



Analyzing Olympic Success in Tthens

Coto De Caza Resident Gideon Ariel is the keynote speaker at the Scientific Congress in Athens



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Analyzing Olympic Success in Athens

Dr. Gideon Ariel, a resident of Coto de Caza and a former Olympic discus thrower and shot-putter for Israel, is the keynote speaker at the Pre-Olympic Scientific Congress in Athens. Ariel, a pioneer in biomechanics, invented the first computerized system to analyze the performance of Olympic athletes in 1968. He has analyzed every Olympics since, except for the U.S. boycotted 1980 Moscow Games. At the congress, Ariel will discuss the high-speed video and software used to analyze athletic performance. He will also collect information at the shotput event in Olympia. Ariel prefers analyzing track and field events due to their technical nature, but enjoys watching diving and gymnastics.

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Below find a reprint of the 2 relevant pages of the article "Analyzing Olympic Success in Tthens" in "Canyon Life":

CanyonLife

The Orange County Register www.ocregister.com/canyon

Covering Orange County's canyon communities

Friday, Aug. 6, 2004

Three arson fires in Las Flores

THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

The Orange County Fire Authority is investigating a series of suspicious brush fires that started at about 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in Las Flores.

Witnesses reported seeing someone lighting the fires along a bike trail near the intersection of Oro and Antonio parkways. A clear description of the arsonist was not available.

The three fires burned more than 6 acres. They were about 80 percent contained by 10 p.m. Wednesday and was completely out Thursday noon, Capt. Stephen Miller said.

No one was injured, and no structures were damaged.

The fires were not believed to have started naturally or by accident, Miller said. "They were definitely arson," he said Thursday. "It is unusual for fires to just start."

Fire investigators are following up on good leads, Miller said. "Every little info helps," he said. Anyone with information about the fires in



ROD YEAL, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
FIGHTING FOR THE ENVIRONMENT: Gloria Sefton is battling developers of the Live Oak land.

GRAZING QUESTIONED

Environmentalists are fighting a county ruling that allows cattle grazing without a permit near Live Oak Canyon Road.

BY LEO JUAREZ, STAFF WRITER

Local activists are challenging a county ruling that allows cattle grazing without a permit on a swath of land in Trabuco Canyon - grazing they claim has destroyed the natural environment and cleared an easier path for develop-

ment. Commission will decide Tuesday whether to allow Coto de Caza-based Stonefield Development to perform geological testing on the 130-acre property off of Live Oak Canyon Road, where the developer wants to build up to 25 homes.

slides and the extent of grading needed to build on the land, located behind horse stables and across from the entrance to O'Neill Regional Park.

Local environmental group Saddleback Canyons Conservancy claims the landowner - Equestrian Investors Inc. - is opening a commercial cattle pasture without a county permit that would enforce erosion and runoff control. County lawyers determined

INSIDE

ON PLACE IN ATHENS: Coto de Caza resident Gideon Ariel is the keynote speaker at the Pre-Olympic Scientific Congress in Athens. **Page 3**

BEAUTY QUEEN WITH A MISSION: Jayna Altman, who is Miss Orange County, is advocating for hearing-impaired young children and newborns. **Page 6**



THE HAWK HAS

Analyzing Olympic success in Athens

Coto de Caza resident Gideon Ariel is the keynote speaker at the Pre-Olympic Scientific Congress in Athens.

BY LEO JUAREZ
STAFF WRITER

Dr. Gideon Ariel of Coto de Caza first tasted Olympic glory as a discus thrower and shot-putter for Israel in the 1960 Olympics in Rome and again four years later in Tokyo.

When he returned to the Olympic stage in 1968, he was careful to study the competition - literally. That year, he invented the first computerized system to analyze the performance of Olympic athletes. And he's analyzed every Olympics since, with the exception of the U.S.-boycotted 1980 Moscow Games.

A pioneer and one of the world's leading experts in biomechanics - the application of physics to body movement - Ariel was invited to be a keynote speaker at the Pre-Olympic Scientific Congress, which starts today in Athens. The conference, held at Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, showcases the role of science in sports.

Q. What is your speech about?
A. I'll be presenting on biomechanics. What I'm going to be talking about is the high-speed video and software that we use to analyze athletic performance. We treat the body as an engineering model where you can calculate the speed of all the joints of the body. From there, you can calculate acceleration and force.

Q. Which athletes will you be analyzing in Athens?
A. I'm going to be collecting information at the shotput event in Olympia. We can put cameras on the field. I'm supposed to do the track and field events in Athens, but it's a big question mark. We don't know.

Q. Which sports do you prefer analyzing, and which do you simply enjoy watching?
A. I analyze mostly the track and field events because it's

very technical, but I like to see diving and I like gymnastics. They're different because its very subjective scoring, whereas track and field is very precise. It's how fast you run or how high you jump. But if you look at gymnastics, the whole scoring system is not always scientific. The person who does better technically isn't always the winner.

Q. What do you enjoy most about the Olympic experience?
A. You're suddenly in a place where everybody wishes the world was like this. Everyone

THE HAWK HAS LA



UNUSUAL VISITOR: What looks like a Cooper's Hawk sits on a car in

Caity Hall, who is an animal lover, had a close call with a Hawk last week when it landed on her dog. She was on Via de la Mesa in Rancho Santa Margarita, the Rancho Santa Margarita Lake, not far from Regional Park. After Hall took the photo, the hawk flew to the neighbor's house where it started to attack

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CANYON SPOT OF THE WEEK