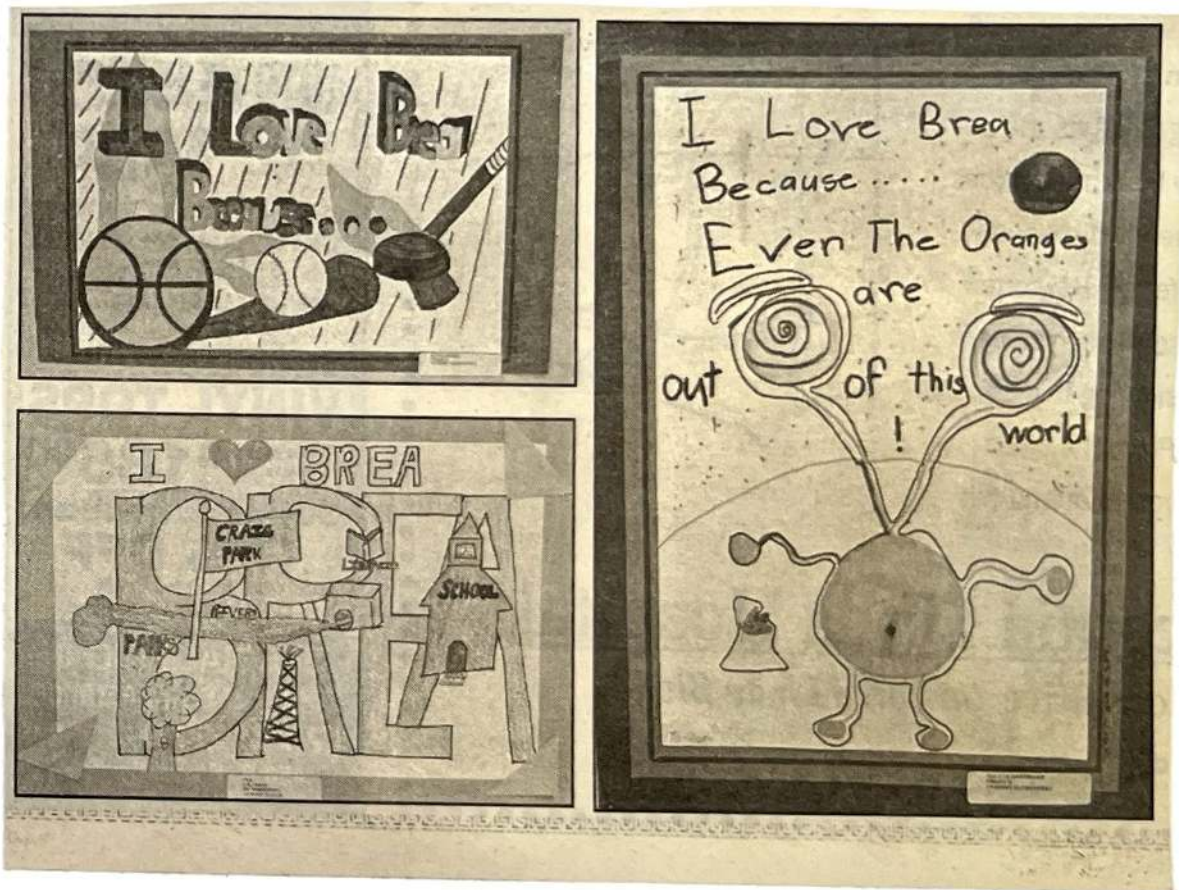


# I Love Brea Because... Contest Brea Elementary Schools



M. Loren Hernandez/Brea Progress

The Chamber of Commerce's Business Education Committee sponsored a poster contest for kids in kindergarten to sixth grade. The theme for the contest was "I love Brea because..." Out of 110 entries, 16 winners are on display at JC Penney in the Brea Mall.





Students at Mariposa Elementary enjoy the new equipment their penny-raising efforts produced.

M. Loren Hernandez Brea Progress

## A penny saved is ... a playground earned

Mariposa school's  
penny drive resulted  
in new equipment

By Jennifer D'Andrea  
Brea Progress

Find a penny, pick it up ... and give it to Mariposa Elementary School's Parent Teacher Association.

Students proved that, with a little patience and a lot of effort, pennies can add up to much larger sums.

They collected one million pennies, or \$10,000, in two years and purchased new playground equipment last September for their school. The equipment was installed in November.

Needless to say, the kids are proud.

"It was really exciting for them because they know they

paid for it," said Donna Prince, PTA president at Mariposa during the penny collection. "To watch the kids all pile on it the day it was finished was great. The first week, it was like a beehive because of the newness of it."

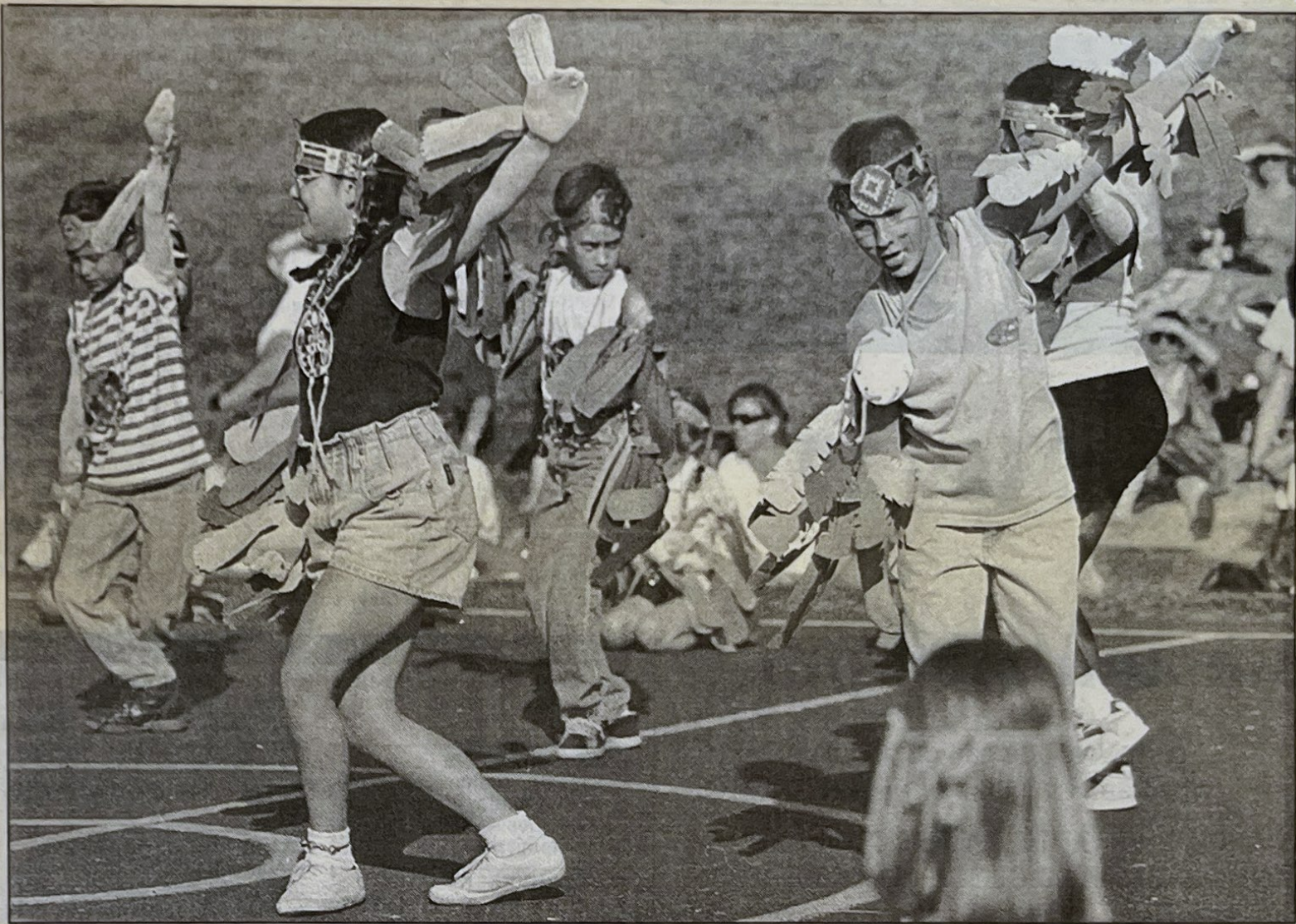
The colorful playground now includes picnic tables and benches, a basketball court, two moon climbers, a physical activity center for climbing, a ball toss and a large storage unit that doubles as handball courts.

Prior to the penny collection, the playground housed only the school's original equipment.

"Since the school has doubled in size, we didn't have nearly enough equipment to keep the kids busy," Prince said.

Judging by the smiling faces of kids climbing and playing, the effort was worth the gain.

"They learned that sometimes it takes a long time get where they want to be. Now they have a concept of one million — they know it's a lot and that it takes a lot to get there," Prince said.



M. Loren Hernandez Brea Progress

Third grade students Jamie Taylor (foreground, left) and Kyle Osborn "fly" on the blacktop as part of an American Indian eagle dance.

# Fair with a flair

Students perform cultural dances at Country Hills school's fine arts fair

By Jennifer D'Andrea  
Brea Progress

**T**hird-grader Kendra Gross hustled around her classroom, securing a colorful paper headband on her head, bells around her ankles, and pantyhose pinned with paper feathers on her arms.

Gross, 8, lined up at the classroom door with the rest of her peers, who were pulling and tugging on their costumes, getting ready to perform their rendition of "The

Eagle," an American Indian dance.

The performance was one of about 10 cultural dances that were part of Country Hills Elementary School's Garden Party Fine Arts Fair on May 14. Other dances were Egyptian, Russian and '50s-themed.

Gross said she wasn't nervous about dancing in front of a bunch of parents, but pointed out the drawbacks to performing on a hot spring day.

"The bad part is you get very sweaty," she said. "The good part is you get to perform and it's really fun."

Along with students decked out in homemade costumes, the school was decorated with 560 pieces of student art work.

Twenty-one pieces were auctioned during the fair for an average price of \$100. Half the money went to the school for arts programs and the other half went to the artist.

Matt Houston, 9, drew three black and white Navajo pots after studying American Indians in class. Houston said he'll save the money he makes from his art work for Nintendo games.

Samantha Cronelin, 8, donned cowboy boots and a jean shirt along with her second-grade classmates and performed country dancing with a twist — they started their number with the Macarena.

"It was kind of scary because of all those people watching, but I didn't mess up" she said. "It's really fun because we all have pictures up and if yours got chosen they bet on it. I drew a sunflower like Van Gogh. It's really good."

Cronelin said she hopes the money raised during the fair will be used for drawing classes because she wants to hone her skills.

# NIGHT HOOPS

Lighted basketball  
courts open at  
Brea Junior High

By Jennifer D'Andrea  
Brea Progress

**H**oopsters of all ages can drive the lane for a lay up or rainbow three-pointers at the new outside basketball courts at Brea Junior High School.

City and school district officials on Jan. 28 dedicated the two-year, \$250,000 project.

"There's been two big changes in Brea for kids — the Community Center and now this," said Tim Harvey, chair of the Parks, Recreation and Human Services Commission and principal of Laurel Elementary School. "These are excellent places for kids to have fun and stay out of trouble."

A \$90,000 Urban Parks Matching Grant that was approved by the Orange County Board of Supervisors in July 1994 partially funded the renovation. But county officials put a freeze on the grant in December 1994 after the Orange County bankruptcy.

The city's park development funds — fees paid by developers — provided the remaining money.

A planning committee that involved city and Brea Olinda Unified School District staff members and a subcommittee of the Parks, Recreation and Human Services Commission planned and designed the basketball courts.

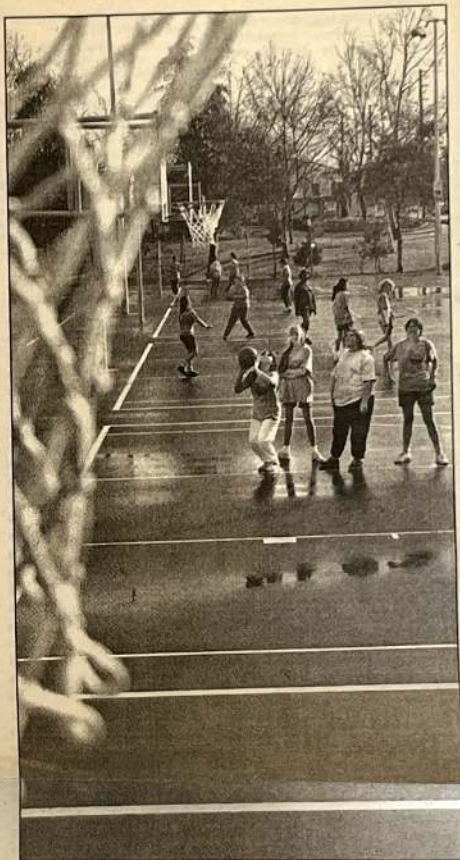
"When we really started planning and designing it and determining what we needed to make the project work functionally and aesthetically, the cost did go up," said Ted Owens, community services manager. "I think it will be heavily used. It's meeting a need of the community. We've got some nice courts that kids can play on and use in the evening."

Rain also caused a significant delay.

"The rain has really strung out the project longer than we wanted it to," Owens said.

Renovations included new light fixtures for play at night, better drainage, resurfacing the asphalt and adding new equipment such as poles, backboards, rims and nets. A new ramp makes the courts accessible to the disabled.

The courts also were re-



M. Loren Hernandez/Brea Progress  
April Lopez, 13, hunkers down for a two-pointer during a P.E. class on the new Brea Junior High basketball courts, as Aimee Trawek and Vanessa Burch, both 14, and Kathleen Morales, 13, wait their turn.

located north to allow more space for safety between the playing area and Lambert Road. One court is equipped with an adjustable pole so the basket can be moved down to eight feet for youngsters.

The addition of lights was one of the main reasons the renovation occurred, Harvey said.

"We wanted to extend the ability of kids to play basketball in the evening," he explained. "We noticed that Tamarack Park is always busy because there's lights. So the main change is that we added lights. It'll be used a lot by the city and the community."

The city and the school board officials agreed to address the issue of maintenance for the en-

tire site, including the courts, Owens said. The city is responsible for paying the light bill and for replacing rims and nets, while the school district pays for keeping the courts clean, Owens said.

All work is complete except for painting new stripes and sealing the asphalt, Owens said. The new courts are used primarily by the junior high school and various youth basketball programs but are open to the community.

"I hope it will continue to expand the possibilities for kids and young adults and to help us fulfill our objective to allow kids to have quality facilities and recreation areas," Harvey said.

The official unveiling of the long-awaited Brea Junior High School historical mural will take place April 10 during a 6:30 p.m. dedication ceremony at the school.

The mural, a student art project spotlighting Brea's history and diversity, was launched by BJH art students in the spring of 1994, and completed as an independent project by a small group of the junior high's Advanced Art students.

Students were responsible for all aspects of the mural work, from inspiration and design to painting and construction. BJH art instructor **Teha DeBacker** supervised the project.

The mural begins with scenes of prehistoric animals, then marches through the years with references to California Native Americans, Basque shepherds, the oil industry and Brea's civic history. Flyers explaining the importance of details in the mural will be provided at the dedication ceremony.

Brea Progress June 5, 1997

# School land may get use

## Outlook brightens for development

Jennifer D'Andrea  
Brea Progress

Vacant land owned by Brea Olinda Unified School District west of State College Boulevard may be developed in the next five years because the real estate firm the district hired in the early '80s to manage the land has acquired a new financial partner with a reputation for aggressive development of office buildings.

District officials, with their eyes on property tax revenues, are eager to develop the barren land.

"We're anxious to have somebody build something on that land," said Assistant Superintendent Gary Goff. "I suspect that we'll probably see some action very soon. Dirt has little value, but dirt with buildings on it has value.

"This partnership may lead to an earlier development of this empty ground. It will benefit the district because the increased cash flow from the land off that project will help the district pay debt service to the high school."

District officials hope district property manager Lowe Development Corp. will not develop a parcel of land east of State College Boulevard before develop-

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District officials hope district property manager Lowe Development Corp. will not develop a parcel of land east of State College Boulevard before developing other sites that would bring the district greater profits, Goff said. Most revenue from the land east of State College Boulevard would be given to the city of Brea's redevelopment agency instead of the school district, Goff said.

The district-owned property, totalling about 37 acres, is the former location of the old Brea Olinda High School, the district office and the district's maintenance center.

The district has developed some of the land — now the Brea

Please see LAND/2

# PTA is as old as city

## Parents involved in the nitty-gritty school decisions

By Danielle Benson  
Brea Progress

**P**arent Teacher Association members are room mothers, bake-sale artists, fundraising experts, legislative powerhouses and organizational wizards all rolled into one.

These parents, part of a national, state and regional organization, comprise the largest organization of volunteers dedicated to the welfare of children in the country. And it's turning 100-years-old soon.

The PTA has been around since 1897 and has a

strong presence in Brea. The National PTA Congress kicks off its centennial at the Orange County PTA convention this month in Anaheim.

In Brea, the PTA has been around almost as long as the city. Laurel Elementary was the first school to have a PTA back in the 1930s. These moms and dads cooked lunch for students and brought in doctors to vaccinate kids and perform what are known as "well-baby checks."

Today, Brea boasts a strong PTA network at six of the nine schools in the city. Fanning Elementary, Olinda Elementary and Brea Canyon

Please see PTA/2

# PTA

FROM 1

High School have Parent Teacher Organizations (PTO), independent of a national organization.

The modern Brea PTA acts much the way the first Laurel organization did — supporting children and assisting at school functions. But the focus has changed from service to participation.

"The real thrust of the PTA is to have parents more involved in the nitty-gritty decisions of schools," said Brea Olinda Unified School District Board of Education President Barbara Paxton. "And they are emphasizing parent education — how to be a good parent."

Paxton, who organized the first PTA Council in Brea made up of all PTA presidents, said the last five years have seen a shift from fundraising — supplementing funds that for school programs — to more parental involvement in children's everyday lives.

"Parents empower parents," Paxton said. "Parents need to educate themselves on curriculum and need to get involved."

Today's PTA parents help children's literacy with active reading programs at the elementary level and also show general support.

"The PTA encourages volunteers. People can always bring something to the school," said Country Hills PTA President Debbie Gross. "Kids need to know that their parents are interested."

This ideal is not much different from the one that started the whole PTA craze a century ago. In 1896, Alice McLellan Birney and Phoebe Apperson Hearst conceived the idea for the first National PTA Congress with one question: How can mothers be educated and the nation made to recognize the supreme importance of the child?

For these two ladies the an-

swer was to organize a group of parents because several voices are louder than one.

Today, the focus has changed. According to PTA pamphlets, the organization fills one of America's greatest needs — providing a link between parents, education, government and the legal system. The National PTA makes sure that parents' voices don't get lost in the chaos of government.

"The PTA has gotten active politically," Paxton said. "Part of its focus is to secure legislation that upholds families and children."

And this involvement has paid off. Every year, the PTA pushes for laws to protect and promote children with regard to education, safety and health. This active effort in the country's legislative system makes the PTA one of the most powerful influences at the local, state and federal levels.

And the PTA takes this influence one step further.

"The PTA doesn't just focus on reading, writing and arithmetic as far as education goes anymore," Paxton said. "All aspects that touch a child's life are of concern. Nutrition, health, play time and the family are important."

Paxton emphasized that being a PTA member isn't just about baking and serving lemonade.

"It isn't punch and cookies anymore. It's meat and potatoes," she said. "And you can really sink your teeth into some of the stuff we get involved with."

## PTA facts

1920s

▶ PTA launches comprehensive education and training programs for members with focus on parenting skills. The National Organization continues to support education programs for parents about dealing with children.

1930s

▶ PTA responded to the popularity of cars with programs for children's safety. PTA still advocates children's safety, supporting programs such as safety belt laws, Child Safety Month and school bus safety programs.

1940s

▶ PTA was one the first organiza-

# Schools at capacity?

By Danielle Benson  
Brea Progress

The board of trustees knew the day would come when Brea schools reached capacity. They didn't think it would happen this soon.

Nearly all Brea Olinda Unified School District campuses are full.

Trustees couldn't have predicted the statewide class-size-reduction program initiated by Gov. Pete Wilson. That program forced trustees to use what officials termed "growth space" for 20-student first-grade classes in elementary schools. Mariposa, which didn't have extra room, put one class in the day-care unit.

"The 20:1 put a monkey wrench into everything," Assistant Superintendent of Human Services Pete Boothroyd said at the Sept. 9 board of education meeting. "In most grades we are kind of tight."

Transfers are another problem.

Dottie Lane, a Mariposa Elementary mom, said the 30-year-old elementary school is bursting at the seams because of inter/intra district transfers. She wants the district to stand firm on new enrollment, regardless of residence location.

"I am concerned with class-size at the school and availability of space to house increased enrollment," she said. "I hope the board will put a cap on the number of students allowed at the school."

District officials noted that only 33 out-of-district students transferred into Brea elementary schools, 19 to the high school. Work-residents — students whose parents work in the city — get top priority, then intradistrict transfers — students who go from one school to another in town — and lastly non-Brea kids, Assistant Superintendent of Human Services Pete Boothroyd said.

"We're out of space in all our schools," he said, adding that three new relocatable classrooms, ordered for anticipated growth at Laurel Elementary, are being used for new 20:1 first-grade classes. "If Laurel expands, we have to get creative."

Gary Goff, assistant superintendent of business services, discussed anticipated growth at Laurel in light of planned residential development in downtown Brea.

"If all sites are developed and sold and occupied, we would have around 75-80 new students," Goff said about the Ash Street

## BREA SCHOOL ENROLLMENT AS OF THE FOURTH DAY OF SCHOOL (Sept. 9)

SCHOOL	GRADE	PROJECTED	ENROLLED	AVG. CLASS SIZE
<b>Arovista</b> (653 total) Capacity: 650	K	97	88	29
	1	93	89	18
	2	104	97	24
	3	85	84	28
	4	86	92	31
	5	95	94	31
	6	98	95	31
	RSP	19	14	14
<b>Country Hills</b> (538 total) Capacity: 600	K	68	59	29
	1	65	56 (19)*	19
	2	79	53 (26)*	26
	3	78	58 (27)*	28
	4	77	62	31
	5	87	84	28
	6	89	94	31
* Combination 1/2, 2/3 and 3/4 class numbers in parentheses are included in grades 1, 2, 3 and 4 class size projections, but not enrollment.				
<b>Fanning</b> (609 total) Capacity: 600	K	64	96	32
	1	64	65	16
	2	76	83	28
	3	67	50 (25)*	25
	4	77	85	28
	5	87	88	29
	6	106	111	28
	RSP	6	6	6
* Combination 3/4 class number in parentheses is included in grade 3 and 4 class size projections, but not enrollment.				
<b>Laurel</b> (441 total) Capacity: 475	K	62	68	34
	1	61	58 (18)*	19
	2	50	27 (28)*	27
	3	74	59	29
	4	50	52	26
	5	64	65	31
	6	47	56	28
	RSP	19	10	10
* Combination 1/2 and 2/3 class numbers in parentheses are included in grade 1, 2 and 3 class size projections, but not enrollment.				
<b>Mariposa</b> (591 total) Capacity: 600	K	82	71	24
	1	80	82	20
	2	85	84	28
	3	89	93	31
	4	92	91	30
	5	83	69 (31)*	34
	6	78	70	35
* Combination 5/6 class number in parentheses is included in grade 5 and 6 projections, but not enrollment.				
<b>Olinda</b> (187 total) Capacity: 210	K	26	25	25
	1	27	18 (18)*	18
	2	31	26	26
	3	24	24	24
	4	25	22	22
	5	26	28	28
	6	24	26	26
* Combination 1/2 class enrollment in parentheses is included in grade 1 and 2 class size projections, but not enrollment.				
<b>Brea J.H.</b> (960 total) Capacity: 975	7	433	462	N/A
	8	471	498	N/A
<b>BOHS</b> (1816 total) Capacity: 1850	9	500	535	N/A
	10	444	455	N/A
	11	474	454	N/A
	12	350	372	N/A
<b>BCHS</b> <b>Valley View</b> (99 total) Capacity: 100	70	72	N/A	
	30	27	N/A	
Source: BOUSD				

The Brea Progress

Cottages and The Arbors. "But it is just impossible to predict from one year to the next, what enrollment will be."

Older kids shouldn't suffer so

younger grades get a 20:1 student-to-teacher ratio, Lane said.

"We just have more and more bodies arriving," she said. "Perhaps we need to revisit year-round school again."

# SMALL DISTRICT IS BIG ON SECOND LANGUAGES

## Speaking English doesn't mean understanding it, counselor says

By Danielle Benson  
Brea Progress

The Brea Olinda Unified School District has a successful English as a Second Language (ESL) program, although only 29 percent of its students are of foreign descent. But sometimes the extra attention can cause cultural segregation.

"Being that we are such a small district, the district is really making a big commitment to helping these kids," said Bill Crean, a guidance counselor at Brea Junior High and ESL teacher.

Each Brea school has ESL capabilities and a district employee is available to help non-English speaking (NES) students with reading and writing skills. NES kids at Brea Junior High and Brea Olinda High School take only ESL classes as part of the district's English-teaching program.

At the junior high level, classes have students with varying degrees of speaking abilities and multiple languages. But Crean said the variety works well.

"It is a good aid for us to have kids who

are ready to be transferred out of ESL," he said. "They act as role models and tutors and help us out."

But once in high school, students enter into levels of ESL according to ability. When ESL requirements are completed, students take the California Basic English Skills Test (CBEST) to see if they are ready for English-only classes.

"We transfer them out on a six-month trial basis," Crean said. "We have the intention that if at any time they feel uncomfortable or are too lost, they can come back."

Crean said students return to ESL because speaking English does not mean understanding it. As a result, shelter classes at the junior high and BOHS were set up to help students make the transition out of ESL.

"Sheltered classes are geared for kids who are not quite ready for English-only classes. It uses cushioned English so the kids can understand," Crean said. "Teachers understand that students' comprehension may be limited, so they use a

lot of manipulative skills and creative testing procedures."

The 1995/1996 year is the first year that shelter or SDAIE (Specially Designed Academic Instruction in English) classes are offered to seventh graders at Brea Junior High. Crean hopes to continue the classes with eighth graders next year.

"What the shelter programs do is help students feel comfortable with learning," he said. "Shelter techniques can be used in every single classroom. They break down a difficult idea and make a student understand it."

But the low number of NES students in elementary schools does not warrant full-time ESL or shelter programs.

So Brea elementary schools participate in a "pull-out" program where kids are taken out of English-only classes a few times a week to work on reading and writing skills with a district ESL aid. Crean said the pull-out program gives kids a good foundation but can lead to future problems.

"Kids that we're getting here are doing

# ESL

English as a second language

well. They're learning good skills," he said. "But the problem is that pulling them out can lead to segregation and a feeling of intimidation on the ESL kids' parts."

Anne Flesher, principal of Arovista Elementary, agreed.

"We're trying to get away from having ESL all in one class," she said. "We want to break down those barriers. The more you segregate kids, the more they tend to socialize in their own group."

Flesher said the goal of ESL programs at Arovista is to immerse limited English-speakers in a social atmosphere where their behavioral and language skills can blossom.

"Friendships and social skills foster naturally over time," Flesher said. "Friendships can cross all language and cultural barriers. So they feel more comfortable and learn better."



Seven-year-old Emily Boden of Mariposa Elementary School looks at the thousands of pennies she and her classmates have collected as part of a school fund-raiser. The students hope to collect 1 million pennies (\$10,000) to help buy new school equipment.

M. Loren Hernandez Brea Progress

# PENNY WISE

## Mariposa students collect pennies for school equipment

By Aaron Boehme  
Brea Progress

One million pennies laid edge to edge would stretch almost 12 miles.

"But it takes a lot of pennies to make a million," said Donna Prince, president of the Mariposa School PTA.

Prince should know. Since the beginning of the school year the Mariposa PTA has been trying to raise \$10,000 worth of pennies to help purchase new school equipment.

With weekly donations from each classroom, and help from local businesses and the Brea Mall, about 300,000 pennies have been gathered, but donations really slowed down during the holidays, Prince said.

To help push their penny drive, the PTA unveiled the Mariposa Mint Friday.

The mint, a 7-foot tall fake granite and plexiglass penny bank, is large enough to hold 1 million pennies. But false fronts are used to show children the concept of a million without keeping that much cash on hand at the school, Prince said.

"It's just a precaution," she said. "We don't want to invite people to linger around to see if they can get it."

PTA parents designed and built the mint with do-

nated materials from local businesses to let the children track their progress and help them understand how big 1 million is, she said.

In addition to showing children what 1 million looks like, the unveiling also was a chance to congratulate the classes that brought in the most pennies last month.

Students from Mrs. Yates sixth-grade class walked off with congratulations from the whole school for bringing in 5,200 pennies in January.

"One girl brought in like \$20 worth in one day," said sixth-grader Veronica Lew.

The class said most of the credit belonged to Pam Drillen, a sixth-grader whose grandfather, Bud, who collects old pennies.

"He searched through his pennies, and the ones he didn't need, he gave to me," Drillen said.

"This is just an amazing group of parents," said Mariposa Principal Eileen Moore. "This kind of support for a school says that parents must like what we're doing here, and that's very rewarding to those of us who are educators."

Moore hopes the money will be pay for part of the new playground equipment the school needs to replace the 27-year-old equipment it has now.

The PTA plans to form a committee to decide what to do with the money, Prince said.

# TRANSITION FROM OLINDA SCHOOL TO SENIOR CENTER

JAN. 9, 1989

**Circa 1920:** Olinda's first school, built in 1898 to accommodate the children of workers who had come to work in the area's booming oil fields, was followed in 1909 by the building of this larger second school, built along Olinda (later Carbon Canyon) Creek. Known as the 'Little Green Schoolhouse,' Olinda School served grammar-school age children of the area for more than half a century. A third Olinda School was built in 1963 to replace this school, and is located at 109 Lilac Lane near Carbon Canyon Road.

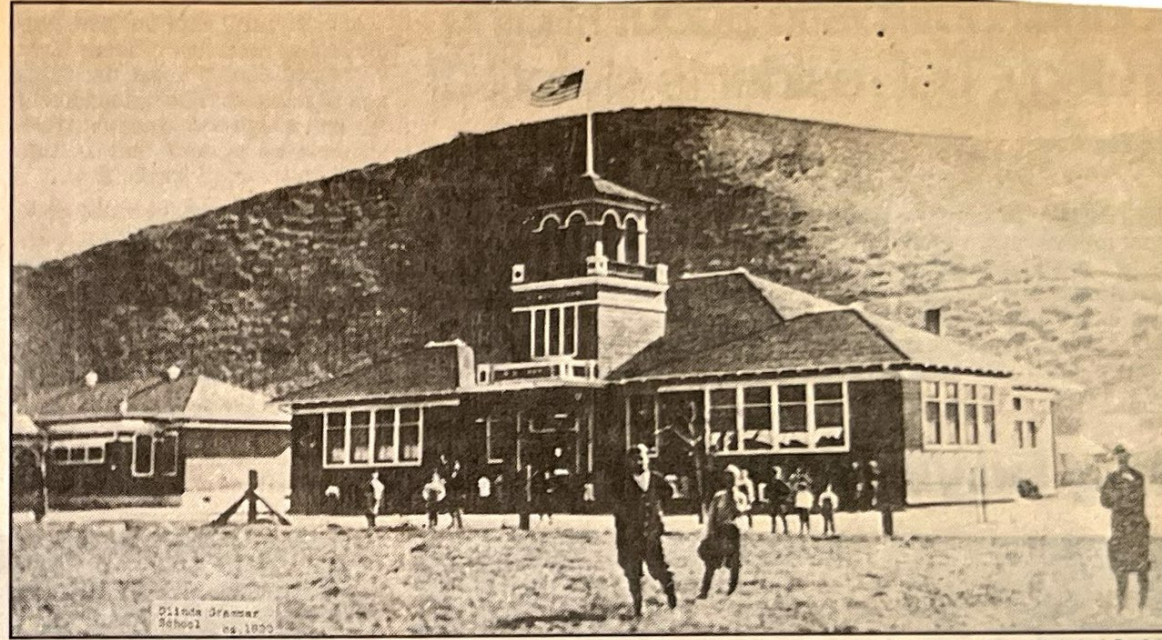
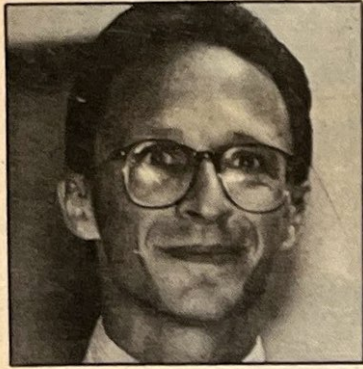


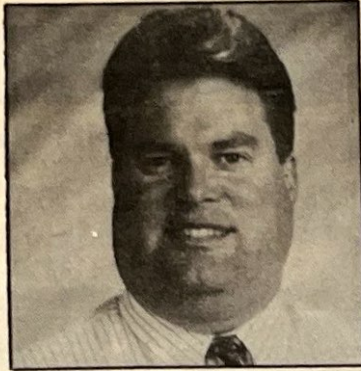
Photo courtesy Brea Historical Society

**Today:** The bell from the second school's tower is preserved at the present school in the middle of its quad area. Most of the second school was torn down, but a portion of the main building was moved to Elm Street between Sievers and Madrona avenues and converted into a community center. Today, the same building — greatly changed, including a recent remodeling — is the Brea Senior Center. The actual site of the second Olinda School is in what is now Carbon Canyon Regional Park, between the tennis courts and the lake.





Ken Kegel



James 'Bud' Reed



Teresa Hampson



Joe Rollino

November 5, 1998

# Newcomer Rollino, veterans Kegel, Hampson, Reed win school seats

By Vanessa Jazin  
Brea Progress

Four open seats on the Brea Olinda Unified School District board were filled by Teresa Hampson, 46, James 'Bud' Reed, 38, Ken Kegel, 38, and Joe Rollino, 39, in Tuesday's election, with first-time challenger David

and I hope we live up to the faith they've placed in us," Hampson commented.

## THE FINISH LINE

School Board vote results  
(four winners in bold)

**Teresa Hampson . 4,924\* . 21.9%**

## SCHOOL

FROM 1



planning commissioner, captured fourth place with 19.7 percent of the vote. Rollino replaces board member Barbara Paxton, who chose not to seek re-election.

First-time candidate Martin relied on a mild campaign, deciding not to post signs or advertise but holding 16.6 percent of the vote.

All five candidates campaigned on their solutions to problems caused by a growing student population and student cheating.

Issues that victors promised to address include technology,

overcrowding and cheating. Hampson said she'd like to see the board focus greater attention on technology, while Reed and Kegel said they'd like to open up lines of communication to help ensure cheating is not tolerated.

The growing problem of overcrowding in the district is expected to be solved within the next four years.

All victors said they'd like to move ahead with an additional junior high school to avoid the necessity of housing students in portable classrooms.

membered. And while the engine could be started with a switch, the bus could never be locked without its key, she said.

"I had a Chevy car and one day, without thinking, I used the car key on the bus and it worked!" she said, laughing at the memory.

Makins' bus-driving days were interrupted for a spell when she gave birth to her youngest son, Earl, in 1957. But she was back in the driver's seat just four months later, occasionally bringing along her sleeping baby.

"It was the quietest bunch of kids I ever had on a bus," she recalled. "They didn't want to wake the baby."

Makins drove a school bus for 12 years, then spent 10 years as the bus dispatcher as the fleet grew to 14 buses and 16 drivers. Bus headquarters was on school property that now houses the

driver, before working her way into various positions in the school district. Since retiring she has taught floral arrangement classes at the Brea senior center and is an active member in the Brea Historical Society.

Rusty Pelican restaurant, Makins recalled, and service extended to a high school, junior high and five elementary schools. Only Country Hills Elementary School had yet to be built.

Makins took three months' off for her first cancer surgery, but eventually gave up the dispatch job because it was "very stressful."

"I took jobs in the district office. 'Have pencil, will travel,' that was me," she recalled.

She finally settled in as the district's health insurance clerk, the job she retired from in 1983.

However, it is her career as a bus driver for which many Breans remember her today, she said. She still gets nods of recognition from her former riders, and she will never forget the policeman who stopped to help her with her car and then gasped in surprise.

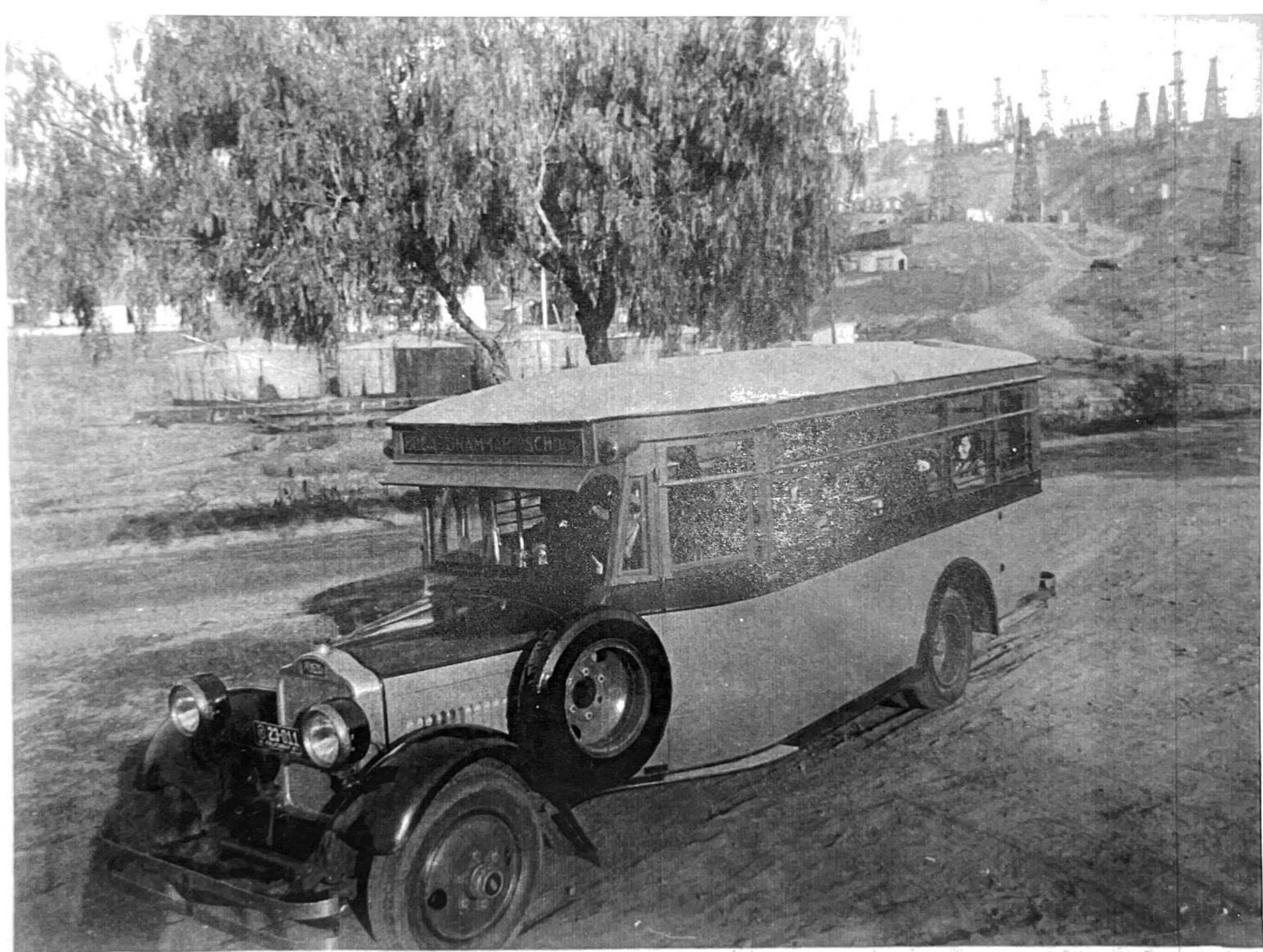
Makins smiled when she recalled how he grinned and said, "You used to drive my bus!"

Living on her own now, Makins keeps a cozy apartment filled to the brim with the trappings of her flower-arranging hobby. Cupboards are filled with ribbons and bows, and scattered boxes are filled with silk flowers waiting to be arranged.

A spoon collection fills one wall, sparking a creative gleam in Makins' eye. The city of Brea doesn't have a souvenir spoon, she noted, describing the possibilities of a collector's spoon with an oil well logo.

Across the room hangs another reminder of Makins' special talent for positive thinking — a floral wall decoration with an intricate ceramic rim.

"I was cleaning a ceramic plate and it got a hole in the middle of it," Makins explained. "I decided it would make a good frame."



# Brea



By  
Allie  
Mariposa School  
3rd Grade



## What Like About Brea

There are a few reasons I like Brea. The first, reason I like Brea is because I like the shopping. I like to shop at the mall. Target is another place I like to shop at. I also like Brea because of the delicious restaurants. I like to go to the Cheesecake Factory. Another good restaurant is Octopus.

I also like Brea because of the schools. I like the schools because the students learn a lot. In addition, I like Brea schools because the teachers teach us important things. Clearly, Brea is a wonderful place.





**PAST PRESIDENTS DINE** - Former Presidents of PTA in Brea got together for a social visit at the home of Cleta Harder in Brea. Pictured at the dinner are the oldest PTA President at the gathering Irma Tremaine, and the youngest Sue McCoy. Hostess Cleta Harder is also shown. (News-Times photo by Susan Gaede)



**BASEBALL AWARD** - Sue McCoy, Iris Feldman, Darleen Dubin and Rita Oden are amused as they hold the Laurel PTA trophy for baseball. The PTA beat the teachers 11-9, but had to play extra innings to win. (News-Times photo by Susan Gaede)

## Laurel Softball Game Set

The staff members of Laurel Elementary School are getting in shape to play a softball game Thursday, May 22, against the board members of Laurel PTA.

The game will be from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. and hot dogs and cokes will be sold.

"People"  
- office

"People"  
office

# New band director takes notes for district

By Pamela Krebs  
Staff Writer

Looking forward to a long stay with the district, Kevin McGuire, 24, will be the new band director for Brea Olinda Unified School District.

During the past school year the former band director, Chuck Collins, left on a sour note amid a controversy as to whether his departure was voluntary or not.

The district has had five band directors in the past 10 years.

But despite the district's record of a high turnover with band teachers, McGuire doesn't mind. He's excited about the kids and the music.

"There's been a lot of turnover, but you keep trying and eventually you get the right combo. Hopefully, it will be me.

"I feel that I'll be here a while," McGuire said.

McGuire worked at Santa Ana Valley High for a year, teaching orchestra, jazz, choir and pep band, but lost his job to the budget crunch.

Now, he'll be teaching for both Brea Olinda High School and Brea Junior High School.

The main thing he hopes to develop in his students is a sense of pride and self respect. With those two elements, he feels the music will come naturally.

"You're just expected to learn it at home."

McGuire sees no boundaries on what can be accomplished, being the optimist he is. "Hopefully, it will be one of the best bands they've ever had."

And although McGuire wants the band to participate in marching competitions, he feels there's a need to concentrate on perfecting student's musical skills in the classroom.

"I'm going to try to open them up to as many musical experiences as they can get."

Jazz and contemporary styles are some of the material he plans to introduce to his students.

McGuire received his bachelor's degree in music from the University of Illinois. His

major instrument is the bassoon, but he also plays and has taught the piano.

His musical history dates back much further than his college years, however, and he started playing the piano as a 4-year-old. His mother also was a music teacher.

Sometimes, he gets con-

cerned when people comment about his youth, responding that "I'm teaching piano, not brain surgery."

Eventually, McGuire would like to play in a symphony orchestra. Meanwhile, he stays in tune as a keyboardist in his own band, the "Pigskin Yankee."



Staff photo by Michael Loren

**Leader of the bands:** Kevin McGuire will begin his first year as band director with Brea Olinda Unified School District.

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# Educators, parents begin to plan for new year

By Superintendent Ed Seal  
Brea Olinda Unified School District

Once again it is time for educators and parents to begin to plan for the beginning of a new school year. The Brea Olinda Unified School District Board of Education and administration have faced many difficult financial situations during the past 12 months and many tough decisions had to be made in order to balance the district budget for 1991-92.

As many people in Brea are aware, these decisions included approximately \$1.6 million worth of reductions.



Seal

Even though Proposition 98 was not suspended by the state legislature, the district will receive the same amount of state money as the previous year, this at a time when inflationary costs have risen approximately 5 percent and many district costs have escalated at a much greater ratio. In spite of all of the cutbacks from 1990-91, we in Brea are looking forward to another outstanding year for the students and staff for the coming year.

The Board of Education and staff take considerable pride in the academic and extra-curricular accomplishments over the year. Even though no CAP testing took place due to budget cutbacks at the state level, as we reflect back upon the 1989-90 test results, we find the Brea School District scoring at the 90th percentile and above in all areas of reading, math, language, science and social studies with three schools selected by the State Department of Education to participate in the National School Recognition Program. Arovista, Olinda and Brea Junior High School were all selected based upon consistently outstanding performances.

The Brea Board of Education has adopted a new policy that we believe is in the best interest of our students and staff members. The new policy is prohibiting the use of any tobacco products on any campus, district facility or in district vehicles. This will understandably cause some emotional and physical hardships on those who smoke or use smokeless tobacco. However, with the tremendous amount of evaluative research telling us of the detrimental effects of passive smoke on non-smokers, we think this new policy is not only good physically

for this community and its students but it sends a clear message that tobacco products are extremely unhealthy to all of us.

The district will experience new programs that involve two new Mac II computer labs; one at the junior high school and one at the senior high school. Both were purchased from high school construction funds and donations from the business community. In addition, we are looking at ways to recycle the older Apple IIE computers to the elementary classrooms.

## BACK TO SCHOOL MESSAGE

In addition, the district will be involved with a district wide committee of staff and parents to study, evaluate and make recommendations to the Board of Education on the feasibility of implementing the middle school concept (grades 6, 7 and 8) and year-round education. This is very important if we are to provide classroom space for our increasing student population which has increased from 4,200 students in 1982 to approximately 5,000 as we begin school Sept. 5.

School will begin on Thursday, Sept. 5 at all district schools with the exception of Brea Olinda High School. Brea Olinda High School will begin on Monday, Sept. 9 due to the entire faculty attending two

days of staff development.

Even with a reduction of 12 teaching positions due to cutbacks in 1990-91, it appears that we will be employing new teachers due to resignations, retirements and increased enrollment.

In order to help balance the district budget, we have increased class size staffing ratios from 29:1 at the elementary schools to 30:1. At the Junior and Senior High Schools, we increased the staffing ratio from 32:1 to 34:1. Therefore, we can anticipate some classrooms to have in excess of 35 students and some may have in excess of 40 students at the junior and senior high school levels. Whenever possible, we will try to keep classes as even as the enrollment and numbers of classes will allow.

A big issue that needs resolution is the cost to the school district with regard to community groups and organizations using the various school facilities. This is especially important at the high school. The city of Brea and the school district will be discussing this topic with the hopes of arriving at a solution that will be amenable to all concerned, that includes the user groups. Up to now all costs for outside user groups use of school facilities have been absorbed by the district. However, with all of the cutbacks, it is now important to find another funding source other than taking funds away from classroom instruc-

tional programs and support services.

In spite of the difficult financial situation that will affect the district in 1991-92, the Board of Education, administration and all district staff are looking forward to meeting the many challenges in 1991-92 and again ensuring a year of outstanding accomplishments for the students of the Brea School District. And I might add that we strongly encourage all of our parents and community members to get involved with your local schools at a level to

which you feel comfortable and at a level where your volunteer contributions of time will send a message to both educators and students that education is a very high priority with you for your children. Remember, open and frequent communication with your son's or daughter's teacher will be a key attribute to his/her success.

With your help and support of the teachers, coaches and support staff, we can assure you that we will do everything possible to make this an extremely successful and memorable.

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# Pre-school, care programs need funds

By Kim Irwin

Brea-Olinda Unified School District will establish a pre-school and an extended day child care center as soon as funding is available, according to Superintendent of Schools Dr. Edgar Seal.

Dr. Seal has asked local service clubs to consider making donations to defray the \$12,500 cost of starting the program in five of the six elementary schools in Brea. The program, Seal said, can't be paid for out of district funds.

"It has to be totally self-supporting," Seal said.

The Brea Rotary Club, Soroptimists, Kiwanis and Police Athletic League have all expressed a desire to make funds available for the pre-school and day care center.

## Program provides good supervision

Seal said with all the "bad news about pre-schools and day care centers" in the media recently, the school district wants to provide "very good supervision by a properly certified adult."

The pre-school, to be based at a district elementary school, would serve children 2-years-old to kindergarten age.

The pre-school service will be year-round, including holidays. Margaret McClelland, of Arovista School, said.

"It will be very convenient for working parents," she said.

An extended day child care center is proposed at five elementary schools in Brea. Olinda will not be included because of its distant location and lack of room.

Olinda students interested in day care, however, would be bussed to Country Hills Elementary School to take advantage of the program there.

The day care center will provide child care in the mornings before school and in the afternoons at the end of the school day. Two rooms in each of the

schools will be used for the extended day care, Seal said.

"This program would be good for parents who work days and want to leave their children in a safe place," McClelland added.

Both the pre-school and day care centers, if approved by the school board and funded, would operate from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. on a year-round basis.

Seal said a modest fee would be charged for the programs.

Depending on grade level, the rates will be approximately \$17 to \$25 a week for day care, and a flat

rate of \$45 to \$50 a week for pre-school. For upper-grade level students the fee would range from \$17 to \$20 a week, because these children would require day care for only about four hours each day.

For a younger student, a kindergartner for example, the fee would range from \$21 to \$25 weekly. The cost is slightly higher, Seal said, because kindergartners require care for more hours a day.

Pre-school fees are higher because children spend anywhere from 8 to 11 hours under supervision. A snack will be provided by the school, but students are required to bring their own lunch.

please turn to page 9

## BLAMER BOASTS BANNER YEAR



P.J. Mansur (left) and Brea Mayor Clarice Blamer hang a banner across Brea Boulevard to inform citizens that 1985 has been officially proclaimed as "The Year of the Arts." Mansur and Blamer were hoisted up to the banner in a cherry picker. The banner can be seen in the downtown section of Brea.

Staff photo by Teresa Smith

## Honors program motivates students

By Dennis Farmer  
Student contributor

To help motivate student academics, Brea-Olinda High School is developing an honors program, which

# BREA PROGRESS

A weekly newspaper with personality

PUBLISHED BY THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1999

## BREA CANYON HIGH: HOPE FINDS A HOME

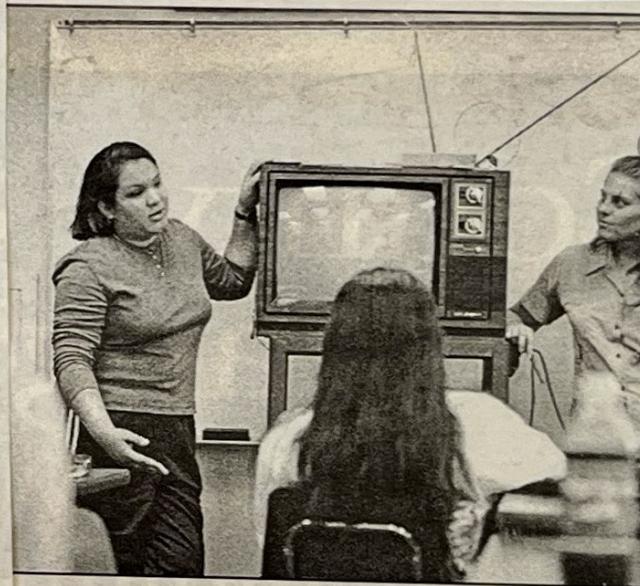
Maritza, Stefanie are two of those getting a hand at 'other' high school

By LaDonna Nicholson  
Brea Progress

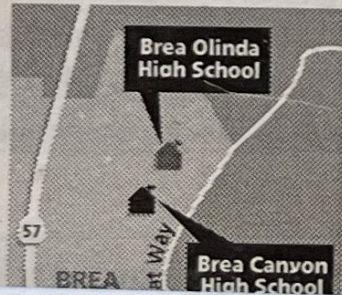
Editor's Note: This is the first in a series of articles on Brea Canyon High School.

**M**aritza Rivera's body began to relax as she talked of her goals for after high school.

"I want to go to junior college for a couple of years; then, to San Francisco," she said, her face breaking into a smile. There is no particular rea-



Jack E. Hancock  
Gwynne Partos in explaining student conflict-management recruitment drive at Brea Canyon High School.



## HOPE

FROM 1

Vista Continuation School.

"I didn't want to go there. I knew some people there and I begged not to go," she said. Maritza heard about Brea Canyon High School and began pushing to go there. It took some sweat and tears, but eventually she and her mother got an interview with Principal Bob Phelps.

Phelps interviews all potential students before he accepts them into his school: He tries to make sure a student wants to be there and is willing to work hard. Maritza said she knew from the beginning that he meant business.

She liked him, however, because he made himself known to students. She could go to him with her problems and knew he would listen.

"At La Habra, I never spoke one word to my principal," she recalled.

Maritza is not the only young person finding solid footing at Brea Canyon.

Stefanie Nelson, a somewhat shy girl with bright eyes, came to Brea Olinda High School two years ago from Ontario. Brea Olinda represented a bit of a culture shock for her because it had a great many more students than her previous

school and they held many differing attitudes. Fitting in wasn't easy and Stefanie fell in with a wrong crowd.

She began missing more and more school and before long, contemplated leaving school altogether.

"My mom really wanted me to graduate from the (Brea Olinda) high school," Stefanie said. She heard about the program at Brea Canyon and knew it was for her. The staff's support was encouraging and she was able to buckle down — finally.

"I found one friend and just studied," Stefanie said. "It is one-on-one with the teachers here," she added, explaining why she is so comfortable at Brea Canyon. She readily admits her personal life often has been rocky, but teachers at the school have been there for her.

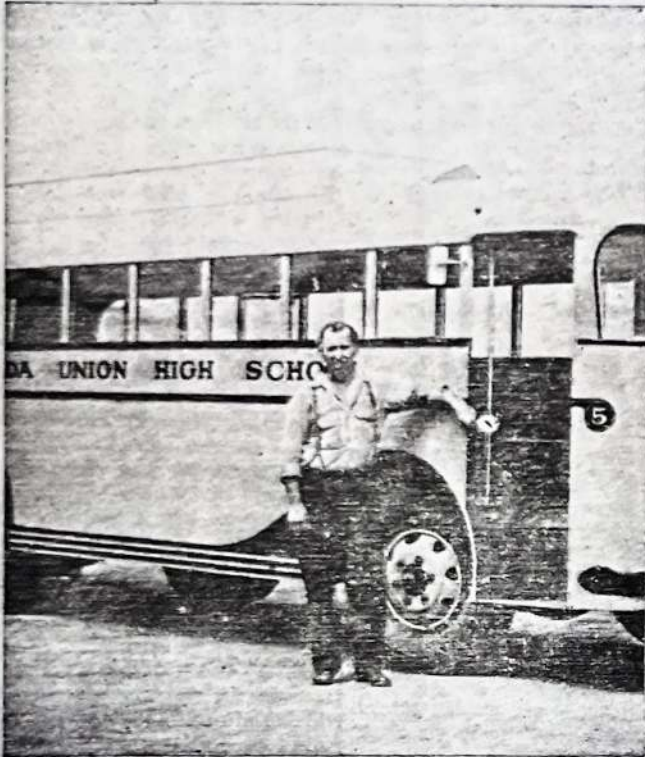
"They really care about you," she said, her face finally cracking a smile.

Both Stefanie and Maritza have a long way to go. While both are expected to graduate in early 2000, they will need to take with them the foundations they developed at Brea Canyon and apply these elsewhere.

Maritza may live in San Francisco. Stefanie may study or work full-time.

Either way, the road ahead is looking smoother for both young women.

# HE "BRINGS 'EM BACK ALIVE"



Within the past few weeks the Brea Progress has printed the pictures of the high school principal and the 1939 graduating class.

This week we are proud to print another well known member of the Brea-Olinda school family—Oswald Meissner. To show that Mr. Meissner is not only well known but also well liked, The Chamber, 1939 high school year book, was dedicated to him.

### His Pride and Joy

Mr. Meissner, who makes his home on South Orange avenue, has been an employe at the high school for nearly seven years. He especially enjoys bus driving, and states that his bus is his "pride and joy."

Mr. Meissner came to Brea about eighteen years ago. He worked for Ed Peterkin for ten years and delivered ice to almost every home

in town. Even at that time the kids catered to him, begging for pieces of ice. And they got it, too.

### From Oregon

Klamath Falls, Oregon claims Mr. Meissner as a native son. He was a city trustee of Brea for two years. His family include his wife, two daughters, Mrs. Gloria Jones and Miss Kathleen, and a son, Oswald Jr.

After all these years of fine service to Brea-Olinda and to the community in general, Mrs. Meissner well earned the high honor bestowed upon him.

Not only is he always punctual, but always ready and willing to work for the benefit of his community.

Brea-Olinda is proud of Oswald Meissner. And here's hoping Oswald will be here to "Go Get 'Em and Bring 'Em Back" for many years to come.

## 1938 Gusher Dedicated To Meissner

2:55 P. M., four bells, assembly. What was the assembly to be about? was the question that was floating over the crowd of students as they pushed their way into the auditorium last Monday. Everything was quiet. There was Eunice Wilson on the stage. As Eunice began to talk the questioning looks on the faces in the audience turned to looks of surprise, for out on the stage stumbled Mr. Meissner and low and behold Eunice presented him with an annual dedicated to him. Mr. Meissner was so mystified as to what was going on that he was almost speechless, but the audience was far from it. They were glad to find he had been chosen for the dedication of this year's annual.

The annuals are Chinese red with a burlap grain finished with a light blue wash that sets it off nicely. The division pages are of boats and natives of several different nations painted in colors to correspond with the cover of the book.

May 12 1981  
**Laurel  
Closure  
Studied**  
*Laurel Daily  
Star Program*

By Rebecca Cheuvront  
DSP Staff Writer

BREA - Brea - Olinda Unified School District trustees will consider approval of 10 members for a committee to study surplus school space and the possibility of closing Laurel Elementary School at the board meeting Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the Civic Cultural Center.

Establishment of a committee is required by law before a decision can be made concerning the use of surplus space or a school closure to avoid community conflict.

Under consideration as members of the committee are: John Baray, Ellen Buckner, Peggy Mansur and Phyllis Mizera, all Brea residents; Sandra Hilton, a substitute teacher at Laurel; Leonard MacKain, principal of Fanning Elementary School; Robert McLanahan, a local realtor; John Mynes, a Brea - Olinda High School student; and Doris Willis, a teacher at Laurel.

The name of a tenth member is expected to be submitted by the Planning Commission by Wednesday night for consideration.

Once established, the committee will review the projected school enrollment and other data to determine the amount of surplus space in the district, establish a priority list of use for this space that is acceptable to the community, circulate this priority list through Brea and provide for hearings for community input to the committee on acceptable uses of the space.

The committee will then submit to the board its report and recommendation no later than Jan. 4, 1982.

Also at the meeting at 9 p.m. the public will have an opportunity to express to Board of Education consultant Tracy Gaffey what they feel would be impor-

# BREA'S YOUNG PILGRIMS

Arovista School kindergartners pull out all the stops to observe Thanksgiving

By LaDonna Nicholson  
Brea Progress  
December 2, 1999

**O**ne little, two little,  
three little Indians.  
And Pilgrims.

And parents.

It was a full day at Arovista Elementary School as parents, teachers and costumed students gathered to sing and celebrate Thanksgiving.

Principal Anne Flesher barely made it out of her office on time for the festivities. She was stopped twice on her way out and still managed to keep pace to the celebration on the playground.

All around her, kindergartners dressed as Indians or Pilgrims swarmed around her, hoping to get a photograph with their principal. Flesher estimates she has close to 100 kindergartners under her care and the Thanksgiving dress-up is something they look forward to every year.

"They can choose whether they want to be a Pilgrim or an Indian; then they spend the week working on their costume," Flesher said as the children began to line up. As cameras whirred and cameras snapped, the little ones



marched proudly around the playground several times. They waved at their parents and stopped to pull

up a sock or re-adjust a paper headband.

Kindergarten teacher Karen Barry then led all the

Photos by LaDonna Nicholson/Brea Progress

**Arovista Elementary School kindergartners celebrated Thanksgiving in their own special way.**

children in songs befitting the season.

Attendees learned what it was like to be a turkey, an Indian hunting in the woods and a Pilgrim preparing for the first Thanksgiving meal.

Participants were handed plates full for feasting, then took seats around a long row of tables. "Indians" and "Pilgrims" sat side-by-side as they enjoyed their meals.

The first Thanksgiving it may not have been, but for kindergartners at Arovista Elementary School, it was close enough.

Readership is on the upswing, Clements reported, and so is library business. She attributed some of the increase to the school's Language Arts program, which this year encouraged more reading in connection with the students' Social Studies curriculum.

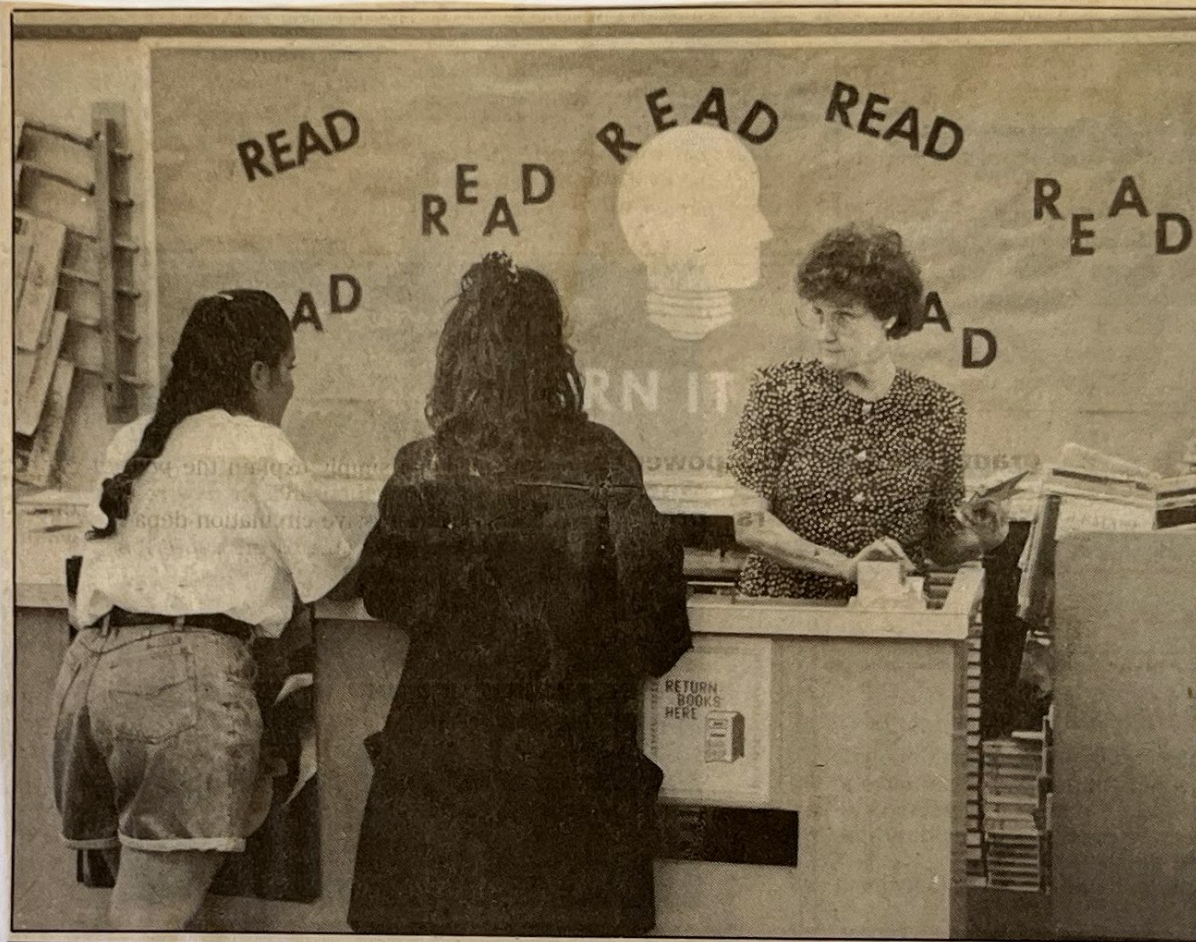
"I think it's working. It's hard to keep enough books on the shelf," she said, but that's all right with her.

"The only way a library works is to keep the books moving," she noted.

Clements' retirement will be just one of the milestones marked by her family in 1992. Her husband, Stan, chief operating engineer for Alpha Beta, is also retiring, stepping down after 42 years with the company.

Their new log cabin at Henry's Lake in West Yellowstone should be the perfect place to spend a relaxing summer hiking and reading (Rita) or painting and woodworking (Stan), and reflecting together on their 40 years of marriage, four children and three grandchildren. They may even start mapping out some sightseeing trips across the country from their Idaho summer home, Clements said.

"I have mixed emotions about retiring," Clements acknowledged. "Some days I can hardly wait, but I know I'll miss it here. I love this place. I really do."



(Star-Progress photos  
by Jack Hancock)

**READER SERVICE** — Brea Junior High School librarian Rita Clements, above, helps student Lisa Sheldon use the periodical reference book to find material for a science report. At left, Susan Nieto, left, and Sylvia Villasenor check out books in the school library with the assistance of Clements, who has served in her post for the past 10 years. Clements and her husband, Stan, who is retiring from Alpha Beta, will move to a log cabin in West Yellowstone.

3-20-92

# Mr. Chips, Brea style

By Leslie Stuart Carter

There's a touching scene toward the end of James Hilton's best-selling novel, "Goodbye, Mr. Chips." Charles Chipping, a teacher at England's Brookfield school for Boys for a half-century, lay in a darkened room on his death bed. Around him, a group of colleagues stand mournfully. "Old 'Chips' loved kids so much. Too bad he had none of his own," one of them said.

Chips opened his eyes. "Oh, but I did," he said weakly. "Thousands of them. And all boys."



Brea has its own Mr. Chips! He's far from doddery, though, and quite a way off completing 50 years of teaching—and he doesn't wear a mortarboard and gown like old Chips. What's more he's seen just as many girls as boys among the 2,000—odd who've passed through Mariposa School. But, otherwise, the similarities between Chips and Mariposa's principal, Howard Bryden, are notable.

"Mr. Bryden," the Brea elementary school's first and only principal since its doors opened on May 23, 1967, is a devoted educator and, like Brookfield's Chips, he never really cared to be anything else. "I wanted to be principal (headmaster at Brookfield) of my own school since the day I graduated from San Jose State in 1956," said Bryden, an elementary education major.

The indelibly urban Howard Bryden was born in a highly non-urban Gallop, New Mexico, and raised in Albuquerque. He first saw California as a serviceman at Travis Air Force Base, near Sacramento, in 1950.

Bryden of Brea came to our city 30 years ago as a beginning teacher at Arovista School, built the same year. He's lived here ever since with wife Anita and offspring Becky, Julie, John and Craig, four "chips off the old block."

"I've had a sunswept career," Howard Bryden said luminously. "Never a hint of sadness--no regret--about it. Frustration, at times, perhaps. I'm just fortunate that I'm in a profession that I enjoy very much."

In his tenure as Brea's principle principal, Bryden has seen no appreciable change in the overall demeanor of elementary school children. "We live in a TV age, however," he added. "Today youngsters need to get back from the set and redouble cover the outdoors." For sure, dear old Chips would have agreed with that.

"I'm at that heartwarming stage," said Bryden "where my very first graduates from Mariposa no longer have their children here. Not only that but I have two teachers here now who were Mariposa students themselves." Chips would have glowed.

See CARTER, p. 7

## CARTER:

From page 6  
with approval.

The old man, though, might have fogged up his granny glasses and choked on his Geritol at the very notion of moonlighting at Disneyland. But Howard Bryden once worked there. For six years, from 1958, he was a uniformed conductor on the steam train as well as an operator on the Monorail. "It was a great place to work," he reminisced.

Thirty-one years in Brea's school system have by

no means blunted "Mr. Bryden's" shining warmth for his teaching profession. And he's downright sentimental about Mariposa School, which is among the highest in Orange County's California Assessment Program test scores. "No, of course it isn't just another school to me. It's a part of me. This school has left me with absolutely no unfulfilled ambitions whatsoever."

Come to think of it, Brookfield did about the same for Mr. Chips.

*Brea Beat* is a regular feature for the Highlander. Leslie Stuart Carter is a 21-year resident of Brea and a native of London, England. He has written freelance articles for a variety of newspaper and magazines.

# SCHOOL

Continued from B1

Sharon Dean, 50, a retired Brea school board member who graduated from the school in 1957, remembered the festivity that accompanied Brea-Olinda's football games, which were played on Friday afternoons because there was not yet nighttime stadium lighting.

"The business people used to close their stores," Dean recalled. "Everyone would go to the football game."

Brea Mayor Pro Tem Wayne D. Wedin was student body president of the Class of '57 and a tackle on the Brea-Olinda Wildcats.

"We went into CIF (California Interscholastic Federation football playoffs) that year," Wedin said. "Brea was legendary as a football powerhouse."

Wedin, an economic development consultant, is among many alumni who feel mixed emotions at the school's demolition.

"I wouldn't be honest with you if I didn't indicate that it really kind of tugs at you," Wedin said. "There are a lot of buildings on that campus and it makes you a little sad. On the other hand, I know the quality of education will be a lot better" at the new school.

The school was originally built, Fanning recalled, so children in Brea would not have to attend classes in Fullerton, which had the only high school around. Although most of the students for the new school were from Brea, Fanning said, some also came from the now-defunct community of Olinda, where oil-field workers lived. Hence the name. The yearbook was titled "The Gusher" in observance of Brea's oil boom during the 1920s.

The 1930s ushered in Brea-Olinda's status as a football powerhouse. In 1933, the varsity team brought home an Orange County championship, according to a history of the school that has been compiled by the Brea Historical Society.

After the outbreak of World War II in 1941, military units were stationed on campus. An air-watch station was installed on the roof of the mail building and, in 1944, a "service flag" was hung in the front hall of the school, with stars added for each male student who joined the armed forces, the historical account said.

The 1950s saw major expansion of the school to accommodate burgeoning enrollment. A new science wing was constructed, as well as a cafeteria and a home economics

that decade. "The students thought adults were all high-grade cretins and we didn't know what was going on."

The campus went back to normal after the early '70s. New shopping centers and office developments began to crowd the campus, enticing some students to skip classes and hang out in the stores, Fanning said.

Brea-Olinda's final decade has seen a gradual deterioration in its facilities. According to Seal, the plumbing had corroded to such an extent that some of it had actually eaten into the walls. A prelude to the end came a year ago when the girl's gymnasium burned down.

In July, a Last Hurrah celebration marked the school's passing. About 2,000 alumni turned out to tour the beloved facility one more time.

Tuesday, Fanning walked with a visitor through the demolition site, surveying the classrooms which he and his wife, Inez, attended between 1929 and 1933 and in which he later taught between 1956 and 1977.

Although workers had ripped out much of the floor and roofing materials of the main building, it was still recognizable. Blackboards and classrooms were visible through shattered glass windows. One debris-strewn hallway still had its lockers intact. Inside one was scrawled the message: "Melissa: Good luck with Bobby. You guys 'R' soooo cute 2 gether!"

Some artifacts will be preserved. A cornerstone containing a 1920s time capsule was unearthed recently and deposited in City Hall for safekeeping. Some bricks and other remnants of the building have been put on display in the new school.

And the "practice building"—a small facility in which female stu-

dents used to practice housekeeping skills—has been moved intact to a nearby vacant lot. Local preservationists are hoping to find it a permanent site.

Fanning encountered a former student Tuesday who, like himself, had returned to the school one last

time. Jack Smith, a '64 graduate who is now a Brea city building inspector, reminisced with his old science instructor about the old days.

"Yes, it's kind of sad to see it go," Smith said in front of the school as he sat in his idling city truck.

# Elementary Schools in Brea Date Back Early in Century

Brea's elementary schools date back to the original school in 1902 when a district was formed in Brea Canyon to provide educational facilities for families of oil workers attracted to the Canyon field. Since 1895 it was evident this field was to prove great fortunes for the oil companies as they expanded their drilling operations. With the men workers came the families and then the problem of a school faced the companies if they were to retain their help.

It is believed the Union Oil Company took the initiative in the formation of this school upon their own land. After a canvass was made showing 28 children who should be in school, the district was formed and three Union Oil men, H.O. Butler, Mr. Frank Enick and Mr. Scott were named trustees. The one-room school building was completed for the Fall opening of the 1903-04 term with Ellen Dickinson as teacher of 30 children. For the next six years, as more workers were attracted to the oil fields,

the number of pupils grew to 51, and with that increase the small school became overcrowded and presented a problem for one teacher to manage adequately.

## Separate Boys and Girls

An early rule enforced on this school ground was the division of the playground activities. A fence separated the girls from the boys.

In 1908 a four-room school building at N. Pomona (now Brea Boulevard) and W. Deodara was erected to replace the canyon school.

The Brea elementary district was extended to incorporate some of La Habra and Olinda territory.

The 1910-11 school season opened with two teachers and 51 pupils. With the village growing steadily, the trustees were forced to add two more rooms (for the first and second grades) and five teachers started the 1913-14 year with 170 children. In 1914, William E. Fanning replaced B. W. Jepson and remained in the school system

until 1942.

With still greater prospects of more commodious buildings to meet the growing demand, the school board took a great step forward in proposing a new site and a building plan that seemed apparent at that time to be sufficient for years to come.

The district approved a bond issue for \$140,000 for a new school that opened the 1916-17 High School district at that time and many of our students finished school at Fullerton until Brea's high school was established in 1925.

In 1919 the population increased to 1500 and that year school enrollment had growth to 325. And, again the district was forced with another expansion as plans were made to build the Laurel School. Voters approved a bond issue for \$60,000 in 1921. In 1925 the kindergarten was built to give Brea a well-balanced elementary system.

# Brea Schools Once Linked To Fullerton

Until 1925 Brea elementary schools were a part of the Fullerton Union High School district along with Olinda. At the time Olinda petitioned to join with Brea in forming a new schools. The oil companies who paid a major part of the taxes favored withdrawal from Fullerton and to form a high school here J. D. Sievers, W. D. Shaffer of Brea, C. W. Cullen and M. Mears of Olinda, and A. H. Brown representing the oil leases, comprised the first board named. Trustee Mears served only a short time before moving from the district and H. R. Williams was named to succeed him.

On February 20, 1926, voters approved a site of 23½ acres on east Birch, on which three large units were erected that year. The total cost of the buildings was \$349,874 after adding two cottages for class projects in 1927. \$53,000 was paid for the site that lies partly within

the city limits. The corner stone laying attracted a large crowd on October 20, 1926, as Masons from the area, represented by W. H. Fisher, acting grand master of the state lodge, gathered with families of the district. Rev. W. Judson delivered the oration.

During the first year after the district was formed, only two years of high school was given. This was followed by the full course when the new buildings were occupied. Ninety pupils were enrolled in 1925 and 159 the following term.

Coach Stewart S. "Shorty" Smith came to B-O in 1927 and the years to follow brought many outstanding achievements in the sports on Cullen Field. With an enrollment of 305 in 1933-34, there was plenty of material for all types of sports, as the trophy case continued to grow with awards.

The active high school Parents - Teachers association was organized in 1949, the first such organization in BOUHS history. Mrs. David Brown was the first President.

## Brea School District Dates Back To 1902

Brea's elementary schools district date back to the original school in 1902 when a district was formed in Brea Canyon to provide educational facilities for families of oil workers attracted to the Canyon field. Since 1895 it was evident this field was prosperous for the oil companies as they expanded their drilling operations and with the men workers came families and the the problem of a school.

It is believed the Union Oil Company took the initiative in the formation of this school upon their own land. After a canvass was made showing 28 children who should be in school, the district was formed and three Union Oil men, H. O. Butler, a Mr. Enick and a Mr. Scott were named trustees. The one room school building was completed for the Fall opening of the 1903-04 term with Ellen Dickinson as teacher of 30 children. For the next 6 years, as more workers were attracted to the oil fields, the number of

pupils grew to 51, and with that increase the small school became overcrowded and presented a problem for one teacher to manage adequately.

### Early Pupils

A partial list of pupils who attended were: Helen Duncan, Keith, Kathryn and Erma Ford; Elva and Robert Robertson; Marion Farrand; William, Roy, Eddie and May Fife; Loella Farrand; Lola Kreighbaum; Sherman Yost; Hugh, Edward, Nate and Howard Smith; Myrtle Sexton; James and William Butler.

In the early days a fence separated the girls from the boys on the playground.

The Ontario Investment Co., filed a map with the County Recorder October 13, 1908 to establish a townsite on a fairly level mesa south of the foothills. They proposed to name the new town Randolph and to further encouragement in attracting home - owners, they built a four-room school building at N. Pomona (now Brea

Blvd.) and W. Deodora to replace the canyon school. This was one of the first buildings in Brea and it did serve the purpose of drawing people into the new town.

Not until 1911 was a new map approved and the name changed from Randolph to Brea. However, the new school continued with its first name. The Brea elementary district was then extended to incorporate some of La Habra and Olinda territory.

### Two Teachers

The 1910-11 school season opened with two teachers and 51 pupils. With the village growing steadily, the trustees were forced to add two more rooms (for the first and second grades) and five teachers started in 1913-14, with 170 children. In 1914, William E. Fanning replaced R. W. Jepson and remained in the school system until his retirement in 1942.

The trustees who faced this rapid expansion period were: H. O. Butler, Charles C. Kinsler, A. H. Brown and A. D. Yost.

The district approved a bond issue for \$140,000 for a new school that opened the 1916-17 season with 11 teachers to teach the eighth grades. Brea was a part of the Fullerton Union High School district at the time and many of our students finished school at Fullerton until Brea's high school was established in 1925.

In 1919 the population increased to 1,500 and that year school enrollment had grown to 325. Again the district was faced with another expansion as plans were made to build the Laurel school. Voters approved a bond issue for \$60,000 in 1921 and a site in Tract No. 141 was selected after Union Oil Co. made a offer to the district.

### Kindergarten Built

In 1922 the kindergarten was built to give Brea a well balanced elementary system. Principal Fanning remained in charge of this school until 1942. He was succeeded by Mrs. Mary Lemke until 1946, when Horace Chansler took

command. In 1942 the assessed valuation of the district was \$6,800,000.

Miss Marie Beck headed the Grammar school unit until 1927 when Vincent E. Jaster, the present superintendent, came to Brea. The same year saw the beginning of bus service to transport pupils.

### \$185,000 Bond Issue

In 1949 a bond issue for \$185,000 provided funds for two additions kindergarten rooms, visual - educational equipped auditorium, plus other conveniences the Laurel school while what was then the grammar school gained an ultra-modern auditorium, to give Brea Elementary Schools the distinction of the best equipped schools in Orange County, with a well rounded school program, teaching art, music, home economics, shop and physical education, backed by a staff of efficient teachers. The 1950 assessed valuation of the district was \$15,163,190.

# Looking back at ...public schools

Editor's note: This is the first of several the Advocate will publish during the coordination of the Brea Community History Project. The vignettes will usually appear on Page One under the headline "Looking back at..."

It was 1898 and the Union Oil fields were producing crude as their owners had hoped they would.

Workers came to Brea, not in hordes but in good numbers, to work the fields.

Most of the workers lived in oil lease homes — that is, if a worker was employed by Union, Union leased a home for his family to live in.

The workers had families and in 1898 the Olinda Elementary School District was formed.

The principals of Olinda Elementary School acted as superintendent for the district, according to project material

Gladys Cooper is the first name which appears on the records, followed by Maude Crane around 1920; a Mr. Barnes, 1925; Mrs. Overton, after 1925; Gladys Teeler, after 1950; Mr. McIntosh, whose dates of service are not known, and a William White, who served from 1962-1966.

But anyone who lived in the area in the early 1900s will point out that Olinda and Randolph were two different towns.

Brea's first name was Randolph, until a map was filed in 1911 establishing the name Brea.

But in 1903 the Randolph Elementary School District was formed for the children on the other side of Olinda.

Ralph W. Jepson was the superintendent from 1910 to 1914.

In 1914 the Brea Elementary School District was formed with William E. Fanning serving as

superintendent from 1914-1966.

And in 1925, the Brea-Olinda High School District was formed to serve the older students of both Olinda and Brea.

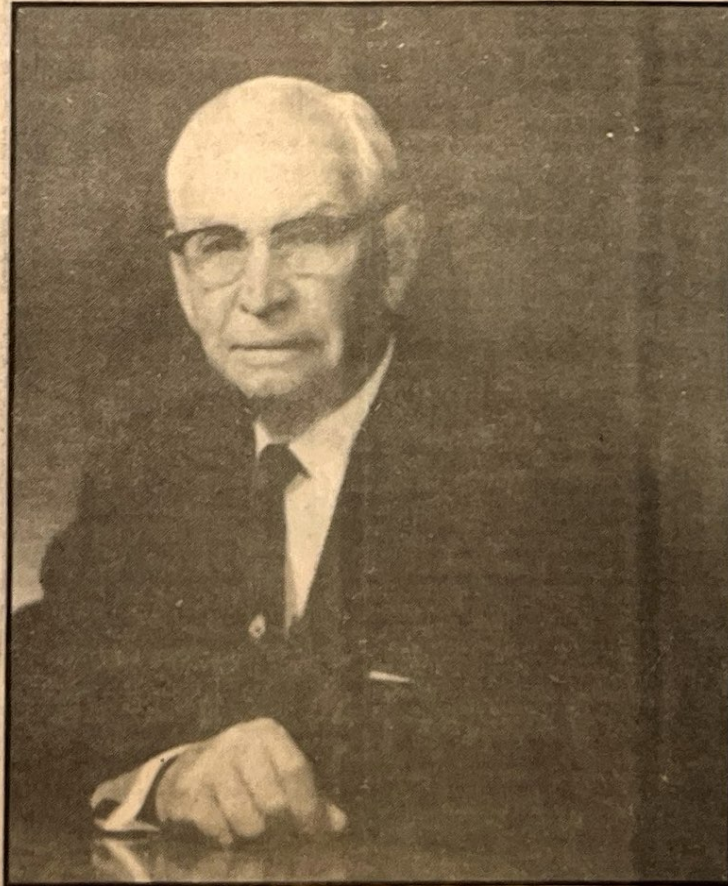
Ivey W. Barnett was superintendent from 1925-1928; Carl O. Harvey from 1928-1946; and Frank O. Hopkins from 1946 to 1966.

And finally in 1966 the school district used today was formed with Paul E. Bolie as the first

superintendent of the Brea-Olinda Unified School District.

He served from 1966 to 1978, when C. Gordon Bishop took over until 1981, when he resigned to take a job in another district.

At that time, assistant superintendent James L. Stafford became acting superintendent, then interim superintendent until the board of education chooses a permanent superintendent.



William E. Fanning

At one time then, local schools operated under three districts — the Olinda Elementary School, from 1898 to 1966 when it became part of Brea-Olinda Unified; the Brea Elementary School District, from 1914-1966, which had absorbed the original Randolph School District, in 1914; and the Brea-Olinda High School District from 1925 to 1966 which also became the Brea-Olinda Unified School district.

According to oral history records, the original Olinda School was built in 1909 at the foot of what is now Carbon Canyon Park.

With the demise of the oil town and the construction of Carbon Canyon Dam, Olinda School was relocated. The original bell still hangs at the present site on Lilac Lane where the Army Corps of Engineers moved the school in 1964.

The physical sites of Brea's early schools which still stand are Laurel Elementary School, 1922; Brea-Olinda High School, 1925; Brea Junior High and Arovista Elementary School which both opened in 1956; Olinda Elementary School, which was rebuilt and relocated in 1964; Mariposa Elementary School, 1967; and William E. Fanning Elementary School, 1970.

The problems Brea faces as it moves from a little town to a suburban city are neither new nor unique.

In 1919, superintendent William Fanning wrote a brief history of Brea Schools for a local newspaper.

In his article he summarized the growth of the school district:

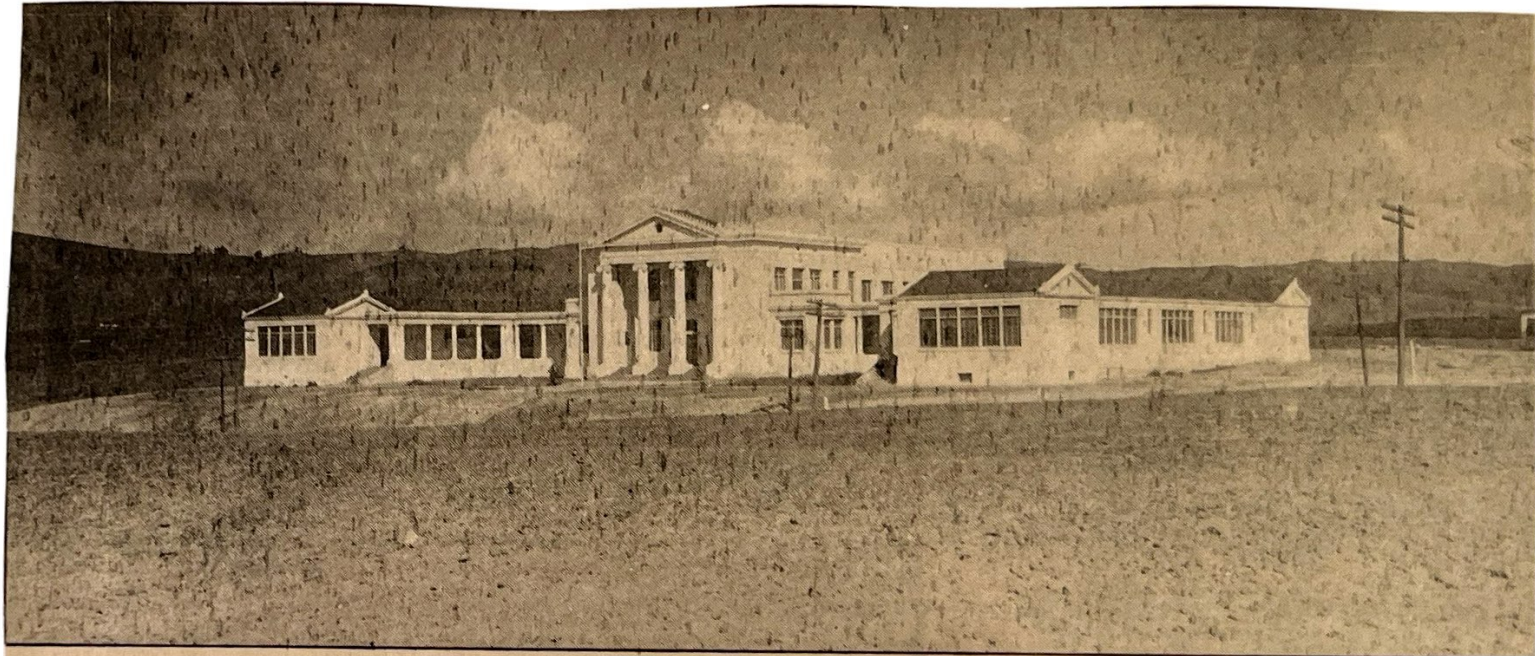


Photo courtesy First American Title Insurance Co.

**1920s:** Its back to empty hills, Brea-GRAMMER School — built in 1926 — rises out of an otherwise deserted field in Brea.

BUILT 1917

SCHOOLS

# District hands over undeveloped land

11-19-92

By Tenny Tatusian  
North County News

The Brea school district is handing over 1,000 acres of undeveloped land to its Placentia counterpart to avoid dividing future neighborhoods.

The two parcels of land, one 158-acre lot owned by Unocal and an 875-acre lot owned by Shell Oil Co., will be transferred into the Placentia Yorba Linda school district

within the next year, Brea Olinda school official Gary Goff said.

The land, currently in the Yorba Linda sphere of influence, belongs to the Brea Olinda Unified School District.

The Unocal property, located south of Imperial Highway and west of Kraemer Boulevard, is expected to be a 474-home development.

The Shell-owned property, in Brea's southern most tip, is sched-

uled for a 2,338-home development project that will take 15 years before completion.

While the land projects could mean more than 1,200 students in the future — a lucrative situation for schools — Goff said keeping the land would be too inconvenient for future homeowners.

Because both lots span two school districts, if the boundaries were to remain as they are, next-door neighbors would send their

children to different schools.

The lots are also secluded from other homeowners in Brea. "By putting our school district in land where we don't serve anyone would be silly," Goff said.

In 1990, Brea gave Fullerton 55 acres for a housing project. In this instance, the city said the costs for policing and servicing the area would exceed property tax revenues.



### Cornerstone laying

Brea Country Hills Elementary School, the newest school in the city, was honored with a cornerstone-laying ceremony Saturday. The event was conducted by the Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of

California with Grand Master Robert O'West presiding. Robin Gray, lodge member Bob Moffit and John Ebersberger put the cornerstone in place.

(Photo by Susan Gaede)

BREA OLINDA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
NUMBER ONE CIVIC CENTER CIRCLE, LEVEL II  
BREA, CALIFORNIA 92621

Brea Olinda Unified School District is composed of six elementary schools (K-6), one junior high (7-8) and two high schools (9-12), one comprehensive and one continuation.

There are 4867 students from this city of 30,000. There is a 26% ethnicity districtwide with 20 languages represented.

The oldest elementary school (Laurel) was built in 1921, while the newest (Country Hills) was built in 1980 as part of a cooperative venture with the City of Brea. The new high school was also creatively funded with no state participation.

The district is governed by a seven member school board. Each school has a local site council making schoolwide decisions. Likewise there is an active parent-teacher organization at each school. The high school in particular is represented by many special interest parent booster clubs (academic, athletic, artistic).

Most families that move to Brea do so to take advantage of the high quality of the school system. They hope to maintain this quality two ways: first, by supporting their own school and second, by paying attention to issues that go beyond their school. To do this they created and financially sustain Bre-LAC, Brea Legislative Action Committee for Schools. Bre-LAC welcomes you to our community.

Total Volunteer Hours 1989-90: 29,138

Volunteers donate their time in various ways: Career Center, Art Docent Programs, Classroom Aides, Chaperons, Project Self Esteem, Red Ribbon Week, Book Fairs, Jog a Thons, Library Aides, Teacher Luncheons, Field Trips, Flag Day Celebration, Grad Night.

Total PTA/PTO/PTSO Funds Raised 1989-90: \$69,907

PTA/PTO/PTSO Donations to Brea Schools: Scholarships, Emergency Preparedness Supplies, Library Books, Assemblies and Special Programs, Computer Equipment and Software, Playground Equipment, Maps, Science Programs, Maps.

Arovista Elementary School  
Principal Mark Goldband  
PTA President Denise Keller

Number of Students: 574

Percent Ethnicity: 38%  
4% Asian, 1% Pacific Islander, 1%  
Filipino, 31% Hispanic, 1% Black

Volunteer Hours 1989-90: 2,919

How Volunteer Hours are Donated: Lower grades, K-3, have parent volunteers approximately 3-5 times a week. They work with small groups of children for follow-up instruction, make copies, collate, cut, paste, nurse, help monitor children while primary instruction is taking place. In grades 4-6, parent volunteers make copies, collate and help set up science projects.

PTA Fundraisers: \$12,000

PTA Donations to the School: Visual and Performing Arts, Cultural Arts Assemblies, Field Trips, Library Books, Social Studies Enrichment.

CAP Scores - Statewide Rank 1989-90

3rd Grade: Reading 96% Writing 97% Math 99%

6th Grade: Reading 98% Writing 98% Math 98%

How Budget Cuts Affected Arovista

Before 1990-91 School Year Began:

District canceled the planned purchase of storage containers for emergency preparedness.

SIP Funds of \$10,800

Computers

During 1990-91 School Year:

Instructional supplies

Classified staff who contribute to a well rounded curriculum providing services in music, art, and P.E.

Country Hills Elementary School  
Principal Eileen Moore  
PTA President Marti Repp

Number of Students: 521

Percent Ethnicity: 16%  
10% Asian, 5% Hispanic, 1% Black

Volunteer Hours 1989-90: 10,000

How Volunteer Hours are Donated: Project Self Esteem, Meetings,  
Classroom Help, Red Ribbon  
Week, Membership Drive, Bre-  
LAC.

PTA Donations to the School: Encyclopedias, Programs &  
Assemblies, Computer keyboards,  
VCR, TV, Activity Sign,  
Playground Equipment, Classroom  
Supplies

CAP Scores - Statewide Rank 1989-90

3rd Grade: Reading 94% Writing 96% Math 92%

6th Grade: Reading 90% Writing 89% Math 92%

How Budget Cuts Affected Country Hills:

Lost entire music program K-6  
Funding for furniture  
Equipment replacement: record players, tape recorders  
Technology \$20,000

William E. Fanning Elementary School  
Principal Tim Harvey  
PTO Co Presidents Cathy Heffernan  
Robyn Bjorklund

Number of Students: 529

Percent Ethnicity: 22%  
1% American Indian, 12% Asian, 1%  
Filipino, 7% Hispanic, 1% Black

Volunteer Hours 1989-90: 3,515

PTA Fundraisers: \$26,000 gross

PTA Donations to the School: Art Docent Prints, Public  
Address System, Video Camera &  
Tripod, White Boards for  
Classrooms, Computer Equipment  
& Software, New Library Books,  
Microscopes, Upgraded  
Playground Equipment, Success  
Buttons, Field Trips,  
Assemblies.

CAP Scores - Statewide Rank 1989-90

3rd Grade: Reading 98% Writing 92% Math 98%

6th Grade: Reading 91% Writing 89% Math 88%

How Budget Cuts Affected Fanning

Reading assistant in 1st & 2nd grade pod

Container for Emergency Preparedness

\$20,000 toward technology

Laurel Elementary School  
Principal Pat Ahern  
PTA President Margie McMillen .

Number of Students: 279

Percent Ethnicity: 52%  
1% Asian, 1% Filipino, 47% Hispanic, 3%  
Black

Volunteer Hours 1989-90: 1,573

PTA Fundraisers: \$1,200

PTA Donations to the School: New Library Books, Map of the  
United States Painted on the  
Upper Grade Playground, Sixth  
Grade Brunch, Earthquake  
Preparedness.

CAP Scores - Statewide Rank 1989-90

3rd Grade: Reading 54% Writing 47% Math 26%

6th Grade: Reading 66% Writing 54% Math 56%

The Laurel School population represents a diversity of cultures and backgrounds with 46% of our students qualifying for free or reduced lunches and 52% belonging to minority groups.

How Budget Cuts Affected Laurel

Technology support (\$20,000)

Canceled Hands on Science and Science Consultants (K-6)

Publishing House for Story Publishing

Noon time activities

Replacement of student desks and chairs

Mariposa Elementary School  
Principal Howard Bryden  
PTA President Kathy Agrelius

Number of Students: 542

Percent Ethnicity: 19%  
5% Asian, 1% Pacific Islander, 2%  
Filipino, 10% Hispanic, 1% Black

Volunteer Hours 1989-90: 1,800

How Volunteer Hours are Donated: Book Fair, Classroom Help, Brea Council Meeting, Tutoring, Class Parties, Teacher Luncheons, Science Fair, Stuffing Orientation Packets, Seminars, Career Day, PTA Meetings, Red Ribbon Week, Membership Drive, Folder Contest, Library Aides, Jog a Thon, Bre-LAC, Art Docent Program, Field Trips, Science on the Go, Flag Day, Project Self Esteem.

PTA Fundraisers: \$19,000

PTA Donations to the School: Fine Arts Program, Field Trips, Computer Equipment/Software, Library Books, Science Lab Materials, Playground Equipment, Science on the Go, TV Monitor/VCR Stand, Authors Visits, Rhythm Instruments

CAP Scores - Statewide Rank 1989-90

3rd Grade: Reading 90% Writing 83% Math 96%

6th Grade: Reading 92% Writing 95% Math 98%

How Budget Cuts Affected Mariposa

SIP Account reduced from \$61,000 to \$49,000 ... this creates a reduction in math tutoring, Science Lab closure for at least one month, reduction in dance instruction.

Technology support (\$20,000 .. new equipment, software, etc.)  
Furniture replacement (desks & some chairs 21 years old)

Olinda Elementary School  
Principal Anne Flesher  
PTO President Bo Miller

Number of Students: 169

Percent Ethnicity: 14%  
8% Asian, 1% Filipino, 3% Hispanic, 2%  
Black

Volunteer Hours 1989-90: 731

How Volunteer Hours are Donated: PTO Board (17), Curriculum  
Aides, Classroom Aides, Room  
Mothers, Project Self Esteem  
Teachers, Library Aides, Career  
Day, Chaperons, Art Docents.

PTO Fundraisers: \$5,077

PTO Donations to the School: Music Teachers, Science on the  
Go, Classroom Needs, Emergency  
Preparedness, Transportation,  
Library Hospitality,  
Assemblies, Awards, Enrichment  
Supplies (games, readers).

CAP Scores - Statewide Rank 1989-90

3rd Grade: Reading 96% Writing 95% Math 99%

6th Grade: Reading 99% Writing 96% Math 97%

How Budget Cuts Affected Olinda:

Instructional supplies  
Computers  
PC viewers  
Staff development  
Computer software

Brea Junior High School  
Principal Mike Condiff  
PTA President Pat Tremayne

Number of Students: 722

Percent Ethnicity: 27%  
8% Asian, 1% Filipino, 16% Hispanic, 2%  
Black

Volunteer Hours 1989-90: 1,600

How Volunteer Hours are Donated: Book Fair, Magazine  
Subscription Drive, Teacher  
Appreciation Week, Career Day,  
PTA Meetings, Red Ribbon Week,  
Bre-LAC, Field Trips,  
Newsletter

PTA Fundraisers: \$2,300

PTA Donations to the School: Pull-down Maps, Camcorder, On  
going donation of newspaper  
subscriptions to the Los  
Angeles Times and Daily Star  
Progress. All funds from the  
Book Fair are donated to the  
library.

CAP Scores - Statewide Rank 1989-90

8th Grade: Reading 89% Math 94%  
History 90% Science 87%

How Budget Cuts Affected Country Hills

Technology (\$20,000+)

Brea Olinda High School  
Principal John Johnson  
PTSO President Alvie Kracik

Number of Students: 1404

Percent Ethnicity: 26%  
8% Asian, 1% Filipino, 16% Hispanic, 1%  
Black

Volunteer Hours 1989-90: 7,000 (Does not include Booster Clubs)

How Volunteer Hours are Donated: PTSO Board (29), Career Center,  
Grad Night, Booster Clubs,  
Chaperons, Dance/Drama  
Productions, Library Aides.

PTSO Fundraisers: \$4,330 (Does not include Booster Clubs)

PTSO Donations to the School: Scholarships, Hospitality,  
Emergency Preparedness,  
Library, Support Student  
Activities, School Gift.

CAP Scores - Statewide Rank 1989-90

12th Grade: Reading 89% Writing 95% Math 94%

How Budget Cuts Affected Brea Olinda High School:  
Staff Reduction English Teacher (1)  
Secretary (1)  
Custodian (1)

Technology Lab (IBM)

How Budget Cuts Affected District Office:

Staff Reduction Secretary (2)  
Reduced Curriculum Lab Hours

## ON CAMPUS

## Spotlight on academic excellence

A round of applause for the English students and teachers at Brea Olinda High School. Brea students took all three top prizes in a recent countywide essay contest sponsored by the University of California Irvine and the Anne Frank in the World Educational Exhibit. In addition, a 1994 graduate of Brea Olinda won the contest division reserved for UCI freshmen.

The winners were junior **Heather Martin**, seniors **Ann Marie Mai** and **Priya Pillutla** and **Leeza Gelfer**, BOHS Class of 1994. Each received a \$100 cash memorial award in honor of UCI alumni **Vincent Giuliano**, as well as a recognition plaque and other prizes.

More than 300 entries were submitted to the Reflective Essay Contest, which was tied to the "Second Annual Symposium: From Intolerance to Genocide" at the UCI Student Center and the Newport Harbor Art Museum's two-month program featuring the "Anne Frank in the World Exhibition." The high school contest was open to junior and senior students who wrote on one of three specified topics.

The spotlight was on academic excellence this month when the Brea Olinda High School Academic Booster Club honored outstanding students at its annual Lettered Scholars' Dessert.

The club recognized students who achieved a 3.75 academic grade point average for three or more semesters, with first-time honorees receiving Brea Olinda chenille letters. Seniors who maintained a 3.75 gpa for seven semesters received gold medals and \$50 U.S. Savings Bonds. They included: **Madhav Boddula**, **Matthew Bosserman**, **Shannon Breazeale**, **Andrea Chanawatr**, **Angela Chang**, **Leo Cheng**, **Allison Coop**, **Ramon Garcia**, **Kim Hai**, **Ann Marie Hatchel**, **Joshua Hoops**, **Susan Lee**, **Karen Liu**, **Pejyak Manooch**, **Galit Modiano**, **Vincent Murphy**, **John Norum**, **Priya Pillutla**, **Christopher Repp**, **Jim Song** and **Alexander Tiquia**.

Receiving their school letters for academic achievement were: **David Alexander**, **Geoffrey Anfuso**, **Jose Armas**, **Alice Aroutiunian**, **Andrea Bailes**, **Brooke Bain**, **Michael Beamer**, **Susan Behlorooz**, **Shelley Beroza**, **Steven Caine**, **Austin Calder**, **Tara Chang**, **Genevieve Chapluk**, **Amy Chen**, **Christina Choi**, **Katherine Clark**, **Raphael Climaco**, **Zachi Cohen**, **Luisa Contreras**, **Hugh Cotton**, **Jared Crawford**, **Lauren Dascenzi**, **Kristen Dennis**, **Abraham Dloomy**, **Michael Flood**, **Leanna Gamble**, **Timothy Garrison**, **Quan Hai**, **Brian Ball**, **Sabrina Hill**, **San-Chien Hong**, **Daniel Huang**, **Taiyaba Husain**, **Juveria Husain**, **Mark Kachner**, **Asmeel Kapoor**, **Luke Karaelias**, **Candace Kemp**, **Michael Killam**, **Christine Kim**, **Shrin Kuo**, **Kristen Kusimoto**, **Wai-fon Kwok**, **Su-Jin Kwon**, **Janel Lambourne**, **Steve Lambourne**, **Clara Lee**, **Mia Madrial**, **Anne McMillan**, **Jason Neves**, **Jim Norum**, **Allen Perez**, **Kartik Pillutla**, **Mary Jane Pir-**



## BARBARA WILLIAMS

outek, **Scott Scheffler**, **Anna Segura**, **Jacquelyn Sitton**, **Bryan Smith**, **Recel Solorano**, **Dustin Thornburgh**, **Steve Tsai**, **Neal Tsay**, **Preston Turano**, **Khai Vo**, **Julie Watts**, **William Yocum**, **Natalie Zee-man** and **Emily Zilek**.

Other Lettered Scholars honored at the dessert were: **Adam Anthony**, **Andrea Evans**, **Christina Fang**, **Jennifer Gan**, **Marybeth Griffin**, **Jeremy Guttenplan**, **Chrissy Hodges**, **William Johns**, **Lisa Johnston**, **Tiffany Kilgast**, **Thomas Lee**, **Walter Lin**, **Heather Martin**, **Kimberly Mederos**, **Katey Pakhomova**, **Kelly Peterson**, **Jacob Pieroni**, **Paul Pohlen**, **Autumn Pray**, **Tommy Prenovost**, **Carrier Rogers**, **Angela Scharfe**, **Nineesh Shah**, **Mara Smith**, **Kristin Staack**, **Belinda Stillion**, **Rahima Surani**, **Ilien Ta**, **Micah Tan**, **Gretchen Thompson**, **Yelena**

**Mark Austin** of Brea has been named to the Dean's List at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte for the fall semester. UNCC Dean's List students carry a grade point average of at least 3.40.

**Tsukerman**, **Tiffany Wattapanorn**, **Timothy Albrecht**, **Kevin Bradley**, **Janis Castaneda**, **Brian Degenhardt**, **Ryan Dieringer**, **Jared Edmunds**, **Misty Good**, **Charles Heintz**, **Kristyn Kemp**, **Aimee Kenney**, **David Kuo**, **Melissa Lambourne**, **Tucker Lowe**, **Ann Marie Mai**, **Laura Malloy**, **William Mauz**, **Jana Oak**, **Sutini Perwata**, **Kevin Phillips**, **Jennifer Ramsey**, **Kathi Rantowich**, **Richard Santos**, **Ryan Saunders**, **Della Song**, **Beth St. Clair**, **John Stoddard**, **Sean Tannehill** and **Grace Y-hsuan Yu**.

**Mark Austin** of Brea has been named to the Dean's List at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte for the fall semester. UNCC Dean's List students carry a grade point average of at least 3.40.

Valedictorian and Salutatorian honors for the Brea Olinda High School Class of 1995 have been announced. The Valedictorian is **Priya Pillutla**, with **Madhav Boddula** and **Ramon Garcia** as Salutatorians. Candidates for these honors are chosen from the Distinguished Scholar Program at the end of the seventh semester, based on the students' cumulative academic grade point average on a non-weighted scale.

Dean's List students for the fall semester at Claremont McKenna College include Brea residents **Erin Wedin** and **Stacey Pechan**. **Wedin** is a senior majoring in Government and French, and **Pechan** is a sophomore studying Psychology and Economics-Accounting.

New members of the Brea Olinda chapter of the National Honor Society were installed during recent ceremonies at the high school. They include: **Luisa Contreras**, **Christina Fang**, **Daniel Huang**, **William Johns**, **Candice Kemp**, **Clara Lee**, **Thomas Lee**, **David Okamoto**, **Paul Pohlen**, **Amber Pray**, **Janelle Ralph**, **Jennifer Roland**, **Nimeesh Shah**, **Mara Smith**, **Kristin Staack**, **Belinda Stillion**, **Stacy Trimboli** and **William Yocum**.

National Honor Society membership is awarded to students on the basis of character, leadership, scholarship and service.

If the tax season has left you yearning for a get-away weekend, the Brea Olinda High School Grad Night Committee has a perfect solution — Raffle tickets for a weekend for two at the Ritz-Carlton in Dana Point. The raffle tickets are \$5, with proceeds benefiting Grad Night, an all-night drug- and alcohol-free celebration for the BOHS Class of 1995.

Tickets are available by calling **Gayle Porter**, 256-4486, or **Kris St. Clair**, 993-4860. The prize drawing will be held at 6:30 p.m. May 15 at **Shakey's** restaurant at Lambert Road and Brea Boulevard. You need not be present to win.

Tickets for the Grad Night celebration are now on sale at the high school to senior students. The ticket price, which includes a Grad Night T-Shirt, is \$50 now through May. In June, the price increases to \$55.

The Xerox Award, a merit award recognizing outstanding accomplishments in the Humanities and Social Sciences, has been awarded to Brea Olinda High School junior **Andrea Evans**. The award places Evans in contention for scholarships of at least \$20,000 from the University of Rochester.

Brea Olinda High School junior **Anne Knobbe** recently was honored by the Society of Women Engineers. The society recognizes outstanding junior women for excellence in Math and Science.

**Brian Daniel Kondrath** was named to the President's Honor List for the fall semester at Cypress College. To be named to the list, students must achieve a grade point average of 3.75.

News briefs about Brea students and schools may be sent to **Barbara Williams**, c/o The Brea Progress, 1771 S. Lewis St., Anaheim, CA 92805.

May 4 - 95



Brea Junior High Principal Mike Condiff cuts the ribbon last Thursday at the unveiling of the school's new sign.

## Community efforts light up new sign

By Aaron Boehme  
Brea Progress

Thanks to the efforts of local volunteers, future Brea Junior High Students of the Month will see their names in lights.

Until last week, a marquee sign on thin, rusty poles announced the student celebrities. But parents, and other community members, tired of the tarnished beacon, decided to replace it.

The new structure was unveiled at a ceremony last Thursday as contractor Steve Vargas added the finishing touches.

David Hopkins, an architect and the PTA president's husband, designed the sign in California-style adobe with a slate roof, red brick and white stucco.

Vargas, with help from Johnny Ortega, Joe Malin, Jimmy Viles, Chris Mines and Kjell Eriksson, did most of the construction work.

"I got involved about a month ago," Vargas said. "I said, if you need anything, just let me know, but I didn't really mean it."

Nevertheless, his casual comment to Christine Evans, the project organizer, resulted in more than 50 hours' work removing the old sign and pouring 8,000 pounds of concrete for the new one.

Vargas and his crew also assembled 150 concrete blocks, 200 red bricks and 1,800 pounds of stucco to complete the structure.

The workers donated their time and businesses threw in the materials.

Dearborn Construction, a Huntington Beach firm, donated most of the building supplies. The school district provided the lighted message board.

The Brea Kiwanis Club, Brea Veterans Club, Brea Foundation, Brea Rotary Club, Brea Mall and Dr. and Mrs. J. Dennis Lewis donated \$8,000, which went for additional building expenses. The Brea Historical Society added a finishing touch — a metal plaque commemorating the school a historic landmark. It was founded as Brea Grammar School in 1916.

# SAT scores put Brea students near head of class in county

By Jennifer D'Andrea  
Brea Progress

Scholastic Aptitude Test results reveal that Brea Olinda High School's class of 1997 scored an average of about 100 points higher than the national and state averages, which were 1016 and 1010 points, respectively.

Brea Olinda students' scores ranked second in math and third in the verbal category among 13 Orange County school districts reporting scores. Two county districts with high schools did not report scores.

Brea students averaged 580 points on the math portion of the test and 538 points on the verbal part. The math average marks a

10-point improvement while the verbal average increased 13 points compared to last year.

"I'm happy with the growth we've had over the last few years," said Denise Jay, BOHS assistant principal of curriculum and instruction. "We're pleased and we think we're on the right track, but we realize there's a lot of work that needs to be done if we're going to continue having these results."

High school students in the Irvine Unified School District claimed the highest average score countywide on the test's math section with 606 points.

High school students in the Laguna Beach Unified School Dis-

trict had the county's top average score on the verbal section with 551 points; Irvine's school district ranked second with 550 points.

"We're always looking at our SAT scores because we're aware how important they are in terms of college acceptance," Jay said.

The SAT is designed to gauge students' abilities to succeed in college, Jay said.

Colleges and universities typically consider a student's SAT scores, grade-point average and level of difficulty of academic coursework taken when reviewing applications for acceptance, Jay added.

## FIVE YEAR SAT COMPARISON SCORES

Brea Olinda High School 1997 graduates scored above state and national averages on the Scholastic Aptitude Test. Students' averages ranked second in the math category and third in the verbal category among Orange County school districts that reported scores.

Scores	'92-'93	'93-'94	'94-'95	'95-'96	'96-'97
<b>National</b>					
Verbal	500	499	504	505	505
Math	503	504	506	508	511
<b>California</b>					
Verbal	491	489	492	495	496
Math	508	506	509	511	514
<b>Brea Olinda High School</b>					
Verbal	514	506	509	528	538
Math	556	542	561	567	580
<b>Total seniors taking SAT</b>	167	202	196	192	201
<b>Percentage of seniors</b>	52%	65%	59%	56%	58%

Source: Brea Olinda High School

Brea Progress

# MENTORING MAGIC

July 8, 1999

Mentor teachers show real class by sharing skills with colleagues

By LaDonna Nicholson  
Brea Progress

**J**ust about everyone is aware that it takes a special person to be a teacher.

The ideal candidate has the patience of a saint combined with the sense of humor of a comedian. A teacher has to be able to see the good side of every student and do their best to draw it out.

Some teachers are so dedicated to their craft, they take up the task of sharing their knowledge with their peers.

Brea has a group of such folks and they're known as district mentors. Their driving ambition to be the best they can be is, in its own way, remarkable.

Applications for mentors are accepted from April to mid-May. The state allocates funds for the program and this year, Brea had 13 spots available.

Teachers develop proposals outlining areas of interest and teaching plans. A committee of three teachers and two administrators reviews applications and creates lists of questions in specific categories.

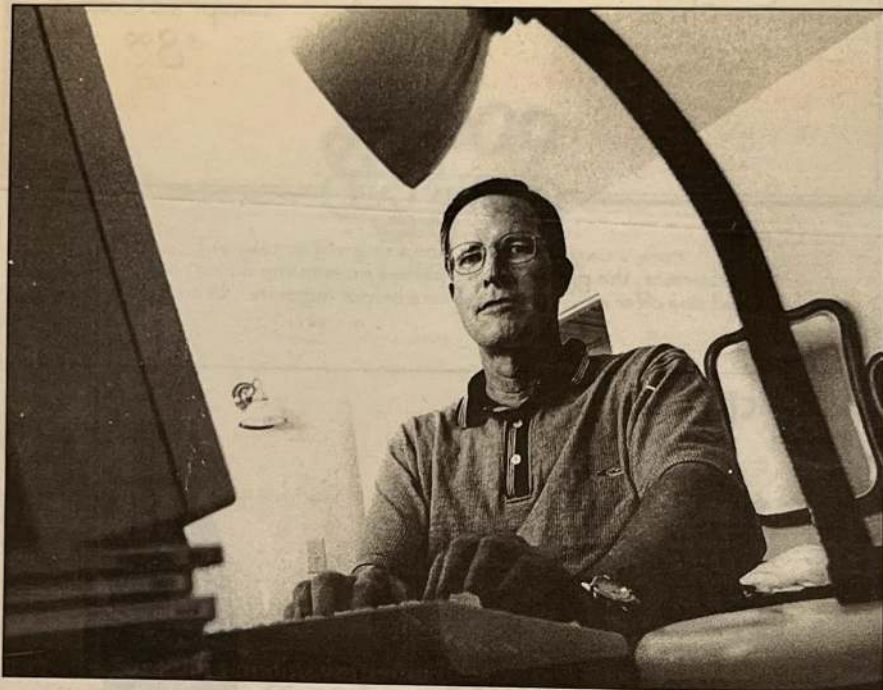
Mentors are chosen for expertise in specific fields as well as on the basis of district needs and they must be tenured, meaning they are past the probationary initial two years of teaching.

Next, recommended mentors go before the school board for approval. Once picked, mentors prepare for the year ahead.

Debbie Workman, now in her third year of mentoring with never-waning enthusiasm, is a 21-year teaching veteran who instructs summer school at Laurel Elementary School.

"I enjoy teaching other teachers," she said. "It's very satisfying to teach adults."

Workman will join Doretta



Jack E. Hancock/Brea Progress  
Brea teacher mentors include Bob Patterson (above) and Becky Cotton-Martin (shown at left in photo at right) and Debbie Workman.

Wedin, also a language arts mentor, in conducting two classes of 15 teachers each during the year to update literacy programs and be available for followup. Workman, who will teach third grade at Country Hills Elementary School this fall, said, "I don't think I'll ever leave the classroom, but I would like to teach adults on the university level."

For all that she's contributed over the years, it's a good bet that Brea won't let go of her anytime soon.

Mark Kercheville is a new

Please see **MAGIC/6**



## MAGIC

FROM 3

teacher's best friend; since 1990, he's helped guide them through the maze of first-year teaching. This year, he will target new fourth-through sixth-grade teachers. Beginning in August, he will take teachers on a tour of schools as well as presenting them with a survival kit.

"Basically, you are on call for any problems new teachers may have," said Kercheville, who sets up each new teacher with a "buddy" at school so they can have another arm to lean on.

He sits in on classes, evaluates performances and invites new teachers to watch him teach, an occupation he's enjoyed for 26 years. For all his extra effort, Kercheville has simple reasons for doing what he does.

"I enjoy working with adults as well as kids," Kercheville said. "It's really fun to work with new teachers."

Kercheville said he believes Brea's new teachers bring a great deal to their jobs and he takes pride in watching them grow professionally.

This year, Becky Martin-Cotton, a 20-year Olinda Elementary School and 12-year Mariposa Elementary teacher, will bring her expertise to the mentor program for the first time.

"Being the senior person (teaching) at the grade level, you usually do this with the new teachers," Martin-Cotton said.

Because the mentoring program will take on a different strategy next year, Martin-Cotton wanted to make sure she got involved now. She will work with Kercheville and fellow primary-school mentor Pat Wellis on similar issues.

"We would like to have a monthly meeting with the new teachers," she said, adding that in-service sessions could cover such things as back-to-school night and dealing with parents.

The trio plans to pull new teachers out of classrooms once each quarter for seminars on technology and assessing and guiding curricula.

MAY 4, 1990



**ULTRA STRETCH LIMO** — Uriel Banuelos, left, and Jaime Alvarez recently when their Imperial Middle School class of eighth-graders visited Ultra Limosine Corporation in Brea. The visit included a tour of the factory and proved the "power of the pen" to the students of Stephanie Leon's class. (Star-Progress photo by Jack Hancock)

# Brea Closure Decision Postponed

350  
By Tony Saavedra  
DSP Staff Writer

BREA — Laurel Elementary School won a stay of dissolution Wednesday as Brea - Olinda trustees postponed a decision on whether to close the 60 - year - old facility.

Most of the 113 - member audience at the Brea - Olinda Unified School District board meeting rallied to temporarily rescue Laurel, which serves most of Brea's Hispanic community.

"Don't go against public opinion on this," said former trustee William Strowbridge. "The wounds are healing over the last few years. Don't open them up again."

Strowbridge alluded to the 1979 recall of four board members after an unpopular decision to sell more than 10 district school buses.

"Remember the promises you made to us when you were out knocking on doors," Strowbridge told the seven - member board.

After roughly two years of reports, studies and hearings, Superintendent Ed Seal recommended that Laurel Elementary, 200 Flower Ave., be closed to offset declining enrollment and sagging finances.

District budget planners have projected a \$519,000 deficit in next year's spending plan.

Moreover, a 44 - student drop in elementary school enrollment, coupled with the planned 12 - room expansion of Country Hills School, would leave 34 classrooms empty in the next few years.

Seal estimated that \$78,926 could be saved by closing Laurel next year, liquidating non - teaching positions and reassigning students and teachers to three of the remaining five elementary schools.

Another \$250,000 in repair costs for the aging school would also be saved.

The irony of closing Laurel while spending \$1.5 million to expand Country Hills was explained by Seal as being a matter of funding formulas and population shifts.

He said that new construction at Country Hills was being funded by redevelopment money, which could not be spent on the repairs needed to keep Laurel open.

Additionally, a school is needed to accommodate the burgeoning east side of Brea, where some elementary students are being bused to Laurel and Fanning schools in the westside.

Overall, trustees said the district was in dire financial straits. And while closing the school would not eliminate the problem, it would be a start.

Audience members questioned the district's figures and the logic behind closing a school.

They applauded each other's statements, eventually convincing the board to hold a special meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 17, at the Laurel cafeteria to hear testimony from the parents of Laurel students.

A final decision will be made at the next board meeting, said board president John Rosell.

The special session next week was also prompted by pleas from representatives of the Hispanic community, who said that bilingual programs and parent involvement would be destroyed by the closure.

Laurel has the highest ratio of ethnic minority students in the district. Jose del Carpio, a Laurel parent, said busing non - or limited - English speaking children to other schools would put them in a strange environment.

"I'm not begging for anything. I'm just trying to put this in your minds," said del Carpio. "Those kids belong to that place (Laurel). Don't cut their throats."

Claire Schlotterbeck, an Olinda Elementary School parent, took the district to task for what she called misconceptions and misinformation in its closure reports.

After speaking with Brea City Manager Wayne Wedin, Schlotterbeck said Laurel could be included in a local redevelopment area, making the facility eligible for the same renovation money being used to complete Country Hills.

She also argued that five of the 20 current empty classrooms were portable structures being rented by the district.

Additionally, Schlotterbeck noted that Country Hills was being expanded because of high population projections for eastside Brea.

However, more than a 5 percent population increase is expected annually in the Laurel area, according to a district report.

"What bothers me is that the credibility of the district is jeopardized when your figures and your logic can't pass a simple audit," chastised Schlotterbeck. "If the psychological and physical distance from school to community is stretched, attachment breaks and we lose children who could become purposeful adults."

Cal State Fullerton Professor Bagoberto Fuentes, representing the Hispanics, questioned the district's priorities in closing a neighborhood school.

"Does the school board hurt enough (financially) that you'll continue to collect \$10,000 a year in school board salaries?" asked Fuentes.

Sat, Jan. 23, 1982



News Tribune Photo by Jess Andresen Jr.

### CLASSY AND SASSY

But the emphasis is on class as the students at Brea Junior High School deck out in their best formal attire for the school's annual "Touch of Class" day. Helping seventh grader Robert Rosales adjust his bow tie are eighth graders Robin Hill (left) and Norma Ramirez. The

classy event was held yesterday and was highlighted by a noon fashion show with the students modeling the clothes. A dance sponsored by the student government also was held in the cafeteria from 3 to 5 p.m.

DAILY NEWS TRIBUNE  
FEB 23 1982

350 **This art is  
child's play**

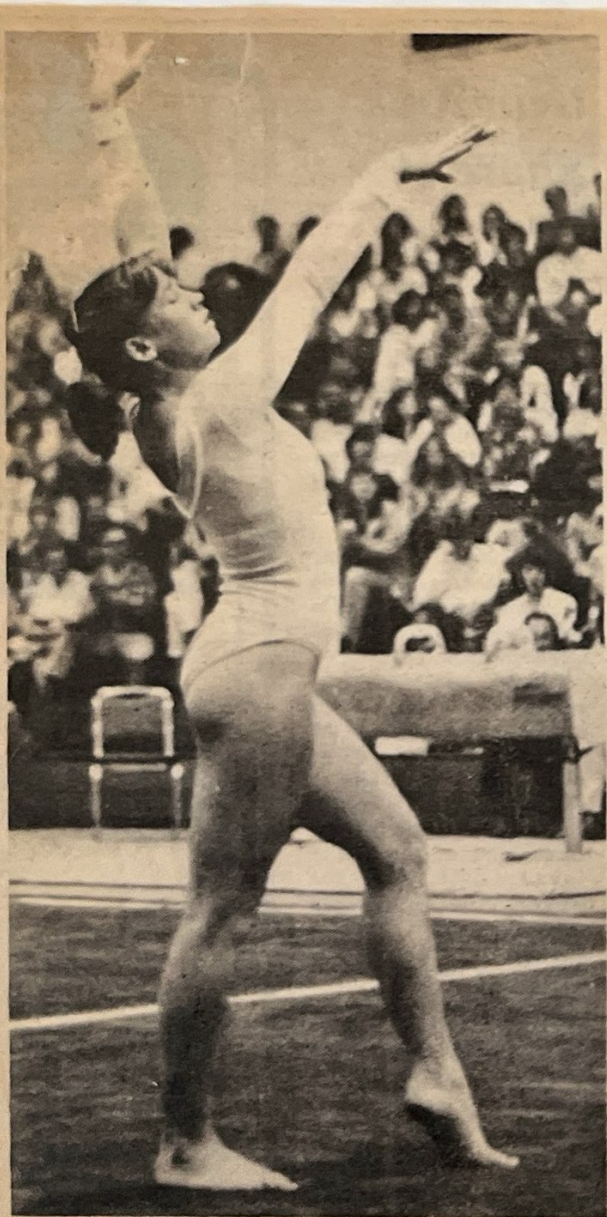


**GOOD OLD BREA — 'THROUGH THE EYES OF A CHILD'**

With their unsullied outlook on the world, kids seem to have an eye for detail unmatched by most adults, especially when it comes to their own city. That unique perspective is being showcased March 5 through 26 at the Civic-Cultural Center art gallery in "Brea Through the Eyes of a Child," an exhibit featuring works by students at local schools. Above left, 16-year-old Brea-Olinda High student Esther Marron looks over an oil

derrick fashioned by Laurel School fifth grader James Tuffley, while in the center picture, grandma resting is depicted by Leann Garner, a Laurel fourth grader. At right, eighth grader Chris Bowley of Brea Junior High gives viewers time for a look at the Brea Hotel. Student artwork on exhibit will be judged by Jim Hendricks, Brea's artist in residence.

# Brea High Gymnast Wins CIF Honors



CIF GYMNAST... Karen McDuff goes through her routine during the CIF Finals. She placed high in the final tally, but still feels her performance could have been better.

by Jim Bernasconi

When you first meet Karen McDuff, you'd think that she is just like all other high school girls - she's attractive, goes to school until 3 p.m., worries about little things, and can't wait for school to let out.

But you see, Karen isn't your average, everyday type girl. She happens to be the best gymnast in the Orange League and maybe

in Orange County for that matter.

Karen, a soon-to-be senior at Brea-Olinda High School represented her team in the individual CIF Finals in gymnastics held at California State University at Fullerton (CSUF), and came away with third place in the vault, and an eighth place finish in the floor exercise.

Her vault earned her a 9.2

rating, while her floor routine tallied for an 8.5 mark.

"I really think I could have done better, though," admits Karen, "because I messed up on my best vault when I bent at the hips on a handspring full, and I took a fall in the floor exercise.

"I just had trouble concentrating with all those people in the stands yelling and screaming at once."

Karen's high school coach, Ron Hampton, agrees. "I think she could do better too, because I have seen her on better days. I just think that she needs to concentrate more, and be a little more alert, while at the same time putting more difficulties in her routine."

Difficulties are types of routines employed by the gymnasts who insert them into his or her vault, for example. But you have to have so many of these in your routine before you are allowed to take the floor, and Karen thinks that she will add more to her repertoire next year.

"I know that I didn't do what I was capable of doing this year, because I wanted to have fun. And the harder you work, the less fun you have. But I'm going to work really hard this summer, including losing weight, so I can do the difficult routines as a senior."

Those difficult routines consist of a back-flip and back-handspring on the beam, and a free-hip handstand and cast handstand on the floor.

But Karen admits that a good routine in high school would be only an average routine at KIPS, a private group that she used to belong to.

"There are four types of groups over there - the class three, class two, class one and the elite. I was in the class one, and the coaches push you so much harder to do the difficult routines at KIPS, that anything hard in high school would be easy at KIPS."

The name KIP implies a trick on the bar where you go from a swing to a front support, and she was a member of that organization for seven years, or from 10 years old to 16.

"I really started at the Anaheim YMCA when I was nine years old, and I would put in two hours daily. Then my coach, Lynn Rogers, noticed me and took me to KIPS after just two months. There I put in five and one-half hours daily, six days a week until the end of my sophomore year when I competed in league finals last year for CIF."

She is also thinking about performing gymnastics in college, and UCLA stands out in her mind.

"Sure I would like to do gymnastics in college, and UCLA would be at the top of my list because I know Jerry (Tomlinson), the head coach. He was my coach for five years at KIPS, and I get along with him very well. It's just a matter of wanting to do it for four more years after my senior year. I get kind of tired of it by the time summer comes, but I miss competing when school starts again and I get back into it."

Karen is also going to take on a new dimension this summer, as she will be helping Hampton coach up to 90 kids in gymnastics, but only about 10 will be seniors.

"I really like helping kids, especially the kids that want to learn. I think that it will help me next year, because not only will I be helping them, I will be working out myself."

She went on to say that "I

will be helping the smaller work on the beam and the floor, while the older will have to do everything. And besides, then I will be able to buy my own stuff - like gas, food and clothes."

But Karen has had her share of setbacks, too, as a result of injuries.

She has had a strained back, a pinched nerve in her back, a bruised foot, and one time she couldn't grip the bars because her fingers were swollen due to a hand injury.

But her most painful injury, according to Karen, was the torn ligaments in the foot.

"I was doing a backflip on the beam, and my foot missed and I landed on it, in pain. It took a long time to completely heal. But that

didn't stop me from going to a meet (at KIPS) on crutches."

But aside from the bad, there is always a good side and Karen has seen that, too.

She was recently voted the Most Valuable Gymnast at Brea, and topped off that award with the Dr. Pepper Award which is given to one athlete in every sport in each league. Karen won that award symbolizing the best female gymnast in the Orange League, not to mention the naming of her to the first team All-League gymnastic team.

She also won the dubious honor of having the most innovative vault for 1980 which she is still embarrassed about. After calling for a rudi, which is a

handspring one and one-half twist, she instead did a handspring one-half to her back, falling right on her bottom side.

But probably the best tribute that anyone can pay to her, was her coach's response to the type of person she is.

"I think that she is super. She is honest, loyal, and doesn't get shook by petty things - a real good kid."

And with that, Karen will take her knowledge of gymnastics and try to teach those kids during the summer some of the "ropes," while at the same time keeping in mind what it will take to help the team next year, and as she says, "hopefully win another Dr. Pepper Award, which is my goal."

APR. 11, 1980

DAILY STAR PROGRESS  
Brea/La Habra  
APR 11 1980

350  
Eggertsen,  
McCarthy  
On North  
All-Stars

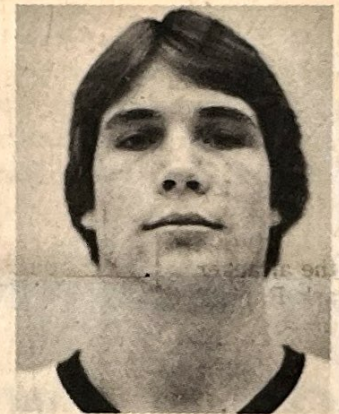
BREA — Brea - Olinda High's Brent Eggertsen and La Habra High's Mike McCarthy have been named to the North team for the 14th annual Orange County all - star basketball game.

Eggertsen and McCarthy were among the 12 players North coach Gene Lloyd selected to play in the contest on Saturday, June 14, at Orange Coast College.

The all - star game, sponsored by the Costa Mesa Kiwanis Club, annually features the top basketball talent in the county. And Lloyd, who directed Brea - Olinda's cage team to the Orange League championship and the CIF 3 - A quarterfinals this past season, feels this year is no exception.

"Everyone on the team was a first team coaches all - league selection," he said.

Eggertsen, a 6 - 5 forward, suffered an injury during the preseason, but bounced back to average 11.1 points per game. He was also one of the

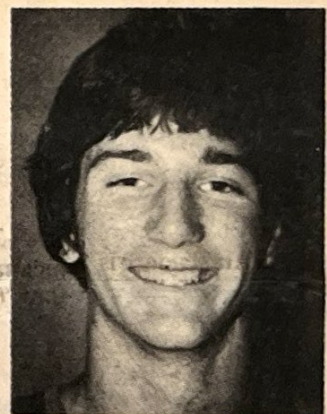


Eggertsen

Wildcats' top rebounders. Eggertsen was named to the OL coaches and DSP all - league teams.

McCarthy, a 6 - 4 forward, was the Highlanders' leading scorer with a 17.4 average. He was the coaches' choice for league MVP for taking the unranked La Habra team to a third place finish and a CIF berth.

Other players named to the squad were: Greg Allen, El Modena, forward, 6 - 8, 22.3;



McCarthy

Mark Barecca, Valencia, forward, 6 - 7, 17.8; Craig Bryant, Villa Park, guard, 6 - 3, 16.8; Jeff Eberhard, Katella, forward, 6 - 6, 11.0; Brian Everett, Western, guard, 5 - 11, 20.0.

Dave Ferm, Magnolia, forward, 6 - 5, 22.1; Bob Gray, El Modena, guard, 6 - 2, 17.6; John Leidenheimer, Servite, guard, 6 - 1, 10.1; Mike Moore, Los Alamitos, guard, 6 - 2, 24.6; and Roger Lemons, Katella, forward, 6 - 5, 14.1.

# Four Brea trustees recalled

Four Brea-Olinda Unified School Board members were served with recall charges at Wednesday's night school board meeting.

Notices were given to board president Clea Harder, and trustees, Shirley Beach, Charles Bates, and Bud Timblin by Forrest Darling, spokesman for the group of parents who opposed the selling of the district's buses in September.

Some of the recall charges include their failure to develop long-range plans, lack of policy for financing, over-budgeting projected state and local tax income to the district in 1977-78 by 781 students, and actions resulting in dissention among the teachers.

The trustees named in the petition have seven days to respond to the charges listed in the recall notices, once the notices are filed. Darling filed the notices with the county Monday.

Darling said the group's goal was to place new members on the school board. When questioned if Darling planned to run for the board, he responded that he was not a political person, and he would like to see people run who were knowledgeable in the administrative and financial aspects, but he would make a decision soon. Ralph Sage, another member of the committee called

"BREANS," said he hadn't given it any thought and it was way too early in the game to make such a decision. William Strowbridge said he was currently more interested in the planning commission than the school board, and someone may be appointed to a committee to report to the planning commission representing Olinda. Garrett Dittmar said he had been

approached to run again, but pointed out that several board members' terms will be up in November, so some people running could only be on the board for six months, so he doubted if he would consider running for a board position. Randy Brooks said he was thinking about running for the board, but wanted to consider the expense.

Forrest Darling said he has received good response to his recall campaign, but he needs all the help he can get. He expects to talk to various groups and clubs in the community.

The recall committee must gather 2,500 registered voters signatures within the school district. Forrest Darling said he feels he will have no trouble getting the signatures and expects a recall election next Spring.

In response to the recall charges, Shirley Beach,



(News-Times Photo by Susan Gaede)

**SPOKESMAN INTERVIEWED** - Larry Carroll of Channel 7 news listens as Forrest Darling expresses his views in light of the recall of four Brea trustees. "The district is in a mess," Darling noted.

president of the Orange County School Boards Association said, "I am certainly not upset by the Notice of Intention to Recall. To best describe my feelings I would have to say they are rather mixed. I see humor in the situation, but also, it is rather sorrowful.

"The humor being the particular four board members they chose to recall. I predicted who they would be when it was stated there would be only four rather than six selected for this dubious honor. The charges I find humorous also. Some are so broad and others very misleading and untrue.

"The sorrow I feel is the timing of this action. It will slow down the process of obtaining funds through Redevelopment C that would be used to alleviate the problem that have these people so upset, that problem being a need for a school in their area for their children to attend. Also, some people can be so easily taken in when they are in a state of emotion. These people were originally upset about the busing issue, but since they were joined by a small segment of disgruntled losers from the last election, the charges have expanded. The voters of this school district did not want this small segment to get control of the board at that time. I am assuming this group feels the time is ripe not to try again. Spending precious educational dollars on a special election is repulsive to me but certainly points out their priorities."

Bud Timblin said there was no substance to the recall charges which are a matter of public records. The charges are based on untrue facts. The recall is politically motivated. The proponents stated to the media they are recalling the board because they sold the buses. Yet they are recalling a member who voted to keep the buses, and two members who voted to sell the buses.

Clea Harder, president of the board of trustees said, "I absolutely refuse to submit to a minority of self-serving individuals who seek to undermine one of our outstanding public school systems without any positive ideas for improvement. I urge Breans to find out the facts themselves and to help us continue to raise the achievements of our students." Harder also commented on the charge concerning academic achievement, noting tests scores have gone up each year she has been on the board. "The expected achievement level is at 50 percentile, and our classes at

all levels have consistently scored from the 70th to the 90th percentile," Harder noted.

Warren Johnson, chairman of the transportation committee, appointed by the board to solve some of the problems, said he has withdrawn his support for the movement because some of the charges are inaccurate.

# Brea Parents Ask City Council To End Imperial-Flower Hazards

## PTAs Will Circulate Petitions

### SCHOOL HEAD JOINS SAFETY DRIVE



Donald Stone, principal of Laurel Elementary School, affixes his name to a petition being circulated by the PTAs at Laurel, Arovista and Mariposa elementary schools seeking help from the Brea City Council to prevent further acci-

dents at the Imperial Highway - Flower Avenue intersection where a child was killed. Presidents of the PTAs are (from left) Mrs. Sharon Dean, Laurel; Mrs. Allene Dopson, Arovista; and Mrs. Cleta Harder, Mariposa.

**By DAVE TAYLOR**  
News Tribune Writer

BREA — Petitions in which citizens are seeking help from the City Council to improve a hazardous condition at the intersection of Imperial Highway and Flower Avenue south of Laurel Elementary School where one child was killed and another injured, are being circulated.

The campaign will be launched formally Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. in Arovista School, at a joint meeting of the Laurel, Arovista and Mariposa School PTAs, called originally to discuss boundaries for W.E. Fanning Elementary School, which is scheduled to open in September.

"We hope to present the petitions to the City Council in two weeks (at its Feb. 23 meeting)," said Mrs. Sharon Dean, president of the Laurel Elementary School PTA.

**GIVE ASSISTANCE**

She is being assisted by Mrs. Cleta Harder, Mariposa PTA, and Mrs. Allene Dopson, Arovista PTA.

"There isn't any place by any school in town that is safe. . . They (the Brea-Olinda Unified School District) are busing because of safety conditions," claimed Mrs. Dopson.

She added that "we are starting here (Imperial-Flower intersection)" because it is the one where help is needed immediately.

Students are bused in the vicinity of Mariposa because there are no sidewalks on Central, Mrs. Dopson said.

They have to walk across Imperial near Arovista School.

Mrs. Larry Dean, Laurel PTA president, added that in March the Orange Freeway is scheduled to open with more Imperial Highway traffic from the off and on-ramps.

"This will cause the speed to increase," she added.

Questioned about why the women did not go to the state Division of Highways, she replied, "We will deal with the city first."

Text of the petition is as follows:

**PETITION CITY**

"We the undersigned, do hereby petition the City of Brea to take any of the following measures to insure the safety of school children who cross Imperial Highway to go to Laurel School.

"1—Four-way stop with crossing guard.

"2—Signal lights with crossing guard.

"3—Flashing lights at Sycamore facing west and Orange facing east, warning the driver of the school crossing and a crossing guard that is easy to see from a distance."

On Feb. 3, the Brea elementary PTAs sent letters to parents in the district asking if they would support them in obtaining yellow flashing lights for the intersection.

As a result the petition plan was started.

One parent wrote: "I have a small daughter in the Laurel Elementary School. Any help you can give to this cause will be most appreciated."

Mrs. Dean can be reached at 529-6186 by persons seeking to pass petitions.



**SAFETY PLEA** — Signing a petition to the City of Brea asking for additional safety features at the Imperial Highway crossing at Laurel School where a Brea school girl was killed recently is Mrs. Weldon Dopson who is circulating the pe-

tion along with Mrs. Larry Dean (center) and Mrs. Paul Harder. David Dopson, four, is a pre-schooler and one of many children who either use or will use the crossing to go to and from school. (Daily Star-Progress Photo)

# Along

By D

Mike Davis, the new visited the recent City C snappy a dresser as his

Sorry to hear that Ch with Los Angeles Symph to his work. A very pleas

This is Homecoming Friday night there w game with Dana Hills.

A dance is scheduled game.

Current B-OHS Alum of '60, president; Mary Laura Lamm McCoy, '56,

Latest Chamber of death of former Chamber died recently in Colcrado.

Holiday Note: Reser stand seats to the Tourn New Year's Day are ava Brea Blvd.

Deadline for return of directors is 5 p.m. Nov.

A chamber membersh bulletin.

Just a suggestion: If homecoming game Friday observed for Ben Oxand Sheriff's Department and died last Thursday.

Ben was Brea-Olinda captain some years ago at He was always a back

What ever she says about what we said about what she said — Lynn Bender is very easy to talk to.

She is a Brea-Olinda Unified School District psychologist. Maybe that's why.

She's also self-confident but modest — a refreshing combination.

Police Chief Robert Wasserman, who was quoted recently about solicitation by police organizations says the Orange County Peace Officers Association, does not represent the Brea Police Association.

On Nov. 16 a week from Friday, the Brea Junior Woman's club sponsors its annual book sale all day at Brea library, 842 S. Brea Blvd.

Now is the time to clear your book shelves and record racks. Notify the library at 529-3277 for pickup.

At tonight's City Council meeting about 19 citizens who aided the Sister City visit from Lagos de Moreno will be honored with certificates of appreciation by Mayor Don Fox.

According to Mrs. Tom Doggett, publicity chairman, there 120 persons attending Sunday's Brea Historical society open house at the Sievers home. About 300 young persons took part in "Children's Art in Action." Saturday on the sidewalks in and around City Hall park said Lyle Swaney, maintenance supervisor for the community services department.

At the open house in the Sievers home, Cecil Yates of Fullerton arrived and had a fund of information, also noting some "modern conveniences" in the half-century home, such as turn offs for more than one light from a single socket and a vacuum cleaner installation on the baseboard.

Yates told about riding a streetcar from Brea to Yorba Linda, catching it at Berry Street and riding to Randolph School near the oil fields. He said the old barn at the home was used for processing walnuts and also as an impromptu roller skating rink when it was cleared of the walnuts.

Later the oilfield fire did away with the walnut groves which were replaced by citrus.

And the latest traveling art exhibit at Anaheim Savings and Loan is the Sister City Korean art exhibit from Buena Park. It will be installed this week.

With all the talk about that company weeking to buy out the businesses in the "Good Old Brea" area, it may not be too long before the post office goes too.

It's understood negotiatiins are nearing a culmination for the property at the southeast corner of Randolph Avenue and Birch Street.

## New Faces Join BOUSD As Staff Psychologists

BREA — A couple of new faces are seen these days as part of the Brea-Olinda Unified School District psychology staff.

Joining Mrs. Glenn Ellen Staring are Lynn Bender, psychologist in charge of the early childhood education and mentally gifted minors programs, and Mike Carl, 28, who works on referrals from Arovista, Fanning, Laurel elementary schools; Brea-Olinda High and Brea Junior High schools.

Lynn, who formerly lived



LYNN BENDER

in Mill Valley, was one of three psychologists in the Old Adobe Union School District at Petaluma. They handled 2,600 students or about 850 each.

Carl, formerly with Los Angeles City School District, handled about 2,000 students in four schools in the West Los Angeles area compared with 3,000 here.

"I was assigned to more students here but have fewer referrals," he said.

### STATE PROGRAM

Presently the early childhood education program, which is state funded, covers Laurel Elementary School kindergarten and first graders. Next year it is expected to be expanded to include second or third graders.

The early childhood program covers between 220 and 250 students. It funds extra aides. Tests are used to delineate strengths, weaknesses and needs of all children, "every single one in the program," Lynn said.

The program is not aimed at the negative but at strengths of students. After delineation of areas, special programs are worked out by teachers, special resource people aids and so on where they are built upon pupil

future career the means of what one learns.

Lynn is a graduate of Barnard College and Columbia University.

Contrasting Brea - Olinda and LA city districts, he explained it is easier to get to work with teachers and parents here but that is a matter of school district properties.

He has a master's degree in counseling from Chapman College and added a year of graduate study at California State University in Los Angeles. His bachelor's degree came from Northwest Missouri State College in Maryville, Mo. and was in the Air Force four years.

### SCHOOL VISITS

"I try to visit all schools three times a month; people here are very friendly and I was quickly able to feel comfortable here," he added.

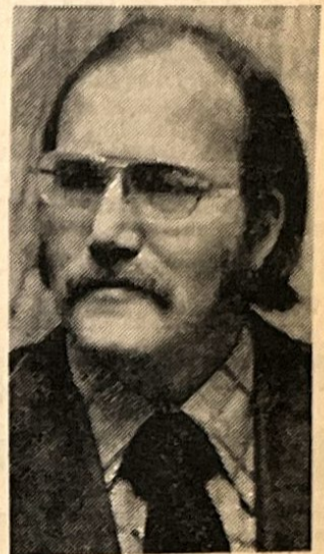
Most students with which he comes in contact have learning problems while some have behavior problems. Sometimes he becomes involved with what others have called "instant counseling" like last Friday he talked to a mother on his rounds about a child who didn't want to go to school.

Discussing the educationally handicapped classes, he said there is a waiting list for elementary classes; "plenty of space at senior high and full classes at junior high. He explained the secondary level had other ways of dealing with the EH student, than in special classes.

He believes the Brea-Olinda Unified School District "keeps on top of the (EH) class".

### MEETING TONIGHT

BREA — Because of Tuesday being election day, the regular City Council meeting will take place tonight at 6 in City Hall, 401 S. Brea Blvd. Normally the council meets the first and third Tuesdays.



MIKE CARL

strengths and needs.

Generally it is planned to have individual programs instead of teachers teaching to one level.

"We work closely with the English as a Second Language staff, we try to increase what we can do for the child," she added.

There are about 200 MGM students in elementary and high school.

The program is in its second year in contrast to the early childhood program which is in its first year.

### TRAVEL

Among visits being made or planned this year by MGM students are one to see Richard Chamberlain as "Cyrano de Bergerac," others to television stations and newspapers.

"I'm trying eventually to work myself out of a job," in the program said the psychologist. She supplements teacher strengths in this and other areas through workshops to achieve such a goal.

General goals of the MGM program, she said are individually styled and academically oriented program, helping to increase awareness of self-concept and relating to

D.N.T. Wed. Nov. 7, 1973

## Three Receive Honors at PTA Units' Joint Session



**YOUTH SERVICE HONORED** — Presented with honorary life memberships in California Congress of Parents and Teachers during Tuesday ceremonies conducted by Laurel, Brea Junior High

and Brea-Olinda High Schools' PTAs were (from left) Reed Peterson, Laurel award; Mrs. Ernest Fisher, Brea Junior High award; and John Daugherty, Brea-Olinda High award. (News Tribune Photo)

**BREA** — An impressive record of service to community and school singles out recipients of honorary life memberships awarded by three local Parent Teacher groups Tuesday night.

Receiving the award from the PTA at Laurel Elementary School, where he formerly was principal, was Brea Junior High's present principal, Reed Peterson, 1008 E. Elm.

A lifetime resident of Brea, who is past president of the Chamber of Commerce and Lions Club, as well as seven-year head of the secondary school board is John Daugherty, 445 S. Poplar. He was the choice of the high school for honorary life membership.

Brea Junior High School's recipient, Mrs. Ernest Fisher, 334 S. Redwood, works at the Brea Chamber of Commerce and is past president of Laurel School PTA. She has been a PTA member nine years.

Awards were made by Mrs. Francis Secrest, Mrs. Augusta Colley and Mrs. Tim Wilson in a two-hour program at Brea Junior High. Some 150 persons were in attendance at the combined Laurel, Brea Junior High and High School PTA meeting.

Making short patriotic talks were high school students, Gary Heffelfinger and Kathy Ellis. Some 20 past PTA presidents also were honored.

Groups providing a program of patriotic and inspirational music included the Brea Junior High band directed by Benjamin Murphy, the fourth and fifth grade Laurel School chorus and the Brea-Olinda Boys Glee Club directed by Marlin Tischbierek.

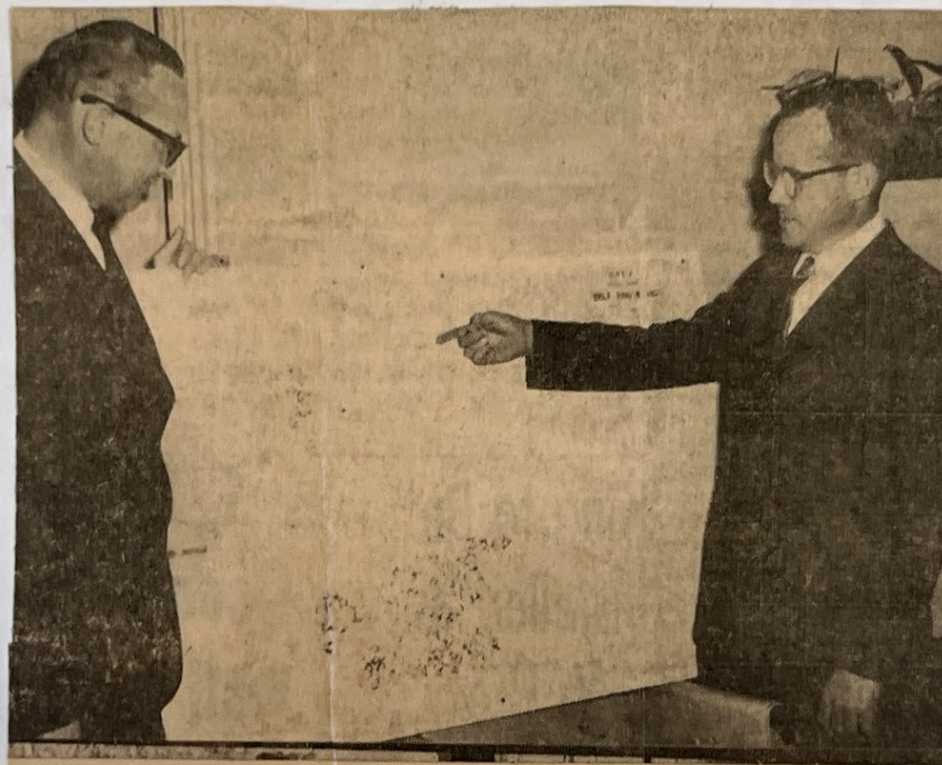
Mr. Daugherty also served as chairman of the executive board at the Brea Christian Church for 10 years, taught the junior high boys Sunday school class and is a YMCA member. The father of a married daughter and grandfather of two, he is a former local car dealer.

Also active in the Brea Chris-

tian Church is Mrs. Fisher who has been secretary, historian and Bible school teacher there. She is teaching first and second grade Sunday school. Mrs. Fisher, who has lived in Brea the past 15 years, is the mother of Linda and Gary who attend Brea Junior High. She has also been a Girl Scout leader and has helped with the Community Chest and Mothers March of Dimes.

Mr. Peterson is a graduate of Brigham Young University who formerly taught in Whittier and in Utah where he was also a Junior Chamber of Commerce president. He was a teacher at the school he now heads. Past president of the Brea Teachers Club, he is a member of Brea Rotary and the Elementary Administrators Association.

# Doubled School Sessions Hinted For Brea in Wake of Land Sale



**10,000 CHILDREN** — Elementary School District President Leo Piantoni (right) and Supt. Vincent Jaster study area map after learning of 1,100-acre land sale that is expected to triple population in Brea. Jaster said the proposal, which will add

20,000 persons to the district, will require immediate bond issues and complete state aid. Piantoni said the district has a site next to the high school, but will have to purchase at least two more locations.

(News Tribune Photo)

## Population Boom Eyed By Officials

### Temporary Buildings In District Possible

BREA — Double sessions in Brea schools, temporary buildings and possibly even triple sessions were predicted today by school officials in the wake of a 1,100-acre land sale here.

Elementary School District Supt. Vincent Jaster said, "We will certainly be on double sessions and probably triple sessions even if we run ahead of schedule on bond issues and school construction."

He said the predicted tripling of Brea's population will require at least three new schools plus the school now planned in the Mobil Annexation.

### PREPARING PLAN

Smith, Powell and Morgridge, an architectural firm, is now in the process of preparing a master plan for schools here, Jaster said. He said the firm will have to alter its plans because of the Union Oil Co. land sale, which will mean extensive new residential development.

"We will have to go to full state aid with a maximum bonded indebtedness to handle the job," he said. He explained that Brea Elementary District already has a levy of 37 cents per \$100 for bonds, and the maximum is 40 cents, so even if the district borrows enough for the job, taxes will go up only 3 cents per \$100.

"Actually, taxes won't increase much and much of the loan will not have to be repaid," Jaster explained. He said the state system provides that the district pays on the bonds for only 30 years. If the total amount is not paid then, it is dropped.

### TWO-YEAR PROJECT

He said that it will take two years to get the schools built even after bonds are approved by the public. This period provides for land selection, purchase and construction. Officials from Heritage Homes, who will build homes in area, said they will be working closely with school officials.

The district was already in trouble for facilities before the new development was planned, according to Leo Piantoni, president of the school board.

He said arrangements were made a few weeks ago for Leonard MacKain, principal of the junior high school, to take over the building program at Mobil. He was given a vice principal to help at the school.

## CREATE A FORTUNE



LEFT: Tera Jones and Korem Henry, both age 12 and students at Brea Jr. High, paint their palms prior to creating magnificent handprints during their art workshop at the Brea Gallery. TOP: BJHS student Charles Thompson lounges on the floor of the Brea Gallery amidst scenes he and his friends painted during the workshop. All of the students' works are on exhibit at "Reflections: African-American Art" in the gallery through March 1.



**N**ine Brea Junior High African-American students recently tapped into their creative sides to celebrate Black History Month. Now they're showing off the results.

Guided by Gene Cooke, an assistant at the Brea Art Gallery, the students fashioned art included in "Reflections: African-American Art" at the gallery through March 1. The show portrays African-American culture from the point of view of 27 Black artists.

The fledgling artists began in December with a history lesson. Then they interpreted fortune cookie messages.

Kenneth Washington's read: *Next month is your time to make headway, so move quickly.*

"I interpreted it as my future goals," the 13-year-old said, pasting sports magazine clippings on a poster board. "I want to be a professional athlete so that's why I've got all sorts of sports figures on here."

Sharita Howell's fortune read: *You will receive a high prize or award.*

"I want to run the 400-meter in the Olympics," she said, painting a bright gold medal in the middle of her board. "And if I win I'll get money so I can have this car and a house and jewelry."

Creating the art was the best part. And the history lesson was neat, too.

"I got to learn about how artists were back in the 1800s and slaves and stuff," 13-year-old Abdul Hamid said. "It was cool to learn about African-American history."

Cooke tailored the program toward a creative spirit.

"I tried not to make it too structured, but let them have fun and learn something, too," he said, gesturing to his budding artists running around splattered in paint, glue and magazine clippings. "They really liked it and got into the art."

For Cooke, an artist in the "Reflections" show, the kid-art is as important as the grown ups.

"Their stuff is matted and framed on display with little cards telling the artist's name next to them," he said, showing off the section at the back of the gallery.

"Their views are important and they really add something to the show."

### Black History Month:

## PICTURES AT AN EXHIBITION

STORY BY DANIELLE BENSON  
PHOTOS BY STAN BIRD

## Students at BJHS

# Trustees, residents haggle over strategic planning

## BOUSD STRATEGIC PLAN TOWNHALL MEETING

**When:** 7 p.m. Thursday  
**Where:** Country Hills Elementary School, 150 N. Associated Road, Brea

By Danielle Benson  
 Brea Progress

The Brea Olinda Unified School District Board of Education held a townhall meeting recently at Arovista Elementary School to discuss a strategic planning document.

The plan provides goals and objectives to guide the district through the next five-to-10 years, focusing on curriculum, facilities and staff.

Superintendent Peggy Lynch said the long-term plan is divided into three basic steps: a mission statement, policies, priorities and goals, then an action plan to achieve those goals.

Three Brea dads denounced the philosophies behind the plan at the meeting, likening the document to Goals 2000, a federal act that sets national educational standards.

Dennis Lewis, Pete Fischer and Mark Sutton said the wording in the document was too vague. The three fathers want to define the boundaries for what the district can and cannot do.

"The extent to which the stuff can go under the current plan is just too open," Lewis said. "It needs clarity and limitations on its statements so that the people who do it have clear guidelines to go by."

Sutton said the language in the plan had hidden meanings the average person won't pick-up.

"My concern is with the vocabulary involved here. The terms seem to be generalized," he told

trustees. "Some go way beyond the superficial meaning. The general population doesn't know what you're talking about."

Dottie Lane, a Mariposa mom who worked on the document with parents, teachers and administrators, said the wording was never intended to have alternative meanings. It was just a group of concerned people trying to firm up the future of Brea's children, she said.

Alan Trudell, another parent, said the goals needed to be broad-based to encompass the

whole community.

"I'm troubled by the first three speakers," he said. "They do not reflect the majority of the parents in this community."

The trio of dissenters expressed further concern about the plan's lack of influence on parental input into a child's education. Parents should be the primary educators, they said. Lewis, Fischer and Sutton emphasized the need for local control with parental input. They said Goals 2000, with its string-laden federal money, will undermine

this.

The trio did applaud the district for its efforts and good intentions.

"I'm not accusing anyone. They could just be misguided," Sutton said. "Many of these people go to education meetings where these words are thrown out and they get excited and want to bring (the language) into the district."

Lewis and Fischer, along with local parent Kurt Wilson, have drafted their own strategic plan.

"We kept most of what they

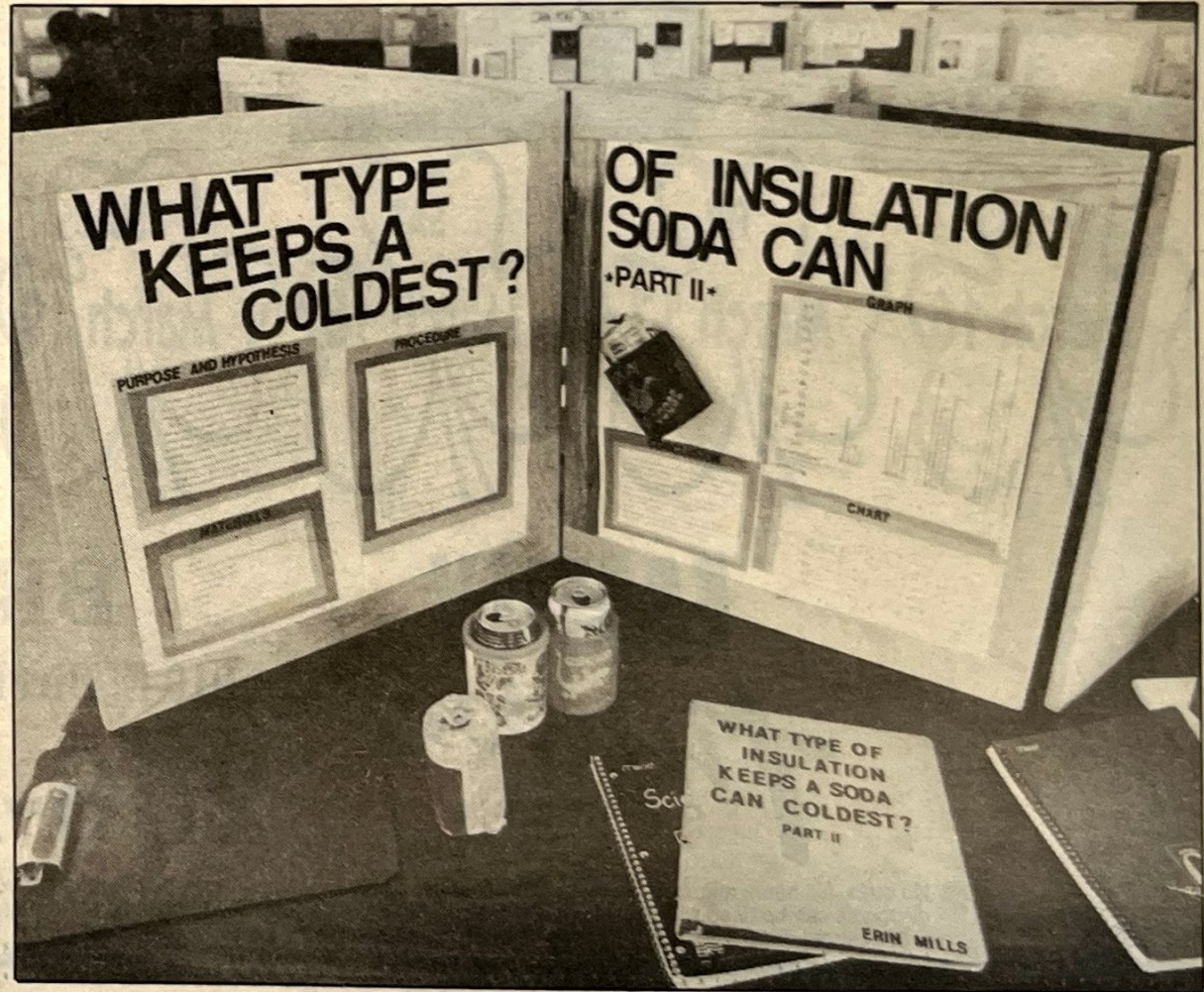
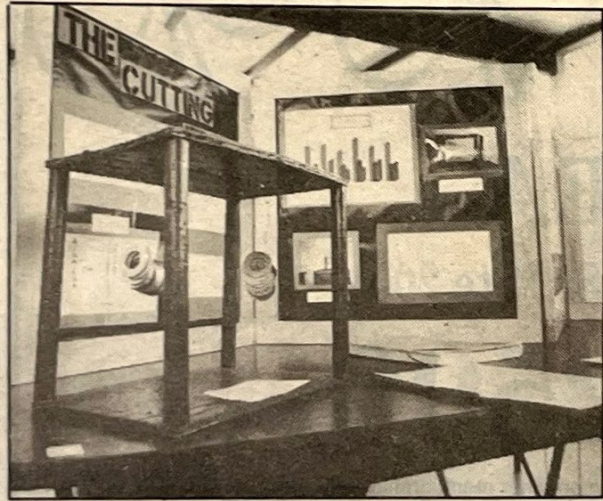
said, we just added to it. Fleshed out the vague terms," he said. "We made it more concrete so it can't vary too much with interpretation."

Lewis said everyone involved has the same goal: to ensure a better future for Brea's children.

"I am concerned because we are in a time of great confusion as far as the ethical and moral standards of society," he told trustees. "The future of our nation lies with our children. They are our destiny."

Stan Bird/Brea Progress

**ABOVE:** Dustin Hotard, a seventh-grader at St. Angela Merici, explains his botany project to judges Lynn Mortensen and Bill Thompson during the school's annual science fair. **RIGHT:** A typical exhibit at the science fair. **BELOW:** Eighth-graders Ryan and Rachel Garko drew up this physics exhibit.



# BREA PROGRESS

THE ORANGE COUNTY  
**Register**

THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 1988

## Down to a science...

### Students seek scientific process

By Aaron Boehme  
Brea Progress

Exactly how long does that drum-toting pink bunny keep going and going and going?

Two seventh-graders at St. Angela Merici School sought the answer for the school's second annual science fair March 7.

As part of their project, Ian Treacher and Tom Murphy used flashlights to test the life of three brands of batteries. Although their conclusions varied, both boys learned about the scientific method, or so science teacher Debbie Geary hopes.

"This is actually what real scientists do all the time," Geary said as she explained the process all the seventh-and-eighth-grade-science students experienced.



# Laurel students bridge language gaps

By Danielle Benson  
Brea Progress

Students at Laurel Elementary are breaking down the language barrier.

With more than 52 percent of the students of Hispanic decent, Principal Tim Harvey set out to broaden communication with teachers.

Two years ago Harvey instituted a voluntary conversational Spanish program in which teachers spent 30-40 minutes a day, up to three days a week, teaching Anglo students conversational Spanish. Harvey suggested using the Hispanic kids as teaching aids to get the messages across.

"It is great for their self-esteem because they get to act as tutors," Harvey said. "They feel involved and get to help out."

Carmen Brias, a Spanish teacher at Laurel who developed a teachers' conversational Spanish teaching guide, agreed.

"The idea is for English and Hispanic students to work together," she said. "They learn

# ESL

English as a second language

social Spanish skills, and the Hispanics act as teachers."

Students spend the first 10 minutes of class listening to the teacher. During the next 20-30 minutes, five Hispanic tutors work with groups of students, re-emphasizing the initial lesson.

"The tutors do their own type of mini-lesson, but it's more extensive," Brias said. "They make up their own games to teach what was reviewed at the beginning of class. It's great for them because they get to help and the kids understand them."

But conversational Spanish is not a real class, Brias said. It is a fun class with no definitive structure or grading system.

"It is completely voluntary. Teachers do it because they want

to," she said. "There are no grades — only oral conversation. It's really a wonderful learning tool."

Words and phrases learned during the hour are often incorporated into regular class sessions. Most classes participate in the program, usually starting second semester.

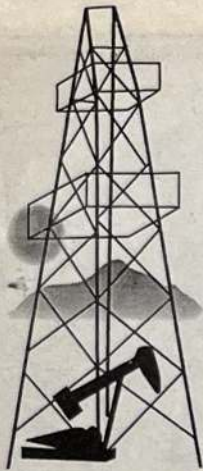
"They can review (the year before) during first semester, but there is more emphasis on the second semester," Brias said. "We'll be starting classes next month (February)."

But learning to speak Spanish is not limited to school-hours. Kids are encouraged to take "Home Review Pages" and teach their parents at home. Brias said parents are as excited as the kids.

"I've gotten a few letters from parents saying how much they like the program," she said. "They get to learn with their kids and it keeps parents and students involved together. It's a win-win situation."

## The Brea ESL melting pot

School	Percent Asian	Percent Pac. Isl.	Percent Filipino	Percent Hispanic	Total foreign	ESL program	Shelter
<b>Elementary</b>							
Arovista	2.1	0.7	0.7	36.3	39.8	pull-out	No
Country Hills	12.5	0.2	0.7	9.9	22.8	pull-out	No
Fanning	9.3	0.2	1.1	12.2	22.8	pull-out	No
Laurel	2.2	—	0.3	52.4	54.9	pull-out	No
Mariposa	8.9	0.2	1.7	10.0	20.8	pull-out	No
Olinda	8.3	—	1.4	7.3	17.0	pull-out	No
<b>Junior high</b>							
Brea	8.5	0.3	0.7	17.9	27.4	One class	Yes (7-8)
<b>High school</b>							
Brea-Olinda	8.7	0.1	0.9	18.2	27.9	3 Levels	Yes (9-11)
Brea Canyon	2.6	—	—	33.3	35.9	None	No
<b>District</b>							
Totals	7.8	0.2	0.9	20.1	—	—	—



## Inside

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## Sometimes, nobody's close

**12** Guillermo Esparza's mediocre fall on the gridiron is behind him — and this spring so are a lot of runners who encounter him on the track oval.

The Brea Olinda sprinter went to the CIF prelims in three events last year, and hopes to add a fourth this year. If the Wildcats are to make it deep into CIF competition, Esparza will have to come up big.

## Community service

**3** As a support services officer at the Police Department, Grace Abeyta walks the line between sworn peace officer and civilian. Her colleagues think she's the best at what she does. The last in a series of profiles on this year's top Brea officers.

# BREA PROGRESS

A weekly newspaper with personality

PUBLISHED BY THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER ON THURSDAY APRIL 17, 1997



## From the pages of history

2 years in the making, students design, paint mural that illustrates local historic events

By Jennifer D'Andrea  
Brea Progress

In a hall at Brea Junior High School, dinosaurs roam, Babe Ruth plays baseball and a Native American woman waterproofs a woven basket with tar from Brea's hills.

Sounds like a crowded hall, but fortunately, for the sake of space, these historical scenes are depicted in a colorful mural designed and painted by about 55 art students.

Two years in the making, the

M. Loren Hernandez Brea Progress

Students, school staff and family members gathered at Brea Junior High School for the unveiling of new mural depicting the history of Brea.

Please see MURAL/2

## Helping ch

Rueff named 'Youth of the Year' for area Boys and Girls Club

