

LOVE/HATE

We Coastsiders have this odd love/hate relationship with tourism. We love the tourist dollars, but we hate the tourist traffic. Whenever I drive past Gray Whale Cove and see couples taking selfies while standing on the cliff, I am always tempted to shout, "Take one step back!" Naw, just kidding!

HITLESS WONDERS

Our poor, powerless, basement-dwelling San Francisco Giants can't even buy a hit. With all their big-money stars, many of them veterans of three recent World Series championships, this year the Giants just seem lost. Almost halfway through the season, the Giants are already talking about trading and selling some of their older players to begin the rebuilding process with new blood. In desperation, the team has purchased several \$750 Halo Sport electronic headpieces to jump-start Giants hitters' performance. Low-voltage electrical signals supposedly stimulate the brain to produce livelier mental and physical activity. The jury is still out. So far, I don't see any big changes on the scoreboard. And what's up with the new hitting coach Barry Bonds?

EARTHWEEK.COM HIGHLIGHTS

- Kenyan cattle herders traditionally raise dairy cows, but they are switching to camels because of ongoing drought in East Africa. They have found that camels produce milk even in dry conditions.
- Foxes driven out of their forest habitat by encroaching urbanization in England have developed an appetite for big-city rats and mice in and around London.
- Australian scientists have found a safe, nontoxic way to kill invasive starfish that are destroying Great Barrier Reef coral; they inject them with vinegar.
- Dutch scientists are using artificial snow to restore the health of glaciers in the Swiss Alps.
- When the beach at Dooagh, Ireland washed away in a 1984 storm, the seaside villagers were heartbroken. But recently a freak tide brought a load of sand back to the coast, and Dooagh once again has a lovely beach.

RISING SEAS

Until today no humans have had the technology to measure changes that occurred as the last Ice Age melted away. During the past 18,000 years, our sea level rose 325 feet and the seashore retreated about 25 miles from the Farallones Islands to where we go to the beach today. Modern science and technology measurements allow us to calculate the possibility of another 150

feet of sea-level rise if the remaining ice sheets melt. But “waiting for the scientific certainty is neither a safe nor prudent option,” says the 2017 study “Rising Seas in California.” On Friday, June 16 at 6:45 p.m., at Pacifica Coastside Museum (Little Brown Church), experts will examine the realities of sea-level rise for Pacifica and the Coastside. Pacifica’s Environmental Family and the Pacifica Climate Committee have invited specialists from both science and policy communities to speak at this event, which is free and open to the public.

SWAMI SEZ

“Marriage is a legal and religious alliance entered into by a man who can’t sleep with the window shut and a woman who can’t sleep with the window open.” (Ogden Nash)

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