



search

Go

4:39 AM PST, December 14, 2006

JOB'S CARS REAL ESTATE APARTMENTS SHOPPING | WEATHER TRAFFIC



Opinion

Print E-mail story Most e-mailed Change text size

advertisement

Google is looking for ad sales professionals with great aspirations.

HOME Site Map

- Opinion
- Editorials
- Op-Ed
- Columnists
- Sunday Current
- Letters
- Write to Us

- NEWS
- California | Local
 - National
 - World
 - Entertainment News
 - Business
 - Sports
 - Politics
 - Opinion
 - Columnists
 - Print Edition
 - RSS What is RSS?

- Calendarlive
- Travel
- West Magazine
- House & Garden
- Health
- Food
- L.A. Wheels
- Obituaries
- Crossword, Sudoku
- All Sections
- Corrections

- BUY, SELL & MORE
- Jobs
 - Cars
 - Real Estate
 - Apartments
 - Personals
 - Deals at Local Stores
 - Coupons
 - Newspaper Ads

PLACE AN AD

- MEMBER SERVICES
- Log Out
 - Help
 - Contact Us
 - L.A. Times Archives
 - Customized News
 - E-mail Newsletters

- HOME DELIVERY
- Customer Support
 - Subscribe to L.A. Times

LOCAL ADS Buy a link

ENGLISH BULLDOG PUPPIES

We have male and female English Bulldog puppies. AKC REGISTERED.

www.bulldoglovers.org

Lessons from Tower's leftovers

Paris Hilton is sold out, Barbra Streisand isn't. What do the musical selections that remain unsold say about the buying public?

By Andy Cowan, ANDY COWAN is a writer, producer and performer. His credits include "Cheers," "Seinfeld" and "3rd Rock From the Sun." December 14, 2006

IF YOU'D LIKE to behold the ephemeral nature of musical taste, try visiting a Tower Records store these days, where the live human beings are starting to outnumber the recorded ones.

As its going-out-of-business sale enters its last throes, 40% off on all CDs has given way to 70% off. Prices may go even lower before the flagship store closes its doors for good, perhaps as soon as this weekend.

advertisement

About Us

Innovative
small business
health coverage

>Get options

Even in this era of cheap downloads, how can anyone pass up such bargains? Some of you have. What do your choices say about the "bargains" that still remain? Much like the neglected fruit in supermarkets, squeezed and left behind for someone else to squeeze, these musical orphans still clamoring to find a home apparently don't have enough juice.

Oh sure, Frank Sinatra has been picked clean. As has Tony Bennett and Peggy Lee. But languishing next to the empty David Crosby bin is that other Crosby, "der Bingle," one of the biggest musical stars of the mid-20th century. We may still hear Bing dreaming of a white Christmas, but I'll wager he never dreamed of "Cowboy Country Crosby Style" begging for takers.

Crosby, "der Bingle," one of the biggest musical stars of the mid-20th century. We may still hear Bing dreaming of a white Christmas, but I'll wager he never dreamed of "Cowboy Country Crosby Style" begging for takers.

When it hits 90% off, I'm bringing my checkbook.

And then there's Ricky Nelson, the teen idol whose hormones raged in sync with millions of "Ozzie & Harriet" fans. He performed music videos 30 years before the first music videos. Couldn't any of the Mary Lous out there draw a measly six bucks out of their Social Security checks to bring him home today?

Sergeant Pepper and Captain Beefheart made clean breaks. But the same can't be said for the Captain & Tennille. Love may not really keep us together, but you'd think the love of the almighty dollar would have helped keep them out of the bargain bin at Tower.

Why is Michael Bubl 's shelf stripped bare and Barry Manilow's chock-full? Did Bubl  write the songs that make the whole world sing? Imagine getting a hip replacement and being replaced by some hip replacement. Oh well. In the volatile world of pop music, you have to be strong. You have to be invincible. So why is Helen Reddy still up for grabs?

Barbra Streisand — available!

Paris Hilton — sold out! (In more ways than one.)

People who need people are the luckiest people in the world — particularly if that need has been spread all over the Internet. Still, in this case, I doubt Bogie was right when he said, "We'll always have Paris."

More Editorials News

- Chatting with China
- Make malaria disappear
- One job at a time

Most Viewed Most E-mailed Related News

- Voters favor McCain over Clinton in '08
- For firefighter, sense of brotherhood shattered
- Leahy threatens to subpoena Bush officials
- Democratic Sen. Johnson undergoes surgery
- Carrying a hefty amount of risk

All most viewed >

advertisement

LAS VEGAS PACKAGES

SOUTHWEST VACATIONS
A SYMBOL OF FREEDOM

BELLAGIO

from **\$409***

INCLUDES

- ▶ Roundtrip Airfare
- ▶ 3 nights Accommodation
- ▶ 24-hour Traveler Assistance

[MORE PACKAGES](#)

The New Nokia N80
Internet, email, MP3 player, camera - the future of mobile computing.
www.nseries.com/n80

MORE NEWS

- **L.A. to pay \$27.7 million to settle port suit**
- **AIDS group asks Viagra maker to halt ads**
- **Tancredo: Miami is 'a Third World country'**
- **Senator's surgery affects political power**



What's the real beauty of "Southern California"? View reader photos at [Your Scene](#).

[Submit your photo now >>](#)

Ads by Google

Compare Ultimate Match

This site will help you make an educated decision before you join.
www.homebizcomparison.com

Basketball Shoes Outlet

Michael Jordan bulls Big selection, Free shipping!
Overstock.com

Most Clutch Player?

Kobe, LeBron, Melo - You Decide! Debate Sports and Win Cool Stuff.
FreeTheFan.com

Do You Love Basketball?

You Can Win \$100 In Our Basketball Quiz! Test Your Knowledge.
paidmarketingpanel.aavalue.com

NBA Player News

The latest basketball info Detailed analysis & expert opinions
cbs.sportslive.com/nba

FLIGHT CENTRE

*Book by 12/23/06. Travel until 4/9/07. Seven day advance purchase required. Additional taxes, fees & restrictions apply.

Delta

new flights departing LAX daily.

Loreto
●
La Paz
●
Los Cabos

[Find Flights](#) ▶

México delta.com

PARTNERS:

Copyright 2006 Los Angeles Times | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Terms of Service](#) | [Advertise](#) | [Home Delivery](#) | [Permissions](#) | [Contact](#)