MIDWEEK EDITION
★★★★

Garden Grove Huntington Beach Stanton Westminster

The Tribune

Weather Forecast

96 69

Wednesday: 96/69 sunny
Thursday: 92/68 sunny
Friday: 88/67 partly sunny
Saturday: 83/67 mostly sunny

Volume 6, Number 67 ■ orangecountytribune.com ■ Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2026 ■ orangecountytribune@gmail.com

No VOte Yet For HB Police Leaders Pay

Will come back at Oct. 20 mtg.

Huntington Beach City Council

A final decision on the proposed 17 percent pay increase for police department management will come at the Oct. 20 meeting of the Huntington Beach City Council.

On Tuesday night the council voted 7-0 to "receive and file" a staff report on the proposed agreement with the Huntington Beach Police Management Association with the understanding that the item will returnfor a final decision at the next council meeting.

The three-year contract would be retroactive to July 1 and award an 8 percent salary increase for the first year and on July 1, 2027 a 4 percent increase and on July1, 2028 an increase of 5 percent.

The agreement is similar to those given to the Huntington Beach Police Association recently. The total projected cost would be about $971,461.

Hey, we're now back in e-paper form

As you may have noticed, The Orange County Tribune's e-newspaper – which you are reading now – has been on hiatus for over a month.

Jim Tortolano, editor and publisher of the Tribune since its founding 10 years ago, experienced a "health event" which sidelined him for a while.

While he was recovering, we were able to maintain news coverage through September on

Continued on page 2

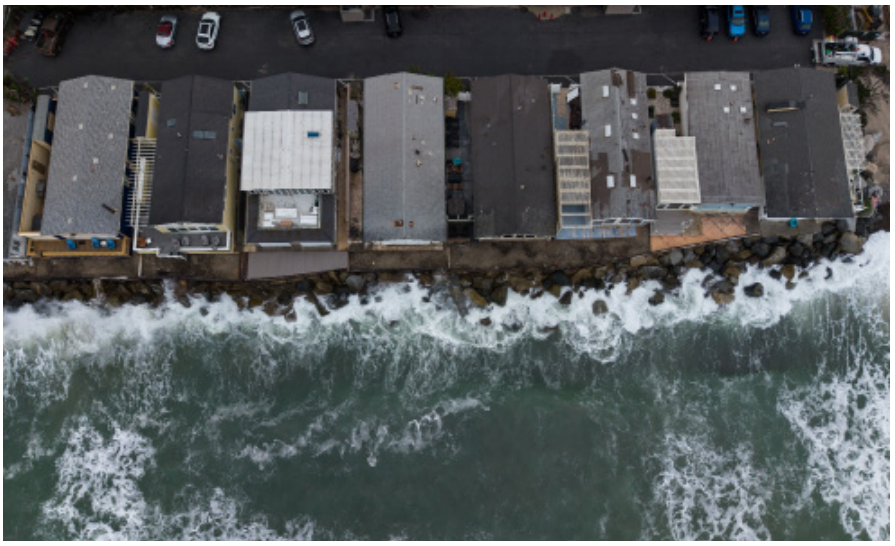
In The Trib

Dodgers get close

SPORTS Page 6

Get tasty 'Crisco'

ARTS & LIVING Page 5



OCEANFRONT HOMES sit along the coastline near North Beach in San Clemente, Calif., Friday, Sept. 18, 2026. (AP Photo/Jae C. Hong)

Rising sea levels threaten San Clemente and rail line

By Amy Taxin
Associated Press

The Orange County Transportation Authority is completing a major coastal rail protection project at Mariposa Point in San Clemente this week, allowing a popular section of the San Clemente Beach Trail to reopen to the public.

SAN CLEMENTE (AP) — For years, residents of this Orange County beach town could walk a mile along a stretch of cream-colored sand and dip their toes in the waves lapping ashore.

That trip has been cut short.

Coastal erosion has been eating away at the beach in San Clemente, known for nearly a century as a "Spanish village by the sea." The rising sea and crashing waves have pushed the shoreline landward, splitting the city's picturesque North Beach. Crumbling seaside bluffs have damaged oceanfront homes and forced the repeated closure of a passenger rail line considered the second busiest in the country.

It's one of many California coastal communities grappling with the effects of sea level rise. Nearly a decade ago, scientists forecast that more than half of Southern Cali-

Continued on page 2

HBPD's crackdown on pesky drones

E-bikes aren't the only contemporary electronic device providing headaches these days.

In the run-up to the 10th annual Pacific Air Show over Huntington Beach, HBPD officers – working alongside agents of the Federal Aviation Agency and the Department of Homeland Security, cited several people for various violations of drone flight restrictions.

Potential fines for violating the rules for operating drones – especially with an air show overhead – could run as high as $100,000.

Flight restrictions were from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. from Friday to Sunday.

The Tribune
Covering Garden Grove, Huntington Beach, Stanton and Westminster

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The Tribune

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Marilyn Lewis Tortolano
General Manager

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

San Clemente

Continued from page 1

fornia's beaches could significantly erode by 2100, radically altering how people live and recreate along the state's famed coast.

"The constant pressure is sea level rise," said Sean Vitousek, research oceanographer with the U.S. Geological Survey. "It is going to keep rising, and rising, and the beaches will retreat landward."

After years of erosion, California is bracing for flooding and landslides ahead of this year's expected super El Niño, a temporary warming in parts of the equatorial Pacific known to warp weather worldwide. Already this year, the town of Pacifica south of San Francisco shuttered its cracked concrete pier, and seawater flooded homes in Long Beach during a hurricane-driven storm surge. A recent study showed that El Niño events are getting stronger because of human-caused climate change.

In San Clemente, a town of 62,000 people, urban development has slowed the flow of sediment that once nourished the city's beaches, and warmer ocean waters have pushed waves higher and further ashore. It's become so challenging that residents of the largely Republican city are considering taxing themselves to raise money for beach restoration. A measure to add a 1% sales tax to fund wildfire protection and sand replenishment in San Clemente is on the November ballot.

Over the past five years, the rail line that has operated along the coast for more than a century has faced repeated closures due to encroaching surf on one side and fragile bluffs on the other.

E-Trib is back

Continued from page 1

our website, www.orangecountytribune.com.

Now we are returning to regular publication of our electronic newspaper on Wednesdays and Saturdays (except for holidays, scheduled hiatuses, and hopefully not any more "health events.")

We appreciate your patience during this pause.

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

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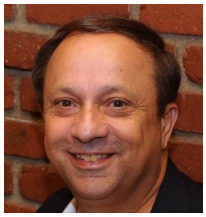
The Tribune
Covering Garden Grove, Huntington Beach, Stanton and Westminster

News&Views

Your vote isn't the same as your next beer



Retorts
Jim Tortolano

Is buying a case of beer the same as casting a ballot? If so, can I vote as long as I look, say, over 40?

Of all the contentious political issues in recent years, the one that most mystifies us is "voter ID." Californians will find on their Nov. 4 ballot a measure – Proposition 39.

If passed, the law would amend the state constitution to require the use of a government-issued ID number while voting in person, or the use of the last four digits of a government-issued ID number (like your Social Security number) in mailed ballots.

Seems like that's sort of a no-brainer, right? Well, let's stop and mull this over. What if you don't have a valid government-issued ID because you a) lost it, b) forgot your wallet, c) had one but it expired d) never needed one or e) had your dog chew yours up … and I had a friend to whom this actually happened.

You might not be able to vote.

Well, tough luck, goes the answer. You need an ID card to check a book out of the library. You need an ID card to buy liquor. You need an ID card to get into Costco, for cryin' out loud.

All true. But buying beer or a 24-pack of toilet paper or getting the latest best-seller on loan … none of them are constitutional rights that you have as a United States citizen.

(Now, I knew some college buddies who thought that access to booze was guaranteed by the Constitution or the Declaration of Independence or the Magna Carta, but those guys were not

Continued on page 8

DON'T BURST THAT BUBBLE

ETHAN ALLEN Elementary School recently had a "Bubble Run" fundraiser to provide money for the school. The event was sponsored by the campus Parent Teacher Organization. Allen is part of the Garden Grove Unified School District (GGUSD photo).

Westminster PD gets a grant to reduce traffic deaths and injuries in city

The Westminster Police Department has announced that it has received a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) to support its ongoing enforcement and education programs to help reduce the number of serious injuries and deaths on our roads.

The grant program runs through September 2027.

"We are grateful to receive this grant, which will strengthen our traffic enforcement efforts and improve road safety," Westminster Police Department Deputy Chief Ron Weber said. "By increasing enforcement of traffic laws and focusing on high-risk areas, we aim to reduce dangerous driving behaviors, prevent crashes, and make our roads safer for everyone."

The grant will provide additional programs and resources, including:

- DUI checkpoints and patrols focused on stopping suspected impaired drivers.
- High-visibility distracted driving enforcement operations targeting drivers in violation of California's hands-free cell phone law.
- Enforcement operations focused on the most dangerous driver behaviors that put the safety of people biking or walking at risk.
- Enforcement operations focused on top violations that cause crashes: speeding, failure to yield, stop sign and/or red-light running, and improper turning or lane changes.

GG man held in bike theft and more in Irvine

A Garden Grove man has been arrested in Irvine in an incident that began with the recovery of a stolen bicycle and concluded with a much bigger haul.

According to the Irvine Police Department, IPD officers were investigating a report of a bike theft when they spotted a suspect seated on a bus bench near Woodbridge High School in Irvine.

Police say the suspect – identified as Raul Rodriguez, 19 – told them he had bought the bike from a Santa Ana man.

That led to an investigation that not only recovered the bike but also helped officers find narcotics, cash, and a scale, things that police say can be involved in the possession and sale of illegal drugs.

Rodriguez was arrested booked into Orange County Jail on charges of bicycle theft and possession of a controlled substance with intent to sell.

History Minute

Converse Howe, unsung pioneer

Alonzo Cook gets credit for founding Garden Grove in 1874, but as far as the establishment of a lasting village (later a town and then a city) goes, an unsung hero of the pioneer days was Converse Howe.

A native of Ohio, he came to California in 1860 and in 1877 he opened Garden Grove's first store, located at what is now the northeast corner of Garden Grove Boulevard and Main Street, where the BMO Bank now stands.

According to H.C Head's pamphlet, "The History of Garden Grove," Howe – a teacher by profession – worked with Cook in laying

Continued on page 8

NewsUpdate

L.A., San Diego as Iranian Targets?

Were Trump's comments being misintepreted?

SAN DIEGO is not only a beautiful city but also hosts a major U.S. naval base (WIkipedia).

What did President Donald Trump mean when he referred to Iran and the cities of Los Angeles and San Diego?

Speaking at a campaign rally in Nebraska, Trump was talking about the possibility that Iran had nuclear weapons and the means to deliver them.

"They can take out a city, Let them take, let them take it, let them take out Los Angeles. Let them take out San Diego."

To some listeners it appeared that the president was encouraging the destruction of those cities.

"Trump is now saying our foreign enemies should 'take out' Los Angeles and San Diego," said Gov. Gavin Newsom in a social media post. "He is deranged and dangerous."

The White House replied that Trump's comments had been misinterpreted and that the president was simply pointing out what might happen if Iran did eventually develop nuclear weapons.

Christa Pike conscious and talking after execution fails

The convicted murderer who survived her attempted execution is conscious and speaking, according to the Associated Press.

Christa Pike, 50, was given two doses of pentobarbital last Wednesday by Tennessee prison officials in an attempt to inflict capital punishment on her after she was convicted in the 1995 beating and stabbing death of classmate Colleen Slemmer. The injection did not kill her, but her lawyers say her arms were burned and blistered.

She's conscious and speaking, reports the AP. It's unclear whether another attempt to execute her will be attempted. They also plan to ask Gov. Bill Lee to commute Pike's sentence to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

Great Thoughts

"October is the treasure of the year, and all the months pay bounty to her store." — Paul Laurence Dunbar.

"October is a symphony of permanence and change." — Bonaro W. Overstreet

"In the entire circle of the year there are no days so delightful as those of a fine October…" — Alexander Smith

Weather: Getting cooler, slowly

The 100 -degrees plus weather that has baked our West Orange County cities is slowly giving way to more livable days and nights. The National Weather Service is predicting a somewhat less-scorching high of 97 on Wednesday with an overnight low of 69 with sunny skies.

A little relief comes on Thursday with temps of 92/60 under partly cloudy skies. We return to the 80s on Friday with temps of 88/67. The skies will be partly sunny with an 18 percent chance of rain.

Ex-CIA official is guilty in $193.6 million fraud scheme

David J. Rush, a former CIA official, pleaded guilty to a wire fraud scheme with a value of $193.6 million on Tuesday.

According to USA Today, he confessed to cheating the U.S government out of that amount in 600 pounds of gold bars and in buying expensive automobiles, luxury homes and jewelry.

Rush was taken into custody when federal agents found a cache of 2.2-pound gold vats in his house. They were valued at over $40 million.

Prosecutors said he lied about his positions in government and the military, claiming at one point that he was a high official in the Federal Reserve and taking $70,000 worth of leave from his fictional position in the Navy Reserve.

Arts&Living

Miranda Mixes Country With Disco

Lambert's 11th studio album is a boogie-fest

By Mark Kennedy
AP Entertainment Writer

MIRANDA LAMBERT has seven Country Music Association nominations.

NEW YORK (AP) — Dig out your roller skates. Pair them with a cowboy hat. Miranda Lambert has officially entered her disco chapter.

"Crisco," the country star's 11th studio album, is a collection of boogie-forward tracks, buoyed by sweeping strings and what sounds like a wink from the dance floor. It's out Friday.

"I've spent a lot of my career with fiery songs and heartbreak songs and this record just has a lot of joy on it, and I think that's just where I am right now in life, too," Miranda says.

The title track is almost a mission statement: "Baby, we've been cookin' with Crisco/Ain't we mixin' country and disco/ Stir it around, give it a spin/And it's a rhinestone world we're livin' in."

"I've just never explored that before. I really am a Merle Haggard girl, you know what I mean? I just love three chords and the truth," says Lambert. "I just felt like I, maybe at this point, earned the creative freedom to try something fun and try something different."

Lambert has reasons to be smiling

The album release caps a special few months that include getting seven Country Music Association Awards nominations, a disco ball-filled performance at the Academy of Country Music Awards that got attendees up and boogying, and making history as co-writer of the crossover-smash "Choosin' Texas."

That tune sung by Ella Langley has gone six times platinum, been crowned Billboard's official 2026 Song of the Summer

Pop Music

and helped her become the only woman to simultaneously hit No. 1 on the Billboard Hot 100, Hot Country Songs and Country Airplay charts. It was just named the longest-running No. 1 hit in the U.S.

"We never would have thought just sitting there, on a back porch with a couple of beers and guitars, writing a country song, that it would take over like it has," Lambert says.

"I'm thrilled that 'Choosin' Texas' is a country song and the world is loving it. Like that makes me happy. I've dedicated my entire adult life to country music so that alone is like so much happiness for me."

Lambert and Langley wrote "Choosin' Texas" with Luke Dick and Joybeth Taylor. It's a song exploring what it feels like when someone is falling out of love with you and Lambert can only guess why America has fallen so in love with it.

"It kind of feels like something fresh, but something you've also heard before. When you hear it, you're like, 'I kind of want to sing along to this, even though it's the first time you heard it.' You know what I mean?"

Lambert co-produced Langley's album "Dandelion," the first time she's produced another artist, something she says she enjoyed. Langley returns the favor by being featured on the swaggering opening "Crisco" song "Snakeskin Boots."

"I think the reason that we are drawn to each other is because I see a lot of my young self in her," Lambert says of Langley. "She's definitely a pistol. She's fiery. She knows exactly what she wants. She's a true artist and songwriter and she's an inspiring person to be around."

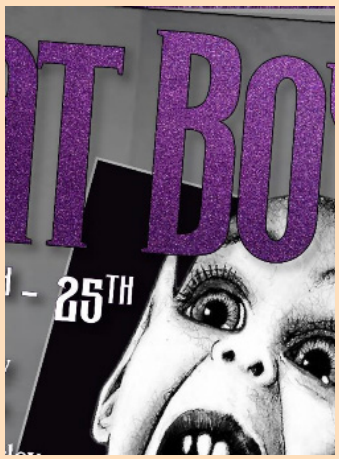
Lambert also has good news about another fellow country artist, squashing any lingering beef she had with Kacey Musgraves. The two collaborated on "Horses and Divorces" — "Maybe we're more alike than we think," they sing — on Musgraves' new "Middle of Nowhere" album.

Miranda points to the "crazy

Continued on page 8

'Bat Boy' will fly to the Gem Oct. 8-25

The strange tabloid story – National Enquirer, of course – of a lad with the features of a deadly flying rodent comes to the stage of the Gem Theatre in Garden Grove from Oct. 8-25. "Bat Boy" performances at the historic Gem will begin at 8 p.m. For information call (714) 741-9550 or e-mail boxcoffice@onemore-productions.



TheSportsPages

Football wins require some foot control

For some people, it's hard to keep their mouths shut when they should.

And for some people – who are paid millions to do otherwise – they can't seem to keep their bodies still.

I watched the game between the Chargers and the Seattle Seahawks, which the Bolts lost to fall to 0-4, which should make coach Jim Harbaugh start to get a little nervous.

But a big part of the problem is not injuries, or offensive schemes, or those nasty Seattle fans who scream so loud you can't hear an audible.

The problem is that the Chargers keep shooting themselves in the hooves with penalties … and not always the kind that spring from excessive zeal in trying to make a tackle.

Sports Retorts
Jim Tortolano

They were slapped with 15 penalties for 130 yards. Admittedly, the C-Hawks were flagged 14 times for 150 yards, but, hey, they're 3-1 and in second in their division and LAC is dead-last in theirs.

Many of the flags that flew were from movement errors. Lining up in the neutral zone. Offsides. Encroachment.

What could be more basic than not crossing that invisible line until the ball is snapped? That rule is not a suggestion.

It's been in place since those multi-million dollar athletes were in pee-wee football. It contains no ambiguity.

Maybe it is a coaching or scouting problem after all. The NFL combine, tryouts, practices, etc. should emphasize that sort of discipline and punish – or pass over – players with too

Continued on page 8

Defense Did Its Job

Rams' rallied past Eagles and are 2-2

By Dan Gelston
AP Sports Writer

THE RAMS DEFENSE kept the team in the game and made the winning rally possible (Rams photo).

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Sean McVay had seen enough of a Rams team mired in a funk. Los Angeles' coach huddled the entire offense around him as the clock ticked down toward the end of the third quarter and his team down by 10.

The rallying message, per Matthew Stafford: "Just trying to put some belief in our team."

A week after blowing a 16-point lead in a loss at Denver, perhaps that belief in the Rams was underserving. It was instead unwavering.

Oh, and a poor fourth-down decision by the Philadelphia Eagles played a role in the rally, too.

Kyren Williams ran for two touchdowns in the final four minutes as Stafford and the Rams rallied from a 10-point deficit to beat the Eagles 24-20 on Sunday. "I think a lot of teams would have folded in those situations," McVay said. "I think our defense kept giving us a reason to believe."

The Rams (2-2) had struggled offensively all afternoon and a win seemed out of reach until late in the fourth quarter, when Eagles coach Nick Sirianni decided against kicking a chip-shot field goal that would have made it 23-10 and instead went for it on fourth down.

The Eagles (2-2) failed to convert, giving the Rams new life.

Stafford and the Rams were aided by an unnecessary roughness penalty that helped them cap a 98-yard drive on Williams' 1-yard TD run with 3:59 left that made it 20-17.

The Eagles — who failed to convert a single third down on 12 tries — punted to set up Stafford for the winning drive. He connected

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Dodgers are one victory away from the NLCS

From a staff writer

The Los Angeles Dodgers are now just one win away from advancing to the National League Championship Series after Tuesday's 3-1 win over the Braves in Atlanta.

They now lead the best of three NL Division Series by two games to one.

All the Blue Crew needed by way of offense were two home runs – a two-run shot by Enrique Hernandez and a solo blast by Freddie Freeman – in the fourth inning.

Most of what the Dodgers needed in terms of pitching came from starter Yoshinobu Yamamoto, who struck out 10 Braves and yielded only four hits and one run in seven innings.

Game Four will be on Wednesday at Truist Park in Atlanta. If a fifth game is needed, it would be back in Los Angeles on Friday.

Freeman, who had two singles for the Dodgers, also contributed with nifty grab of a low throw at first with two out and a runner on in the bottom of the ninth.

Ducks have a strong takeoff with two wins

The Anaheim Ducks (2-0) are off to a strong start in this 2026-27 NHL season, winning their first two games and standing in second place in the Pacific Division behind the Edmonton Oilers (2-0-1).

Next up for the Orange County team will be a game against the Edmonton Oilers on Wednesday (today), followed by contests against the Winnipeg Jets on Friday and the Calgary Flames on Saturday.

Chargers v. Stallions in Alpha Race

Can Edison find its mojo after a slow beginning?

Prep Sports Spotlight

Can the Chargers outpace the Stallions? Considering their different records, will it really be a horse race?

We're talking in these equine terms about Friday's Alpha League contest between Edison (2-4, 0-1 in league) and San Juan (5-1, 1-0).

Edison has been a football powerhouse for decades and recently won a CIF-SS title in 2024. But last year's team slumped to 7-6 and lost all three league contests.

San Juan Hills, a relatively new school, is also trying to forget last year's 2-10 record (1-4 in league).

But like Edison, the Stallions have a good past performance with years like 10-2 in 2024 and 11-2 in 2023.

SJH is led by quarterback Eiler King, who threw for 507 yards in SJHs's 61-10 win over Los Alamitos. The top receiver is Luke Firth, who has 11 touchdowns so far in 2026.

Sam Thomson is the Edison quarterback he's thrown for eight scores. Brett Dempson is the top rusher, averaging 53.2 yards a game.

Another interesting contest on Friday night is Westminster (5-1, 1-0) hosting Sonora (5-1, 0-1) in the Lamda League. The Lions squeezed by Valencia, 14-12 last week, and the Raiders had their first loss of the season in falling to Fountain Valley 20-14 on Oct. 2.

Westminster is on a five-game winning streak after dropping the opener to the Sunny Hills Lancers, 20-13.

And let's not forget Huntington Beach (6-0, 1-0) in its Delta League showdown with Dana Hills (6-0, 1-0).

Here's this week's football schedule for teams at schools serving our West Orange County cities of Garden Grove, Huntington Beach, Stanton and Westminster. All games are scheduled for 7 p.m.

NATHAN KIRK (6) catches a touchdown in Marina's 25-14 win over Northwood on Friday. Vikings are 3-3 overall and 1-0 in the Iota League (HBUHSD photo).

Thursday

- Bolsa Grande (5-2, 4-1) hosts Santiago (2-4, 1-3)
- La Quinta (4-2, 3-1) hosts Santa Ana Valley (5-2, 3-2)

Friday

- Edison (2-4,0-1) hosts San

Continued on page 8

GARDEN GROVE'S
BEST KEPT SECRET

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

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Disco, country are combined in 'Crisco'

Continued from page 5

grind of this business" for prompting ebbs and flows in their relationship and the stress during "early stages of your career, trying to really plant your feet in the ground, plant your stake in the ground, and say, 'This is my spot.'"

"Sometimes it gets tricky when you're navigating that with other female artists and it was really cool to just come together and talk about it and it's, as we say, whiskey under the bridge now."

"Crisco" and how disco and country fused this time

"Crisco" came to life after she and Chris Stapleton wrote and recorded the lovely "A Song To Sing," their version of "Islands in the Stream," which earned two Grammy Award nominations.

"We wrote this song a few years ago and it really opened up my mind to exploring different sounds. I think it set us on the path to explore more and got me really curious about parts of country music I hadn't explored yet, which eventually inspired the entire record," she says.

The video features Lambert and Stapleton in matching red suits at a roller rink. If you look carefully, you'll see she's wearing a pair of Dolly Parton's hoop earrings lent out by the late superstar and he's got on a Kenny Rogers necklace.

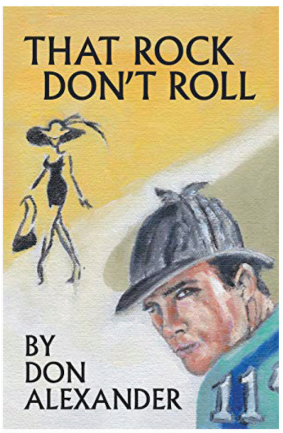
"I feel like I've got to thank her a little bit for this record because that song, that video, that whole day, having a little piece of her around me all day, definitely inspired me for this whole project."

Grammy Award-winning songwriter Natalie Hemby, who has cut some 40 songs with Lambert over 20 years collaborating, co-wrote and played on five tracks this time, including "Snakeskin Boots."

"Every record has just been completely different from the next, but I would say this is the most fun era that I've had, as far as writing for a project of hers," says Hemby. "Her star is just shining so bright, as big as Texas, if you will."

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.

Retorts

Continued from page 3

exactly the academic varsity).

The push for voter ID came out of the largely fictional fear of massive voter fraud pushed by a certain politician. There's no evidence of such but ….

There's a lot of irony here. In the early days of mail voting (also a subject of much fictional voter fraud fear) it favored conservatives because it was mostly senior citizens and military personnel, who tended to vote GOP.

But as the practice became more widespread and it drew in those hippie college towns where students vote Demo, suddenly it didn't seem like such a good idea.

It all comes back to the idea of "cui bono?" which is a Latin term meaning "to whom is it a benefit?" That may be a cynical view of political ideology, but – friends – it's a hardball world and folks (left or right) will seek any advantage they can.

Voter fraud does happen, but it's about are common as the Angels in the playoffs.

There's no true public benefit in making it more difficult for Americans to vote and participate in their democracy.

Sports Retorts

Continued from page 6

much "happy feet."

Does it really matter how fast you can sprint or how much you can bench press if you can't resist the urge to run on your own schedule and not that of the rest of the football world?

Preps: Edison vs. SJ Hills

Continued from page 7

Juan Hills (5-1, 0-1)
• Garden Grove (0-6, 0-1) at Santa Ana (1-5, 0-1)
• Huntington Beach (6-0, 1-0) at Dana Hills (6-0, 1-0)
• Western (0-6, 0-1) at Troy (3-3, 0-1)
• Magnolia (2-4, 1-3) hosts Savanna (3-4, 2-3)
• Marina (3-3, 1-0) at Laguna Hills (5-1, 1-0)
• Ocean View (5-1, 2-0) hosts Saddleback (0-6, 0-1)
• Orange (6-0, 1-0) hosts Segerstrom (3-3, 1-0)
• Pacifica (5-1, 1-0) hosts Northwood (3-3, 0-1)
• Rancho Alamitos (6-0, 1-0) hosts Katella (2-4, 0-1)
• Westminster (5-1, 1-0) hosts Sonora (5-1, 0-1).

Rams' defense did the job

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with Puka Nacua three times and had a clutch 8-yard scramble on the 10-play, 79-yard march, and Williams finished it off when he broke a few tackles for a 7-yard touchdown with 1:10 remaining.

"Plenty of plays where we didn't get the result we wanted," Stafford said. "But we got the result we wanted at the end of the game."

The Rams have seen their share of blown late leads of late under McVay, and Sirianni was 4-0 lifetime against his coaching counterpart.

Sirianni took the fall for the Eagles' failure to convert the fourth down that could have sealed the win.

"You go for it and you get it, great," Sirianni said. "You go for it and don't get it, that's on the head coach."

Once the Rams completed the comeback, McVay skipped and sprinted down the sideline in celebration and nearly leapfrogged safety Quentin Lake.

Did it all come down to the speech?

"It was just more of what is on my heart to just say, 'Guys, we're capable. You got to believe and we got to just string good plays together. Our defense is doing everything that they can to keep us in this game,'" McVay said.

Just don't call this one an upset. Sportsbooks had installed the Rams as road favorites.

Jalen Hurts was sacked twice on Philadelphia's final possession and had a desperation pass knocked down. He threw two touchdown passes to Darius Cooper in the first half but finished just 12 of 27 for 93 yards.

History minute

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out the townsite.

With the addition of a post office, a school and a church, the seeds of a permanent community were planted. By 1880 there was also a blacksmith shop, paint shop and doctor's office.

He is memorialized with street named in his honor in West Garden Grove.