie. He offers to



'TOM RHYS HARRIES' stars in the “Clayface” movie (Warner Bros).

Movie Review

be her human guinea pig and she injects him with her still-unproven serum of stem cells that begin to repair his scarred face.

It works and the movie’s over. No, no, of course not. The serum does work but only temporarily — leaving Hagen’s face droopier than after a visit to the orthodontist — and Corr has to find a way to stabilize the experiment.

Wait, did we detect some other chemicals drifting between the good doctor and her patient, maybe dopamine and serotonin? (One clue is the weird use of Chicago’s 1976 romantic hit “If You Leave Me Now.”) Yes, sparks are indeed flowing between them, which the American Medical Association frowns on. Plus, she’s got a boyfriend.

“Clayface” then shoots along on twin rails — the race to harness this technology and our hero’s bloodthirsty revenge stampede. All the while, it’s a biting satire of Hollywood and its obsession with beauty, led by an actor playing an actor, who is complimented on being a chameleon.

“This business is all surface,”

Hagen is told by an agent who dropped him. The stem cells injected into his face are described as Method actors and a TV talk-show host offers a foreshadowing question: “There’s so many of you. It must be hard to find the real Matt Hagen.”

The last third of the movie gets as unstable as the serum, with Hagen weirdly able to take on anyone’s identity and pass as them if he acts well enough. The scientist’s boyfriend also happens to be a homicide detective and, wouldn’t you know it, he gets assigned to who-

Good ★ ★ ★

ever is slaughtering people linked to Matt Hagen. The ultimate showdown, naturally, happens at, you guessed it, a nightclub.

There’s a charming low-rent vibe to “Clayface” after so much expensive bombast from Marvel and DC. Parts of Gotham were shot on real streets — thanks, Liverpool — and practical effects were encouraged over computers. No less than a huge cockroach makes us

Continued on page 8

And coming to theaters soon ...

“Clayface” isn’t the only movie opening this week. Also there’s “By Any Means,” a true story thriller about a young FBI agent investigating killings of civil rights workers in 1960s Mississippi. Stars Mark Wahlberg. Also opening is “Capturing Bigfoot,” a documentary on one man’s journey to find the mysterious (and likely mythical) forest creature.



MARK WAHLBERG stars in “By Any Means.”

TheSportsPages

If 'Tush Push' is legal, then why not this?

I like football. Although baseball was first in my now-tattered heart, football is by far the more exciting to watch.

The NFL, especially, has been a model of a forward-thinking business with its international outreach, improved vigilance on concussion injuries and the embrace of flag football for females ... and eventually for everybody.

Mark my words ... there will be a professional flag football league before the Angels make the World Series.

However, there is one towering flaw in the NFL rulebook, and that is the "Tush Push."

It is now — as you have seen it on TV, or in person — perfectly legal for a team to line up not just a bunch of 300-pounders on the line to block for the ball-



Sports Retorts

Jim Tortolano

carrier, but also to get a cadre of muscle-men to get behind him to push the guy over the goal line.

I've seen some situations where the line between pushing and downright carrying the guy with the ball was pretty thin.

In the light of this advance in gridiron strategy, why not up open things up a bit more, as in ...

The Chicken Fighter:

The ball-carrier is allowed to ride on the shoulders of another player on running plays. However, they must signal the intention to do this to give the other team an opportunity to "mount up," as it were, one of their own.

The Airborne Back: No more than two players in the backfield will be allowed to lift — and then throw — a "desig-

Continued on page 8

Rams Are Back, Finally

Victory over Raiders restores the confidence

By Mark Anderson
AP Sports Writer

LAS VEGAS (AP) — This was, especially in the first half, the kind of Rams team many expected to see all along.

Matthew Stafford threw for 195 yards and three touchdowns to become the Rams' career leader in passing TDs, and Los Angeles resembled the team previously favored to win the Super Bowl, beating the Las Vegas Raiders 35-21 on Sunday.

The Rams (3-4) still have a ways to go to overcome their slow start and numerous injuries, but this victory improves their chances to be a factor in the playoff race. Since the NFL playoffs expanded from 12 to 14 teams in 2020, 10 of 41 clubs have made the postseason after opening 3-4, with just 4 of 33 making it after going 2-5.

At least in the first half, when they took a 28-6 lead, the Rams showed why they entered the season favored to win it all. The Raiders (3-4) made a push in the second half but lost their fourth straight.

"It's nice feeling a little bit



COLBERT PARKINSON (84) and Grant Stuard (44) celebrating a winning effort (Brevin Townsell/Rams photo).

more comfortable in the fourth quarter, and that's just a testament to how the guys played," Stafford said. "Great team effort. I thought our coaches did a great job of giving us a plan that we felt great about coming in here to execute. Just proud of the way we worked throughout the week, and I think that showed today. We're going to have to keep doing that and doing it at a high level."

Stafford has 155 touchdown passes in a Rams uniform, one

more than previous team record holder Roman Gabriel. The reigning MVP also became the first player to accomplish that for two teams; Stafford's 282 touchdown passes is Detroit's record.

Las Vegas native Puka Nacua, who had been listed as questionable with a calf injury, caught eight passes for 68 yards and a touchdown for the Rams, and tight end Davis Allen had two TD catches — his first trips to

Continued on page 8

A trying Tuesday for area teams

Local pro teams had a rough Tuesday night in the arenas, all posting losses.

In hockey action, both the Anaheim Ducks and Los Angeles Kings had frustrating games on Tuesday, each losing by a single goal.

The Ducks fell 6-5 to the Vancouver Canucks in overtime and the Kings lost 2-1 to the Chicago Blackhawks.

At Honda Center, Anaheim built a 4-1 lead after two periods, but were outscored 4-1 in

■ NHL and NBA

the third. The winning goal was scored on a power play by Filip Hronek.

A.J. Greer scored two goals for the Orange County team; Jackson LaCombe had three assists. Goalie Lukas Dostal had 27 saves on 33 shots on goal.

With the loss, the Ducks are 5-6-1 and in fifth place in the NHL Pacific Division.

In the Windy City, the Kings

also led early and lost late. Samuel Helenius put them ahead in the first period, but Chicago rallied with a single goal in the second and third periods to win.

The Kings have the consolation of winning three of five on a road trip and are in seventh place in the NHL Pacific with a 3-6-2 mark.

In a battle of unbeaten NBA teams, the Lakers lost a third quarter lead and fell to the Portland Trailblazers 136-129 at crypto.com Arena.

Three Local Teams Going For Perfection

HB, Rancho and Orange hoping to 'run the table'

Three area high school football teams have a chance to complete their regular season with perfect 10-0 records.

Huntington Beach (9-0 overall, 4-0 in league play) will visit Laguna Beach (4-5, 1-3) in a Delta League clash on Friday. If the Oilers win, they'll be the Delta champion all alone; a loss could mean a tie for the league title with El Modena, provided the Vanguarders (8-1, 3-1) defeat last place Western (1-8, 1-3).

Rancho Alamitos ((9-0, 4-0) likely has a tougher climb in its Sigma League showdown on Friday. The Vaqueros will visit Ocean View (8-1, 4-0). Either way, both teams have locked up CIF-SS playoff spots.

Orange (9-0, 4-0) already has no worse than a tie for the Fox-

■ Prep Sports Spotlight

trot League championship, but needs to beat El Toro (4-5, 1-3) to claim sole possession of the flag.

If the Panthers should be upset by the Chargers, they'd fall into a tie for the league title, if El Dorado (7-2, 3-1) should beat Irvine (6-3, 2-2) on Thursday.

Pacifica (8-1, 3-1) has already earned a playoff spot from the Iota League, but a win Thursday against Laguna Hills (6-3, 5-2), coupled with a Cypress (8-1, 4-0) upset loss to Northwood (4-5, 1-3) would make the Mariners and Centurions co-champs.

Los Amigos (8-1, 4-0) takes on University (6-3, 4-0) to decide the Omicron championship.

Bolsa Grande (7-2, 6-1) is finishing second in the Tango League but could get a co-title with Loara (8-1, 7-0) if the Matadors can defeat La Quinta (6-3, 5-2) and if the Saxons are upset



IN CIF-SS FLAG FOOTBALL action last week, Garden Grove (in red) defeated Pacifica (above) by 12-6 and Rancho Alamitos lost to Don Lugo 12-7 (GGUSD photo).

by Santiago (3-6, 2-5).

One of the more notable comeback stories of the year would come true for Garden Grove (2-7, 2-2) if the Argonauts can defeat Buena Park (2-7, 2-2) on Thursday night at home. Grove lost its first six games, but has won two of its last three and would advance to the post-season as the third place team from the Omicron League.

Here's the schedule for the final week of the regular high school football season for our West Orange County teams.

THURSDAY

- Buena Park at Garden Grove
- Western at El Modena
- Pacifica at Laguna Hills

FRIDAY

- Bolsa Grande at La Quinta
- Santiago at Loara
- Edison at San Clemente
- Huntington Beach at Laguna Beach
- Pacifica at Laguna Hills

Continued on page 8

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Rams finally put it together vs. Raiders

Continued from page 6

the end zone this season.

Nacua's availability was in question until game day.

"I'm super grateful for everybody in the training room and also the belief in coach (Sean McVay) and everybody for me to be able

to go out there and still perform," Nacua said. "The communication, I think, (for) Matthew is something that he prides himself in, but especially when not being able to get some of those (practice) reps. The time to mentally still (get) a rep and have that conversation so we know where we can be on the same page."

Kyren Williams and Blake Corum combined to rush for 192 yards and two touchdowns for

Los Angeles.

The Raiders' Kirk Cousins passed for 295 yards with touchdowns to Tre Tucker and running back Ashton Jeanty. Tucker finished with five receptions for 103 yards, and Jeanty hauled in eight catches for 61 yards. Cousins leads the NFL with 16 TD passes.

Jeanty and Mike Washington Jr., however, rushed for just 42

yards on 14 carries.

The Raiders gave up 30-plus points for fourth consecutive week.

"Well, no one's coming to help us," Las Vegas coach Klint Kubiak said. "We've got to figure it out ourselves as a coaching staff, with the players, and we have to complement each other as well because we've got to start the game a lot faster offensively."

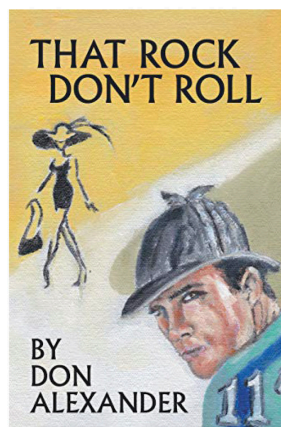
Prep football

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- Los Amigos at University
- Godinez at Magnolia
- Marina at Kennedy
- Rancho Alamitos at Ocean View
- Orange at El Toro
- Woodbridge at Westminster

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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.



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Sports Retorts: Some new rules

Continued from page 1

nated flyer" (usually a specialist of light weight and much health insurance) over the line

'Clayface'

Continued from page 3

squeal and one of the best gross-out bits happens in an airplane bathroom as our hero tries to cut skin growing over his eyes with scissors — during turbulence.

One grumble during a recent preview is that the movie is totally Batman-less, with only vague references to the Caped Crusader, like Kane's Candy Store named after "Batman" co-creator Bob Kane. You'll get over it. There's more than enough going on.

"Clayface," a Warner Bros. Pictures release that lands in theaters Friday, is rated R by the Motion Picture Association for "strong bloody violence, gore, language, some nudity and brief drug use." Running time: 108 minutes. Three stars out of four.

Retorts

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Maybe the "battle" between us was only in our minds, but there was a high level of emotion in our company softball games. We met them in fierce contests which sometimes ended up with possibly accidental collisions on the basepaths.

We won most of those games ... not that it mattered. They grew and we shrank and there's no longer a newspaper building on Century Boulevard. Or on Grand Avenue, for that matter.

of scrimmage either to carry the ball or to block a field goal or extra point attempt.

Polygraph Review: When a player goes down with an alleged injury in the last two minutes of a half when the score is smaller than a margin of eight points, a lie-detector test will be administered in the medical tent. If he passes the test, there will be no run-off of time. If he fails, there will be a full minute of time run off, and he's run off the field for the rest of the game.

Now, aren't those forward-thinking new rules?

History minute

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Congressional District, centered on Garden Grove and Westminster.

The 34th tilted blue because it was largely populated by blue-collar union families from the Long Beach area. He defeated Republican Robert Geier by a wide margin and was elected five more times, finally in 1972.

Except for a period when Bob Dornan held the seat, candidates such as Jerry Patterson, Loretta Sanchez and Lou Correa continued to give Orange County that one Democratic Congressperson, under different district numbers.

However, Hanna went from liberal hero to convicted criminal. In the 1970s he took as much as \$200,000 from a Korean businessman in an influence-buying scandal. He was convicted and served one year in federal prison. Hanna died on the 87th birthday on June 9, 2001 in North Carolina.