



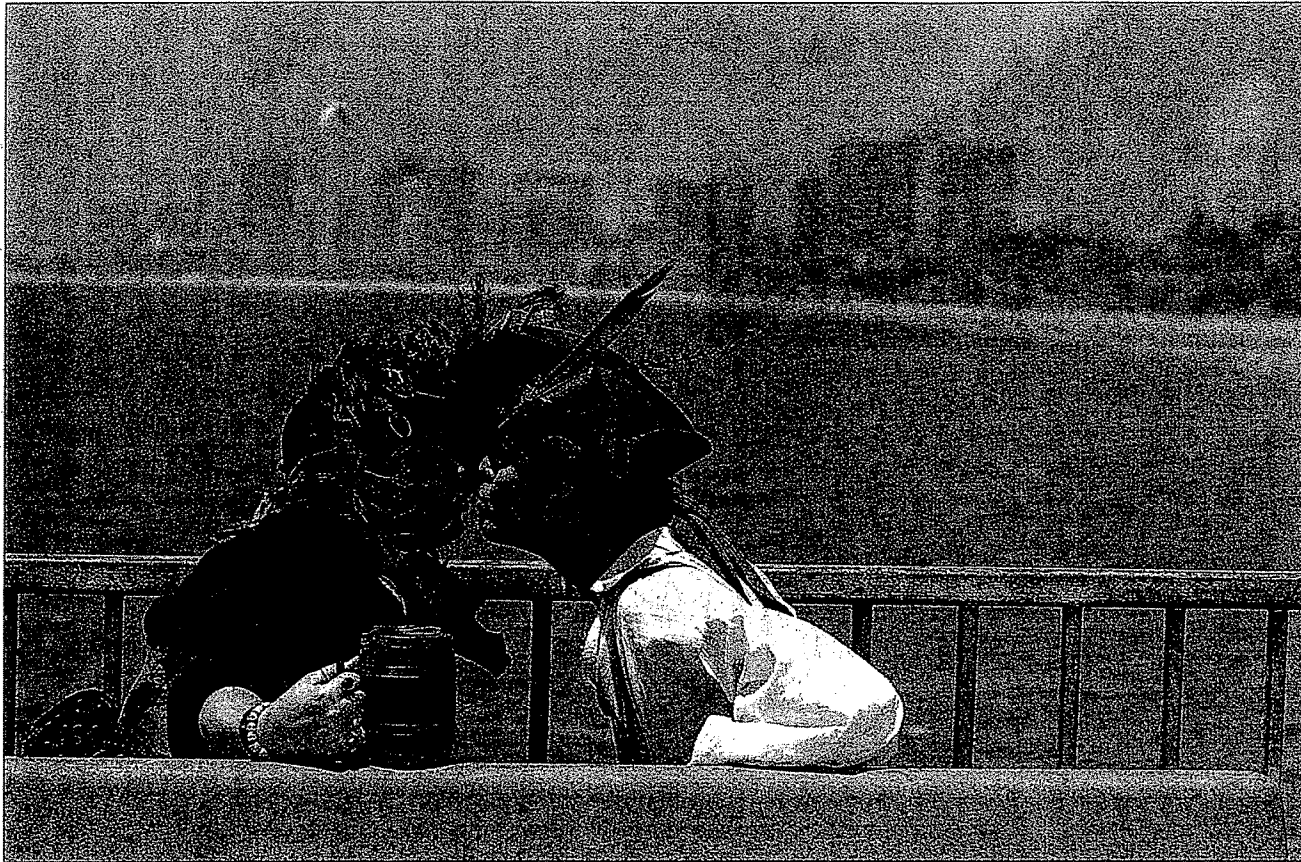
Summer 2008

Sample Media Coverage



A SEA DOG'S DELIGHT

Fun-loving pirates invade Long Beach for battles, food and music



Jeff Gritchen/Staff Photographer

They call themselves Wench Scarlett Harlett and Pirate Lycan, and, like all good pirates, they're not above stealing a kiss — in this case on the Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier during the Pier Daze Pirate Invasion Faire and Festival on Saturday. The event continues today.



TODAY

Pirate Invasion Faire and Festival, Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

Pacific Open Water Challenge, Belmont Pier area, 7 a.m.-noon.

THURSDAY

Thursday Night Concerts in the Park, Drake Park, 6-8 p.m.

By Kelly Puente
Staff Writer

LONG BEACH — Arrrrrrr, matey!!!! Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier has been invaded by pirates.

More than 50 of the surly seafarers swarmed the pier Saturday and celebrated the takeover with booming cannons, swordfights, food and music.

They've set up camp on the sand southeast of the pier and also have a few trading posts with pirate booty like treasure chests and gold coins.

The attack was actually all part of the 2008 Charter Communications Long Beach Sea Festival's series of summer events.

The invasion didn't scare 5-year-old Cody from Seal Beach, who came with his grandparents to watch.

"Hey, I see another Jack Sparrow!" he cried, referring to Johnny Depp's infamous character in "Pirates of the Caribbean."

In fact, there were at least four Jack Sparrows staggering along the pier, including one

MORE INSIDE

■ Open-water challenge will test swimmers today.

C3



Jeff Gritchen/Staff Photographer

Eric Casaday carries his son, Landon, 4, on his shoulders at Saturday's event, which is part of the Long Beach Sea Festival. Children and teens enjoy

Dr ho ce

STATE: Wi restrictions effect Tuesd you'd best b

By Tiffany Rider
Staff Writer

LONG BEACH tation of the bar wireless phone u ing looms Tues no grace period, highway patrol v eting offenders i

Two laws ar effect:

■ The first b ists from using h less phones while

One spat

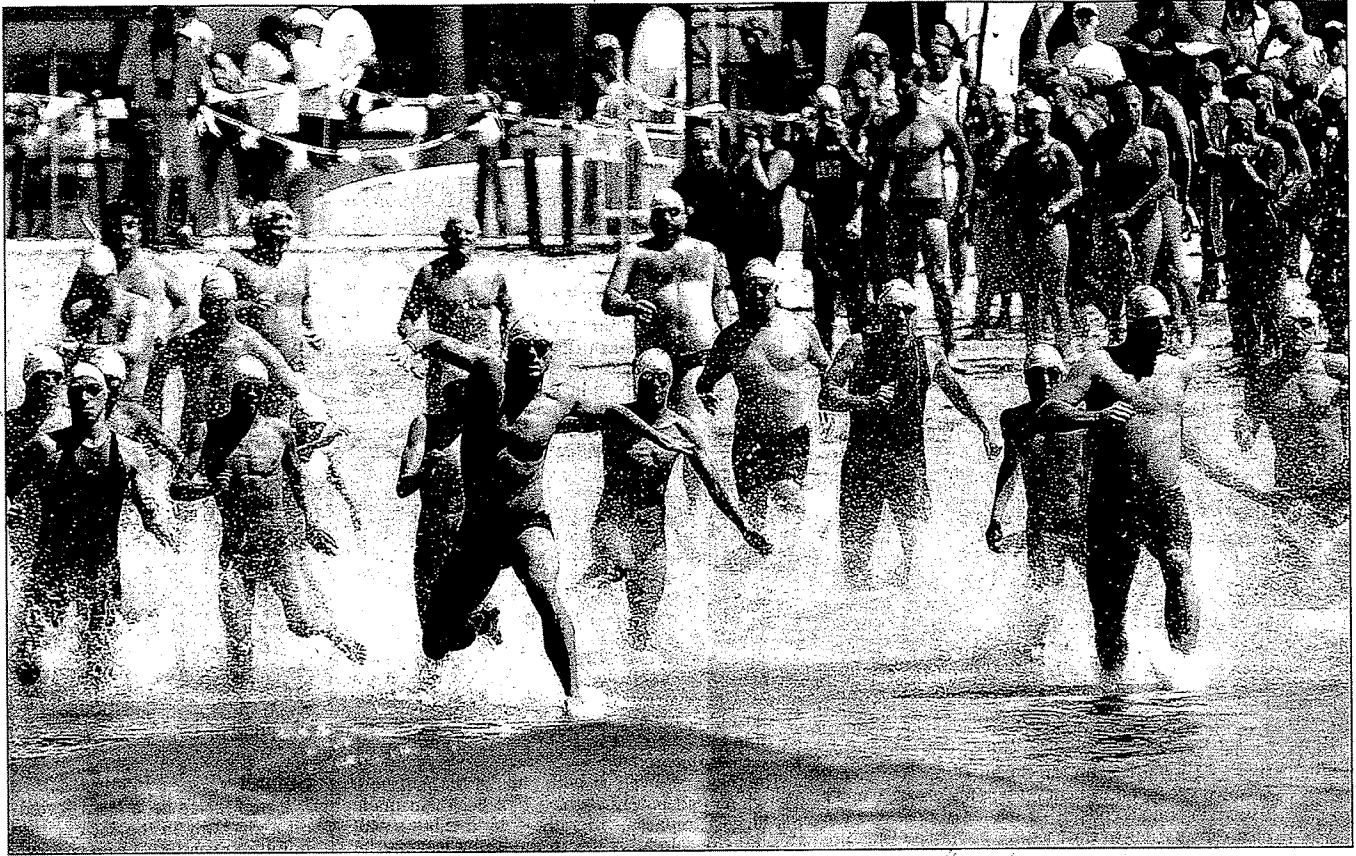
SHOOTING separate driv Long Beach i

By Kelly Puente
Staff Writer

LONG BEACH was killed and f injured early Sat separate drive- that occurred wi an hour, police s

Long Beach Jackie Bezar sa haven't ruled out

LONG BEACH SEA FESTIVAL



Scott Smeltzer/Staff Photographer

Swimmers rush into the water at the start of the men's 5K Pacific Open Water Challenge during the Sea Festival Sunday near Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier.

Splish-splashing away

By David Felton
Staff Writer

LONG BEACH — John Deters' first open water race began precariously but ended in fine fashion. The 20-year-old from Claremont got off to a slow start in Sunday's Pacific Open Water Challenge when he found himself in a pack of about 50 other swimmers.

"I was getting hit in the face a lot," said Deters, who will be a junior at

Deter, Heckman win open water race

the University of Notre Dame next year.

But as the 5-kilometer race progressed, Deters slowly pulled away from most of the field and eventually caught up to open water veteran Alex Kostich near the midway point. And

when they finally rounded the last buoy and emerged from the water just east of the Belmont Pier, Deters beat Kostich to the finish line with a 25-yard sprint and won the second annual event in a time of 51 minutes, 13 seconds. Kostich, a former Stan-

ford All-American who has won open water races around the world, was second in 51:17, and 16-year-old Jon Daniec of Mission Viejo finished third (52:14).

"It was fun, it was great," said

SWIM/C8



Scott Smeltzer/Staff Photographer

Several swimmers make the turn around the first buoy during the 5K Pacific Open Water Challenge at the opening of the Sea Festival.

SWIM

FROM PAGE C1

eters, who has trained in open water individually and with his club but had never competed in an official race. "I needed it a lot."

In the women's 5K race, which began approximately 15 minutes after the men, Pasadena's Dawn Heckman swam alone nearly the entire race and won in 56:26, well ahead of Megan Gehrich (7:55) and Amanda Maffris (8:04).

The race began under bright blue skies and with very little wind. But as the race progressed, a breeze picked up and made things difficult for the swimmers as they headed east — toward the pier — on the one-mile rectangular course.

"On the third lap, it got really choppy," said Deters. "Coming (west) it was more choppy and I couldn't see as well, either."

"Going west, you were basically facing a wall of water," said Kostich, 38. "I couldn't see the buoy or the pier."

Kostich, a three-time gold medalist in the pool at the Pan-Am Games, avoided most of the pack by getting out to a quick start.

"My patented strategy is ways to go out hard and hang on," Kostich said.

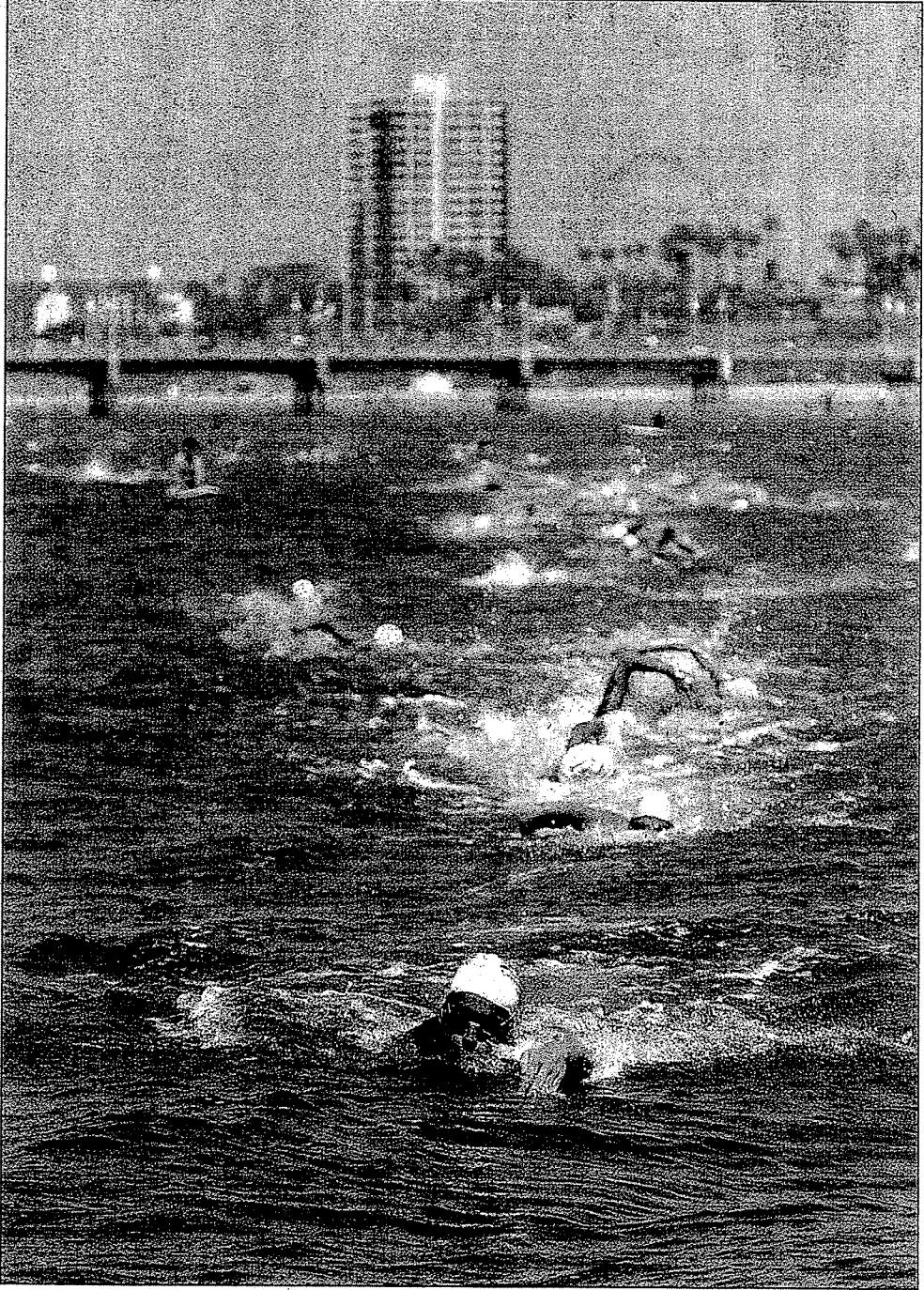
He led the lead comfortably the first lap but was joined

Deters about halfway through the second.

"It was really great to have someone pushing me," Kostich said.

Following the third and final lap, Deters emerged from the water just ahead of Kostich but seemed to lose sight of the finish line. He headed too

to the right briefly but was redirected to the correct course by some of the hundreds of spectators and missed the line ahead of Kostich with a little time to spare. Heckman, 30, had no such troubles in the women's race. She led from the outset and won most of the race by herself. "I was all alone," she said.



Scott Smeltzer/Staff Photographer

Alex Kostich takes an early lead in the 5K open water race, but finished second behind John Deter.

"Sad!"

When she came out of the water, her closest competitor was just reaching the last course marker and she crossed the finish line with plenty of time to spare.

"That was the good thing about being by myself," said

Heckman, who finished second in last year's inaugural event. "There was no hurry."

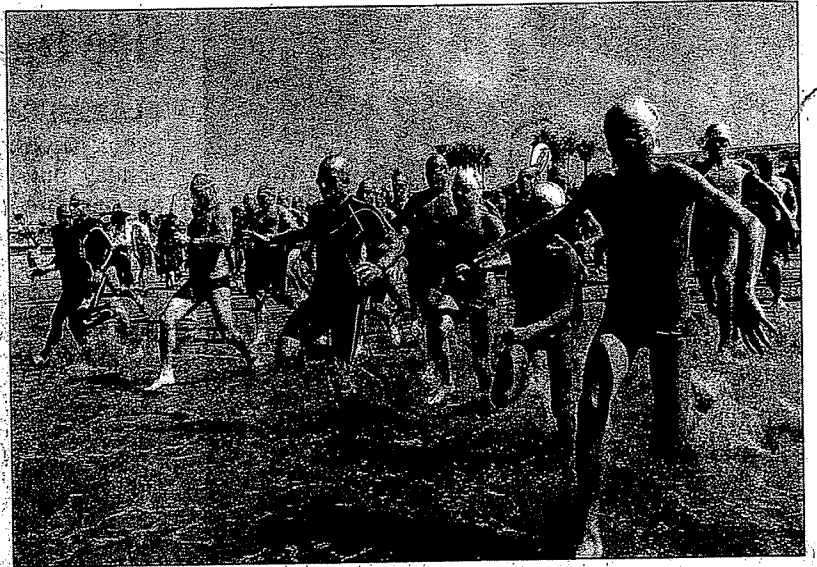
Sunday's race was the opening event in the 2008 Long Beach Sea Festival. Upcoming events include the Mayor's Cup, a women's sailing competition July 9-13, the Offshore

Powerfest, which includes the Catalina ski race, a jet ski race and an offshore powerboat race July 17-20 and the Long Beach Sprint Nationals, a circle boat race at Marine Stadium Aug. 2-3.

david.felton@presstelegram.com

LOCAL

People, pets take to sea for fun



Swimmers compete in the half-mile race Sunday in the Long Beach Sea Festival's Pacific Open Water Challenge. The event near Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier also included a one-mile swim, King and Queen of the Beach, the K9 Splash and Dash, in which Corey Howe and her boxer, Roxy, above, participated, and a five-kilometer swim. Bryan Dedeaux, left, a coach for the Mission Viejo Nadadores, gives his athletes a pep talk before the half-mile event. **Read more in Sports, Page C1.**

Scott Smeltzer/Staff Photographer

Open water

(Continued from Page 15A)

60 in California.

While the Pacific Open Water Challenge is just in its second year, it is growing fast.

With water temperatures in the mid 60s and flat water thanks to the breakwater, swimmers like the conditions. Munatones said.

There is a rectangular course set up off the Belmont Pier. The one-mile swimmers will go around it one time while the 5K swimmers will make three laps. Swimmers in the 5K will have a timer chip to record their times. There will be overall prizes as well as ones by age category.

There also will be a one-mile swim (starting at 7 a.m.), a half-

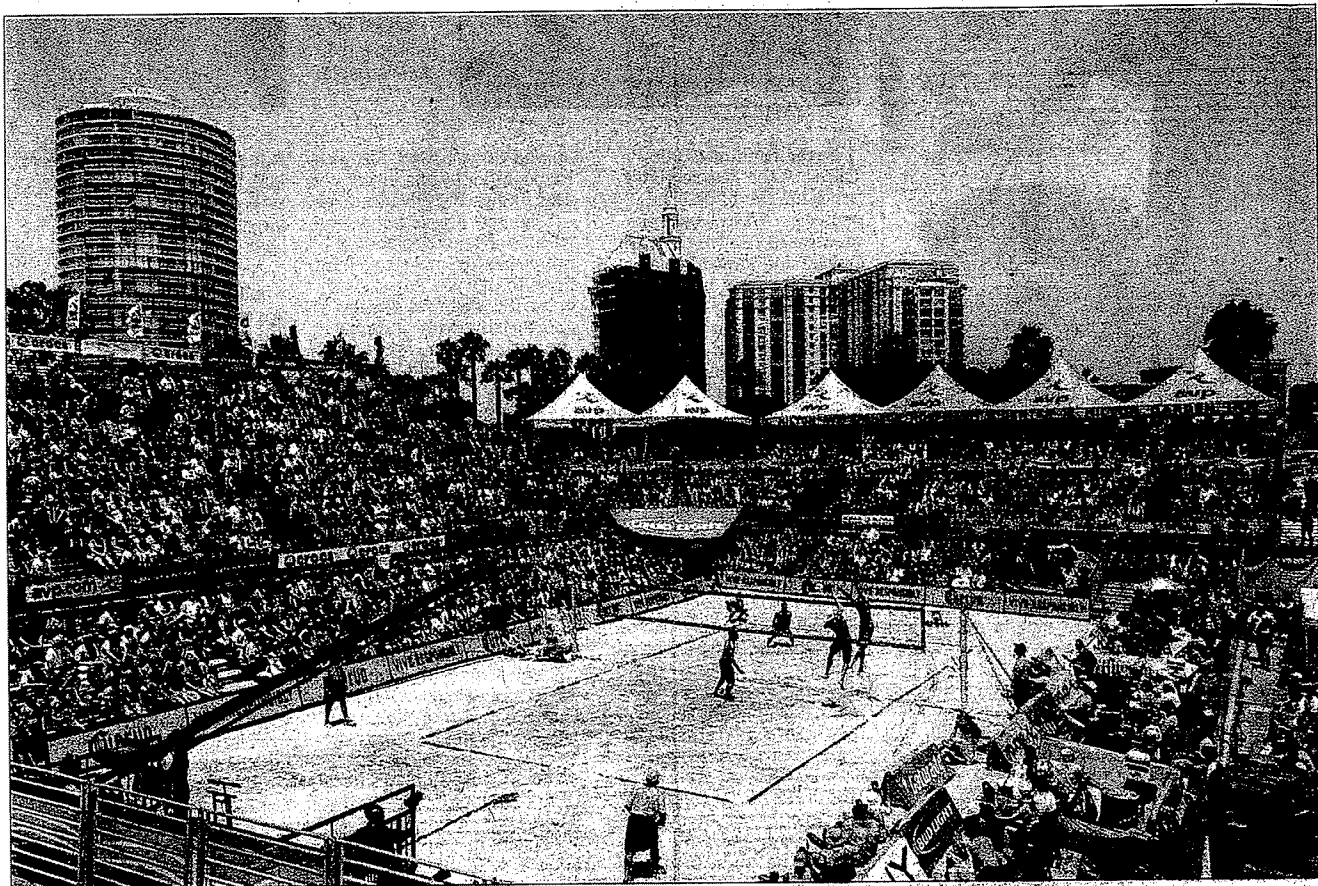
and Queen of the Beach" swim and paddle event (8 a.m.), an Aquathon (half-mile swim followed by a 5K run along the beach, sanctioned by the United States Triathlon Association) and a K9 "splash and dash" which is a run-swim with dogs and their owners.

To find out more or to sign up for any of the races, log on to

832

A NET GAIN

Pro volleyball players get ready for Beijing with a stop in Long Beach



Scott Smeltzer/Staff Photographer

Fans fill the stands Saturday during the AVP Long Beach Open at Marina Green Park. This is the second year the tourney is being held in Long Beach.

By Kelly Puente and Jessica Terrell
Staff Writers

LONG BEACH — Sunny skies, warm weather and four Olympics-bound teams brought fans to a full, sandy stadium at Marina Green on Saturday for the second day of the AVP Pro Volleyball Long Beach Open.

Beach attire was the norm as many fans, dressed in bikinis and board shorts, waved yellow noisemakers and cheered for their favorite players in the men's final. Spectators taking a break between matches could watch the pro players practice or browse more than two dozen vendors set up on the sand.

This is Long Beach's second year as host for the AVP Pro Beach Volleyball Tour. The tour features more than 150 of the sport's top competitors and will next head to San Diego on Friday.

FANS/A6

WANT TO GO?

Schedule: Gates open today at 9:15 a.m. The women's final begins at 1:45 p.m.

Tickets: Ticket prices start at \$20 and are available at the door.

Weather: At the beach today, you can expect a high of 79 degrees with fog in the morning and sunshine by midafternoon, says Accuweather meteorologist Josh Newhard.



MORE INSIDE

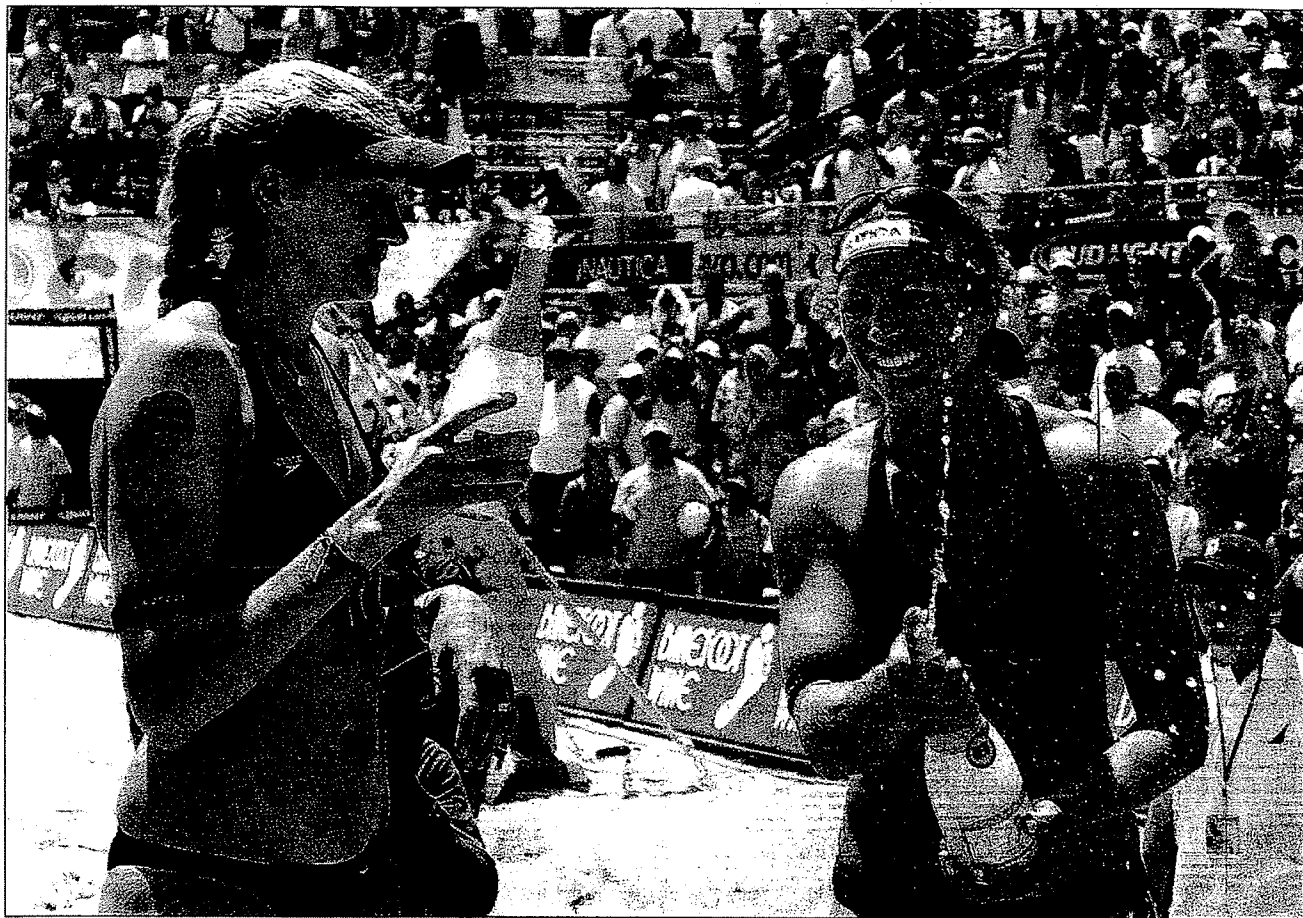
■ Results of Saturday's matches
C1

■ SeaFest events this week
A6

■ More photos and coverage of the AVP Long Beach Open
presstelegram.com

BRING ON BEIJING

OLYMPICS-BOUND MAY, WALSH DOMINATE AVP LONG BEACH OPEN



Champagne flowed freely Sunday for beach volleyball teammates Kerry Walsh, above left, and Misty May after their victory over Jennifer Boss and April Ross in the women's final of the AVP Long Beach Open. May, a former standout at Long Beach State, and Walsh are on a 101-match and 18-tournament winning streak. The partners are favored to win gold medals in next month's Olympic Games in Beijing. Angie



Akers, right, who with partner Holly McPeak lost to Walsh and May in the semifinals, took time to autograph the shirt of 15-year-old Kirby Jackman of Tustin.

Diandra Jay/Staff Photographer



■ See a schedule of this

■ Read about May and

■ See additional photographs

TODAY

AVP Pro Beach Volleyball, Marina Green, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.
View Sonic Long Beach Dragon Boat Festival, Marine Stadium, 8 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

TUESDAY

Moonlight Movies on the Beach, "Back to the Future," Granada Beach. Movies and cartoons begin at dusk.

Bixby Bluff Municipal Band Concerts, Bixby Bluff Park, 6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Moonlight Movies on the Beach, "North by Northwest," Cherry Beach. Movies and cartoons begin at dusk.

THURSDAY

Thursday Night Twilight Concerts in the Park, Somerset Park, 6-8 p.m.

Long Beach Municipal Band, Marine Stadium, 6:30-8:15 p.m.

FRIDAY

Classic Boat and Yacht Festival, Rainbow Avenue and Pine Avenue Pier. For information see www.shorelineyachtclub.com



Kids Fishing Rodeo, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier.

SATURDAY

Crawfish Festival, Noon-11 p.m., Rainbow Lagoon.

Long Beach Sprint Nationals, Marine Stadium, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

Classic Boat and Yacht Festival, Rainbow Avenue and Pine Avenue Pier. For information see www.shorelineyachtclub.com.

SUNDAY

Pier Daze, 3-7 p.m., Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier.

Crawfish Festival, Noon-11 p.m., Rainbow Lagoon.

Long Beach Sprint Nationals, Marine Stadium, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

Classic Boat and Yacht Festival, Rainbow Avenue and Pine Avenue Pier. For information see www.shorelineyachtclub.com.

Visit www.longbeachseafestival.com for more information.



Nicole Branagh signs an autograph on Monica Bercovich's shirt during the AVP Long Beach Open on Saturday at Marina Green Park. At right is Marsha Hiscocks. Branagh and her partner, Elaine Youngs, will go to Beijing to represent the United States in the Olympic Games. Scott Smeltzer/Staff Photographer

FANS

FROM PAGE A1

CEO and Commissioner Leonard Armato said attendance was just as large, if not larger than last year, despite the sluggish economy. The organization does not make an official estimate on the number of attendees, he said.

The stadium is set up on the beach, but organizers actually bring in approximately 200 tons of sand purchased from a local company.

The event, Armato said, is fitting for a seaside city.

"It's the perfect Long Beach event," Armato said.

Four U.S. teams playing this

weekend are headed to the Summer Olympics in Beijing — Misty May-Treanor and Kerri Walsh, Nicole Branagh and Elaine Youngs, Phil Dalhausser and Todd Rogers and Jake Gibb and Sean Rosenthal.

High school volleyball player Maria Montero, 16, of Hemet said she was most excited to get a picture with Kerri Walsh on Saturday.

"It's cool because not many professional sports let you just walk up to players," she said.

Hermosa Beach residents Margo Cusher and her husband, Bill Patterson, were there to support friend and neighbor Tyra Turner, who had just won her match.

Cusher, who played volleyball in high school and attends

most of Turner's matches, said the sport requires serious power and endurance.

"AVP is not recognized the way it should be," she said. "It's a brutal sport. What this girl does is phenomenal."

kelly.puente@presstelegram.com, 562-499-1305



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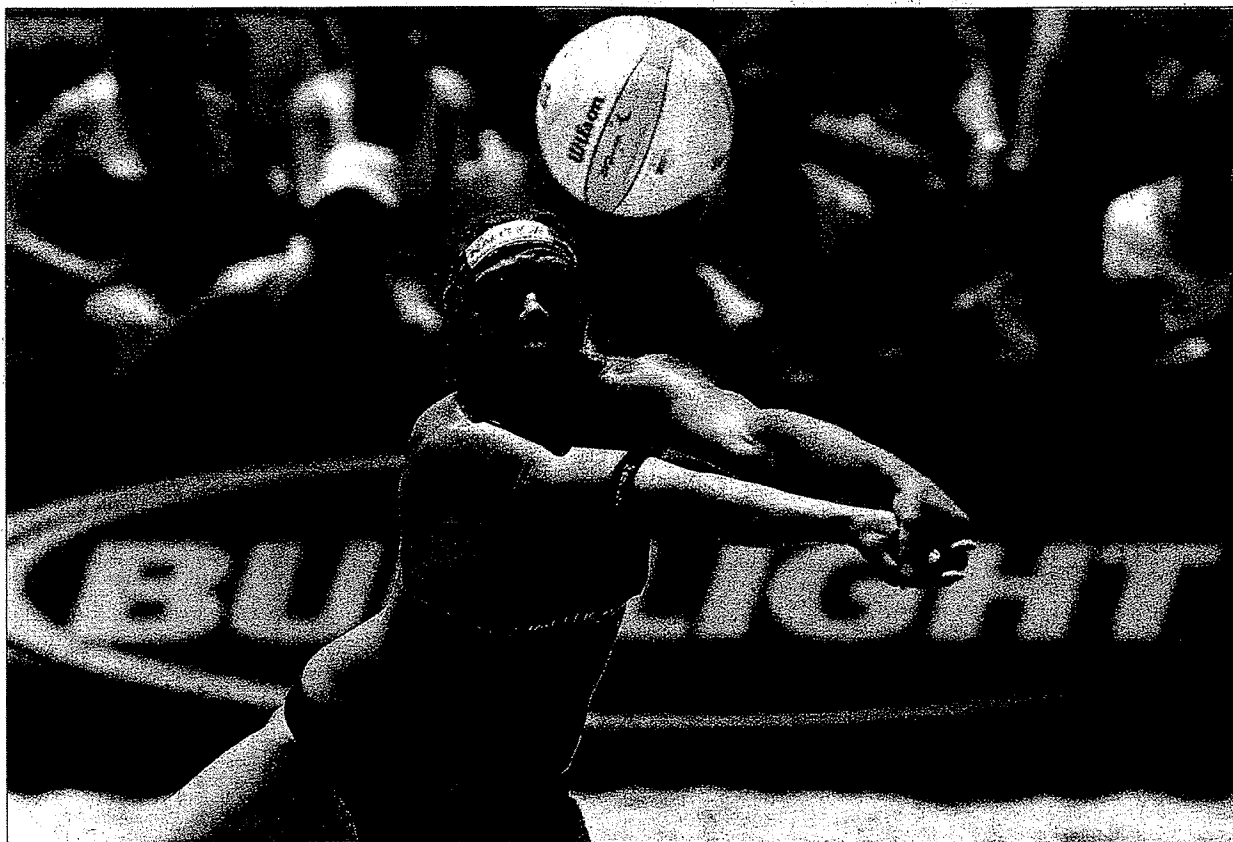
BASEBALL: Dodgers sweep Nationals; Angels can't do the same to the Orioles. **C5**

SPORTS

presstelegram.com
Monday 07/28/08

C

AVP TOUR



Dlandra Jay/Staff Photographer
Misty May-Treanor digs a ball in the second game. May-Treanor teamed with Kerri Walsh for a relatively easy win over Jennifer Boss and April Ross at Marina Green Park.

Ready for Beijing

Let's keep
the AVP



May-Treanor,
Walsh cruise

39



Tracey Roman/For the Press-Telegram
Ted Oh won the Long Beach Open in a playoff over Brian Hughes at El Dorado Park.

Oh sinks birdie to take LB Open

GOLF: He drains 15-foot putt to hold off Hughes in playoff.

By David Felton
Staff Writer

LONG BEACH — Ted Oh didn't make a lot of birdie putts during Sunday's final round of the \$160,000 Long Beach Open at El Dorado Park. He did, however, make the one that counted most.

Oh sank a 15-foot birdie putt on the first hole of a playoff with Brian Hughes, then watched Hughes miss from within 5 feet, and claimed the \$29,000 first-place check.

"It was a dead-straight putt," said the 32-year-old from Torrance who had won professionally in Asia but never in the U.S. before. "I hit it straight and it rolled in the hole. I think it was the longest putt I made today."



Harry How/Getty

Former 49ers star Misty May-Treanor will play in her adopted second home this weekend before heading for Beijing and the Olympic Games as a favorite for gold.

May-Treanor's trek continues



**DOUG
KRIKORIAN**

Oh, what a golden life it now is for Misty May-Treanor, the 30-year-old one-time Long Beach State All-American volleyball player who has, along with her formidable partner Kerri Walsh, become the most dominant beach performer in the history of her sport.

The victories just keep piling up week after week, month after month, year after year, for May-Treanor and Walsh, who enter the AVP Crocs Bud Lite Slam Long Beach Open that commences today at Marina Green Park with a record 96 straight match wins and 17 straight tournament wins.

So does the adulation and recognition, as Misty May-Treanor, Walsh and 10 other Olympic-bound athletes last Monday had dinner at the White House with President

DOUG/C7

AVP SCHEDULE

TODAY

Men's/Women's Qualifiers
Gates open at 7:30 a.m.
Competition, 8 a.m.-6 p.m.

FRIDAY

Men's/Women's Main Draw
Gates open at 8:30 a.m.
Competition, 9 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

Men's/Women's Main Draw
Gates open at 7:30 a.m.
Men's final at 1:30 p.m.

SUNDAY

Women's Main Draw
Gates open at 9:15 a.m.
Women's final at 1:30 p.m.

AVP's future in LB is bright

By Bob Keisser
Staff Writer

If everything goes according to their most sincere plans, the creation of Volleyball Professionals (AVP) and the people behind Long Beach Sea Festival renew their vows and keep Beach as part of the AVP tour. But we all know how true young love can be.

The AVP tour date in Long Beach this weekend, which is

A

Duo eats up home cooking

BEACH VOLLEYBALL:

Hochevar, Fopma thrive at their hometown tournament.

By Bob Keisser
Staff Writer

It may have been just one day in the AVP Long Beach Open at Marina Green Park, but it had multiple personalities.

Friday was a predictably short day for Misty May-Treanor and Kerri Walsh. The women's top seeds, seeking their 18th consecutive win in their penultimate event before the Beijing Olympics, made quick work of Ashley Ivy and Heather Lowe in their only match of the day and will meet No. 8 seeds Angie Akers and Holly McPeak in a winner's bracket match today at 9 a.m. The veteran McPeak was May-Treanor's partner in the 2000 Olympics.

It was an exceedingly good day for Brittany Hochevar and Jennifer Fopma. The former Long Beach State star and Fopma, who was born in Bellflower and went to Cerritos Valley Christian High School, had to stress through three matches in qualifying Thursday to reach the main draw, and then advanced with gusto to the winner's bracket Friday with two wins.

They beat No. 10 seeds Michele More and Susanne Stonberger in three sets, 21-19, 23-21, 17-15 for the match, and then beat No. 7 Dianne DeNocochea and Barbra Fontana in two.

Today at 10 a.m., they'll face the other surprise team in the winner's side, No. 15 seeds Angela Lewis and

AVP/C10

AVP SCHEDULE

TODAY

Men's/Women's Main Draw

Gates open at 7:30 a.m.

Men's final at 1:30 p.m.

SUNDAY

Women's Main Draw

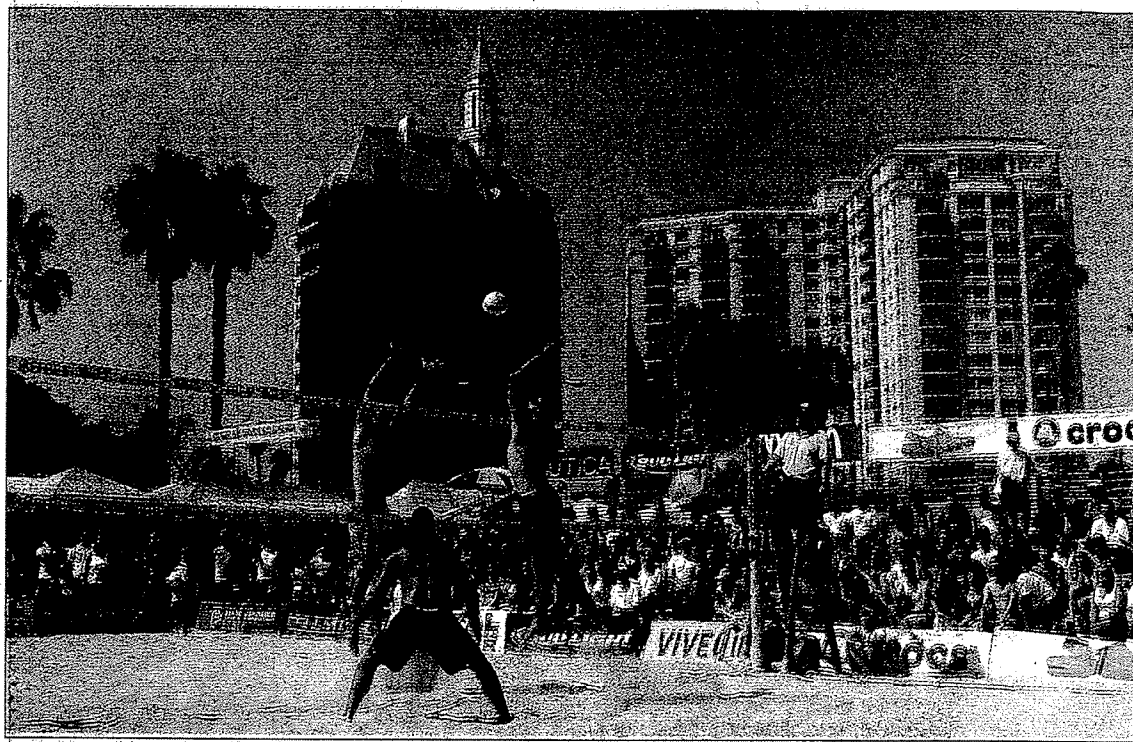
Gates open at 9:15 a.m.

Women's final at 1:30 p.m.



Steven Georges/Staff Photographer

Former Long Beach State star Ryan Mariano and his partner Ed Ratledge won an elimination match to remain alive today.



Steven Ratledge/Staff Photographer

Ed Ratledge, right, teamed with Ryan Mariano to give Jake Gibb and Sean Rosenthal an early scare at the AVP Long Beach Open.

AVP

FROM PAGE C1

Priscilla Lima, who won their first-round match and then upset No. 2 seeds Annett Davis and Jenny Johnson Jordan, 21-19, 21-17.

Hochevar was jazzed to be playing so well after running into some tough luck and competition in previous tournaments since returning from indoor league play overseas in Istanbul.

"We've found ourselves facing top seeds in first- and second-round matches because of upsets, and those were tough to play and lose," Hochevar, who she said, "We've been playing well the last two days and feel like we've hit a stride we haven't had all season."

Hochevar and Fopma, who started her college career at Pepperdine and ended it at Cal State Northridge, could be looking at their best finish since they began playing together this season.

Hochevar had five finishes in the top nine in 2007. Fopma, who previously teamed with former high school teammate Stacy Rouwenhorst, finished third with McPeak in a tournament last season. If they beat Lewis-Lima, they'll advance and likely meet Olympic-bound Nicole Branagh and Elaine Youngs.

It was an unexpectedly trying day for Davis, the St. Anthony High product, and Lenny Johnson Jordan, the

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

Today's early match schedule in the AVP Long Beach Open, with team seed in parenthesis. The men's final is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. and will be televised live on NBC (Ch. 4).

MEN

8 a.m., winner's bracket: Phil Dalhausser-Todd Rogers (1) vs. Matt Olson-Kevin Wong (5); Pedro Brazao-Jose Loliola (10) vs. Jake Gibb-Sean Rosenthal (3).

8 a.m., contender's bracket: Nick Lucena-Sean Scott (2) vs. Stein Metzger-Mark Williams (6); Dan Holdren-Will Strickland (15) vs. Ryan Mariano-Ed Ratledge (11).

WOMEN

9 a.m., winner's bracket: Misty May-Treanor-Kerri Walsh (1) vs. Angie Akers-Holly McPeak (8).

Tyra Turner-Rachel Wacholder (5) vs. Jennifer Boss-April Ross (4).

10 a.m., winner's bracket: Nicole Branagh-Elaine Youngs (3) vs. Carrie Dodd-Tatiani Minello (6); Jennifer Fopma-Brittany Hochevar (23) vs. Angela Lewis-Priscilla Lima (15).

9 a.m., contender's bracket: Annett Davis-Jenny Jordan Johnson (2) vs. Dianne DeNocochea-Barbra Fontana (7); Katie Lindquist-Tracy Lindquist (11) vs. Keao Burdine-Jennifer Snyder (20).

10 a.m., contender's bracket: Lauren Fendick-Paula Roca (13) vs. Whitney Pavlik-Stacy Rouwenhorst (12); Jenny Kropp-Nancy Mason (9) vs. Ashley Ivy-Heather Lowe (17).

er's bracket. They beat Sara Dukes and Chrissie Zartman to survive but now will face DeNocochea-Fontana.

"We didn't play very well," Davis said of the first match. "We've been playing good this season until last week. They're a very scrappy team."

"It's very hard, especially when you have just a 24-team draw and you're facing players in your first match who are very talented. There isn't anyone out here who isn't good

It was a promising day for former 49er Ryan Mariano and Ed Ratledge despite a loss, because that's just the way the affable Mariano rolls.

The four-year letterman from Long Beach State and Ratledge beat Jason Lee-Austin Rester and Stein Metzger-Mark Williams to reach a showdown with No. 3 seed and Beijing Olympians Jake Gibb and Sean Rosenthal.

The Olympians won the first game. Mariano and Ratledge

win to take the match.

Mariano and Ratledge dropped the first game in their elimination match against veterans Canyon Ceman and Casey Patterson but rallied for a 19-21, 21-15, 21-19 win and will meet Dax Holdren and Will Strickland today at 8 a.m.

"We had a good time," Mariano said. "We were neck-and-neck with the No. 2 team in the world and were in there until the very end, and it took a great point by them to win."

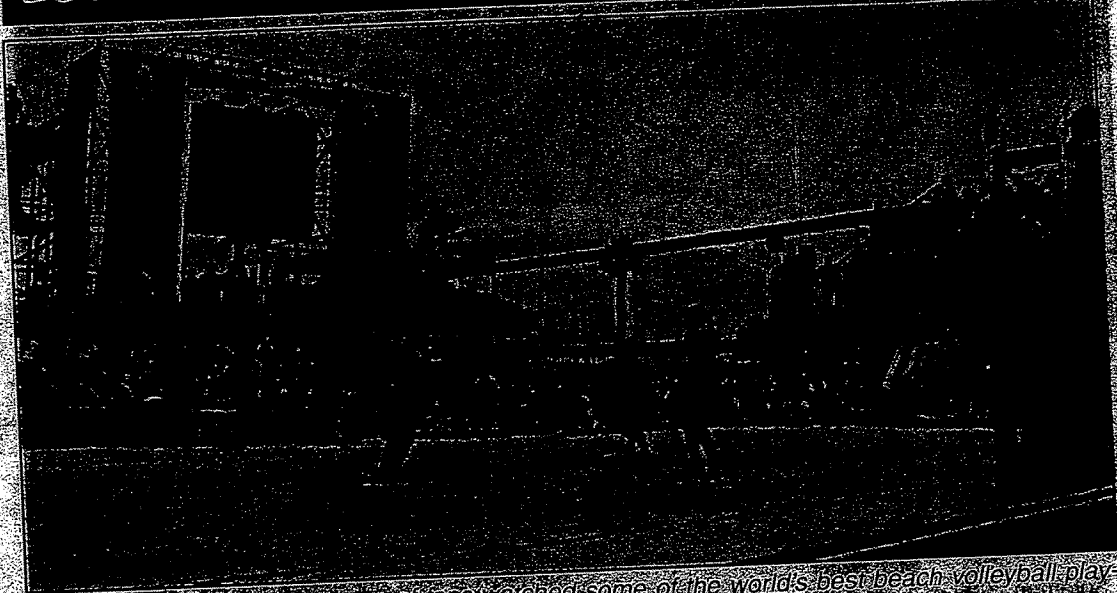
"It's absolutely (a benefit) to play the best. Even losing, it makes us better for our next matches. They play at such a high level. They're so good that they're almost teaching you indirectly how to do the right thing and how to be a better player."

"I feel we're getting better, and it's because of what we do in matches against guys like Jake and Sean."

Men's top seed Phil Dalhausser and Todd Rogers advanced to the winner's bracket foursome with two straight-set wins Friday, beating former Long Beach State standout Matt Prosser and Paul Baxter and then No. 8 seeds Matt Fuerbringer and Casey Jennings.

Prosser and Baxter were eventually eliminated by Ceman-Patterson. Former Long Beach State standout Alicia Mills Polzin and Jenny Pavley also were eliminated Friday. Another 49er, Jennifer Snyder and teammate Keao Burdine dropped their first

LONG BEACH SEA FESTIVAL



BIG CROWDS Large numbers of fans watched some of the world's best beach volleyball players in Long Beach last year, including hometown hero Misty May-Treanor. *Gazette file photo*

Long Beach Last Stop For Olympians

By Kelly Garrison
Features Editor

Big names in volleyball have returned to Long Beach for an annual showdown of bumping, setting, tossing and spiking on the sand.

The Association of Volleyball Professionals (AVP) Crocs Slam, Bud Light Long Beach Open, will take place from Friday, July 24 to Sunday, July 27, downtown Long Beach, Green Park.

Competitions throughout the weekend will narrow dozens of teams down to the best in beach volleyball.

It's the greatest summertime sports experience on the planet. AVP Chief Executive Officer Leonard Armato said. "It's world-class athletes battling it out on the beach, surrounded by this ultimate beach experience in an area that's on NBC."

There are wonderful athletes to observe and a lot to do for every member of the family.

An Open Qualifier round will determine the top teams during a daylong single-elimination tournament — free for spectators — from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. today.

At the end of the event, the names of the winners will be added to a list of those to be included in the Main Draw tournament.

During the Main Draw, a total of 196 athletes will compete in teams of two on seven courts in a double-elimination tournament.

Preliminary action on the beach courts is free to spectators, but tickets are required to get into the full stadium court, which will feature the top seed.

Names of the event's bracketing four sport of the Charter Communications Sea Festival AVP was established in 1983 and is made up of top men's and women's professional beach volleyball players. Events take place throughout the weekend at Marina Green Park, 700 E. Shoreline Dr. General admission tickets start at \$20 per person. Parking will be available in the lots off of Shoreline Drive, next to the Long Beach Arena.

For tickets or more information about the tour, visit www.avp.com or call 1-800-4-AVP.

Along with watching the tournament, guests can partake in a number of interactive programs and also sample sponsor products in the Sponsor Village area.

The Long Beach stop of the nationally renowned AVP sport is part of the Charter Communications Sea Festival AVP was established in 1983 and is made up of top men's and women's professional beach volleyball players. Events take place throughout the weekend at Marina Green Park, 700 E. Shoreline Dr. General admission tickets start at \$20 per person. Parking will be available in the lots off of Shoreline Drive, next to the Long Beach Arena.

For tickets or more information about the tour, visit www.avp.com or call 1-800-4-AVP.



DOUG
KRIKORIAN

Fistic war well worth the wait

LAS VEGAS — Miguel Cotto-Antonio Margarito WBA Welterweight Title diary:

6:15 p.m.: Walk into Media Center at the MGM Saturday evening, and, natch, the first person I run into is the boss of the room, Steve Brener, former Los Angeles Dodger public relations director who's gone on to fame and fortune starting his own PR biz. He relates vital information to me — that Cotto is a 2 1/2 to 1 favorite in the betting shops.

6:28: Make my way to my MGM Grand Garden press seat, where the fellow next to me is the respected author, Thomas Hauser, who wrote, among many other books, the best-selling "Muhammad Ali: His Life And Times" Mr. Hauser also penned "Missing," which was turned into a film starring Jack Lemmon and Sissy Spacek.

6:30: Spot the former great fighter, Julio Cesar Chavez, at ringside, where he's doing commentary for TV Azteca.

6:35: Also spot at ringside alongside HBO's Jim Lampley and Emanuel Steward that most irritating announcer, Max Kellerman.

Where's Larry Merchant? Is there anyone alive who likes Max Kellerman other than Max Kellerman and HBO gigwig Ross Greenburg?

6:38: One of those dreary undercard matches — this one is between junior welterweights Cesar Bazan and Mike Alvarado — comes to a blessed ending at 2:40 of the fourth round. The unbeaten Alvarado ends it with a hook to Bazan's body. No one seems to care, which is not unusual. No one ever cares about the fights that lead up to the main attraction.

6:48: That old Robert Redford lookalike, Bob Halloran, who made all the big fights at Caesars during the 1970s and 1980s and now is a fistic consultant for the MGM, says hello to me as he stands in front of the ring. Alas, he no longer looks like Robert Redford, not surprising since Robert Redford no longer looks like Robert Redford, either 6:50: That boxing turncoat, Marc Ratner — he's now an executive for the Ultimate Fighting Championship — comes over and

nnn/c/7

AVP LONG BEACH OPEN

An Olympic-sized crown



Scott Smeltzer/Staff Photographer

Jake Gibb, after teaming with Sean Rosenthal to beat Phil Dalhausser and Todd Rogers, said he believes both teams can medal in Beijing.

Gibb-Rosenthal shock Dalhausser-Rogers

By Bob Keisser
Staff Writer

There was a moment in the second game of Saturday's men's final at the AVP Long Beach Open, in the midst of an unusual and unprecedented sandside, when Jake Gibb paused at the net after a point and appeared to ponder the situation.

Gibb had just stuffed the 6-foot-9 Phil Dalhausser, one point in a stunning 10-1 run that led him and teammate Sean Rosenthal to an impressive 21-14, 21-14 win over Dalhausser and Todd Rogers, the world's top-ranked team and the odds-on favorite to win the gold medal in Beijing starting in two weeks.

Gibb gazed at the raucous cheering section, Rosie's Raiders, for his partner seated on the south side of the stadium at Marina Green Park. He gave his partner a look and took a deep breath as hyperbolic AVP announcer Chris "Geeter" McGee went maniacal on the microphone.

"All I wanted to do was not think about the lead, and focus on the next point," Utah native Gibb said, "because I've been ahead of them before and let my mind wander. We've had moments against them before, but not like that."

There was no wandering, just wander-

AVP/C10

AVP SCHEDULE

TODAY
Women's Main Draw
Gates open at 9:15 a.m.
Women's final at 1:30 p.m. Ch. 4



Carlos Delgado/Staff Photographer
Steve Conway hits left-handed out of the rough to save par at hole 5 and is five strokes behind.

Oh my! Ted Oh leads at LB Open

GOLF: Veteran from Torrance shoots a 6-under-par 66.

By David Felton
Staff Writer

LONG BEACH — The lead may be the last thing Ted Oh wants entering today's final round of the Long Beach Open. No player who ended the first or second round with the lead — Derek Sipe, Stan Mathews or Steve Conway — was in front after his next round.

burden Oh bears after torching El Dorado Park Golf Course for a 6-under-par 66 Saturday. The 32-year-old Torrance resident birdied five holes on the back 9 — including a chip-in from about 30 yards at No. 15 — and takes a three-round total of 16-under 199 into today's final round.

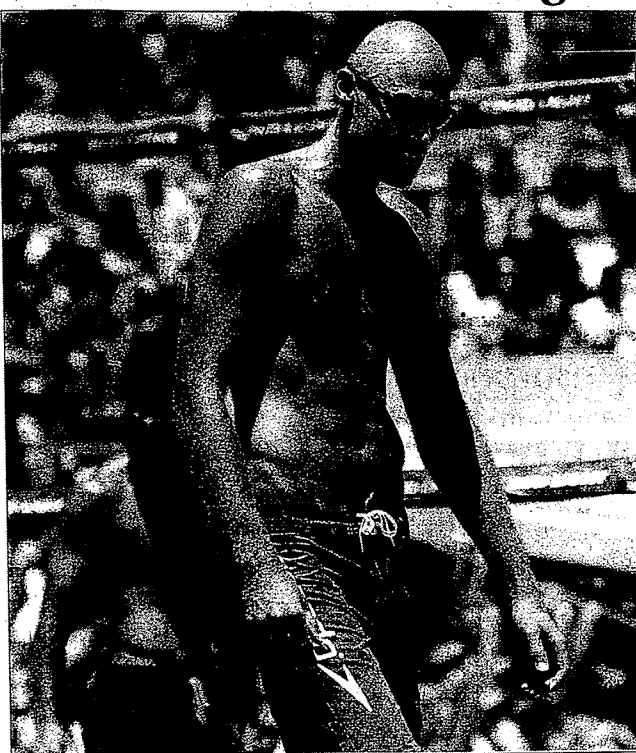
"I didn't drive the ball as well as the last two days," said Oh, "but I made some putts at the end. ... (And the chip-in) really helped a lot."

Just two groups ahead of Oh was Brian Hughes, who matched this year's tournament low round with a 64. Hughes birdied six of the first seven holes and eagled the par-4 14th with a gap wedge

GOLF/C3

Dodgers land Blake from Tribe

BASEBALL: L.A.



Jeff Gritchen/Staff Photographer

Phil Dalhausser, right, and Todd Rogers were upset about the way they played against Jake Gibb and Sean Rosenthal, but still feel good about their chances at the Olympics.

LONG BEACH SEA FESTIVAL



PLAYING IN THE SAND. The best of the players, like the women pictured here, were still around Sunday during the Sinjin Smith Volleyball Tournament that took place last weekend downtown as part of the Charter Communications Sea Festival. —Photo by Thomas Wasper

Tennis Event Brought Nation's Best To City

By Kurt Helin
Editor

Tennis is a young person's sport — the current top-ranked woman in the world is just 19.

That's why a lot of people were paying attention to the 14-and-under United States Tennis Association National Open Junior Tennis Tournament that took place this week at the El Dorado Park Tennis Center and the Billie Jean King Tennis Center next to Wilson High School. The event is part of the Charter Communications Sea Festival in Long Beach.

"There are a lot of kids from Southern California, but they come from everywhere," said Cathy Jacobson-Guzy, the tournament director.

There were 64 boys and 64 girls in the tournament. Some of them are nationally-ranked junior players, while others are up

and comers in the tennis world.

Both of the winners were from Los Angeles. On the girls' side of the draw Lindsey Kostas, who beat Sarah Gealer in the finals 4-6, 6-4, 6-1.

One of the players she beat along the way was Long Beach's own Elizabeth Profit. The sixth grader recently reached the finals of a tournament in Cerritos and is considered one of the top players in her age bracket in the state.

On the boys' side, Alex Scheinman won the tournament with a 6-3, 6-3 win against Jonathan Huang.

The two winners faced competition from around the nation, as players from Arizona, Nevada, Utah, Washington and Texas came to Long Beach.

Boys and girls were bracketed in a double-elimination tournament, meaning even if they lost

their first match, they played a second. The top three finishers get an automatic entry in the USTA Junior National Open later this year.

Long Beach has a great history of tennis — this is the city where Billie Jean King grew up and learned to play on public courts. That continues through today, where former Poly High School star Vania King is playing on the women's pro circuit and is ranked in the top 100 players in the world.

Reaching that level is what the youth playing in the Long Beach tournament are hoping to accomplish.

Long Beach also is a great draw because it makes a great family vacation spot for the families, Jacobson-Guzy said. After playing here, they are just a short drive away from Disneyland.

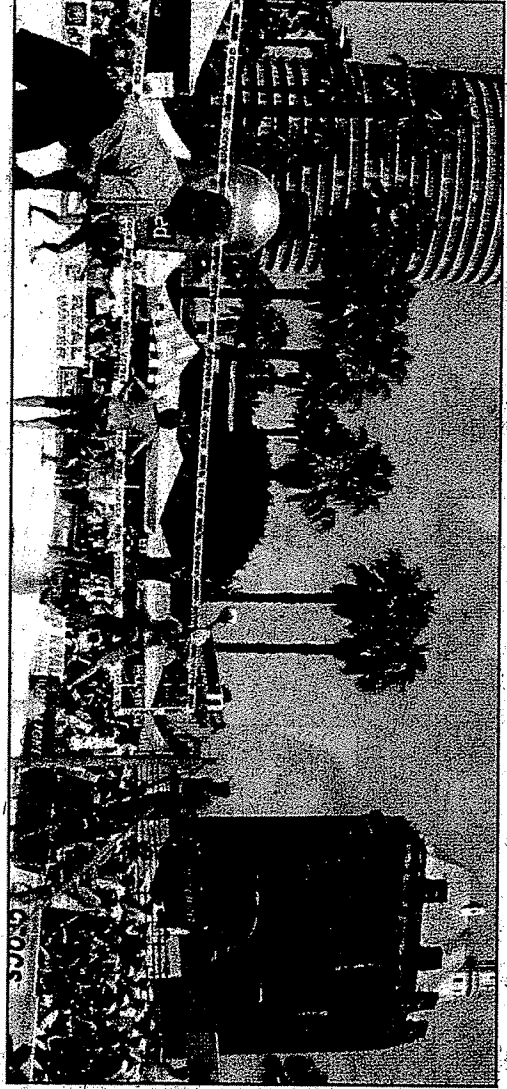
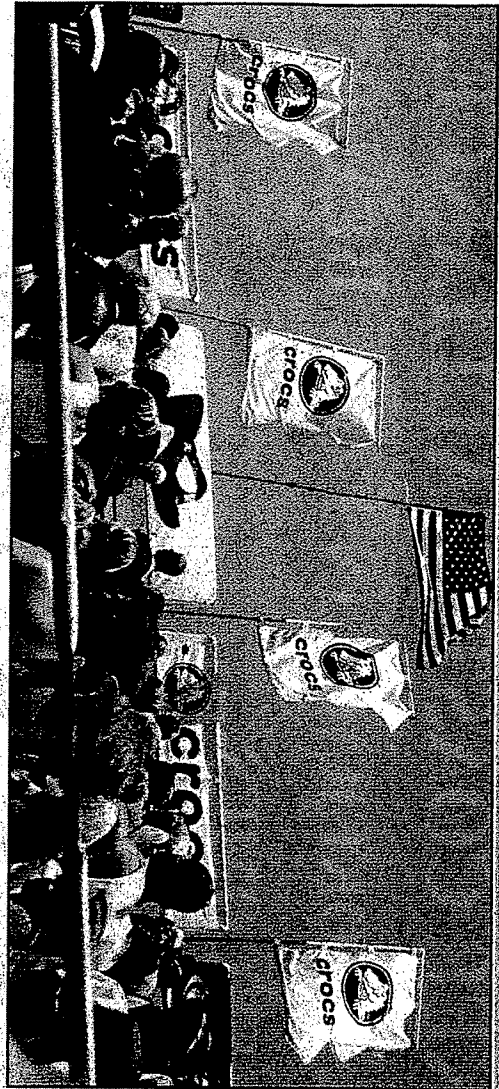
28.2

✓ Sports Rap, Pg. 3B • ✓ For A Good Cause, Pg. 19B • ✓ In Memory, Pg. 22B

GAZETTE Lifestyle

July 31, 2008

CROSSWORD • CALENDAR • CLASSIFIEDS • REAL ESTATE • SPORTS



BIG HITTING WEEKEND. Big crowds heard the national anthem Sunday at the Crocs AVP Long Beach Open (upper left) and saw volleyball with a view of the Long Beach skyline (lower left). Misty May (above) and teammate Kerri Walsh took the women's title. —Gazette photos by Kevin Oules and Harry Salzgaver

Kids Fishing Rodeo is worthwhile

There are many outdoor activities coming on for the summer but probably none as historically important as the Southern California Tuna Club's 56th Annual Kids Fishing Rodeo held on my most favorite place in the world, the place where I was nurtured into the world's greatest fishing spot, Belmont Pier.

I spent hours fishing with bent pins and flour dough balls for smelt and fish strips for herring and mackerel and dragging the bottom for halibut. I charged the veteran halibut fishermen 25 cents to swim their sinker and bait 100 yards off the end of the pier (when the lifeguards weren't looking). At one time in my young life I called Belmont Pier my home. For that reason I have a large soft spot in my heart for the Kids Rodeo.

The Southern California Tuna Club (SCTC) has been in existence in Long Beach since 1925. The club has over 200 members dedicated to fishing activities and conservation of the marine environment. They are involved with activities of the marine biology department at Long Beach State and join them in many ecology projects. Many of the SCTC members fished in the tournament when they were kids and are now bringing their kids to the activity. The event usually sees from 200 to 300 kids attending.

All kids register at the end of the pier where they receive a raffle ticket. Fishing starts at 8 a.m. and ends at noon. A variety of bait both live and dead will be available and the kids supply their own tackle. Many prizes will be awarded for fish caught and for the raffle prizes.



GEORGE VAN ZANT

Sierra golden trout eggs, which ultimately are planted into the Alameda River.

Youngsters Set To Round Up Fish

By Carla M. Collado
Staff Writer

Almost 1,000 youth will line the Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier this Friday (Aug. 1) hoping to catch something with their fishing lines as part of the 55th Annual Kids Fishing Rodeo.

The free event is open to children ages 16 and younger and takes place from 8 a.m. to noon. Youth will compete for prizes in categories such as largest fish and most unusual fish she-
planned. Fred Khammar, owner of main event sponsor Alfredo's Beach Club, prizes will include gift certificates to restaurants and movies, fishing poles and lures and bicycles, he said.



Children simply need to bring their own fishing poles and tackle, but will be provided at the event. Kids Fishing Rodeo co-sponsor the Southern

California Tuna Club will be on hand to teach youth proper fishing and baiting methods and help them identify the different fish species. Once a child catches a fish, they weigh and measure it, record the species (with the help of staff from the state Department of Fish and Game) and then release it back into the ocean, Khammar said.

Last year, youngsters caught roughly 20-30 different fish species at the event, he added. Khammar also recalled one of the largest fish caught by a child at the Rodeo a few years ago, a 24-inch halibut.

There are several new additions this year.

(Continued on page 38A)

July 31, 2008

Fishing

(Continued from page 1A)

mons this year to the Kids Fishing Rodeo, which is part of the Charter Communications Sea Festival series of free summer events throughout the city. First, the city's Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine will bring about 600 youth from its numerous programs to compete in the event, according to Khammar. With roughly 400 youth already expected to attend the Rodeo, that brings the total to about 1,000 children who will pack the pier, he added.

There's also a new sponsor for the Rodeo this year. Fred Hall's Fishing Tackle and Boat Shows, one of the world's biggest fishing and boat show producers, Khammar said.

Alfredo's Beach Club will provide free snacks, lunch and goodie bags for Rodeo participants. Parking will be free at the pier parking lot.

Youth can register for the Kids Fishing Rodeo online at www.alfredosbeachclub.com, by calling 434-1542 or starting at 7:30 a.m. at the pier on the day of the event.

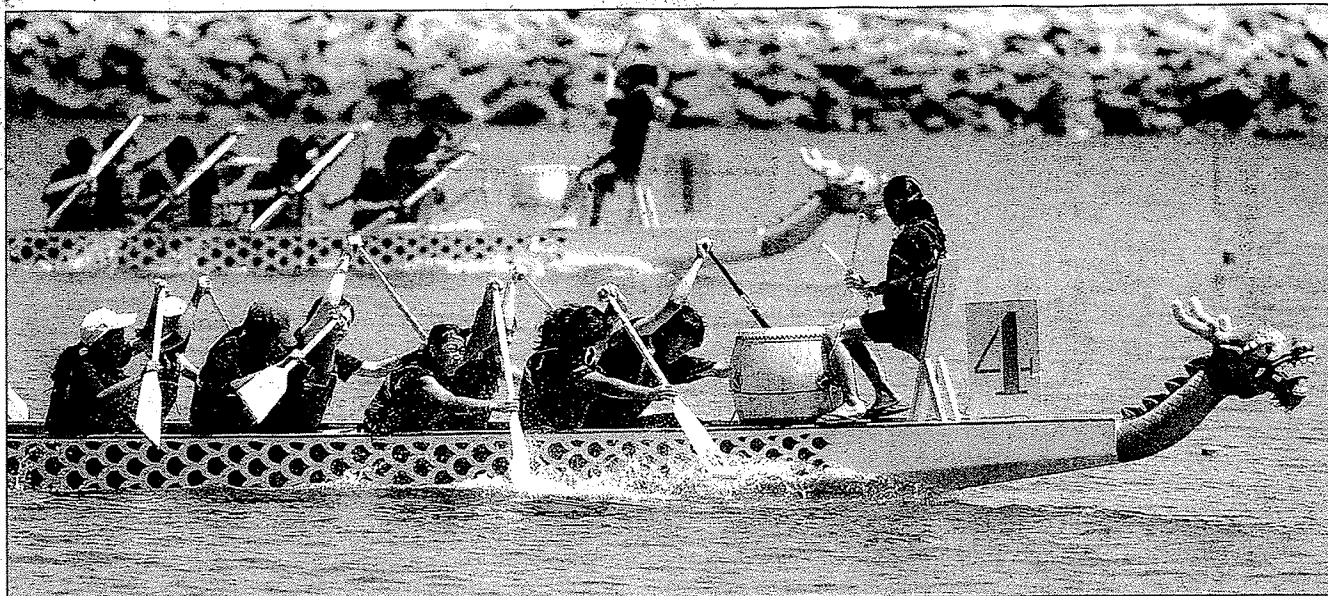
The *Grunion Gazette* also is one of the sponsors of the Kids Fishing Rodeo.

LONG BEACH'S FAVORITE COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER



WAITING TO WRANGLE A youngster well-versed in the give-and-take waits for a bite at last Friday's Kids Fishing Rodeo at Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier as part of the Charter Communications Sea Festival. (CapeLight.com) Photo: Bob Salzman

APPEAL DROPPED



Steven Georges/Staff Photographer

Rowers from the Posers team, in front, race against RISE (Rowing in Spectacular Ecstasy) during the Dragon Boat Festival on Saturday.

A competition with big teeth

WEEKEND: Dragon Boat Festival draws racers from all around.

By Jessica Terrell
Staff Writer

LONG BEACH — The sound of drums echoes across the water, smoke billows from teryaki grills and colorful canopies line Marine Stadium during the Dragon Boat Festival this weekend.

More than 50 teams from across the country (and as far away as China) have come to Long Beach to paddle their way to a gold medal.

Dragon boats, which hold 16-22 competitors, are a Chinese tradition that began around 450 B.C., James Sek, secretary general of the festival, said.

Behind each boat's dragon

WANT TO GO?

■ The dragon boat races continue today from 10:10 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. Check out a race schedule and vendor list at www.ladragonboat.com.

head, which juts out just above the water, a drummer provides a steady beat, helping competitors paddle in unison.

While some teams are serious about the competition, others are more interested in having fun.

"The highlight for me is just being together as a team and learning, improving our form," said Jay Chandler, who paddles with the LA Harbor Dragon Boat Club based in San Pedro.



Steven Georges/Staff Photographer

A high-spirited Japanese taiko-drumming ensemble from the Taiko Center of Los Angeles entertains festival attendees Saturday.

In addition to races, the festival features performances throughout the day, as well as food and clothing merchants.

With lots of canopies and a cool breeze, the festival provides a family-friendly respite from the summer heat.

Today is the most exciting day of the festival, Sek said, because of the competition finals.

"Each year, teams get stronger and stronger," Sek said. "people get more and more excited about the sport."

LONG BEACH

Sea Festival features

2008 Dragon boat races

The 2008 ViewSonic Long Beach Dragon Boat Festival, one of the more colorful events of Charter Communications Long Beach Sea Festival, continues today at Marine Stadium.

This year, the festival includes the Dragon Boat National Championship, with more than 120 teams participating.

Racing is from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. today and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday.

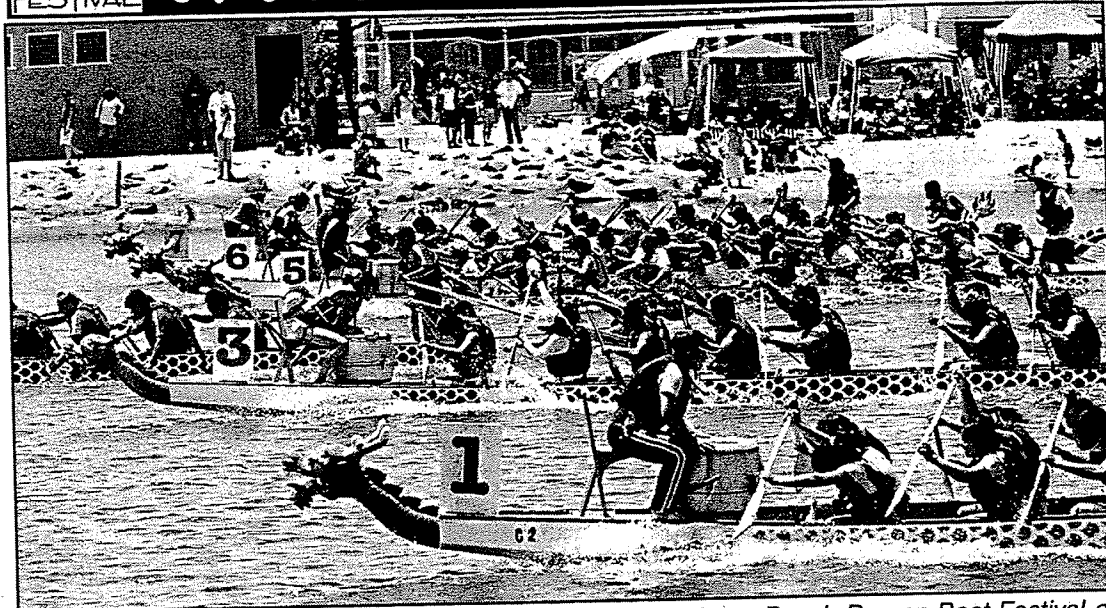
The festival includes traditional Chinese food, art, acrobats, dance, music and martial arts performances.

For information about the festival, contact Howard Chen at 626-288-2888 or visit www.lbdragonboat.com.

The Charter Communications Long Beach Sea Festival is a three-month celebration of the Southern California experience, highlighted by a series of beach, ocean and summer fun events. For the full schedule, go to www.longbeachseafestival.com.



Charter Communications



FIERCE RACING. Close competition epitomized the 2007 Long Beach Dragon Boat Festival at Marine Stadium. This year, the national championships are here. — Gazette file photo

Dragons Race For Title At Stadium

By Carla M. Collado
 Staff Writer

Dragons will invade Marine Stadium this weekend.

But they won't be fire-breathing dragons — instead, they'll be dragon boats filled with thousands of paddlers racing in the 12th Annual Long Beach Dragon Boat Festival and the 2008 U.S. National Dragon Boat Racing Championships.

Roughly 140 teams from across the country and the world will compete from Friday through Sunday (July 25-27). Dragon-boating teams consist of 18-20 people paddling to the beat of a drummer sitting at the head of the boat. The narrow boats measure about 45 feet in length, including head and tail.

The ancient Chinese sport traditionally takes place on the fifth day of the fifth Chinese lunar month. Dragon boat festivals commemorate the life and death of the ancient poet Qu Yuan, a minister who advocated political reforms and eventually went into exile, during which time he produced some of the greatest poetry in Chinese literature. When his house was invaded in 278 B.C., he committed suicide by jumping into a river. Townspeople rushed in their fishing boats and tried to save him, beating drums and splashing water with their paddles in order to keep the fish and evil spirits away from his body.

Now, the dragon boat races take place annually on the day of Yuan's suicide.

From 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, the United States Dragon Boat Federation will sponsor the U.S. National Dragon Boat Racing Championships for the first time in Long Beach. Paddlers will face off in 200-meter and 1,000-meter races.

The Long Beach Dragon Boat Festival, sponsored by ViewSonic Corporation, takes place from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sunday.

Both days of racing will pit teams against each other in 500-meter races, vying for trophies and medals. Race divisions include women's, open, college, high school, junior high school, masters, corporation and VIP, among others.

Last year, the festival attracted a crowd of about 10,000 people daily, according to Howard Chen, president of event organizer the International Cultural Exchange Association. It is part of the Charter Communications Long Beach Sea Festival.

"We bring the top (teams), the best from the whole United States," Chen said.

This year's weekend festival also will include a cultural fair complete with Chinese acrobats, Japanese drummers, Chinese Kung Fu performers, Hawaiian dancers and other artists, as well as arts and crafts and various food vendors. The entertainment will take place from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday.

All weekend, dragon boat festivities will be free and open to the public. For more information, visit www.lbdragonboat.com.



Jeff Gritchen/Staff Photographer

Liz Baylis, rear, and Team Hayes battle during the final day of the Mayor's Cup. Baylis went 18-0 over the three-day event off the Belmont Pier to win the title.

Victorious voyage

AILING: Baylis goes 18-0 to capture Mayor's Cup.

/ Rick Roberts
respondent

LONG BEACH — Liz Baylis of San Rafael became the first undefeated and first two-time winner Saturday in the 2008 Mayor's Cup.

Eight skippers representing the United States, New Zealand, Brazil and Sweden

sailed the ISAF Grade 2 match race in identically prepared Catalina 37s owned and managed by the Long Beach Yacht Club Sailing Foundation, under sunny skies and a consistent breeze of 10 to 12 knots.

Baylis dominated the three days of double round-robins, semifinals and finals, a total of 18 races in which she rarely made mistakes.

"The crew work was incredible," Baylis said. "They did everything perfectly. Even

when I made a mistake on the leeward mark (rounding) in the final, they pulled me out of it and we came back. Their performance gives me confidence."

In the last race of the finals, Baylis incurred a penalty while doing battle in the pre-start with second-place finisher Sandy Hayes. Going to windward with a slight lead over Hayes just after the start, still carrying the penalty, Baylis elected to do her 270-degree penalty turn, coming

MAYOR/C10





Jan Grichen/Staff Photographer

Team Osborne edges team Arms-Cartee for third place in the Mayor's Cup on Saturday afternoon.

MAYOR

FROM PAGE C1

back on starboard to cross in front of Hayes, absorbing herself of the penalty and clearly in the lead to stay.

"The penalty was (bad)," Baylis said, "but having that type of confidence in your team gives you more options."

Hayes steered second in the event and made a valiant effort in an attempt to defeat one Baylis.

"We knew once we got into the finals we had to throw all of the seams," Hayes said. "Every one gave it their best, but we fell short."

"I love this event and love racing off the Ashmont Veterans Memorial pier. It's a great observation as compared with some venues. All feel comfortable with the boats and not afraid to overuse the boats knowing how durable they are. It would be nice to come back again and race against the best."

Third was Samantha Osborne of New Zealand, whose team from the Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron is anything but ordinary. The team put out an impressive performance having had limited match racing experience and no experience in the big Catalina 37s.

Give credit to her crew, Osborne said. "On the day, we gave 210 percent. I don't think anyone could have worked any harder. I could have about my crew for hours, but I want to also

give a huge thanks to coach Scotty Dickson. I don't think we could have done it without him."

Dickson, Congressional Cup veteran and fellow Kiwi, has known the Osborne family for years. Dickson's dad, Roy, sails with Osborne and her team in the Tuesday night Summer races onboard his boat, Stewart 24, "Play Boy." Finishing fourth was Charlie Arms-Cartee of Vailero, who has mixed feelings about their performance in the regatta.

"We had a really fun time," Arms-Cartee said, "but it was tough adjusting to the stronger wind today. We're not as happy with the results as much as we had hoped."

"I'm talking about the event," Arms-Cartee said. "We had great days all day. It's really fun to try the bigger boats."

This event was environmentally friendly as each umpire boat was given fishing nets donated by West Marine with instructions to pick up and hold for proper disposal any trash seen on the race course.

Throughout the event, umpire and support boats were seen scooping up trash from the water, not only in an effort to help keep Long Beach Harbor clean but to send a message to match racing internationally to do the same.

Summing up the event as a whole, two-time winner Baylis said, "It's a great regatta encouraging people to come. The Long Beach Yacht Club and the people are incredible. The way they make you feel the great boats and great sailing, it's like sailing a home game."

by the Federal Department of Housing agreed to consider other sites. That

American Skipper Leads Mayor's Cup

By Kelly Garrison
Features Editor

Female sailors will race against one another this week during the fourth annual Mayor's Cup off the coast of east Long Beach.

During the event, top names in match race sailing will vie to become the next champion of a sport that challenges the intellect and skills of its participants. Spectators can watch the action as part of the Charter Communications Long Beach Sea Festival at the Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier from today Thursday to Saturday, July 12.

Match racing is an exciting



celebrating summer at

"the Beach."

type of sailing in that it's a one-on-one competition using the same skills, but it's more intense and cerebral," said skipper

Liz Baylis, who will lead a crew of seven sailors in the 2008 competition. "It's both a physical and a mental game, and since the races are very short, it makes them a little more intense than a typical long sailboat race."

Match race sailing pits teams against one another in a series of one-on-one competitions. The team with the greatest number of wins at the end of the event becomes the next champion.

"It's a lot of racing in a short period of time," she said. "It's like a chess game when you're

(Continued on Page 15A)

- Tot Lot To Break Ground / P. 6A
- Green Waste Recycling Eyed / P. 9A
- Arts Group Updates Cultural Plan / P. 10A
- West Nile Buzzes Back To Town / P. 29A
- Pharmacist To Olympians / P. 1B

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“It’s like a chess game when you’re figuring out your next move.”

— Liz Baylis

Skipper

(Continued from Page 1A)

figuring out your next move.”

The San Francisco Women’s Match Racing Team skipper, Baylis won the Mayor’s Cup last year and ranks fifth in the Women’s International Match Racing Association. She match-raced for several years before becoming a skipper and currently serves as the executive director for the Women’s International Match Racing Association (WIMRA).

“I’ve sailed since I was a kid and started match racing in 1996 or so with a crew and started skippering in 2000,” Baylis said. “...In the last year, it has become my career. My job now is to promote it.”

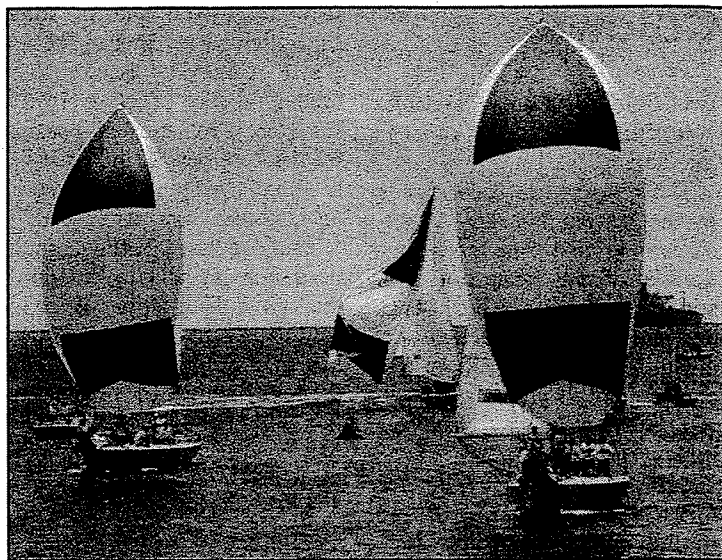
She will race against other skippers from different parts of the United States and the world. They include Samantha Osborne of New Zealand, Caroline Béjar of Brazil, Lotta Thorelius of Sweden, Charlie Arms-Cartee of San Diego, Katy Lovell of New Orleans La, Sandy Hayes of Scituate, Mass., and Liz Hjorth of Marina del Rey.

“I’m looking forward to it,” Baylis said. “We have a strong team competing.”

During the matches, teams will sail in identically prepared, high-performance Catalina 37 boats owned by the Long Beach Sailing Foundation. A round-robin series will conclude on Saturday by pitting the top sailors against one another, typically in a best-of-three final.

The 2008 Mayor’s Cup will take place starting at 11:30 a.m. each day from Thursday to Saturday at the Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier — near Ocean Boulevard and 39th Place. Parking is available in the public lot adjacent to the pier.

For more information, visit



FULL SAIL. The large spinnakers billow as last year’s Mayor’s Cup competitors head to the finish line. —Gazette file photo

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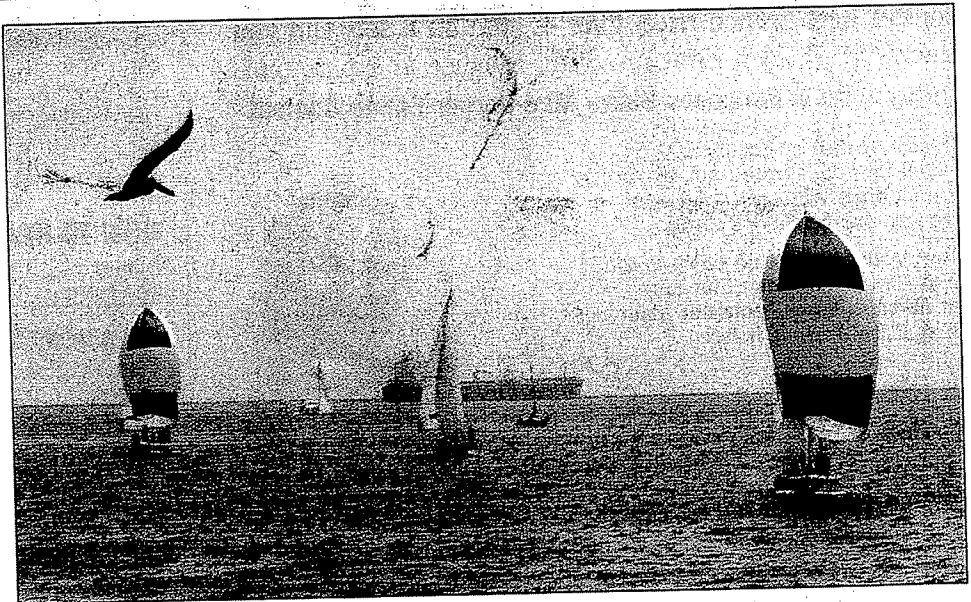
BODY BALANCE CHIROPY SPA

TACKING FOR THE CUP



Charlie Arms-Cartee's ship, above, is closely pursued by Katy Lovell's vessel as they put their crews through their paces in preparation for today's all-female match race. The Fourth Annual Long Beach Mayor's Cup starts today and will run through Saturday off the Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier. The yachts will be sailed by all-women crews as part of the annual Charter Communications Long Beach Sea Festival. The event draws top-ranked sailing crews from all over the world. Arms-Cartee is ranked 48th in the International Sailing Federation (ISAF) standings and Lovell is ranked 15th in the ISAF standings. For a complete Long Beach Sea Festival calendar, go to www.longbeachseafestival.com.

Scott Smeltzer/Staff Photographer





Charter Communications

Kahakai Outriggers Paddle Into Town

By Shereen Oca
Staff Writer

Outrigger canoeing was a sport that Connie Jensen said she always wanted to try.

From the moment she started paddling out on the open water, Jensen said she was hooked.

"Sometimes you get that feeling that you're flying on top of



PROUD ROWERS. A team from last year's Kahakai OCC Sprints poses with their paddles.

—Gazette file photo

the water," she continued. "That's the special moment when you feel like you can do anything. You think about it for weeks."

Jensen, who for the past two years has been the women's coach at Long Beach's Kahakai Outrigger Canoe Club, said she quickly came to regard her fellow paddlers as family.

"You're in this canoe and there's no motor," Jensen recalled. "You and five other people are propelling through the water. It's not an individual sport. Everyone has something special to bring. You meet people from all walks of life."

This Saturday, July 12, Jensen will join hundreds of paddlers at Marine Stadium to compete in the annual Kahakai OCC Sprints.

According to Mike ("Moku") Gehrt, the men's coach at Kahakai OCC, the races draw in residents from all over Southern California.

Gehrt said he expects a crowd of more than 2,000 people at the stadium on Saturday, with 300 to 500 paddlers competing.

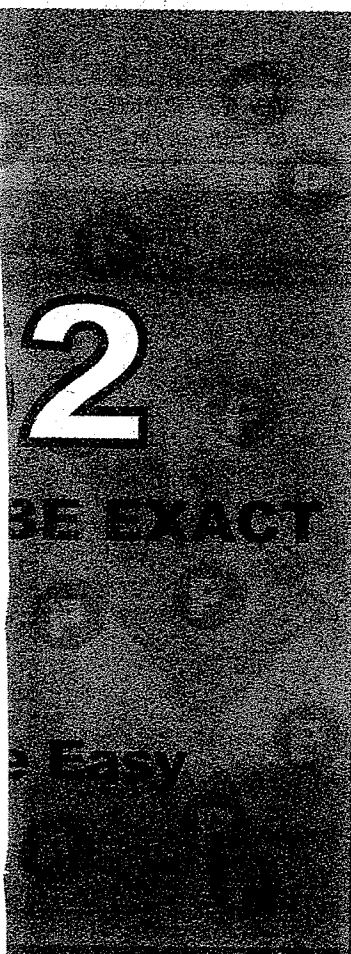
The sprints will feature six-, two- and single-person outrigger canoes racing in 500-meter sprints. Several heats, events and more the 30 divisions will provide constant excitement and action for both the participants and the spectators.

The Southern California Outrigger Racing Association (SCORA) coordinates and runs the sprints. (SCORA is a non-profit organization that acts as the governing body for the sport in Southern California, Arizona and Nevada.) Additionally, all participants must belong to an outrigger club under SCORA's jurisdiction or that of similar organizations outside the region.

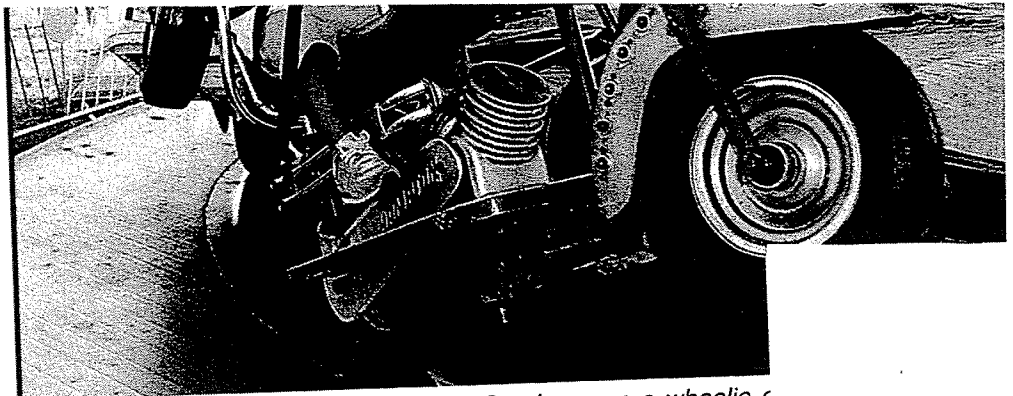
On Saturday, 10 divisions will be devoted to youth paddlers. They are broken down by gender and includes separate races for those 12, 14, 16 and 19 years of age and younger.

The men's and women's divisions will be divided in the same manner, by age range and gender. There will be qualifying heats for both the novice and the veteran classes, and the cost is

(Continued on Page 15A)



DOWNTOWN
Long Beach
ASSOCIATES



EASY RIDER. Three-year-old Steven Garcia pops a wheelie c
Fourth of July carnival on the Marina Green.

Kahakai

(Continued from Page 15A)

\$9 per paddler per race.

Gehrt, who's from Hawaii, said he comes from a family with a long-standing tradition of canoe racing that goes back half a century.

"It's always been in my life," he said. Gehrt has been paddling

competitively for nearly 15 years.

"There's about 25,000 outrigger paddlers worldwide. We're a small group of people who enjoy the water," he added.

Kahakai OCC's sponsors include Charter Communications Long Beach Sea Festival, Jet-Blue Airways, Paddling Technologies and more.

3. Rancho Adventure

Rancho Summer Adventures, an educational program for children ages 6 to 11, will begin Monday, July 14, at the Rancho Los Cerritos Historic Site on 4600 Virginia Rd.

Four workshops will be available — 10 a.m. to noon or 2 to 4 p.m. from July 14 through July 18 or July 28 through Aug. 1.

Children can learn about the history of ranch life in California through hands-on activities such as crafts and games.

Cost is \$50 per session. For details, call 570-1755 or visit www.rancholoscerritos.org.

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Tracey Roman/For the Press-Telegram

Members of the Corvallis rowing club get their boat ready for the U.S. Rowing Nationals at Marine Stadium in Long Beach.

Long Beach rules Day One

ROWING: Gleie leads strong effort for LBRA in USRowing Masters.

By David Felton
Staff Writer

LONG BEACH — Day 1 of the 2008 USRowing Masters National Championships at Marine Stadium went just fine for the Long Beach Rowing Association.

The local team members, who are co-hosting the event as part of the Charter Communications Long Beach Sea Festival, won eight of 50 races contested Thursday. Former Olympian Katrin Gleie led the charge with a victory in the women's Open AA Singles, where she completed the 1,000-meter course in 4 minutes, 55.58 seconds, over 10 seconds ahead of her closest rival.

"It was fun just to go out there and see (what I could do)," said Gleie, who competed in the women's quad for Denmark in the 2000 Olympics. Gleie, a 2003 USC graduate, has recently returned to rowing after taking a few years off. She will also compete in the Club B 8+ today and the Open C Doubles on Sunday.

LBRA is one of 83 clubs from



Tracey Roman/For the Press-Telegram

The Long Beach Rowing Association won eight of the 50 races on the first day of the USRowing Masters.

the men's Heavyweight H Doubles. They completed the course in 4:24.52, over 20 seconds ahead of second-place Lake Natoma. Chuck Selden and Dennis Sitek, competing for LBRA, added a victory in the men's Heavyweight E Doubles. They crossed the finish line in 3:46.16 and edged Ashland Rowing Club by less than 2 seconds.

with the mixed F 8+ crew (3:39.06).

In the men's F-J 8+ race, LBRA took an early lead on Marin Rowing Association and held a boat-length lead at 500 meters.

"We got out to a good lead right away," said John Van Blom, a 1965 Wilson High graduate. "(Marin) tried to make a

Kidd, Boris Beljak, Rachel Alexander, B.J. Connolly, Van Blom and Nowinski.

Long Beach won the men's Heavyweight F 8+ final, beating Marin by nearly 4 seconds and a second LBRA entry by nearly 15. That boat was coxained by Mark Mason and crewed by Christian Tesarik, Paul Knight, Roger Borgaard, Clem Kopf,

LONG BEACH SEA FESTIVAL

Masters Rowing Nationals In Stadium

By Kurt Helin

Editor

While it is often associated in the casual fans' mind with colleges and youth, rowing is really a sport for all ages.

To prove that point, an estimated 1,200 rowers from around the world will converge on Marine Stadium this week for the U.S. Rowing Masters National Championships.

"It's the biggest event in the nation outside of the Head of the Charles (in Boston)," said Jim Litzinger, regatta executive director and the president of Long Beach Rowing Association.

It's big enough to draw competitors from all over the world. This year a team from Croatia is making the trip out, Litzinger said.

Long Beach last hosted this same event in 1997, but that competition was so well received that participants have been asking when it would return to the city almost ever since, Litzinger said. Attendance is expected to be good despite the increased cost of travel for teams to get here this year.

One thing that Long Beach is doing with its event to help draw those people is offering boat rentals. The cost of bringing a two-person scull from the East Coast, for example, could discourage competitors from attending. So, for fees of about \$35 per competitor (depending on the type of craft) attendees can rent boats to race.

"We have a really big rental effort," Litzinger said. "We will have 50 to 60 boats for rent. We can do this because we have four clubs that operate out of our boathouse. Not many other places can do this."

Not many places can offer a former Olympic venue either. While rowing already was part of Alamitos Bay at the time, Marine Stadium itself was built to house the rowing for the 1932 Olympics. A total of 153 rowers from 13 countries competed in those games. The USA won gold in three of the seven contested races (women were not allowed to compete in rowing at the games yet), including the Men's 8+, where the team from the University of California won the gold in front of 121,000 spectators.

Masters events such as that coming to Marine Stadium this weekend are traditionally aimed at people older than what is considered the prime competing years for a sport. In a sign of just how much a young person's sport rowing can be, this masters event is open to competitors

ages 21 and up. (Most of the USA Olympic rowing competitors are older than that.)

They race against people by age category, with ages up to 80+ set up for competitors. More than 80 rowing clubs from around the nation and world are expected to send representatives. And, Litzinger said, people can expect to see about 40 trucks carrying rowing sculls and equipment parked in the area.

The U.S. Rowing Masters National Championships is a four-day event that runs from today through Sunday. Because of the number of competitors and different boat and age classifications, there will be nearly 200 classes of racers.

Racing will start at 8 a.m. Thursday morning. To find out more, log on to www.longbeachrowing.org.

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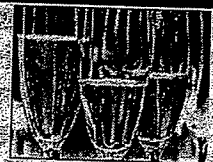
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SEA Charter Communications

PINE AVENUE

PowerFest Thursday Kicks Off Races

By Harry Saltz-gaver
Executive Editor

It worked for cars, so why wouldn't it work for boats?

That's the thinking behind Powerfest Thursday TONIGHT on Pine Avenue downtown. Sponsored by the Downtown Long Beach Associates, the event will kick off the Powerfest Festival headquartered at Marina Green Park.

Paired after Marine Thunder Thursday, which took off the Toyota Grand Prix at Long Beach each year, the evening will include watercraft displays, a Wakeboard Rail Jam, a swim show, a concert and even a bikini contest. The downtown block party starts at 5:30 p.m. and runs until late evening.

"This is a first-time event, but the standard has been set by our Grand Prix event," said Krang Kojan, president and CEO of the DLBA. "We think this is a great opportunity to cross promote with these events and to continue to build a connection between the different parts of downtown. In this case the waterfront and Pine Avenue."

Pine Avenue will be closed between Broadway and Third Street, and between Third and Fourth streets. Both Broadway and Third Street will remain open to traffic through the evening.

Powerfest 2008 is centered around the famous Long Beach to Catalina Island Race. Long Beach races for water skiers and power boats. A third race for the personal watercraft, commonly called jetskis, was added several years ago.

The water theme will move up the hill to Pine Avenue with music from the rockers performing on beach sounds starting at



STAYING ON TOP Powerboats will speed through the water and come to Pine Avenue this week. —Gazette file photo

5:30 p.m. There will be boats, Sea-Doos and other watercraft on display all along both blocks.

A highlight of Marine Thunder Thursday is the motocross exhibition with motorcyclists flying through the air.

The same concept, but with an aquatic theme, has been created with the wakeboarding jam starting at 8 p.m. Wakeboarders are the small, round surfboards seen behind speed boats in many areas.

The show involves pulling wakeboarders from one pond of water to another pond 30 feet away, separated by a rail. On Pine Avenue, the power to pull is provided by a gasoline-powered winch instead of a boat.

While waiting for the demonstration, fans can see documentaries about wakeboarding on the side of the Madison building in the Diamond Parking lot. But the filmmakers might not be thrilled about the competition — the Miss Powerfest Bikini contest sponsored by Hooters, which starts at 7 p.m. in the

same lot between the Madison and Hooters.

Applications for the contest are available at Hooters. The winner will reign over the Powerfest events all weekend.

Finally, a live concert by the A/C/DC tribute band Bonfire begins at 9 p.m. The stage also will be at the Diamond Parking lot next to Hooters.

There is no charge for the event, Kojan said. The DLBA has formed a partnership with Red Bull for the party, as well.

"We would like to establish a long-term relationship with this," Kojan said. "We think it is going to be around for some time."

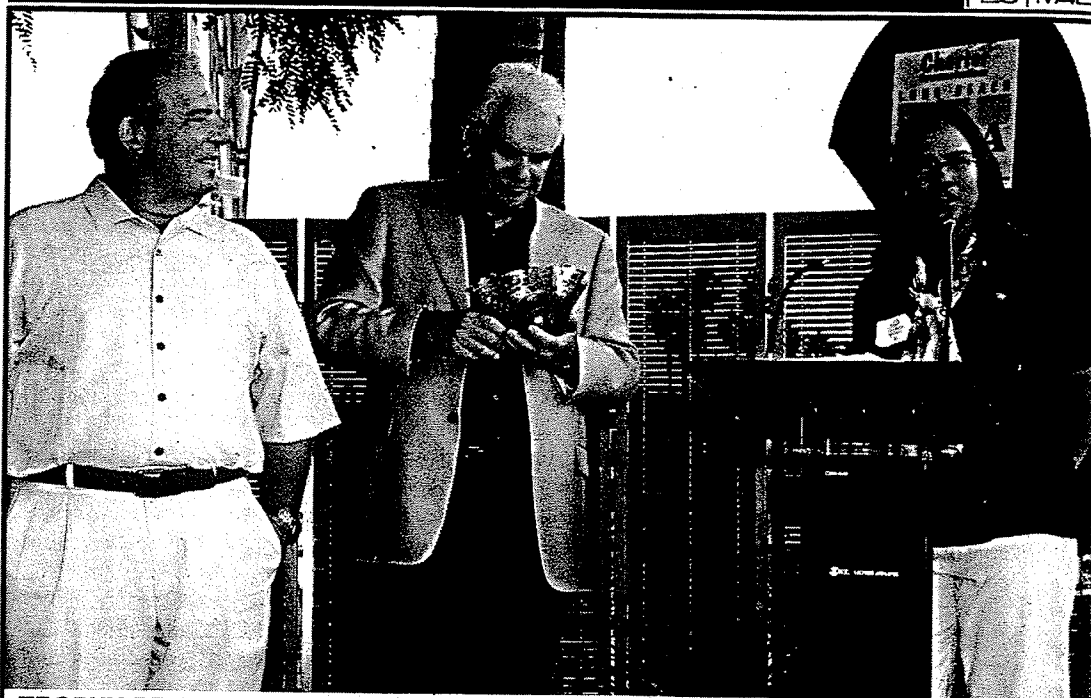
The Powerfest Festival and related races are part of the Charter Communications Long Beach Sea Festival. Powerfest Thursday is presented by the DLBA in partnership with International City Racing (the Sea Festival operator) and Powerfest 2008.

For more information, go to www.dlba.org.

120,
July 17, 2008

GRUNION GAZETTE **Sea Fest**

LONG BEACH SEA FESTIVAL



TROPHY PRESENTATION. Mayor Bob Foster (left) looked on while St. Mary Medical Center CEO Chris DiCicco presented the Mayor's Cup trophy to skipper Liz Baylis for the second consecutive year at a ceremony Saturday at Gladstone's. —Gazette photo by Geronimo Quitoriano

Powerboat Expo Roars At Marina Green

By Shereen Oca
Staff Writer

The first-ever Offshore Powerfest Expo will kick off this Friday (July 18), providing participants and spectators of the multi-race weekend with a festival full of live entertainment, food and drinks.

The expo revolves around the three races scheduled to go to Catalina and back via water ski, jet ski and powerboat. Until now, they have been separate events put on by separate organizers. That's why officials at International City Racing (ICR) decided to create one unifying event, said ICR CFO Marcus Mask.

"We met with all the heads of those events," Mask continued. "We were trying to bring in a fair (to) pull all the events together and make it a large celebration."

In the end, ICR succeeded and organizers now have a spot to hold their awards ceremonies.

The expo, a Charter Communications Long Beach Sea Festival event, will run from noon to 6 p.m. on Friday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday at Marina Green Park. Admission is free, and organizers say they expect approximately 5,000 visitors a day.

Put on by *Powerboat Magazine* and ICR, the expo will feature live entertainment, a beer garden and vendors selling fair favorites from barbecue to funnel cake. And of course all types of boats such as custom-made powerboats, race boats, ski boats and much more will be on display.

On Saturday, however, Marina Green will play host to two events — the expo and the Long Beach Car Show. (For more on the car show, see page 16A.)

Mask said the events were coordinated to attract two types of demographics, thus creating a larger cross-promotional platform.

"The car show will be on one side," Marks explained. "On the other will be the dry pits for the trade boats. In the middle (will be) the expo."

Both the expo and the car show will include a variety of activities such as slot-car racing, rock wall climbing, face painting and a bounce house for the children.

Sponsors include *Full Throttle*, Nordic Boats and Charter Communications.

The Marina Green Park is on Shoreline Drive between Pine and Linden avenues.

For more information, call 427-4606, ext 6, or visit www.longbeachseafestival.com.

WHAT'S GOING ON AROUND HERE

LONG BEACH

Event offers wakeboard stunts

Powerfest Thursday on Pine Avenue will kick off the Powerfest Boat Race weekend festivities on Thursday from 5:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. with a Wakeboard Rail Jam Stunt Show, speedboat and Sea-Doo displays, the Miss Powerfest Bikini Contest, a monster truck and live music by Bonfire, an AC/DC cover band.

Hosted by the Downtown Long Beach Associates, Powerfest Thursday will bring all the excitement of the weekend-long waterfront activities to the heart of downtown's entertainment district.

The event begins at 5:30 p.m. with the DJ spinning high-energy tunes in the Diamond Parking lot (next to Hooters Restaurant) and wakeboard stunt riders performing live in three specially constructed multi-level pools.

At 7:30 p.m. the bikini-clad Powerfest ladies will take over the main stage to see who will be crowned Miss Powerfest 2008; then at 8 p.m. the Wakeboard Rail Jam stunt show officially begins. Professional champion wakeboard riders will be catapulted by synchronized cables from one pool to another as they perform mind-blowing stunts between landings.

An impressive display of speedboats, Sea-Doo's and other watercraft as well as a monster truck and more will be on exhibit throughout the evening on Pine Avenue between Broadway and Fourth Street.

At 9 p.m. Bonfire will take over the main stage performing live in music of rock n' roller and AC/DC.

"The DLBA is excited to expand on the success of the Powerfest Boat Races by bringing yet another high-profile event to Downtown," said Kriss Roman, president and chief executive officer. "We're hopeful that drawing a connection between waterfront and Pine Avenue events will create a more cohesive and enjoyable experience for all visitors."

For more information, contact the Downtown Long Beach Associates office at 562-436-4259.

Speed boats hit street for Powerfest pre-show

EXHIBIT: Watercraft displays take over Pine Avenue ahead of this weekend's races.

By Brenda Duran
Staff Writer

LONG BEACH — Bright blue, yellow, purple and orange high-speed racing boats took over Pine Avenue on Thursday to prep locals for the annual Powerfest Boat Races this weekend.

Fans started trickling onto the streets by early evening, strolling along Pine Avenue between Broadway and Fourth to catch a glimpse of watercraft displays, speedboats and colorful Sea Doo's lined up.

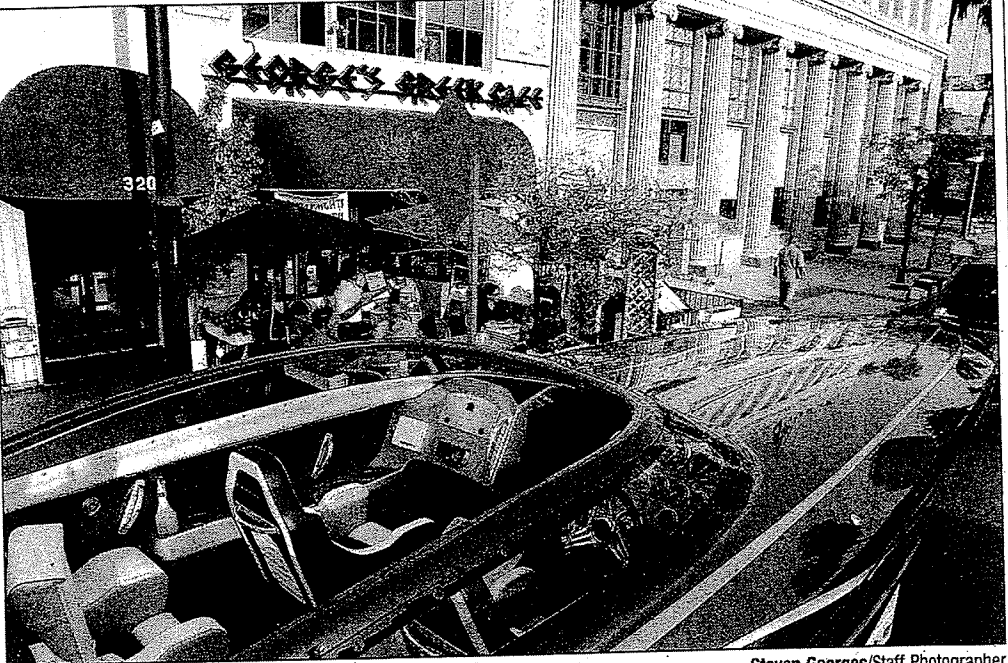
The annual event, hosted by the Downtown Long Beach Associates, kicks off weekend-long activities that will take place from the Long Beach shoreline to Catalina.

Offshore power boats, ski boats and Jet Skis will participate in various water activities and races.

Long Beach residents Martin and Lisa Rosales said they came out for the event to get an in-depth look at the engines and racing boats.

The couple also took turns snapping photos of one another with a 10,000 pound monster truck dubbed "Sin City Crusher" that made its way to the streets of Long Beach from Las Vegas.

"I used to drag race, so I like this stuff," said Martin Rosales.



Steven Georges/Staff Photographer

A LaveyCraft 39 Evo powerboat owned by Jeff and Chris Camire that is capable of reaching 110 mph is among the many boats on display Thursday night along Pine Avenue.

"To come out and see all of these powerful engines is fun."

Lisa Rosales said she was looking forward to seeing some of the race boats but was intimidated by the high powered watercraft after getting information on how much speed many of them can reach.

"I'm scared of water; I think Jaws is still out there," Rosales joked. "It would be cool to see the races. This is interesting stuff."

The event also gave boat enthusiasts a chance to show

off their various boat features, which ranged from one-seater glass capsules to skyrocketing horsepower.

Boat engine maker Gordon Jennings had a chance to showcase his 18-foot flat-bottom turquoise-and-purple race boat dubbed "Freedom Child."

"It can get to 140 in five seconds," Gordon proudly told onlookers who took photos of his boat.

The event also featured other attractions, such as a bikini contest put on by Hooters and the Miss Powerfest con-

test. There was also a live concert with an AC/DC tribute band.

However, many, like Jennifer Lemmon, said it was the anticipation of the races that made the street event fun.

"It's amazing to watch the races," she said. "It's such a good family event. It's always exciting."

For information on the races this weekend, contact the Downtown Long Beach Associates office at 562-436-4259. brenda.duran@presstelegram.com, 562-499-1297

Powerboats

(Continued from Page 17A)

These are professional racers in expensive and sponsored boats, Cooper noted. Most of these racers are looking for points in the summer-long Pacific Offshore Powerboat Racing Association series.

There will be about 25 boats in five classes, Cooper said.

And, people will be able to get close to the boats as part of Powerfest downtown. The racing boats will be docked in the Fishbowl marina next to Shoreline Village throughout the weekend. There also will be the Offshore Powerfest Trade show throughout the weekend on the Marina Green and the Powerfest Thunder Thursday on Pine Avenue next week.

"This event is growing and evolving into something special," Cooper said.

The race on Sunday starts at noon, just a couple hundred yards off the shore downtown. There is good viewing downtown or from the Belmont Pier.

To find out more, log on to www.pacificoffshore.com.

31. **Skiers Will Skim Swiftly To Catalina Island And Back**

...dents to put their walters

By Carla M. Collado

Staff/Member

[illegible]

...all part of competing in the 60th Annual Gaijima Water Ski...
...Old sports is pretty much an...
...ground covered in debris. Spot...

the California State Board of Education, who's been in the state since 1993. He was elected to the board in 2001, and he's been in the state since 1993. He was elected to the board in 2001, and he's been in the state since 1993. He was elected to the board in 2001, and he's been in the state since 1993.

More than 80 wave systems splash not only wave to wave, but also have to do with the boats and other distan-

ALMOST THERE. Skiers come into the finish line near the Queen Mary at last year's race.

More than 80 water skiers, while reaching speeds of up to

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the heart**



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S.E.A.

FESTIVAL

• *Water, water, everywhere* (Burrill) P. 6A
• *Burglar's Suspect Dies In Custody* P. 8A
• *Boys' Shop Promoting Models* P. 11A
• *Gay Weddings: A Business Boom* P. 28A
• *Photo Album Labeled 'To Owner'* P. 37A

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 Musical Note Page 10B
 QFTB Monthly Page 10A
 On The Water Page 7B
 Star In Diamond Page 20

July 17, 2008

GRUNION GAZETTE

Ski Race

(Continued from Page 1A)

once, he added. Once past the breakwater, waves can get pretty big, too.

"The water gets extremely rough," he said, adding that fatigue can be another problem. "It's really a true marathon endurance sport ... you need to learn to pace yourself."

In addition to their wet suits (which have flotation built-in), racers wear neck rolls, arm restraints, helmets, goggles and gloves for safety. Holding their handles "Australian wrap" style behind their backs with one hand and the rope up front with the other hand helps skiers ease the strain on their arms and backs, Barrus said.

Lastly, teams have to focus on staying on the right course and not simply following other boats. Barrus told of one team back in the '70s or '80s that made it all the way to San Clemente Island, 20 miles past Catalina.

"Staying on course is definitely an advantage in this race," he said. "You really have to run your own race."

To help him concentrate, Barrus started listening to music during the race several years ago — from Korn and Disturbed

to Joni Mitchell and Smashing Pumpkins. The music also helps him keep track of time. The Long Beach native also was the first skier to wear a helmet camera (to broadcast live to the Coast Long Beach Hotel) and a costume.

Up to 400 local boaters and their vessels are expected to line up to send off the water ski racers Saturday, a spectacle in itself, according to Barrus.

"It's quite a crazy parade of boats going through there," he said.

Another 50 or so racers — this time on jet skis — are scheduled to face off at 8 a.m. Sunday, July 20, in the Third Annual PWC Offshore National Championship. They'll run the same course as the water ski race to Catalina and back, but finish at the Queen Mary's stern. Last year's winner was Nick Vanis of Los Alamitos, who finished the race in 54 minutes and 38 seconds.

"It's a very intense race, even though it's finished in about an hour," said Ross Wallace, race director and promoter from RPM Racing Enterprises, title

sponsor of the jet-ski race. "You don't have to be a PWC enthusiast to enjoy this race."

Wallace said jet skiers also face numerous challenges and obstacles out on the water, including 10-to-15-foot waves, kelp beds and fishermen. All racers must have GPS, cell phones, flare sticks, food rations, mirrors and helmets on them, among other safety items, he explained. The U.S. Coast Guard and Sea Tow keep tabs on the racers as well.

"It's the open ocean and these are personal watercrafts," Wallace said. "Safety is of the utmost importance in this race."

Interested people have until Saturday to register to race in the PWC Offshore National Championship, either online at www.pwcoffshore.com or at Marina Green Park (on Saturday). Registration fee is \$275. For more information, e-mail rpmracingent@yahoo.com.

To learn more about the Catalina Water Ski Race, visit www.catalinaskirace.net.

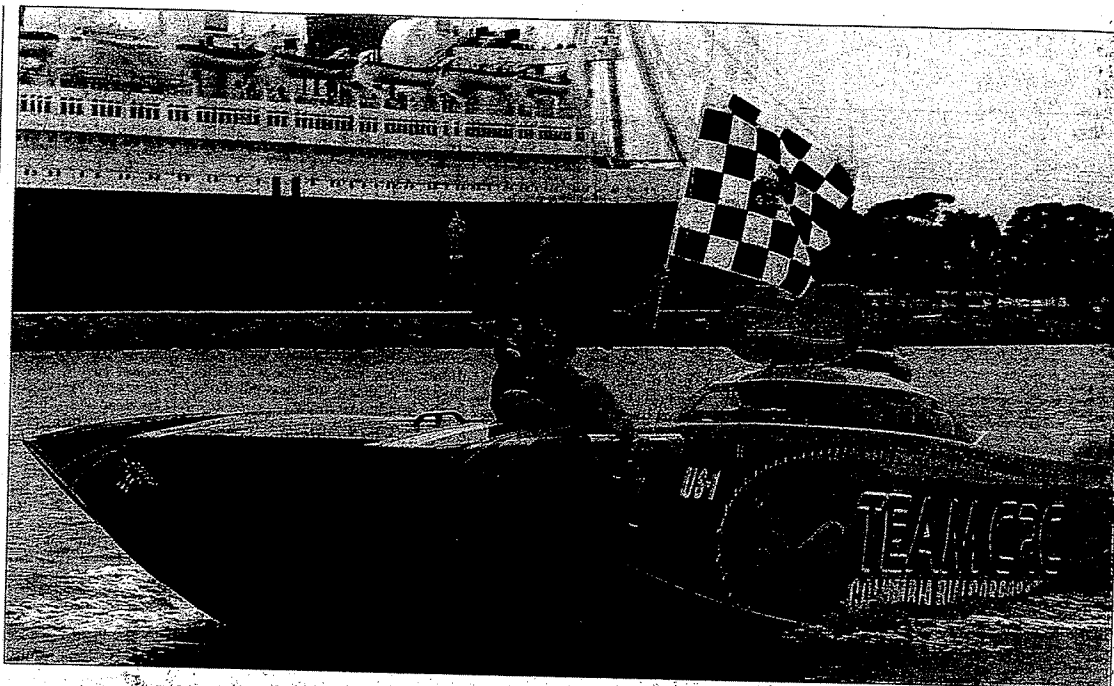
All Offshore Powerfest races are part of the Charter Communications Sea Festival.

metro.net



AND THEY'RE OFF. The start of the Catalina Jet Ski Race last weekend was crowded — and some racers had water in their faces early.

—Gazette photo by Kevin Oules



A crew member holds the checkered flag after Craig Warner's boat won the Power Boat Association National Championship with a time of 1:03:22 on Sunday. Scott Smeltzer/Staff Photographer

POWERFUL PERFORMANCE

SEA FESTIVAL: Warner crowned power boat champ with a time of 1:03:22.

By Brian Baiotto
Correspondent

LONG BEACH — Craig Warner of Corona won the 2008 American Power Boat Association Personal Water Craft Offshore Pro-Am Class 1 national championship on Sunday with a time of 1 hour, 3 minutes, 22 seconds in a

race from Long Beach to Catalina Island and back.

Curtis Reinberg finished second (1:04:39) and Mike Younts (1:07:15) was third. The Texas natives represented G-Force Racing.

Fountain Valley's Lee Phan completed the course in 1:09:00 and finished fourth, while Steve Friebe of Clovis was fifth (1:13:37).

Paul Pham of Los Angeles won the Amateur Class 1 race and became a

national champion after finishing in 1:11:08.

La Mirada's Robert Carreoni was second with a time of 1:14:12, and Brittany Wildman of Sunrise, Ariz., was third after her 1:29:30 finish.

David Tew of Lomita is the Amateur Class 2 national champion after winning in 1:21:20.

Alex Morgan of Sunny Isles, Fla., was second (1:21:21) and Andy Horning of Long Beach was third in 1:22:05.

David Walker of Windemere, Fla.,

finished the course in 1:13:36 to become the Vet-Master Open champion.

John Smith of Thousand Oaks was second (1:23:46) and Tom Clarke of Huntington Beach was third at 1:45:29.

Jim Walker of Riverside won the Sportsman Open in a time of 1:21:40.

San Pedro's Ralph Perez placed second at 1:22:25 and Carlos Thomas of Sacramento was third at 1:32:36.

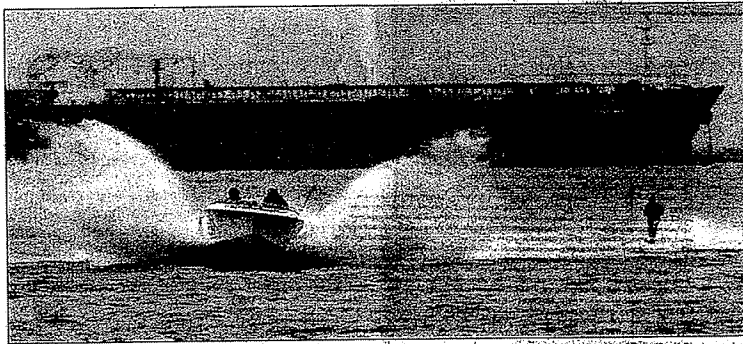




Stephen Carr/Staff Photographer

Water-skiers and their boats pass by the Queen Mary at the start of the Catalina Ski Race. This year is the 60th for the race from Long Beach to Catalina and back.

TO CATALINA AND BACK



Stephen Carr/Staff Photographer

Todd Haig's boat cuts through the waters of Long Beach toward the finish line. Haig, who holds the race record for the fastest finish, took first place Saturday with a time of 51 minutes and 14 seconds.



Stephen Carr/Staff Photographer

Spectators gather at the Coast Hotel in Long Beach to watch Saturday's race.

TODAY

Offshore Powerfest Trade Show, Marina Green (West), all day, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Long Beach-Catalina-Long Beach Jet Ski Race, Long Beach Harbor, 8 to 11 a.m.

97th Offshore Powerboat Race, Long Beach-Catalina-Long Beach, viewing from Belmont Memorial Veterans Pier, 8 a.m. to noon.

Sunday Night Twilight Concerts in the Park, Whaley Park, 4 p.m.

MONDAY

Youth sailing on official Long



562-570-3150 or visit www.lbarks.org.

TUESDAY

Youth sailing on official Long Beach tall ship, American Pride, Rainbow Harbor. For information call 562-570-3150 or visit www.lbarks.org.

Moonlight Movies on the Beach, "The Perfect Man,"

Beach tall ship, American Pride, Rainbow Harbor. For information call 562-570-3150 or visit www.lbarks.org.

Granada Beach. Movies and cartoons begin at dusk.

Bixby Bluff Municipal Band Concerts, Bixby Bluff Park, 6:30 p.m.

Youth Aquarium and Harbor Cruise, Long Beach Aquarium and Harbor. For information call 562-570-3150 or visit www.lbarks.org.

WEDNESDAY

Youth sailing on official Long Beach tall ship, American Pride, Rainbow Harbor.

Moonlight Movies on the Beach, "Casablanca," Cherry Beach. Movies and cartoons begin at dusk.

THURSDAY

Youth sailing on official Long Beach tall ship, American Pride, Rainbow Harbor. For information call 562-570-3150 or visit www.lbarks.org.

Thursday Night Twilight Concerts in the Park, Ramona Park, 6-8 p.m.

Jessica Uniack Memorial Regatta, Long Beach Yacht Club and Alamitos Bay. For information: 562-598-9401.

Long Beach Municipal Band, Marine Stadium, 6:30-8:15 p.m.

Charter YMCA AVP Youth Volleyball Clinic, Alamitos Beach, 3-5 p.m.

AVP Pro Beach Volleyball,

Marina Green, 8 a.m.-8 p.m.

FRIDAY

AVP Pro Beach Volleyball, Marina Green
View Sonic Long Beach Dragon Boat Festival, Marine Stadium, 8 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

AVP Pro Beach Volleyball, Marina Green, 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
View Sonic Long Beach Dragon

Boat Festival, Marine Stadium, 8 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

JULY 27

AVP Pro Beach Volleyball, Marina Green, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.
View Sonic Long Beach Dragon Boat Festival, Marine Stadium, 8 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

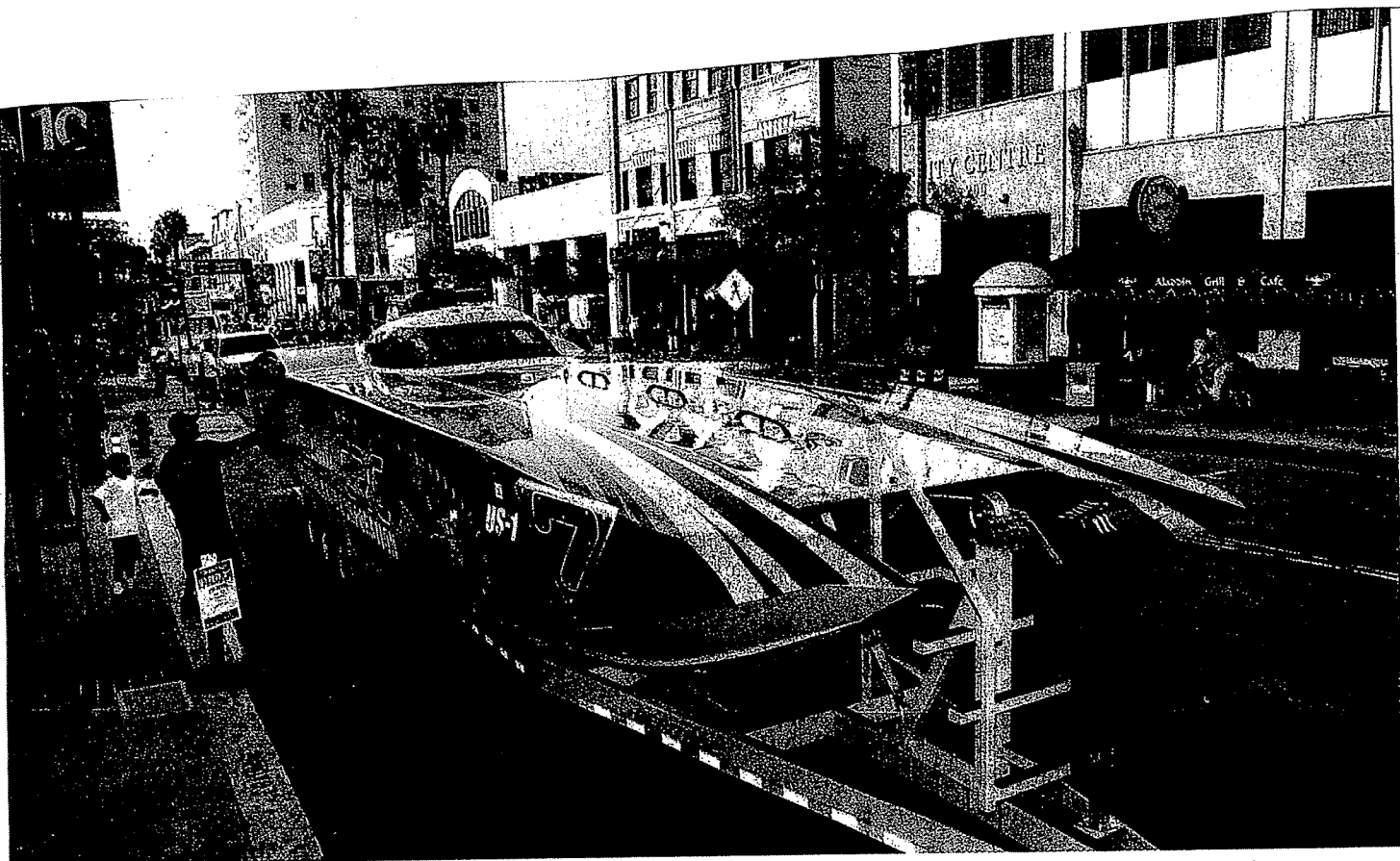
Sinjin Smith Beach Volleyball GAV, Slam Doubles Tournament, Belmont Courts, play starts at 9 a.m. For information: www.sinjinvolleyball.com/tournaments.html

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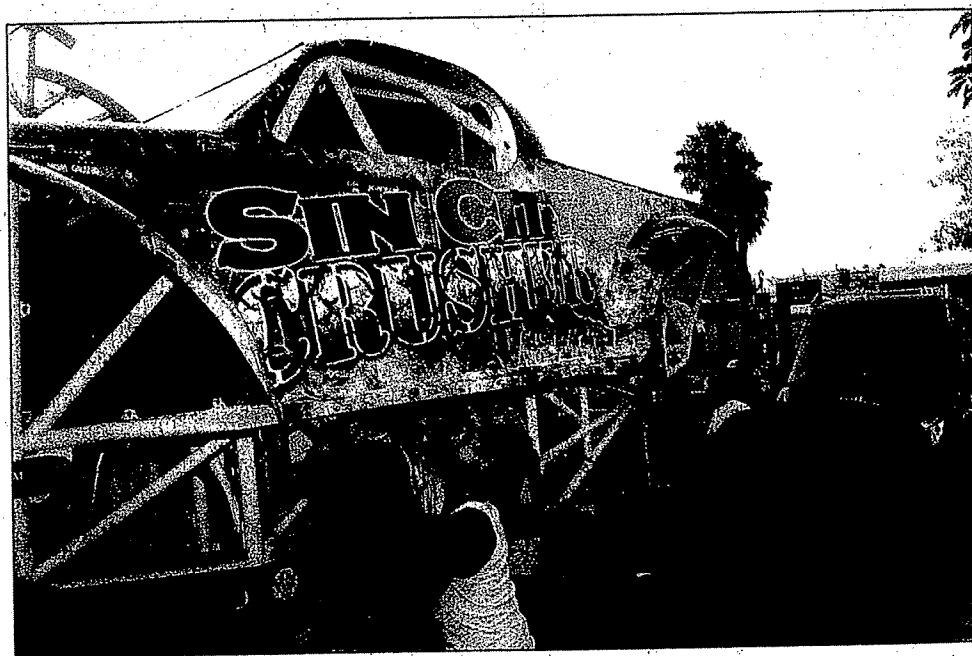
Locally valuable when buying a car



Pine Avenue pedestrians stop to examine powerboats, including a 44-foot MTI craft owned and driven by Mike DeFrees, on display before this weekend's Powerfest races. The boats can reach speeds of more than 190 mph on open water. At right, Darren Cox, owner of a monster truck on display, helps 11-year-old Matthew Robbins of Long Beach climb into the driver's seat for a commanding view of Pine Avenue.

■ Read about this weekend's events / A6

Steven Georges
/Staff Photographer



Charter
Communications
LONG BEACH
SEA
FESTIVAL

TODAY

Offshore Powerfest Trade Show,
Marina Green (West), 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Catalina Ski Club "Special Needs
Children's Day," Marine Stadium,
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

SATURDAY

Offshore Powerfest Trade Show,
Marina Green (West), 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
60th Annual Long Beach-Catalina-

Long Beach Ski Race, view from
Long Beach Beachfront, 8:30 a.m.
to 1 p.m.

Sinjin Smith Collegiate
Championships, Alamitos Beach,
8 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Noah Kalama Outrigger Regatta, Off
Belmont Pier, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

SUNDAY

Offshore Powerfest Trade Show,

Marina Green (West), all day,
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Long Beach-Catalina-Long Beach Jet
Ski Race, Long Beach Harbor,
8 to 11 a.m.

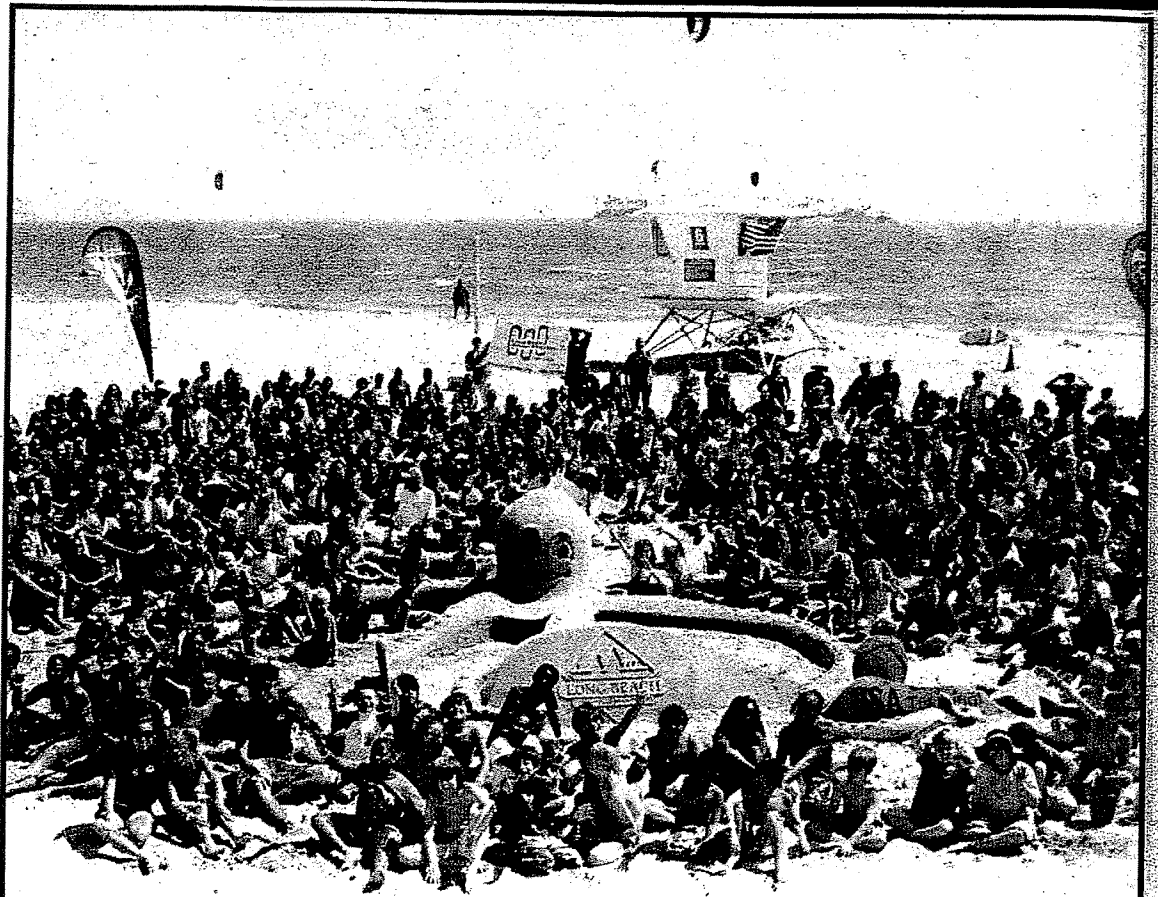
97th Offshore Powerboat Race, Long
Beach-Catalina-Long Beach, viewing
from Belmont Memorial Veterans Pier,
8 a.m. to noon.

Sunday Night Twilight Concerts in
the Park, Whaley Park, 4 p.m.

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August 14, 2008

GRUNION GAZETTE



GATHER 'ROUND. About a thousand youngsters surround an octopus sculpture during the Youth Beach Day on Friday. The Port of Long Beach Junior Chamber and Parks, Recreation and Marine Department sponsored the event, which preceded the Great Sand Sculpture Contest. More photos at www.gazettes.com.

— Gazette photo by Harry Saltzgeber



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Charter Communications

AT RAINBOW LAGOON

Crawfish Festival Spices Up Downtown

By Shereen Oca
Staff Writer

Reverberations of Zydeco's syncopated sounds, wafting aromas from a crawfish boil and dashes of bold colors from a bead-tossing parade usually are the makings of a down-home, traditional Louisiana celebration.

This weekend, however, that revelry will be brought to Long Beach as O Entertainment puts on its 15th Annual Crawfish Festival at Rainbow Lagoon — a two-day event that attracts thousands of people every year.

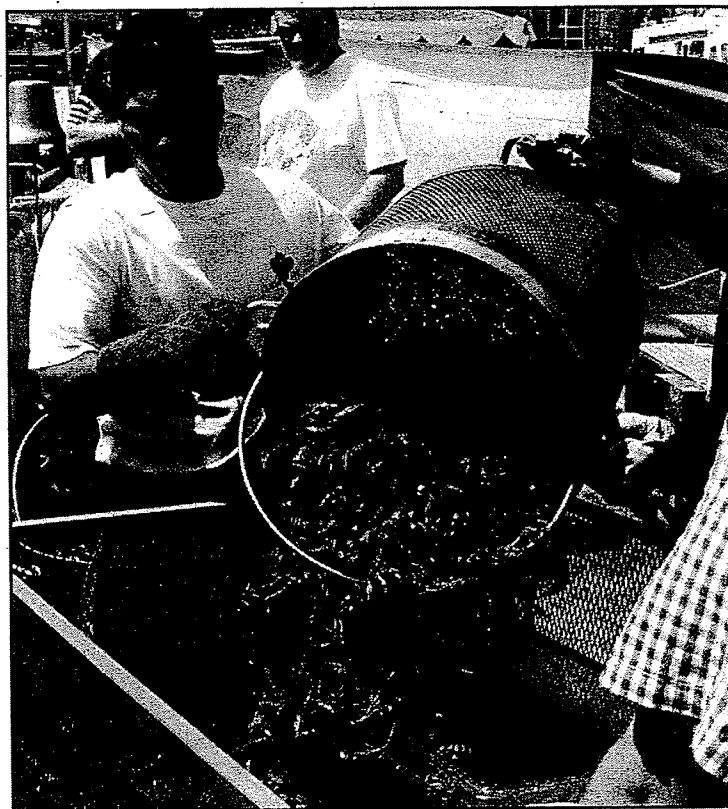
"Our goal is to get people up and dancing, take their mind off the world, eat great food, and enjoy a day out at the beach," said Troy Hassett, O Entertainment vice president. "You can't reproduce (New Orleans), but you can bring the music and the food to you."

Which is exactly what the organizers at Long Beach-based O Entertainment have done.

From noon to midnight on Saturday (Aug. 2) and noon to 11 p.m. on Sunday (Aug. 3), festival-goers can jitterbug to the high-energy performers (three of which were nominees in this year's Grammy Awards) lined up for the main stage, fall into the Congo line that will weave through the park multiple times throughout the day and, of course, feast on crawfish.

According to Chef Bruce Jacobs, corporate executive chef for Bristol Farms, live crawfish, totaling approximately 12,000 pounds, will be shipped in daily from Sacramento (the Louisiana crawfish season has passed).

On both days, Jacobs and a team of about 10 chefs will work the line serving plates of steaming heaps of crawfish, po-



READY TO EAT. Crawfish are cooked and ready for a host of dishes at the annual Crawfish Festival.

—Gazette file photo

tatoes and corn on the cob. To keep up with the more than 15,000 visitors expected, they also will be working with the world's largest crawfish kettle, Hassett said.

"It's beautiful," Jacobs mentions of the brass-plated double-kettle which works over a high-heat outlet of 1,000,000 British thermal units, or BTUs. (Household ranges generate anywhere from 5,000 to 15,000 BTUs.)

The crawfish, potatoes and corn served will boil in a broth concocted of Cajun spices, onion, garlic and lemon, and according to Jacobs, up to 400 pounds can be cooked per batch.

"It's a ball," he recalled. "We had a lot of fun last year."

Jacobs said that former New Orleans residents often ask him where they can go to get good crawfish. He said that he directs them straight to the festival.

But for those who aren't too keen on crawdads, the event will feature an international food court with 15 vendors specializing in everything from Asian cuisine to Cajun. Also, wine and beer will be served at two beach bars.

Regarding the entertainment, organizers said they were able to successfully corral big-name acts such as Lula Almeida and Afro-Brazil and Bonne Musique Zydeco for Saturday, and Grammy Award nominees Geno De-

(Continued on Page 15A)

Crawfish

(Continued from Page 14A)

lafosse and French Rockin' Boogie, Lisa Haley and the Zydecats and Roddie Romero and the Hub City All Stars for Sunday.

"The music is intoxication," Hassett said. "It gets you moving."

The younger ones also can get their fill of fun over at the chil-

dren's stage, which has activities planned from noon to 6 p.m. both days.

"The great music, the large dance floor, sitting out by the ocean and the cold beer. (We) make sure everybody has a great time," Hassett said.

Tickets are \$13 presale and \$15 at the gate. Another presale option costs \$25 and includes admission and the Bristol

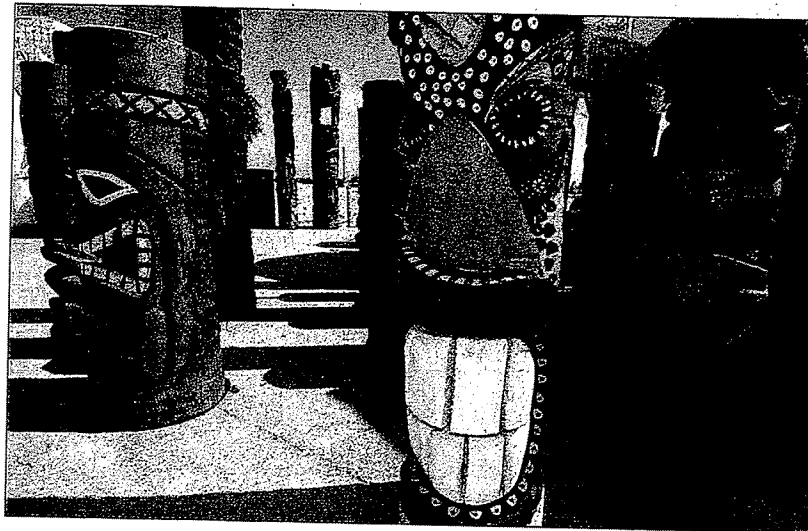
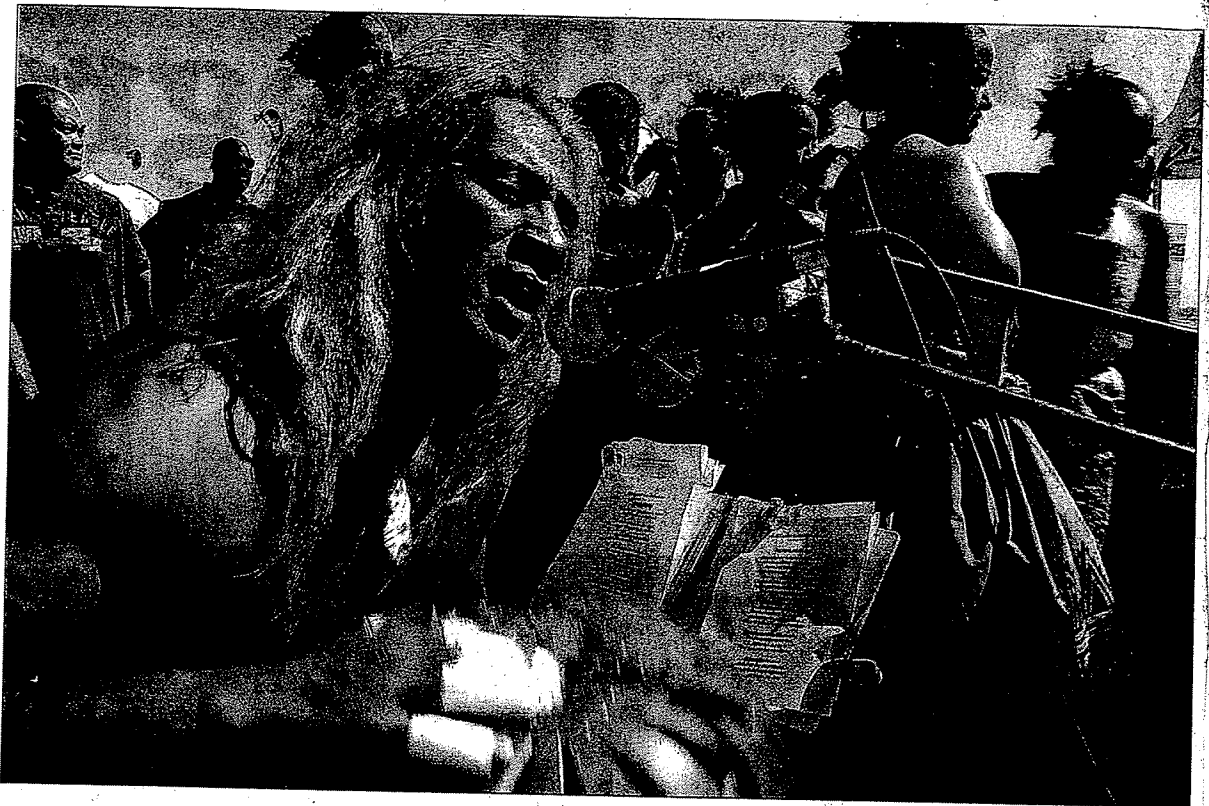
Farms catered crawfish feast, which equals \$8 in savings. Admission for children 12 and younger is free. Presale tickets are available only online until 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 1.

Rainbow Lagoon is at Pine Avenue and Shoreline Drive.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call 495-5959 or visit www.longbeachcrawfishfestival.com.

POLYNESIAN PARTY

Eighth annual Tiki Beach Festival brings Pacific Islands to the Long Beach shore



Siaosi Veimau, vocalist and percussionist of Kaleo'Onalani, supplies the sounds at the eighth annual Tiki Beach Festival at Granada Beach on Sunday. The weekend event showcased Polynesian music, dance and food. Decorated tiki carvings, left, and other items were available for purchase at the festival.

Diandra Jay/Staff Photographer

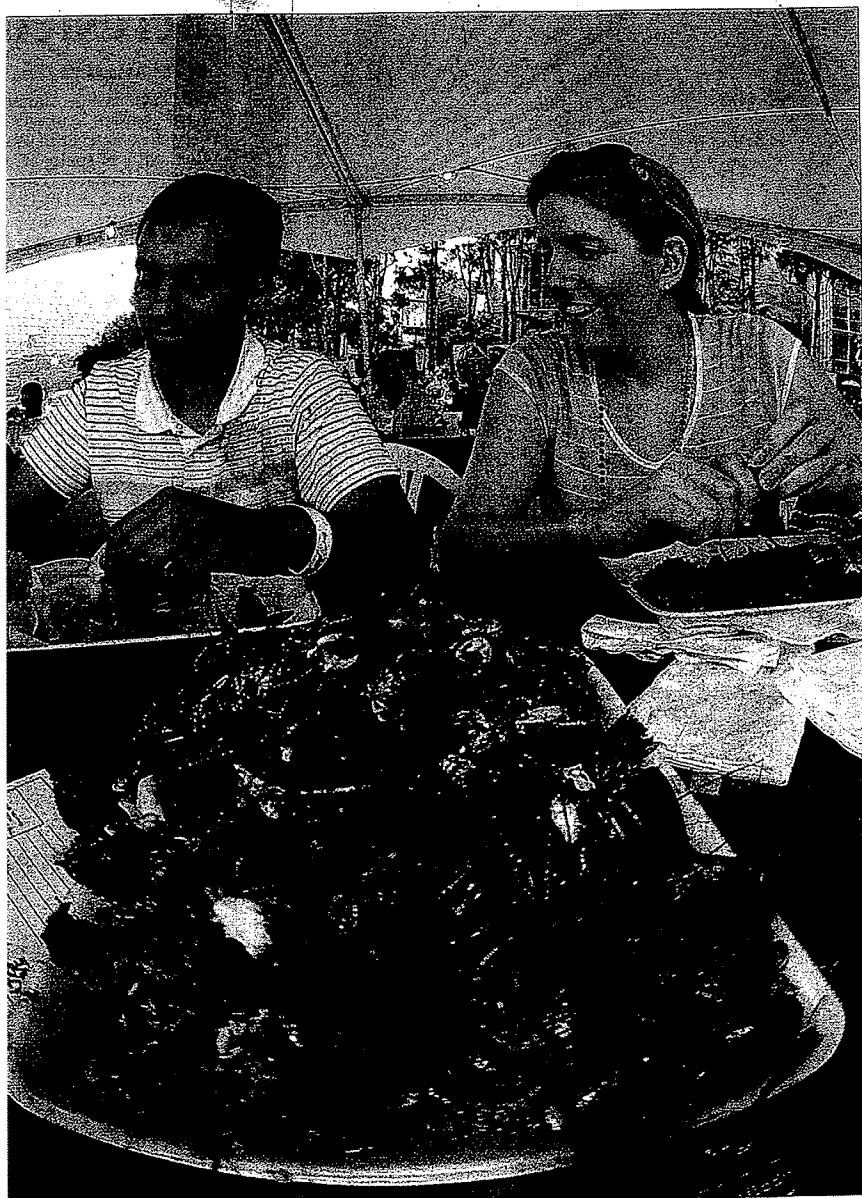
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Steven Georges/Staff Photographer

No matter whether they're called crawfish, crayfish or crawdads, Vic Shaw, left, and Marcy Patterson were enjoying a pile of them Saturday at the 15th annual Long Beach Crawfish Festival at Rainbow Lagoon Park.



TODAY

Pier Daze, 3-7 p.m., Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier.

Crawfish Festival, Noon-11 p.m., Rainbow Lagoon.

Long Beach Sprint Nationals, Marine Stadium, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

Classic Boat and Yacht Festival, Rainbow Avenue and Pine Avenue Pier. For information see www.shorelineyachtclub.com.

TUESDAY

Youth Aquarium and Harbor Cruise, inner city youth who signed up at local parks. For information, call 562-570-3150 or visit www.lbparks.org.

14th Annual Land Meets Sea Sports Camp, Marine Stadium/US Sailing Center/Mother's Beach/Belmont Pool. For information call 909-596-7733 or visit www.casacolina.org.

Moonlight Movies on the Beach, "The Sting," Granada Beach. Movies and cartoons begin at dusk.

Bixby Bluff Municipal Band Concerts, Bixby Bluff Park, 6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Moonlight Movies on the Beach, "Singing in the Rain," Cherry Beach. Movies and cartoons begin at dusk.

14th Annual Land Meets Sea Sports Camp, Marine Stadium/US Sailing Center/Mother's Beach/Belmont Pool. For information call 909-596-7733 or visit www.casacolina.org.

THURSDAY



Steven Georges/Staff Photographer

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THURSDAY

the proposed state budget to...

City Strikes Up Municipal Band For 99th Season

By Carla M. Collado

Staff Writer

When Larry Curtis lifted his baton Tuesday at Whaley Park, he was kicking off the Long Beach Municipal Band's 99th season of free summer concerts, themed "Jump on the Bandwagon!"

Curtis has been conducting the band for almost two decades, and this summer, he returns to lead the group through another season of classical, pop, jazz, film, big band and Broadway tunes four nights a week at city parks until Aug. 15.

The 40-piece Municipal Band is made up of professional musicians from Los Angeles and Orange counties who play for studios, films, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Pacific Sym-

phony and the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra, among other institutions. Of those musicians, 18 comprise the Municipal Band's Studio Band, a big band jazz group, Curtis explained.

"They are outstanding big band and orchestral players," he said of the Municipal Band. "The group is a highly qualified professional organization."

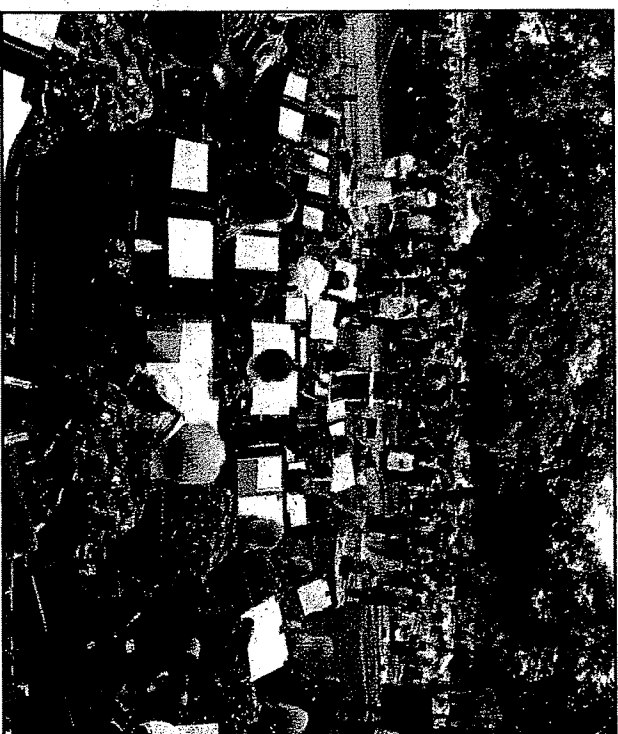
(Curtis himself had a 25-year career as director of bands at California State University, Long Beach, and has had conducting engagements with the Sydney Wind Orchestra of Australia, the Los Angeles Brass Ensemble, the Pacific Symphony and the American Brass Band, among other achievements.)

The Municipal Band is the

Long Beach
Charter
Communications
SEAFESTIVAL
celebrating summer at
"the Beach"

longest-running municipally supported band in the country. Its players are part-time city employees and — in addition to performing at the summer concerts — are on-call to perform at other special events in Long

(Continued on Page 46A)



ON YOUR FEET. The Long Beach Municipal Band started its season Tuesday at Whaley Park. —Gazette photo by Thomas Waspe

INSIDE YOUR COMMUNITY

- Quiet Zones Planned In Shore / P. 5A
- Fireworks Ban To Be Enforced / P. 8A
- Seventh Street Gets New Coat / P. 9A
- New Era At Carpenter Center / P. 23A
- Veteran Leads Water Polo Team / P. 1B

— Columns & Spotlights —

A Pinch Of Salt, Page 2A
Musical Notes, Page 8B
Profiles In Dining, Page 26A
On The Water, Page 5B
Off Broadway, Page 12B

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Musical Theatre West season opener

'Silk Stockings'

finds the humor in communism **LIFE / 2**

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Long Beach, California

THURSDAY, AUGUST 7, 2002

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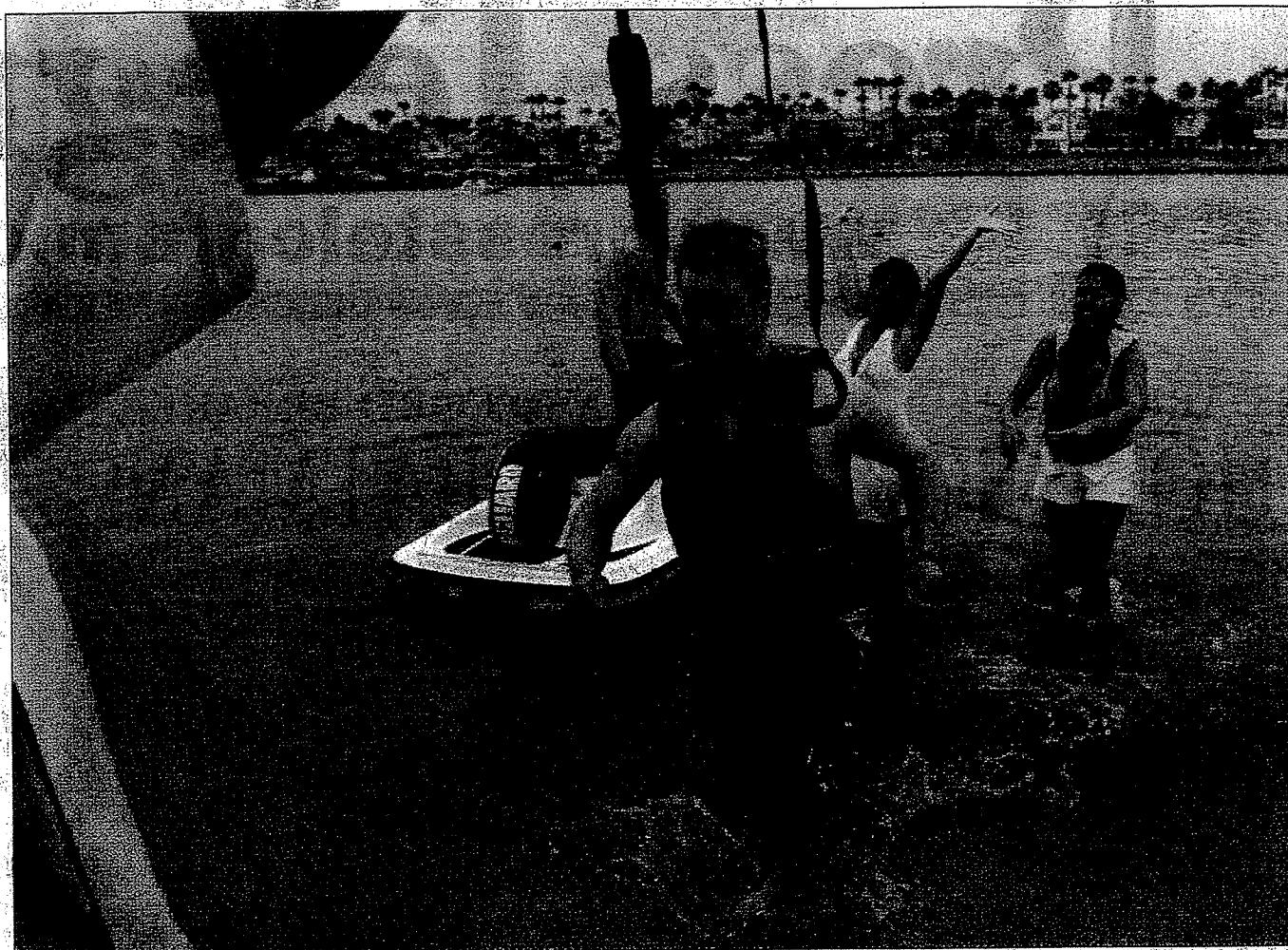
Challenging limits

Sue Taetzsch glides along in a specially adapted water ski chair, above, and participants, right, get ready to launch during the Casa Colina Land Meets Sea Sports Camp at Marine Stadium in Long Beach on Wednesday. The camp, which runs through Friday, is intended to give people with disabilities, ages 4 and older, an opportunity to experience sports firsthand, according to the nonprofit group. Activities, guided by the group's therapeutic recreational specialists and others, include hot air balloon rides, martial arts, over-the-line softball, quad rugby, outrigger



WATER FUN

Special-needs kids soak up a variety of experiences in Long Beach



Chad Dominguez, 19, is all smiles as he runs toward his sister, Kris Georgeson, after a watercraft ride during a day of fun sponsored Friday by the Catalina Ski Club at Long Beach's Marina Stadium. Nathan Wallace, 6, below left, gets a board ride, while Mike Slevcove, below, sits in front with Caleb Lawless as his sister, Kalika Slevcove holds on.

Jeff Gritchen/Staff Photographer



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Page 22B

GRUNION GAZETTE

LONG BEACH'S FAVORITE COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

VOL. 31

500

Sea Festival Management Marathon Task

By Harry Saltzgaver
Executive Editor

There's a new sheriff — make that coordinator — in town this summer for the Charter Communications Sea Festival.

Actually, the group isn't new to the city, just to the Sea Festival. International City Racing has been organizing the International City Bank Long Beach Marathon for the last seven years. But this is the first year the small group will add its expertise to the logistics of the more than 100 events that make up Sea Festival.

This winter, the nonprofit Sea Festival Association brought ICR on board to help coordinate the major summer events and begin a transition from the management of founding Executive Director Chris Pook. It was Pook who suggested three years ago that the city turn over management of the long-running Sea Festival to a private group to allow it to expand and seek sponsorships.

Pook remains as executive director until the end of this year, but the day-to-day operation has been handed over to ICR, according to Sea Festival Association President Drew Satirano. That means ICR's CEO Bob Seagren, Vice President of Marketing John Parks and Director of Operations Stacy Embretson are setting aside their running shoes to put their toes in the water.

ICR got a bit of Sea Festival experience last year, Parks said,



A SUMMER CROWD. The first AVP Pro Volleyball Tournament in recent years in Long Beach drew a sellout crowd during last year's Sea Festival.

—Gazette file photo

by putting on the Pacific Open Water Challenge. This year, open water racing will be an Olympic sport in Beijing, and the June 29 race in Long Beach is expected to draw up to 1,500 swimmers.

"There's an awful lot of interest," Parks said. "We're hoping that Mark Worthington, the only Olympic qualifier from the United States in 2008, will be here, and he may compete. We'll have a half-mile and a mile race as well as the 5K.

And it will be right off the (Belmont Veterans Memorial) Pier, where Pier Daze will be going on, so there should be a lot of synergy."

Synergy could be the new watchword for Sea Festival. On the Fourth of July, for example, Sea Festival will host big parties on the pier and on Marina Green. Fireworks have returned to the location just off the Queen Mary. But the partnership tying it all together is with

(Continued on Page 47A)

Summer Kickoff Suggestions

- Community Fun, P. 12A
- Summer Sailing, P. 14A
- Reading Time, P. 15A
- Going To Camp, P. 16A
- Patio Dining, P. 19A
- Ranchos, Aquarium, P. 21A
- Junior Golf, P. 29A

May 22, 2008

Sea Festival

(Continued from Page 1A)

the Aquarium of the Pacific and KJZZ, the jazz public radio station based at California State University, Long Beach. KJZZ will provide a music program coordinated with the fireworks, and the show will be simulcast at the pier and at the Marina Green party.

"We're really putting something together two weeks later, at the 'Offshore PowerFest,'" Parks said. "We're going to have a trade show on the Marina Green, complete with a stage, a beer garden and more. All of the meetings and awards ceremonies for all the races will be there, and there will be entertainment as well."

The races include the venerable Long Beach to Catalina Ski Race, which will celebrate its 60th year of water skiers negotiating 26 miles to the island and another 26 back, all in just more than an hour. That race is on Saturday, July 19.

That Sunday, everyone will be in or on watercraft — at least at the start — for the Catalina and back jet ski race and the 97th Offshore Power Boat Race, also to Catalina Island and back. The festival, which runs from July 17 through July 20, is sponsored by *Powerboat* magazine.

Perhaps the biggest coup to date for the Sea Festival Association was capturing an AVP Pro Volleyball event for Long Beach. The pros, led by Long Beach's own Misty May Treanor, played to big crowds last year. Nothing less is expected this year as the top teams make Long Beach their final stop before the 2008 Olympics in Beijing.

There will be one major change to this year's tournament, which runs July 24-27, Parks said. The women's championship match will be on Sunday this year, ensuring a final day sellout.

That same weekend, one of the favorites from pre-Association days takes over Marine Sta-


AVP Pro Volleyball are exceptions). That policy fulfills the concept of the Sea Festival as a way to get people involved in events that reflect the Long Beach lifestyle.

"I think we see it (their involvement) as a larger vision," Parks said. "It's not just a financial deal. We're building a vision of summer in Long Beach that offers events to the public as well as marketing opportunities. It truly is a public-private partnership."

For more information about International City Racing, go to www.runlongbeach.com. For a complete schedule of events, go to www.seafestivallongbeach.com.

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That same weekend, one of the favorites from pre-Association days takes over Marine Stadium. The ViewSonic Long Beach Dragon Boat Festival has filled the area with colorful culture for more than a decade, and grown each year. This year, the Dragon Boat races will decide the association's national championship.

Two of August's biggest Sea Festival events also will be found in Marine Stadium. The Long Beach Sprint Nationals take over the stadium Aug. 2 and 3 for the circle boat races in categories from the crackerboxes to turbojet-powered water rockets. National titles will be decided in several categories.

On Aug. 14, a once-in-a-decade event sets down at the stadium and Pete Archer Rowing Center. The U.S. Rowing Master Nationals will run for four days and bring in more than 2,000 rowers to compete.

"This is what Marine Stadium was made for," Parks said. "We think it's going to be an incredible event."

Admission is free for spectators at the Rowing Nationals, as is the case for most of the Sea Festival events (the Sprint Nationals and main court of the

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Sea Festival 2008

Sea Festival 2008: Calendar of events for July 3-9



TONIGHT!

Larry Curtis conducts the Long Beach Municipal Band, celebrating its 99th year, as the band presents "A Military Salute" in honor of the nation's birthday. It's free, so bring a blanket and enjoy! 6:30 p.m., Marine Stadium.

FRIDAY, 7/4 SUNDAY, 7/6

The City of Long Beach fireworks are visible all along the waterfront, but check out these special events that'll make your holiday celebration even MORE enjoyable: **PIER DAZE- PARTY ON THE PIER** starts at noon on the Belmont Pier and lasts right through the fireworks. Includes live music, beer garden, seafood, BBQ, boat rides and reserved seating for the fireworks.

Information: (562) 434-1542 or www.alfredos-beachclub.com.

CARNIVAL ON THE GREEN

starts its 3-day celebration beginning July 4 from noon-11 p.m. and featuring live entertainment, midway, food court, kid's area and more. The carnival is also open noon-11 p.m. Saturday and noon-9 p.m. Sunday. Information: (562) 495-5959.

The **AQUARIUM OF THE PACIFIC** is open from 9 a.m.-10 p.m. Friday July 4 and is offering a special buffet BBQ from 6-8 p.m. on the Aquarium's Harbor Terrace. www.aquariumofpacific.org or (562) 590-3100, ext. 0, for details.

NOTE: Due to large crowds expected to view the

fireworks, visitors are urged to arrive no later than 6 p.m. and are encouraged to ride the Blue Line or use Long Beach Transit. Call (562) 591-2301 for LB Transit information.

TUESDAY 7/8, GRANADA BEACH Charter Communications and NBC Universal present "ET: The Extraterrestrial" at Moonlight Movies on the Beach, featuring

free parking and free popcorn! It all starts at dusk with cartoons! All you need is a blanket and a picnic basket! Next Tues., 7/15: "The Nutty Professor"

Information: www.alfredos-beachclub.com

WEDNESDAY 7/9, CHERRY BEACH

Be there at dusk for the cartoons...then relax and enjoy "ET: The Extraterrestrial," presented by Charter Communications and NBC Universal at Moonlight Movies on the Beach. Next Wed., 7/16: "Boomerang Big Bash." Information: www.alfredos-beachclub.com

For a complete schedule for Charter Communications Long Beach Sea Festival 2008, visit www.longbeachseafestival.com.

Mayor's Cup again features outstanding international female skippers, crews

The 4th Annual Mayor's Cup, one of the highest-graded women's match racing sailing events in the U.S., will be hosted by the Long Beach Yacht Club Wed. July 9 through Sat., July 12.

The event, held in Rainbow Harbor, pits eight all-female skippers and crews against each other in identical Catalina-37 sailboats in a series of one-on-one match races south of the Belmont Pier, the suggested best viewing location for spectators.

"Match racing" features two boats racing against each other in a game of sailing strategy and tactics. Each competitor will race against each other at least once during the three day competition.

The 2007 champion, Liz Baylis from the San Francisco Yacht Club, returns to defend her title against an international field that includes: Katy Lovell, Sandy Hayes, Charlie Arms-Cartee and Liz Hjorth (USA); Lotta Thorelius (Sweden); Caroline Bejar (Brazil) and Samantha Osborne (New Zealand). Sponsored by St. Mary Medical Center in association with The Port of Long Beach



and Gladstone's, the Mayor's Cup is an International

Grade 2 Regatta. It was conceived in 2005 specifically

to be a part of Charter Communications Long Beach Sea Festival by the Long Beach Yacht Club in honor of then-Mayor Beverly O'Neill. Currently, the event is presided over by Mayor Bob Foster.

For more information about the Mayor's Cup, log on to www.mayorscuplongbeach.com. For information and a complete Charter Communications Long Beach Sea Festival schedule, go to www.longbeachseafestival.com.

Hope Charity Fours Volleyball Tournament set for July 5

The Hope Charity Fours Volleyball Tournament, a Charter Communications Long Beach Sea Festival event, will be held this Saturday at Marina Green Park. Team competition will be held in two divisions - Co-Ed Fours Advanced and Co-Ed Fours Novice - with prize money in the advanced division and a variety of prizes in the novice division. All teams will receive a gift bag.

Entry fee is \$100 per team, with an onsite fee of \$25 for

every player over four on any team. All entry fees will be donated to HOPE (Helping Other People Everywhere), an energy-conscious, humanitarian organization focusing on supporting existing social projects that promote education and growth.

Check-in and registration will be from 9-9:30 a.m., with pool play starting at 10 a.m. At least one female player must be on the court at all times. For further information, log on to www.sinjinvolleyball.com.



4th of July Fireworks



It's safe to say there are not many more picturesque locations to watch 4th of July fireworks than right here along the Long Beach waterfront!

And this year, a variety of special events are designed to make the holiday weekend more fun for every member of your family.

Pier Daze - Party on the Pier will start at noon on the Belmont Veteran Memorial Pier and last right through the fireworks. Party on the Pier includes live music, a beer garden, seafood, BBQ, boat rides and reserved seating for the great fireworks.

Call (562) 434-1542 for details. Information is also available at www.alfredos-beachclub.com and www.belmontpier.com.

A three-day Carnival on Marina Green starts its holiday weekend celebration

beginning noon-11 p.m. Fri., July 4. Featuring a giant midway, food court, children's area, games and exhibits, the Carnival will also be open 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Sat., July 5 and 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Sun., July 6.

Call (562) 495-5959 or visit www.ontertainment.net for details.

The Aquarium of the Pacific will be open from 9 a.m.-10 p.m. Fri., July 4, and is offering a special 6-8 p.m. Buffet BBQ on the Aquarium lawn...a superb location for fireworks-watching! Log on to www.aquariumofpacific.org for details and prices.

The 4th of July holiday celebrations are part of the almost 100 events that make up Charter Communications Long Beach Sea Festival 2008. For a complete event listing, visit www.longbeachseafestival.com.

UPCOMING SEA FESTIVAL EVENTS

TUESDAY

- Movies on the Beach, "Back to the Future" Granada Beach, dusk. Free.
- Alfredo's Beach Club is hosting movies and cartoons on the beach. Free parking/popcorn for all. A barbecue beach dinner and refreshments will also be available.

- Long Beach Municipal Band Concerts. Band music in Europe is unique to each country. The concert will make quick visits to as many as possible during the evening. In how many languages can you say, "Great concert"? Italian crooner Tony Galla returns to thrill young and old alike.
- Bixby Park, 130 Cherry Ave. 6:30 p.m. Free.

WEDNESDAY

- Movies on the Beach, "North by Northwest" Cherry Beach or Marina Green, dusk. Free.
- Long Beach Municipal Band Concert Los Cerritos Park, 3750 Del Mar Ave., 6:30 p.m.

Free.

THURSDAY

- Thursday Night Twilight Concerts in the Park Somerset Park, 1500 E. Carson St., Long Beach, 6 to 8 p.m. Bring your blanket and chairs and for an evening of musical enjoyment. Emperor will be playing classic rock tunes.
- Long Beach Municipal Band Concert Marine Stadium, 5255 Paoli Way, 6:30 p.m. Free.

FRIDAY

- Kids Fishing Rodeo 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier. The 55th Annual event courtesy of the SoCal Tuna Club and Alfredo's Beach Club is free to kids 16 and under and includes free bait, snacks and instruction. Contact Fred Khammar at 562-434-1542 or visit www.alfredosbeachclub.com
- Long Beach Municipal Band Concert El Dorado Park, Studebaker Road and Willow Street, 6:30 p.m. Free.

- Classic Boat and Yacht Festival Rainbow Harbor and Pine Avenue Pier, all day.



714-894-8687 or visit
www.shorelineyachtclub.com

SATURDAY

- Long Beach Sprint Nationals 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Marine Stadium. Otherwise known as the "Circle Boat Races," this event features the famous front-engine boats of yesterday known as "Cracker boxes" with driver/riding mechanic as well as conventional rear engine "flat bottoms."
- Contact Ross Wallach at 310-318-4012

- Crawfish Festival Noon to 11 p.m., Rainbow Lagoon (off Shoreline

Classic boats from 1920-1950 will be on display and judged for the annual Shoreline Yacht Club Commodore's Cup.
Contact Eric Peterson
310-962-9828
or Warren Wolfe

Drive), Long Beach
Two-day Louisiana Festival featuring live music, dancing and fun. Main Stage, live entertainment and Children's Stage fun for kids. Fresh dinners prepared by Bristol Farms.
Contact Roy Hassett at 562-485-5858
www.longbeachcrawfishfestival.com

- Classic Boat and Yacht Festival Rainbow Harbor and Pine Avenue Pier, all day.

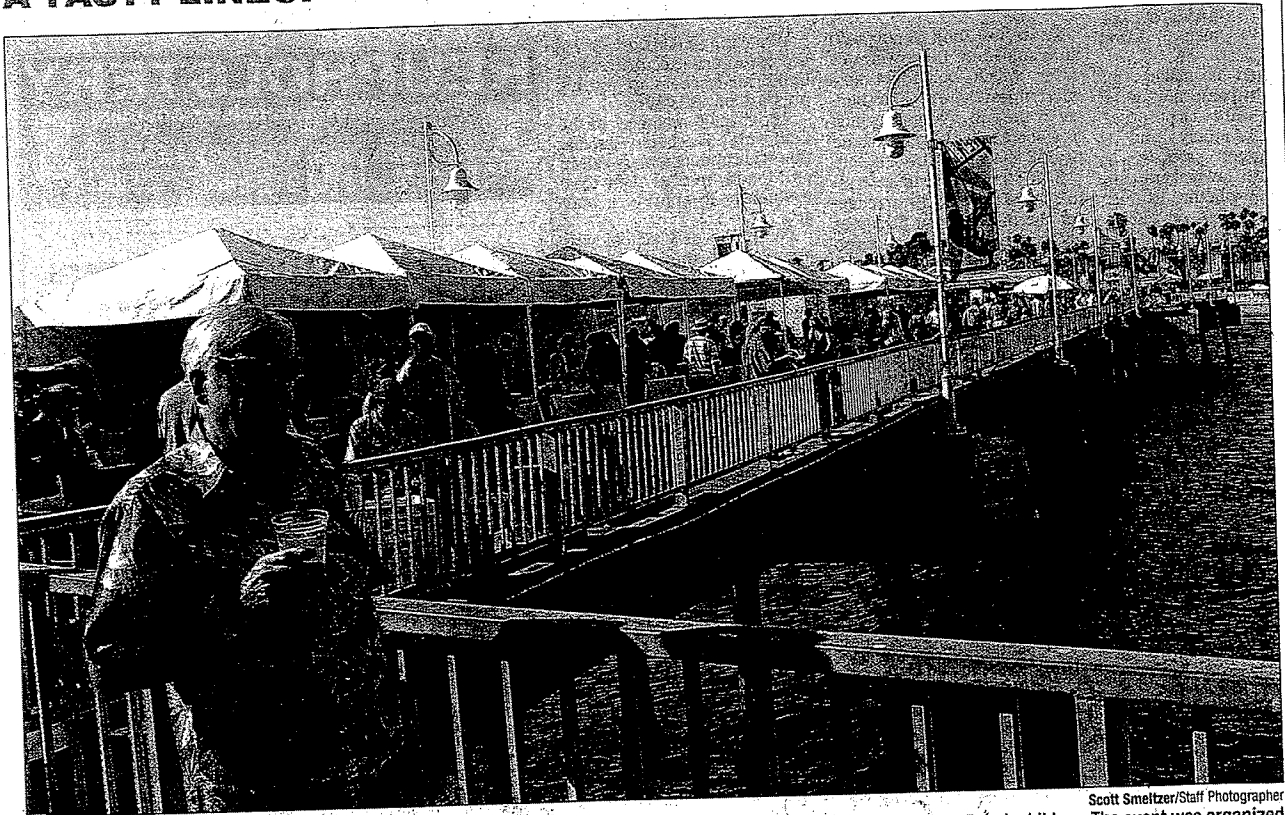
AUG. 3

- Pier Daze — A Taste Of The Coast 3 to 7 p.m., Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier. More than 30 Long Beach restaurants will be offering samples of their food. There will also be beer and wine garden and live music.
- Contact Fred Khammar at 562-434-1542 or visit www.alfredosbeachclub.com or www.lbkidsconnection.org

- Long Beach Sprint Nationals 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Marine Stadium, Long Beach
- Crawfish Festival noon to 11 p.m., Rainbow Lagoon, Long Beach.

- Classic Boat and Yacht Festival Rainbow Harbor and Pine Avenue Pier, all day.

A TASTY LINEUP



Scott Smeltzer/Staff Photographer

More than 30 restaurants stretched down the Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier on Sunday as part of a fundraiser for Long Beach children. The event was organized by Children Today, a group that helps homeless children. Visitors sampled food and wine from some of the area's best restaurants.

TUESDAY

Youth Aquarium and Harbor Cruise for inner city youth who signed up at local parks. Call 562-570-3150 or visit www.lbparks.org.

14th Annual Land Meets Sea Sports Camp, Marine Stadium/US Sailing Center/Mother's Beach/Belmont Pool. Call 909-596-7733 or visit www.casacolina.org.

Moonlight Movies on the Beach, "The Sting," Granada Beach. Begins at dusk.

Bixby Bluff Municipal Band Concerts, Bixby Bluff Park, 6:30 p.m. Hear music of the Swing 'era by Goodman, Dorsey, Ellington and Miller. Hear the return of Barbara Morrison.

WEDNESDAY

Moonlight Movies on the Beach, "Singing in the Rain," Cherry Beach, dusk.

14th Annual Land Meets Sea Sports Camp, Marine Stadium/US Sailing Center/Mother's Beach/Belmont Pool. Call 909-596-7733 or visit www.casacolina.org.

THURSDAY

Thursday Night Twilight Concerts in the Park, Stearns Park, 6-8 p.m.

Long Beach Municipal Band, Marine Stadium, 6:30-8:15 p.m.



14th Annual Land Meets Sea Sports Camp, Marine Stadium/US Sailing Center/Mother's Beach/Belmont Pool. Call 909-596-7733 or visit www.casacolina.org.

FRIDAY

14th Annual Land Meets Sea Sports Camp, Marine Stadium/US Sailing Center/Mother's Beach/Belmont Pool. Call 909-596-7733 or visit www.casacolina.org.

All City Camps Beach Day, Granada Beach. For youth enrolled in Summer Day Camp programs. Call 562-570-3150 or visit www.lbparks.org.

Clyde W. Elleman Memorial Model Sailboat Regatta, Colorado Lagoon, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. For information, call 562-570-1719.

Visit www.longbeachseafestival.com for more information.

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WHATCHA DUNE?

Got a pail, a shovel and a creative urge? Then head for the sand

By Melissa Heckscher, Staff Writer

In 2005, Laguna Niguel resident Ray Karch built a replica of Harry Potter's Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry — entirely of sand.

The place stood several feet higher than Harry himself, with coned towers that reached toward the sky and a quidditch field big enough for several people to stand inside.

You think that's big?

In 1986, Redondo Beach resident and professional sand sculptor Todd Vander Pluym helped construct a "Lost City of Atlantis" out of sand at Treasure Island, Fla. The Guinness record-breaking creation stood six stories high and stretched more than two football fields long. Making it required 50,000 tons of sand, two dozen sculptors, 800 volunteers and a construction crane; tearing it down required a bulldozer.

And you thought all you needed to make a sandcastle were plastic pails and a flimsy shovel.

"Sand sculpting is more than just building sandcastles," said Karch, who also has built sand sculptures of Queen Amidala's Palace from "Star Wars: Episode I" and a giant sand replica of Shrek. "People really don't do castles anymore. They do dinosaurs. A castle is a castle. After you've seen a couple of them, they all pretty much look alike."

Want to see for yourself? Karch is one of several sand sculptors set to attend Long Beach's 75th annual "Great Sand Sculpture Contest" on Aug. 9.

preview >

LONG BEACH GREAT SAND SCULPTURE CONTEST

> **When:** 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Aug. 9 (registration at 8 a.m.; viewing from 2 to 4 p.m.)

> **Where:** 5101 E. Ocean Blvd., Long Beach (on the beach, at the Granada Launch Ramp)

> **Admission:** Free for spectators; \$20 for family/children teams; \$50 for club/adult teams; \$100 for corporate teams (teams may have up to 10 people)

> **Information:** (562) 434-1542, www.alfredosbeachclub.com/sandcastle.htm

SAND/2



Some sand castles can be very sophisticated, such as "The Seven Deadly Sins," left, or simple, like SpongeBob SquarePants, right.

File photos



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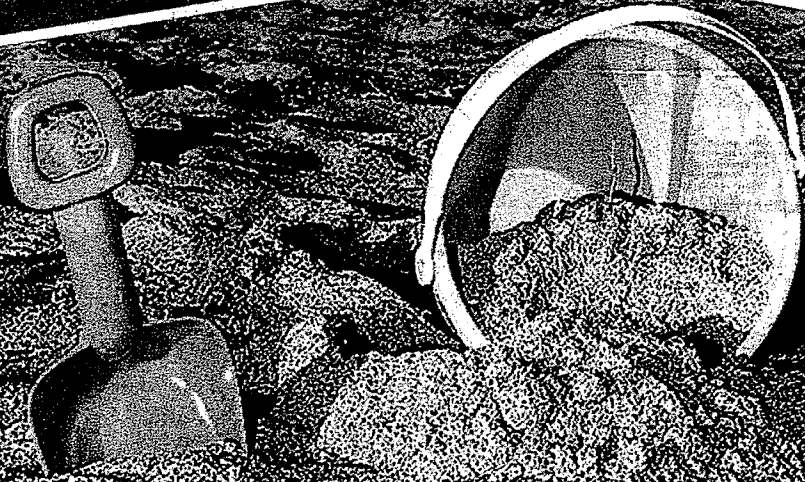
> Information: (562) 434-1542, www.alfredosbeachclub.com/sandcastle.htm.

SAND/2



Some sand castles can be very sophisticated, such as "The Seven Deadly Sins," left, or simple, like SpongeBob SquarePants, right.

File photos



SAND SCULPTING TIPS

Whether you're competing in a contest or just looking for something different to do on the beach, master sand sculptor Todd Vander Pluym has some tips on how to build with sand.

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

"Nobody makes sand sculpture tools," Vander Pluym said. "It's more like kitchen thievery."

Suggested sculpting tools include: 5-gallon buckets (for carrying water); cones (for molding towers); cake decorators and spatulas (for smoothing out sand); shovels (for digging); spoons (for carving); straws (for blowing away stray sand); chopsticks (for etching out designs); and paintbrushes (for creating texture).

FINDING THE RIGHT SAND

"Sand is as different as people are," Vander Pluym said.

To make sure your sand is sculpt-ready, try this test: Take a handful of wet sand, make a ball and roll it around in the palm of your hand. If it stays together, it's good sand for building.

WHERE TO BUILD

Build your castle far enough away from the shoreline that it won't be washed away at high tide ... but not so far away that you'll tire yourself out lugging water back and forth.

OTHER TIPS

> Don't be afraid to fail:

"Sand sculpture is a great place for a perfectionist to be imperfect," Vander Pluym said. "Sand sculpting is about trying to put your kid hat on and not being too uptight about it."

> Practice, practice, practice:

Don't wait until the day of the contest to take a first try at your chosen sculpture. "You want to spend your learning curve in the practice, not on the day of the event," Vander Pluym said.

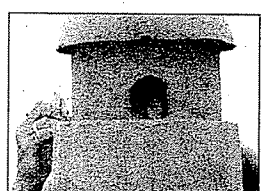
Tips taken from Todd Vander Pluym's new DVD "Sandcastles for Everyone," available at www.sandsculptors.com.

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PLAY > COVER STORY



The Great Sand Sculpture Contest, a summertime fixture at Belmont Shore, is "all about having a fun day at the beach," says event organizer Fred Khammar. The competition is open to all ages and experience levels. File Photos



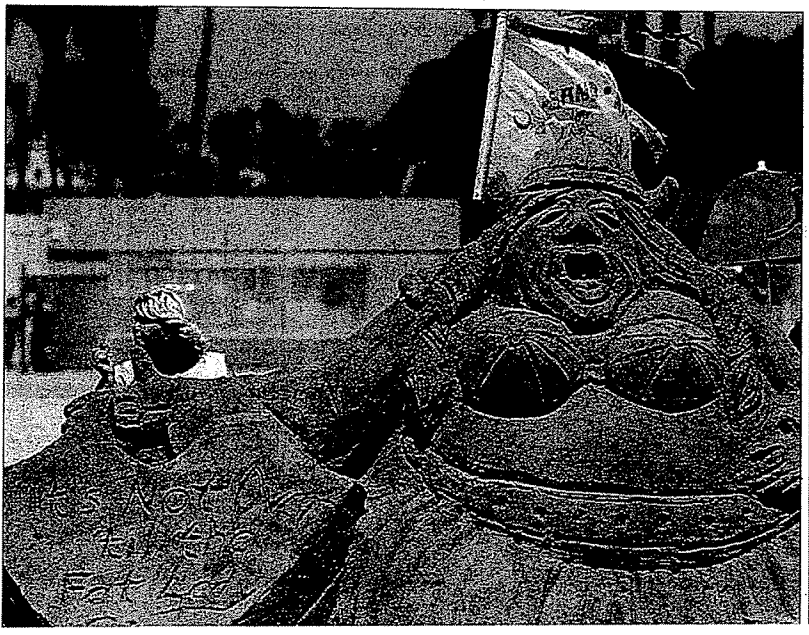
Sand creations range from a castle, above, to an operatic "Fat Lady" complete with braids and Viking helmet, right.

SAND

FROM PAGE 1

It's not just for pros. Held on a beach with a view of the Queen Mary, the contest is a summertime fixture in Long Beach and is open to all ages and experience levels.

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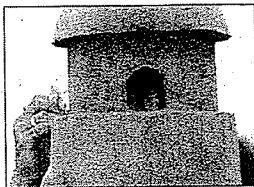
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File Photos



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SAND

FROM PAGE 1

It's not just for pros. Held on a beach with a view of the Queen Mary, the contest is a summertime fixture in Long Beach and is open to all ages and experience levels.

"It's all about having a fun day at the beach," said Fred Khammar, owner of Alfredo's Beach Club, which is organizing the event. "It's not a cutthroat competition."

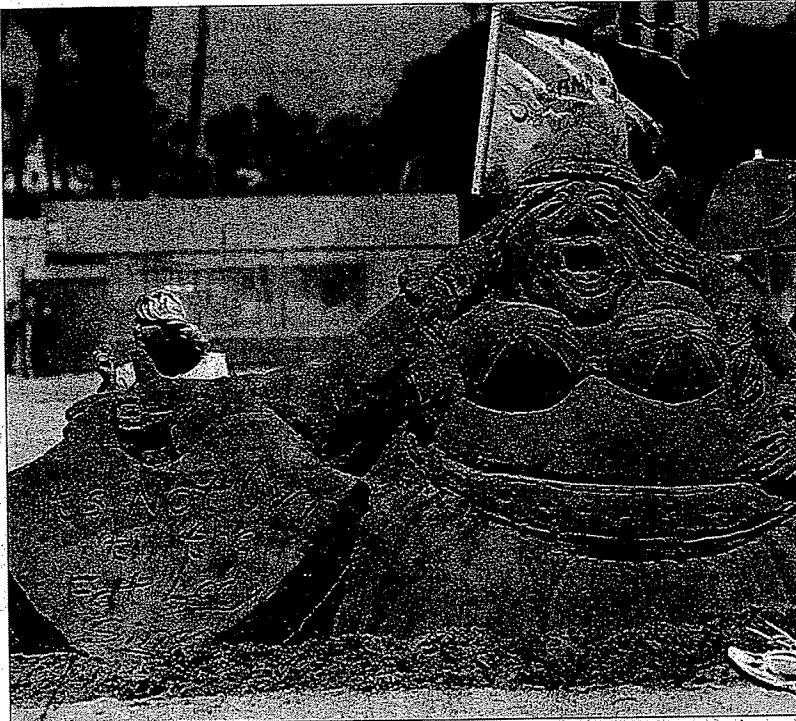
On the contrary, he called the contest more of a "folksy community event," with prizes that include gift certificates to nearby restaurants and trophies given in multiple categories.

The city of Long Beach held its first sand-sculpting contest in 1933 and continues to include it as a part of the annual Charter Communications Sea Festival, a summer-long celebration that includes more than 100 coastal-themed events.

The city sponsored the sandcastle contest until 2002, when it was threatened by citywide budget cuts. To keep the tradition alive, Khammar took over the event.

"I'm kind of a traditionalist," Khammar said. "I hated to see that event go away after so many years."

Each team will get a 225-square-foot plot of sand on which to sculpt. Only sand and natural debris (seaweed, shells, etc.) found on the day



of the event may be used. Builders may use their own tools, including shovels, buckets and molds.

And while there may be professionals such as Karch at the event, most of those competing won't be so well-versed in sand sculpting. Most people, Khammar said, will be there for fun.

"This isn't the world championships of sand sculpting, or these things people send you on the Internet, but there are some very impressive sculptures," Khammar said. "You also get some basic pail turned upside-down on top of another pail turned upside-down."

In the past, prizes have been awarded for designs ranging from sea turtles and dragons to SpongeBob SquarePants and other pop-culture characters. There

are several categories of sculpture, but all will be judged on three basic criteria: creativity, design (difficulty of construction) and overall concept.

Sculptors have five hours to complete their work. Their creations then stay on guarded display through Aug. 10, after which they are left to the mercy of the spectators.

"Once security leaves, you find kids of all ages can't resist jumping into a sand castle," Khammar said. "And then it just goes back to its natural state, as if it never happened."

"It's just sand," added Karch, an attorney. "People say, 'How can you leave your sculpture behind?' But it's still there — it's just fallen into different pieces."

Melissa Heckscher (310) 540-5511, Ext. 329; melissa.heckscher@dailybreeze.com

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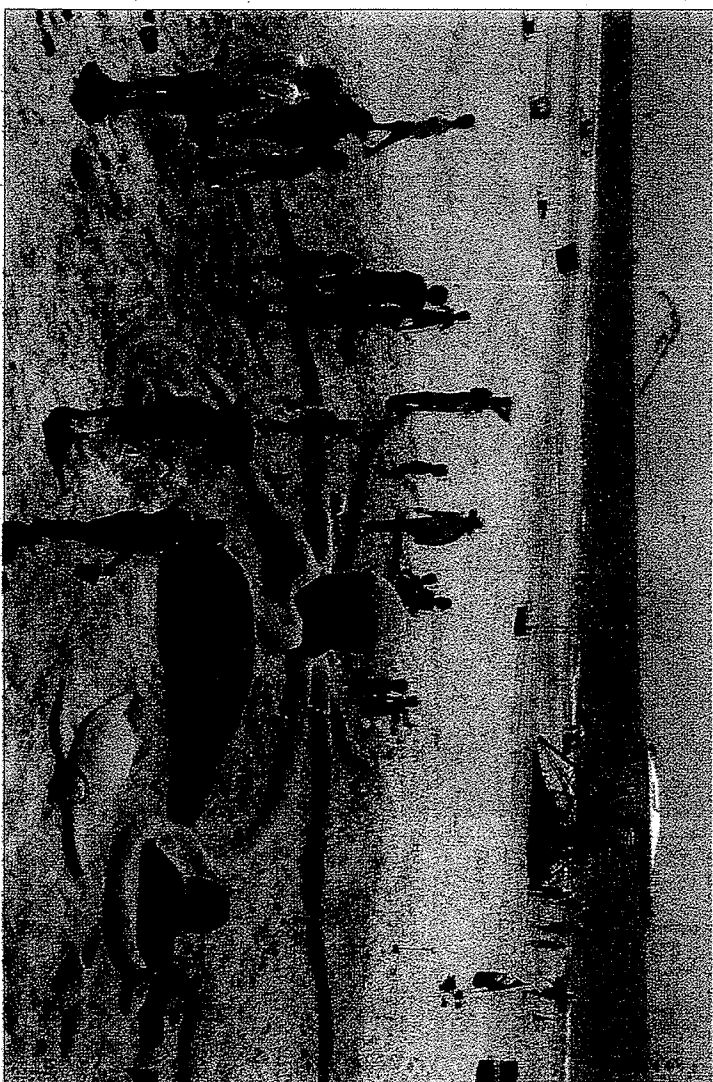
A3

THE LONG REACH OF BEACH ART



S and sculptor Barbara King, above, teaches Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine Department summer campers how to make parts for the tentacles of this octopus on the beach at Granada Avenue on Friday.

Jeff Gritchen/Staff Photographer



FROM SAND TO SCULPTURE



Jeff Gritchen/Staff Photographer

Bob Lank, right, and the Sand Crabs work on the "Green Dragon," which ended up nabbing the top prize. "When you get the sand that compact, it's almost like carving stone," said winner Greg Gilger, a Huntington Beach resident, on his technique.

By Kelly Puente
Staff Writer

LONG BEACH — What's the secret to building a great sand castle? The right tools, and apparently lots and lots of water.

"The water's like glue," said Huntington Beach resident Greg Gilger, whose monstrous sand sculpture "Green Dragon" won first place this year in the 75th annual Great Sand Castle Contest at Granada Beach in Belmont Shore on Saturday.

"When you get the sand that compact, it's almost like carving stone," he said.

Under clear blue skies and warm weather, hundreds flocked to the beach to watch 20 teams compete with sculptures including Gothic castles, turtles, sea lions

SAND/A6



Jeff Gritchen/Staff Photographer

Kirsten Travis, left, of Crew 4, pats down an Olympic panda sculpture while teammate Eddie Shin uses tools to chisel. Contestants were permitted to use only shovels, hand tools, buckets, and the sea water and sand, naturally.



MORE INSIDE

■ For more Sea Fest events, go to **A6**

ON THE WEB

Photos: More sand creations at presstelegram.com

Sea Festival kids day, sand castle contest draw big crowds

BY NICK DIAMANTIDES
Staff Writer

Thousands of people of all ages flocked to Granada Beach on the Long Beach shore last Friday and Saturday. They came to participate in two of the Long Beach Sea Festival's most popular events: All City Camps Beach Day (for kids) and the Great Sand Sculpture

Contest (for adults and children).

More than 1,000 elementary and middle-school children came to the beach on Friday for their special day. Charter Communications, which is the major sponsor of the Sea Festival, helped coordinate and publicize the event.

"We worked with various community organizations,

the Boys and Girls Club, the YMCA, and the city's park and recreation department to get the word out," said Ron Petke, Charter Communications production manager.

Petke noted that some of the kids had never been to the shoreline before Beach Day and probably would not have come if not for the fact that the Long Beach Depart-



Nick Diamantides/Signal Tribune

The Sand Crabs team took first place in the family team competition of the Sand Sculpture Contest in Long Beach last Saturday.

ment of Parks, Recreation and Marine had provided free bus transportation for them.

"It was a great opportunity for many children to see the ocean for the first time, enjoy all the activities, have lunch and take home mementos of a day they will probably remember for the rest of their lives," he said.

Plastic sand buckets with the Sea Festival logo were passed out to each child.

Gladys Kaiser, recreation superintendent with the city parks department said it was very gratifying to see the youngsters having so much

fun.

"We had just over 1,000 kids today and they came from all of our park programs throughout the city representing our summer fun days, our day camps and our rap programs," she noted. "The kids today participated in a variety of activities."

The activities included a dance fest with recorded music played by a disc jockey; bounce houses, slides, bubbles, water games, relay races, several other beach games and swimming opportunities.

World-class sculptors Kali Bradford and Bill Rose were on hand also to teach the kids how to make sand

Nick Diamantides/Signal Tribune

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The activities included a dance fest with recorded music played by a disc jockey, bounce houses, slides, bunnies, water games, relay races, several other beach games and swimming opportunities.

World-class sculptors Kari Bradford and Bill Rose were on hand also to teach the kids how to make sand castles and other sculptures. Both are past winners of the U.S. Open Sand Sculpture Contest held in San Diego. Renowned sand sculptor Brent Perry was there, too. Perry won a medal for his sculpture at the 2003 World Championship, achieved a world solo height record in 2006 and won the coveted Sculptors' Choice Award in the 2007 World Championships.

"This day was about bringing all of our programs together and having a fun day," Kaiser said. "The kids loved it and we loved it, too."

John Parks, a spokesperson for the festival noted that it is steadily growing in scope and attendance every

see FESTIVAL page 10

continued from page 8

year.

"This is part of the annual Charter Communications Long Beach Sea Festival that goes on from June to September and has over 100 events," he said. "That includes movies on the beach, concerts in the parks, AVP Volleyball, the Junk Beach Festival, the Dragon Boat Festival and lots of other fun events and activities."

He noted that the kids beach day was arranged to precede the sand castle contest and many of the kids that came on Friday came back on Saturday with their parents. "We wanted kids from all parts of Long Beach to come down to participate in the fun activities and learn how to make sand castles," he explained.

Kids Beach Day and the Great Sand Sculpture Contest were both operated by Alfredo's Beach Club with help from the Long Beach Junior Chamber.

"The goal was to get as many kids to the beach Friday and as many kids and

adults to the beach on Saturday," said Michael Clement, Junior Chamber president.

He explained that the Junior Chamber participated in both events as a way of promoting the city and making it a better place to live, work and play.

"We worked hard to get the word out about these events to Long Beach businesses," said Justin Potter, event co-chair for the Sand Sculpture Contest for the Long Beach Junior Chamber. "We personally approached over 200 business owners. We also had several of our members volunteering at both events, just doing what ever needed to be done."

Kevin Wilkerson, another Sea Festival spokesman, said that several thousand people came to the Sand Sculpture Contest on Saturday, but getting an exact count was difficult since the event was free and many beachgoers from other parts of the shoreline came and went throughout the day.

"It was definitely a very successful event," he said.

"I was very impressed with the sculptures that I saw

The Sand Sculpture Contest has two categories of teams. The Forty-niners, Inc. won first place in the corporate team competition and the Sand Crabs took first place in the family team competition.

Wilkerson said that the Sea Festival increases tourism and boosts the local economy, but it is also designed to get more local residents out on the beaches.

"We especially want to have more of the city's kids enjoying wholesome activities in the water and on the sand," he said.

This Friday, August 15, the Sea Festival will host its Capture the Wind Festival on Granada Beach.

Charter Communications bought 1,000 kites, which will be distributed to all the kids brought to the beach by the parks department. Wilkerson said, "When that wind kicks up, it's going to be quite a sight to see."

For more information, phone (562) 570-3150 or visit www.lbparks.org, www.longbeachseafestival.com or www.alfredosbeachclub.com.

Sand Sculptures Will Sprout On Beach

By Shireen Oca

Staff Writer

Anything from whales and sea otters to castles and planes may wash up on the shores of Long Beach as part of this weekend's 75th Annual Great Sand Sculpture Contest.

This year, Alfredo's Beach Club has teamed with the Long Beach Junior Chamber in an effort to further develop this longstanding summer tradition, said Fred Khammar, owner of Alfredo's Beach Club.

The formerly one-day event now has expanded into two. Tomorrow, Friday, the beach near Granada Avenue and East Ocean Boulevard will be devoted to area youth, where more than 900 children from Long Beach Parks, Recreation and

Marine programs will play in the sun, water and sand while learning sand-casting building techniques from a professional.

"This is an event we see growing into the future," Khammar said. "It's still something that's in the developmental stages, and we're keeping it on that same path to greatness."

Roughly 25 teams participated in last year's contest, and Khammar said he expects that number to be doubled this time around.

Around 9 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 9, teams will be given a 225-square-foot area to work with on the beach, and only 10 members may work in that area at one time.

(Continued on Page 39A)

August 7, 2008

Sand Castle

(Continued from Page 1A)

"One of the things that makes our contest a little different is that we don't allow forms and don't supply hoses," Khammar said of the contest's rules.

Also, no hair spray, paste, paste-like substances, or food coloring will be allowed. As a result, teams will be left to create masterpieces out of sand using shovels, buckets, water and materials found from the sea.

"It's not just limited to sand castles," Khammar said. "I think all of the sculptures are incredible. It's pretty mind-blowing."

Camp Fire Honors 11 As The Best

GRUNION GAZETTE

All entries will be judged on creativity, design, and best overall concept, and awards will be handed out at 2 p.m. Viewing will take place directly afterwards until 4 p.m. In addition, the sculptures will be guarded overnight and will remain onsite for viewing on Sunday.

Six years ago, Alfredo's took charge of this annual contest, Khammar said, vowing to continue its legacy and develop it into one of the largest around.

Now, thousands of people stop by to check out and admire the natural works of art, he added.

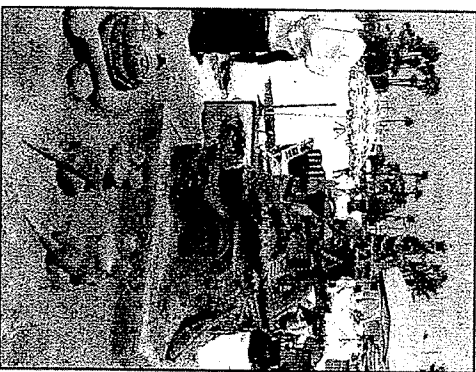
Cost to participate is \$150 for

a corporate team, \$50 for an adult team and \$20 for a family or children's group. To become a Youth Day sponsor, which also includes sand-sculpture sponsorship, the cost is \$500. The event is free for spectators.

"The Long Beach Junior Chamber, being around for 76 years, understands what a legacy this (contest) is," said Justin Potter, event co-chair from the chamber. "(We're) moving forward so children and families alike (will) look forward to it year after year."

For more information about the Great Sand Sculpture Contest, call 434-1542 or visit www.alfredosbeachclub.com.

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LITTER BOX. One of last year's castile winners.
—Gazette file photo