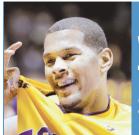


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OAKLAND

Gang injunction granted

City provided enough proof to justify enforcement against five alleged Norteños members, judge rules

By Paul T. Rosynsky prosynsky@bayareanewsgroup.com

Oakland can begin enforcement of a civil court injunction against five alleged members of the Norteños gang, a judge ruled Friday, giving police the power to arrest the five if they violate a series of rules designed to curb gang activity.

opinion that took Alameda County Superior Court Judge Robert Freedman more than a month to draft, the judge simply ruled that the city had presented enough evidence to prove that the five men named in the first phase of the injunction were gang members.

'Plaintiff has, by the requisite In a surprisingly brief six-page burden of proof, established entitle-

to Phase I," Freedman wrote.

With the ruling, five alleged members of the Norteños street gang will not be allowed to stay on the streets after 10 p.m., wear certain clothing, including red shirts, or "associate" with each other within a 450-square-block radius in the city's Fruitvale neighborhood.

The ruling also appears to give

ment to a preliminary injunction as the injunction that would force another 35 accused gang members to follow the injunction rules. Alex Katz, spokesman for the

City Attorney's Office, declined to comment Friday. The Oakland Police Department

said the ruling will provide officers another tool to fight violent crime. 'As we have said in the past, we are open to using any constitutional

the city an advantage, attorneys representing the men said, as the city begins arguments in Phase II of Bolton, chief of staff to police Chief

Anthony Batts. "It is our obligation to do everything we can to provide public safety to our citizens.

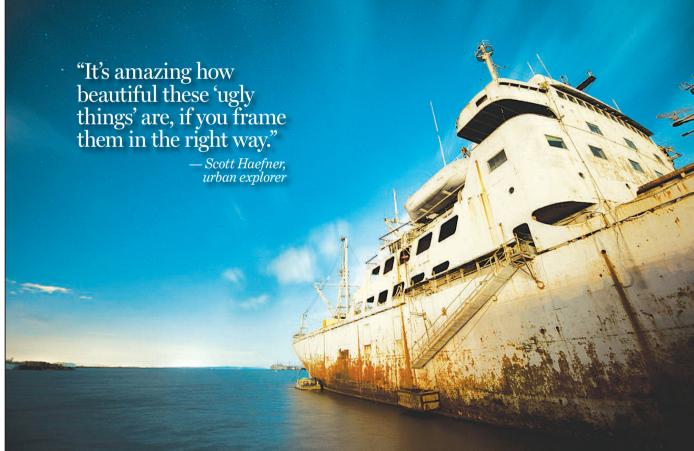
But lawyers representing the men named in the preliminary injunction criticized Freedman for issuing an order that lacks specificity and fails to answer the question of how someone is determined to be a gang member.

"The main issue that we have is that (the judge) does not articu-

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MOTHBALL FLEET

Ghost ship adventure



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SCOTT HAEFNER (ABOVE) AND STEPHEN FRESKOS

The President, part of the Suisun Bay Mothball Fleet, was eventually towed to Texas for dismantling.

Urban explorers evade military security to capture rare photographs of vessels

By Jessica A. York

(Vallejo) Times-Herald They were like sirens, calling in the moonlit dark.

Years of enjoying the view of the Suisun Bay Mothball Fleet from a distance proved too great a tease for three area men, leading to difficult night trips to covertly board the rusting ships.

Scott Haefner, Jon Haeber and Stephen Freskos spent weekends over an 18-month period exploring the vessels. The trio — carrying cameras, sleeping bags and flashlights — evaded a security cordon to capture an uncommon experi-

"Hearing the noises, the wildlife out there, is almost akin to being in the wilderness on your own," said Haeber. "I see a sort of very visceral, religious, spiritual component to it that is a huge draw for me.'

The three men are urban explorers who visit and photograph abandoned or littleknown man-made structures, typically without permission. Each has posted distinctly different styles of photographs

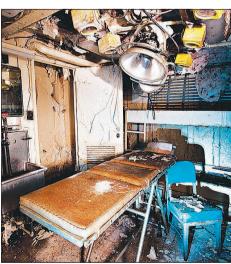
online. Urban explorers are "connoisseurs of falling-apart things," said Freskos, a San Jose resident. "We're not criminals, and we're not bad people

we're just curious. The 33-year-old said he has traveled to hundreds of closed and abandoned sites over the years. "I think because we're willing to break the law, to trespass, that people assign all kinds of other evil motives to us. But it's really a childlike curiosity that rules the day with us.'

The men reached the fleet quietly aboard an inflatable raft using oars and a battery-powered motor.

Getting into the ships was not easy. Haefner describes the

See MOTHBALL, Page 7



The operating room aboard the USS Taluga has seen better days.

ONLINE

For more photos, go to:

- ScottHaefner.com for photos by Scott
- www.flickr.com/freeside for photos by Stephen Freskos
- www.terrastories.com/bearings for photos by Jon Haeber

OAKLAND

City Council races to solve budget deficit

Panel releases three proposals with various suggestions to close gap

By Angela Woodall

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With less than a week left to balance Oakland's budget, the City Council released a series of proposals aimed at filling a crippling \$58 million deficit, which threatens to shut down libraries and cut the police force to historically low numbers.

Whether or not they can make the July 1 deadline depends on how long it takes the city and labor unions to meet each other half way.

The prospects of a compromise appear more prom-

See BUDGET, Page 7

BOCCE BONANZA

Old World game rapidly gaining fans in Bay Area

By Jeanine Benca

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It's a rarely recalled scene from the 1968 mobster

flick, "The Brotherhood." A young Mafioso tries to drag his brother from a close round of bocce: "Frank!

Frank! 9 o'clock, can we go now?" Vince shouts, straining to be heard over cheering bowlers in the alley, their accents thick as provolone.

'Ten more minutes. Come on, we gotta play another one to decide!" Frank (Kirk Douglas) exclaims, rejoining his cigar-puffing paisanos.

Aside from maybe a few other stereotype-soaked cameos, bocce got scant attention from the American mainstream through much of the 20th century. The sport known as *bocha* in Brazil, *balinanje* in Slovenia and Boule Lyonnaise in the south of France, was often known here just as that-game-old-Italian-men-playwith-balls.

See BOCCE, Page 7

INSIDE TODAY'S TRIBUNE

Gay rights breakthrough

New York lawmakers narrowly vote to allow same-sex marriage, a milestone for activists in the state where their movement started. New York becomes the sixth state

where same-sex vows are legal. For the story, turn to Morning Report.

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