



# Contralto contradicts teacher's message

s a youngster in a small California town, Erin Perry had a deep voice

tralto," she explains, "rest of female voices." e time to sing with her," she recalls. "I leged it up to whiter the were singing. I'd be o stand in the back row, nly into the words." ed into Perry's memo- day, her fourth grade looked Perry in the d said, "you have no talent; you will never

statement, Perry re- as devastating. "It felt in me for years to Teachers," she adds. ways realize the pow- wiled."

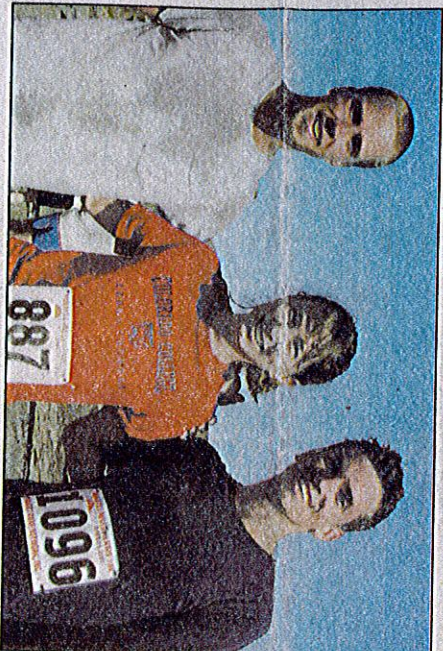
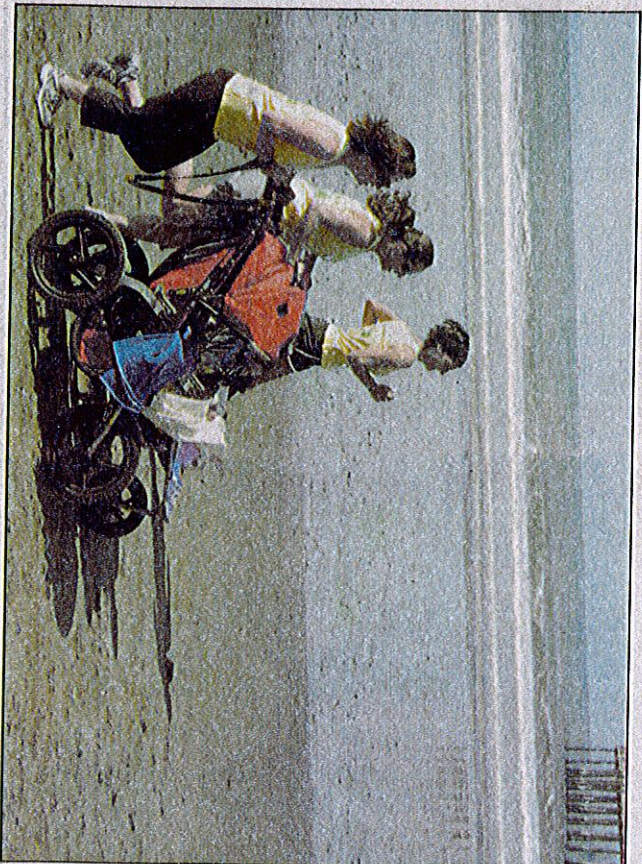
shed away from mi- high school, when a actor required all stu- pick out a musical in- for a try. ways liked big bands in Miller and Benny m." Perry says, "and trombone's lower and the fun playing."

"She soon was blow- w notes for the marching and jazz ic major in college, forced to embrace of choir. "I was ) death," Perry says. e instructor. "I lie in here. I was it sing." She told me, rry. We'll have you

sang like a pro. "It ing," she recalls, ears ago being told g I believed, and I it wasn't that way." ed by voice teach- rauditioned for the era program, where er voice blossomed graduated with de- oice and trombone h teaching creden- ough in Los Ange- ve years, the last heart of Avans teaching enthusi- hanted.

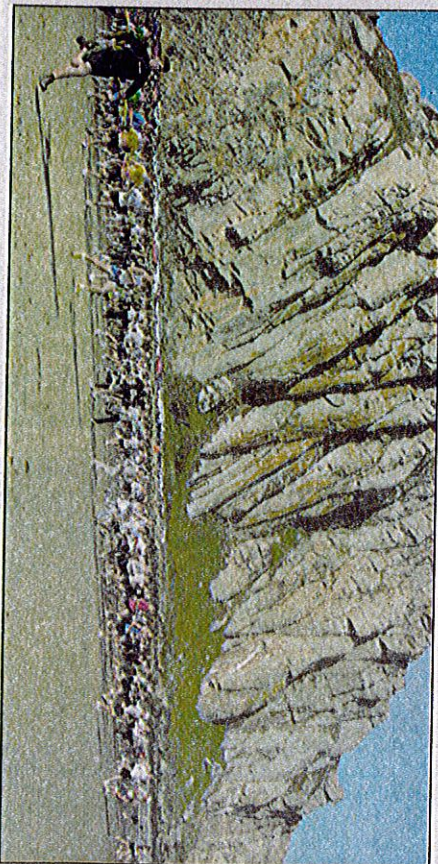
she recalls. "I was ile having lunch on l rooftop — I could dust coming off the brought weapons to they could get h. My dress were ten, so I carried

# Beach race benefits children



**Rain clouds were no-shows** at the fourth annual Miracle for Kids 10K Walk/Run on Saturday as more than 1,000 people raced from Morro Rock to Cayucos Pier. The marathon is sponsored by The Family Care Network to raise money for local foster care children. Michael Paine, left, and Philippe Nickelson, right, shared a tie for first place in the men's division at 35:47, while Jeannine Stewart, center, finishes first for women at 42:33.

SUN BULLETIN PHOTOS BY SHAN THOMPSON



## COMMUNITY District Teacher of the Year loves his Los Osos job

Greg Wilcox, a social studies teacher at Los Osos Middle School, describes the honor of being named San Luis Coastal's Teacher of the Year. Page 2

## COMMUNITY She's still going strong at age 92

Cayucos columnist Dick Weiss writes about one of the three last surviving charter members of the town's Lionsess Club. Page 3

## OUTDOORS Butterfly gardens pass with flying colors

Master Gardener Lee Olliphant discusses the western monarch butterfly and yards friendly to them. Page 7

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## WHAT'S GOING ON WITH OUR WEB SITE?

Please pardon our dust while we re-amp. Sunbulletin.com. We're running into technical issues during our move to the McClatchy Company's Web software. In the meantime, we invite you to visit our parent Web site, [sanluisobispo.com](http://sanluisobispo.com), where local news from around the Central Coast is updated all day, every day.

—Antonio A. Pyralis, editor