

Weekend Los Angeles Times

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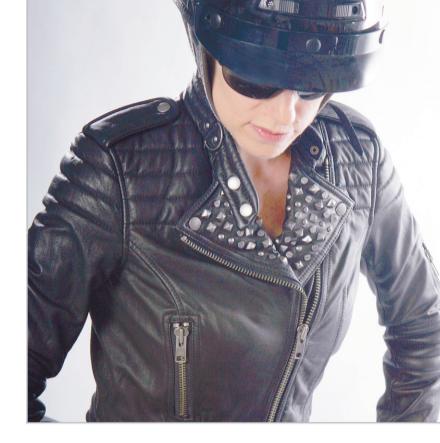
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2009

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MOCA RISING

Is it the end of lean times?

ARTS & BOOKS



**HOT WHEELS:
BIKER IS BACK**
IMAGE

Staking
their
pieces
of L.A.

STEVE LOPEZ

There was no telling how many people would show up Tuesday morning to discuss, one last time, how much of Koreatown should be surrendered to the Bangladeshi community.

At the previous meeting in this yearlong border skirmish, L.A. City Councilman Tom LaBonge had asked each side to bring three representatives.

"The Koreans cheated," he said. "They brought seven. But the Bangladeshis cheated more. They brought 37."

And so it has gone since Oct. 23, 2008, when the Bangladeshi filed a petition with the city clerk's office asking for a Little Bangladesh designation. Initially, they wanted the sprawling area between 3rd Street on the north, Wilshire Boulevard on the south, and Vermont and Western avenues on the east and west.

As you may imagine, the neighborhood's Koreans snapped to attention. LaBonge staffer Nikki Ezhari recalls their unanimous and immediate reaction:

"That's Koreatown."

Technically, there is no official "Koreatown" designation, a problem the Korean community quickly addressed by filing its own petition early this year. Since then, the two sides have been negotiating a compromise.

In Los Angeles, where it goes without saying that we've got a little of everything, I'm not sure we need Little Bangla-

[See Lopez Page A26]



Hard knocks at resort's door

Built by a plumbers union, the Konocti faces a wrenching end



DAVE GETZSCHMAN For The Times

SWAN SONGS: Jennifer O'Neil, left, and Jamie Taylor cuddle at the conclusion of a Rascal Flatts concert at the Konocti resort's amphitheater.

MARIA L. LA GANGA
REPORTING FROM KELSEYVILLE, CALIF.

The line cooks had matching stickers pasted to their chef's jackets one Saturday night in mid-October, brave words for a bleak reality: "We are the future of Konocti."

Sad-eyed housekeepers clutched instructions on how to apply for unemployment benefits and compared notes in soft Spanish about job prospects here in hard-knock Lake County. "Muy difícil."

But leave it to the country music singer to get to the painful heart of the matter during what he called the possible "last concert ever" at Konocti Harbor Resort and Spa — tony Northern California's rare blue-collar playground, which is set to close Tuesday.

"You guys are proof that no matter where you are, you can find some two-fisted, beer-drinking, biscuit-eating rednecks!" shouted Jay DeMarcus, bass player for Rascal Flatts, as the Konocti crowd roared in response. "What we should do is pack all these people up, put them on the bus and

take them back to Nashville with us."

They just might be better off there. Remote, rural and accessible only by two-lane highway, Lake County has an unemployment rate of almost 15% — even before its only full-service hotel, also among the region's largest private employers, shuts down.

The United Assn. of Plumbers, Pipefitters and Journeymen Local 38 built Konocti half a century ago so its members could afford to vacation just like the "rich kids," said Larry Mazzola Sr., whose father was raised in a Brooklyn orphanage and dreamed up the 90-

acre complex here on the shores of Clear Lake.

The union's members stay for half price, and their children attend summer camp for free. Konocti hosts proms and bass-fishing contests. Its concerts and miniature golf course offer much-needed diversion in a county with two movie theaters and a single bowling alley.

During high season, Konocti employs upward of 600 people to staff its 5,500-seat amphitheater, 1,100-seat showroom and 262 hotel rooms.

[See Konocti, Page A22]

Where police walk a different beat

Indonesian province's morality cops enforce Islamic law, which now may get much tougher.

JOHN M. GLIONNA
REPORTING FROM
BANDA ACEH, INDONESIA

The young couple are totally busted. They sit at a beach-side park, near signs forbidding teens from sitting too close. He has his arm around her shoulder. She isn't wearing her *jil-*

bab, the traditional Islamic head scarf.

Just like that, the morality cops are in their face.

"You two aren't married, right?" asks Syafruddin, the rail-thin leader of the six-man patrol, standing stiffly, one hand behind his back. "So you shouldn't sit next to one another."

He separates the two and confiscates their IDs. Later, he says, the team will open an investigation of the couple, especially seeing as the young man lied, at first insisting the girl was his sister.

"We want to see how far this relationship has progressed," says Syafruddin, who goes by one name. "What they were doing could have led to something sexual."

The team is known as "the vice and virtue patrol," on the beat in Aceh, the only province in the world's most populous Muslim nation to employ Sharia, or Islamic law, for its criminal code. The laws were introduced in 2002 after the Indonesian region was granted autonomy as part of efforts to end a decades-long guerrilla war.

[See Indonesia, Page A18]



LUIS SINCO Los Angeles Times

ROLL CALL: Members of the vice and virtue patrol prepare to hit the streets of Banda Aceh in search of violators.

Year the wall fell

Germans talk about the impact the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989 has had. **OPINION, A31**

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