

STILL 'TOASTING GREAT FUTURES'



The 70th anniversary of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Garden Grove was celebrated on Saturday with the "Toasting Great Futures" fundraiser. Performing were the HOPE teen singers (above). Among the speakers were CEO Mark Surmanian and board chair Dr. Dawn Miller, at left. Guest speakers were Mya Shimizu and Charlotte Smith (Orange County Tribune photos).

In The Trib



Rams fall in OT

SPORTS Page 6



Ben's Animals'

ARTS & LIVING Page 5

Tighter standards to fight 'rogue' businesses OK'd

Final approval of a proposed ordinance to combat "rogue" businesses that don't obey local or state laws, or are outright criminal enterprises, was given by the Stanton City Council when it met on Tuesday.

The council approved an ordinance simplifying and strengthening the grounds and process for denial, suspension or revocation of a business license. The vote was four in favor with Mayor David Shawver absent.

Also approved was acceptance of the demolition of

a vacant four-unit apartment complex at 8941 Pacific Avenue which has been the location of fire, criminal activity and illegal camping by homeless people.

By Jim Tortolano
Orange County Tribune

Lisa Kim's tenure as Garden Grove's city manager will soon end, but the accolades are just beginning.

At Tuesday's meeting of

\$125M Deal With GKN on Hazmat Leak

Must still be approved by an OC judge

From a staff writer

An agreement worth \$125 million has been reached in a civil case against GKN Aerospace in connection with the Memorial Day weekend hazmat incident that led to the evacuation of 50,000 people in West Garden Grove, along with parts of adjoining cities like Stanton and Westminster.

The announcement was made Monday evening by the office of Orange County District Attorney Todd Spitzer. The agreement must be approved by an Orange County Superior Court judge before it goes into effect.

Also announced was an Oct. 27 date for the long-promised "Town Hall"



WATER is sprayed on overheated tank at GKN Aerospace (AP photo).

which would give residents the opportunity to express opinions and ask questions about the agreement and its impact on affected people.

The location and start time were not immediately available.

The agreement includes a claims program of up to \$100 million – to be administered by an independent party – to make reimbursement for lost

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Departing city manager is honored

**Garden Grove
City Council**

the city council, she heard city leaders describe her 10 years of service to the City of Youth and Ambition in glowing terms.

Assistant City Manager Matt West – who will assume Kim's current post in November, called her —"a dedicated leader" who "provided guidance to the city," first as community development di-

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The★Tribune

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GKN deal

Continued from page 1

wages, hotel bills, lost business income and per diem compensation for meals and transportation.

Expenses by public agencies such as the Orange County Fire Authority, Garden Grove Police Department and others called to respond to the emergency, and the cost of abating the incident will be reimbursed for \$8,471,385.50.

Additionally, there will be a seven-year injunction calling for "a robust safety and monitoring plan," overseen by an "outside expert monitor" to make sure GKN complies with all applicable laws and regulations. The cost of that is \$1.4 million, to be paid by the defendants (GKN).

Another \$15 million in civil penalties will be paid, the money going to be used by the OCDA's office "for the enforcement of consumer protection laws."

The incident started on May 21 when a leak of the potentially volatile MMA chemical at GKN's factory on Western Avenue in Garden Grove triggered a five-day crisis which led to widespread mandatory evacuations, cancellation of Garden Grove's Strawberry Festival parade and other disruptions.

For a period, there was concern about a possible explosion or major breach in the damaged holding tank, neither of which developed.

Lisa Kim honored

Continued from page 1

rector for seven years, then three as city manager.

Mayor Stephanie Klopfenstein said that Kim – the city's first female city manager and its first Asian American top appointed official – has "left a lasting impression on Garden Grove."

Kim is credited with playing a key role in attracting the Steelcraft urban eatery to the city, shaping the city's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, bringing the new Public Safety (police) building to completion and other accomplishments.

"When I first came to Garden Grove," said Kim, "I didn't know what to expect. I found a family and friends."

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The★Tribune

Jim Tortolano
Editor and Publisher
Marilyn Lewis Tortolano
General Manager

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E-mail : orangecountytribune@gmail.com.

www.orangecountytribune.com.
Phone: (714) 458-1860.

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The★Tribune

Covering Garden
Grove, Huntington
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Westminster

News&Views

Here's a great campaign vow: stop the spam

Don't Snicker at This Dept.

This being October, I spend a lot of my time thinking about Halloween. Being an Angels fan – what with the paucity of playoff action for the Anaheimers – I have lots of mental space to think about the most exciting thing that happens in the 10th month.

I've reached the conclusion that Halloween may be edging out Christmas and Thanksgiving for my favorite holiday. Maybe.



Retorts

Jim Tortolano

The appeal of Halloween is that – unlike Thanksgiving – it's full of kid food that lasts even longer than that leftover turkey. You get to go trick-or-treating with your friends, a group which is probably not the same as your relatives.

Christmas – from a purely secular viewpoint – has a great run-up, but after the unwrapping of the presents, there's the almost inevitable letdown. There's that moment when you asked your folks for a particularly rare and/or expensive toy and got "a nice sweater."

But Halloween ... if you take care and don't gorge yourself ... can last for days and days. The trick is to not eat all the good stuff – i.e., Snickers and Reese's Peanut Butter Cups – at first, 'cause then you are soon stuck with the hard candy and the popcorn balls from the cheap so-and-so's down the block.

If you show some adult-strength patience, Halloween can be the gift that keeps on giving.

Just Sayin' Dept. I was in Stater Bros. the other day and the lines were uncommonly

Continued on page 8

Arrest in Cold Case Murder

By David Arthur
Orange County Tribune

A cold case is not a forgotten case.

That was the policy with the Anaheim Police Department detectives and the Orange County Crime Lab.

It resulted last week in the arrest of a suspect for the 2011 murder of an 80-year-old Anaheim man.

The story begins on Dec. 15, 2011 when APD officers responded to the apartment of Il Jae Kim for a welfare check. They found him dead.

An investigation followed, but the case remained unsolved. Un-

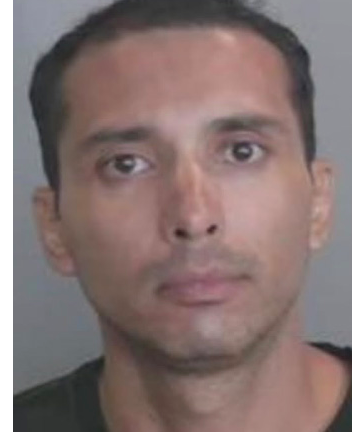
til recently, that is.

In March 2026, APD homicide detectives – in partnership with the OC Crime Lab – took another look at the evidence from the original investigation.

New advances in forensic DNA technology pointed toward Mike Nunez, 34, as the suspect.

On Oct. 6, he was arrested in Santa Ana. He's been charged with murder by the Orange County District Attorney.

Despite the arrest, the investigation is ongoing. Anyone with more information is asked to contact the APD at (714) 321-3669.



MIKE NUNEZ, arrested for murder (APD photo).



FREFIGHTERS in Huntington Beach battling a blaze on Middlecoff Drive (HBFD/714fire photo).

HBFD extinguishes blaze at Middlecoff Drive home; damage kept to garage

A residential fire was quickly knocked down by the Huntington Beach Fire Department on Saturday evening.

According to the HBFD, the blaze was at a home in the 5000 block of Middlecoff Drive, northeast of Heil Avenue and Graham Street. Arriving crews

located the fire in the garage and promptly got into action.

They were able to prevent the blaze from spreading into the house, containing most of the damage to the garage.

There were no injuries reported and the cause of the fire remains under investigation.

History Minute

The enclosed mall that never was

The Promenade shopping center in Garden Grove at Chapman Avenue and Brookhurst Street is the main commercial center in the city.

That area, sometimes known as "Uptown," has had its ups and downs and one disappointment turned out to be a blessing in disguise.

Opened in two phases in 1956 and 1959, it was considered one of Orange County's first major shopping centers and prospered until the coming of the enclosed malls, and particu-

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ORANGE COUNTY PLAZA

NewsUpdate

B of A Fined \$1.2 Billion by Treasury

Penalties tied to Iran, Russia and narcotics

Fines totaling \$1.2 billion are being imposed on Bank of America by the U.S. Treasury Department for allegedly breaking anti-money laundering and sanctions laws.

According to the Associated Press those fines against B of A, the nation's second-biggest bank, is the third-largest ever imposed by the department.

"When a bank of this size fails to meet its anti-money laundering and sanctions obligations, the consequences extend far beyond its own walls, exposing the entire U.S. financial system to significant illicit



FINES TOTALLING \$1.2 BILLION have been levied against B of A (Shutterstock).

finance risks," Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said in a statement. "Today's actions send a clear message that even the biggest financial institu-

tions are not above the law."

Specifically, Treasury Department alleges that the violations concerned activities related to Iran, Russia, drugs

and global terrorism.

"Financial crime compliance is serious, and we are responsible for getting it right," Bank of America said in a statement.

Pope Leo XIV diagnosed with cancer nodule in lung

The first American head of the Roman Catholic Church, Pope Leo XIV, has been diagnosed with cancer.

United Press International is reporting that during a surgery in Rome to remove a nodule, a part of his right lung, was removed.

Doctors said the cancer had

been detected at a "very early and well-localized" nodule and the procedure had gone well. Five percent of nodules on lungs are cancerous.

The Holy Father is expected to recover in the hospital for about a week. Meanwhile, all his audiences have been cancelled until Oct. 20.

Warmer days are coming with highs in the Nineties

A milder heat wave is on the way for our West Orange County cities.

The forecast for Wednesday calls for a mild 83 for the daytime high, followed by an overnight low of 61. But Thursday will warm to 93 (82) and go even higher on Friday to 96 (74).

Saturday is expected to be slightly cooler at 92 (68). It will be sunny each day and dry Santa Ana winds are possible.

Seven Republican senators oppose Russian diesel deal

President Donald Trump's announced deal to import diesel from Russia is getting some pushback from some members of his own party.

According to USA Today, six Republican senators were part of a bipartisan group of 12 Senators who urged the president to disavow the arrangement because the lifting of sanctions on Russia "would be a betrayal of the people of Ukraine."

A letter to that effect was signed by Republican Senators Alan Stuart Armstrong (Oklahoma), Susan Collins (Maine), Thom Tillis (North Carolina), Lisa Murkowski (Alaska), John Cornyn (Texas) and Mitch McConnell (Kentucky).

Sen. John Curtis (Ohio) didn't sign the letter but has publicly denounced Trump's deal with Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Great Thoughts

"One of the penalties for refusing to participate in politics is that you end up being governed by your inferiors."
— Plato

"It is difficult to get a man to understand something when his salary depends upon his not understanding it."
— Upton Sinclair

"There are many men of principle in both parties in America, but there is no party of principle."
— Alexis De Tocqueville.

Arts&Living

Kidnapping, Politics in 'Animals'

A Ben Affleck production from start to end

By Jake Coyle
AP Film Writer

We have now gotten two remakes of Akira Kurosawa's "High and Low," and yet not a single new rendition of "Stray Dog."

Lamentable though that imbalance may be — you may have your own Kurosawa favorite — it's not hard to see the contemporary appeal of 1963's "High and Low." It's an ingenious plot. A wealthy businessperson believes his son has been taken by kidnapers. But they've mistakenly taken the wrong boy: his chauffeur's son. Paying the ransom becomes an anguished moral dilemma, rife with socioeconomic tension.

Last year, Spike Lee moved the drama to New York and the music industry in "Highest 2 Lowest." Now, in a new Netflix movie, Ben Affleck has transferred "High and Low" to Los Angeles and politics. "Highest 2 Lowest" brought some lively scenes to the table: a rap battle between Denzel Washington and A\$AP Rocky, a subway car full of Yankee fans shouting "Boston sucks!" It wasn't nearly Lee's best film but it was unmistakably a Lee film.

But Affleck, who directed, co-wrote and stars in "Animals," never finds much of a pulse in his lackluster Kurosawa riff for Netflix.

In transferring the story to Los Angeles, Affleck, who wrote the script with Connor O. McIntyre and Billy Ray, opens the hostage story up to new thematic fronts — divorce, public persona, duplicity — that have meaningful reverberations for Affleck, a Hollywood A-lister who has navigated fluctuating opinion polls and much-publicized personal dramas for the better part of his career. Yet those parallels aren't enough to enliven this far-from-wild "Ani-



BEN AFFLECK stars, co-wrote and directed "Animals" (Netflix)

Movie Review

mals," an Affleck-directed movie well shy of his better "A"-titled films, "Argo" and "Air."

The movie opens with political ad artifice. Mark Kimball (Affleck) is running for mayor of Los Angeles, and in the film's glossy beginning, he earnestly pledges transparency. But once the opening credits have rolled in "Animals," a less rosy reality sets in. As Mark smiles his way through campaign headquarters, his campaign manager Sam (Steven Yeun) tells him their big ad spend didn't help enough. He's still trailing the incumbent by four points.

Mark maintains his optimistic front, but inside his office, panic is setting in. To bankroll the ads, Mark has mortgaged his home. If he loses the election, Mark says, he'll lose his house, and soon after, his wife. Like his political image, much is for show in Mark's domestic life, too. His wife, Abigail (Kerry Washington), a psychologist, is cheating on him. Mark's unaware but we can sense their relationship is largely a facade. Mark also runs on a pro-immigrant platform but when

the couple's housekeeper Cecilia (Adriana Paz) asks them to hire her undocumented immigrant husband Ramon (Luis Gerardo Méndez), they decline out of fear it could harm Mark's campaign.

On Halloween night, Mark and Abigail's son, Denny, is kidnapped. A phone call comes: \$7 million to save him. For the well-off Kimballs, this would typically be solvable. Except because Mark has borrowed against everything they have, raising the money is more complicated. On Sam's advice, they call in a mysterious

Fair ★ ★

crisis fixer, Dayle Burton (Gillian Anderson), who, we gather, will inevitably compromise Mark's pledges against corruption.

From the start, it's a crisis for both the kidnapped boy and Mark's political campaign. Even in such a fraught moment, Mark is encouraged by his campaign manager to consider how things will appear. That's doubly true when it turns out that the kidnapers have un-

Continued on page 8

Play and puppy coming to WCP

The Westminster Community Playhouse will host a presentation of "The Roommate" on Oct. 16, 17 and 18 for the Take Care of the Puppy foundation. It's a play, a silent auction and a dog adoption event conducted by the Into Canine Adoption, Rehabilitation and Education group, a non-profit all-breed, no-kill organization. Go to www.wcpstage.com for more details.



TheSportsPages

Somebody was looking the other way ...

The exploits of the Yorba Linda High School Mustang football team were seemingly legendary for the first part of the season until ... they weren't.

The team started out hot, winning its first four games and looking like a contender in the tough Alpha League along with San Clemente, San Juan Hills and Mission Viejo.

But then, the whole thing came crashing down. The CIF-SS (governing body for high school athletics) has forced the school to forfeit four victories (over Laguna Beach, Long Beach Poly, El Dorado and

Esperanza).

So they went from 5-1 to 0-7. The reasons? The CIF-SS claims that "more than one student" and "more than one incident" were involved with



Sports Retorts

Jim Tortolano

"documented deficiencies" in "eligibility verification, communication between coaches and athletic administration, and participation clearance."

To put it another way, some folks among the school's coaches, athletic directors and administration "knew or should have known" that they had some ineligible players on their football team.

With those boys off the squad, the Mustangs then lost three in a row and are now 0-7 and 0-2 in league.

It's a sad story all around. The other fellas on the team — who did belong there — are seeing a golden season turned into a scandal. More personally, those ineligible players might well have taken up starting positions that otherwise should have gone to others.

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L.A.'s Very Bad Day

Missed FG puts the Rams with 2-3 mark

By Pete Zarustica
Orange County Tribune

They blamed it on the kicker. After the Los Angeles Rams' heartbreaking 37-34 overtime loss to the Buffalo Bills at SoFi Stadium on Monday night, the onus for the defeat — which dropped the team's record to 2-3 — fell on placekicker Harrison Mavis.

Mavis, who missed two field goals — including one that would have been a game-winner — on Monday, making it four misses in nine three-point attempts so far this season.

The one that really hurt was the one that was blocked at the line of scrimmage, but a miss is a miss.

"I felt like I hit it good," said Mavis after the game. "That's all I can tell you."

Rams coach Sean McVay had his own version of events. The placekicking team — i.e., Mavis — "cost us the game tonight."

And that cost Mavis his job. The Rams on Tuesday let him go and signed former New Orleans kicker Blake Grupe, lately on the New York Jets practice



YES, the Rams did tackle Josh Allen sometimes on Monday night in a 37-34 defeat. But not quite enough as he rushed for 121 yards and a score (Rams photo).

squad.

While McVay was looking to assign responsibility for the defeat, he might look at how the Rams defended — or failed to defend — against Bills QB Josh Allen, who rushed for 121 yards and one touchdown, while passing for 210 yards and another score.

As the flow of the game went back and forth, it seemed like every Rams' success was followed by the scrambling Allen bringing his team back.

The new kicker and the Rams will get a chance to forget all that pain next Sunday, when they play against the Arizona Cardinals (1-4).

Yamamoto had an off day and the Dodgers trail 2-0

By Steve Megargee
AP Sports Writer

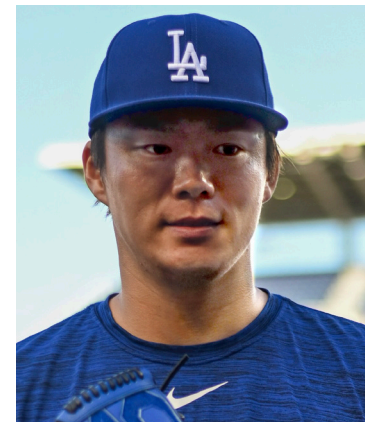
MILWAUKEE (AP) — Yoshinobu Yamamoto finally flopped in a playoff game, and now the Los Angeles Dodgers are heading back home with their bid for a third straight championship in serious jeopardy.

Yamamoto lasted just 2 2/3 innings for his shortest postseason start as the Dodgers lost 7-4

to Milwaukee on Monday to fall behind 2-0 in the National League Championship Series.

Game Three will be today (Wednesday) in Los Angeles with a 5 p.m. start. Game Four will also be in Dodger stadium, on Thursday. Game Five is Friday in L.A. Games Six and Seven (if needed) will be back in Milwaukee on Sunday and Monday.

Continued on page 8



YOSHI YAMAMOTO wasn't himself vs. Brewers

Some Mismatches, Some Key Games

Ocean View vs. Anaheim looks like a good one

The mantra of high school sports – especially for football – in recent years has been “competitive equity,” meaning aligning leagues based not so much on geography and tradition but on a formula based on recent performance.

But, alas, the past doesn't always point to the future. This week there are what appear to be some epic mismatches.

In the Delta League, for example, Huntington Beach (7-0 overall, 2-0 in league) will host Western (0-7, 0-2) on Thursday. Almost as wince-worthy could be Orange (7-0, 2-0) at Beckman (1-6, 0-2) in a Foxtrot League contest on Friday.

However, there are some intriguing matchups as well.

Can Edison (2-5, 0-2) in the

■ Prep Sports Spotlight

Alpha League) bounce back on Friday when it hosts Los Alamitos (0-7, 0-2)?

What looks like the most evenly matched game could be on Friday when Ocean View (6-1, 2-0) visits Anaheim (5-2, 1-1) in a Sigma League game.

The Seahawks are on a roll, having won six games in a row after losing their opener, 27-21 to Fountain Valley.

Here's the lineup for high school football games for schools serving our West Orange County cities of Garden Grove, Huntington Beach, Stanton and Westminster. Most games are scheduled to start at 7 p.m.

THURSDAY

- Garden Grove (1-6, 1-1) at University (4-3, 2-0)
- Los Amigos (6-1, 2-0) hosts



GARDEN GROVE HIGH football team got its first win the season over Santa Ana and will visit University High of Irvine on Thursday (GGUSD photo).

- Estancia (1-6, 0-2)
- Huntington Beach (7-0) hosts Western (0-7, 0-2)
- Rancho Alamitos (7-0, 2-0) hosts Katella (2-5, 0-2)

FRIDAY

- Edison (2-5, 0-2) hosts Los Alamitos (0-7, 0-2)
- La Quinta (4-3, 0-2) at Savanna (4-4, 2-3)
- Magnolia (2-5, 1-4) at Century (0-6, 0-5)

- Marina (4-3, 2-0) at Cypress (6-1, 2-0)
- Ocean View (6-1, 2-0) at Anaheim (5-2, 1-1)
- Orange (6-1, 2-0) at Beckman (1-6, 0-2)
- Pacifica (6-1, 1-1) hosts Kennedy (2-5, 0-2)
- Rancho Alamitos (2-5, 1-4) hosts Godinez (2-5, 2-3)
- Westminster (5-2, 1-1) hosts Fountain Valley (4-3, 2-0).



The City of Garden Grove Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) is comprised of volunteer citizens trained in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. As a CERT member, these skills will help you take care of yourself, as well as assist your family, friends and community during and following a disaster.

2026 CERT Academy

Our upcoming CERT Academy is scheduled for **October 21st, 22nd, 23rd and 24th**. To register, visit <https://gpcity.typeform.com/ggcert> or scan the QR code. Follow the prompts to submit your application. Attendance at all classes is required for successful completion and certification. The Academy is open to individuals 18+ years, living or working in the City of Garden Grove.



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Ben Affleck is everywhere in 'Animals'

Continued from page 5

wittingly taken not the Kimballs' son but Cecilia and Ramon's.

Affleck is a savvy and thoughtful filmmaker who can deftly weave human stories, genre mechanics and social issues together. But "Animals" feels narratively underpowered and melodramatically forced.

It offers Affleck some good opportunities to flaunt his Spanish and comment on the false fronts that exist both in public officialdom and intimate relationships. But it doesn't come anywhere close to matching the propulsion of Kurosawa.

Affleck, who earlier this year sold an artificial intelligence company to Netflix for more than

\$500 million, has said he used AI in the making of "Animals." It's difficult to tell where. But the greater issue is that "Animals" generally appears flat and visually bland, lacking the human textures the story needs.

But before "Animals" loses its

grip, Gillian Anderson casts a momentary spell over the film. In a brief, underwritten role, Anderson — sensational earlier this year in "Teenage Sex and Death at Camp Miasma" — elevates the film. Even when handed ham-fisted dialogue like "Humans are animals

that tell stories," Anderson is queen of this "Animal" kingdom.

"Animals," a Netflix release streaming Friday, is rated R by the Motion Picture Association for language throughout, some violence and sexual references. Running time: 106 minutes.

Retorts

Continued from page 3

long. With only two checkout stands open and my shopping cart full, I despaired.

Having been raised Catholic, I said (under my breath) "I wonder who the patron saint of long supermarket lines is?"

Not two minutes later, three store employees appeared and opened three more checkstands and we were checked out and in the parking lot faster than you can say, "Dominus vobiscum."

I'm not making any kind of spiritual claim here, but ...

Dodgers fall

Continued from page 6

The Brewers continually fouled off pitches and drove up Yamamoto's pitch count before knocking him out of the game.

"I don't know the exact reason yet," Yamamoto said through an interpreter. "I need to check the videos and then I can reflect on what happened today."

It was quite a departure for a pitcher who was virtually unhittable last October.

Yamamoto, the 2025 World Series MVP, entered 8-1 with a 2.14 ERA in 11 career postseason appearances. In Game 2 of the Dodgers' NLCS sweep of Milwaukee last season, Yamamoto threw a three-hitter and pitched the first playoff complete game since Houston's Justin Verlander threw one in 2017.

In three earlier postseason starts following Dodgers losses, Yamamoto had gone 3-0 with a 1.23 ERA.

History minute

Continued from page 3

lary with the opening of the Westminster Mall in 1974.

The original owners had plans to enclose part of the OC Plaza, but that went awry when store operators resisted paying most of the cost of the renovation, including air conditioning systems.

In 1978 the prospect was revived. As outlined by city leaders, the center would be reborn as Garden Grove Mall with a Montgomery Wards at the west end and — possibly — a Broadway store at the east. There was even talk of a Buffums.

Never happened. And just as well. Wards, Broadway and Buffums are long-since closed and enclosed malls are disappearing in favor of open air centers, such as The Promenade is today.

Sports Retorts

Continued from page 6

It's tough to be a high school football coach. The pay is laughable and the pressure is great. Losing coaches become ex-coaches. The badminton team could sit at the bottom of the league and nobody gets upset. But when the highly-visible football team tanks, things can get ugly.

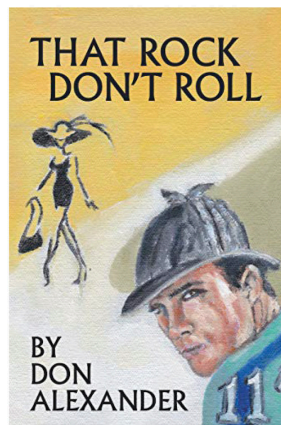
But not as ugly as what happened to YLHS. Coaches, ADs, etc. who are tempted to bend the rules and turn a blind eye should clip (or print) out the articles about the Decline and Fall of the '26 Mustangs and put them up on the wall for all to see.

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— 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.



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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. Website: gardengroverotary.com.