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## News

Some people think any real estate company will do...

### R.E. Graswich: Where else did Kobe eat that night? The Chanterelle knows

By R.E. Graswich -- Bee Staff Writer  
Published 2:15 a.m. PDT Friday, May 31, 2002



**All wet:** Sacramento attorney Geoff Wong has courageously stepped forward to confess that Los Angeles Lakers player Kobe Bryant (remember him?) ate dinner at the Chanterelle restaurant on H Street the night he supposedly came down with food poisoning. Geoff knows, because he's part owner of Chanterelle. "Kobe was friendly and courteous, but by speech and manner, he had obviously been (out having fun)," Geoff said. "After dinner, Kobe returned to the Hyatt Regency, two blocks away. The rest is gastrointestinal history." Geoff said Chanterelle is "breathing easier" since the Hyatt took the rap for Kobe's so-called food poisoning. "It was a cheap shot for the Hyatt," Geoff said. Meantime, the Lakers are sticking by the food-poisoning yarn. Oh, Lakers star Shaquille O'Neal stops by Chanterelle on occasion, ordering multiple burgers without incident. Guess Shaq is one of the few Southlanders who can handle the night life in Sacramento. ...

**Full service agency:** The newest sports bar and restaurant in Sacramento could be located in a surprising place -- the California Department of Health Services building at the East End complex downtown. The state is close to approving a huge sports bar and restaurant inside the building, now under construction. The joint will be operated under a program that allows legally blind people to run concessions on state property. "Negotiations are currently under way for the project, so it would not be appropriate to comment," said Erin Treadwell, a spokeswoman for the California Department of Rehabilitation. "I can tell you that it would be an excellent place for River Cats fans to visit before

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##### Ban on gangs s Villa

Sacramento police prosecutors are p ask a judge to iss against gang men south Sacramento neighborhood that plagued by violent more than 20 yea has learned.

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Befuddled by ballc propositions? Wait November, when throughout Sacra will decide the fat obscure tax that r don't even pay.

##### Shasta vets cer dream takes sl

REDDING -- A nev veterans cemeter ground Saturday

##### Shades of sum

The temperature l Sacramento reach degrees Thursday time this year -- t more like 103.

##### 15th place not capital studen

WASHINGTON -- was a deep pit in which criminals cc death once were t

going to the game." People close to the negotiations say the sports bar and restaurant is expected to swallow about 7,000 square feet. Some downtown saloon owners are sweating the competition. Others figure there's nothing to worry about. The latter are folks who have spent too much time in state cafeterias. ...

**Splitting the buck:** Local obsession over the Kings didn't help the Sacramento Jazz Jubilee. Final ticket figures won't be in for another month, but jubilee crowds looked very thin last Friday and Sunday, when the Kings were playing. "The Kings may have had a slight impact, but really, our big fear each year is rain," said jubilee boss Roger Krum. "If the Kings held the crowds down, it was maybe 1 or 2 percent." Roger said Old Sacramento was affected more than Cal Expo, where visitors parked their recreation vehicles and had easy access to TV sets. On the bright side, there were no lines at jubilee beer stands. ...

**No barking:** Kim Kuenlen and her friends who want dogs to run without leashes in the American River Parkway are becoming paragons of reasonableness. Kim says her proposal to the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors will avoid bicyclists by having dogs run free in a wilderness area across the river from the bike trail. Better still, dog lovers promise to avoid busy afternoons near Paradise Beach. "We think it would be unwise to have off-leash dogs running around during the day when the beaches are so heavily used by families," Kim said. "But a few hours in the wee morning and a few hours in the evening seems reasonable." Supervisors will sink their teeth into the dog issue this August. ...

**Say it right:** Robert Adams has been around here since 1946, so he has a right to complain about local radio and TV people mispronouncing his city's name. "Sacramento is a four-syllable word, with the first and third getting equal emphasis," Robert said. For the record, that's Sack-a-men-na.

**About the Writer**  
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**Photos: A spec**

**Jury rejects racism in UC Davis case**

A jury in Sacramento court on Thursday claims of two Chir scientists that the subjected to racial discrimination at the of California, Davi

**Rescuers grab in river's curm**

A 13-year-old boy condition Thursday near-drowning at Beach on the Ame

**Father is found missing**

BUTTE COUNTY -- Angeles County m dead Wednesday mountain road no Chico, and a search trace of his 11-year daughter who was with him, a Butte Sheriff's Department said.



This story is taken from [pets](#) at sacbee.com.

## **A dog's treat: Room to run unrestrained**

### **Advocates pushing for off-leash areas**

**By Gwendolyn Crump -- Bee Staff Writer - (Published July 15, 2002)**

Jackie Kuhwarth was walking her dogs along the American River Parkway one morning when rangers gave her a ticket for not having her pooches on leashes.

The \$77 citation two years ago prompted Kuhwarth to found the Sacramento Dog Owners Group (SACDOG), whose mission is to reduce leash laws in undeveloped areas of Sacramento County, particularly Paradise Beach, part of the American River Parkway.

"It's been an unofficial off-leash dog area where people go very frequently," said Kuhwarth, who has three basenjis. "We are a large user group, but the county has really not addressed this as a legitimate recreation group."

Members of SACDOG as well as the American River Dog Owners Group (ARDOG) are trying to garner support for an off-leash dog proposal that would let dogs run freely along Paradise Beach near River Park during designated hours. The Board of Supervisors is scheduled to review the idea Aug. 6.

Many people are opposed to the proposal, citing a possible nuisance for others using the parkway, safety issues and increased traffic in the area.

County Parks Director Ronald Suter said the county has received numerous letters from people and organizations opposing the off-leash idea. Opponents include the River Park Neighborhood Association, the Caleb Greenwood Elementary School PTA, River Park Soccer Club, River Park-East Sacramento Cal Ripken Baseball League and the River Park Garden Club.

"All persons who wish to use the Paradise Beach area in the American River Parkway and the adjacent Glen Hall City Park should be able to do so without the fear or apprehension that they will be subjected to aggressive behavior by any off-leash dog," said Frank Cirill, a board member of the River Park Neighborhood Association.

The association decided in June to oppose the off-leash proposal, Cirill said.

But the opposition has not thwarted SACDOG and ARDOG members.

Kuhwarth said the groups have circulated a petition and have about 1,000 signatures supporting their proposal. Additionally, they said they visited about 230 homes in River Park and heard from many residents that they favor the proposal.

Currently, at county parks, dogs must be on a leash no longer than 6 feet. Fines start at \$65 for disobeying the ordinance.

The Parks Department is putting together a report for the Board of Supervisors on the pros and cons of an off-leash dog area.

Suter said he is aware of problems with dogs approaching people, biting, and knocking over bicyclists. He said loose dogs also can chase or kill wildlife.

The difference between an off-leash dog park and an off-leash dog area, such as the one being proposed, is that a dog park is a well-defined space with fences.

The dog advocates' proposal calls for a 24-month pilot program to be monitored and assessed by the Parks Department. Supporters want the program to begin in September.

The area for consideration is a two-mile portion of the American River Parkway between the H Street Bridge and the Capital City Freeway.

Signs would post rules, such as warning owners to keep dogs under voice control, pick up after their pets, carry a leash at all times and keep their dogs away from fishermen, children and wildlife.

From October to March, off-leash hours could be 6 to 9 a.m. and 4 to 6 p.m. Hours would change during daylight saving time.

Lee Ruth, immediate past president of the River Park Garden Club, worries that an off-leash dog area would increase traffic and add to existing parking problems in the area.

Kuhwarth said she does not believe the off-leash park would have a dramatic effect. She said she is not sure how many people Paradise Beach would attract if the plan were to be approved, but she said about 50 people had been using the area on Saturday mornings, before rangers became more aggressive in handing out citations in recent months.

"We get more complaints about dogs off-leash than any other thing that goes on," said park ranger manager Dave Lydick.

The county has issued 26 citations to people walking dogs without leashes this year, Lydick said. Seven of those were at Paradise Beach.

"If somebody is approached by a dog, it can completely ruin their experience at the parkway," Lydick said. "We're also concerned about the safety of dogs. Dogs are occasionally bitten by coyotes and rattlesnakes."

Proposal opponents say existing ordinances concerning dogs on leashes should continue.

Alan Whisenand, River Park Soccer Club manager, wrote in a letter to county officials that his group has had problems with free-running dogs. The organization coordinates soccer competition for about 350 children.

Whisenand said that before matches his group finds droppings left by dogs. He also said coaches often have to chase away dogs and that dogs often confront each other and children, and bark and fight, frightening people attending matches.

Richard Cvitanov, principal at Caleb Greenwood Elementary School, said allowing an off-leash dog area would be asking for trouble.

Last year, his students were involved in a clean-up project at the park, and they used the

experience to learn about nature. He said that if an off-leash dog area were established, he wouldn't let students explore the parkway.

"You never know what could spook a dog," Cvitanov said. "A dog might see a group of students running and making noise and attack a child. I'd be putting my kids in jeopardy."

But off-leash proponents say schoolchildren and dog walkers are not likely to use the area at the same time. They also say the majority of the people using the beach are good dog owners.

Judy Kerri, a member of SACDOG and ARDOG, said her two German short-haired pointers are active and need to run. She also has been cited for walking her dogs off-leash and wants the proposal to pass.

Kerri believes the opposition is part of a backlash that has resulted from recent high-profile maulings by dogs.

"If (the proposal) doesn't pass this time," Kerri said, "we're going to keep on pushing it."

Amanda Blosser also thinks the proposal is a good idea. Blosser walked her mutt Alex off-leash along Paradise Beach on Saturday morning.

"She seems to enjoy it," said Blosser, who lives in midtown. "It's one of the few places she likes to walk; she gets a good run."

In the city, the Parks & Recreation Department operates three off-leash dog parks: Bannon Creek Parkway in Natomas; Partner Park in South Land Park; and Granite Regional Park off Power Inn Road and Folsom Boulevard, said Alan Tomiyama, senior manager for city parks.

Tomiyama said people come from far and near to enjoy the city's off-leash parks.

SACDOG founder Kuhwarth said those are the kind of facilities the county should develop to better meet the needs of dog owners.

"Years ago," Kuhwarth said, "in-line skaters had nowhere to go, and designated areas were created for them."

She wants the same for her group.

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#### About the Writer

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