Summer fun is the name of the game in Mission Viejo with Lake Mission Viejo the focal point (see pages 4-5).
Kevin Fagan quick on the draw

In some respects, Kevin Fagan mirrors Norman Drabble, the main character in his cartoon strip, "Drabble."

Both are shy, sensitive and seem slightly awry by the world around them.

"Norman is mainly drawn from me. When you draw a cartoon strip you have to have something to draw on and I use myself," said Fagan from the living room of his Mission Viejo home.

But Fagan, whose "Drabble" cartoon appears locally seven times a week in the Los Angeles Times and Daily Pilot, says emphatically, "I'm not him and he's not me."

True, Fagan doesn't sport brown hair with the ever present cowlick in the back or have another brother named Patrick who's constantly upstaging him.

However, at 24, the nation's youngest syndicated cartoonist isn't much older than Norman Drabble, a college student who likes his creator, works on the college newspaper staff.

He even knew a girl named Wendy. Norman's on again, off again girl friend in the funny pages.

And upon entering Fagan's home overlooking Lake Mission Viejo, a small dog named Ginger, just like the one belonging to the Drabble family in the comics, greets an interviewer at the front door.

Actually, Fagan is far from your average young man just out of college. His "Drabble" strip runs in more than 200 daily newspapers from coast to coast. "The First Book of Drabble" was recently published by Fawcett paperbacks and a television situation comedy based on Norman Drabble is in the works.

"Drabble" is the quality of the cartoons but suggested Fagan contact United Feature Syndicate in New York, the nation's largest syndicate and rights holder to among other cartoons, "Nancy" and "Marmaduke."

Fagan actually started his drawing career at Saddleback College. A friend's sister who was editor of the newspaper staff.

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Not exactly your typical college grad in his early 20s.

While in school, though, Fagan, a 1974 graduate of Mission Viejo High, did fall into the category of the average college student.

Like many of his fellow scholars, Fagan had no idea as to what career he would pursue after graduation. So on the advice of a counselor, he took an aptitude test in between his junior and senior years at Sacramento State University.

After looking at the results, he was told I should be a philosopher or an orchestra leader," Fagan laughingly recalled.

"But since he had no yearning to discover the truth of Plato and never exhibited any musical talent, Fagan opted to pursue cartooning, something which had been primarily a hobby and a part-time job until then.

Fagan began by sending his work to various newspaper syndicates. He also sent samples of his strip "Murray," which ran in the Sacramento State student newspaper, to Charles Schulz, creator of "Peanuts."

Schulz didn't comment on the quality of the cartoons but suggested Fagan contact United Feature Syndicate in New York, the nation's largest syndicate and rights holder to among other cartoons, "Nancy" and "Marmaduke."

After what Fagan termed "a long drawn out process" (nine months to be exact), United Feature signed him over the telephone.

Revising the characters so they wouldn't resemble those from "Murray" too much and more waiting followed.

In early 1979, Drabble first appeared in 100 newspapers. It now runs in more than 200 papers. Fagan actually started his drawing career at Saddleback College. A friend's sister who was editor of the newspaper staff.

KEEP THE CHANGE—(from left) Kim and Amy Kocos and Adreana Bourassa display pennies they retrieved in preparation for a water carnival Friday, July 24, at Sierra Recreation Center. Members ages seven and up will compete from 1-3 p.m. in numerous pool events, including a penny dive and clothes relay.

It seems that just like Norman Drabble, success hasn't spoiled Kevin Fagan.

Drabble Dribble—Kevin Fagan, creator of the cartoon strip "Drabble," works on a frame for an upcoming strip from his Mission Viejo home.

"The ideas come easily," he says. "I'm slightly awed by the world around me. When you draw a cartoon strip you have to have something to draw on and I use myself," said Fagan. "But just to make sure the well doesn't run dry, he visits Saddle-back, where he recently took some French classes, and Cal State Fullerton."

Despite his new-found wealth from national syndication, Fagan hasn't changed his spending habits. He bought his three-bedroom home as an investment for the 1981 Senior Outdoor National Diving Championships at the Mission Viejo International Swim Complex August 11-15.

Households with a spare bed or couch from August 8-15 are asked to contact Jeff Shaffer, Nadadores age group coach, at 857-6050, extension 632 by July 15.

The 13th annual Balloon to the Moon contest starts at 3:30 p.m. The person whose balloon travels the farthest will receive a $25 cast award.

Filing On—Erika and John Bacas put the finishing touches on a pair of banana splits while getting ready to help devour the 800-foot-long banana split Saturday, July 11, at Cordova Park. All ice cream lovers are encouraged to help eat the confectionary delight beginning at 2 p.m.
Fireworks show caps 4th of July family picnic

An afternoon and evening of entertainment, food and fireworks is on tap Saturday, July 4, at the community’s annual Fourth of July family picnic at the Youth Athletic Park, highlighting a full summer of recreation in Mission Viejo.

The picnic, sponsored by the Mission Viejo Activities Committee, will begin at 2 p.m., with live musical entertainment starting at 3 p.m. Food will be available during the entire afternoon and evening at concession stands operated by local service organizations.

A fireworks display at 8:45 p.m. will cap the day’s festivities.

Families attending the picnic are encouraged to bring umbrellas or tarps to shield themselves from the sun. No fireworks or barbecues will be permitted. Marguerite, O’Neill and Melinda roads are designated as parking areas.

The focal point of every summer in the community is Lake Mission Viejo, which is open to all lake association members and guests. The lake’s 124 acres offer swimming, picnicking, fishing and sailing. Hours are from 8 a.m. to midnight Monday through Friday and from 6 a.m. to midnight on weekends.

Playa del Norte is open for swimming during daylight hours. Fishing hours at the well-stocked lake are the same as regular lake hours.

Barbecues, lighted volleyball courts and horseshoe pits are available, along with boat rentals and a snack bar (open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily).
Kerho finds hurdles no real barrier

At first glance, Steve Kerho doesn't exactly look like he's destined to become one of the world's great hurdlers. Standing 6'2 ½" and weighing a mere 148 pounds in his red and yellow Mission Viejo High School track togs, Kerho's wire-thin frame instead appears to be more suited toward basketball or maybe cross country.

But when the gun goes off and the 17-year-old junior bolts from the starting blocks and glides effortlessly over the first hurdle, there's no doubt in anyone's mind Kerho has a bright future in track.

Alan Rigby, Kerho's personal coach for six years, calls his star pupil "the perfect example of a coach's dream. "He will no doubt be one of the greats. He's not Olympic material, I don't know what is."

The accolades heaped on Kerho don't go unfounded. His best time of 13.89 in the 110-meter high hurdles is faster than the clocking achieved by current world-record holder Renaldo Nehemiah when Nehemiah was a high school junior in New Jersey.

Kerho's 36.69 personal best in the 300-meter low hurdles ranks him as one of the nation's best in that event, where the national track record is 35.79.

And, the best is yet to come, both Rigby and Kerho agree. "He has the best form of any hurdler I've ever seen," Rigby said. "It's almost flawless. Strength isn't the only thing he's missing."

"When it was there, it caused considerable problems, but it hasn't in four or five years," Kerho said. "At that time, if school didn't go well, track didn't either.

With the effects of dyslexia all but gone, Kerho has become a serious student with a healthy grade point average. He wants to study medicine at Stanford.

"Track has given me a lot of confidence which I didn't used to have," said Kerho. But as Rigby, an ex-collegiate hurdler, points out, Kerho's attitude couldn't be better.
## JULY IN MISSION VIEJO

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUNDAY</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
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**Week 1 (5-11):**
- **5:** Summer Classes (Sk)
- **6:** Summer Classes (Sk)
- **7:** Summer Classes (Sk)
- **8:** Summer Classes (Sk)
- **9:** Summer Classes (Sk)
- **10:** Lifeguard Competition (LMV)
- **11:** 800-foot Banana Split (F)

**Week 2 (12-18):**
- **12:** Summer Day Camp (M)
- **13:** Summer Day Camp (M)
- **14:** Summer Day Camp (M)
- **15:** Summer Day Camp (M)
- **16:** Summer Day Camp (M)
- **17:** Summer Day Camp (N)
- **18:**

**Week 3 (19-25):**
- **19:** Summer Classes (Sk)
- **20:** Table Games Championship (M)
- **21:** Family Movie Night (F)
- **22:**
- **23:**
- **24:**
- **25:**

**Week 4 (26-31):**
- **26:** Summer Day Camp (M)
- **27:** Summer Day Camp (M)
- **28:** Summer Day Camp (M)
- **29:** Summer Day Camp (M)
- **30:** Summer Day Camp (M)
- **31:** Summer Day Camp (M)

### TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

- Orange County Fire Department: 538-3501
- Orange County Sheriffs Department: 834-3000
- Orange County Transit District Dial-A-Ride: 830-6500
- U.S. Post Office (Mission Viejo branch): 495-5020
- Saddleback Community Hospital: 837-4500
- Mission Community Hospital: 831-2300
- Mission Viejo Company: 837-6050
- Mission Viejo Recreation Centers: 951-6872
- (Felipe, Marguerite, Montanoso, Sierra)
- Casta del Sol Recreation Center: 837-6921
- Lake Mission Viejo: 770-1313
- Mission Viejo Skateway: 581-4647
- Mission Viejo Equestrian Center: 495-1571
- Casta del Sol Public Golf Course: 581-0940
- Cultural Resources Center: 770-0709
- Community Maintenance (county roads): 634-7016
- (parks, landscape areas): 837-3360
- (street sweeping): 634-7005
- New Home Warranty: 837-8917
- New Home Sales: 837-6050