

mission. The station normally runs four-minute messages in a loop, but can be used to broadcast live as well.

Ball is the first school in California to buy School Cast FM, but other schools are considering it, said Tom Sharrit, owner of Partners in Learning Programs of San Diego that distributes the equipment. Between 250 and 300 schools around the country have purchased it since he started selling them six months ago.

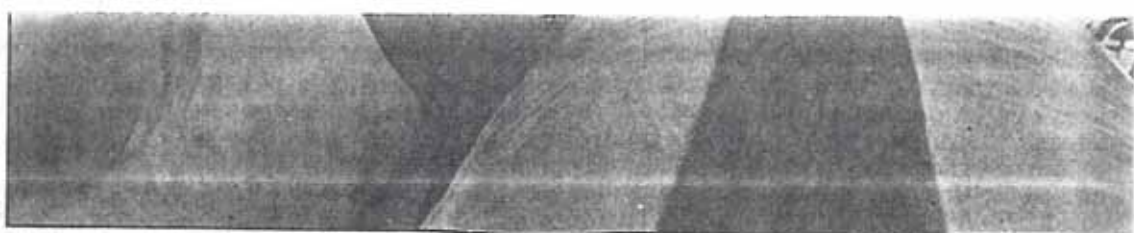
Parents say they love to hear two daily messages straight from the principal.

"No matter how many notes go home, they don't always go home," said parent Cheryl Fasano. "He did it so we parents can feel more informed."

A teacher started a communications club, so students can read haikus and limericks on the air, make announcements about candy sales and create jingles for the station.

"I think it's kind of rare for a school to have a radio station. I think it's kind of cool," said Gabriel Rodriguez, 13.

To hear audio from Blackhawk Radio, call the Register InfoLine at (714) 550-4636, Category 6848.



Photos by DANIEL A. ANDE.

Yorba Linda bandits hunted

CRIME: Police close off a neighborhood to search for two men who robbed a bank.

By RACHANEE SRISAVASDI
The Orange County Register

YORBA LINDA — Fifty residents were kept out of their homes for more than 7½ hours Thursday during an extensive police hunt for two armed bank robbers.

As of 10 p.m., the men were still at large, but police let residents return to their homes.

Two men with handguns robbed the California Federal bank on New River Road and

Yorba Linda Boulevard at 2:15 p.m., then ran northwest on Avenida Adobe, said Brea police Sgt. Les Mesa.

A bank employee ran after the suspects for about a block into a residential tract, when a passing patrol officer spotted them and got help.

The suspects disappeared around Avenida Adobe and King Street. Within 10 minutes, police shut off two entrances to the tract, closing off seven streets with about 250 homes.

People who came out of their houses were told to either go inside and lock their doors, or stay outside the perimeter. Residents returning home could not get into the area.

Locals loitered across New

River Road in a nearby shopping center, peering across into their neighborhood. A few also gathered at nearby Travis Ranch Middle School.

Jennifer Cooper, 40, worried about son Liam, 3, left with a baby sitter near her Portage Street home. She called the sitter and told her to lock the doors.

"I'm not just worried about my son, I just don't want anyone to get hurt," she said.

About 25 officers from the city's special response team and several police dogs searched house by house. Police entered homes that were unlocked or looked as if they might have been entered, Mesa said.

Graves in Garden Grove whisper Civil War stories

By BINH HA HONG
The Orange County Register

GARDEN GROVE — More than a century ago, they fought against their own countrymen to keep the nation from splintering.

After the Civil War ended in 1865, the veterans returned to their hometowns to continue farming, or moved out West to Orange County to begin their lives anew.

Paul Gillette, 40, of Garden Grove, a full-time mail carrier and lifetime Civil War enthusiast, doesn't want their stories to be forgotten.

Their battle histories and connection to Orange County will come alive again Sunday at Magnolia Memorial Park in Garden Grove. Gillette, with other Civil War history buffs, will conduct a tour of the 13 veterans buried there.

Underneath majestic pine trees and behind the faceless tombstones, visitors will delve into the lives of soldiers like Thomas Epps, a farmer who was paid about \$200 on Oct. 13, 1864, to join the 16th Iowa Infantry.

At the end of the war, Epps,

Please see **GRAVES** Page 2



EUGENE GARCIA/The Orange County Register
REMEMBRANCE: Paul Gillette holds a Civil War sword near the grave of veteran Thomas Epps at Magnolia Memorial Park in Garden Grove. Gillette will lead a graveyard tour and lecture Sunday.

► **ROLL CALL:** 13 Civil War vets buried at cemetery. **Local News 2**

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