



**SECTIONS INSIDE**

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# UT San Diego



**LOCAL PRISON'S 'POOCH' PROGRAM**

**B1** • Trinity, a German shepherd, is part of a new initiative in which inmates train assistance animals.

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MONDAY • DECEMBER 1, 2014

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**CHARGERS 34, RAVENS 33**

## Chargers display impressive resilience



**BALTIMORE**  
This could have been about the first-quarter interception or the

second-quarter fumble. This could have been about the third-down disasters or special-teams miscos. Had the result gone differently, this game may have been about the Chargers picking up yellow flag after yellow flag. Instead, it's about them never waving the white one. Sunday, the embodiment of composure beat the Ravens 34-33. Resilience personified sent 70,000 Baltimoreans home bummed. This wasn't the first time this season the Chargers have been overcome with joy. But in no other game have they overcome so much.

"We're fighters," safety Eric Weddle said, "and this was an amazing dogfight. As long as there's time on the clock, we're going to be fighting."

Oddly enough, that fight became an uphill one before a second of that clock ticked off. An offsides penalty on the opening kickoff forced the Chargers to re-kick to a return team that ran it back



## WEEKEND RETAIL SALES DIP 11%

Black Friday seems to be losing allure

**ANNE D'INNOENZIO**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

**NEW YORK**  
Early discounting, more online shopping and a mixed economy meant fewer people shopped over Thanksgiving weekend, the National Retail Federation said Sunday.

Total spending for the four-day weekend is expected to fall 11 percent to \$50.9 billion from an estimated \$57.4 billion last year, the trade group estimated.

Overall, 188.7 million people shopped in stores and online over the weekend, down 5.2 percent from last

SEE RETAIL • A8

## MEN PUSHED TO ACT OUT AGAINST RAPE

Campaigns centered on the collegiate set

**PETER ROWE • U-T**

Despite all the talk lately about sexual assaults on

Baltimore went on to score on the ensuing possession, intercept Philip Rivers on the Chargers' first drive, SEE CALKINS • A13

Eddie Royal scores a touchdown with just 38 seconds left in the fourth quarter that proved to be the decisive play in the Chargers' 34-33 victory on the road against the Baltimore Ravens. SEAN M. HAFFEY • U-T

## NUTS AND BOLTS

### AIRING IT OUT

Chargers quarterback Philip Rivers threw for 383 yards, and four different receivers eclipsed 80 receiving yards (Keenan Allen 121, Malcom Floyd 85, Antonio Gates 83 and Eddie Royal 81.

21

Fourth-quarter points scored by the Chargers, including Philip Rivers passes to Keenan Allen and Eddie Royal and a Ryan Mathews run.

### GETTING WILD

If the playoffs started today, the Chargers would be a wild card. It might take two more wins to claim a spot at the season's end. For more on the game, see D1.

ous studies show that rapists constitute a tiny sliver of the campus male population.

But before you take a bow, guys, Jeffrey Bucholtz would like a word.

"Men have been able to go, 'If I don't rape someone, that's it, I'm done,'" said Bucholtz, 36, a San Diego State University lecturer SEE SEX ASSAULT • A12

## TREACHEROUS JOURNEY ON RIVER OF DOUBT

UCSD professor, Del Mar filmmaker retrace T.R.'s trip

### SCIENCE A3

GARY ROBBINS • U-T

If you're planning a trip to the Brazilian Amazon, know this:

Anyone who travels on the Roosevelt River may have to deal with electric eels, piranha, pig-like tapirs that are longer than a couch and waterfalls that can devour a kayak.

It's not unusual for an inch and a half of rain to fall in 80 minutes. The vegetation is almost impenetrable. And the heat can bring people to



UC San Diego professor Marc Meyers guides his canoe along the banks of the Roosevelt River in the Brazilian Amazon, where he had to cope with waterfalls, rapids, heavy rains and dangerous creatures such as piranha. MARC MEYERS EXPEDITION

their knees.

UC San Diego engineering professor Marc Meyers experienced all of

this during a recent 23-day expedition along the Roosevelt, which also SEE AMAZON • A3

## U.S., MEXICO UNITE ON STUDENT EXCHANGES

Proponents hope greater collaboration can strengthen region's economic integration

SANDRA DIBBLE • U-T

### TIJUANA

Without a visa to cross the border, Tonalli Galicia first learned English by practicing on tourists. Now the 22-year-old electrical engineering student is in the United States for the first time and preparing to receive formal instruction on a U.S. college campus.

"I asked for somewhere

far away, and I got it," said Galicia, who starts a three-week language immersion program today at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, Conn. He's not afraid of cold weather and is eager to see snow, he said in an interview on the Tijuana campus of Baja California's largest public university, Universidad Autonoma de Baja California.

SEE EXCHANGES • A14

COMING THIS WEEK

**WEDNESDAY**  
**FOOD:** Desserts for diabetics that satisfy a sweet tooth.

**THURSDAY**  
**NIGHT+DAY:** The faces of Balboa Park's December Nights.

**FRIDAY**  
**WEEKEND:** Top movies to watch out for this holiday season.

**SUNDAY**  
**ARTS:** The San Diego Opera presents Stephanie Blythe.

### TODAY'S DEAL

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U-T

Skip the crowds and shop from home. Enjoy great savings on great deals during Cyber Week. Go to [deals.utsandiego.com](http://deals.utsandiego.com)

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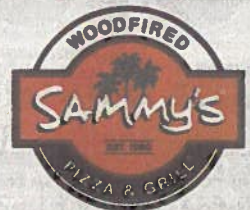


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## SCIENCE &amp; ENVIRONMENT

## AMAZON

FROM A1

is known as the River of Doubt. He was retracing the mostly uncharted path that Theodore Roosevelt and explorer Cândido Rondon followed during a famous expedition a century ago.

The 68-year-old Meyers was accompanied by Jeffrey Lehmann, a 50-year-old filmmaker in Del Mar who chronicled the trip for an upcoming TV special. They traveled the roughly 600 miles from Vilhena, Brazil, to the Aripuanã River. It was a perilous journey made possible by Hiram Reis and Ivan Angonese, a couple of retired Brazilian army colonels who served as guides.

Meyers and Lehmann discussed their adventure with U-T San Diego upon returning home.

**Q.** You're just back from an adventure that was challenging from the start. What happened?

**Meyers:** On the second day, we reached Navate Falls, a waterfall where the river goes from being about 15 yards wide to only 2 to 3 yards across. That makes the current move really fast. It's dangerous, scary — and very loud. The waterfall sounded like a low hum when we were far away. Then it was like a hiss. When we got there, it was a roar.

We got out of the river at the last possible moment. If we had gone another 100 yards, we could have been sucked down the falls. At some point, you can't fight the current.

**Lehmann:** We had to do a portage, or carry our 700 pounds of gear around the falls. The distance wasn't too bad — about three-quarters of a mile. But we had to walk across rocks that were razor sharp. If you fell, you'd get badly hurt — or worse. We would have had to put the injured person in the canoe and gone in search of help. And there was no help nearby.

**Q.** Did you feel like you had left civilization behind?



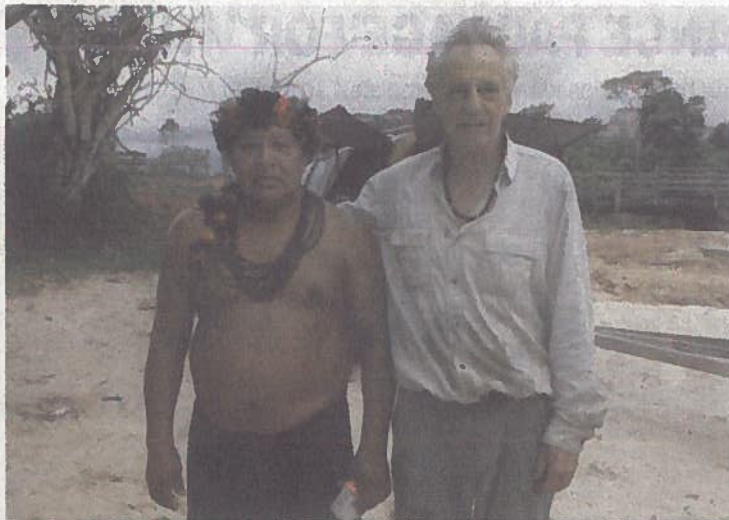
Source: ESRI U-T

**Lehmann:** Absolutely. You don't hear the sound of humans. There are no airplanes or cars or freeways. We didn't even see a plane during the 23 days we were out there. You hear the squawk of parrots and buzz of mosquitoes. The buzz of insects starts before sunrise, and it's loud like rush-hour traffic. It's like humans don't exist.

**Q.** You had a run-in with the Cinta Larga Indians not long after that. What happened?

**Meyers:** On the third day, we reached a bridge that was in Indian territory. This is a rich area for diamond mining. There's been a lot of trouble there. The Cinta Larga killed at least 29 diamond miners years ago. The figure could be over 100. They control what happens.

The chief of the Cinta Larga came out. We could tell that he was very angry. He told us to leave. I gave him a camera to try to soothe him, but he wanted



Expedition leader Marc Meyers of UC San Diego stands with Cinta Larga chief Joao Brabo, who forbids Meyers' group from traveling through his territory along the Roosevelt River in Brazil's Amazon. The river is home to black piranha (left), a source of food during the 500-mile journey. PHOTOS BY JEFFREY LEHMAN

us gone. If we had tried to continue on, he would have sent guys with guns, and we would have been arrested. Indeed, he threatened to arrest us in his speech.

The Cinta Larga are in a transition period. Their first contacts with whites were only 55 years ago, and (some) of the Indians were massacred in the beginning. So it is only natural that they harbor strong feelings.

**Q.** So what did you do?

**Meyers:** We received official support from the fire department in Vilhena before we left on the expedition. They agreed to come check on us on the third day, when we were to reach the bridge. They showed up and ended up driving us back to Vilhena, where we regrouped. Then they took us to a point on the river that was below Indian

territory. It was exhausting. We ended up riding in the back of a truck, in the dark, for hours.

**Q.** Did the trip become easier?

**Meyers:** The speed of the river slowed down; it was barely moving. But the winds came at us every day. On one occasion, as I was padding against the wind, I felt something hit me very hard on the side of the head, on my right ear.

I was temporarily dizzy, but I saw a splash in the water. I must have hit a fish with my paddle. It jumped out of the water and hit me on the side, hard. It felt like a club. Fortunately, it was not a piranha!

**Q.** You must have become exhausted doing this. Did you?

**Meyers:** Yes. We'd paddle

up my arm. It paralyzed my arm for a moment. I stepped toward shore and it shocked my leg. It was a big bolt.

**Q.** What about humor? Were there any funny or weird moments?

**Meyers:** The Cinta Larga chief gazed at us with anger and hate, but took a liking to one of the firemen, Iuri. He gave him a hug and treated him almost as a son, even apologizing to him for his conduct. This is because Iuri has pronounced Indian features. On the way back, we joked that the chief would adopt him and that he would inherit a mountain of diamonds. He seemed to be pleased with the teasing.

**Lehmann:** Angonese caught a piranha and stuck it on a stick. About 20 minutes later, I walked down to the water to take a cool-down swim and the blood-red eyes of the piranha started moving, following my every movement like something out of a Hollywood horror flick. It was not only weird but somewhat unsettling, even for me.

**Q.** Were there moments when you just stopped and just marveled at what you were experiencing?

**Lehmann:** The jungle is amazing. In many situations, you're looking at 500-foot to 600-foot walls of green. It's like the Brazilian Grand Canyon. Instead of sandstone walls, you're seeing walls of plants that are impenetrable. You can't see more than 10 feet into the vegetation.

**Meyers:** I was amazed by how well preserved the river has remained since Roosevelt made his expedition. I expected to see a lot more environmental changes, but that's not the case. I think it's because there are waterfalls at the beginning and the end of the River of Doubt. They act as guardians to its natural beauty. It is difficult for boats to go up and down.

It hasn't become spoiled. If anything, the population in the lower third is smaller than in Roosevelt's day, when lots of rubber tappers made it up the river.

from about 7 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. or so, then camp. It took an hour to set up. You had to make a fire, and you had to protect it. Fire keeps away mosquitoes.

**Lehmann:** And it wards off jaguars, which were the biggest danger.

**Meyers:** And we needed the fire to cook piranha.

**Q.** Piranha?

**Meyers:** There are three kinds of piranha — black, white and red. The red piranhas are the most dangerous ones since they attack you in schools. We ate the black piranha.

**Lehmann:** I was in the river a lot. A black piranha about 8 inches long swam up my pant leg. That wasn't as bad as getting hit by an electric eel. I was about 5 feet from shore when the eel struck; it sent a shock