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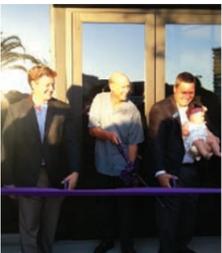
THE COMMUNITY OF BUSINESS™

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Stifel Steps Up in Newport Center



New view: 15th-floor office has 360-degree view

REAL ESTATE: Takes full floor at Irvine Company's newest office

By MARK MUELLER

Bill Gross might have the highest profile among the first batch of tenants at **Irvine Company's** newest office building in Newport Center, but **Stifel, Nicolaus & Co.** can claim the highest perch at the 21-story building.

For the time being, anyway.

Stifel, a St. Louis-based brokerage and invest-

► 520 Newport Center 14

Commercial Real Estate Update
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Greenlaw Near Deal on BofA's Brea Campus

By MARK MUELLER

An investment group that includes Irvine-based real estate investor and developer **Greenlaw Partners** is nearing a deal to buy the massive Bank of America office campus in Brea.

Greenlaw Partners is partnering with New York-based investment firm **Cerberus Capital Management LP** to buy the 637,503-square-foot office property at 275 Valencia Ave., according to real estate sources familiar with the transaction.

Terms of the sale, which should close later this month, have not been disclosed.

► Brea 19

Will This Shoe Fit?

China-Based 361° Aims for U.S. Share From Irvine HQ

By MEDIHA DIMARTINO

361° International Ltd.'s recent arrival to the U.S. market is another step toward the China-based footwear and apparel company's ultimate goal: becoming a top five global sports brand in a short period of time.

Such unabashed drive is what convinced **Jim Monahan** to leave the executive suite of **Asics America Corp.** for the president's post at **361° USA** in Irvine.

"I was very fortunate to work with a phenomenal brand over the last 20 years, and it will always be a brand that I'll respect," said Monahan, who rose to president of footwear at Asics America, a unit of a Japan-based parent.

► 361° 67



Monahan: "marketing budgets are beyond what would be expected of a new company"

Therapy Vets Can Embrace

Laguna Hills Nonprofit Taps Business on Mission to Heal

By KIM HAMAN



Stand-up guy: veteran Sean Grady (left) with wife, Morgan, and volunteer instructor Mark Carlyle of surfboard maker Hobie during a paddleboard outing

U.S. Marine Sgt. **Chris Merkle** was one of 20 infantrymen crowded into the back of an unarmored 7-ton truck as it sped along an unmarked dirt road one moonless night headed toward Baghdad.

The initial invasion of Iraq had just taken place, and all the men knew the stakes.

"We were fully aware of what we signed up for and the risks involved," said Merkle, who rejoined the Marines after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks following a 10-year stint that ended in 2000.

There was a real possibility that he would

► SIS 76

Working Wardrobes' Transition Plan

By CHRIS CASACCHIA

James Toth was living with his parents and working odd jobs for cash that offered little security and no future.

Edwin Cathey was living on the streets, fighting the effects of post-traumatic stress disorder, and unable to hold a steady relationship or job.

The military veterans reluctantly turned to **Working Wardrobes** for help earlier this year and credit the Costa Mesa-based nonprofit organization's Vet Net program with helping turn their lives around and find work.



Swanson: "these individuals have given so much"

► Vet Net 74



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