

Daily Pilot

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 2023 /// dailypilot.com



ONE OF SEVERAL junior lifeguard instructors greets the kids during opening day of the Newport Beach Junior Lifeguard program at the Balboa Pier on Tuesday.

Kids are off and running

Summer is officially here with the start of the Newport Beach Junior Lifeguards season.

A reported 1,416 kids turned out for the first day of the program near Balboa Pier on Tuesday to meet up with their new instructors and test their physical skills.

The seven-week program, which is divided into two sessions — the morning and afternoon — is considered a rite of passage by many residents in Newport Beach and other nearby beach cities.

This year's class was set to be the first in the city's new junior lifeguard headquarters, but construction issues have delayed that opening until next year. City officials said this year's program will continue to operate out of the same trailer it has for the last 39 years.

— Lilly Nguyen



Photos by Don Leach | Staff Photographer

EAGER PARTICIPANTS head to their division tents for the junior lifeguard program.

Costa Mesa police make pre-4th busts

About 2,800 pounds of fireworks have been confiscated, including a find that needed help from the bomb squad.

BY ERIC LICAS

Costa Mesa police have confiscated around 2,800 pounds of illegal fireworks in the weeks leading up to the Fourth of July holiday, department officials said Tuesday.

Most of those were seized in just two operations, Costa Mesa Police Department spokeswoman Roxi Fyad said. The first happened on May 25 and led to the citation of one person in possession of 475 pounds of fireworks.

The second happened on June 8. A special investigation unit monitoring online ads for illegal fireworks traced them to two people who were arrested in Santa Ana, Fyad said. More than 2,300 pounds of explosives bundled on four pallets were found, and an Orange County Bomb Squad had to be summoned before those could be collected.

"Illegal fireworks are an issue for many communities, not just Costa Mesa," Police Chief Ron Lawrence said. "It's a common concern that we take to heart and act on every year to serve our community. Illegal fireworks are loud, dangerous and can be lethal, and the use of illegal fireworks during the Fourth of July week makes this one of the busiest holiday seasons for the police department."

See **Busts**, page A2



File Photo

FISH FILLETS will be served up at Costa Mesa's Fish Fry, which returns to Lions Park this weekend.

See **Fish**, page A2

Batter up! Annual Fish Fry returns

BY SARA CARDINE

Busy hands will soon be put to work as volunteers batter 1,000 pounds of fish fillets and make last-minute preparations for the return of the Costa Mesa-Newport Harbor Lions Club's annual Fish Fry on Friday evening.

The beloved local event takes place at Costa Mesa's Lions Park, aka "Airplane Park," where more than 20,000 anticipated visitors may enjoy

Hospital donates breakfast bonanza

BY MATT SZABO

Breakfast is often called the most important meal of the day.

Children need it even during the summer months when they're out of school.

That's why Fountain Valley Regional Hospital recently held a "Healthy Over Hungry" Cereal Drive, benefiting Huntington Beach-based nonprofit Robyne's Nest, from June 5 through June 12.

More than 700 boxes of cereal were delivered to Robyne's Nest headquarters in Huntington Beach on Tuesday morning.

Employees each got to pick out their favorite cereal for the drive, said Randy Rogers, chief executive of Tenet Healthcare, which operates the hospital.

"You know, we tried to focus on the healthy brands, but we were cleaning out the grocery stores as you can imagine," Rogers said. "It was such an outpouring of support from our employees. It's just an amazing opportunity. You don't have to say much to them — 'We're trying to help kids to eat that may be missing a meal, can you help?' And they helped."



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

KEITH MONZON from Fountain Valley Regional Hospital unloads a big box full of cereal to Robyne Wood, founder and executive director of Robyne's Nest, left, a Huntington Beach based charity that focuses on helping needy kids and families when school is out for summer.

Robyne's Nest director and founder Robyne Wood said her organization works directly with local schools to get the cereal to families and children that need it.

"Whatever doesn't get used this summer, it will just carry over," she said. "Once school's in, they'll

have even more access to it. It will get used. It will not go to waste, for sure ... There will be 700 children very happy with this gift."

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Don Leach | Staff Photographer

ARTISTS JULIE SETTERHOLM, left, and Candice Brokenshire stand at their public art installation at the downtown phone booth called "We Need to Talk" during an unveiling on Thursday in Laguna Beach.

Laguna Beach's phone booth artwork is a conversation starter

BY ANDREW TURNER

Laguna Beach has enlisted two of its resident artists to get conversations started, as Candice Brokenshire and Julie Setterholm have put up a new installation called "We Need to Talk" at the phone booth on Forest Avenue.

The artwork is the latest in a series of city-sponsored projects that have utilized the phone booth as a mechanism around which to place public art. Previously, an octopus had appeared to be engulfing the communication station in Jeffrey Skarvan's "Call to Action."

A dedication ceremony was held Thursday for the new public artwork, which the artists

hope will take on a life of its own.

"For us, just even entering the competition, we had whimsy top of mind, but what's also interesting about that is that even though [the city's description of the proposed assignment] was imaginative, whimsical and colorful, obviously, what is art? Art's born to make you think about something. We did think about an environmental context for that, and in creating something that would represent Laguna Beach habitats, from its ocean to its sort of canyon elements, we wanted to create a catalyst where we would work with both the art groups and all the envi-

See **Artwork**, page A3

UCI awards 10,000-plus degrees in multiple ceremonies



Photos by Steve Zylus | UCI

GRADUATES FROM the Henry Samueli School of Engineering walk to the Bren Events Center on Friday, one of four commencement ceremonies at UC Irvine.

Over the course of four days, the University of California, Irvine said goodbye to its latest graduating class. Commencement ceremonies all took place at the Bren Events Center, with the first day, Friday, featuring the rites of passage for the Henry Samueli School of Engineering and the university's School of Social Sciences.

Subsequent graduations continued through Tuesday. In total, the university reported 8,966 degrees were given to 8,507 undergraduate students this year. Roughly 46% of those collecting their diplomas were first-generation college graduates.

The university also handed out 1,815 master's degrees and 393 doctoral degrees over the weekend. In May, UCI conferred in



ENGINEERING DEAN Magnus Egerstedt takes a selfie with the graduates at the Henry Samueli School of Engineering's commencement in the Bren Events Center on Friday.

separate ceremonies 167 law degrees and 100 medical degrees.

"This graduating class highlights how well UCI is serving the people of our state by offering a world-class education to the best and brightest students,

regardless of their financial circumstances, and acting as a powerful engine of upward economic mobility," said UCI Chancellor Howard Gillman in a statement earlier this month.

— Lilly Nguyen

BUSTS

Continued from page A1

The holiday is also associated with an uptick in burns and other injuries, according to the Consumer Product Safety Commission. About 11,500 firework-related trips to the emergency room were made in the U.S. in 2021, around 8,500 between June 18 and July 18.

"I'm a hand specialist

and surgeon, and I would never touch a firework because a person's hands are just too important to endanger," Dr. Joanne Zhang with the Hoag Orthopedic Institute in Irvine said. "All fireworks carry the potential risk of serious injury or permanent disability from severe burns, high energy blast injuries or even an amputation."

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FISH

Continued from page A1

live entertainment, snacks, a beer and wine garden, a full-size kids' carnival with games and, as always, signature fish dinners for \$15.

"We're in crazy mode right now," Lions Club member Gretchen Harvey said Tuesday, explaining the 24-member chapter relies on school groups and other area Lions Clubs to pull the whole thing off.

"There are probably hundreds of volunteers all together," agreed husband Cabot Harvey, co-chair of the event alongside President Joan Parks. "It takes a village to put this on."

Many Costa Mesans acknowledge there's just something about the event that keeps them coming back, whether it's the community spirit or a nostalgia born from decades of celebrations.

Kirk Bauermeister, a longtime resident and



File Photo

THE ANNUAL Fish Fry attracted more than 20,000 visitors to Costa Mesa's Lions Park last June.

member of the Lions Club for more than 20 years, recalls attending his first Fish Fry at the ripe old age of 3.

He remembered being impressed at how city streets used to temporarily close to accommodate all the rides and all the festivities of yore, including the crowning of Miss Fish Fry and a Most Beautiful Baby contest.

"The Ferris wheel was in the middle of the street — it was just the coolest thing," the 63-year-old recalled Tuesday. "All the lo-

cal businesses would shut down, and the whole city of Costa Mesa came out.

"It's been around so long there are people my age who were in the baby contest."

Bauermeister went from attending the Fish Fry with his parents as a child to bringing his own kids. This weekend, his 8-month-old grandson will mark his first visit.

When he was in his 40s, Bauermeister joined the Lions Club and was immediately trained by local legend Hank Hornsveld on

how to properly plate the fish, a task he performs to this day.

"It's kind of a generational thing," he said. "Pretty soon, I've got to teach somebody else to do it."

Mayor John Stephens, who makes a number of appearances at ribbon cuttings, golf classics, youth sporting events and other ceremonies each month, called the Fish Fry a standout event.

"It's definitely the most historically significant and enduring event on the calendar of Costa Mesa," he said Tuesday. "There's no other event that even comes close to that."

The 76th Costa Mesa Newport Harbor Lions Club Fish Fry runs from 5 to 10 p.m. on Friday, from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturday and from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Sunday at Lions Park, 570 18th St., in Costa Mesa. Admission is free, and food, beverages and ride tickets are available for purchase. For more, visit cmnh-lions.com.

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Katheryn Anne Wells-Lampman

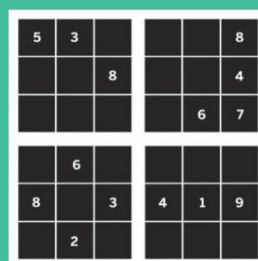
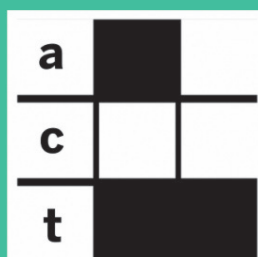
March 24, 1941 - May 30, 2023

Katheryn "Bunny" longtime resident of Newport Beach has passed peacefully at the age of 82 surrounded by family and friends at Hoag Memorial Hospital after a 12-year battle with cancer.

Bunny is survived by her children; Chris; Brian & his wife Alea; her grandchildren, Haley (Derek), Ryan (Jenna), Trinity, Gage, Kale, Gannon, Natalie (Stephan); great-grandchildren Hudson, Weston, Eloise; her sister Carolyn (William); nieces Linda and Susan & countless close friends. She was preceded in death by her loving & devoted husband, Floyd Wells.

We will honor & celebrate her life with family & friends on June 23rd, 2023 from 2pm to 5pm. In the private garden of her port street home in Newport Beach, CA.

Think inside the boxes.



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THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

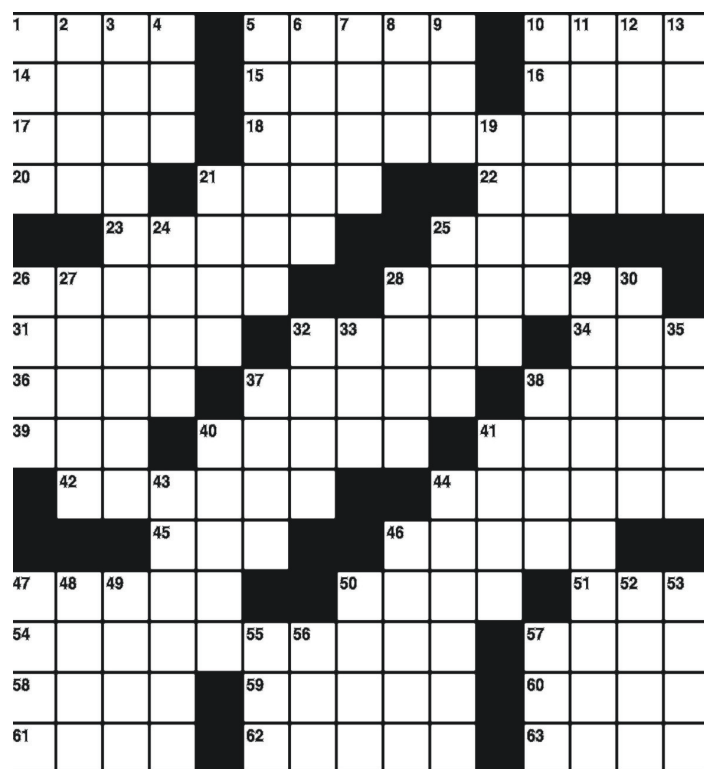
By Jacqueline E. Mathews

ACROSS

- 1 Gigantic
- 5 Put away
- 10 Envelope part
- 14 _-eyed; observant
- 15 Terre __, IN
- 16 Path
- 17 James __; Pierce Brosnan role
- 18 Has friends over
- 20 Bill denomination
- 21 Small barrels
- 22 Sausage
- 23 Animal with horns on its snout
- 25 Summertime blower
- 26 Young hogs
- 28 Carefree
- 31 Church walkway
- 32 Syrian or Malaysian
- 34 Geologic period
- 36 One-act play
- 37 Blockhead
- 38 Beach surface
- 39 "Ready, __, go!"
- 40 Reads over quickly
- 41 Enraged rebel
- 44 Wild brawls
- 45 Cookware item
- 46 Drum major's stick
- 47 Up and about
- 50 __ up; admit guilt
- 51 Achieved victory
- 54 14th-century plague
- 57 Lengthy story
- 58 Michigan or Titicaca
- 59 Upper crust
- 60 Hunter's victim
- 61 Peepers
- 62 TV's "The X-__"
- 63 Fruity drinks

DOWN

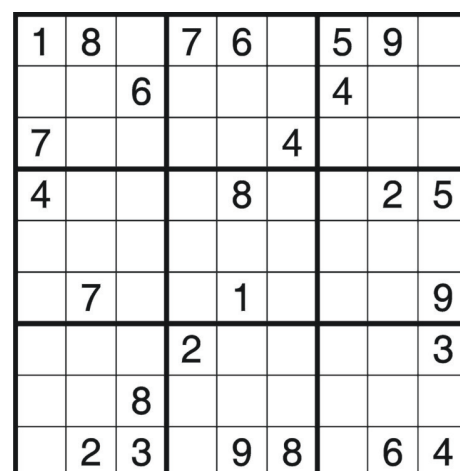
- 1 Drifter
- 2 Feeling put __; resentful



SUDOKU

By the Mephram Group

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit sudoku.org.uk.



For answers to the crossword and Sudoku puzzles, see page A4.

- 3 Unselfishness
- 4 At the __ of the day; ultimately
- 5 Martin & Charlie
- 6 Ballroom dance
- 7 Pitcher's delights
- 8 Line of travel: abbr.
- 9 Suffix for racket or auction
- 10 Show off
- 11 Animal hideaway
- 12 Blyth & Jillian
- 13 Nuisance
- 19 Author Mark
- 21 Toy with a

- string
- 24 Sentry's cry
- 25 Apartment
- 26 Impudent talk
- 27 Long walks
- 28 Brief life stories
- 29 Toward the sky
- 30 Man's nickname
- 32 West, for one
- 33 Sermon topic
- 35 Finds a total
- 37 Actor on "Law & Order: SVU"
- 38 Place to store fodder
- 40 Baby carrier?
- 41 "Why don't we!"
- 43 Cumin & cinnamon
- 44 Battlefield hospitals
- 46 Actress Davis
- 47 Suffix for fashion or favor
- 48 Murder
- 49 __ away; subtract
- 50 Go belly-up
- 52 Curved molding
- 53 Thumbs-down votes
- 55 Encyc. volume, perhaps
- 56 Inventor Whitney
- 57 Tub with seats

Tribune Media Services

Times Community News wins 9 O.C. Press Club awards

BY MATT SZABO

Times Community News staff writers and contributors were honored with nine Orange County Press Club Awards on Thursday night, as the organization held its 2023 Excellence In Journalism awards gala at Anaheim Hills Golf Course.

Daily Pilot reporter Andrew Turner won first place in the best music/entertainment story category for his August 2022 piece on demolition derbies at the Orange County Fair.

Turner also earned second place in best political story for his article on an ugly election season in Laguna Beach city government

last fall, and his reporting on Orange Coast College renaming its baseball facility in honor of its late coach was an honorable mention in the best feature story category.

"I appreciate the Orange County Press Club for bringing together and showcasing the work of many of the journalists following the issues that define our communities," Turner said. "Competition brings out the best in people, and that holds true in covering the news. It is wonderful to see so many lending their voices to these stories. I am lucky to share this platform with my talented colleagues."

Daily Pilot reporter Lilly Nguyen finished second in best reli-



Scott Smeltzer | Staff Photographer

SARA CARDINE'S story on the "Metal Detector Man" won third place at the O.C. Press Club Awards.

gion story for her piece on Newport Beach leaders coming together to honor Ukraine. In the best profile category, reporter Sara Cardine earned third place for her fun feature on Newport Beach's "Metal Detector Man."

"It's so great to see our hard-working team reap recognition from the Orange County Press Club," Daily Pilot executive editor Carol Cormaci said. "They put their heart and souls into their work and it shows. Well done!"

Longtime Daily Pilot columnist Patrice Apodaca earned second place for the David McQuay Award for best columnist.

TCN publication TimesOC also fared well. Features writer Sarah

Mosqueda finished second in the music/entertainment category for her May 2022 story on a Santa Ana-based wine director and music composer. Mosqueda's story on O.C.'s vegan Mexican food movement took third place in the food/restaurant category.

TimesOC contributor Edwin Goei won second place in the best round-up or best-of category for his look into the county's Asian fried chicken scene, and his October 2022 write-up of food at the Disneyland Resort took third in the best food/restaurant review category.

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Don Leach | Staff Photographer

A GUEST ADMIRES the new "We Need to Talk" art installation at the downtown phone booth in Laguna Beach.

ARTWORK

Continued from page A1

ronmental groups in town."

While the artwork has environmental features — particularly in the form of Setterholm's "lovebugs" — it is not intended to dictate the conversation. The title "We Need to Talk," coupled with an Instagram profile that goes by a similar name, invites whatever discussions the phrase leads to. Brokenshire surmised that may give way to talks about family, relationships and the town.

"We're hoping to be able to instigate some of these conversations and promote these happenings through an Instagram account," Brokenshire added. "We do have the Instagram account @weneedtotalk. ... It will become a social platform where we start talking to people in Laguna Beach, and again, asking them, 'What do we want to talk about?'"

"We've already reached out to people at Laguna Canyon Foundation and Laguna Ocean Foundation, and all these other arts groups. We'll be inviting them to come and meet us at the telephone box and developing that social account out."

Laguna Beach Cultural Arts Manager Sian Poeschl said the current installation differs from its predecessors in that it requires viewers to approach the phone booth to see what is inside. The city's call for artists went out to Southern California residents, and 15 designs were submitted.

"This is the fifth temporary art installation that incorporates the red phone booth on Forest Avenue and the first time the installation has been undertaken by female artists and residents of Laguna Beach," Poeschl said. "Having diversity and the opportunity

for artists to take a creative leap is what makes the temporary art program so successful.

"The four previous installations could be viewed from across the street; however, this latest installation requires the viewer to investigate the phone booth to see the fiber, metal and enameled ecosystem of plants and insects. Its fantastical style met the brief for the Arts Commission, and we hope the community enjoys its addition to the collection for the next two years."

Setterholm, a sculptor who works with copper, stone and glass, and Brokenshire, whose work often utilizes textiles, both are artists in Laguna Beach's Sawdust Art Festival.

As part of its transformation, the phone booth is no longer red. It was repainted a shade of light green to make it more of a match with the rest of the installation, which includes "Geraldine the Dragonfly" perched on the top, protecting the box.

"I call all my bugs 'lovebugs,'" Setterholm said. "What's interesting to me about them is how they're both beautiful and creepy at the same time, and completely necessary for our ecosystem. Completely necessary. Yet, we get sort of creeped out by them and swat or squish them. We're entirely dependent on them to thrive."

Setterholm added that the ability to coexist with nature's creatures is not unlike navigating an uncomfortable conversation.

"In a way, ... [it's like being] able to speak with people and be with people, even in their states that you might not find attractive, and just ... sitting with topics that feel uncomfortable — knowing that's a part of it, too."

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The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is: \$80,918.91 If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. The beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned or its predecessor caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. 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Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. FOR SALES INFORMATION: (844) 477-7869 CLEAR RECON CORP 8880 Rio San Diego Drive, Suite 725 San Diego, California 92108

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CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH

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By 10:00 AM on the 13th day of July, 2023, at which time such bids shall be opened and read for

STREETLIGHT FOUNDATION INSPECTION AND REPLACEMENT

PROJECT NO. 23V02

CONTRACT NO. 9233-1

\$388,000

Engineer's Estimate

Approved by

James M. Houlihan

Deputy PWD/City Engineer

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Hard copy plans are available via Santa Ana Blue Print at (949) 756-1001 Located at 2372 Morse Avenue, Irvine, CA 92614

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For further information, call Peter Tauscher, **Project Manager** at (949) 644-3316

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USTA SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA JUNIOR SECTIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Ikemori, Cross finish runner-up in tourney

BY MATT SZABO

It was telling that Marina High graduate Mika Ikemori came out of one of the final matches of her junior tennis career smiling on Sunday afternoon.

Ikemori had just lost to Claire Zhang of San Diego, 6-4, 6-2, in the girls' 18 singles title match of the 121st annual USTA Southern California Junior Sectional Championships, held at Los Cab Tennis Club in Fountain Valley.

But one of her first thoughts was exaltation for Zhang, who is a year younger.

"It's a bonus for her, because recruiting just started and she's a rising junior," Ikemori explained. "She's going to have this big win on her record. I know all of these coaches are going to be looking at it, and I'm so happy for her that she got this achievement. That's

amazing."

One other local reached Sunday's finals at Junior Sectionals, the prestigious Level 3 tournament. Corona del Mar High incoming senior Jack Cross fell to Woodbridge graduate Avery Tallakson, 6-3, 6-4, in the boys' 18s title match.

Putting others before herself has been a trademark for Ikemori, bound for UC Davis. This was the kind of attitude which recently netted her the 2023 Evelyn Houseman Lifetime Junior Sportsmanship Award from USTA Southern California, for exemplifying sportsmanship throughout her stellar junior tennis career.

She got the award before a tough three-set semifinal win at Junior Sectionals on Saturday.

"Based on the body of Mika's work throughout SoCal junior tennis, the extension of this award was an



MARINA HIGH graduate Mika Ikemori finished runner-up in the girls' 18s at the 121st annual USTA Southern California Junior Sectional Tennis Championships in Fountain Valley.



Photos by Matt Szabo

JACK CROSS, who will be a senior at Corona del Mar High in the fall, finished second in the boys' 18s title match of the Junior Sectionals on Sunday at Los Cab Tennis Club.

easy choice," USTA SoCal executive director Trevor Kronemann said.

Ikemori was up 3-1 on Zhang in the first set, but

Zhang won nine of the next 10 games to surge into control. Trying to serve the match out at 5-2, she met resistance from Ikemori, who saved six match points overall before finally succumbing.

"I'm not a quitter," Ikemori said. "I like to fight until the very end. Obviously there were some opportunities in that game, but I'm glad I went out fighting and I didn't give up. Why would you give up? What's the point in giving up?"

Ikemori never did that throughout her sparkling four-year high school tennis career, either. She was a back-to-back CIF Individual finalist and she finished with a 205-4 career mark, according to Marina coach

Chuck Kingman.

She will also miss the junior tennis circuit, though. Ikemori said this year marked her first time getting to a Junior Sectionals title match in singles.

"I've had a great junior tennis career," she said. "My closest friends are my tennis friends, and I'm definitely going to miss junior tennis, even though there's been ups and downs. The people I've met, the places I've been and the things I've experienced, I wouldn't trade any of it for the world."

Cross has another year of high school left after helping CdM make the CIF Southern Section Open Division and CIF Southern California Regional title matches this spring.

This was also his best Junior Sectionals run of his career, he said, and it came immediately following a march to the title match of a Newport Beach UTR tournament in the men's open division.

"Recruiting-wise, it's probably the biggest summer I'll have for tennis," he said. "To have this start feels really good."

Cross was up an early break of serve in the first set of the final before Tallakson, bound for the University of New Mexico, took control. The second set was 4-4, but Tallakson broke Cross' serve in a deuce game and successfully served for the match.

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