



NEWS FROM FALLBROOK, BONSAI, RAINBOW, VISTA, SAN MARCOS, OCEANSIDE, ESCONDIDO, CARLSBAD, ALL NORTH COUNTY AND TEMECULA



Camp opens

The Chargers sign Castillo, still waiting on Meniman, Jackson.

Sports, C-1

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Attorneys critical of comment by Feller

BEN FRUMIN
STAFF WRITER

OCEANSIDE — Oceanside Councilman Jack Feller's recent statement that he wants to hire an aide who's "philosophically aligned" with his "conservative Christian" ideology isn't kosher, according to two California attorneys who work as employee rights advocates.

"It's absolutely against the law for any employer to make any hiring decision based on religion," said Phil Horowitz, chairman of the California Employment Lawyers Association, in an interview Tuesday.

Horowitz said the only notable exceptions would be along the lines of a church hiring a minister. Horowitz said the 600-member employment lawyers association ad-

► COMMENT, A-6

Electricity woes were not local

EDMOND JACOBY
STAFF WRITER

Two Stage 2 emergencies in Southern California were declared last week even though San Diego Gas & Electric Co. officials said they experienced no shortage of power.

Rather, they said, the emergencies were the result of the way the state accounts for electricity resources.

Blamed on high temperatures, the emergencies revealed heightened tension among the companies that bring electricity to con-

► ELECTRICITY, A-7

Frye leads SD mayoral race

But surf shop owner will likely face runoff election in November

JOE BRITTON
and JOYCE THORNE
CITY NEWS SERVICE

SAN DIEGO — Mayoral candidate Donna Frye continued to lead her two closest challengers by a wide margin late Tuesday, but her lead appeared to be far short of enabling her to avoid a November runoff.

With 20.9 percent of the

precincts and the absentee votes counted, Frye had 41.8 percent of the votes to Jerry Sanders' 27.3 percent and Steve Francis' 23.9 percent.

Frye needs 50 percent plus 1 to win the mayor's race outright. Early polls had indicated that Sanders and Francis were locked in a tight race for second place, but as the night wore on, things looked better and better for former



Donna Frye

In terms of actual numbers, those percentages meant Frye had 48,739 votes,

Sanders 31,803 and businessman Francis 27,836. The other candidates in the race had far less support.

The second-place finisher will face Frye on the Nov. 8 ballot if a runoff is necessary.

"We're cautiously optimistic," Sanders said at his campaign headquarters after seeing early returns.

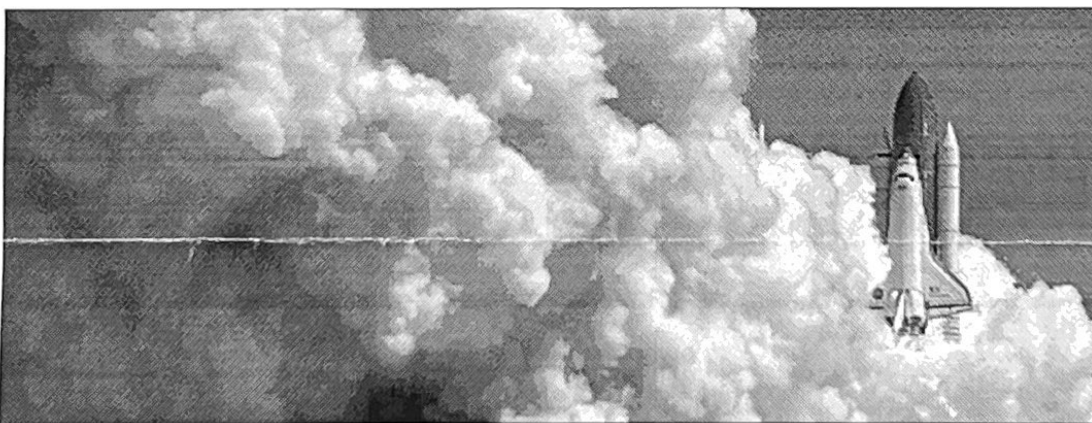
"We'll be patient and wait until the results come in."

Francis, who has a room near "Election Central" at the Westgate Hotel, said he wasn't counting on absentee balloting, which were the first numbers released. That was before returns from the precincts began coming in.

"A lot of our campaign started after absentee bal-

► FRYE, A-4

DISCOVERY BLASTS NASA PROGRAM BACK TO LIFE



The space shuttle Discovery lifts off from Launch Pad 39B at the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Fla., on Tuesday. (SCOTT AUDETTE / ASSOCIATED PRESS)

Experts scrutinize shuttle debris

Officials: Too early to say whether missing piece poses any danger

MARCIA DUNN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — America's manned space program roared back to life Tuesday with the launch of Discovery, and engineers immediately began analyzing video of falling debris in hopes of ruling out a problem like the one that

doomed Columbia 2 1/2 years ago. National pride and the future of space exploration itself hung in the balance as Discovery and its crew of seven rose from the launch pad at 7:39 a.m. into a hazy blue sky and headed out over the ocean in the most scrutinized launch in NASA history and the first shuttle flight since the Columbia disaster.

The scrutiny didn't end once the

shuttle reached orbit.

Astronauts awoke for their first full day of work in space today with plans to inspect the shuttle's wings and nose for damage using a camera attached to the spacecraft's arm. The carefully orchestrated maneuvers were expected to take about seven hours.

NASA administrator Michael Griffin urged everyone "to take note of

what you saw here today: the power and the majesty of the launch, of course, but also the competence and the professionalism, the sheer gall, the pluckiness, the grittiness of this team that pulled this program out of the depths of despair 2 1/2 years ago and made it fly."

Nevertheless, Griffin and other

► SHUTTLE, A-6



Demolition equipment sits idle behind the area where workers tore down six homes damaged by a landslide on Arroyo Avenue in Oceanside.

JOHN RAIFSNIDER
FOR THE NCT

Last of O'side homes cleared

Experts will try to determine how to keep land stable

PAUL SISSON
STAFF WRITER

OCEANSIDE — A yellow excavator finished removing the last vertical remains of six landslide-damaged homes from Arroyo Avenue on Tuesday as attorneys prepared to discuss ways to keep the

ground from moving any farther. Oceanside Deputy Attorney Joe Bogan said Tuesday that the city had hired several landslide experts to provide "a better understanding" of what caused the landslide in January. The experts could also recommend any im-

► HOMES, A-6

Invitrogen boosts its biotech presence

■ Carlsbad-based company to grow again with \$130M BioSource deal

BRADLEY J. FIKES
STAFF WRITER

CARLSBAD — Strengthening its market position in biotechnology research products, Invitrogen Corp. is paying \$130 million cash to purchase BioSource International, the companies announced Tuesday. The purchase is expected to close by year's end.

Invitrogen's purchase of Ca-

marillo-based BioSource gives the rapidly growing company more products in the fields of proteomics and antibodies, said Gregory T. Lucier, Invitrogen's president and chief executive, in a conference call. Proteomics is the study of proteins, considered the next frontier for biotech after genomics, the study of genes.

Invitrogen shares closed after the announcement Tuesday at \$86.50, up \$1.47 for the day. A year ago, the stock sold for \$52.03 per share. The company has a \$4.49 billion market capitalization, or total stock value. That makes Invitrogen the

► BIOTECH, A-4

Supervisors order review of eminent domain protocol

Policies may be revised, limited

MARK WALKER
STAFF WRITER

SAN DIEGO — Saying they want to guard against any abuses in the wake of a recent U.S. Supreme Court decision, San Diego County supervisors have ordered an immediate review of the county's eminent domain policies.

The supervisors' unanimous vote Tuesday calls for revising the county's policies, if necessary, to limit use of the property-taking tactic.

Eminent domain is the government's power to seize private property for public

► DOMAIN, A-7

INSIDE THIS EDITION

'Duke' backed developer



Rep. Randy 'Duke' Cunningham wrote a letter on behalf of developer Thomas Kontogiannis — who later bought his boat — in a 2000 bribery and kickback probe.

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Fallbrook man 'Discover'ed

Gene Hildebrand, who delivered a baby on a small plane flying over Alaska, will be featured on Discovery Health Channel's 'Amazing Babies' series.



See Local, Page B-1

THE WEATHER



Mostly sunny. Coastal highs in the 70s; highs in the 80s inland, C-10.

'Get results' with NCT classifieds

"I got 31 resumes in one day!"
— Fairwinds Ivey Ranch

