

Daily Pilot

FRIDAY, AUGUST 2, 2024 /// dailypilot.com



Tommy Pierucki / World Surf League

CROSBY COLAPINTO of San Clemente is the top seed in the men's competition in this year's U.S. Open of Surfing.

Area athletes seeded at the top of U.S. Open of Surfing

San Clemente's Cole Houshmand is seeded No. 2 and Huntington Beach local Kanoa Igarashi is No. 3 for the contest on the south side of the H.B. Pier.

BY JOE HAAKENSON

Kanoa Igarashi is quick to say one of the best things about the U.S. Open of Surfing is that he can sleep in his own bed, get up, drive five minutes to the south side of the Huntington Beach Pier and compete in one of the world's biggest surf contests.

The U.S. Open of Surfing gets underway next week as usual, but it is not business as usual for Igarashi, who has to travel halfway around the world to compete at his home break this year.

The Huntington Beach local has been in Tahiti (French Poly-

nesia) surfing under the flag of Japan in the 2024 Paris Olympics. After winning the silver medal in surfing's Olympic debut in Japan in 2021, Igarashi was eliminated in Round 3 in the Paris Olympics, losing out to fellow Championship Tour (CT) competitor Gabriel Medina of Brazil.

Medina put up a 9.90 score in the heat, the highest single-wave score in the Olympics' brief surfing history. That left Igarashi with a little bit of time to pack his things and head home for the Open, with the Challenger Series

See *Surfing*, page A4



James Carbone

KANOA IGARASHI of Huntington Beach, shown surfing in last year's competition, is a two-time U.S. Open of Surfing champion.

Huston nabs bronze skateboarding medal



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

PRO SKATEBOARDER Nyjah Huston, pictured at his skate park in San Clemente, earned a bronze medal at the Paris Olympics on Monday.

BY MATT SZABO

Nyah Huston finished third in the Paris Olympics men's street skateboarding final on Monday.

The professional from Laguna Beach led for much of the event at La Concorde but ended up with the bronze medal, as Japanese skateboarder Yuto Horigome received a score of 97.08 on his last run and leaped into first place.

Horigome won his second straight Olympic gold medal. American Jagger Eaton, who had earned bronze at the Tokyo Olympics, finished second for the silver medal.

It's the first Olympic medal for Huston, 29, who is widely regarded as the best contest street skateboarder of all time and this year won his 14th and 15th X Games gold medals, tying a record. He finished seventh in the men's street skateboarding event in Tokyo in 2021.

The street skating final took the highest score of two attempts on a run and the two highest scores on five trick attempts. Horigome finished first with 281.14 points, followed by Eaton with 281.04 and Huston with 279.38.

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Laguna Beach to explore options for paid parking

Residents prompt city leaders to look for ways to mitigate increasing visitor impacts and create parking turnover.

BY ANDREW TURNER

Laguna Beach residents have noted a wide range of visitor impacts this summer, and an overcrowded community in need of parking solutions sits at the top of some of their lists.

A year after the initial implementation of a parking and transportation demand management plan, the tenor around town is still a need for further relief.

The path forward will include exploring the possibility for additional paid public parking spots. The City Council added a short-term initiative to have staff investigate the feasibility of converting free parking along Coast Highway and other areas in town.

Public participation took place in the form of three town hall meetings. Parking in the neighborhoods was a major concern, but the council remained reticent, wondering where the California Coastal Commission would stand on the issue.

"Resident permit parking only, the Coastal Commission is a hard no on that," Councilman Bob Whalen said during the council's July 23 meeting. "That doesn't mean we can't try again, and we will try again, but then we haven't really approached them with the concept of additional metered parking into the neighborhoods, which came up at the town hall and I think is a good idea."

Councilman Mark Orgill also asked about the viability of dynamic pricing, as lower rates dur-

See *Parking*, page A2

ALSO FROM THE DAILY PILOT:



Courtesy of Emmy Hensley

NEWPORT BEACH, SET GIRLS EARN GOLD AT USA WATER POLO JUNIOR OLYMPICS

PAGE A2

Mrs. Roper Romp hits Huntington Beach this weekend

BY MATT SZABO

"Come and knock on our door," begins the familiar theme song to the television sitcom "Three's Company."

On Saturday, dozens of women will knock on the door of SeaLegs at the Beach in Huntington Beach, wearing their best wigs and caftans.

The venue is hosting a Mrs. Roper Romp, with attendees encouraged to go dressed as landlady Helen Roper, portrayed by the late Audra Lindley on the show that originally ran from 1977 to 1984 but also enjoyed a healthy life in syndication.

Men are also encouraged to go dressed as landlords Stanley Roper or Ralph Furley.

The Mrs. Roper Romp will feature "Three's Company"-themed drinks, SeaLegs operator Alicia Cox said, as well as three cover bands that will add to the at-

phere. Sega Genecide will do a '70s set at 9 a.m., followed by Who's Zeppelin at 2 p.m. and Stranger Days, a Doors cover band, that goes on at 6 p.m.

Prizes for the best costumes, limbo contests and trivia will add to the fun.

"We anticipate hundreds of people showing up, and we're going to get a large selfie," said Cox, the chief executive and co-founder of Prjkt Restaurant Group. "We've got a drone coming out for the day, to get a picture of all of them dressed up in their caftans and curly wigs. It's just a really fun day at the beach."

Cox planned the party with Huntington Beach resident Desi-ree Horton, who started the Mrs. Roper Romps HB group and organized a pub crawl with more than 200 participants in January.

Horton said she had seen Mrs.

See *Roper*, page A3



MRS. ROPERS ROMP

members raise their glasses and cheer during Huntington Beach's 120th annual Fourth of July Parade this year.

James Carbone

USA WATER POLO JUNIOR OLYMPICS

Newport Beach, SET girls earn water-polo gold

BY MATT SZABO

Carolyn Doyle may have graduated from Newport Harbor High two decades ago, but today she no doubt spends plenty of time at her old stomping grounds.

Then known by her maiden name of Carolyn Conway, she helped the Sailors win their second CIF Southern Section Division 1 title as a senior under the guidance of legendary late Sailors coach Bill Barnett.

Nowadays she coaches for Newport Beach Water Polo Club. She said last year, some parents threw her a surprise baby shower in the coach's room for her youngest child, Duke.

"It's kind of wild," Doyle said. "I kind of joked to them, like, Coach Barnett would just crack up knowing that I had my baby shower in his old office and team room. It's really come full circle, but it just shows the strong alumni presence and how much of a tradition it is with a lot of our families."

Newport Beach shows no signs of slowing down. The club finished off a very strong USA Water Polo Junior Olympics with two titles in the 10-and-under girls and 12U girls divisions on Sunday, as Session Two

concluded at Stanford University.

Meanwhile, five girls from Laguna Beach High helped SET repeat as the 18U champion.

The family aspect is apparent. Newport Beach had three sister pairs who each won gold, with one girl on the 12U team and one on the 10U team. They included Doyle's daughters Hope and Hattie, as well as the daughters of former CDM standout Jordan Moala (Anaé), Annabel and June, plus Cece and Miller Mesenbrink.

Doyle is the 10U girls' head coach, and her Newport Beach Blue squad beat San Clemente 6-2 for the title.

Standouts included Hattie Doyle, June Moala and Miller Mesenbrink on offense, as well as Wren Offutt and Emma Blanchette on defense. Emme Visser also shined as the team's goalie.

"I knew from the beginning of the season that it was a special group of kids," Doyle said. "These girls have come together and done really well. We hold them to a pretty high standard. We've taught them some plays, we swim a ton... The girls are super-tough and super-competitive."

The Newport Beach 12U



Courtesy of Emmy Hensley

LAGUNA BEACH players Presley Jones, Emmy Hensley, MVP Ava Knepper, Kara Carver and goalkeeper Siena Jumani, left to right, helped the SET 18U girls repeat as USA Water Polo Junior Olympics champions.

girls also powered through the Junior Olympics, earning a 13-7 win over Patriot in the title match. Attacker McKenna Mack earned MVP honors.

Coach Kevin Ricks said that final victory over Patriot avenged the girls' only loss this season.

"Each game, there was kind of a different kid that stepped up and played well for us," Ricks said. "In the quarterfinal we beat Stanford, and Alexa Hourigan played really well. Hope Doyle and Annabel Moala,

they played really well in our championship game against Patriot. That game was their best game of the tournament, which was really fun to see."

Other standouts for the 12U girls included top defender Cece Mesenbrink and goalkeeper Clara Carpenter.

Newport Beach's 14U girls, buoyed by strong play by incoming Newport Harbor freshmen Addie Ting and Caroline Daniel, advanced to the title match before falling 9-7 to Santa

Barbara 805.

"One game doesn't define the incredible year they had together," Coach Christina O'Beck said. "My goal for 14s is always long-term development, and getting them as ready and prepared for high school as possible. I would say we were definitely successful in that department, considering the vast amount of growth they had."

O'Beck's other squad, the Newport Beach 16U girls, rebounded from a semifinal loss to Regency to beat SO-CAL 14-13 for the bronze medal.

Leaders for the 16U girls included incoming sophomores Gabby Alexson, Madison Mack and Valery Verdugo, incoming juniors Kylie Robison and Sophia Verdugo and incoming freshman left-hander Campbell Pence.

Several of the 16U girls were double-rostered on the Newport Beach 18U team, which finished eighth.

The SET 18U girls, meanwhile, earned their second straight title in the top division by blasting Lamorinda 17-8 in the title match.

Laguna Beach High graduates Ava Knepper and Emmy Hensley, as well as incoming Breakers seniors

Presley Jones, Kara Carver and goalkeeper Siena Jumani, helped SET earn the title.

"It felt amazing, although this team is so incredibly special that I had no doubt in my mind that we were going to win," said the USC-bound Knepper, who earned MVP honors.

It was the eighth Junior Olympics gold medal for Jones, and the seventh for Carver.

Hensley, headed for Brown University, got to play with her future college teammate in Corona del Mar graduate Ava Schoening, who also suited up for the SET 18U girls.

Hensley said finishing up with some of her best friends was certainly memorable.

"It was unreal, the best ending that could have been," she said. "Especially up at Stanford, the aquatics center there is unbeatable. I think we're just in shock and super-blessed with the opportunity that we were given, and the outcome. It's really a special experience, especially with girls that you've been with for so long. I've played with Ava for like 10 years."

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CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS

D	I	C	E	A	D	M	I	T	P	R	O	S
I	R	O	N	R	E	A	C	H	R	O	P	E
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8	7	2	1	5	6	4	3	9
6	3	5	7	9	4	8	1	2
1	5	4	9	3	7	2	8	6
2	9	3	6	1	8	5	4	7
7	6	8	5	4	2	1	9	3
5	8	1	3	6	9	7	2	4
3	4	7	2	8	5	9	6	1
9	2	6	4	7	1	3	5	8



LAGUNA BEACH is exploring its options to add to its paid public parking spaces as it deals with parking and transportation demand.

Don Leach
Staff
Photographer

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PARKING
Continued from page A1

ing periods of lighter traffic could lead to fewer motorists parking in the neighborhoods.

"The meters and the pay stations both have the technology to have dynamic pricing in terms of time of day or day of week," said Michael Litschi, the city's director of transit and community services. "We can't have true dynamic pricing based on congestion levels at this point because the meters aren't tied directly to the parking sensors."

A dynamic pricing structure would also require Coastal Commission approval, Litschi said.

The public pleaded for additional parking enforcement and increased fees for parking citations, and the City Council directed staff to look into the matter.

"I think the message is kind of loud and clear from the community that we need to be fairly aggressive about [parking enforcement!]" City Manager Dave Kiff said.

Twenty-five short-term strategies to tackle parking and transportation issues were introduced in the initial report. City staff provided a progress report on those initiatives.

An electronic sign has been installed to inform drivers of parking availability at a lot in the canyon, known as Act V (Lot 16). Peripheral lots are being promoted to local businesses.

The library parking lot has also been brought under city management, resulting in an additional 30 paid public parking spots for the city outside of library business hours.

Pricing for business parking permits was updated, with validity being increased to include metered parking on Glenneyre Street and the inland lot at Aliso Beach. There have been roughly 130 permits sold to people who work at local businesses, Litschi said.

"The price point, while it is much lower than if you were to pay for parking on a daily basis, particularly in the summer, for some workers that is still a fairly high price point," Litschi said. "That may be deterring some people who are then deciding to try to find parking elsewhere."

Staff have also applied for grant funding to expand the Laguna Local on-demand transit service to residential areas in the canyon, as well as for the continuation of the Coastal and Summer Breeze trolley routes off-season.

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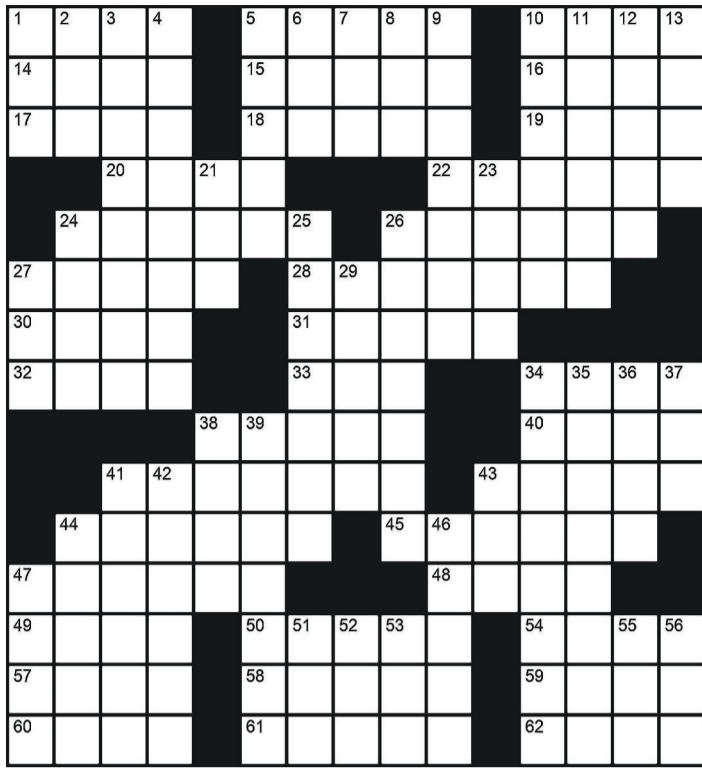
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THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

By Stella Zawistowski

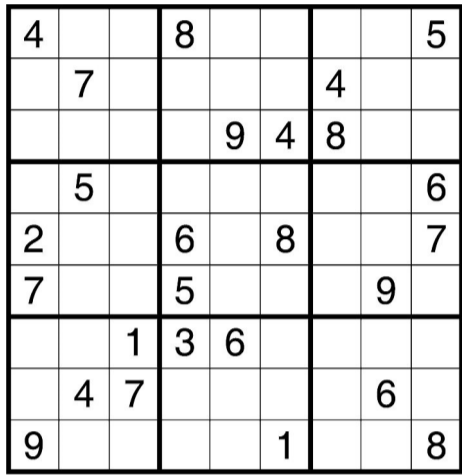
- ACROSS**
 1 Craps game items
 5 Let in
 10 They're not amateurs
 14 Element in steel
 15 Get to
 16 Plastic weapon in Clue
 17 Formal agreement
 18 _ circle
 19 Singer James
 20 Creative pursuits
 22 The heave-ho
 24 Frightened
 26 Breathed hard
 27 Covered with rocks
 28 Extreme delight
 30 "Stop right there!"
 31 Pop, as a bubble
 32 Historical periods
 33 Departure's opposite: Abbr.
 34 Fix at the vet
 38 Prefix that means "bone"
 40 The Kentucky Derby, e.g.
 41 Tournament
 43 Sinks teeth into
 44 Cup and _
 45 Backup tires
 47 Written communication
 48 Spoken aloud
 49 "Rock of _," cleft for me"
 50 Enthusiastic
 54 Singer Aiken
 57 Certain
 58 Give one's thoughts
 59 Tough
 60 The T in SAT
 61 Puts in the mail
 62 Poses a query
- DOWN**



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 A2.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Quick swim | 5 Get up |
| 2 Gershwin or Levin | 6 Animal's lair |
| 3 Beverage with an Atlanta museum | 7 "Sheesh!" |
| 4 Derby competitors | 8 Frozen water |
| | 9 Larynx locations |
| | 10 Very fast tempo |
| | 11 Gone bad |
| | 12 Made a pick |

- 13 Cook on the outside
 21 Attempt
 23 Ounce or yard
 24 Big-name actor
 25 Politician making an argument
 26 Repeats exactly
 27 Pronoun for a boat
 29 Entices
 34 Thai hot sauce
 35 Kneecaps
 36 Las Vegas WNBA team
 37 "Of course!"
 38 _ upon a time
 39 Sound systems
 41 Provides food for
 42 Beginning
 43 Watering hole
 44 Smooth transition
 46 Skin holes
 47 Go the distance
 51 Tailless primate
 52 Martini booze
 53 Terminus
 55 Noah's boat
 56 Three-foot distances: Abbr.

Tribune Media Services

YOUTH BASEBALL

Grindlinger makes Team USA 18U baseball roster

BY MATT SZABO

Trent Grindlinger said he was the most scared and nervous he'd ever been in his life.

The incoming senior at Huntington Beach High was one of 84 baseball players who went into a meeting room recently at the USA Baseball National Training Complex in Cary, N.C.

"The coach has a list of names, and he talks for a bit and just reads off the 20 names," Grindlinger said. "I was so blessed to be called."

Grindlinger, a catcher, made the roster for the USA Baseball 18U National Team on July 21 following the completion of training camp. He and his teammates will head to Panama this week for the 2024 World Baseball Softball Confederation U-18 Baseball World Cup Americas Qualifier, which begins Friday.

Grindlinger is one of five players from Southern

California on the team, joining Ethin Bingaman of Redlands, Gavin Fien of Temecula, Quentin Young of Camarillo and his good friend, Brady Murrietta of Yorba Linda.

Murrietta, who attends Orange Lutheran High, is the other catcher on the team.

"It's going to be a great experience in Panama," said Grindlinger, a Mississippi State commit. "I'm super-ready to go win a gold medal."

A team captain for the Oilers, he batted .333 this past spring with a team-best 13 doubles, three triples and 30 runs batted in. Grindlinger helped Huntington Beach (24-10) reach the semifinals of both the CIF Southern Section Division I and CIF State SoCal Regional Division I playoffs.

His younger brother Jared, a rising incoming sophomore for Huntington Beach, made the 12U national team in 2021.

"When I was 12, I got cut



Don Leach

TRENT GRENGLINGER of Huntington Beach High School is headed to Panama to compete for the 18U National Team.

from [the national team], then this year I made it," Trent Grindlinger said. "I've always wanted to be [on it]. The 18U team, that's what everybody dreams of, so I was so super-excited, and I'm super-excited to go to Panama and compete."

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ROPER

Continued from page A1

Roper Roms online previously, but none in Surf City.

Horton, whose Mrs. Roper Roms HB Facebook group has more than 1,700 members, said she was blown away by the number of participants at that event.

"I was shocked that they allowed all of us in there all at once," she said. "It was amazing to see that everyone was able to come together."

In July, 60 lucky Mrs. Ropers marched in the famous annual the Huntington Beach Fourth of July Parade for the first time.

At 53, Horton said she

definitely watched "Three's Company" growing up, but she admits there's a bit of a generation gap.

"Our first event, a lot of the younger kids didn't even know who we were," she said with a laugh. "They thought we were Ice Spice, and I had to Google who that is, because I'm old."

Ultimately, she said the age of the participants doesn't matter as long as everyone has a good time. Though Saturday's romp officially starts at 1 p.m., Cox and Horton both said they encourage people to get there early, riding bikes, roller skating or using ride share services if possible.

Cox's team has a busy

weekend on deck, as her group is also doing food and beverage for the U.S. Open of Surfing.

"We anticipate it being busy this weekend with surfers and also people with curly orange wigs and caftans," she said. "It's so fun. Desiree has got a great group of people who are growing underneath her and just having a really fun, feel-good day, playing character. And it's growing. The movement of Mrs. Roper is growing."

"It kind of lets people forget about the chaos of the world and just live in the moment. Enjoy yourself, go to the beach and forget your worries."

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