

MORE THAN 1,000 POINTS

Senior Amanda Kramer surpassed 1,000 points in her high school career while leading SRHS through a successful season.

By Hector Trujillo

There were several high points in what turned out to be an impressive 19-5 regular season record and a fourth seed in the CIF-San Diego Section Division I postseason for the Scripps Ranch High School (SRHS) womens varsity basketball team. Add a 71-47 victory over Mission Vista High and 54-46 win against La Costa Canyon High in the CIF-San Diego playoffs to that list. At press time, SRHS was set to play Carlsbad High in the semi-finals on Feb. 22.

One of the accomplishments of senior Amanda Kramer was among the highlights.

Kramer became only the third player in school history to break the 1,000 point mark since the 2016-2017 campaign when the team finished with a 26-7 record.

Her feat came in a Jan. 14 road game win against Acad-

See **AMANDA KRAMER**, Page 18



Amanda Kramer soars during action against Academy of Our Lady of Peace in a 50-46 Scripps Ranch High victory on Jan. 14. Kramer reached the 1,000 point mark in her high school career during this game. (photo by Jim Wick)



Claire Simba, director of Scripps Ranch Theatre's production of "Love Song." (courtesy photo)

Exploring the consequences

By Ashley Shah

Scripps Ranch Theatre will open its second in-person performance of the season with a presentation of "Love Song" on March 5.

"'Love Song' centers around all the different types of love languages. It's about how we express love, and the consequences of love that is not reciprocated," director Claire Simba said.

The play is set in the present day.

"The play takes into account that the pandemic happened. It's really a fitting play for the time that we are in because it shows the characters coming into themselves, and kind of coming out of isolation," Simba said.

There are four actors in this performance.

Beane, played by Paul Eddy, is

See **LOVE SONG**, Page 4

Talented artist finds success in comics

By David Barak

Scripps Ranch resident Alex "Ben" Sinclair originally planned to be a painter, seeing his works displayed in galleries. But while studying studio art at UC San Diego, he came to the realization that he really wanted to work in the comic book industry. Changing his focus was a wise decision, and he's been working on comics for nearly 30 years.

As he built his portfolio, Sinclair visited comic conventions, showing his work to editors and artists. All of them praised his work with color.

"A local comic book studio held a talent search for all the different specialties. I decided to send only samples of my color work since that's what everyone liked. I got a phone call from Jim Lee, head of that studio, a couple weeks later and he invited me to come in and see if I would be a good fit for them," Sinclair said.

Sinclair's job is to add color to the already drawn comic book panels. Mostly gone are the days of working with messy paints and colored inks. The majority of the work now is done digitally using Adobe Photoshop. He usually completes work on about three comic books a

See **COMIC ARTIST**, Page 16



Alex "Ben" Sinclair in his office with just a few of the many comic book titles he has worked on (photo by David Barak)

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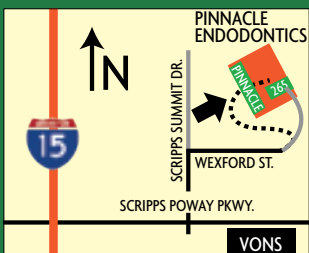
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SDG&E offers fire safety tips

This lovely dry weather is a contributing factor to our threat of wildfires.

San Diego Gas & Electric has again had to declare Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS) for various reasons, primarily related to potential fire hazards. But they also offer some assistance for certain things during these times.

For example, if you have a medical device that requires power and fit other criteria, it may be possible to get a small generator from them. You can find information about this at sdge.com/our-commitment-wildfire-safety.

Some of the other items that might be obtained from them are transportation, welfare checkups and possibly food delivery if required. You can find more information on this at sdge.com/medicalbaseline.

The County of San Diego also has an access and functional needs assessment office to help with these items. Information is available at readysandiego.org/make-a-plan.



San Diego's history of dry weather causing hazardous conditions for possible wildfires, sometimes requiring Public Safety Power Shutoffs, prompted San Diego Gas & Electric to offer assistance and advice for customers.

It is your responsibility to have a plan for you and your family in case of fire or any other emergency.

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Redistricting divides community among reps

By Ashley Shah

The City of San Diego is divided into nine City Council districts. Scripps Ranch, which previously belonged mostly to District 5, will be split between two districts, District 5 and District 6 due to recent city redistricting.

Previously, District 5 stopped at Interstate-15; District 6 started on the other side of the freeway.

However, since the lines were redrawn, the boundary between District 5 and District 6 now bisects Scripps Ranch from Pomerado Road, along Scripps Ranch Boulevard north to Affinity Court. Areas that will be within District 6 include many that are considered central to Scripps Ranch, including Scripps Ranch High School, Hibert Street and the “Trader Joe’s shopping center,” Businesspark Avenue, most of Aviary Drive, the very southern end of Scripps Ranch Boulevard, the Scripps Ranch Swim & Racquet Club off Aviary Drive and Scripps Ranch Village Shopping Center including “small” or “old VONS.”

District 6 will also encompass the eastern portion of Scripps Ranch, including Rancho Encantada and Stonebridge. The boundary begins east of the intersection of Pomerado Road, Cypress Canyon Park Drive, and Spring Canyon Road.

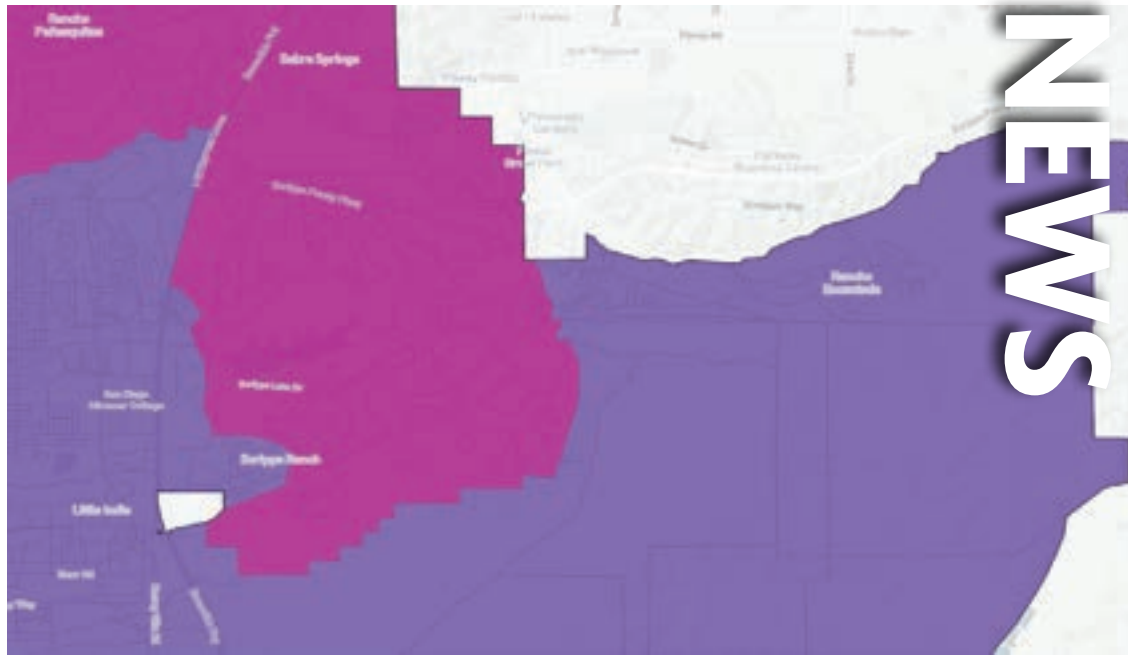
Since Scripps Ranch will be divided between two districts, there will be two council members representing the community.

“Council members are essentially advocates for our districts to receive city services and solve problems that they may experience,” said District 6 City Councilmember Chris Cate.

Cate described the advantages and possible disadvantages of Scripps Ranch having two council members.

“Two council members for an area isn’t super uncommon. Right now, Rancho Penasquitos has two council members. If anything, having two council members is actually a good thing. Scripps Ranch will get twice as much representation down at City Hall,” he said.

“An issue that could possibly arise would be that because neighborhoods are split amongst two council districts, community members would have to know which district to ask for (to get) their street repaved,”



This map shows the entirety of the City Council redistricting changes in Scripps Ranch. (City of San Diego)

Cate said.

Redistricting of cities and counties occurs every 10 years.

“Every ten years a census occurs. Following the census, the data about populations in cities and counties is released,” Cate said. “Lines dividing districts sometimes end up being redrawn to keep populations per area the same, and keep key communities together.”

A commission is formed

to redraw the lines. The commission consists of one member per district.

“In late 2020, the commission was formed. A panel of retired judges looks over the applications for the members of the commission and appoints them,” Cate said.

There were more than 200 applicants for the commission.

“In 2021, the commission started looking over the census data. They held pub-

lic hearings, took in written comments, listened to advocates to try and figure out the best ways to redraw the lines,” Cate said.

In December of 2021, the final decision for the redistricting occurred. A 7-2 vote approved the final map.

“After deciding on Dec. 15 (2021), there was a period of one month where anyone can object to the map that was made,” said Quinton Grounds, community rep-

resentative for City Councilmember Marni von Wilpert of District 5.

No objections occurred during that period of time.

As of now, though, Scripps Ranch is still represented by Marni Von Wilpert.

“Once the new council member for District 6 is elected, that person will represent the portion of Scripps Ranch within District 6,” Cate said.

The election for the new council member will be held in November, and the new council member will take their seat in December.

Despite Scripps Ranch being divided into two districts, residents on each side are still welcome to contact the other district if they have any issues.

“We are still in Scripps Ranch, and taking care of the community. We’re not disappearing from Scripps Ranch. Just because you live on the other side of Scripps Ranch Boulevard doesn’t mean you can’t give us a call,” Grounds said.

Learn more at sandiego.gov/redistricting-commission.

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LOVE SONG

Continued from Page 1

the main character.

"In the play, we watch Beane's journey as he goes from being unable to express himself to finding himself, and love," Simba said.

Joan, played by Leigh Akin, is Beane's sister.

"Joan is a very accomplished woman, but she struggles with things such as neurosis. Through the play, we watch her learn about herself and love through her brother's journey," Simba said.

Harry, played by John DeCarlo, is Joan's husband.

"Harry has a lot of love and care, and we watch him sort of help the two siblings on their journeys," Simba said.

Molly, played by Claire Kaplan, is a burglar who finds Beane.

"Molly, through the play, discovers love for the first time, and through that we get to see her be vulnerable for the first time as well," Simba said.

"Love Song" was originally set to be performed in March of 2020; however, the pandemic hit before it could be presented.

"Because 'Love Song' was already set to be performed, some of the cast had already been selected. However, some of the cast could not come back. In December, we only casted for the roles of Molly and Harry," Simba said.

Not only was some of the cast unable to return, but the original director was also unavailable. Simba took on the play this time around.

"It was a little hard to take on this performance mid-air, but everyone has been great to work with," she said. "I read the play, and I absolutely loved it. The message of the play is beautiful. It embraces the power of love, empathy and imagination, and that's why I really wanted to do it."

Paul Eddy, originally cast as Beane, was able to come back.

"This time around it feels like a whole new play. There's just specific things that I never noticed before, but I do notice them now in regards to the characters ...," Eddy said. "English also isn't Claire's first language, so it's interesting to see how she interprets the language in the play."

Performances run Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., and Sundays at 2 p.m. through March 20.

Tickets may be purchased by calling the box office at (858) 395-0573; or through the website scrippsranchnews.com/showtickets.

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Farmer's Market: Sumosize Japanese Street Food

By Terry L. Wilson

Sumosize Japanese Street Food is earning culinary black belt with every home-made dish served at the Scripps Ranch Farmer's Market.

Natapong Thamcharoen is the chef behind the grill, and each week he is winning new fans with his made-from-scratch beef, chicken and fish recipes from Japan and Thailand, topped with his special teriyaki sauce.

"I have a very big menu and a very long name. Everyone just calls me 'Hi,'" Thamcharoen said. "Everything I make is fresh; I even make my own teriyaki sauce. It is perfect with my rice bowls. We only serve hot food, no sushi. We don't precook anything. All our food is cooked at the Farmer's Market."

Sumosize brings its tasty selection to the Scripps Ranch Farmer's Market each Thursday.

"We offer everything from traditional beef, chicken and fish rice bowls to eel and 'octopus balls.' That dish is made up of sweet octopus meat and green onions



Sumosize Japanese Street Food offers fresh-made beef, chicken and fish recipes from Japan and Thailand at the Scripps Ranch Farmer's Market. (Courtesy of Sumosize)

in a pancake-like batter that's deep-fried. We serve it with a Japanese barbecue sauce and white mayonnaise topped with dried fish flakes. It tastes better than it sounds," Thamcharoen said. "Unadon is another

traditional food. It's grilled eel in a rice bowl topped with eel sauce, our home-made teriyaki sauce, sesame seeds, dried seaweed flakes and chili powder."

Hi's booth affords visitors the opportunity to treat

their taste buds to dishes that range from exotic to traditional, and everything is fresh.

Thamcharoen was born in Thailand and moved to the United States in 2012 to find

See **SUMOSIZE**, Page 6

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Chinese New Year celebration

Longtime Scripps Ranch residents Bill and Cynthia Collins gathered their family and hosted an appreciative crowd in front of their family business – Collins Family Jewelers, 8220-A Mira Mesa Blvd. – for their traditional Chinese New Year celebration on Feb. 5. The excited spectators were treated to colorful lion dancing, drummers and fireworks. (photo by John Gregory)

SUMOSIZE

Continued from Page 5

work to support his family.

At age 21, he met a man who had a booth serving outdoor markets in San Diego.

“We became friends. He lived many years in Japan and spoke fluent Japanese. Suddenly he had to move back to Japan and needed to quickly sell his business,” Thamcharoen explained. “Even though I knew very little about Japanese food, I took a chance and bought his business. For two weeks he taught me how to make sauce, prep food and how to cook Japanese favorites. ... I began doing markets on my own, but things didn’t work out for me. I learned

the hard way how quickly things can go wrong.”

Thamcharoen soon discovered the perils of being a one-man-band, trying to cook while serving crowds. Mother nature also played her part by teaching the fledgling entrepreneur about dealing with fickle winds.

“The wind would change directions. It blew on my grill, heating up the charcoal causing everything to overcook and burn,” Thamcharoen said. “Once my wooden skewers caught on fire. I wasn’t able to handle the pressure of a crowd ordering all kinds of different dishes. I was only one person; the stress was overwhelming. It was a terrible experience, but I eventually

learned from it.”

He enrolled in culinary school, where he mastered the art of cooking, and how to run a successful business. Today, Thamcharoen and his wife, Ashley, operate several successful Japanese street food businesses.

“I started as a server and now I do what I love to do,” he said. “I fell in love with the Scripps Ranch market. Everyone there makes me feel like I’m family.”

Sumosize can be found at the Scripps Ranch Farmer’s Market, held from 3 to 7 p.m. each Thursday at 10045 Carroll Canyon Road (next to Newtopia Cyder). There is plenty of parking across the street at the National University parking lot.



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WHAT TO DO



(courtesy of Sesame Place)

SESAME PLACE

Sesame Place, a theme park based entirely on the award-winning show Sesame Street®, will open March 26 at 2052 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista (the former location of Aquatica water park). It will feature Sesame Street-themed rides, water attractions, an interactive Sesame Street Neighborhood, daily live character shows and parades. Visit SesamePlace.com/SanDiego.

WHAT TO EXPERIENCE



(courtesy of San Diego REP)

KUUMBA FEST

San Diego Repertory Theatre San Diego Urban Warriors Inc. and the African American Advisory Council of San Diego REP announced the schedule for the 30th Annual San Diego Kuumba Fest. Curated by festival Artistic Director Dajahn Blevins, the 2022 Kuumba Fest will take place both in person and virtually at the San Diego Repertory Theatre Feb. 24-27. Kuumba Fest is San Diego's longest running and premier celebration of African-American expression, culture and heritage. Visit sdrep.org/kuumba or sduw.org.

WHAT TO VISIT



Children marvel at a beehive with a larger-than-life honeycomb. (courtesy of the San Diego Zoo)

EXPLORERS BASECAMP

Burrowing owls and prairie dogs at the San Diego Zoo moved to their new "digs" in the Denny Sanford Wildlife Explorers Basecamp in preparation for the public opening on March 11. Wildlife Explorers Basecamp is designed to bring visitors up close to nature, and offer interactive play opportunities on oversized, species-themed sculptures. Visit bit.ly/3HgMEZ3.



Rocketeers from Together We Shine Horizons assemble a rocket in preparation for a test launch. (courtesy of Soontorn Banchongsirichareon)

ROCKETEERS!

The sky's the limit

By Nick Ng

NASA and SpaceX aren't the only groups that are launching rockets. Scripps Ranch High's (SRHS) Together We Shine Horizons, a nonprofit group that was founded by SRHS senior Saatvik Aggarwal, is among 760 middle and high school teams across the U.S. that compete in the annual The American Rocketry Challenge (TARC).

Formed in early 2021, Together We Shine Horizons is run by several students, including Sidsadee "Sid" Banchongsirichareon, Kevin Xia, Saatvik Aggarwal, Yi Ren Chen, Logan Garber, Leopold Li, Keshav Srinivasan, Anish Somchaudhuri and Matthew Poonosamy.

The members conducted virtual meetings and discussed everything about rocketry at Scripps Ranch High's Aerospace and Robotics Club. The competition provides students a glimpse of what the real-world competition is like in the aerospace industry.

"Ever since around seventh grade, I've been building model



Together We Shine members examine a rocket prior to launch. (courtesy of Soontorn Banchongsirichareon)

'Anyone can learn anything if they are curious enough to explore it...'

—Sidsadee Banchongsirichareon

rocket kits that you can build and launch yourself," said Banchongsirichareon, who is the design lead.

TARC offers a different challenge every year. Last year, competitors had to fly their rocket to about 800 feet with one egg on it and parachute it to

the ground with the egg intact. This year, their altitude goal is to reach 835 feet with two raw eggs and land within 41 to 44 seconds without breaking any eggs. To get into the finals in Washington, D.C., competitors must submit two recorded flights to TARC, but they may test as many times as they like.

"You have to declare a qualification flight before you fly that rocket — three chances to get the best score possible," Banchongsirichareon said.

Banchongsirichareon and his team make their own flight computers that they put inside the rockets, which can zero in the exact altitude the rocket



Welcome to Newsprint

You are reading *San Diego Newsprint*, a prototype newspaper created by Seacoast Media Lab, LLC, publishers of *Scripps Ranch News* and *San Diego Words & Pictures*.

Newsprint offers a quick look at some of the news, events, sports and people throughout San Diego county: all San Diego all the time. This edition is intended to serve as a brief showpiece sample to gauge audience reaction.

While this free paper can act as a supplement to an existing newspaper, it is also a publication that will be distributed for free at high traffic locations throughout San Diego.

We hope you enjoy this sample, and we invite all readers to send their reactions to info@seacoastmedialab.com.

Thank you,
John & Jacqueline Gregory
Publishers

Poway Chamber holds general membership meeting

The Poway Chamber of Commerce will hold its 2022 General Membership Meeting on March 8, from 6 to 7:30 pm at the Mickey Cafagna Community Center. The General Membership Meeting is an informative gathering of Chamber members and will include a State of the Chamber Address from President Mike Leland, presentations and announcements from committee chairs, an open forum Q&A, and small group discussions. Additionally, members in attendance will have the opportunity to vote for the non-profit member beneficiary of the ninth Annual Mickey Cafagna Memorial Golf Classic. Poway Chamber members must register in advance on the web page: bit.ly/3s1LCLS.

Doctors address COVID misinformation

An independent panel of local doctors participated in a virtual event that addressed COVID-19 misinformation brought up by members of the public at the Feb. 8 County Board of Supervisors meeting. The virtual session allowed doctors who participated to dispel misleading



Westwind Brass concert

The “Pleasure of Your Company” music series, sponsored by the Scripps Ranch Friends of the Library, welcomes the Westwind Brass on March 13, at 2:30 p.m. in the Scripps Miramar Ranch Library Center,

10301 Scripps Lake Drive. This ensemble is comprised of Elizabeth Meeker Howard and Karl Soukup, trumpets; Mike McCoy, horn; Eric Starr, trombone; and Kyle Mendiguchia, bass trombone. There is no charge, although donations are appreciated.

claims about COVID-19. Their discussion included the safety and efficacy of COVID-19 vaccines, unfounded claims that unvaccinated patients are treated differently in hospitals than vaccinated patients, concerns over long-term side effects of COVID-19 vaccines,

the perceived ineffectiveness of wastewater monitoring, as well as other issues that came up at the Board of Supervisors meeting.

SDUSD ends outdoor masking

The San Diego Unified School District (SDUSD)

ended its mask requirement for outdoor settings on district campuses beginning Feb. 16. However, masks must be worn indoors at all SDUSD campuses. In addition, the district lifted its restriction on field trips.

SD Newsprint

sdnewsprint.com

Newsprint is the free paper showcasing a selection of San Diego's news, sports and events each month.



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Patrick Yandall

Yandall nominated again

The music of longtime Scripps Ranch resident Patrick Yandall, an international jazz guitarist, has once again been nominated for awards in the annual San Diego Music Awards. Yandall's latest album "Chasing the Light" has been nominated for Album of the Year and Best Jazz Album. The San Diego Music Awards are scheduled for April 19 at Humphry's by the Bay.



(courtesy County of San Diego)

Mask mandate for vaccinated ends

Given that COVID-19 Omicron cases and hospitalizations have significantly decreased across the state, including San Diego County, the indoor mask mandate established by the California Department of Public Health expired Feb. 15 for those who are vaccinated against COVID-19.



Sam Woodhouse (courtesy of San Diego REP)

Sam Woodhouse to retire

San Diego Repertory Theatre (San Diego REP) announced that Sam Woodhouse will step down as artistic director in September after leading the company for 46 years. At the end of this season, San Diego REP will have produced 333 productions under Woodhouse's leadership, more than 50 of them were world premieres. Since co-founding The REP more than four decades ago, Woodhouse has overseen major artistic and community accomplishments. Conceived as a place that is home to a wide range of artists and companies, San Diego REP



Padres help Autism Society

The San Diego Padres invite members of the Autism Society San Diego (ASSD) to Petco Park on March 13 for a "Behind the Scenes" preview event. The event gives families with people on the autism spectrum the opportunity to expand their experiences around the ballpark. The Padres will guide the fam-

ilies through tasks and processes that would be happening on gameday from going through a "light" bag check to visiting the Ballpark Eats section to sitting in terrace level seats and checking out the suites. The event is meant to give exposure to the stadium while easing fears or concerns the families might have.

bit.ly/3LM4S8c

has managed the Lyceum Theatre since 1986.

Councilmember receives appointment

San Diego City Councilmember Marni von Wilpert was appointed to the National League of Cities (NLC) 2022 Transportation & Infrastructure (TIS) Federal Advocacy Committee. Councilmember von Wilpert was appointed to a one-year term and will provide strategic direction and guidance for NLC's federal advocacy agenda and policy priorities.



(courtesy of County of San Diego)

COVID-19 boosters highly Encouraged

With masks coming off indoors in many public places for fully vaccinated people, County health officials are urging all eligible San Diegans to get all the recommended COVID-19 doses, including the additional dose and booster shot. Research from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention shows that COVID-19 vaccine boosters remain effective at preventing hospitalizations and very effective at preventing severe illness. Residents can make an appointment or find a vaccination

site by calling (833) 422-4255 or visiting coronavirus-sd.com.

San Diego Theatre Week

For the seventh year in a row, San Diego performing arts organizations will offer value priced tickets throughout the County during San Diego Theatre Week, March 4-13. All tickets offered for Theatre Week 2022 will cost either \$15, \$30 or \$45 and seats sold are the best seats in the house as of the night of the event. Visit sandiegoteatreweek.com, contact artstix@sdpal.com or call (619) 234-ARTS.

SDG&E warns of scams

SDG&E is warning of a new round of scammers targeting utility customers. The robocalls tell customers that their power will be turned off within the hour and direct them to press "1" to reach customer service, where they demand immediate payment to keep service in place. This scam is troubling because the calls sound professionally produced and claim to connect customers to the billing and collections department. But SDG&E will not call a customer proactively to ask for payment information during the call. If a caller claims to work for SDG&E and asks for payment over the phone, it is a scam.

Poway Symphony Orchestra

John LoPiccolo, Music Director



Romantic Gems

Fanfare from La Péri, P. Dukas
Cello Concerto No. 1, C. Saint-Saens
Soloist: Daniel Grab, cello

Symphony No. 8 in G minor, A. Dvorak



Sunday, March 20, 2022 at 4:00 PM

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The Poway Symphony Orchestra is a program of the PUSD/Adult School
The Poway Symphony Orchestra Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization

Poway Symphony Orchestra features Daniel Grab March 20

Poway Symphony Music Director and Conductor John LoPiccolo will lead the orchestra in its next concert, “Romantic Gems” on Sunday, March 20, at 4 p.m. in the Poway Center for the Performing Arts, 15498 Espola Road.

The concert will open with the brass section performing the glittering “Fanfare” from “La Péri” by Paul Dukas, followed by the “Cello Concerto No.1” by Camille Saint-Saëns. Principal cellist Daniel Grab will be the soloist for the “Cello Concerto.” The concert will conclude with the mighty “Symphony No. 8” by Antonin Dvořák.

Meanwhile, the Poway Symphony Orchestra Foundation announced the appointment of Nancy Rix as treasurer and member of the board of directors of the 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Rix is a partner in Atlas CPAs and Advisors, PLLP.

The Poway Symphony Orchestra Foundation also announced that Ellen Marciel joined the organization as operations manager. Marciel brings many years of experience in performing arts administration in Boston, specifically with Boston Concert Opera and the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

Ticket prices for the March 20 concert range from \$15 to \$35, with discounts for seniors and students. Contact the Poway Center for the Performing Arts to purchase tickets, at powaycenter.com

County has new district boundaries

By Gig Conaughton
County of San Diego
Communications Office

EDITOR’S NOTE: Residents in Scripps Ranch are now in County District 2, represented by Supervisor Joel Anderson, and no longer represented by Supervisor Terra Lawson-Remer of District 3.

More than 1 million San Diego County residents – three out of every 10 – woke up Jan. 15 in a new supervisorial district.

The boundaries of their County districts were revised by an independent redistricting commission that worked for a year with public input.

Redistricting, the redrawing of political voting bound-

aries, is done every 10 years using U.S. Census data to ensure that voting districts have roughly equal numbers of people, while reflecting “shifting populations and demographics.”

This redistricting was the first for the County to be done by an independent commission rather than by the County Board of Supervisors. The 14-member Independent Redistricting Commission worked for more than a year, held 49 regular and special meetings, including 10 public hearings, throughout the County and in each of the County’s five supervisorial districts, to create and approve the new maps.

The new maps of the districts the commission sub-

mitted to the County Dec. 15 became final Jan. 15 after a 30-day referendum period, setting the new voting and jurisdictional boundaries for the next 10 years.

The commission’s report states that the new redistricting maps meet all legal requirements. Those include maintaining substantially equal population in each district, complying with the federal Voting Rights Act that prohibits racial discrimination in voting and respecting the geographic integrity of city, local neighborhood or communities of interest, to the extent practicable.

To see the Independent Redistricting Commission’s final report, visit drawyourcommunity.com.

ROCKETEERS

Continued from cover

needs to reach and land within the time frame. With their application of robotics, Banchongsirichareon is optimistic that the extra knowledge will give the team a competitive edge.

But before they can even fly a rocket, the team consults with a designated mentor from TARC who guides them about using the software, designing a rocket and making sure the rocket works before they build it.

Building and flying a rocket hosts many problems. Together We Shine Horizons faced a “malfunctioning parachute system” and too much “wavering” of the rocket before it launched during the test flights. The team also faces a shortage of rocket motors and covers that protect the eggs, as well as finding an appropriate launch site since their regular site was shut down due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Together We Shine Horizons plans to conduct more workshops this summer in several San Diego libraries as the team had done



Members of Together We Shine Horizons pose during a practice session. (courtesy photo)

last summer at the Scripps Miramar Ranch Library.

Banchongsirichareon said their last workshops filled up within hours after they launched their sign-up online last summer, especially their robotics course.

“Clearly, there seems to be demand for these experiences for people to just experience building things, especially in these times,” he said.

After high school, Banchongsirichareon wants to be an aerospace engineer. His interests in flight and rocketry stem from watching the Blue Angels fly at the MCAS Miramar Air Show almost every summer when his parents used to take him.

“I’m fascinated with all things that fly. Once I found out that it’s not just planes

that fly but also rockets, that elevated my passion,” he said. “Anyone can learn anything if they are curious enough to explore it, even if they are unknown at the start. Thus, technical skills are obviously a part of Horizons team members, but this stems from everyone’s commitment to building a rocket that will take the team to nationals featuring technol-



Team Together We Shine Horizons prepares to launch at Fiesta Island. (courtesy of Soontorn Banchongsirichareon)

ogies we never thought we would work with, such as our flight computers. Many members are excited in general by rockets in the real world or just building things in general,” Banchongsirichareon added.

Visit twshorizons.com/home to learn more. Contribute to Together We Shine Horizons at givebutter.com/support-together-we-shine.



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INSIDE LOOK

SeaWorld Inside Look was a feature on weekends in January that allowed visitors to look behind the scenes and learn about animal care, training and the rescue efforts of SeaWorld Rescue and other local Wildlife Rescue organizations. Visitors received an up-close look at rescued animals.

*Photos by
Lisa Shadburn*



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SD Gulls look to close this season strong

By Hector Trujillo

After a rollercoaster first half of the season, the San Diego Gulls look to make a strong push in the American Hockey League (AHL) Pacific Division standings to secure themselves a spot in the 2022 Calder Cup Playoffs.

The team, led by head coach and former NHL player Joël Bouchard, is holding the seventh and final playoff spot in the division with 28 games left, all evenly divided between home and away matches.

“Although our record is not stellar, it’s pointing in a direction where we can get better,” Bouchard said. “Adversity is part of sports, and you grow through it, and I am excited for the second half of the season.”

After starting off the season losing seven of their first

‘There is no looking behind. We should not only be looking to get into the playoffs but to win everything.’

—Joël Bouchard

10 games, including an overtime loss to the Bakersfield Condors on Nov. 12, the Gulls were able to bounce back and go on a five-game winning streak, which was capped off by a payback victory over the Condors on Nov. 27.

The Gulls would cool off, however, winning two of their next 10 matches, including another heartbreaking overtime 4-5 loss to the Ontario Reign on Jan. 8.

The team would once again find its bearings by winning the next three games before



Benoit-Olivier “Bo” Groulx on the ice playing for the San Diego Gulls. (courtesy of the San Diego Gulls)

faltering with six straight losses. That losing streak came to an end on Feb. 4 thanks to a much needed win over the Tucson Roadrunners to open the second half of the season.

“Our timing was not easy. We played short-staffed a lot of the games,” Bouchard said. “With COVID going on all over the world, I think everyone is left with something different, but I’m proud of the way the guys responded and bought in. I can see in games how much we’ve improved in our struc-

ture and our way to play.”

Four of their remaining matches are against the Tucson Roadrunners who, along with the San Jose Barracuda, are the two teams trying to knock off San Diego for the final playoff spot. The Gulls have split the four games they have played so far against the Roadrunners, with the two teams facing off against each other in three of their final four matches to end the season, including the last two at Tucson.

“There is no looking behind. We should not only be looking

to get into the playoffs but to win everything,” Bouchard said. “That’s the mindset we should have all the time. You go through all that adversity, and you go through a season to get better, to get in the playoffs and to win in the playoffs. That has always been my mindset with all my teams. We control what we can control.”

The Gulls are affiliated with the NHL’s Anaheim Ducks and play their home games at the Pechanga Arena in San Diego. Visit sandiegogulls.com.



Members of the San Diego Wave Fútbol Club participate in a practice session in preparation for the 2022 season. (courtesy of San Diego Wave Fútbol Club)

Wave Fútbol Club prepares

By Hector Trujillo

San Diego Wave Fútbol Club began training camp at the start of February with 34 players on the roster including several with international and World Cup experience who make the team an immediate contender in the National Women’s Soccer League (NWSL).

In the short time that San Diego Wave FC has been around, the team has garnered a lot of attention by signing players like two-time World Cup winner and Olympic gold medalist Alex Morgan, along with Katie Johnson who helped Mexico to the gold medal at the Central American and Caribbean Games in 2018.

They are joined by other big name players who form part of the preseason squad like Swedish national team star Sofia Jakobsson and her former teammate at Chelsea Carly Telford. Others include Kelsey Turnbow, Marleen Schimmer, Kaleigh Riehl, current Olympic gold medalist Kailen Sheridan along with Abby Dahlkemper who was the team’s first signing and most recently represented the U.S. women’s national team in the 2022 She Believe’s Cup.

“We’ve got adaptable players here that can play many positions which you have to have,” said head coach Casey Stoney. “I’m really pleased. I look at our roster and I’m more than happy with where we’re at.”

San Diego Wave FC will be sharing USD’s Torero Stadium with San Diego Loyal until Snapdragon Stadium is ready for play in September with the NWSL regular season schedule coming out in the next few weeks. San Diego Wave will play in the Challenge Cup beginning with a match against Angel City on March 19 at Cal State Fullerton. The first home game will be against the Portland Thorns on March 26 at Torero Stadium.

Two pro teams will clash

By Hector Trujillo

San Diego Loyal and ALBION San Diego Professional SC are getting ready for their respective seasons which include a head to head match up in the second round of the Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup.

San Diego Loyal, led by soccer legend Landon Donovan, returns for its third season competing in USL Championship while ALBION San Diego marks its inaugural season in the National Independent Soccer Association (NISA).

“This is a game we have wanted for the last year and are excited to see the match up set,” said ALBION CEO Noah Gins. “We know who we are and are rooted deeply in San Diego. We are excited to play in the U.S. Open Cup before what should be an incredible San Diego fan base.”

The team will play its home games this season at Canyon Crest Academy Stadium, with a familiar face returning at the helm. Jeff “Ziggy” Koritoski, who led the team for several seasons before moving on to coach Antigua GFC in Guatemala, is coming back to lead the team again in 2022. In his final full season as head coach back in 2019, the team was crowned NPSL Southwestern Conference champions, earning a trip to the national semifinal.

“I don’t think this will be a team that backs down from anybody,” he said. “We want to build a culture of excellence, a cul-

ture that wants to win and a culture that understands the responsibility when they step on the field.”

As for San Diego Loyal, the team will have legendary soccer player Landon Donovan returning as head coach for a third season. They also have a solid core of returning veterans including goalkeeper Austin Guerrero, forwards Alejandro Guido and Tumi Moshobane, along with defenders Grant Stoneman and Morgan Hackworth, plus the return of midfielders Collin Martin and Jack Metcalf, who missed the second half of last season with a clavicle injury. They will be joined by several new players including New Zealand soccer stars Nikko Boxall and former SDSU Aztec Kyle Adams, forwards Nick Moon and Evan Conway, along with Spanish goalkeeper Koke Vegas.

“We are excited to play in the U.S. Open Cup as it’s great competition that unfortunately we didn’t get to see the past two seasons,” said San Diego Loyal President Ricardo Campos.

San Diego Professional SC opens up its 26-game regular season schedule on the road against Valley United FC on April 2. San Diego Loyal opens its regular season in front of home fans at Torero Stadium on March 12 against LA Galaxy II. The two teams will face off the first week of April (exact date and time TBD) at Canyon Crest Academy Stadium.



The Falcons take on the Bears in NFL Flag Football San Diego Spring League action on Feb. 11 at Meadowbrook Middle School in Poway. This is a co-ed youth flag football league for boys and girls Pre-K through 10th grade. Visit nflflagsd.com. (photo by Lisa Shadburn)



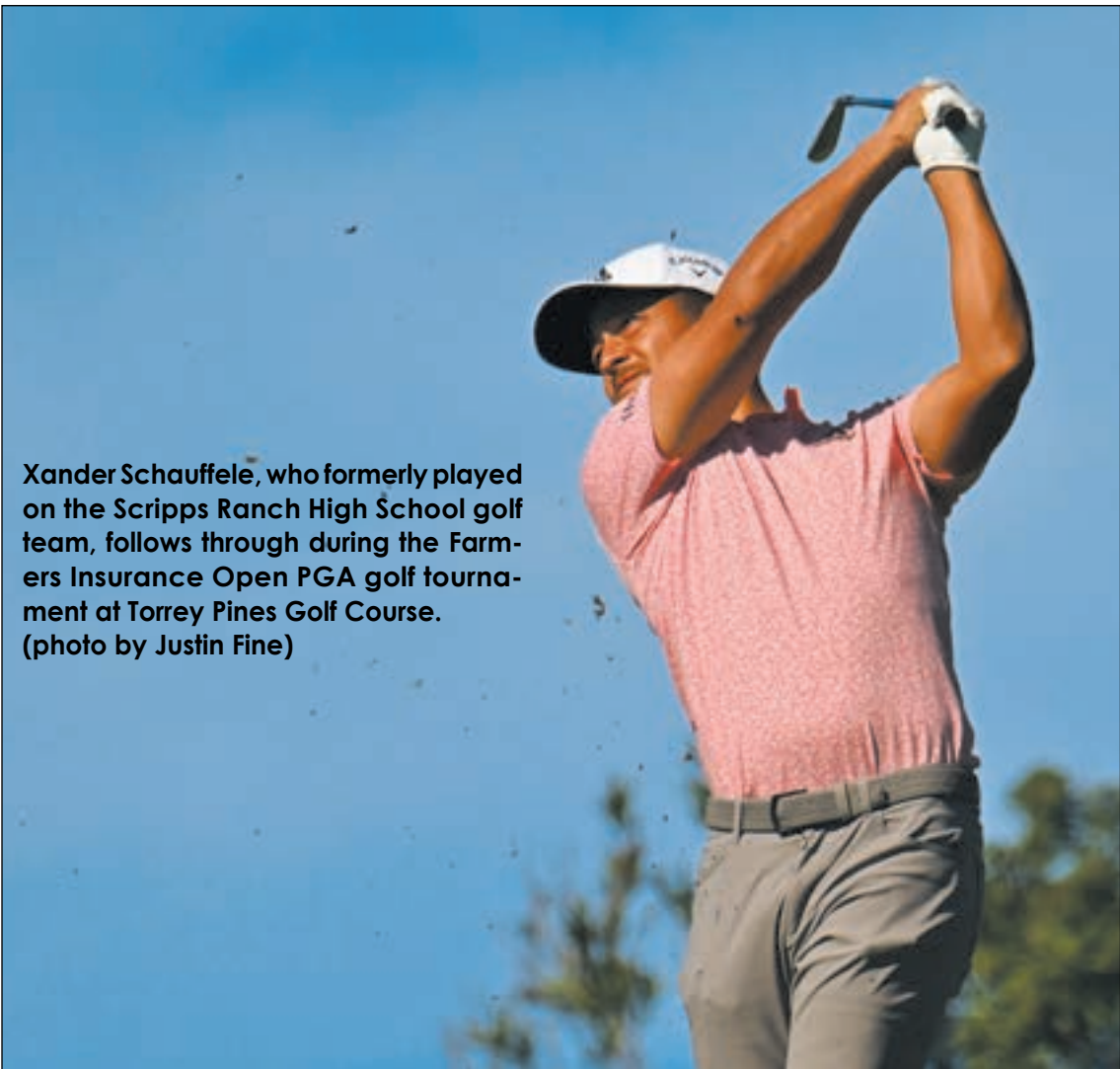
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FARMERS INSURANCE OPEN

Professional golfers descended upon Torrey Pines Golf Course to compete in the 2022 Farmers Insurance Open held Jan. 26-29. Kevin Tway (right) was among the PGA golfers competing on a brisk but bright day on Feb. 27. Luke List gained a win on the final day in a playoff victory. (photo by Justin Fine)



Xander Schauffele, who formerly played on the Scripps Ranch High School golf team, follows through during the Farmers Insurance Open PGA golf tournament at Torrey Pines Golf Course. (photo by Justin Fine)

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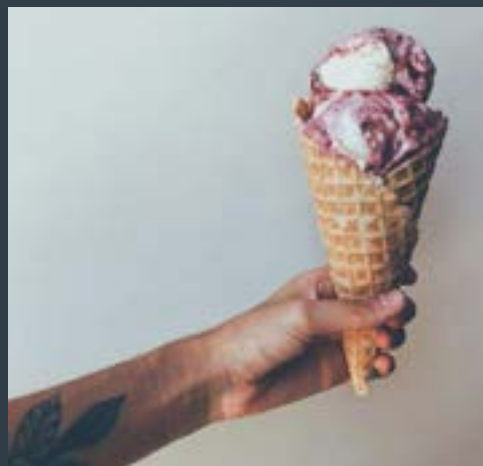
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SUSTAINABLE SCRIPPS RANCH

There are a thousand ways to love

By Suha Chari

In this season of roses and chocolates, romance and remembrance, let us celebrate the myriad ways in which we receive and offer love.

I'm reminded of a now distant land, where the people are always eager to share their simple, meager meals with a guest; where the children love listening and speaking to outsiders, and often invite them home.

Then there's my neighbor who never forgets to share her bountiful fruit with me. — A neighbor's child who loves to visit my garden, talking, playing, watering, wandering, weeding. We laze and enjoy the warmth of the day, together.

— A friend checks in often, asking if we need anything, especially during the pandemic. She invites us over whenever we return from a trip, or for no reason at all!

Another calls when she needs company, to share sad or happy news, or to offer opportunities for small



This is a season to cherish loved ones, nature and the wonders of daily life. (photo courtesy of Suha Chari)

adventures. Deeply involved in various causes, and seriously troubled by life's injustices, her energy and empathy must reach and soothe countless souls. Surely, someone somewhere feels this passionate outpouring of love.

With friends and family, we laugh, play, read, share good and bad news, argue, analyze, confide, hike, go out to dinner and relax.

These are the daily moorings that warm our hearts, keeping us grounded and fulfilled.

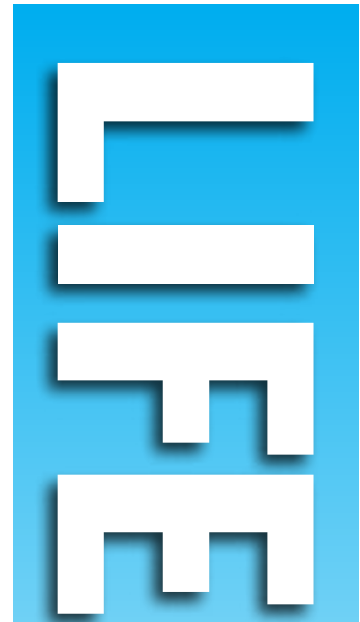
Not upmost in our consciousness, and somewhat out of sight, are those whose services enable and enrich our lives. The mailman, the gardener, recyclers and trash pick up folk, those who compost our greens, grow or cook our food, stock the shelves of stores and

libraries, deliver news and entertainment, and many more such. Where would we be without them?

Lastly, most importantly, are all the creatures without whom we would not be here at all! From the smallest soil microbes and our gut biome, to the cheetahs and elephants that roam the earth, from the tiniest plankton to the great redwoods and Banyans and all manner of life on earth, these never cease to amaze and enthrall me. I feel the love of the stars, the moon and the sun that shine on even when no one's looking; of the sky that enfolds all in its embrace, always open, always welcoming, always giving, with not a hint of disapproval.

Aren't we lucky to be on this glorious earth, beneath these sunny, cloudy, starry skies? In our low moments, may we remember and cherish all these acts of love.

To learn more about Sustainable Scripps Ranch, visit scrippsranchnews.org/ssr or email SustainableSR@scrippsranchnews.org.



Garden Club

How to be successful in growing fruit in your own yard will be the topic for the Feb. 22 meeting of the Scripps-Mesa Garden Club.

Richard Wright, owner of Edible Edan Nursery, is a local fruit tree expert with many years of experience in the field who will be the speaker. The meeting begins at 5:45 p.m. in the Scripps Ranch Library Community Room. A brief business meeting, a short social time and a plant exchange will be part of the event. For additional information check the website: scrippsmesagardenclub.com.

—Denise Stewart



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#BlissfulLife

Scripps Ranch Welcome Club is blooming again

By Denise Stewart

The Scripps Ranch Welcome Club has been watching out for the well-being of its members for a while now, so many regular activities have been on hiatus. But with warmer weather and COVID numbers falling, the women are resuming more outdoor activities and making plans to fill the club's social calendar for the spring.

Having celebrated the Welcome Club's 41st birthday in mid-February, club members are looking forward to a tour

and lunch at the Safari Park at the end of the month. Pam Savelsberg is currently taking sign-ups for that club Gadabout among the lions and tigers and bears. The admission to the park is free for seniors this month, so she expects an enthusiastic response to this adventure.

The Trail Walkers have been able to maintain their twice weekly schedule of jaunts around the green areas of Scripps Ranch while observing current health advisories. Janelle Boustany, group leader, has

some special paths picked out for ambling this spring. Fresh air and exercise are very popular with club members, and the walkers have been known to chat.

The book clubs have been taking advantage of the outdoors, too. Now with four groups meeting to talk about their current reads, the patios and backyards have worked just fine as venues for the literature lovers and their discussions.

Coming up on the first of March, Denise Forgeron will host a Mardi Gras themed

Coffee Klatch at the Scripps Ranch Community Park. She and her co-hostesses will be stacking the bagels, icing the muffins and perking the coffee for an open-air celebration of spring and friendship. Members will gather that morning to enjoy a favorite Welcome Club event once again.

For the March 14 meeting, the Welcome Club members are encouraged to invite the other female members of their families to join them in learning from Gayle Bryan, author of "Every

Woman Can, Self Defense for Women." Bryan teaches women how to protect themselves from violence.

Welcome Club has maintained a loyal enrollment of about 140 women for several years now. However, new members are always greeted with enthusiasm, and this spring would be a perfect time to join the fun. Check out the website scrippsranchnwelcomeclub.com to acquaint yourself further with the club's activities. There is contact information there, too.

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Alex "Ben" Sinclair (photo by David Barak)

COMIC ARTIST

Continued from Page 1

month, each from 20 to 24 pages long.

"At the time I joined the studio in 1993, we were starting to use Photoshop to color the art. I had to teach myself how to use Photoshop and have been using it since," he said.

He now contributes to both DC Comics and Marvel Comics. During his time in the industry, he has worked on "Top 10," "Harley Quinn," "Batman: Hush," "Superman," "WildCATs," "Gen¹³," "Divine Right," "All-Star Batman and Robin," "Infinite Crisis" and "52." He's currently working on "Han Solo & Chewbacca," "Darth Vader" and "Venom" for Marvel; "Teen Titans Academy" for DC Comics, and will soon begin work on "Astro City" for Image Comics.

Comic books aren't Sinclair's only creative outlet. He worked on the artwork for some of the Lego sets that end up as comic book character portraits, and he's now illustrating a children's book using traditional colored pencils.

When he's not working on his art, Sinclair coaches girls soccer for Scripps Ranch Soccer Club and he's the girls junior varsity soccer coach at Scripps Ranch High School.

Comic books Sinclair has worked on are available in comic book stores and in some magazine racks at bookstores. Comixology sells digital versions, including subscriptions. Check for the availability of print or digital versions at dcomics.com/talent/alex-sinclair. View more of Sinclair's work on his Instagram page at instagram.com/sinccolor.

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A Scripps Ranch player enters the paint against a Point Loma defender in roundball action on Feb. 4. (photo by Jim Wick)



A Scripps Ranch player drives against Point Loma High during a Feb. 4 game against Point Loma. (photo by Jim Wick)

SCRIPPS RANCH
SPORTS

Basketball team enjoys successful season

By Hector Trujillo

Thanks to consistent play, the Scripps Ranch High School boys varsity basketball team was able to earn a number 3 seed in the CIF-San Diego playoffs after finishing the regular season with an impressive 18-10 record.

The Falcons beat West Hills 55-30 and High Tech San Diego 55-53 in the CIF San Diego Section Division III Championships, and were set to play Madison High on Feb. 22 in the semi-finals as of press time.

The team started off the season red hot with back to back blowout wins over Santana and Crawford high schools by a combined score of 182-69, but then fell to Mission Hills High School in what turned out to be the Falcons' worst loss of the season, 99-66.

"Our core group of guys really kept the team on track and we're proud of our 18-10 regular season record," said head coach Brock Flint. "We've had some amazing memories and lessons learned. The season was just a blessing to be a part of."

The Falcons would bounce back from that early season loss and go on a hot streak, winning eight of their next nine games including two dramatic road wins against Grossmont High School on Dec. 7 by a score of 61-58, and another versus Mira Mesa High School on Dec. 13 by a score of 48-44. The only defeat during that nine-game stretch came at the hands of Madison High School, 74-79.

"We had so much contribution from all our guys at practice and in games ... just a solid team all around," Flint said.

This season marked the biggest turnaround from one season to the next in

more than 20 years after the team went 4-16 previously. This turned out to be the highest scoring regular season in team history with 1,660 points; an average of approximately 60 points per game, including a 42-point performance by senior team captain Caden Flint. That was the first time a Falcons player had broken the 40-point mark since the 2006-07 season. He also led the team in points with 14, rebounds with 9 and blocks

with 3 per game, while also breaking the school record in three-point shots made in a season with 83, and in a game with 11.

Other standout performers this season were junior captain Jaiden Schube who averaged 8 points, 6 rebounds and 2 steals per game. Seniors Jared Balaoing and Chase Weber averaged 13 and 9 points respectively, with senior late comer Lamont Wilkerson also making major contributions.

The team closed the last part of the season with an 8-8 record, with three of those losses being by five points or less, and two of those coming down to the final possession.

"They're all great young men and we've got it figured out headed into playoffs," Flint said. "I'm really proud of all of them for working together and staying the course. Challenges are a part of the game and life, so the lessons have been awesome for all of us."

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(courtesy photo)

Soccer All-Stars win big

By Hector Trujillo

Despite not having played together until recently, the Scripps Ranch Rangers were crowned champions in two tournaments that took place in December 2021.

The first tournament saw the Scripps Ranch All Star Boys U8 team come out on top at the Kick Hunger All-Star Cup held on Dec. 11 and 12 in Carlsbad thanks to a dramatic penalty kick shootout win in the championship match.

That performance was followed up with another impressive showing in which the team was crowned victors at the Recreational All-Star Tournament held Dec. 18 and 19 in Scripps Ranch.

The 11-player team then moved on to the New Year's Kick Off All-Stars Tournament held in Escondido on Jan. 8 and 9, making it all the way to the final but coming up just short.

Coach Daniel Todd did a masterful job in all three tournaments using the specific abilities of each player and preparing them during the team practices held at Spring Canyon Park in Scripps Ranch.

This is the team roster: Abdullah Saad, Austin Qi, Cassius Cesaire, Christian Laco, Christopher Laverty, Dean Gibson, Kellan Idiculla, Mateo Alcantar, Michael Todd, Owen He and Pax Simon.

Old Pros offer Masters Softball

Have you ever wondered about playing softball at the age of 60 or over? Well, the Scripps Ranch Old Pros have created a new league just for you.

Join in the fun at Sycamore Canyon Park (in Stonebridge) for a fun afternoon of softball every Tuesday from 1:30 to 3 p.m., March 15 through June 14.

This league is for players 60 and over or near 60 and play like they are 60-plus. The emphasis is on having fun and avoiding injury! It's OK to over run the bases, and no sliding is allowed.

Register on-line at srop.org/softball/mid-week-masters-softball.

Any questions? Contact Kevin Clark at kclark@vitrek.com or call (858) 334-3845.

AMANDA KRAMER

Continued from Page 1

emy of Our Lady of Peace, which was part of the team's 11-game winning streak.

"It was near the end of the game. I didn't even know until the end," Kramer said. "It was just a normal layup that I hit. I thought I didn't make it and thought I had 999 points at the end of the game, so I thought I would just get my thousandth point at the next game."

Kramer was able to reach this feat while being the only senior on the roster this season, despite playing soccer as much as basketball, including having played both sports last season. It seemed that she was destined to be a standout on the hardwood thanks in

part to the athletic history of her father, Mike Kramer, who played high school basketball – and her mother, Tania Kramer, who played high school and college basketball in Illinois.

"My dad went to Purdue, so we're huge Purdue fans," Kramer said. "One of the players on their team, Jayden Ivey, reminds me of myself. He's very fast and very aggressive, so when he plays I see me running down the court."

With a 4.5 GPA, she has so far applied to 22 schools and is currently considering finance, economics or business management as potential majors, hoping to study in her native state of Illinois or at a university somewhere in the Midwest.

"She plays four positions,

and her best is the wing," said head coach James Stewart. "She has played on defense all five positions. Her length and athletic ability allow her to defend all positions and makes for a very hard match-up for other teams."

Kramer, who has served as team captain the last two years, had several 30-point performances this season while averaging 21.6 points, 5 rebounds and 3 assists per game, and hit 37 percent from beyond the arc.

Even at her young age, Kramer already shows the traits of a leader, always acknowledging the efforts of those around her.

"Even if we do lose, I know we will go out playing our hardest," she said. "Everyone always works hard, and the teamwork is always there."



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Wrestlers from the SRHS varsity mens wrestling team competed in the CIF San Diego Section Division 2 Championships on Feb. 12, placing fourth. Eight Falcons qualified for the San Diego Section Masters Championship and June Melchior took fifth in the Masters 154 class. (photo by Jim Wick)



A young player participates in the Scripps Ranch Softball Association skills clinic held Jan. 8. (photo by Lisa Shadburn)



The SRHS mens soccer team fell to Helix High 1-2 in the first round of CIF San Diego Section playoffs Feb. 15. (photo by Jim Wick)



The SRHS womens varsity water polo team hosted Clairemont for the final home match of the season in a 3-15 loss on Feb. 3. (photo by Jim Wick)



Scripps Ranch Softball Association held its first Spring Recreation season games the week of Feb. 12. (photo by Lisa Shadburn)



SRHS womens soccer team lost 1-2 to Rancho Bernardo in the first round of the CIF San Diego Section Division 2 playoffs on Feb. 16 in overtime. (photo by Jim Wick)



Six SRHS womens wrestlers competed in the CIF-San Diego Section Girls' Wrestling Division 1 Championships on Feb. 5. (photo by Jim Wick)

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Opening Night: Apr. 16

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written by Lauren Gunderson
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THE TAMING
April 15 - May 1
Written by
Lauren Gunderson
Directed by
Marti Gobel



I HATE HAMLET
May 27 - June 12
Written by
Paul Rudnick
Directed by
Phil Johnson



May 27 - June 12
Fri & Sat 8pm • Sun 2pm
Preview Performance: May 27
Opening Night: May 28

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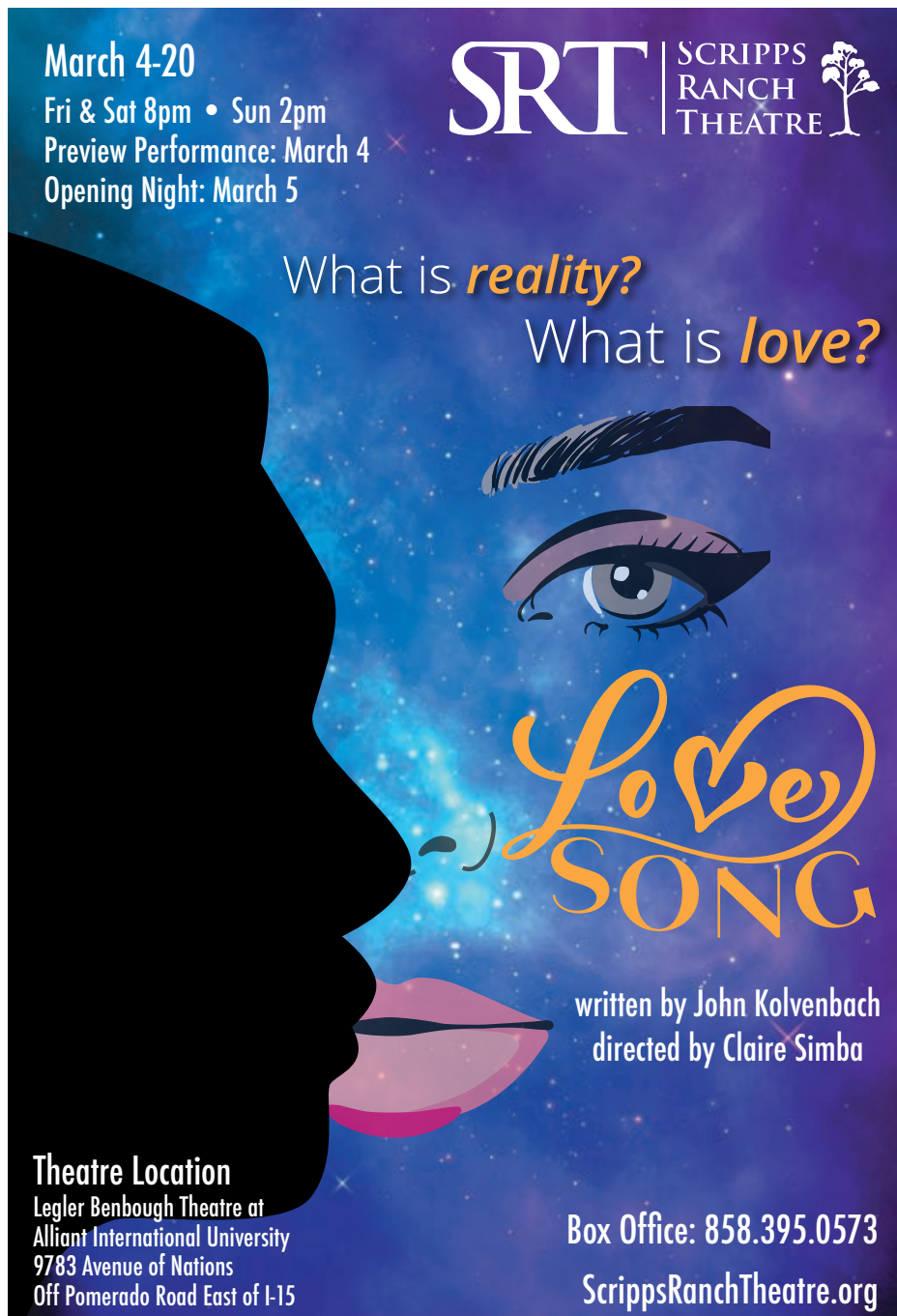
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