Daily Pilot

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2023 /// dailypilot.com



Photos by Don Leach | Staff Photographer

THE CHINESE Southern Wind lion dance team performs at the annual Lunar New Year celebration at the student center at UC Irvine on Tuesday.

Year of the Rabbit hops onto campus at UC Irvine

BY LILLY NGUYEN

The Year of the Rabbit is nearly upon us, officially getting underway on Sunday.

The students and faculty at UC Irvine got a head start Tuesday on celebrating the Lunar New Year in person at both its student center and the Irvine Barclay Theater after a two-year hiatus brought about by the pandemic.

Bill Maurer, the dean of the school of social sciences, said the university has hosted an event for Lunar New Year of this el of community ... and student enthusiasm that it would attract," Maurer said. "It's grown over the years now. We've got a ton of sponsors now, and we've been joined by many of the schools across the Irvine campus. Now it's become this really amazing thing."

About 1,000 people attended the first event in 2016. Maurer said roughly 3,500 people showed up in 2020, the last time the event was held fully in-person.

Tuesday's events were split into two segments. The first was organized by the university's department of East Asian studies and held in the morning, giving students an opportunity to learn how Chinese, Korean, Japanese and Vietnamese communities celebrate Lunar New Year. That was followed by film screenings, a festival and performances at the Irvine Barclay Theater.



Armed suspect shot by Seal Beach police

Officers responding to reports of a suspicious man on Old Ranch Road shot the suspect who later died in hospital. **BY ERIC LICAS**

Police responding to reports of a suspicious person at a Seal Beach home shot and killed an armed man Monday evening, department officials said Tuesday morning.

Officers received a call for service from the 100 block of Old Ranch Road at 9:36 p.m., Seal Beach police wrote in a news release. They encountered a person outside of a home who "produced a gun," they said.

A 22-caliber semiautomatic handgun was found at the scene.

At least one officer shot the person. He was pronounced dead at a hospital.

The man who died was later identified as Michael Bernard Emch Jr., 47, by Seal Beach police. He was described as an Orange County resident associated with multiple addresses.

Emch had been the subject of an active restraining order stemming from a domestic violence incident in Seal Beach in July, police said.

Elisabeth Rios recently moved into the neighborhood from Anaheim and said she was cooking when the shooting happened.

"I heard it and thought 'dang fireworks,' but then realized I don't live next to Disneyland any-

scale for several years. The event was inspired by a conversation with longtime university donors John and Marilyn Long, who asked what UC Irvine could do for international students who couldn't be with their families for the holiday at the start of the winter quarter. In response, Maurer said, the university decided to hold a big party.

"We really had no idea the lev-

"What's great about this event is that UCI is such a diverse **GUESTS ENJOY** trying on traditional Japanese kimono robes at the annual Lunar New Year celebrations at UC Irvine on Tuesday.

place with a very diverse student body. This really provides everyone an opportunity to learn about Lunar New Year and the different ways and cultures that celebrate it," Maurer said. Hu Ying, the department chair for East Asian studies, said the

See **Year,** page A3

more." She, her 16-year-old son, Charlie, and 17-year-old daughter, Vanessa, went out to their second-floor balcony. They saw numerous officers with guns drawn surrounding a man outside of a home across the street. They heard them command him to drop a weapon, as well what

See Armed, page A2

Huntington Beach family displaced after SUV rams into house

BY MATT SZABO

A Huntington Beach family is picking up the pieces after the driver of a sport-utility vehicle lost control on Friday morning and slammed into the side of their house.

The accident occurred about 9:30 a.m. Friday at the home of the Lepe family at 16501 Fountain Lane.

Officials said the driver of the white BMW SUV, an adult woman, lost control as she headed west on Heil Avenue. She veered left and went through a short brick wall and steel side gate before hitting the house.

The condition of the driver was not released Tuesday, but Huntington Beach Police Department spokeswoman Jessica Cuchilla said she had not suffered lifethreatening injuries. Cuchilla added that the driver is believed to have suffered a medical emergency that led to her losing con-



Courtesy of Julianne McCarron

AN SUV plowed through the side of this house on Fountain Lane in Huntington Beach on Friday morning. The house has been red-tagged.



Kevin Chang | Staff Photographer

THE HUNTINGTON BEACH Fire Department plans to hire about 30 new seasonal lifeguards. The next round of tests evaluating applicants will be on Jan. 28, and the last tryout will be held Feb. 25

Hopefuls have 2 more shots to try out to become lifeguards in H.B.

BY ERIC LICAS

Beach lovers interested in looking out for their fellow swimmers over the summer have two more chances to try out to become a Huntington Beach lifeguard.

The Huntington Beach Fire Department plans to hire about 30 new seasonal lifeguards, Marine Safety Division Capt. Derek Peters said. The next round of tests evaluating applicants' physical fitness and compatibility for the role will be on Jan. 28, and the last tryout will be held Feb. 25.

It will likely be at least slightly chilly on tryout days. Early forecasts suggest temperatures will be below average along the coast in late January and early February, ranging in the mid 50s and low 60s, National Weather Service Meteorologist Casey Oswant said.

The tryout process is divided

into three parts. The first is a 1,000-yard swim in the indoor pool at the Pacific Sands Cabana Club, which qualified candidates must be able to complete within 15 minutes.

Applicants head to the beach for the next step, in which they must run 400 yards through the sand from lifeguard tower 5 to lifeguard tower 2, then swim about 800 yards from shore to

See Lifeguards, page A2

ARMED

Continued from page A1

sounded like a woman

wailing and crying "no" over and over, Rios said.

Glenn Newman lives

across the street from the

scene. He was having a conversation with his son

in their backyard when they

heard what sounded like 10

"We stopped and asked each other, 'Did you hear

Steve Richardson lives

next door to where the

shooting happened and

said he heard two gun

shots, a brief pause, and

then at least six more. He

immediately found his wife

in another room and ad-

vised her to stay away from

windows as police vehicles

poured into their neighbor-

ery officer in the depart-

ment out here," Richardson

Officers had swarmed

their neighborhood by the

time Newman went to his

frontyard and called 911.

said. "We hunkered down."

"They must have had ev-

or more gunshots.

that?"" he said.

hood.

OBITUARY SCR co-founder, longtime actor Don Took dies at 83

BY SARA CARDINE

Don Took — who, with a group of fellow actors from San Francisco State University (then College) in the 1960s helped build the award-winning South Coast Repertory theater company and starred in its earliest performances died Dec. 29 at age 83.

The company announced the retired theater actor's recent passing in a Jan. 6 social media post, acknowledging Took for appearing in 120 productions in the company's history, starting with SCR's inaugural 1964 production of Molière's "Tartuffe."

The performance was held at the old Laguna Playhouse, as South Coast Repertory's first theater was still being built in a commercial space on Bal-

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Courtesy of South Coast Repertory

ACTOR DON TOOK performs in a 1992 South Coast Repertory production of "Hospitality Suite."

boa Peninsula. One week later, Took played a leading role in Samuel Beckett's "Waiting for Godot," SCR's opening production. Born in 1939 in Redding under the surname Tuche which he would later

change to avoid constant mispronunciation — Took memorized comic routines and recited them for the amusement of his grade school classmates,

See Took, page A3

LIFEGUARDS

Continued from page A1

the end of the pier and back before returning to tower 5. This portion of the testing process is not timed and is designed to show how well candidates can navigate a "real world envi-ronment," Peters said. He pointed out that the exercise mirrors how far a rescuer might have to go to reach someone who is drowning.

"Both physical sections are demanding," Peters said. "But the applicants who make it through the first are usually able to manage through the second."

The last portion of the tryout involves an interview that usually lasts about 15 minutes, Peters said. He was hesitant to go into too much detail about the questions candidates might be asked. But he noted that responses from those who have stood out so far reflected HBFD's six core principles: integrity, humility, social awareness, passion, exceptionality and legacy.

'Exceptonality is going beyond, above and whether that's in a critical incident or life-and-death situation, or how you conduct yourself when you're handling something like a municipal code violation," Peters said. "The right person doesn't have to be the freak athlete, D1 collegiate swimmer. Bottom line, you could be the best swimmer in the world, but if your attitude's not right we're not looking to hire you."

The seasonal, entry-level position pays between \$19.24 and \$25.78 hourly. A typical term of employment runs from mid-June through early September. But schedules are flexible,

Paramedics later arrived and spent a brief period of time at the scene before loading one person onto a stretcher and into an ambulance, he and Rios said. "I'm not sure if he was

alive or dead at that point," Newman said.

Richardson said he and his wife did not recognize the man who was taken to a hospital Sunday evening. They said the woman who lives at that residence moved in about a year ago with two young children.

Rios said she had seen the man at the property where the shooting happened as recently as last week. She added that he did not appear to be a trespasser at that time.

"I think a lot of us in the neighborhood are in a state of shock," Glenn Newman's wife, Michele Newman. said. "But maybe that's not entirely a bad thing; that tells you we don't normally see things like this happening here."

Anyone who might have information relevant to investigators should contact Seal Beach Sgt. Jeff Gibson

especially for those who

have to return to school at

the end of the summer, Pe-

lifeguards are in high

school and college, so we'll

work with them if they

need to start classes in Au-

The city employs roughly

200 seasonal lifeguards to

watch the beaches each

year, and many of them do

return to serve for multiple

Peters

said.

"A lot of our seasonal

ters said.

gust."

summers.



WWW.DAILYPILOT.COM

Courtesy of the Seal Beach Police Department

POLICE RESPONDING

to reports of a suspicious person Monday shot and killed an Irvine man and found this handgun nearby.

at (562) 799-4100, ext. 1128, JGibson@sealor beachca.gov.

No officers were injured during the encounter. The Orange County district attorney's office was investigating the matter alongside Seal Beach police, which is standard procedure whenever a member of law enforcement shoots someone.

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PARTI-**CIPANTS**

compete during Huntington Beach's tryouts in 2020.

Kevin Chang

Those interested in applying can find more information on Huntington Beach's

website. Between eight and 12 applicants were tested in earlier tryouts, Peters said. He expects the turnout to be higher at the last two, partly because one scheduled at the beginning of the year had to be canceled due to inclement weather.

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lifeguard



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The state of what's next. Los Angeles Times

Sawyer 25 Part of every wk. 26 Athletics 28 Hold on to 31 Atlanta team 32 Unmanned aircraft 34 Hamm or **Kirshner** 36 First lady's namesakes 37 "How much wood _ a woodchuck" 38 Gush forth 39 Neighbor of Maryland: abbr. 40 Kitchen appliance 41 Come in second 42 Coat part 44 Increased 45 "Golly!" 46 Repairs 47 Robber 50 Hangs limply **51** Presidential nickname 54 One who enacts laws 57 Toe the line 58 Pitcher parts 59 Without ; easygoing 60 Run away 61 Worry 62 badge; Scout's award 63 _ up; admit

SUDOKU

By the Mepham Group

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

	7			4		3			6
			8				7	4	
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4		3	9				4		
	2			3		9			1

For answers to the crossword and Sudoku puzzles, see page A3.

guilt DOWN

1 Record 2 Hired vehicle 3 Loser 4 Laundry soap 5 Beauty shops 6 Heed the alarm clock 7 _ away; leaves 8 Fast-running biped

9 Traitor 10 Beethoven's "Moonlight" 11 Blacken 12 Sow's cry 13 Trike riders 19 Gladden 21 Flying mammals 24 Makes angry 25 Email command

26 Small outbuilding 27 Does roadwork 28 Film part 29 Completely obstructed 30 Dorothy, to Em 32 Well-_; thoroughly cooked 33 Floor covering 35 Flabbergasted 37 Surfboard support 38 Went down a fire pole 40 Has an overpowering smell 41 Skillets 43 Braggart 44 Rue 46 New Zealand tribe member 47 Sheet music symbol 48 Tush 49 Fairy tale bad guy 50 Oscar hopeful 52 Pollinators 53 Facial features 55 On the _; eluding the police 56 Top club 57 Switch position

Tribune Media Services

TOOK

Continued from page A2

according to earlier interviews with the Daily Pilot.

In junior high, he performed in a play written by the school principal and caught the acting bug.

"I said to myself, 'Wow, this is it!" Took said of his time on the stage in 2002, recalling how he went on to accept leading roles in high school.

Took enrolled as a premed student at San Francisco State, to follow in the footsteps of his doctor father, but was quickly introduced to the wonders of the theater by roommate Martin Benson. In 1963, Benson teamed up with Took and fellow college friend David Emmes to stage Arthur Schnitzler's "La Ronde" at Long Beach's Off-Broadway Playhouse.

Émmes and Benson soon after began to consider the

possibility of creating a professional resident theater company in Orange County. Having grown up in Newport Beach, Emmes said the area seemed ripe for growth.

"Ăt a certain point, we thought Orange County would proclaim its cultural independence from Los Angeles," he recalled in an interview Tuesday. "Don was a major player in making that commitment." Took appeared in 13 of South Coast Repertory's first 20 productions, even as the company moved to Costa Mesa, notably performing in the role of Jacob Marley in SCR's annual pro-duction of "A Christmas Carol" for 25 years running.

He also performed in two productions of "Play Strindberg" in 1973 and 1999, "The School for Scandal" in 1988, the world premiere of "Hospitality Suite" in 1992 and in "Two Gentleman of Verona" in

TUNA

ABEL

PEEL

E R R B B O S S D I A N E

HAWKSDRON

EVESWOULD

DELRANGE

GEE

LEGISLATOR

EARSACARE

SLEEVE

CROOK

FRET

S P O R T S

2003.

CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS

"He had a wonderful, unassuming quality about him, and he worked intuitively as an actor," Emmes said of Took's monastic commitment to the craft. "He let the work speak to him and brought himself to the work."

After his final performance at SCR in 2006 Took retired, having spent the bulk of his career on the stage, a rarity within the profession. A private gath-

ering of remembrance for Took is being planned by those who knew and worked with him.

"In some ways, he lived the ideal life of an actor," Emmes said. "His great achievement was to live his life fully as an artist and to enrich our shows and the thousands of audience members who experienced his art."

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Legal Notices

YEAR

Continued from page A1

morning events have been going on longer than the ones at the Irvine Barclay Theater. At their conception, the activities were primarily organized by the language instructors those who taught Chinese and Japanese — and were designed for language students. They expanded from there.

At the student center Tuesday, some students were kicking around jegi, which is similar to a shuttlecock and made from paper wrapped around a coin, while others tried on traditional clothing such as hanboks and kimonos to take pictures. Others took their chances on a traditional Vietnamese dice game called Bau cua tom ca, similar to a casino game of craps.

"Typically, we have about 200 to 400 students participating throughout the day," said Hu, adding that Vietnamese doesn't actually belong to the East Asian studies department as it is considered to be part of Southeast Asia. But, like China, Japan and Korea, Vietnam also celebrates Lunar New Year.

"This is really pretty exciting, even though we're doing pretty much the same as what we were doing before. But we really were online for only a year and a bit. So, to be able to do it hands-on ... I mean we did a virtual Lunar New Year, but it's really not the same," Hu added. "You can't teach somebody crafts online."

"Mostly, I think people are just really happy to be back," Hu said.

Second-vear international student Jean Kwon attended with her friend, Navdha Iindal. Kwon said she is from South Korea and is attending UC Irvine



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

STUDENTS PLAY a card game as they celebrate Lunar New Year in the student center at UC Irvine on Tuesday.

"I think especially because we're both international students, I think it's really nice," Jindal said. "I come from a different part of the world where I've never seen something like this before, so it's really cool that because of events like these that we can have that cultural exchange where I can get to understand my peers a little better."

Emmanuel de la Cruz said he really didn't know too much about Lunar New Year, except that it was an important holiday to the East Asian community.

He said he was attending the event because he heard about it through his Japanese class but also because he is interested learning more about his friends' Asian cultures. At some of the booths, he tried on clothes and played some of the games. He said he was glad events like this existed for him to learn from, adding that he'd like the event to be even bigger than it is now.

English major Christine Chuang said she thought it was pretty cool that the university would host an event for Lunar New Year.

"When you're a college student, you don't usually get to go to places. You don't usually have a car,'



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3 0	S	S			L	Α	R	Κ	S	Λ	6	3	7	1	2	5	8	9
4 N	E			S	Α	Т				-	U	0	1		2	5	0	3
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Μ	E	R	1	Т		F	Е	S	S	2	4	1	0	5	3	0	0	

to study computer engineering while Jindal is studying informatics.

Kwon said her family celebrates Lunar New Year every year. Jindal, who is from India, learned about the tradition through her friends. Kwon said she felt it was nice that the school provides an opportunity to learn and share culture and to enjoy the celebration with others on campus.

HOUSE

Continued from page A1

trol of the vehicle.

Julianne McCarron, who lived at the house with her husband, Chris Lepe, Lepe's parents and two children, said she was changing the diaper of her 10-month-old son, Jack, when the crash occurred.

"The house was shaking," McCarron said. "I thought we were experiencing an earthquake, like an earthquake I had never heard or felt before. The walls and the roof just started to cave in, and debris was flying everywhere ... I picked Jack up and fell to the ground and just started screaming. My husband was in the kitchen, and he came running down the hall asking what had happened."

The house has been redtagged, and the fire department tossed the beds and other belongings into the yard in case of a fire. The family had been renting the home for nearly five years and did not have renter's insurance, McCarron said.

McCarron said her landlord told her it would take six months to a year for the house to be fixed. For now, the family of four is living with her mother in Fountain Valley.

"We are actively looking for a new home to rent,' she said. "The market is super-slim and way more ex-

Chuang said. "You usually have to walk to places and so having Lunar New Year events - events that are celebrating an important holiday - on campus and therefore easier for many people ... and UCI students, specifically, to come and attend and also celebrate and find community."

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pensive than it was back in 2018 when we started renting our home. To find something that's similar to what we were living in before, the prices are really high, and not many places right now are accepting dogs. Our options are pretty slim."

A GoFundMe page has been established to help the family deal with expenses.

Though their lives have been uprooted, McCarron is grateful that it wasn't worse. The car crashed into the wall near the bed of her 5-year-old daughter, Harper, whom she had taken to school less than an hour before the incident.

"We're truly grateful that nobody was hurt, including the driver, as far as we know," she said. "When they took her away, they said that she seemed OK."

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creditors, and persons who may otherwise interested in the will or estate, or both, of PAUL **MELVIN POPLAWSKI.**

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by JANICE BERTZ in the Superior Court of California, County of ORANGE.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that JANICE **BERTZ** be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held on

February 23, 2023 at 1:30 p.m. in Dept. C8 located at 700 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE WEST, SANTA ANA, CA 92701

The court is providing the convenience to appear for hearing by video using the court's designated video platform. This is a no cost service to the public. Go to the Court's website at The Superior Court of California - County of Orange (occourts.org) to appear remotely for Probate hearings and for remote hearing instructions. If you have difficulty connecting or are unable to connect to your remote hearing, call 657-622-8278 for assistance. If you prefer to appear in-person, you can appear in the department on the day/time set for your hearing.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for the Petitioner: GENENÉ N. DUNN, ESQ HUNSBERGER DUNN LLP 14751 PLAZA DR., STE G TUSTIN, CA 92780 Published in the ORANGE COAST DAILY PILOT on: 1/13, 1/18 & 1/20/2023

SELL	FIND
your unwanted	an apartment
items through classified	through classified

THE PETITION requests authority to administer Independent the estate under the Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on February 22, 2023 at 1:30 p.m. in Dept. C10 located at 700 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE WEST, SANTA ANA, CA 92701

The court is providing the convenience to appear for hearing by video using the court's designated video platform. This is a no cost service to the public. Go to the Court's website at The Superior Court of California - County of Orange (occourts.org) to appear remotely for Probate hearings and for remote hearing instructions. If you have difficulty connecting or are unable to connect to your remote hearing, call 657-622-8278 for assistance. If you prefer to appear in-person, you can appear in the department on the day/time set for your hearing.

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2023

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To report scores of high school and college games, or other newsworthy items from youth to pro sports, contact the Daily Pilot sports staff. Matt Szabo, Sports Reporter (714) 966-4614, *matthew.szabo@latimes.com* Andrew Turner, Sports Reporter (714) 966-4611, *andrew.turner@latimes.com*

A4

GIRLS' WATER POLO Newport Harbor rallies for first Santa Barbara TOC title

BY MATT SZABO

SANTA BARBARA — Once the all-day rain had stopped and the tournament was over, Santa Barbara Tournament of Champions tournament director Mark Walsh approached Newport Harbor coach Ross Sinclair.

The Sailors had just completed a wild comeback, earning a 13-11 overtime win over league rival Laguna Beach on Saturday in the Tournament of Champions title match at Santa Barbara High. Walsh needed a tournament MVP and all-tournament team selection from Sinclair, and he was apologetic about having to ask.

"Sorry about that," Walsh said. "I know it's been a while since you've done this."

Sinclair quickly responded.

"Never. We've never won."

Walsh's mouth opened in surprise, but it was true. The Sailors may have won six CIF Southern Section titles, but the title at the toughest in-season tournament had always eluded their grasp. They have finished runner-up 10 times.

But junior center Ryan Chalupnik scored five goals as the No. 6seeded Sailors (15-3) made history Saturday, completing a difficult run through the bracket for the TOC title. Senior goalkeeper Anna Reed, who made 10 saves in the title match, earned tournament MVP honors, and Chalupnik was an all-tournament team selection.

"It was a great team weekend," Reed said. "We had a great time as a team, in and out of the pool. The Newport culture has always been that team wins are really important, and these were really big team wins for us. They're going to be really helpful to look back on as we move through the season."

The Sailors might also look back on their furious comeback



Matt Szabo

MEMBERS of the Newport Harbor High girls' water polo team are all smiles after winning the Santa Barbara Tournament of Champions.

in the final against No. 4-seeded Laguna Beach (10-5), three days after losing to the Breakers in a Surf League match.

Newport Harbor trailed 10-7 on Saturday when Sinclair called timeout with 3:05 remaining in the fourth quarter.

Caitlin Stayt scored a goal out of the timeout, and Newport was off and running. Harper Price added an inside goal assisted by Angie Peterson, then it was Peterson's turn.

She buried a shot at the shotclock buzzer, tying the score at 10-10 with 29 seconds left. The match would go to overtime.

"I knew there wasn't much time left, and they were just dropping off me," Peterson said. "Ross always tells me to start shooting more and being more confident in my shots, so I started to try and do that."

Peterson scored again into the near corner with nine seconds remaining in the first overtime period, then she fed Chalupnik inside on a redirect goal in the final minute of the second overtime to put the match away.

Senior Chiara Amoroso overcame early foul trouble for a goal and three steals for the winners, who also got three steals and a penalty shot drawn by Sofia Del Villar.

Sinclair said the young team, which continues playing without talented senior left-hander Avery Montiel (shoulder) and had just two seniors in the water in Reed and Amoroso, has been progressing all season long.

"I don't think we have lower expectations," he said. "It's just being patient, right? There"s a process to everything. We have a style of play that we want to play. There's a little bit of grit that we play with, there's a grind. It may not be pretty, we're not all superstars, but as a team, everyone has to fill responsibilities. Once we start to see that, the success comes."

Senior center Charlotte Riches and senior attacker Cleo Washer were all-tournament team selections for Laguna Beach. Riches and Ava Knepper led with two goals each in the final for the Breakers, who were coming off a big 10-7 win in the semifinals against top-seeded and previously unbeaten Orange Lutheran earlier Saturday.

Riches scored five goals in that match, while sophomore Presley Jones had two goals and four steals. Breakers coach Claire Sonne praised the team's defensive effort in the semifinals, which saw senior goalkeeper Lauren Schneider make nine saves and collect two steals.

"I think it's about consistency in doing the little things right all the time," Sonne said. "You can't choose when to put the effort into those little things defensively and offensively. I think the team kind of took a deep breath after this morning's game [against Orange Lutheran] and didn't bring the intensity and fire to this game [against Newport Harbor]. We were flat ... It's exciting to see how great we can be, and then it's also disappointing to see how inconsistent we can be."

Chalupnik paced the Sailors with five goals in their 9-8 win over another league rival, Los Alamitos, in the semifinals. Del Villar had three big goals, including Newport Harbor's last two of the match that broke a 7-7 tie.

CORONA DEL MAR PLACES SIXTH

Corona del Mar also had a successful weekend, despite a tough loss to the Foothill in the fifthplace match on Saturday.

CdM, which was seeded 11th, outperformed that seeding by five spots. The Sea Kings split their

matches Saturday, beating Santa Barbara San Marcos 15-11 before falling to Foothill 10-9 on a lastsecond shot by Knights lefthander Ashley Kwan.

Sophomore center Reagan Weir, who had a team-best four goals against Foothill, was an alltournament team selection for CdM (9-6).

"I'm happy about it," said senior Aubrie Anderson, who had two goals, two assists and three steals in the fifth-place match. "We started off strong, and we kind of had a rough second game [an 11-1 quarterfinal loss to Los Alamitos]. But we picked it up again this morning. Even though we lost [against Foothill], I feel like it was a good way to end."

Fellow senior Makena Macedo, who had a pair of goals in the fifth-place match, nodded.

"We haven't been this close to Foothill in a long time," she said. "Last time we played them, we lost by four."

CdM senior Jillian Schlom had two assists, three steals and three field blocks against Foothill, and senior goalkeeper Sarah Decker made seven saves and had a pair of steals.

CdM, last year's Division 1 champion, is in an interesting position. It remains to be seen if the Sea Kings return to Division 1 to defend their title, or finish the regular season top-eight to move up to the Open Division.

"Whatever happens, happens," Macedo said. "We beat [Santa Margarita], we beat Bishop's [School of La Jolla], we beat San Marcos. We've beaten a lot of teams above us, so we just want to kind of see where it goes. In the end, we'll see what we're fighting for."

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